

# MESEKIU'S NEWS



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VOLUME 28, ISSUE 06

## PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONTINUING EDUCATION DIVISION HOSTS NOONTIME SEMINAR ON IPP BILLING WITH PPUC



PR OFFICER KAYA SOLOMON, FINANCIAL ANALYST JOE ANASTACIO, PCC PRESIDENT DR. PATRICK U. TELLEI, DIRECTOR OF ADMIN TORUAL GIBBONS, PPIE MANAGER ANTHONY RUDIMCH, AND ELECTRICAL POWER OPERATIONS ENGINEER CLARENCE KITALONG, JR.

On February 2, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM, the Palau Community College (PCC) Continuing Education Division hosted an informative seminar at the PCC Assembly Hall in collaboration with the Palau Public Utilities Corporation (PPUC). The event focused on the important topic of renewable energy and the evolving landscape of energy production related to the Independent Power Producer (IPP) Billing System in Palau.

The seminar brought together PCC staff, students, and community members to learn about PPUC's

initiatives, particularly the IPP Billing System. Attendees gained valuable insights into Palau's transition away from fossil fuels, having already achieved 15% renewable energy and working toward Palau's ambitious goal of 100% renewable energy by 2032.

Representatives from PPUC in attendance were introduced, including Kaya Solomon, the Public Relations Officer, Anthony Rudimch, the Manager for PPIE, Torual Gibbons, the Director of Administration, and Joe Anastacio, a

## JENESYS PROGRAM STUDENT EXPERIENCE



(L-R) SVENJA YOSINAO AND SYDNEY FRANCISCO  
ARTICLE BY: SVENJA YOSINAO

Attending the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Program was a meaningful experience for me, both academically and personally. I was part of the Climate Change and Disaster Prevention group, where I learned how Japan approaches preparedness, environmental sustainability, and community involvement. Through discussions and site visits, I saw that disaster prevention in Japan is a shared responsibility, practiced not only by the government but also by communities and individuals in their everyday lives. This made me reflect on the similarities and differences between Japan and island communities like my own.

PPUC CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPERIENCE CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Financial Analyst. They spoke about the organization's commitment to sustainability and innovation. The discussion highlighted significant developments, such as the establishment of a 10-hectare Independent Power Producer solar farm in Aimeliik, which is set to significantly enhance the nation's renewable energy capacity.

The session also addressed challenges surrounding surplus energy and the implications of the "take or pay" clause in the power purchase agreement, which is designed to ensure investor confidence. There is a minimum amount of power that must be generated to provide to PPUC, and if this minimum is not met, PPUC will charge the provider. Additionally, there is a maximum threshold; if the provider supplies more power than this threshold, PPUC is not obligated to pay for the excess.

Attendees also learned about upcoming projects, including a new battery system supported by an Australian grant. This initiative aims to improve energy storage and efficiency while potentially lowering IPP charges in the future. The new battery system is expected to arrive in Palau in August 2026.

Further discussions took place as a new, detailed billing system was displayed on the screen. Following the directive from Olbiil er a Kelulau to PPUC, the Distributed Energy Rate (DER) has been removed from customer bills. Now, each bill shows the detailed fuel charge (for diesel) and the IPP charge (for solar-generated energy) as separate line

## Empowering Futures: Palau Community College Upward Bound Math and Science Program Visits High Schools



PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S UPWARD BOUND MATH AND SCIENCE PROGRAM CONDUCTING A STAFF MEETING WITH HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE WITH THEIR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

The Palau Community College Upward Bound Math and Science Program is excited to extend its support beyond the classroom by visiting high schools to engage directly with participants as they navigate their journey toward graduation and beyond. During these visits, staff members meet with senior participants to provide hands-on assistance with college applications, initiate the FAFSA process, and clarify the essential steps for continuing their education.

These personalized sessions create a comfortable environment where participants can ask questions and receive guidance tailored to their

items. Previously, the DER represented a combined total of the fuel charge and IPP charge in a single line item.

Overall, the seminar served as a platform for educating the public about the important transition toward renewable energy, fostering a collaborative environment where

needs. In addition to focusing on applications and financial aid, program staff also engage in meaningful discussions about college readiness, academic expectations, and long-term aspirations.

Participants often take this opportunity to share their interests, concerns, and post-high school plans, allowing for open dialogue that fosters a supportive atmosphere. Through these visits, the Upward Bound Math and Science Program is dedicated to ensuring that participants remain focused and empowered as they work towards achieving their educational goals and building a successful future.

questions and discussions about Palau's energy future thrived. The PCC Continuing Education Division and PPUC aim to continue these discussions, reinforcing their commitment to a sustainable future for Palau and ensuring that the public is well-informed of PPUC initiatives.

## 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:

**BBC Music Magazine**



BBC Music Magazine, launched in 1992 and published by Immediate Media Company (under licence from the BBC), is the world's best-selling classical music publication. It provides comprehensive coverage of classical music, including artist interviews, expert reviews of over 100 new recordings monthly, and a curated cover CD. The magazine is closely linked to BBC Radio 3.

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION



(ABOVE) PICKLEBALL PLAYERS POSE FOR A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH WITH PASTOR ERIC ABRAGAN  
(BELOW) PCC DORM MANAGER LIKIAAKLIK THOMSEN RECEIVES PICKLEBALL DONATIONS FROM PASTOR ERIC ABRAGAN

The Palau Community College Recreation Office expresses its sincere appreciation to Life in Son Christian Fellowship Guam & Saipan and Pastor Eric Abragan for their generous donation of pickleball equipment. Following their initial contribution, and in collaboration with the Saipan Pickleball Federation in October 2024, PCC and the Palau Pickleball Club have actively promoted and organized recreational pickleball games at the PCC Meseikiu Gym after work hours. Furthermore, the Recreation Office successfully hosted two Pickleball Intramurals—one in 2024 and another in Fall 2025. We invite PCC students, staff, and the community to participate in these pickleball games; no prior experience is necessary, and limited equipment is available for use.

#### EXPERIENCE CONTINUED ON PAGE 1

One of the most memorable parts of the program was Cultural Night at Kwansei Gakuin University. During this event, we shared our thoughts on disaster prevention and exchanged cultural experiences with Japanese students. We ended the night by performing our cultural dance, which allowed us to express who we are and where we come from. It was a powerful moment of connection that showed how culture can bring people together and deepen understanding beyond words.

The homestay experience also had a strong impact on me. Living with a Japanese host family, cooking with my fellow islanders, and sharing stories gave me a firsthand look at daily life and values in Japan. These simple moments taught me a lot about hospitality, respect, and learning from one another. Overall, the JENESYS Program left a lasting impression on me, and I hope more students will apply for this opportunity so they can learn, grow, and have a meaningful experience just as I did.

## NOTICE TO ALLOTTERS AND DONORS

THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF PALAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 29, 2025, THEY BEGAN ASSISTING CONTRIBUTORS AND ISSUING RECEIPTS ON A DAILY BASIS.

TO ENSURE A SMOOTH PROCESS FOR YOUR TAX RETURN APPLICATION, PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR W-2 FORM, CHECK STUB #26, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS.

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

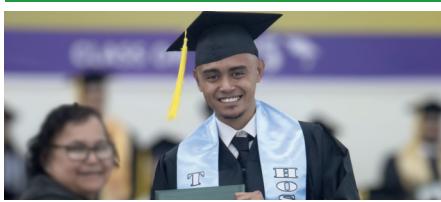
ADDITIONALLY, WE WELCOME DONORS AND ASSIST WITH ALLOTTER ENROLLMENT.

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 Feb 06 - Feb 12, 2026



### ALUMNI NOTES Conner Ellechel



Conner Ellechel earned his Associate of Applied Science degree in Tourism and Hospitality (Food and Beverage) in the summer of 2025. He is now serving in the U.S Army. 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!

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!***



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.



The Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan), through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), is pleased to announce the **2026 MOFA Taiwan Scholarship Program**, offering Palauan students an exciting opportunity to pursue **undergraduate, master's, or doctoral degrees**, as well as **public health-related English-taught programs** in Taiwan. Applications will be accepted from **February 1 to March 15, 2026**, giving students the chance to study at commendable institutions while gaining international experience and cultural exposure.

For the 2026 academic year, **twenty (20) scholarship slots** are reserved exclusively for **qualified Palauan students**, subject to final approval by MOFA. Applicants must complete both the **online application** at <https://taiwanscholarship.mofa.gov.tw/Apply> and a printed hard copy by March 15, 2026. Once completed, both forms and all required supporting documents must be submitted to the **Palau National Scholarship Board (PNSB)**. Recipients are expected to be announced by the **end of June 2026**.