

FREE!!!

# Palau Community College



# MESEKIU'S NEWS



Friday, February 2, 2024

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 26, Issue 5

## PCC PRESIDENT MEETS WITH SPRING SEMESTER STUDENTS

### PREPARING FOR THE 2024-2025 FAFSA APPLICATION



*PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei during a meeting with students at PCC Assembly Hall*

From January 30-February 1, 2024 Palau Community College Student Services hosted a series of meetings with PCC President and all new, continuing, and returning students of Spring Semester 2024. The purpose of the bi-annual meeting of students is to hear college updates from PCC President Dr. Tellei on the college programs and services with new initiatives and plans to support student learning including a historical background of the college since it became PCC in April 1993. In his remarks, PCC President Dr. Tellei thanked the students for choosing PCC and encourage each one to study hard and know that the college stands ready to support them academically and socially in order to successfully complete their educational journey here at PCC. He encouraged students to seek assistance early on in the semester so that needed assistance can be provided by the college student services staff. Also present to support and provide pertinent information about the college services were Dean of Students Hilda N. Reklai, Student Life Counselors, Financial Aid Technicians, and Learning Resource Center staff. PCC welcomes all new, continuing, and returning students to Spring Semester 2024. Good luck and continue all the hard work!

Federal Student Aid

### Better FAFSA Better Future

The Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education Act (Future Act), 2020, and the FAFSA Simplification Act (Act) (passed as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, and amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022), made many important amendments to the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), including significant changes to the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. Incorporating these changes delayed the availability of the FAFSA which only became available on December 31, 2023, unlike previous years where it becomes available annually on October 1st.

Changes to the FAFSA Application include fewer questions, the ability for an applicant to list up to 20 schools via the online application, replacing the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) with the Student Aid Index (SAI), and having contributors (student, spouse, student's parents) provide consent to have their Federal Tax Information (FTI) transferred directly from the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) to the FAFSA application. If all contributors do not provide consent, the student is not eligible for aid.

Individuals who file taxes only with foreign or U.S. territory tax authorities like the Republic of

FAFSA CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

## FAFSA CONTINUE FROM PAGE 1

Palau will be prompted to manually enter their income and tax data because they will not have tax information available to retrieve from the IRS. As in previous years, applicants and their contributors will be instructed to enter financial information from their foreign or U.S. territory tax return that is equivalent to the income and tax information found on an IRS Form 1040 or 1040-NR (adjusted gross income (AGI), income tax paid, and certain untaxed income). Applicants and their contributors are still required to provide consent and approval to use IRS FTI (Federal Tax Information), even if such FTI does not exist with the IRS, as a condition of federal student aid eligibility under the FUTURE Act.

Interested students can apply by going online at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> or by filling out the paper FAFSA application and mailing it to the address provided on the last page of the application. When applying online, there will be a two-step verification, and all FAFSA contributors must create an account to be able to log in and complete their portion of the online form. Due to the recent FAFSA changes, the FAFSA website is undergoing periodic maintenance therefore it may take contributors multiple attempts to successfully access the site. In addition, if an applicant does not have a U.S. Social Security Number, you may be prompted to call a specified number for verification purposes. The Palau Community College Financial Aid Office will be meeting with all high school seniors and Palau Community College students beginning February 2024 to assist them with the FAFSA application process. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please call Palau Community College at 488-2470/71 extension 273.

## NEW ZEALAND-MANAAKI TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS



New Zealand-Manaaki tertiary scholarships will open on 1 February and close at midday on 28 February. The scholarship covers all living costs while in New Zealand (accommodation stipend, living allowance, flights home); as well as course fees. Interested students, apply now at <https://www.nzscholarships.govt.nz/category/>

## DR. RODGERS & DR. HUI VISIT PCC PRESIDENT DR. TELLEI



*L-r: CRE Director Masami, Extension Agent Hideyos, Dr. Rodgers, PCC President Tellei, and Dr. Hui*

On January 29, 2024, CRE Director Lyndon Masami, Extension Agent Elchung Hideyos, Dr. Griffin Rodgers, Director of National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases from the National Institute of Health (NIDDK), and Dr. George Hui, Pacific Step-Up Director visited PCC and met with PCC President Dr. Patrick Tellei. PACIFIC Step-Up along with the Director of NIDDK visited Palau to recruit high school and college students to apply for the Step-Up program. During their meeting with PCC President Tellei, they discussed on opportunities for further education and research. These opportunities will benefit students as well as our country in the future as they will learn more, experience more, and be able to share what they have learned with the community. Thank you for visiting!

## PCC WELCOMES NEWEST EMPLOYEE



*Mrs. Ulai T. Ikesiil, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs*

PCC would like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest member of PCC family, Mrs. Ulai T. Ikesiil. She has agreed to take on the role of Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and the college could not be more proud and happy of her decision to join. Thank you Associate Dean Ikesiil for agreeing to be a part of PCC and contributing your best to the students and staff.



# BITS AND PIECES...

## Tan Siu Lin PCC Library

### Hours of Operation

Mon to Thu 7:30AM - 7:00 PM  
 Friday 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
 Sat 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sun. & National Holidays CLOSED

For more information, call: 488-3540.

### AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED READERS: MOTHER EARTH NEWS



MOTHER EARTH NEWS provides wide-ranging, expert editorial coverage of organic foods, country living, green transportation, renewable energy, natural health, and green building.

## Academic Calendar

February 12 (M)

Non-Instructional Day-No Classes

## News/Stories Wanted

Mesekii'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 [hherman@palau.edu](mailto:hherman@palau.edu).

Articles from MOC/PCC Alumni are also welcome.

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

SPRING 2024  
**INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**  
 STUDENTS & STAFF  
 REGISTRATION FEB.13 -17, 2024  
 GAMES START ON FEB. 19, 2024  
 TECHNICAL MEETING ON FEB. 17, 2024 @ 6 P.M. DORM OFFICE  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JACK/RECREATION 778-5628 / 488-1053

*Noon Time Seminar*  
 Dive into a world of **GOVERNMENT POLICY**  
 On two enlightening sessions:  
**"HOW TO ACHIEVE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT"**  
*a Framework*  
 and  
**"WHAT WORKS? BETTER POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR A BETTER PACIFIC"**  
 Explore these crucial topics shaping our region to elevate your understanding and contribute to a brighter future!  
**SPEAKER:**  
 Dr. Steve Pollard  
**DATES:** February 6-7, 2024  
**TIME:** 12:00PM - 1:00PM  
**PLACE:** Assembly Hall, PCC

PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS  
**PALAU.EDU**  
*email addresses for students*  
**Did you know?**  
 With a palau.edu email address, you will have access to many free or significantly discounted software packages and online services including Amazon Prime, Microsoft Office 365 Education, Adobe Creative Cloud which includes Adobe Photoshop, Spotify, Norton anti-virus, Autodesk which includes AutoCAD, and Apple Music. You will also have access to discounted equipment and products from Apple, Dell, Samsung, Best Buy and many others.  
 To activate your palau.edu email address:  
 1. Open a web browser (Chrome, Internet, Safari, Firefox, etc.) and navigate to the [mail.palau.edu](mailto:mail.palau.edu) or [gmail.com](mailto:mail.palau.edu).  
 2. Once the page loads, enter your username and password. Your username is your first name plus your last name (all lowercase and no spaces). Your password is your PCC student ID number. If your ID number contains 7 or less numbers, add 0s at the end so that you have at least 8 numbers.  
 For assistance, stop by the PCC Online Lab or Computer Services Office.

## CALVO'S SELECT CARE HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM RATES

Monthly Rate (Single)	Class Type (Single)	Percentage Split	12 Months	Bi-Weekly 24 PP
\$125.00	Employer (60%)	\$75.00	\$900.00	\$37.50
	Employee (40%)	\$50.00	\$600.00	\$25.00
Monthly Rate (Couple)	Class Type (Couple)	Percentage Split	12 Months	Bi-Weekly
\$250.00	Employer (60%)	\$150.00	\$1,800.00	\$75.00
	Employee (40%)	\$100.00	\$1,200.00	\$50.00
Monthly Rate (Family)	Class Type (Family)	Percentage Split	12 Months	Bi-Weekly
\$400.00	Employer (60%)	\$240.00	\$2,880.00	\$120.00
	Employee (40%)	\$160.00	\$1,920.00	\$80.00

Enrollment for PCC staff is still open until February 8. Stop by Human Resource to enroll or add/delete dependents.

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

- (1) Instructor, Construction Technology  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary range: \$16,010 - 28,280 per annum
- (2) Instructor, Small Engine & Outboard Marine Tech.  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary range: \$12,653.00 - 22,349 per annum
- (3) Extension Agent (EFNEP Program)  
(PCC Cooperative Research & Extension)  
salary range: \$11,010 - \$19,552 per annum
- (4) Instructor Assistant - General Mechanics  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary ranges: \$12,653 - \$22,349 per annum
- (5) English Instructor  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary range: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per annum
- (6) Math Instructor  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary ranges: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per annum
- (7) Instructor, Community & Public Health  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary ranges: \$16,010 to \$28,280.00 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](mailto:hr@palau.edu), or download forms at <http://pcc.palau.edu>.

**Celebrating Birthdays**  
February 5 - February 11, 2024



Jay Olegeriil



Danielle Dachelbai

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

- (8) Instructor, Information Technology Program  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary ranges: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per annum
- (9) Math Coordinator  
Academic Affairs Division  
salary ranges: \$19,000-\$23,000 per annum

**PCC Endowment**

**INVEST IN THE FUTURE  
To SUPPORT,  
CONTACT US TODAY!**

P.O. BOX 9 Koror, Palau  
96940

Phone: 488-2470/2471 (ext. 251/253)

e-mail: [tellei@palau.edu](mailto:tellei@palau.edu)

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

Interested in Learning Transferrable Media and Marketing skills? Volunteer with the PCC Development Office. Stop by at the Dort building to sign-up.

**ALUMNI NOTES**

**SHAINA ELUIL MIMONG**  
**AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE**



Ms. Shaina Mimong graduated with an AS in Agricultural Science in 2015. She then went to National Pingtung University of Science and Technology in Taiwan, graduated in 2023 with her BS, and now works as a Livestock Specialist for the Division of Livestock under MAFE. Congrats on all your achievements!



**Mesekii's News**  
Palau Community College

**ALUMNI** 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 or 252).

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



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