

MESEKIU'S NEWS

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Campus Buzz: Free Weekly Newsletter

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EXCELLENCE IN HOSPITALITY: OMLEI MORIAH ADERKEROI AND PCC STUDENTS SHINE AT PICRC 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER



(L-R) OMLEI MORIAH ADERKEROI, TH INSTRUCTOR YOKO MORISAKI, JACOB EWATEL, AKEELAH JOSEPH, ZACK BLESAM, MOBEL ADERKEROI, MARY JANE OTEI, AND OMISONG SIKYANG

Omlei Moriah Aderkeroi, a student majoring in Tourism and Hospitality Hotel Management and a full-time Library Assistant at the Tan Siu Lin Library at Palau Community College (PCC), recently showcased her skills and passion for the field at a local event. Selected by Tourism Instructor Yoko Morisaki, Omlei joined fellow classmates as part of the waitstaff for the 25th Anniversary Fundraising Gala Dinner benefiting the Palau International Coral Reef Center (PICRC). The event took place on January 15th, 2026, at the Ngarachamayong Cultural Center and drew approximately 500 guests.

Reflecting on her experience, Omlei candidly shared, "At first, I was a bit nervous about serving such a large crowd. However, after a thorough briefing that covered everything from serving water to appetizers, main courses, and desserts, I was able to calm my nerves and focus on the task at hand."

Once the gala commenced, Omlei quickly found her rhythm. "As soon as I started serving, it became much easier to navigate the bustling environment and meet the guests'

ADERKEROI ON PAGE 2

PRESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHT



DR. SAID HOJABRI AND PCC PRESIDENT DR. PATRICK U. TELLEI

Dr. Said Hojabri's Visit to Palau Community College: A Step Towards Education Tourism

On January 20, 2026, Dr. Said Hojabri visited Palau Community College (PCC) for a courtesy meeting with PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei. Their discussion focused on the feasibility of establishing a new program aimed at supporting foreign students who wish to prepare for medical education—an initiative that aligns with the growing trend of education tourism.

Dr. Hojabri's initiative represents a significant step toward expanding educational opportunities in Palau and fostering a deeper understanding of medical practices for international students.

National Day of Prayer Event at Palau Community College Highlights Commitment to Combat Drug Abuse



ATTENDEES PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER EVENT

PC: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU

On January 19, 2026, the Palau Community College (PCC) New Science Building Theater served as the venue for the National Day of Prayer event, gathering local leaders and community members in a united front to pray for our nation. The event was attended by H.E. President Surangel S. Whipps, Jr., Vice President Oilouch, members of the Cabinet, the Olbiil Era Kelulau (OEK), the Council of Chiefs, and representatives from various religious organizations, as well as students and community.

During this significant occasion, President Whipps officially signed a Proclamation declaring 2026 as the year to "Just Say No to Illegal Drugs." The event underscored the collective responsibility of all individuals in the fight against drug abuse, emphasizing that this movement begins with personal choice, particularly among the youth. With the backing of families, schools, churches, and the broader community, the commitment to saying no to illegal drugs is seen as essential for protecting lives, nurturing cultural heritage, and ensuring a prosperous future for the Republic of Palau.



VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER KITALONG, ALONG WITH CSO OFFICERS SECRETARY WILILAH XAVIER AND TREASURER KRISTY OLKERIIL, FSA OFFICERS PRESIDENT HOWARD CHARLES AND SECRETARY KLEINTON RIVERA, ASPCC OFFICER SECRETARY STAN TELLEI, FRESHMEN REPRESENTATIVE LEIS-TE'ANDRA ILEK, AND VARIOUS COLLEGE STAFF MEMBERS

ADERKEROI CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

needs. Though it was hectic, I embraced the challenge wholeheartedly," she explained.

The evening offered more than just meal service; it also provided invaluable hands-on learning. "This experience taught us essential skills in waitstaff operations, particularly in time management and attentiveness during such a fast-paced event," she noted. To top it off, at the end of the night, waitstaff members received take-home meals, a generous gesture that added to the overall positive atmosphere. The gratitude expressed by event organizers and instructors reinforced the students' sense of accomplishment and appreciation for their hard work.

Omlei was not alone in this endeavor; she collaborated with fellow Tourism and Hospitality classmates, including Omisong Sikyang, Mobel Aderkeri, Mary Jane Otei, Zack Blesam, Akeelah Joseph, and Jacob Ewatel. Together, they overcame the challenges of the evening and contributed to the event's success.

In closing, Omlei extended her heartfelt thanks to the organizing team of the Gala Dinner. "I want to

express my gratitude to the PICRC Gala Dinner organizing team for partnering with Instructors Yoko Morisaki and Marvin Ngrutang. This opportunity allowed us, as Tourism and Hospitality students, to assist with food and beverage duties, and we truly valued the experience."

This event not only provided students with invaluable experience but also highlighted the significance of community involvement in the tourism and hospitality sector. Omlei Moriah Aderkeri's journey serves as an inspiring example for her peers and anyone passionate about a career in hospitality.

Additionally, Palau Community College proudly supported the PICRC on its 25th Anniversary by purchasing tickets for staff to attend. Present at the event were Vice President Christopher Kitalong, along with CSO Officers Secretary Wililah Xavier and Treasurer Kristy Olkeriil, FSA Officers President Howard Charles and Secretary Kleinton Rivera, ASPCC Officer Secretary Stan Tellei, Freshmen Representative Leis-Te'Andra Ilek, and various college staff members.

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

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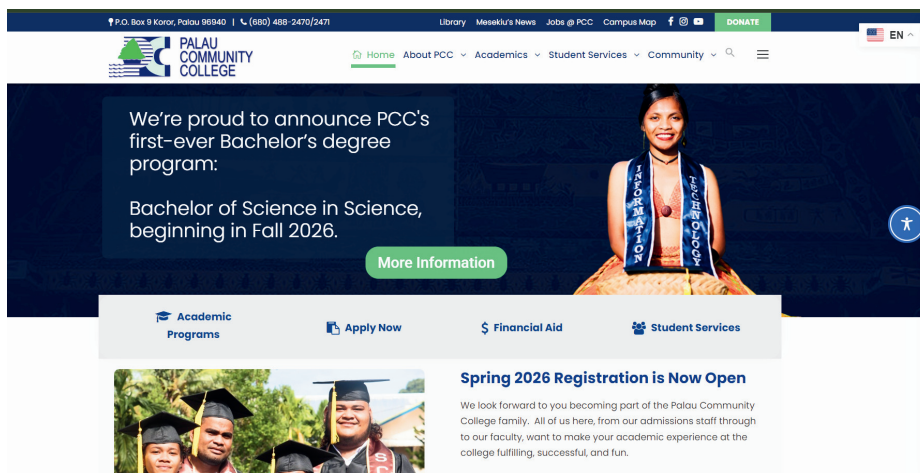


Established in 1926 as The Electric Refrigeration News, The Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration NEWS (ACHR NEWS) is a leading trade publication for the HVACR industry. It recently celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2026, marking 100 years of documenting technological shifts from iceboxes to modern intelligent systems.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 09 (F)
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY – NO CLASSES

Palau Community College Unveils Redesigned Website for Enhanced User Experience



EXPLORE THE ALL-NEW REDESIGNED WEBSITE AT PCC.PALAU.EDU

On January 6, 2026, Palau Community College (PCC) proudly launched its newly redesigned website, now featuring a modern interface that aims to enhance user experience and accessibility. This significant update marks the first major overhaul since 2013, when the college last revamped its online presence.

The initiative, led by Computer Services Director Johvanna Yaoch, has been in the works since the 2024-2025 academic year. Director Yaoch has dedicated countless hours to ensure a smooth transition and to bring this project to fruition.

With the launch of the new website, Director Yaoch is actively seeking feedback from college offices and staff to identify areas for further improvement. To support this effort, training sessions were conducted in October 2025 and again on January 21, 2026. These sessions equipped various college employees with the skills to update content, upload and remove files, and make the most of the website's features.

Looking ahead, there are plans to incorporate additional functionalities, including online payment services and donation options for the college's endowment fund. The primary goal remains to provide accessible information and convenience to students and the broader community about the college's offerings.

As PCC embraces this new digital chapter, ongoing collaboration and input will be essential to ensure the website meets the needs of everyone it serves.



PCC STAFF AT THE WEBSITE TRAINING CONDUCTED BY DIRECTOR JOHVANNA YAOCH

NOTICE TO ALLOTTERS AND DONORS

THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 29, 2025, THEY BEGAN ASSISTING AND ISSUING RECEIPTS TO THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED ON A BI-WEEKLY BASIS.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU BRING YOUR W-2 FORM, CHECK STUB #26, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS TO COMPLETE YOUR TAX RETURN APPLICATION.

WE EXTENDED OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND DEDICATION TO OUR COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Season's Greetings

Interested in learning transferrable media and marketing skills? Volunteer with the PCC Development Office. Stop by at the Dort building to sign-up.

Celebrating Birthday Jan 23 - Jan 29, 2026



**Nikita
Adachi**

*Happy
Birthday*

ALUMNI NOTES Thursten Amusten



Thursten Amusten earned his Associate of Science degree in Business Administration in the summer of 2025. He is currently employed at PCC as a Student Activities Specialist. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to him and wish him continued success in his career.

Please Hire PCC Graduates!

PCC ENDOWMENT

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

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*If you want to join the Bi-Weekly Allotment Program, **Contact Us Now!***



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.

PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Happy New Year!

