

# **Short-Term Training: Parental Skills Seminar**



Instructors (top photo - left to right) Amy E. Cote and Shanon T. Gibson highlighting the key concepts of the Parental Tips Seminar.

On July 16, 2013 a seminar was held at the Continuing Education (CE) Training Room of Palau Community College (PCC). The seminar, conducted by Dr. Shanon T. Gibson and Amy E. Cote, focused on parenting skills. Participants included parents and school teachers. In a two-hour time frame, participants learned about establishing healthy relationships with their children through proper relationship-building techniques. The seminar consisted of two sessions: *Establishing Routines & Household Rules* and *Academic & Persistence Coaching*.

The first session taught parents about the importance of encouraging responsible behavior in children. After reviewing different parenting styles, participants learned to create a supportive yet responsible atmosphere for a child. This included consistent routines, negotiation, and making requests. The second session focused on the academic and learning habits of a child. Parents were encouraged to promote a healthy curiosity in their children through descriptive commenting, appreciative attentiveness, and language. PARENTING SKILLS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# **FSM Citizens Meeting**

Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) were invited to a public meeting on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at the Palau Community College (PCC) Assembly Hall. Honorable Robert Ruecho, the FSM Consul-General in Guam, met with the FSM citizens to understand the difficulties that they have been experiencing abroad. His interest was given especially to the Micronesian students attending PCC.

Medical and educational expenses were discussed during the meeting. Students attending PCC asked for financial assistance from the FSM National Government in terms of paying outstanding school fees that have kept them from receiving their degrees and certificates. FSM, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



(left to right): Staff member of the FSM National Government and Consul-General Robert Ruecho.

Palau Community College is an accessible public educational institution helping to meet the technical, academic, cultural, social, and economic needs of the students and communities by promoting learning opportunities and developing personal excellence.

# **Transnational Crime Workshop**

Through the United States (US) Embassy in Palau, the Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF West) will be conducting a workshop on transitional crime from July 15, 2013 to July 26, 2013. The JIATF West is an executive agent of the US Pacific Command (USPACOM) for Department of Defense (DoD) to support law enforcement for counterdrug and drug-related activities. In an effort to decrease drug-related crimes in the Asia-Pacific region, JIATF West provides support such as classroom training, physical building infrastructure development, and information technology for command and control centers/information exchange. In addition, JIATF West builds partnerships with foreign law enforcements and tries to interconnect the agencies in an effort to downsize drug-related criminal activities.

The Transnational Crime Workshop is held at the Palau Community College (PCC) Assembly Hall. Members of the local law enforcement agencies (e.g. Police Officers) in Palau are currently attending the workshop to improve their knowledge and skills in combatting about criminal activities.



Law enforcement members attending the Crime Workshop.



Transnational Crime Workshop at the PCC Assembly Hall.

# **Dental Hygiene Training Program**

contributed by Dr. Gregory Dever



Dr. Dever and PCC President Tellei with Dr. Leenu Maimanuku and Dr. Bernadette Pushpaangaeli.

Over a ten-week period the Fiji National University (FNU) Dental School conducted a Dental Hygiene Training Program at the Palau Ministry of Health (MOH) training ten MOH Dental Assistants and one Oral Health Worker from the Palau Head Start Program. The Dental School is part of the FNU College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences - formerly called the Fiji School of Medicine.

This program was funded by FNU with AUSAID funds and is part of a Tripartite Cooperative Agreement between FNU, MOH, and PCC. Dr. Leenu Maimanuku, Head of the FNU Dental School, came to Palau in April and, after an initial assessment of the level of the academic readiness of the MOH Dental Assistants and Head Start Worker, began the rigorous ten-week Dental Hygiene Training Program. The purpose of the training was to upgrade the current MOH Dental Assistants and Head Start Worker and provide credible in-country Dental Hygiene Training so that the students could provide a higher level of oral health care to the public and be eligible to receive Dental Hygiene licenses from the Palau Board of Health Professions, which oversees the professional licensing for all health workers in Palau.

To make the process even more credible, an External Examiner was brought in specifically to participate in the final examination process and to monitor the quality and fairness of the examination process. It is the role of an External Examiner to ask: "Did the training program achieve its goals and objectives and are the candidates suitably trained?" The External Examiner was Dr. Bernadette Pushpaangaeli, Deputy Head of the FNU Dental School, who flew into Palau to join Dr. Maimanuku and Dr. Louisa Santos, Training Coordinator - MOH Dental Unit, in order to participate in the final examination process. FII, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

# BIISAND PIECES...

### Tan Siu Lin PCC Library

## **Hours of Operation**

Effective thru July 24, 2013 (summer only):

Monday to Friday	7:30AM to 7PM
Saturday	9AM to 6PM
Sunday	CLOSED
For more information call	
488-3540.	

### **COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOURNAL**



"The Community College Journal features articles by leading experts, opinions that put the news in perspective, coverage of higher education issues, and profiles of the field's leaders."

#### **Summer Session**

**July 19 (F)** Last Day of Instruction

**July 22 - 24 (M-W)** Final Examination Period

#### **News/Stories Wanted**

MESEKIU'S NEWS welcomes stories/ articles/announcements from students, faculty, and staff. Submission deadline is Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in hard and/or electronic copies to **dilubchs@palau.edu** and **tchuziet@gmail.com**.

Articles from MOC/PCC Alumni are also welcomed.

Please call *488-2470/2471* (extensions *251*, *252*, or *253*) for more information.

 ${\ensuremath{\textbf{FSM}}}$  continued from page 1

In addition, a number of students have not been able to re-enroll at the college due to outstanding accounts. As a result, some of the FSM students have not been able to return home or apply for work. In addition to school fees, FSM students who have had to visit the hospital in Palau have not been able to pay for their medical costs.

The FSM National Government has approximated about \$200,000 to assist their students attending PCC. Other issues that were discussed during the FSM Citizens Meeting were passports, voting vicinities and procedures, and newly appointed government officials.

### **Fiji** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Dental Hygienists are part of a career ladder process which starts with Dental Assistants, then Dental Hygienists, Dental Therapists, and then Dentists. Role of Dental Hygienists is both preventive and clinical. They conduct oral health education, clean teeth, conduct fillings on primary (baby) teeth of children, and can extract (pull) teeth when necessary on both children and adults.

The Ministry of Health was very fortunate to have had the Head of the FNU Dental School, Dr. Maimanuku, as the trainer. She came with her husband and four children who enjoyed Palau while she worked full time in the demanding training program.

It is hoped that this training experience can become a Dental Hygiene training model for the other Freely Associated States countries and help alleviate the shortage of oral health workers in the region. According to studies commissioned by the Palau MOH, Palau has very high rates of tooth decay among children and adults and dental damage and oral cancers due to betel-nut chewing. There are also not enough trained oral health workers to address these problems in Palau. Skilling up Dental Assistants to Dental Hygienists is an innovative strategy to increase the skills of local oral health workers.

This training program is just one of several projects under the banner of the Tripartite Agreement which was signed by PCC, MOH, and FNU in July 2012. Other projects include: 1) Placing a Senior Nursing Faculty Advisor from the FNU Nursing School – Sister Iloi Rabuka, a former Head of the FNU Nursing School - at PCC in order to assist PCC's Nursing Program; 2) Sponsoring the Pacific Basin Dental Association Meeting in December 2012 which was hosted by PCC and MOH. FNU provided the professional training component for the meeting of regional dentists and other oral health workers. FNU will also be conducting a Bachelor's Degree in Public Health Nursing Training Program in Palau for select MOH senior nurses. The Ministry of Health and PCC are very appreciative of FNU's efforts to skill-up our local health care workers.

Palau Community College would like to express its deepest condolences to the family of Sharleene Skebong for their untimely loss. Ms. Skebong began working in 2004 as a field assistant/extension agent for the PC - CRE Department. In 2009, she began working as a cook for the PCC Cafteria until the time of her passing.

### ALUMNI NOTES

# SHARRISE NGIRAKED (Class of 2012)

Associate of Applied Science - Tourism & Hospitality: Hotel Operations

"'Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going.' Never give up on school. Once you learn to give up, it becomes a habit."



She graduated in 2012 and interned at Cliffside Hotel. After her internship, Cliffside Hotel hired her as a full-time employee. She is currently working at the hotel as the Food & Beverage Manager.

#### LAIGHTER DOLMERS (Class of 1971)

VOCATIONAL TRAINING - DRAFT

"Perseverance helps one to live."



He graduated from MOC in 1971 with a VD in Draft. He worked as a teacher at George B. Harris Elementary School then became a food service supervisor. Since 2004, he has served as a legislator for the State of Aimeliik.

#### ELSEI D. TELLEI (Class of 2013)

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS - LIBERAL ARTS

"Don't be so quick to book the first flight out of Palau after high school. Attending and graduating from PCC before going off-island for school is the perfect way to get ahead in your education; you save a lot of money and learn to appreciate Palau before you leave it."



She graduated from PCC with an AA Degree in Liberal Arts in 2013. Currently, she is planning to attend the University of Hawaii in Spring 2014 as a Political Science Major. In the mean time, she is working as a free-lance graphic arts designer.

Mesekíu's News Palau Community College

ALUMNI NOTES showcases MOC & PCC alumni who are positive role models and contribute to the quality of life in their local communities.

If you are that alumnus/alumna or know someone who is, please contact the PCC Development Office at telephone numbers 488-2470/2471 (extensions 251, 252, or 253).

We would like to feature you in future Mesekíŵ's News issues.

# Parental Skills CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(7) Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Instructor

Salary range: \$16,010 - \$21,191 per annum

Salary range: \$16,010 - \$24,647 per annum

(Administration Department - Business Office)

Salary range: \$6,709 - \$11,475 per annum

For application forms and information, please contact *Harline Haruo* at **PCC Human Resources** 

Office at 488-2470/71. extension 227.

E-mail hr@palau.edu or download forms at

http://www.palau.edu

PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

(Academic Affairs Office)

(8) Public Relations Manager (Development Office)

(9) Security Service Officer

The most important aspect of the second session was the development of constant encouragement from parents, especially when a child is learning basic academic skills such as letters or shapes.

Dr. Shanon Gibson and her husband are the founders of the Daydreamers Child Development Center at Apopka, Florida. The child development center promotes an instruction of children through the encouragement of proper social skills and habits. Ms. Amy Cote works as a preschool teacher.



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