

### Alumni Notes

#### Class of 1975 (MOC)



**Francisca Blesoch**-  
1975 MOC graduate with a Vocational Certificate (VCA) in Secretarial Science. Blesoch has worked

for 11 years as a Stoveroom Clerk for

#### Class of 1978 (MOC)

#### Matsko Rindilau



1978 MOC graduate with a Vocational Diploma (VDIP) in Dental Nursing. Rindilau has worked for 23 years as

a Dental Nurse for the Ministry of

#### Class of 1979 (MOC)

#### Ellenda Olkeriil



1979 MOC graduate with a Certificate (CA) in Dental Nursing. Olkeriil has worked for 17 years as a Dental Nurse for the Ministry of Health.

**Alumni Notes** showcases MOC&PCC alumni who contribute to the quality of life in their local community and are positive role models for other PCC students to emulate. If you are that alumni or know someone who is, please contact the PCC Development Office at telephone number 488-2471. We would like to feature you in future issues of the *Mesekiu's News*.

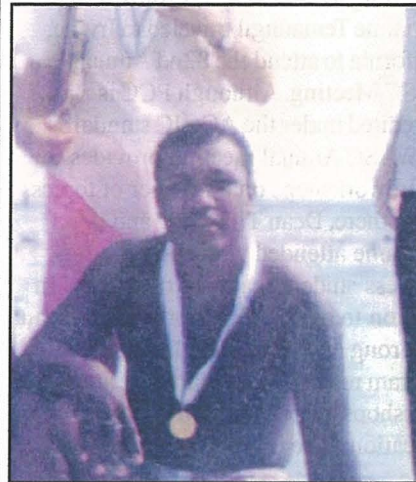
### Celebrating Birthdays

Keorung Olkeriil May 12  
Kuye Belelai May 13  
Damiana Kunihiro May 18

Happy Birthday To You!

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

## One of First Palauan Gold Medalist Passes Away at 54



Tadashi Tadong, one of Palau's first gold medalist

Tadashi Tadong, one of the first Palauans to win a gold medal during a Micro games event, quietly passed away last weekend at the Belau National Hospital.

Tadong, who is from the state of Kayangel was a member of the Palau swim team that went to Saipan to participate in the first ever Micronesian games that was held back in 1969.

Tadong, with his brother Tadao Ruluked, cousin and famed athlete Katsushi Skang (also a gold medalist in the 1969 games) and a number of other cousins and relatives also from the state of Kayangel made up the bulk of the medal swim team from Palau.

Tadong won the gold medal in the 400 meter freestyle event. His younger brother Tadao Ruluked who also swam alongside him in the same event came in second, followed by a swimmer from Pohnpei.

According to Danihi Sebaklim, a relative of Tadong who was also on the swim team, he said that the healthy rivalry between Tadong and his brother is probably what enabled them to achieve their medals. "Ruluked used to beat Tadong in practice sessions while we were in Palau, but when we went to Saipan, Tadong ended up winning the gold, I think it was because he was older plus he was just a natural showboat and so fed off of the olympic crowd in Saipan," Sebaklim recollected.

Tadong attended primary school at Kayangel Elementary School and went on to graduate from Palau Mission Academy.

Palau Community College mournfully extends its most sincere acknowledgment and appreciation to an unsung Palauan hero, Tadashi Tadong. A pioneer ambassador, athlete, and let us not forget, one of the first Palauan gold medalist from the much-famed 1969 Micronesian Games. "Thank you for representing and making Palau proud...and not ask for anything in return."

## PCC Student-athletes Attend Sports Award Dinner

PCC student-athletes attended the Sports Award Dinner that was sponsored by the Palau National Olympic Committee at Palau Pacific Resort. The dinner is an annually-held event that recognizes exemplary athletes and coaches. It also pays tribute to major sponsors who help the various sports federations in Palau.



PCC students who are also members of the canoe team at the Sports Award Dinner.

Palau Community College

# MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, May 12, 2006

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 19

## PCC Set to Host ISETS

### President Tellei to Give Welcoming Remarks



Vicky Maui (standing-left) goes over final preparation with ISETS organizing committee members during their final meeting held yesterday.

It is official that Palau Community College (PCC) has been designated as host for this year's International Students Exchange Tourism Summit (ISETS). The summit, scheduled to take place on the 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> of this month will see tourism and hospitality program students from Guam Community College (GCC) join Palau high school and PCC students to talk about current issues and challenges facing the industry both at

### Focused Midterm Report Work Well Underway.

Although it won't be due for another 10 months, the steering committee appointed by President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei to prepare the college's Focused Midterm Report is already working feverishly to prepare working drafts of standards in the college's self study report. The standards address the college's progress towards meeting the

local and regional level. "The summit will provide an excellent platform for students to exchange ideas and visions about the tourism and hospitality industries from the often overlooked but nonetheless important youth perspective," said Vicky Maui, associate professor of Tourism & Hospitality program at PCC who, together with her colleague, instructor Soledad Garcia are spearheading the organizing body. Asked if they are ready, she enthusiastically said,

"Everything is progressing according to plan and we are looking forward to the opening day." Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, activities will kick off with the Rock Island & Marine Expedition. Participants will take a boat excursion to see the world renowned Rock Islands, with stops to be made at favorite tourist snorkeling spots such as Soft Coral Arch, Cemetery Reef, and Giant Clam City Garden. The tour will

accreditation evaluation team's recommendations. The report which is due by March 17, 2007 must give evidence of progress on recommendations selected for emphasis by the accrediting commission-ACCJC.

In Dr. Tellei's appointment memorandum, seventeen PCC staff were selected to serve on the steering committee, most of whom were also involved with the last self study report.

(More on Page 2)

also include visits to Jellyfish Lake and Milky Way. Throughout the entire outing, briefings will be conducted about the fragile ecosystem of the rock islands and its surrounding marine environment, and the steps that have been taken to protect and conserve them for tourism today and in the future.

Workshops commence on Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and run until Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and as hosting institution, PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei is scheduled to give the opening remarks. After which and for the subsequent days, a myriad of skilled and professional individuals from various facets of the tourism industry will cover a gamut of tourism-related topics ranging from sustainable development and eco-tourism, to agriculture & new product development in support of the tourism industry, to local history & culture and its importance to tourism.

According to Maui, ISETS has previously been held in Pohnpei, Saipan, Guam, and this is the first time Palau is hosting. Detailed information about ISETS can be obtained by contacting Vicky Maui at 488-6008.



Dean of Students Presley Etibek (l) who serves as the college's Accreditation Liaison Officer and chair of the steering committee meets with committee members.

## Jan Kehoe to Lead CCLDI

The Community College Leadership Development Initiatives (CCLDI) foundation which is a nonprofit organization that promotes current and future leadership development for community colleges in California, Hawaii, and the Pacific islands, recently appointed Dr. Jan Kehoe, superintendent of Long Beach Community College District, to serve as the executive director of the nonprofit body.

According to Dr. Martha Kanter, chairperson of the CCLDI foundation which is based at the University of San Diego (USD) School of Leadership and Education Sciences, Dr. Kehoe is recognized as one of the top community college leaders in California and the US, possessing a depth and breadth of experience that will help CCLDI rise to a new level of excellence and innovation. The dean of USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences, Dr. Paula Cordeiro echoed Kanter's remarks, saying that community colleges play a vital role in educating and training the Pacific region's diverse workforce and contribute to its economic development, and Dr. Kehoe is exactly the right person to lead CCLDI's important efforts.

As executive director, Kehoe will administer the CCLDI's annual Summer Leadership Academy, launch policy seminars on critical issues facing community colleges, oversee the doctoral fellows program that provides doctoral

students with opportunities for engaging in and sharing community college research, and coordinate the professional opportunities for faculty and administrators across the states to become the future leaders of the community colleges.

According to the California Community College Chancellor's office, more than 1.5 million students are enrolled in the state's enrollment of the University of California and California State University systems. In Hawaii, seven colleges serve citizens 109 community colleges representing double the combined on all of the state's islands and are organized within a system that includes the University of Hawaii. There are six colleges in the Western Pacific that are served by CCLDI; these include American Samoa Community College, the College of Micronesia- FSM, Guam Community College, Northern Marianas College, the College of the Marshall Islands and Palau Community College. The report further emphasized that the leadership skills and challenges facing these institutions are commonly unique to the college setting, but the skills needed to advance these institutions have much in common, thus the need for CCLDI.

As a Pacific Postsecondary Educational Council (PPEC) member institution, Palau Community College is a CCLDI affiliate and PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei currently represents PPEC on the CCLDI board.

## Tourism & Hospitality Students to Entertain during Tourism Summit



Tourism & Hospitality students rehearse one of their dance numbers for the ISETS conference.

## (Focused Midterm Report, from Page 1)

The following are the staff selected to serve on the focused midterm report steering committee:

Presley Etibek - Chair  
Jay Olegeriil  
Alvina Timarong  
Willy Wally  
Marensia Edward  
Armstrong Debelbot  
Vincent Ito  
Sherman Daniel  
Vicky Maui  
Todd Ngramengior  
Bruce Rimirch  
Grace Alexander  
Gretchen Reynolds  
Thomas Taro  
Kuye Belelai  
Vernice Rechebei  
Marianne Temaungil

The committee's next scheduled meeting has been set for next Tuesday where work is expected to continue on standard review.

In addition to their role as members of various subcommittee members to help in the preparation and organization of the upcoming International Student Exchange Tourism Summit (ISETS), the PCC tourism & hospitality students will also take on the massive responsibility of entertaining all the guests, especially during the welcoming and the farewell ceremony.

The students are rehearsing several Palauan contemporary dances that they plan to showcase to guests and especially to tourism & hospitality students from Guam Community College who are confirmed to attend the student tourism summit.

Vicky Maui, associate professor of tourism & hospitality program at PCC and who also cochairs the ISETS organizing committee says that she is happy to see her students involved in the summit. She said that the summit is a perfect learning experience for her students as they work towards earning their degrees in the tourism field.

## BITS AND PIECES...

### NeW SBA President...

The president of the Student Body Association Mr. Travis August stepped-out of school in March 2006. Given that there's only two weeks left in the semester and four weeks of summer session, no special election will be held to fill the post vacated by August. Thus, effective immediately, the SBA secretary Ngeaol J. Kelmal will serve as president for the remainder of the school year.

### Yano&Sons Market Gives Veggies to Cafeteria...

Palau Community College (PCC) extends deepest appreciation to Yano & Sons Market for donating 56 pounds of squash this week to the cafeteria to be used for student meals. Yano & Sons Market, a popular establishment known on island for its variety of fresh vegetables and produce including many different types of well-liked local cuisine, has always donated vegetables and other fresh produce from their Ngerikiil farm to the cafeteria during the past years.

### Important Dates to Remember ...

- May 12, 2006**  
Last Day of Instruction
- May 14-18, 2006**  
International Student Exchange Summit, hosted by PCC Tourism Program
- May 15-17, 2006**  
Final Examination Period
- May 17, 2006**  
Graduates' Grades Due
- May 22, 2006**  
All Grades Due
- May 26, 2006**  
PCC Graduation at PCC Cafetorium starting at 10:00am
- June 23 to July 4, 2006**  
Micronesian Games to be held in Saipan, CNMI
- July 9-10, 2006**  
Olechotel Belau Fair, to be held at the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs Compound
- July 12-14, 2006**  
Pacific Educational Conference, to be held on PCC campus

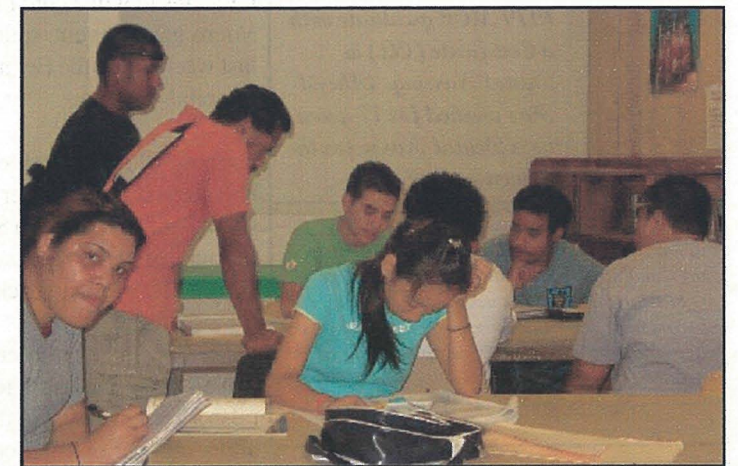
## Academic Dean and Professor Temaungil Attended WASC Meeting

From April 11th to April 14th, Dean Timarong and Associate Professor Marianne Temaungil traveled to Irvine, California to attend the 82nd Annual WASC Meeting. Although PCC is accredited under the ACCJC standards, the WASC Annual meeting provides useful workshops on a number of topics. While there, Dean Timarong and Marianne attended workshops on how to assess student learning outcomes. In addition to assessment workshops, Dean Timarong attended workshops on program review while Marianne attended workshops on program on distance Education. The information gathered at these

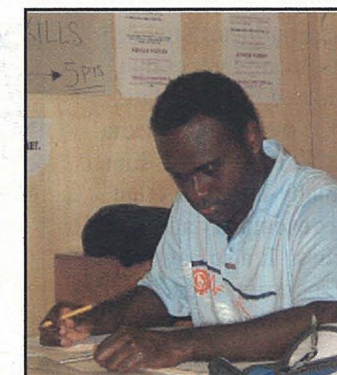
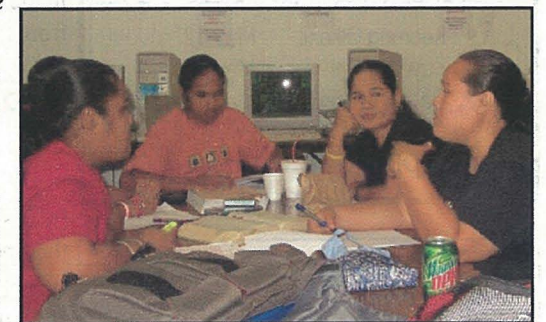
workshops will be shared at a faculty meeting which will be held on May 23, 2006, to help faculty review PCC's academic programs and departments. During the faculty meeting, instructors will revisit the program review instrument to include additional needed information.

The said workshops were attended for two major reasons: (1) to gain more information needed to address accreditation requirements, and (2) to use this knowledge to ensure continued improvement of programs, courses and teaching/learning to meet PCC's vision statement, "We Guarantee Quality and Excellence."

## Project Beacon "Study Marathon"



PCC students take advantage of the SSS-Project Beacon "Study Marathon" to prepare for final exams next week.



Visit PCC website: [www.palau.edu](http://www.palau.edu) and learn all about Palau's only institution of higher education. While there, check out the PCC weekly newsletter, *Mesekiu's News* including back issues!