

FREE!!!



Palau Community College

MESEKIU'S NEWS



Friday, June 24, 2016

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 26

STEP-UP Summer Research Program Begins



(left to right, standing): Nelson Masang Jr., Dr. Christopher Kitalong, Keisha V. Willis, Sidney Roberts, Dr. Julien Lorion, (left to right, sitting): David Moses (Mindszenty High School), PAIR Student Researcher Zacca Adelbai, Kenton Mongami (Palau High School), and PAIR Student Researcher Nelly Olkeriil. Students not in photo are Amie Oilouch (Mindszenty High School) and Leah Bukurou (Palau High School)

The students participating in the 2016 Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Summer Program are currently working on their projects. The high school students are Ms. Amie Oilouch (Mindszenty High School), Mr. David Moses (Mindszenty High School), Mr. Kenton Mongami (Palau High School), and Ms. Leah Bukurou (Palau High School).

They will work on their projects alongside two (2) student researchers sponsored by the Pacific, Asia, India Resilience (PAIR) Program: Ms. Zacca Adelbai and Ms. Nelly Olkeriil. Laboratory assistants for the summer are Ms. Keisha V. Willis (Summer Student Intern under the Palau National Scholarship Board) and Ms. Sidney Roberts (Summer Student Volunteer).

The STEP-UP Program is a component of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). Through the program, NIDDK aims to encourage research related to health issues plaguing the communities of underrepresented racial or ethnic groups. The program encourages research conducted by members of the underrepresented communities. STEP-UP, CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

McREL Representatives Visit PCC

On Tuesday, June 16, 2016 two (2) representatives from the McREL International Organization visited Palau Community College (PCC). They met with PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei to discuss how the islands could improve the outcomes of education for the “Pacific child.” Their discussion focused specifically on the education of Palau’s children. The term “Pacific child” describes students from the Pacific region. The social expectations of the Pacific islands differ from the western world. By identifying the needs of the “Pacific child” based on his/her upbringing, the Pacific islands could assess and revise their teaching methods in order to improve their students’ learning abilities. The “Pacific child” is influenced by traditional roles, cultural obligations, and social norms. These values can effect how a child interprets information, especially information in a foreign education system. McREL, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



(left to right): Dr. F. Barrington Harris, PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, and Executive Director Dr. Phillip Herman

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.

Japan Ministry of Defense Visits PCC

On Thursday, June 16, 2016 representatives from the Japan Ministry of Defense paid a courtesy visit to the campus of Palau Community College (PCC). They met with PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei and PCC Vice President of Administration & Finance Jay G. Olegeriil to discuss scheduled activities for the upcoming Pacific Partnership 16. The Pacific Partnership 16 is scheduled to take place in Palau from August 04, 2016 to August 14, 2016.

The Pacific Partnership 16 is an initiative by the Japan Ministry of Defense to visit countries in the Pacific region to provide medical care and civil engineering support. It is also an opportunity for Japan to engage in cultural exchanges with local communities in order to strengthen their collaboration with island nations.

Under the initiative, the Japan Ministry of Defense will provide Cooperative Health Engagements that include patient care and subject matter expert exchanges. The services will include medical, dental, and eye check-up services for any person from the community of Palau. The services will be conducted at the following locations of the college campus: the PCC Assembly Hall, the PCC Conference Room, the Learning Resource Center (LRC) Study Lab, and the PCC Mesekiu Bai.

The representatives were Japan Ministry of Defense - International Policy Division Deputy Director Kumiko Morino, Japan Ministry of Self-Defense (JMSDF) Commander Mikio Ozawa, and JMSF Commander Yoshihiro Yamamoto. For more information about the Pacific Partnership 16, please contact PCC Vice President of Administration & Finance Jay G. Olegeriil at (tel): 488-2470/2471 ext. 343.



(left to right): JMSDF Commander Mikio Ozawa, PCC Vice President of Administration & Finance Jay G. Olegeriil, Japan Ministry of Defense Deputy Director of International Policy Kumiko Morino, PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, and JMSDF Commander Yoshihiro Yamamoto

Rock Island Iron Chef Competition

On Friday, June 17, 2016 the “Rock Island Iron Chef Competition” sponsored by the Palau Visitors Authority (PVA) was hosted at the Palau Tourism & Hospitality School of Excellence (PTHSE) on the campus of Palau Community College (PCC). The competition was an event featured in the 2016 PVA Tourism Awareness Week (TAW), from Monday, June 13, 2016 to Saturday, June 18, 2016. The awareness week was designed to promote and strengthen public awareness about Palau’s tourism industry.

It was divided into two (2) categories: professional chefs and amateur chefs. The competitors were expected to cook an appetizing dish within a set time limit that was then sampled by a panel of judges. In addition to taste, the dishes were also judged according to presentation and preparation techniques. The competition was free and open to all interested individuals.

Winners for the Professional Chef Category were Mr. Charles Gibbons from the Civic Action Team (first place) and Mr. Daniel Ueda from the Palau Pacific Resort (second place). The winners for the Amateur Chef Category were Ms. Skye Yalap (first place), PCC Director of Development Tchuzie Tadao (second place), PCC Dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui (third place), and Ms. Violet Fernando (fourth place).

NEED ANY HELP?

TUTORING FOR CS-100: COMPUTER LITERACY

“This course covers basic information processing and uses of computer including basic application software and the Internet. Topics include basic computer concepts, navigating in a Windows Operating System, and computer software including word processing, spreadsheet, and Internet applications, including email.”

AVAILABLE AT THE PCC ONLINE LAB!

Peer Tutors at the PCC Online Lab who will be happy to answer your questions or help you with your studies are Regner, Daemi, Rimat, and Ayshia.

BITS AND PIECES...

Tan Siu Lin PCC Library

Hours of Operation

Monday to Thursday	7:30AM - 7PM
Friday	7:30AM - 5PM
Saturday	9AM - 6PM
Sunday	CLOSED

For more information, call:
488-3540.

AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED READERS:

DISCOVERY MAGAZINE



"Take an exciting adventure with *Discovery Magazine* as it reports captivating developments in science, medicine, technology, and the world around us. Spectacular photography and refreshingly understandable stories on complex subjects connect everyday people with the greatest ideas and minds in science."

Academic Calendar: Summer 2016

June 27-28 (M-T)

Mid-Term Period

July 06 (W)

Fall 2016 Pre-Registration Starts

July 13 (F)

Last Day for All Withdrawals

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.

STEP-UP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Research mentors are Dr. Joel Miles (National Invasive Species Coordinator for the Palau National Government), Dr. Julien Lorion (Researcher from the Palau International Coral Reef Center), Dr. Akiko Uyeda (Japan), Dr. Christopher Kitalong (Project Coordinator for the Palau Environment, Inc.), David Ramarui Mason (Coordinator for the Koror-Palau Sanitation Project), Mr. Larry Wakakoro (Academic Coordinator & Advisor for the Upward Bound Program), and Mr. Nelson Masang, Jr. (Research Assistant from the Palau International Coral Reef Center).

The Pacific STEP-UP Program provides hands-on summer research experience for high school and undergraduate students interested in exploring research careers.

COCONUT RHINO BEETLE POPULATION IN PALAU

LEAD RESEARCHER: Dr. Joel Miles, MENTOR: Nelson Masang, Jr.

STUDENT RESEARCHER: David Moses (Mindszenty High School)

STEP-UP Student Researcher David Moses will assess Palau's coconut rhino beetle population. Using DNA extractions, Mr. Moses will analyze the island beetle's two (2) bio-types. He will then identify each bio-type's population distribution throughout the island. His research will also assess the types of damages caused by the beetles on the island's natural environment. Mr. Moses will produce a map that highlights the location of the beetles and the range of their damages. He is mentored by Dr. Joel Miles and PICRC Research Assistant Nelson Masang, Jr.

MARINE BIO-DIVERSITY IN PALAU

LEAD RESEARCHER: Dr. Julien Lorion, MENTOR: Nelson Masang, Jr.

STUDENT RESEARCHER: Kenton Mongami

STEP-UP Student Researcher Kenton Mongami will perform DNA extractions on the marine invertebrates in the oceans of Palau. His research will focus on studying the gene flow of these organisms. Data collected from his research study will be used in the creation of Palau's marine protected areas (MPAs). He is mentored by the PICRC Researcher Dr. Julien Lorion and PICRC Assistant Researcher Nelson Masang, Jr.

SOCIAL IMPACTS OF URBANIZATION IN PALAU

LEAD RESEARCHER: Dr. Christopher Kitalong, MENTOR: David Ramarui Mason

STUDENT RESEARCHER: Amie Oilouch (Mindszenty High School)

STEP-UP Student Researcher Amie Oilouch will be conducting interviews with the local citizens of Palau regarding the recent influx of foreign nationals and the increase in the construction of accommodations (e.g., hotels). Her interviews will note the local population's opinion regarding the boost in urbanization and its effects on the island. The social impacts will be translated into quantitative data that may be used in future studies. She is mentored by Dr. Christopher Kitalong and Mr. David Ramarui Mason.

FOOD HABITS OF PALAU

LEAD RESEARCHERS: Dr. Akiko Uyeda & Dr. Christopher Kitalong, MENTOR: Larry Wakakoro

STUDENT RESEARCHER: Leah Bukorou (Palau High School)

STEP-UP Student Researcher Leah Bukorou will focus on the eating habits of Palauans. She will document the meals that an average Palauan eats on a daily basis and identify an average Palauan's main source of food. She will also analyze the "thrifty gene" that enables an individual to efficiently collect and process food to deposit fat during periods of food abundance in order to provide for period of food shortages. The "thrifty gene" is part of a hypothesis that attempts to explain why people in certain populations are prone to diabetes. Her mentors are Dr. Christopher Kitalong, Dr. Akiko Uyeda, and Mr. Larry Wakakoro.

PCC CAMPUS PROFILES

ROBERT RAMARUI

PCC DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

"Success is a ladder that you cannot climb if you have your hands in your pockets or tied behind your back."



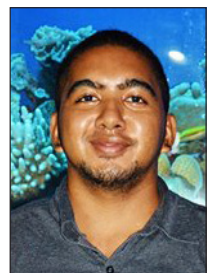
Robert Ramarui has been working at Palau Community College (PCC) for over ten (10) years. He began as an Instructor for the Business Accounting Program. Currently, he is the Dean of Academic Affairs. His duties include overseeing the academic programs and working with the college faculty to improve the quality of education offered to the students. Previously, Dean Ramarui was the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. He holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration (BMA) from the University of Guam. In his free time, Dean Ramarui enjoys fishing and farming.

ALUMNI NOTES

NELSON MASANG, JR.

(Class of 2016)

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS - LIBERAL ARTS



Nelson graduated this year with an AA Degree in Liberal Arts. He currently works as a Research Assistant at the Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC). This summer, he is a Mentor for the high school students participating in the Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Program. Mr. Masang was the Valedictorian of the PCC Class of 2016.



Mesekiu's News

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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.

McREL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The representatives who met with PCC President Dr. Tellei were McREL International Executive Director Dr. Phillip Herman and McREL International Managing Consultant Dr. F. Barrington Harris. Dr. Herman is the REL Pacific Director. He is a Learning Scientist who specializes in educational research and development. Dr. Harris provides technical assistance and support for the Palau Research Alliance. He previously worked with the Hawaii State Department of Education, Professional Development and Educational Research Institute (PEDERI).

McREL International is a non-profit, non-partisan education research and development organization. Founded in 1966, the organization supports the implementation of practical goals and education strategies that remedy challenges identified in education systems. McREL researchers identify these challenges via methods such as program evaluations, classroom observations, and on-site meetings. McREL International also offers teachers/instructors with professional development training and resources that will expand their teaching capabilities.

Celebrating Birthdays

Margeline V. Buban	June 25
Sebastian Ngiratrang	June 25
Tarmau T. Ngirmang	June 27
Evangeline Andrew	June 28



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- (1) Instructional Assistant - Construction Technology
(Academic Affairs Division)
salary range: \$8,991 - \$15,378 per annum
- (2) Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Instructor
(Academic Affairs Office)
salary range: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per annum
- (3) Maintenance Technicians (4)
(Administration Department - Physical Plant)
salary range: \$8,155 - \$13,948 per annum
- (4) Library Assistant
(Tan Siu Lin PCC Library)
salary range: \$6,086 - \$10,408 per annum

For application forms and information, contact Harline Haruo at the PCC Human Resources Office at 488-2470/2471 extension 227, or e-mail: hr@palau.edu, or download forms at <http://pcc.palau.edu>.

"PCC is an Equal Opportunity Employer."

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



<http://pcc.palau.edu>



Palau Community College - PCC

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