

# **ACCJC External Evaluation Team Visits PCC**



ACCJC-WASC External Evaluation Team with US Ambassador Amy J. Hyatt (second from right, bottom row), House of Delegates Speaker Sabino Anastacio (second from right, top row), and PCC representatives

Palau Community College is an accredited institution under the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges-Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC-WASC). As an accredited institution, it is required to submit an Institutional Self-Evaluation Report to the Commission at the end of an accreditation cycle of a six-year period which is followed by a campus visit by ACCJC External Evaluation Visiting Team. The Visiting Team of eleven members chaired by Superintendent/President of Southwestern College of California visited the college on February 29th to March 3rd.

The campus visit began with a Meet and Greet gathering which was attended by the ACCJC Visiting Team Members, PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, Student Trustee Rdiall Tellei, Student President Spencer O'Dell, Faculty Senate President Johvanna Yaoch & FSA leaders, Classified Staff President Lesley Adachi, Executive Committee members, and the college Accreditation Steering Committee members. Gracing the Meet and Greet gathering were the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Palau Her Excellency Amy J. Hyatt and the Honorable Speaker Sabino Anastacio. During the gathering, President Tellei shared with the Visiting Team Members a brief history of Palau Community College as well as a brief history of the relationship between the Republic of Palau and the United States of America. ACCJC, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

#### **FSM President Visits PCC**

The President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Peter Christian and his cabinet members met with FSM students at Palau Community College (PCC) on February 24, 2016. The meeting began with the students from Pohnpei who met with Pohnpei State Governor Marcelo K. Peterson. Afterwards, a general meeting with President Christian, Governor Peterson, Chuuk State Governor Johnson S. Elimo, Kosrae State Lieutenant Governor Caarson Sigrah, and Yap State Governor Tony Ganngiyan was held with the entire FSM student body. FSM Honorary Consul to Palau Changeina Masang was also present. President Christian commented that the students were the islands' future investments. Education was a foundation for success and the students should apply their best efforts in all that they do. He encouraged the students to establish their lives wherever they find success, even in foreign countries. FSM President, continued on page 2



FSM President Peter Christian (standing with microphone) meeting with the FSM students

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.

#### ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES THIRD PARTY COMMENT PROCEDURE

ACCJC's Third Party Comment allows an individual who wishes to make comments on an institution that is undergoing comprehensive review in the current semester and that is considered by the ACCJC at its next meeting, should use the Third Party Comment Form to provide any comment about the institution's quality or effectiveness, as well as, the basis of any provided comments. The Third Party Comment Form should include individual/group name, address, phone number, and email address. The Third Party Comment Form should be received by the Commission five weeks before the scheduled Commission meeting. Comments should be submitted as an attachment to accjc@accjc.org or mail to:

Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204 Novato, CA 94949

The Third Party Comment Form is available at the Office of the President and the Accreditation Office. For more information, please contact ALO Deikola Olikong at #271 or 778-6019.

#### FSM President CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

President Christian also advised the students to practice self-respect. By learning to respect themselves, the students will learn to respect others. Self-respect will promote a general welfare beneficial for the entire community. President Christian also commented that the islands needed to remember their traditional means of living, such as fishing and maintaining taro patches, in order to establish future food security. During the meeting, the students were given the opportunity to ask questions regarding the political & social concerns of their respective home islands.

FSM President Peter Christian and his cabinet members were attending the 21<sup>st</sup> Micronesian Chief Executives Summit hosted in Palau. The summit was an opportunity for Micronesian leaders to meet and discuss issues that impact the region.

## Tan Siu Lin PCC Library Donation



Dr. Yoko Okayama (left) presenting a copy of her research to Tan Siu Lin PCC Library Technician Grace Merong (right)

On Friday, February 26, 2016 the Tan Siu Lin Palau Community College (PCC) Library received a donation from Dr. Yoko Okayama. Dr. Okayama, who has been using the library's Micronesian Pacific Collection to conduct research, donated a copy of her paper which focused on the decline of heritage language. Her research explored language policy & planning in relation to the Palauan language. Her research found that the English language has become the standard of communication in the classrooms. Therefore, children in Palau have begun to use the English language more than their native tongue. Her research explored the causes & influences that have contributed to the declination of the Palauan language. It also provides suggestions to keep Palauan the island's primary language. Dr. Okayama is an Associate Professor at the Ibaraki University in Japan. The title of her paper is "Decline of Heritage Language, Palauan: The Interplay of Language Policies, Planning, Practices and Opinions in Palau."

## 90% <u>SOLAR ECLIPSE</u>

10:15AM - PALAU TIME WEDNESDAY MARCH 09, 2016

"Most days, one observes circles of light in the shadows of trees caused by the pinhole effect. During the eclipse, those images of the sun will be crescentshaped. Do not look directly at the sun or you will have crescent-shaped scars on your retinas for the rest of your life."

## BIISAND PIECES...

## Tan Siu Lin PCC Library

#### Hours of Operation

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

For more information, call: 488-3540

Available to Interested Readers: Mānoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing



"Mānoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing brings the literature of Asia, the Pacific, and the Americas to Englishspeaking readers. To date, the journal has published over fifty volumes, about 10,000 pages, and over 1,200 writers, translators, reviewers, and editors."

#### Academic Calendar: Spring 2016

March 15 (T) Holiday: Youth Day

March 16-18 (W-F) Students' Spring Break

March 24 (TH) Last Day for All Withdrawals

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

*Mesekiu'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.

### ACCJC continued from page 1

The four days campus visit consisted of meetings and forums where Visiting Team Members met with college personnel for interviews, a campus tour, different offices' visits and classroom observations. Meetings and forums allowed the Visiting Team Members to clarify information provided in the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report, college documentations and student data. The campus visit concluded with an Exit Meeting between the Visiting Team Members and Palau Community College on Thursday, March 3rd.

The ACCJC External Evaluation Visiting Team will be submitting its report to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges where the Commission will be meeting in June of this year to finalize its decision on Palau Community College accreditation status.

The ACCJC Visiting Team had an opportunity to enjoy the Palau rock islands and the Jelly Fish Lake on Friday, March 4th before departing Palau. PCC takes this opportunity to thank the ACCJC Visiting Team Members for the hard work and commitment with the college self-evaluation and self-improvement processes. The college also takes this opportunity to thank its students, faculty, staff and administrators for their professional responses during meetings and forums, support and assistance with additional documentations requested by Visiting Team Members, and most especially, for their island hospitality.

### **RMI President Dr. Hilda Heine Meets with Students**



(left to right): PCC Board of Trustees Chairman Masa-Aki N. Emesiochl and RMI President Dr. Hilda Heine

On Wednesday, February 24, 2016 the President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Dr. Hilda Heine met with the RMI students currently enrolled Palau Community College (PCC). The meeting was held at the Marina Café VITA in Malakal. During the meeting, President Dr. Heine shared with the students news about the current events of their home island. She also encouraged the students to be diligent in their studies while at PCC.







"SEAGRASS - THEIR IMPORTANCE TO OUR COMMUNITY" by Dr. Ann Kitalong, The Environment INC.

> DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2016 TIME: 7PM (Happy Hour at 6PM) PLACE: Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC)

#### PCC CAMPUS PROFILES

TCHUZIE TADAO PCC DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

"In every that you do, try your best and work hard in order to achieve your goals."



Tchuzie Tadao has been working for Palau Community College (PCC) for seventeen (17) years. Previously, he served as the Project Director for the Upward Bound Math & Science Program. Currently, Mr. Tadao is the Director of Development. His duties include overseeing the institutional development, planning, and public relations areas of the college. This includes the publication of the weekly college newsletter, supervision of the PCC Bookstore, and preparations for the annual PCC Thanksgiving Endowment Fundraising Event in November. Director Tadao holds a Master's Degree in Education Leadership from the San Diego Sate University and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from the University of Hawaii at Hilo. He is a member of the PCC Executive Committee as well as a number of its standard committees. In his free time, Director Tadao enjoys farming (taro patch).

#### ALUMNI NOTES

MAYLO B. ASANUMA (Class of 2013) Associate of Applied Science - Office Administration



Maylo graduated in 2013 with an AAS Degree in Office Administration. She now works for the Protected Areas Network (PAN) Fund as an Administrative Assistant.

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.

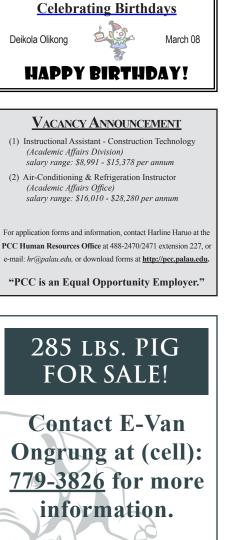
If you are that Alumna/Alumnus or know someone who is, please contact the PCC Development Office at telephone numbers 488-2470/2471 (extensions 251, 252, or 253).

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

## PRISTINE CAMPUS CAMPAIGN "Candid Camera" March Feature



The Pristine Campus Campaign is sponsored by the Faculty Senate Association, the Classified Staff Organization (CSO), and the Associated Students of Palau Community College (ASPCC). It aims to promote the maintenance and continued cleanliness of the campus. If a candid photo of a student throwing away trash is featured in the *Mesekiu's News*, that student will receive \$25. Two (2) students will be recognized each month from March to April. Congratulations to Mr. Wade E. Kitalong, a student tutor at the Learning Resource Center (LRC), for being featured this month!



PCC Endowment Fund INVEST IN THE FUTURE of Our Students, Our College, and Our Nation To Support, Contact Us Today! P.O. BOX 9 Koror, Palau 96940 Phone: 488-2470/2471 (ext. 251/253) e-mail: tellei@palau.edu If you want to join the Bi-Weekly Allotment Program, contact us NOW!

 FIND PCC ONLINE FOR MORE INFORMATION

 Image: http://pcc.palau.edu

 Image: palau Community College - PCC

