

# PCC Day Care Center Holds Christmas Program



Children from the PCC Day Care Center performing during their Christmas Program at the PCC Assembly Hall

On Wednesday, December 21, 2016 a Christmas Program was organized for the children in the Palau Community College (PCC) Day Care Center. The children from the PCC Day Care Center performed songs that included the Palau National Anthem, a special traditional chant (*chesols*), Christian hymns, the alphabet song, and a song about numbers.

The program began with opening remarks from PCC Dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui. He was followed by the opening prayer from Ms. Mary Dearth. Following the children's performances, the PCC Santa Claus distributed gifts. Ms. Dearth gave the closing prayer followed by the closing remarks of PCC Dean Ramarui. Day CARE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



### PCC 2016 Christmas Luncheon

Palau Community College (PCC) hosted a Christmas Luncheon for its faculty & staff members on Friday, December 23, 2016. All employees as well as students were invited to join the celebration. The Christmas Luncheon was an opportunity for all college employees to enjoy the festive season together. It was also a token of appreciation from the college to all its employees. To all the faculty & staff members who have been working diligently throughout the year in order to provide quality services and excellent learning experiences, PCC expresses its deepest gratitude. Without the dedication of its faculty & staff, the college could not have continued to provide the necessary academic programs or work-related training that is needed to improve communities through Micronesia and the Pacific region. Palau Community College also takes this opportunity to wish each of its employee a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.



2016 Christmas Luncheon hosted by the college

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

### **Research on Heat Resistant Corals**

contributed by the Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC)



(left to right): Stanford Professor Steve Palumbi, Stanford Graduate Student Megan Morikawa, and PICRC CEO Dr. Yimang Golbuu

Stanford University Professor Steve Palumbi and Stanford University Graduate Student Ms. Megan Morikawa recently visited the Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC) to collaborate with its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Yimnang Golbuu on a study regarding corals in Palau that are resistant to coral bleaching. Such corals are more likely to grow and survive the increase of ocean temperatures due to climate change. This resistance to bleaching may explain why Palau's coral reefs have defied the mass bleaching event that was predicted to occur this year by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The scientists from Stanford University have begun their study in reef areas, specifically patch reefs where corals grow up from the lagoon floor. These areas were chosen due to the fact that patch reefs naturally heat up at low tide in the middle of the day. The researchers will distribute temperature recorders to about twenty (20) patch reefs. After a good low tide series, the scientists will retrieve the recorders and transfer the date collected into a computer file. By analyzing the spike in data, the scientists can identify the types of coral that are resistant to strong temperatures.

In order to understand how corals survive the harsh conditions, the scientists will set up a lab experiment using stress tanks. A small cooler fitted out with computer-controlled heaters & chillers will apply high temperatures to small coral fragments collected from patch reefs. The controlled experiments will help the researchers identify key traits that contribute the reef's resistance. HEAT CORALS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

### PCC Staff & Instructors Join SDSU

A total of eleven (11) faculty & staff members from Palau Community College (PCC) have enrolled in the next bachelor's degree cohort under San Diego State University (SDSU). The group met with PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, PCC Dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui, and PCC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Marianne Temaungil to discuss the credit requirements and classes that must be taken in order to complete the program. By enrolling its faculty & staff members in the SDSU Bachelor's Degree Cohort Program, PCC aims to improve the quality of services it provides the community particularly in the field of classroom education.

The following are the PCC Faculty & Staff Members enrolled in the upcoming SDSU Bachelor's Program in Education: Instructional Assistant for Agricultural Science Nena George, Instructional Assistant for Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Galindez Kiep, Instructional Assistant for Automotive Mechanics Technology Samantha L. Rechelluul, Physical Plant Staff O'hara Skebong, Instructional Assistant from Small Engine & Outboard Marine Technology Santini B. Thomas, Instructional Assistant for Small Engine & Outboard Marine Technology Marvin Yarofaisug, Physical Plant Staff Lohman Melayong, Physical Plant Staff Rodney Kazuma, Director of Physical Plant Clement Kazuma, Instructional Assistant Volette S. Polloi, and Computer Technician E-Van T. Ongrung.



(top row, left to right): PCC Instructional Assistant Volette Polloi, PCC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Marianne Temaungil, PCC Dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui, (second row, left to right): PCC Instructional Assistant Galindez Kiep, PCC Instructional Assistant Santini Thomas, PCC Instructional Assistant Nena George, PCC Physical Plant Staff O'hara Skebong, (bottom row, left to right): PCC Instructional Assistant Marvin Yarofaisug, PCC Instructional Assistant Samantha Rechelluul, and PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei

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Friday	7:30ам - 5рм
Saturday	9ам - 6рм
Sunday	CLOSED

For more information, call: 488-3540.

#### Available to Interested Readers: Processing Coconuts in Palau by Dr. Lydia Marero and Thomas Taro



"Handbook on Processing Coconuts in Palau is a publication compiled by the Palau Community College (PCC) - Cooperative Research & Extension (CRE) Department in line with the Palau National Economic Development Plan of 2020. It provides recipes and information about food production regarding coconuts. The purpose of the publication is to encourage the local production of food related to coconut in order to increase the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) in the Palau Agricultural Sector."

Academic Calendar: Spring 2017

January 01 (SU) New Year's Day

**January 09 (M)** New Student Orientation

January 10-11 (T-W) Spring 2017 Registration Period

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

Mesekiw's News welcomes stories/ articles/announcements from students, faculty, and staff. Submission deadline is Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in hard and/or electronic copies to tchuziet@palau.edu or tchuziet@gmail.com.

Articles from MOC/PCC Alumni are also welcomed.

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

### Day Care Christmas Program CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The PCC Day Care Center would like to thank all the parents as well as the community members who attended the Christmas Program. Your presence added joy to the festivities and inspired a feeling of merriment amongst the children.

The PCC Day Care Center would also like to recognize the Republic of Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and First Lady Debbie Remengesau for donating the following: twenty (20) packs of chips, twentyeight (28) gummy bear snacks, twenty-five (25) boxes of crayons, and coloring books. Because the donated items were not enough to distribute evenly amongst the children, the PCC Day Care Center will be store the donations for the children's when classes resume on January 09, 2017.



PCC Day Care Center Children receiving gifts from Santa Claus



PCC Santa Claus meeting with the children after the Christmas Program

### Winner of the PCC Mesekiu "Guess Who" Challenge



Congratulations to the winner of last week's newsletter challenge, Associated Students of Palau Community College (ASPCC) Treasurer Komtil Masayos! Ms. Masayos correctly named all the people featured in photo below and correctly identified their significance to the college. Ms. Masayos received a \$10 Mobile Card (airtime) as a prize for providing the correct answer.

Komtil Masayos



(left to right, standing): PCC Former Dean of Academic Affairs Albina Timarong, Mr. Bruce Best from the University of Guam, PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei (left to right, sitting): PCC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Marianne Temaungil, PCC Mathematics Instructor Epimachus Moses, and PCC Science Instructor Vernice Yuji

#### PCC CAMPUS PROFILES

### GUESS WHO!

Rules: Guess the people featured in the photograph below and win a prize courtesy of the PCC Development Office. All students are Eligible to Attempt this Challenge.



Palau Community College (PCC) has continued to strive because of the dedication & commitment of its employees. The photograph above features two (2) administrative members who have been employed at the college for many years. If you could identify the two as well as their current positions/job titles, the PCC Development Office will reward you. All students (except the students who are working for the PCC Development Office) are eligible to attempt this challenge. Please visit the PCC Development Office to submit your answer or call (tel): 488-2470/2471 ext. 251, 252, or 253 for more information. An answer will be featured in next week's newsletter!

#### ALUMNI NOTES

#### SPENCER REMOKET (Class of 2016)

Associate of Applied Science -AutoMechanics Technology



Spencer recently graduated with an AAS Degree in Automotive Mechanics Technology. He currently works as a Mechanic for Ksau Motors.

Mesekíu'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 Mesekíu's News issues.

### Heat Corals Continued from Page 2

The researchers have begun to map Palau's corals, identifying for heat resistance. By collaborating with PICRC, the scientists from Stanford University aim to complete the study within the next few years. The results of the study will provide information relevant for the protection of heat resistant corals in marine manage areas. Collaborating with PICRC will also provide local reef managers with data regarding the corals which will ensure the future of Palau's coral reefs and contribute to the scientific community's knowledge about reef resilience.

PICRC is Palau's leading research & aquarium institution with a mission to guide efforts that support coral reef stewardship through research and its applications in Palau, Micronesia, and the world. Its vision is to empower people with science and knowledge for effective marine conservation and management. PICRC works with local as well as international contributors in order to provide information for better decision-making regarding use, management, and conservation of marine resources.



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