Mathematics Education Professional Development Workshop

contributed by Dr. Shelley Louise Dole

A mathematics education professional development workshop was held at the Palau Community College (PCC) Assembly Hall from June 09, 2014 to June 18, 2014. Through the Ministry of Education (MOE), teachers in Palau were able to hone their mathematics teaching skills by participating in the workshop. Dr. Shelley L. Dole, a Mathematics Education Development Advisor, was the instructor for the workshop.

The mathematics workshop focused on the key educational outcome of mathematical literacy and the important role that all teachers play in achieving this goal in school. Participants explored hands-on mathematical learning experiences to promote the capacity and confidence of students to use mathematics in the real world. During the workshop, participants discussed the goals set in the Palauan Mathematics Curriculum Framework and its connections to the Singapore Mathematics Curriculum Framework.

The participants built their awareness and understanding of the “Singapore Math” teaching approaches as well as other research-based learning theories and teaching strategies.

Taiwan Delegation Visits PCC

A delegation from the Republic of China (Taiwan) visited Palau Community College (PCC) on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. The group consisted of members from the Indigenous Community College of Mao-li County in Taiwan. Four of the visitors were Mao-li County government officials while the rest were principals, directors, and teachers of different elementary/junior high schools. Mao-li County Educational Commissioner Lu An-ling led the delegation.

During their visit, the guests met with PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei and presented gifts to the college. Likewise, PCC extended its appreciation by giving mementos (a PCC t-shirt and copies of college publications) to the guests. The Taiwan delegation was interested in the educational progress of PCC, particularly its programs and courses that preserve the traditions and culture of Palau.
PCC & PICRC Sign Memorandum

On Tuesday, June 10, 2014 the Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC) and Palau Community College (PCC) met at the PCC Assembly Hall to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation Agreement (MOCA). The signing of the agreement launches the development and implementation of a collaborative ecological monitoring certification program.

The memorandum was signed by Dr. Yimnang Golbuu, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Palau International Coral Reef Center, and Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, President of Palau Community College. Witnessing the signing were staff members from PICRC, PCC, the Protected Area Network (PAN) Office, P-CoRIE, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). PAN coordinators from the states of Koror, Ngaraard, Ngardmau, and Ngiwal were also present.

The certification program to be offered at PCC will strengthen the partnership between both institutions, build in a local capacity for conservation, and strengthen conservation strategies mainly in conservation law enforcement.

STEP-UP Summer Research Program

The Pacific Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Summer Research Program welcomed four participants from three high schools in Palau. Ives O. Rdialul (Belau Modekngei High School), Nicole K. Gabriel (Palau High School), Howard R. Charles (Emmaus High School), and Turang D. Rengiil (Palau High School) will be conducting researches over the summer about health-related issues.

The students will conduct their researches under the guidance of Belau Modekngei High School Science Teacher Benia Secuya and Dr. Christopher Kitalong. Ms. Secuya and Dr. Kitalong will assist students during their research phase with activities such as finding resources, conducting experiments, and analyzing collected data.

The Pacific STEP-UP Program is a component of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). NIDDK, through the STEP-UP Program, aims to encourage research of health issues plaguing communities of underrepresented racial or ethinical groups particularly research conducted by members of the underrepresented communities. By introducing students to the research process, the Pacific STEP-UP Program hopes to inspire generations of researchers in the Pacific region.

The Pacific STEP-UP Program extends to the Pacific islands of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). PCC Director of Development Tchuzie Tadao is the STEP-UP Program Coordinator for Palau.

Continuing Education Begins 2014 Summer Kids Program

Monday, June 09, 2014 was the first day of class for students participating in the Continuing Education (CE) Summer Kids Program. The Summer Kids Program offers classes to students of all levels of elementary school. Its focus subjects are mathematics, English reading, English writing, Palauan orthography, and marine science. For the next few weeks, students participating in the program will be exposed to activities designed to enhance their abilities in these subject areas. The program will also help the students develop new skills and interests. This year’s summer program teachers are Miriam Anastacio, Judson Butelbai, Kalista Rafael, and Norma Mersai.
Mathematics Workshop continued from page 1
The workshop consisted of fourteen modules covering topics such as place value, fractions, ratio, proportion & percentage, mental computation, measurement & geometry connections, statistical literacy, and algebraic thinking. It also included an analysis of the personal impact of teachers on the learning ability of students and the teachers’ attitudes about mathematics. Ultimately, the workshop will become a course within the Education Program (Associate of Science Degree) for preservice teachers at PCC. It will also be a component of the MOE Certificate of Teaching program.

Dr. Dole is a volunteer from the Australian Volunteers International (AVI). Her position at PCC is funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and is aligned with the government of Australia’s partnership agreement with the government of Palau. The main objectives of her assignment are the improvement of the quality of mathematics teaching and learning at Palau’s Ministry of Education and local schools; and, through PCC, build the capacity of Palauan teachers to deliver the Singapore Mathematics curriculum.

Memorandum Signing continued from page 2
The program will be developed jointly by both parties and its training courses will be implemented in accordance with the curriculum/program standards of the college.

Under the collaborative agreement, both institutions will provide and educate trainers who will eventually conduct the courses of the program; provide other resources needed for the program; issue certificates to successful completers of the program; and continuously evaluate, modify, and improve the program. Both parties will join forces to provide proper training in the development of the local capacity to preserve and protect Palau’s pristine natural environment.

The training course will prepare individual state conservation programs to comply with PAN requirements. It will also provide conservation workers with ecological background knowledge. The courses will be offered through the Continuing Education (CE) Division of Palau Community College. While it is intended for conservation officers, the training program will be opened to all interested members of the community.

Newest Contributor to the PCC Endowment Fund
Palau Community College would like to recognize its newest Endowment Fund contributor Neil Ringang. Mr. Ringang is a Marshal I for the Marshals Division of the Palau Supreme Court. Thank you, Mr. Ringang, for contributing to the future of Palau’s only institution of higher education! Your generosity will help fund future programs of the college.
Alumni Notes

Johnson Joshua
(Class of 1996)
Certificate - Agricultural Science

“Be diligent in your studies because school is the foundation of your future.”

Johnson received a certificate of completion from PCC in 1996 for Agricultural Science. He works as a Teacher for Airai Elementary School.

Valentina Omelau
(Class of 2002; Class of 2003; Class of 2011)
Associate of Science - Education: Special Education
Masters Degree - Education

“Learning is a constant process. How old you are or where you are do not matter. So be a role model: continue to learn and don’t give up.”

Valentina graduated with an AS Degree in Education: Early Childhood and an AS Degree in Special Education. In 2011 she received her Masters Degree in Education from San Diego State University. Ms. Omelau is a Teacher for George B. Harris Elementary School.

Judgewin Daniel
(Class of 2014)
Associate of Applied Science - General Electronics

“Learning is an important part of life. Study hard and don’t quit!”

Judgewin recently graduated with an AAS Degree in General Electronics. He plans to work for some time before continuing his education elsewhere.

Mesekiu’s News
Palau Community College
P.O. Box 9 Koror, Palau 96940

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 Alumna/Alumnus 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 Mesekiu’s News issues.

Faculty-Senate Association (FSA) Scholarship
School Year 2014-2015

The Faculty-Senate Association (FSA) Scholarship for the school year 2014-2015 is now available! Application forms can be picked up at the Development Office.

more information, call 488-2470/2471 ext. 253

DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2014

Vacancy Announcement

(1) English Instructor
(Learning Resource Center - Student Services) salary range: $14,802 - $24,647 per annum

(2) Nursing Instructor
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: $16,010 - $28,280 per annum

(3) Instructional Assistant, Construction Technology
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: $8,991 - $15,378 per annum

(4) Small Engine Instructor
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: $16,010 - $28,280 per annum

(5) Education Program Instructor
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: $16,010 - $28,280 per annum

(6) Tourism & Hospitality Instructor
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: $16,010 - $28,280 per annum

(7) Adjunct Instructors
(Academic Affairs Division) salary range: determined by class credits, educational level, and experience

(8) Dormitory Manager
(Student Services) salary range: $12,049 - $20,607 per annum

(9) Student Activities Specialist
(Recreation - Student Life Division) salary range: $8,155 - $13,948 per annum

(10) Cook
(Cafeteria - Administration Department) salary range: $6,086 - $10,408 per annum

(11) Academic Advisor/Counselor
(PCC Talent Search Office) salary range: $16,000 - $19,000 per annum

For application forms and information, please contact Harline Haruo at PCC Human Resources Office at 488-2470/2471, extension 227.

E-mail hr@palau.edu or download forms at http://pcc.palau.edu

PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Celebrating Birthdays

June 20
Grace Yalap

June 22
Ezra Takeo

June 23
Uroi N. Salii

June 25
Margeline V. Buban

June 25
Sebastian Ngitratrang

PCC Endowment Fund

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OF OUR STUDENTS, OUR COLLEGE, AND OUR NATION

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If you want to join the Bi-Weekly Allotment Program, contact us NOW!

FIND PCC ONLINE FOR MORE INFORMATION

http://pcc.palau.edu
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