



TECHNOLOGY: FRIEND OR FOE BY DIZZETTE U. DOLMERS

Ms. Dolmers focused on the positive and negative effects of technology on education. She identified the pros such as research convenience and globalization effect versus the cons such as social (face-to-face) and physical inactivity. Ms. Dolmers advised the audience to take everything in moderation. The audience was left to answer for themselves whether technology is a friend or a foe when it comes to life in general.

SEARCHING FOR THE MEANING OF KUSHU BY GENER M. SANGALANG

Mr. Sangalang focused on defining the term *kushu* (a Japanese word meaning ‘air raid’) in connection to Palau’s history. The Japanese word is common in a phrase used by older Palauans to lament their younger years. Through interviews, Mr. Sangalang was able to define *kushu* as a time of difficulty during World War II. He ended his presentation by considering the effect that the war had on the islands.



SWEET CHILD OF MINE BY KAYA SOLOMON

Ms. Solomon focused on the Palauan social stigma attached to teenage pregnancy. She interviewed various people, including teen mothers, to weigh the pros and cons. In addition, Ms. Solomon identified how popular opinions about teenage pregnancy vary due to time and social changes. In Palau’s past, women were expected to birth many children. Today, due to western influences, being a young mother has become taboo.

BELAUAN INK BY MARIAH KUAL

The presentation of Ms. Kual gave a traditional overview of tattoos in the Palauan culture. She defined the meaning of certain tattoos and the social significance of tattoos on certain parts of the body. In addition, Ms. Kual showed the evolution of tattoos in Palau as the western concept of individualism comes into play in today’s society.



SOCIOLOGICAL IMAGINATION OF THE BETELNUT BY MARCIA OLKERIIL

Ms. Olkeriil focused on the socialization qualities of chewing betelnut. She began by stating the basic ingredients. Afterwards, she provided evidence of the economical benefits of chewing betelnut (e.g., a source of income for Palauans), its social qualities (e.g., an excuse to speak to someone), and its psychological effect as an energy booster. She contrasted these benefits with the disadvantages of not chewing betelnut.

HAI, WHY DO PALAUANS COMPLAIN SO MUCH? BY MARIAH LUND

Ms. Lund tackled the Palauan social practice of complaining. She identified the reasons behind the practice: personal habit, social belief, conversation starter, etc. On the other side of the complaining coin, Ms. Lund identified the importance of complaining particularly in learning cultural practices. In the end, she supported Palauans complaining because the act helps revolutionize and improve conditions in society.

