

MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE!

Campus Buzz: Free Weekly Newsletter

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 49



CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: PCC-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS TO 14 STUDENTS

Article contributed by: Moiwai Andreas, BA Student & Scholarship Recipient



PCC-BASED SCHOLARSHIP Awardees with President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei and Development Office Director Kate OIPH

Koror, Palau — Scholarship season is underway at Palau Community College, and the Mesekiu spirit is in full swing! On Monday, November 17, 2025, 14 students were recognized for their academic achievements and awarded a range of PCC-based scholarships coordinated through the PCC Development Office.

Along with the 14 PCC-based scholarship recipients, there were also additional awardees from other dates, including 4 PNCC recipients and 4 PCC Faculty Senate Association Scholarship recipients, with several students receiving multiple awards.

PCC continues to offer a broad range of scholarships each year, made possible through the continued support of individual donors and organizational sponsors like PNCC. These awards exemplify the continued generosity of individuals and institutions who invest in the future of Palau's youth.

This year's awardees include Akeela G. Vincent and Leis-Te'Andra R. Ilel of the Pierantozzi Scholarship, Moiwai Andreas of the Debbie Ngiraibai Accounting Scholarship, Omisong M. Sikyang and

SCHOLARSHIPS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENT

2025 End of the Year Announcement

Palau Community College thanks bi-weekly allotment donors for their support and invites them to the annual End of the Year Get Together on December 19, 2025, at 11:30 AM in the PCC Courtyard. Attendees will learn about this year's Endowment Fund contributions and have a chance to win prizes in a raffle. Note that tax refund forms will be distributed on December 29 and 30. For more information, contact the PCC Development Office at 488-2471 ext. 251 or 252.

HOLIDAY WREATH CONTEST

CALLING ALL PCC DEPARTMENTS,
DIVISIONS, AND OFFICES!



SHOW YOUR CREATIVITY!

Join this fun and festive challenge by designing a unique holiday wreath made entirely from recycled materials.

HOW IT WORKS

- Call or email the PCC Human Resources Division to register your department, division, or office for this contest.
- Each participating department, division, or office will create one (1) wreath using only recycled materials.
- Wreaths will be displayed on campus and photos posted online on PCC's Facebook Page.
- Everyone will get a chance to vote online for their top three (3) favorite wreaths.
- The top three (3) wreaths will win great prizes!

IMPORTANT DATES

- Submission Deadline: Dec. 17, 2025
- Online Voting Opens: Dec. 18, 2025
- Voting Platform: PCC's Facebook Page
- Winners announced: During our Annual Christmas Luncheon

SPREAD THE HOLIDAY CHEER!

Bring your creativity, teamwork, and festive spirit. Let's make this a fun, friendly, and joyful competition!

For more information, please contact PCC Human Resources Division at ext. 227 / 228 or hr@palau.edu

PCC-CRE Hosts Two Weeks of IAEA Regional Meetings Strengthening Agriculture, Climate Resilience, and Nutrition Programs

Article contributed by: Emengel Singichi, CRE Senior Research Assistant



PARTICIPANTS OF RAS6104 DURING COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS (WEEK 1 RAS6104)

Palau stepped onto the international stage this November as Palau Community College's Cooperative Research & Extension (PCC-CRE), in partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), hosted two consecutive weeks of high-level regional coordination meetings that brought together scientists, government representatives, and technical experts from across ASEAN and Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Held from 3-7 November and 10-14 November 2025, the meetings formed part of three major IAEA Technical Cooperation projects, all focused on strengthening agriculture, climate resilience, and public health through safe and innovative application of nuclear and related technologies. For Palau, these gatherings marked a significant milestone – positioning the nation as a capable and collaborative partner in advancing science-based development across the region.

The series of meetings centred around three IAEA-supported projects: RAS6104, RAS5094, and RAS5098. The first week featured RAS6104, Supporting the Improvement of

which aims to strengthen national and regional capacities in the design and evaluation of health and nutrition initiatives. Delegates reviewed advancements in using nuclear techniques such as deuterium dilution and FTIR spectroscopy to assess body composition and better understand community health indicators. These approaches help countries develop stronger, more data-driven nutrition strategies and improve community wellbeing through evidence-based health planning.

During the second week, PCC-CRE hosted regional discussions for RAS5094, Promoting Sustainable Agricultural and Food Productivity in ASEAN region, and RAS5098, Improving the Resilience of Crops to Climate Change through Mutation Breeding. Under RAS5094, representatives examined ongoing work in soil and water management, nutrient-use efficiency, and climate-smart farming made possible through isotopic and nuclear techniques. The project fosters regional collaboration in advancing sustainable food production systems and supports countries in building resilient, high-performing agricultural sectors.

RAS5098 placed special focus on crop improvement amid environmental pressures, particularly through nuclear-assisted mutation breeding. Palau presented substantial progress made in its taro research, including DNA extraction, genetic profiling, and the development of baseline data to identify traits essential for future climate-resilient

taro varieties. PCC-CRE showcased achievements in laboratory work, student involvement in taro genetics, and the alignment of scientific research with the restoration of traditional taro systems that maintain ecological balance. The project has also strengthened local capacity, as research assistants gained hands-on experience through IAEA-funded regional trainings in breeding techniques, screening, and evaluation.

Over the two weeks, PCC-CRE coordinated a full schedule of presentations, laboratory demonstrations, field visits, and collaborative discussion. Students and faculty from PCC's Agriculture, Environmental Science, and Nursing programs were invited to participate in several sessions, gaining valuable exposure to international scientific networks and learning opportunities that connect classroom education with real-world applications. The successful hosting of these meetings demonstrated PCC-CRE's growing capacity to support regional scientific collaboration at the highest level and to serve as a hub for knowledge exchange in the Pacific.

As the meetings concluded, participants recognized the significance of Palau's role in advancing regional cooperation through science, innovation, and community-focused research. The events reinforced the country's position as an emerging leader in application of nuclear science for development and showcased Palau's commitment to strengthening agriculture, climate resilience, and public health for the future.

BITS AND PIECES

TAN SIU LIN PCC LIBRARY

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Christmas/New Year's Day
Closed

Saturday
Closed During Intercession

*Closed on Sundays and National
Holidays

For more information, call:
488-3540

Available To Interested

Readers:

Solar Today



The Fall 2025 issue of Solar Today, published by the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), focuses on topics including the solar industry's circular economy and commercial solar applications. The issue also covers sustainable practices and the future of the solar industry.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

DECEMBER 15 - 23 (M-T)
PLACEMENT TESTING FOR SPRING 2026

SCHOLARSHIPS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Kalea D. Gibbons of the Prince Leeboo Scholarship, Tiara D.E. Chinn of the Terry Ngirmang Nursing Scholarship, and Sharinna Kioshi of the Kazuo Peter Miyashita Memorial Centenarian Family Scholarship.

The PNCC scholarship, offered to both 1st and 2nd year students and inclusive of a paid summer internship, was awarded to four (4) students: Moiwai Andreas, Jay-Dee Sumang, Auryn Benhart, and Dara Sikyang.

On behalf of all the recipients, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all scholarship sponsors. Their continued support aligns with PCC's mission to "strive to guarantee quality and excellence," strengthening educational opportunities and encouraging students to persist in their academic goals.

**2026-2027 PCC BASED
SCHOLARSHIP
WILL OPEN NEXT YEAR!**

**PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UPCOMING EVENTS**

"We Strive to Guarantee Quality & Excellence!"

PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**End of the Year Get Together
December 19, 2025**

**PCC Christmas Luncheon
December 23, 2025**

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 Division - Office of Financial Aid
Salary Range: \$12,049 - \$20,607 per annum

(5) *Dean of Academic Affairs,*
Academic Affairs Division
Salary Range: \$21,911 - \$38,911 per annum

(6) *Instructor, English*
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

Dec 12 - Dec 18, 2025



**Rolmii
Aderkeroi**



**Armstrong
Debelbot**



**Gurney Lee
Umang**

Season's Greetings

ALUMNI NOTES

Persis Omelau



Persis Omelau successfully earned her Associate of Science degree in Environmental/Marine Science in the summer of 2013. She subsequently advanced her education at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Fishing and Fisheries Sciences and Management in 2017. Following her undergraduate studies, she pursued a graduate degree at the University of Malta. Currently, she serves as the Director of the Bureau of Fisheries within Palau's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and the Environment (MAFE).

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!

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.