

MESEKIU'S NEWS



Campus Buzz: Free Weekly Newsletter

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 42



PACIFIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COUNCIL (PPEC) HELD ITS MEETING AT PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PPEC HIGHLIGHT

(PHOTOS BELOW: PPEC VISITS PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE METUKRUIKULL ISLAND AND THE ROCK ISLAND SOUTHERN LAGOON



PACIFIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COUNCIL

(FRONT ROW L-R) HCC CHANCELLOR DR. SUSAN KAZAMA, NMC PRESIDENT DR. GALVIN DELEON GUERRERO, PCC PRESIDENT DR. PATRICK U. TELLEI, GCC PRESIDENT DR. MARY OKADA, AND LEEWARD CC CHANCELLOR DR. CARLOS PEÑALOZA

(BACK ROW L-R) UOG STAFF MARK MENDIOLA, HONOLULU CC CHANCELLOR DR. KAREN LEE, WINDWARD CC CHANCELLOR DR. ARDIS ESCHENBERG, UOG PRESIDENT DR. ANITA BORJA ENRIQUEZ, KAUAI CC CHANCELLOR MARGARET SANCHEZ, COM-FSM VP MR. STEVEN YOUNG-UHK, AND GCC PRESIDENT'S SECRETARY MS. ESTHER MUNA

Brief Summary:

The Pacific Postsecondary Education Council (PPEC) is a consortium of presidents and chancellors from higher education institutions across the U.S. and its affiliated Pacific Islands—including American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, Palau, FSM, RMI, and Hawaii. Together, they address shared regional and postsecondary education challenges.

resource sharing, and regional planning to strengthen education throughout the Pacific. It supports credit transferability, teacher development, and inter-institutional programs in training, research, and community service. The council also serves as a liaison for external organizations and advocates for the unique cultures and needs of Pacific communities.

PPEC promotes collaboration,



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 pccdev@palau.edu. Articles from MOC/PCC Alumni are also welcome. Please call 488-2470/2471 (extensions 251 or 252) for more information.

"Integrating Traditional Palauan Knowledge and Modern Science for Sustainable Taro Farming"

Articles contributed by: Emengel Singichi, CRE Senior Research Assistant



MS. ELCHUNG HIDEYOS (RIGHT) PRESENTING HER PHD DISSERTATION PROPOSAL AND HOW IT ALIGNS WITH HER WORK AND ONGOING PROJECTS AT THE PCC COOPERATIVE RESEARCH & EXTENSION

On September 26, 2025, the Palau Community College – Cooperative Research & Extension (PCC-CRE) hosted a Noontime Seminar featuring Elchung G. Hideyos, a Researcher with CRE. Elchung presented the introduction to her PhD dissertation proposal, which builds on her ongoing research at PCC-CRE, focused on strengthening taro cultivation and production in Palau. Her project, titled “Integrating Traditional Knowledge and Modern Science to Increase Taro Cultivation and Production: GIS, Wetland Multifunctionality, and Genetic Resilience,” explores innovative ways to preserve and advance one of Palau’s most important staple crops.

The research combines traditional ecological knowledge, passed down through generations of Palauan farmers, with modern scientific tools to support sustainable taro farming in the face of climate challenges. She highlighted the value of traditional planting wisdom while demonstrating how advanced technologies can strengthen and validate these practices. One key part of her study involves measuring salt-level in taro

patches using field probes to understand how different taro varieties respond to salinity – an increasing urgent issue as sea level rise and saltwater intrusion threaten low-lying farms. Identifying and promoting salt-tolerant varieties can help farmers maintain healthy production in changing environments. Elchung also integrates Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to map ideal growing areas, monitor environmental changes, and combine traditional site knowledge with scientific soil and water data.

This approach helps identify and preserve the most resilient and productive taro patches while ensuring long-term sustainability of one of Palau’s most important staple crops. The seminar underscored the value of blending traditional knowledge with cutting-edge science to address modern agricultural challenges, reinforcing PCC-CRE’s mission to support food security, climate resilience, and the cultural heritage of taro farming in Palau.



PCC-CRE Hosts “Mesei101” Training on Proper Taro Cultivation Practices



PARTICIPANTS OF THE “MESEI101” HANDS-ON TRAINING

On October 2, 2025, the Palau Community College – Cooperative Research & Extension (PCC-CRE), in partnership with the Palau Organic Growers Association (POGA), held a hands-on training titled “Mesei101: Proper Practices for Mesei Cultivation.”

The session took place in the mesei wetland area tucked between the Track & Field and Mesekiu Gym – a spot you might miss if you don’t look closely. The training welcomed novice and experienced taro farmers, employers of taro farmers, and community members eager to strengthen their farming skills.

Participants learned practical techniques including mulching (dekedek), composting (ramk), and planting/sowing methods (melalem) to improve soil health and boost taro production through field-based demonstrations and interactive learning. The training connected traditional wetland farming knowledge with practical improvements to ongoing efforts to support local food production, food security, and preserve the cultural heritage of taro farming in Palau.

BITS AND PIECES

TAN SIU LIN PCC LIBRARY

Hours of Operation

Monday to Thursday
7:30 AM to 7:00 PM

Friday
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

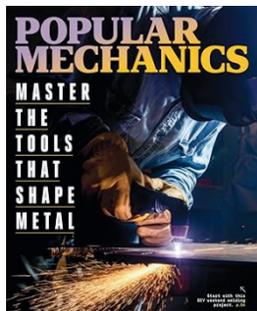
*Closed on Sundays and National Holidays

For more information, call:
488-3540

Available To Interested

Readers:

Popular Mechanics



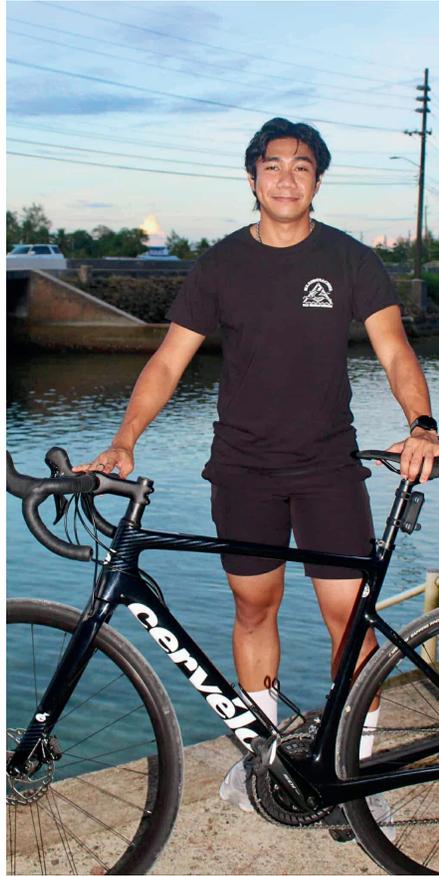
Popular Mechanics is a unique science and technology magazine that uncovers how the world works for curious readers interested in craftsmanship and innovation. Each issue covers the top technological breakthroughs, inventions, do-it-yourself projects, and outdoor adventures for a life well-lived.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

October 24 (F)
Holiday: UN Day

PCC Upward Bound Staff Takes Part in the Pacific Cup Road Cycling Competition

(PHOTO: MR. LIESLIE MARK TAKSIAU, PCC UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM IT/TRACKING COORDINATOR)



Lieslie Mark Taksiau, a staff member of Palau Community College's Upward Bound Program, excels in education and athletics as a Palauan triathlete.

Mr. Taksiau has competed in the Belau Games and the recent Pacific Mini Games. This October, Taksiau will represent Palau at the Pacific Cup Road Cycling competition in New Zealand, participating in training and the event from October 12 to 18, 2025. Selected by the Belau Cycling Federation, he is part of the Pacific Development Program, which prepares athletes for the 2027 Pacific Games in Tahiti. Taksiau inspires students and aspiring athletes with his dedication, and Palau supports him as he competes internationally.

PCC would like to recognize and applaud Mr. Taksiau and we wish him the best of luck!

TRIVIA QUESTION

To solve this riddle, you'll need to visit the Academic Tutoring Center in the Temekai Building:

*"She's fluent in formulas and essays too,
Helping students think things through.
Whether it's grammar or graphs you seek,
Find this guide—she's calm—she's chic.
Snap a photo, learn her name,
And send it to O'Keef to win the game!"*

@ Your Mission:

Visit the Academic Tutoring Center at Temekai Building.
Find the Instructional Assistant who tutors English (and sometimes math!).
Take a respectful selfie or 0.5 photo with this person (always ask for permission).

Trivia Submission Guideline

Only PCC students are eligible to participate.
To submit your answers, use your @palau.edu email and send them to okokichi@palau.edu. The lucky winner will be contacted to claim their prize.
If you don't have access to your @palau.edu email, please visit the PCC Computer Services Office in the Ukall Building for assistance.

2025-2026 PCC BASED SCHOLARSHIP
CLOSED
APPLY NOW

Vacancy Announcement

- (1) *Federal Work Study Coordinator
Student Services Division - Office of
Financial Aid*
Salary Range: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per
annum
- (2) *Administrative Assistant,
Student Services Division - Dorm*
Salary Range: \$12,001 - \$21,312 per
annum
- (3) *Accounting Technician (Payroll),
Administration & Finance
Department - Business Office*
Salary Range: \$13,081 - \$23,230 per
annum
- (4) *Financial Aid Counselor,
Student Services - Office of Financial
Aid*
Salary Range: \$12,049 - \$20,607 per
annum
- (5) *Dean of Academic Affairs,
Academic Affairs*
Salary Range: \$21,911 - \$38,911 per
annum
- (6) *Instructor, English
PCC Education and Training
Department
(Academic Affairs Division)*
Salary Range: \$16,010 - \$28,280 per
annum

For more vacancies and to apply,
please visit:
<https://pcc.palau.edu/about/jobs-pcc/>

*“PCC is an Equal Opportunity
Employer.”*

Celebrating Birthday

Oct 19 - Oct 25, 2025



**Samantha T.
Bells**



**Mitoko S. D.
Charles**

ALUMNI NOTES

Hannah Grace G. Pate



Hannah Grace G. Pate completed her Associate in Science degree in Business Accounting in Spring 2025. She now works as an Accounting Tech. - P.O. at the PCC Business Office with the aspirations to pursue a bachelors in Accounting and one day to become a CPA. Congratulations and wishing her the best in her professional career!

TRIVIA WINNER

Weiling Sked, AG Student



VOLUME 27, ISSUE 01 MADE ITS DEBUT ON JANUARY 03, 2025. ITS HEADLINE HOLDS THE KEY TO A PRIZE. BUT BEWARE: ONLY THOSE WHO RETRIEVE THE EXACT WORDING, LETTER FOR LETTER, WILL TRIUMPH.

ANSWER: “PCC END OF THE YEAR GET TOGETHER OF ALL BI - WEEKLY CONTRIBUTORS”

PCC ENDOWMENT

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

P.O. BOX 9
KOROR, PALAU 96940
Phone: 488-2470/2471
(Ext. 251/252)
e-mail: 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.



**Please Hire PCC
Graduates!**

**Basic Conversational
Palauan Classes
available through
PCC Continuing Education
Office!**

**For more information,
please contact us at:
Phone: 488-2470 Ext 243 or
488-6223
Email: ce@palau.edu**