

MRD's Public Works Staff Join Endowment Big Time!

It appears that the Public Works staff in the Republic of Palau's Ministry of Resources and Development (MRD) are all set at becoming bi-weekly endowment donors to the PCC Endowment Fund. Already, there a good number of MRD staff on the endowment contributors' club. Nevertheless, we continue to see their co-workers enrolling almost every week.

For instance, this week we proudly add new members to our growing PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club, twelve of whom hail from MRD. As always reported in this paper, by joining the club, these individuals donate a certain sum directly out of their paychecks to the PCC Endowment Fund. At the end of the year, PCC will help them apply for and receive refunds for their donations! In other words, they donate to a very good cause and in the end, get their money back.

These twelve (12) brand new members from the Ministry of Resources and Development are, **Wilhelm Ngiralbong, Glenford Fritz, Isaac Mitsuru, Ashley Rdang, Domingo Kerai, Ignacio M. Kebou, Junior Lee Etpison, Genevey H. Kloulubak, Masato Ushibata, Greta J. Etiterngel, Ridep Master, and Augustine Ngiraklang.** Over at the Public Auditor's Office, we proudly welcome one (1) new member, **Jowas Wasisang.** From the Palau Housing Authority, we also proudly welcome one (1) new member, **Grace Kishigawa.**



Wilhelm Ngiralbong



Glenford Fritz



Isaac Mitsuru



Ashley Rdang



Domingo Kerai



Ignacio M. Kebou

From the Surangel and Sons Company, we also excitedly welcome one (1) new member, **Maria Kelmal.** We would also like to welcome back **Takemura Erungel**, a retired former PCC instructor who has returned to teach as a contract instructor for the college.

Once again, we welcome these new members as they showcase their commitment to support PCC's continued efforts to providing quality educational and training opportunities to Palau's and the Micronesian region's students. If you would like to join the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club, please call Hulda, Dilubch, Swayze or Jay at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, extension 253. **As Always, they will be very happy to assist you!**



Junior Lee Etpison



Genevey H. Kloulubak



Masato Ushibata



Ridep Master



Augustine Ngiraklang



Jowas Wasisang



Grace Kishigawa



Maria Kelmal



Takemura Erungel



ROR Customs Officials who were guest speakers in one of the College's criminal justice classes. Standing from left are Junior Aquino and Mayer Julius. Kneeling is Clive Telei holding one of their two canines. All three officials are members of the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club.

Our Condolences

We at PCC express our deepest condolences to Endowment Club member **RECHELULK Xavier Ngirameong** on the untimely passing of his father, **Tengoll Ngirameong.** Our prayers and thoughts are with Xavier during his time of bereavement.



Mesekiu's News
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Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

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Friday, March 26, 2004

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 13

Charter Day Softball Tourney is Next Week!

The Sixth Annual PCC Charter Day Softball Fundraiser for the College's Endowment Fund is all set and ready to go! Scheduled to be played at the Meyuns Ballfield, the tournament will be held from Friday April 2nd to Sunday April 4, 2004. As in the tournament's tradition, the games will feature co-ed teams playing in a double elimination format. Co-ed (for the purposes of this tournament) means that at any given time during the game, at least three females are registered in a team's line-up.

As was predicted months ago when the planning for this tournament began, all sixteen slots for the tournament have been filled. This is indication of the community's commitment to support PCC's fund raising efforts to secure the future of Palau's only institution of higher learning, by building the PCC Endowment Fund. This year, the sixteen teams that will be vying for the Charter Day Championship Trophy are so diverse that competition is promising to be as stiff as it gets. This means that the spectators will be in for a great weekend!

Last year, the championship trophy went to the team from the Ministry of Finance (MOF), which will be defending their title this year. For those who recall the championship game last year, MOF beat up and coming Lak Mwaisei, which had to settle for 2nd Place Trophy. The third place went to Mesekiu Justice, a team that is also registered again this year, however with some new players hoping to make the big difference!

Everyone in the community is cordially invited to come to the Meyuns Ballfield for the weekend of April 2-4, 2004 and cheer our teams as they fight, claw, and 'ousurui' their way to the Charter Day Championship. The MOC/PCC Alumni will be selling their almost-famous goodies and drinks to help keep you nurtured while you cheer for your team. Come join us for a weekend of fun competition as we help build the PCC Endowment Fund!

**11th PCC President's Run & Walk
is Next Friday April 2nd, Come
One Come All! Receive a
Commemorative Towel
and Free Breakfast!
See page 2 for more information.**

UBMS Goes to ULONG

PHOTO right: UBMS students trekking up the path leading to the site of the old settlement on Ulong Island. They also visited the place where Captain Wilson landed.



On Saturday March 20, 2004 the Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) Program staff and students went on a Cultural and Science Field Trip to the historically significant island of Ulong. The purpose of the trip was to educate the students as to the cultural and historical events that took place in Ulong.

Mr. Melson Miko from the Bureau of Arts and Culture of the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs as well as Ms. Kris Lloyd of the PCC Cooperative Research and Extension Department also went on the trip. Mr. Miko provided everyone with a brief history of Ulong including the time there was a settlement there. He took the participants on a tour of the island where they visited the foundations of the old settlement as well as visited the site where Captain Wilson and his ship The Antelope were wrecked.

After a brief break, the students gave their undivided attention to Ms. Kris Lloyd as she took over and discussed the importance of preserving the marine environment, especially for the people of Palau. Ms. Lloyd informed the students on the different environmental settings of the ocean and how they are connected to our everyday life. At the same time, she stressed the importance of keeping our environment free of pollution and to keep it from deteriorating.

For the remainder of the day, the students introduced themselves and got to know one another through various 'ice-breaking' activities. The UBMS program would like to extend their gratitude to the Koror State Rangers for the rock island permit, also PCC Boat Operator Mr. Willes Tmecherur, and NECO Marine. Most especially, the UBMS students and staff extend a big 'Mesulang' to Mr. Melson Miko and Ms. Kris Lloyd for their informative and educational lectures and presentations.

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Run & Walk is Next Week, EVERYONE IS INVITED!

The general public is cordially invited to participate in the 11th PCC President's Run & Walk, celebrating the College's Charter Day. Everyone who completes the course will receive a commemorative towel and will be served a free breakfast!

The Run & Walk has been scheduled to take place next week Friday, April 2, 2004, from the Koror-Side Waiting House to the Palau National Track located on the PCC campus. Transportation to the starting line will be available at the PCC Parking Lot, from 4:00am to 5:15am. The race will start promptly at 5:30am.

After the Run & Walk and after the breakfast, everyone is also very much invited to join PCC staff and students as we proceed to Ngcheschang to conduct our half-day "Kebeas Eradication" project. This activity is aimed at bringing to our attention the destructive power of invasive weeds against our limited natural forests. Join us for the Run & Walk and the "Kebeas Eradication" project. These are only once-a-year events, so join us for that early morning exercise followed by a noble community service!

Hence, don't forget to mark you calendar. In the meantime, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Lesley B. Adachi or Jay Olegeriil at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, or call 777-5290.

ACADEMIC CALENDER Summer Session 2004 May 17-July 12, 2004 (5Weeks)

Placement Testing—May 17-20, (M-R)
Academic Advising for Continuing Students—May 24-25, (M&T)
Orientation & Advising for New, and Returning Students—May 25, (T)
Registration for All Students—May 26, (W)
Late Registration/Add & Drop Period—May 27-June 2, (R-W)
First Day of Instruction—May 31 (M)
Holiday: ROP President's Day—June 01
Last Day to Remove Incomplete Grades—June 21, (M)
Mid-Term Period—June 21-25, (M)
Last Day for All Withdrawals—June 28, (M)
Last Day of Instruction—July 02
Final Examination Period—July 05
Holiday: Constitution Day—July 09
Grades Due—July 12
End of Summer Session/Student Summer Recess—July 12

The Republic of Palau will be hosting the 9th Festival of Pacific Arts July 2004, and PCC Campus has been designated as one of the main venues for this event. The above schedule for Summer Session 2004 will meet the required contact hours for classes, which is most important, as well as give students and staff the opportunity to witness and participate in the Festival. The Festival is

held every four years; therefore, the chance for the Republic of Palau to host it again within the next 12 to 16 years is next to none. Everyone is encouraged to attend this important regional event and learn about the many unique cultures from all over the Pacific Ocean!

Japan Diplomat Gives Thanks To PCC

In a formal letter to PCC President Patrick U. Tellei, the Honorable Mr. Kiyoshi Suwa, the Charge d' Affaires of the Japan Embassy expressed his deepest gratitude to the PCC staff. He thanked the staff for their preparation of the PCC cafeteria as the venue for the Okinawan Performing Arts performance. In addition, the honorable Mr. Suwa thanked Mr. Todd Ngiramengior, Mr. Clement Kazuma, Mr. Kazuhisa Takashi, Mr. Rodney Kazuma, Ezra Takeo and the rest of the working group for their assistance and support.

Mr. Suwa stated: "The whole event of the Okinawan Performing Arts ended in a great success due largely to the vast and efficient efforts of your staff. With our many thanks to you and your staff again, I look forward to continuing our prolific relationship."

PCC Academic Calendar 2004 SPRING SEMESTER

Academic Advising & Registration for continuing students -- January 5 - 7
Orientation, Advising and Registration for new and transfer students -- January 8 & 9
Last Day of Regular Registration -- January 9
First Day of Instruction -- January 12
Late Registration/Drop & Add Period -- January 12 - 16
Last day to remove Incomplete Grades for fall semester 2003 -- February 27
Mid-Term Period -- March 8 - 12
HOLIDAY: Youth Day -- March 15
Students' Spring Break -- March 15-19
Last Day for all Withdrawals -- March 26
PCC Charter Day -- April 2
HOLIDAY: Good Friday -- April 9
HOLIDAY: Senior Citizens' Day -- May 5
Last Day of Instruction -- May 7
Final Examination Period -- May 10 - 12
Grades Due for Prospective Graduates -- May 10
Grades Due -- May 14
Commencement Exercises -- May 21
End of Spring Semester

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate; our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?" Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

-Nelson Mandela

BITS AND PIECES... Spring Break is Over

Okay students, spring break is over so get over it! For the rest of this semester, focus on your studies so that you may accomplish this semester's academic goals. With less than half of the semester remaining, you have little room for compromise. Therefore, work hard toward improving that current grade, continue what you're doing to maintain that already great grade, and tackle those assignments that you have been putting off. Finally, constantly check in with your instructor to keep track of your progress. Before you know it, the semester will come to an end and you will be the happier person for having persevered. Good luck, one and all!

Students Complete Reading Lab Hours

Congratulations are in order for some PCC students who have managed to complete their Reading Lab hours. These students are: **Min Young Lim, Rush Alfonso, Keib Delemel, Hadson Ngirakesau, Venture Daniel, Kyung Suk Yu, Dino Saipwerik, Melvin M. Gufnay, Leslie Kuterbis, Divine Ngirailemesang, Ungilrodech Ililau, Kaia Sasao, and Ruhyyah Ruloked.** These students join **Susa Wishim and Mina Aizono**, the first students who completed their reading lab hours this semester. Great job, everyone. As for all you others, we highly encourage you to complete your hours. You will be the better person for having done so. Happy reading!

PCC Helps Beautify Airai and Koror

Last week, PCC provided much needed assistance in planting plumeria (*chelimai*) along both sides of the main road all the way from the Palau National Airport to Ngerbechedesau in Koror state. This is part of an effort to help beautify Palau for the upcoming 9th Festival of Arts scheduled to take place in July this year.

PCC's **Rosendo Skang** and **Pastor Melelul** were among several ROP staff from the Palau Visitors Authority and the Ministry of Resources and Development who planted the plumeria. The team expects to be planting the plumeria along the main road in Koror soon. It is anticipated that the flowers will be in full bloom come the Festival this summer!

Students Travel During Spring Break...

This article was taken from THE BULLETIN of Higher Education Administration Volume 10, Number 3 (March 2004)

Spring Break

Spring break is a big deal. Last year 38% of college students; or 2.14 million, traveled for spring break. Where did they go? Mostly to Florida, Texas and Arizona; the Florida cities of Panama City and Daytona Beach being the most popular.

Ripoff 101: College Textbooks

The March issue of *University Business* carried an article about the textbook publisher Tactics that have caused huge increases in the price of college textbooks in recent years -- up to \$1,000 a year! This gouging of students by publishers is documented in a report by the California Public Interest Group and the Orgeon Public Interest Research Group titled "Ripoff 101: How the Current Practices of the Textbook Industry Drive up the Cost of College Textbooks." The average amount spent on textbooks by the ten schools surveyed ranged from \$819 at UCLA to \$979 at the University of California, Santa Barbara. You can request a complete copy of this article from ACAP.



Students' Alcohol-related Trips to Hospital Increases

The number of students transported to the Creighton University Medical Center, NE, for alcohol-related reasons has increased significantly in the past two years, said Dr. Kimberly Grassmeyer, Assistant Dean of Students. Grassmeyer is the head of Judicial Affairs, which oversees sanctions for discipline problems at the university.

As of February 15th, approximately 23 students have been transported to CUMC for alcohol related reasons. This number does not include students who have not completed university enforced sanctions. AT the same time i 2003, 35 students were sent to the hospital, Grassmeyer said.

From 1997 to 2002, Residence Life sent an average of 13 students per school year to CUMC for over-consumption. The numbers do not mean drinking at Creighton ahs increased in the past few years. The number of students punished on drinking charges has remained consistent. "In general, the number of alcohol cases resulting in hospital visits show a clear upward trend," Grassmeyer said.

Signs of alcohol poisoning: Unconsciousness or semiconsciousness; Eight or less breaths per minutes or lapses between breaths; Cold, Clammy, pale or bluish skin, Strong alcohol odor.

Child Care Workshop Held

Two weeks ago, the College held an Assessment/Evaluation Workshop for the nation's teachers of pre-school children ages 0-5 years old. The workshop was held at the Palau International Coral Reef Center.

Its purpose was to look at the developmental profiles of children in the following areas of development: Physical, Social, Cognitive, Behavior, and Health. This enabled the Day-Care caregivers and teachers to gain a better understanding and knowledge of child development. It also presented to them theories on why children think, act and feel the way they do.

To supplement learning at the workshop, the presenters enlightened the participants on topics of interest. Mr. Tino Faatualala delivered a lecture on Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children. Ms. Seba Tiobech and her team discussed the issue of behavioral health. And, PCC's Child Care Center Director RECHEDIOUL Jemmy Blelai focused his lecture on Learning Styles for children ages 0-5 years old and Parental Involvement. The participants from Gospel Kindergarten (Emmaus), Maris Stella Pre-School, SDA Pre-School, and the PCC Day-Care Center were very happy to receive certificates of completion after the workshop. For information about the Assessment/Evaluation Workshop, contact Mr. Blelai at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, extension 245 or 255.



Workshop participants and presenters pose for a group picture