

10th Mechesil Belau Conference - A Success!

The recently held 10th Mechesil Belau Conference held on the College campus was a resounding success, judging by the comments of conference participants, presentors, and organizers. The annual conference celebrated a milestone year, this year being the 10th anniversary. As such, PCC President Patrick U. Tellei delivered a tribute honoring the conference organizers and the women of Palau for 10 years of addressing national concerns ranging from health to safety, environment to labor issues, as well as preservation and promotion of traditional customs, values, practices, etc. The conference ended last night with a 'Desiil' dinner hosted by ROP President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and First Lady Debbie Remengesau.



Honored Guests at the Opening Ceremony of the 10th Mechesil Belau Conference



MRD employee Gabriel Adelbai



MRD employees Smith Siabang (l) and Arcenia Ngiraklang



MOJ employee Jovian Adelbai



MOJ employee Cedric Tatingal



Valencia Olikong (Class of '96-AS deg. in Sec. Science) joined last week

Celebrating Birthdays



Palau Community College April 2
Happy Birthday To You!!!



Mesekiu's News
Palau Community College
P.O. Box 9
Koror, Palau 96940



MRD employees Clement Maech (l) and Radis Modechel

PCC Welcomes New Members of Endowment Club

Today, as the College celebrates 10 years as Palau Community College, we are grateful to see that many Republic of Palau employees continue to join the group of bi-weekly donors to the PCC Endowment Fund. This week we see employees from various sectors of the national government join us in supporting Palau's only college, PCC.

From the Ministry of Justice, we welcome eight (8) new members, **Cedric Tatingal** (Class of 99-AS Degree in Auto. Mech. Tech.), **Keith Iekar** (Class of '99-AS degree in Crim. Justice), **Lanson Doktok** (Class of '88-Cert. in Gen. Elec. Tech.), **Brenda Santos**, **John Gabriel**, **Felix Francisco**, **Chester Kubarii** (Class of '98-Cert. in Auto. Mech. Tech.), and **Jovian Adelbai**. At the Ministry of Education, we see nine (9) new members, **Valentine Tesei** (Class of '82-Cert. in Gen. Office Clerk), **Kerungil Tellei**, **Lydia Otobed**, **Ruth Elbelau**, **Evelyn Adelbai**, **Eunice Ngotel**, **Ernestine Kadoi** (Class of '93-Cert. in OHEC), **Ltelatk Titiml**, and **Kyomi Salvador**. In the Ministry of Resources and Development, we welcome seven (7) new members, **Wilhelm Olkeriil** (Class of '77-Cert. in Welding), **Eddy Ngirarikel**, **Gabriel Adelbai**, **Smith Siabang** (Class of 72-Voc. Cert. in Plumbing), **Clement Maech**, **Arcenia Ngiraklang**, and **Radis Modechel**. At the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs, we welcome one (1) member, **Inez Remengesau** (Office Admin. major). From the Office of Environmental Quality Protection Board (EQPB), we welcome three (3) new members, **Donald Dengokl**, **Elaine Fielding**, and **Rosania Ongerung**. And, from the Olbiil Era Kelulau, we are proud to welcome one (1) - the first and so far the only - national lawmaker who has joined the Endowment Contributors' Club, **Ngarchelong Delegate Kerai Mariur**, who issues a challenge for his colleagues to join!. PCC welcomes everyone to the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club. You have just shown your commitment to the continued existence of Palau's only college. Together, let us ensure that future generations have the same opportunity and access to higher learning as presently provided by our college, Palau Community College!



MOE employees from Ngchesar and Melekeok Elem. Schools are new members of the Endowment Club!



MRD employees Eddy Ngirarikel (l) and Wilhelm Olkeriil



MOE employees Ltelatk Titiml (l) and Kyomi Salvador (r) are new members!



EQPB employees Elaine Fielding, Donald Dengokl, and Rosania Ongerung



Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, April 4, 2003

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 14

HAPPY 10th CHARTER DAY, PCC!

Today, the Palau Community College (PCC) celebrates 10 years of existence with the College having held its 10th PCC President's Run/Walk earlier this morning. At 8:30 am, the College community will convene at the Campus to celebrate its birthday by showcasing student traditional and contemporary performances reflective of the student body's diverse cultural makeup. The performances will be followed by a special luncheon for everyone.

Because this is a milestone year for the College, ROP President Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr. and former college leaders have been invited to and will participate in today's Charter Day Luncheon to be held on the Campus Courtyard today at noon. President Remengesau, along with former College administrators Wilhelm Rengiil and Billy G. Kuartei, will join PCC Board of Trustees Chairperson Bilung Gloria G. Sali and PCC President Patrick U. Tellei and the entire PCC student body and staff to celebrate this milestone event for the College.

It was on March 19, 1993 (ten years ago) that then ROP President Kuniwo Nakamura signed Republic of Palau Public Law 4-2, also known as Palau's Higher Education Act, which established PCC out of then Micronesian Occupational College (MOC). Since

Continued on page 3

'Ngak Mak Tang' Donates \$5k to PCC Endowment

The 2003 PBILC recently held in Palau had such great support from Conference sponsors and donors that in the end, the Organizing Committee had over \$6,000 remaining after taking care of all of its

Continued on page 3



2003 PBILC Chairwoman ROP Vice President and Minister of Health Sandra S. Pierantozzi, with the Organizing Cmtee. donate \$5,000 to PCC Endowment Fund. An excited PCC staff Rodney Kazuma accepts the donation on behalf of PCC.



SHALLUM & ALFONSO DONATE FISH TO PCC

Last Sunday March 28, the College was the recipient of some very big and delicious fish totalling 154 lbs., thanks to two generous individuals, Mr. Shallum Etpison and Mr. Alfonso Diaz. The donated fish were caught by participants at the Fishing Derby sponsored by NECO Marine and WWFM 89.5. PCC wishes to extend its heartfelt Mesulang to Mr. Etpison and Mr. Diaz for this gesture that was indeed appreciated by our students who got to eat some very fresh and mouthwatering fish! Kom kmal mlo mesaul el terung el rubak!



From left are Mr. Shallum Etpison, PCC students Gabriel and Edgar, PCC staff Ephraim Ngirachitei, and Mr. Alfonso Diaz

Japanese Students Visit AG Program

On Monday March 31, 2003, the Agricultural Science Program hosted a group of 12 Japanese university students. The students were on a "Palau Study Tour", led by former JOCV Mr. Satoshi Takeyama. They enjoyed a brief presentation on the program, followed by a tour of the student farm. PCC Agriculture students showed them how to feed chickens and harvest bananas and yams.



Instructor Shiomi Hata shows the Japanese students how poultry can control weeds in papaya and banana.

Internship for Summer 2003

All second year students and their advisors are reminded that in order to be able to take internship this summer, they will need to alert the Extension Programs Coordinator, Mr. Vincent Ito. In this regard, Mr. Ito will be able to identify and secure commitments from appropriate employers who will be providing training to the students. In other words, you the students will be placed in employment areas relevant to your majors.

Thus, to assist in this effort, student advisors are requested to review their advisees' folders and to advise those who will be eligible to participate in the training to come see Mr. Ito at the Extension Program Office and fill out all required applications forms. **APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW READY FOR PICK UP ANYTIME DURING WORKING HOURS.** The deadline for submission of completed application forms is Friday May 16, 2003 in order for a student to be considered for internship placement.

Any student or advisor who wishes to obtain further information about the internship program may contact Mr. Ito at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471.

Students Clean Invasive Weeds From 'Lee Marvin'

Hands-on learning, putting theory into practice-these are what all teachers try to provide for their students. This week students in two classes at PCC got some real hands-on learning and provided an important public service at the same time. They cleaned up an infestation of two serious invasive weeds from the Rock Island Beach known as Ngidech, (sometimes called 'Lee Marvin Beach', as it is where the American actor filmed his war movie with famous Japanese actor Toshiro Mifune). The two weeds are ngesngesil/Siam Weed (*Chromolaena odorata*) and blue Rat's Tail (*Stachytarpheta cayennensis*). A survey of invasive weeds last December discovered these weeds on the beach at Ngidech, and on no other rock islands. The survey report recommends eradication/removal of these weeds as soon as possible, to prevent their spread to other islands.

PCC faculty Joel Miles and Vernice Yuji worked together to arrange a cleanup of the weed infestation. Dr. Miles is Chairperson of the Palau Invasive Weeds Committee, so he was aware of the problem at Ngidech, and the threat to the other Rock Islands. He has been working closely with Ms. Yuji in her course on environmental issues in Palau, and suggested that they combine their classes to clean up the weed infestation at Ngidech. They worked through another faculty member, Eugene Uehara, who holds the title of Dingelius in Ngerbeched, to arrange the cleanup, since Ngidech belongs to the people of Ngerbeched.

The students were able to remove all large plants and seedlings, but they report that both species of weeds have already produced seeds, so follow up will be needed. They want to continue to work with the people of Ngerbeched hamlet to completely eradicate these weeds from Ngidech. For information about invasive weeds and the problems they pose to Palau, contact Dr. Joel Miles at PCC telephone number 488-2471.

LIBRARY NEWS FOR US!

Written by Imengel Mad, Library Technician

LIBRARY THANKS DGNORS

The PCC Library would like to take this opportunity and thank the following donors who have donated materials for our collection:

Ms. Gloria Lonno	Ms. Faustina K. Rehuher	Ms. Jolie Liston
Mr. Donald Dengokl	Mr. Grant Ismael	Mr. David Orak
Mr. Vicky N. Kanai	Mr. Felino "Jun" Palafox, Jr.	Mr. Russell Masayos
Dr. Machiko Aoyagi	Mr. Thomas W. Barlow	
Office of Environmental Response and Coordination		

Because of your generosity, our collection now offers more of the materials our patrons need for their research. Mesulang.

NEW BOOKS AND VIDEO:

Did you know that PCC Library has TV/VCR player for anyone who is interested to view our videocassettes? Patrons are encouraged to use our video collection as part of their research. If you are interested in this, please see Ms. Pioria W. Faungy for information and details. The following are new video titles that have been added to our video collection:

- Fast Food: The Good and the Bad
- Good Nutrition During Pregnancy
- Special Nutrition Problems of the Elderly
- Child Obesity
- Integration with Dignity

The PCC Library likes to express our big 'THANK YOU' to the Palau Land Court for donating a set of 1977 United States Code Annotated (USCA) Volume 1-50. Thank you for supporting the efforts of Palau Community College Library.

Everyone is encouraged to use our collection for his or her research. Do not hesitate to ask one of our friendly staff to assist you with your research. Because of our very limited space, everyone is asked to be courteous to other patrons.

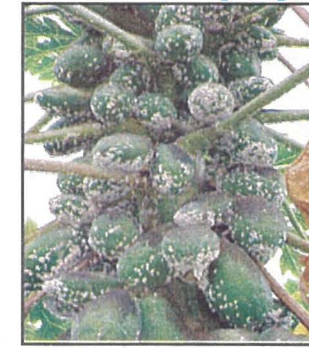
BITS AND PIECES...

Milad 'I Dil Donates Books to PCC

PCC would like to thank the women's group Milad 'I Dil for its generous donation of a set of encyclopedias to the College Library. Our students will surely benefit from these valuable resources in doing their research. Thanks, Milad 'I Dil!

New Insect Pest of Papaya

Does your papaya tree look like the picture on the right? If it does, do not cut it down! It is not sick, it is being attacked by an insect, the papaya mealybug. This insect came to Palau only recently. It attacks mainly papaya, but may attack other plants as well. It injures the plant by sucking out its juices. If it is not controlled, it can make the plant very weak, and possibly can kill young papaya plants.



The papaya mealybug is very difficult to control with insecticides because it covers itself with a waxy coating. At PCC we have learned that the mealybugs can be washed off with a stream of water from a hose (see picture below). If there is black coating on the fruits, you can just wash this off with a sponge and soapy water; the fruit is still good to eat. The papaya mealybug is reportedly originally from Mexico or South America. There was an outbreak in Guam about a year ago, so these insects may have come to Palau from Guam. For information about this insect pest, contact Dr. Joel Miles at PCC telephone number 488-2471. In the meantime, the ROP Bureau of Agriculture is aware of this new introduction and they are working on controlling it.



Got Articles?

We want to know the scoop over at your office, what's new, what's being implemented, etc. Share your news with us by bringing your articles to the Development Office no later than Wednesdays at 12 noon each week.

10th Charter Day, from Front Page

then, the College has strived to meet the educational and training needs of the Republic of Palau under its legislative mandate. While the College celebrates its 10th Charter Day as PCC, it has a long history going back to 1927 when it was a Japanese Trade School. Thus, the College has educated local Palauans and Micronesians who have become national and regional leaders in their own right. However, some of the milestones that have taken place over just the last 10 years include the following:

Steven Kanai becomes first alumnus elected to the Senate of the Olbiil Era Kelulau (Palau National Congress) in 2000;

Patrick U. Tellei is first alumnus to become president of his alma mater, Palau Community College, in 1999;

PCC implemented new programs including Education, Nursing, Tourism & Hospitality, and Marine/Environmental Science in order to meet community needs;

PCC has increased enrollment dramatically from an average of about 400 to an average of about 600 students;

PCC has built a new two-storey classroom building to accommodate additional students;

All PCC buildings and facilities are accessible by people with disabilities. One residence hall meets international standards on accessibility;

PCC houses several offices including Workforce Investment Act, Palau Red Cross Society, Small Business Development Center, Area Health Education Center, Palau Child Care Center, Substance Abuse Center, Pacific Region Technology Education Center, and Operations and Maintenance Improvement Project;

PCC has built a state-of-the-art fully functioning research and development station located in the heart of Babeldaob (Palau's main island) that produces valuable research data on root crops, and has begun research on aquaculture and other vital research activities as well;

PCC has begun a major campaign recruiting local residents to help build the PCC endowment fund that will one day help to finance college operations;

PCC has implemented an adult high school that serves individuals who wish to obtain their high school diploma; and,

PCC has a new federal program, Talent Search, that aims to provide academic assistance to elementary and high school students.

In fact, so much more have been accomplished and implemented here simply to help the College better serve and meet the educational and training needs of the local community. We at PCC are proud to be doing all of these and continue our commitment to helping Palau, Micronesia, and the Pacific region. Happy Charter Day, PCC!

Ngak Mak Tang, from Front Page

expenses. Thus, in a show of support for Palau's only College, the Committee donated \$5,000 to the PCC Endowment Fund under the conference theme, 'Ngak Mak Tang' which has quickly become synonymous with the agencies advocating the cause of people with special needs. The Committee also donated \$1,000 to the Mechesil Belau Conference which was held on the PCC campus this week. A very grateful PCC family of Trustees, Administration, Students, Faculty and Staff thank the 2003 PBILC Organizing Committee for this most generous donation to the PCC Endowment Fund. We at PCC are ever more committed to providing for Palau and the region's education and training needs. Thanks for your support.