

Alumni Notes

Class of 1974 (MOC)



Kerai Ngirchorachel
1974 MOC graduate with a Vocational Certificate of Achievement (VCA) in Carpentry.

Ngirchorachel who is nearing retirement and holds the title of Procurement Officer 1, has worked for 29 years with the Food Service Program under the Ministry of Education.

Class of 1981 (MOC)



Deborah Sebalt
1981 MOC

graduate with a Certificate of Achievement (CA) in General Office Clerk. Sebalt is an Administrative Assistant

2 for the Health Information Resource Center under the Ministry of Health. She has been with the ministry for 16 years.

Class of 2000 (PCC)



Bradley Rimirch
2000 PCC graduate with an Associate of Science (AS) degree in Criminal Justice.

Rimirch is a Police Office 111, a job title he's been holding for 5 years under the Ministry of Justice.

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*.



Mesekiu's News

Palau Community College
P.O. Box 9, Koror, Palau
96940

Mangrove Cleanup Pictures



Dorm manager Ephraim Ngirachitei (l) thanks Ron Leidich of Planet Blue Kayak Tours for the use of his kayaks during the recent mangrove cleanup by the dorm students. (see story inside in Bits N Pieces)



Dorm students ready heaps of trash at the PCC canoe ramp for transport to the local dump-site.



Boost your writing skills and Have FUN!

Writing Workshop
Friday, June 16
3:00 – 5:00 PM
Palau Community College

Palau Community College is offering a FREE writing workshop, featuring the Editor of TIA BELAU. Salome Villaflor will conduct a writing workshop on June 16, 2006. The workshop is open to the public and will focus on journalism and news writing. This is a great chance to build writing skills and practice with a pro!

Anyone interested in the workshop can contact PCC Library or PCC Development Office. The workshop will be held from 3:00 to 5:00 PM on Friday, June 16th. Please sign up before Monday, June 12, 2006.

PCC Library 488- 3540
pcclib@palau.edu
PCC Development 488 - 2470

Call or Email today to
SIGN UP!

Our Condolences...

The entire PCC family extends deepest sympathies to the family of **Dr. Eluel Pretrick** (former Health Secretary for the FSM). Thoughts and prayers goes out to his family and his son Samuel Pretrick-FSM's Consul General in Guam-whose office has helped many FSM students at PCC.

Local/Regional Events

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 the PCC campus



Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, June 09, 2006

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 23

Dean of Students Accepts Position as Head of Pension Office; Edward & Olikong Promoted



Presley Etibek,
Former Dean of Students

After 21 years of hard work and much-dedicated service to the college, Dean of Students Presley Etibek decided to pursue other career interest.

Etibek who began his career at PCC as counselor in 1985, and has served 13 of his 21 years as dean, left the college last month to take on a new position as administrator of the Civil Service Pension Plan (CSPP). As the new head of the pension office, Etibek will take on the challenging task of managing the tens of millions of dollars in government worker's pension investments.

With Etibek's departure, President Tellei has appointed the Director of Student Life & Housing Marenisia Edward to act as interim dean for a month, after which she will be dean. President Tellei also appointed counselor Deikola Olikong to fill in the void created by Edward's promotion. Olikong will also serve on an interim basis for a month and thereafter will be permanent director.

Edward who started her career with the PCC back in 1975 when the college was still known as Micronesian Occupational College (MOC), began as counselor. In 1983 she took an educational leave to complete her master's degree at UH Manoa, after which she returned to PCC and later became the director of student life & housing.

In her 30 plus years of service, Edward has served under 5 PCC presidents including the current president Dr. Patrick Tellei. Recalling her earlier years as a counselor, Edward remembers counseling the now PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei who was then a young construction technology student. "He was a good student and I remember him graduating as one of the top students in his class."

Edward says that she has seen a lot of changes but one she is happiest about is that key positions at the college are now held by Palauans compared to earlier years where Americans held these positions.

Despite her over three decades of service, Edward remains active, involving herself in a number of committees such as the graduation and the self-study committees, in addition to her daily responsibilities.



Deikola Olikong
Interim Director, Student
Life & Housing



Marenisia Edward
Interim Dean of Students

Taking over Edward's former position, Olikong says she as director she will take on new responsibilities but will continue to help students with counseling and advising.

Education Instructor To Yap for Summer Semester

by Shelley Remengesau, PCC student



Rechediool Jemmy Blelai,
PCC Education instructor

Rechediool Jemmy Blelai, an Education Instructor here at Palau Community College will be leaving for Yap on the 15th of June 2006 to teach education classes

for headstart teachers. He will be teaching ED 202, ED 253, and possibly ED 110, all of which are PCC education courses, in Yap for six weeks. Mr. Blelai admits that this opportunity is very much a challenge for him. "This is the first time I will be going abroad to teach PCC courses at another place, and it is going to be quite a challenge on my part," says Mr. Blelai, although confident that he will do just fine. In an interview, Mr. Blelai pointed out, "It is not that I am the best among many of my colleagues that I am taking on this responsibility; it is that I am available and that I see such opportunity as a chance to go and do something good on behalf of our college. I do recommend that other instructors look into engaging in such opportunities." Mr. Blelai is excited about his trip, and he is very much looking forward to his teaching aspect in Yap.

Olikong, a veteran educator joined the college in May 2005 after her distinguished career at CNMI's public school system. She is a retired principal from CNMI's Garapan Elementary School. PCC congratulates Etibek, Edward, and Olikong on their accomplishments and thanks them for their years of service to the college.

ETS Students Take Rock Isle Excursion

By Talent Search staff

On Thursday, June 01, 2006, Talent Search Program had a field trip with students and parents from Maris Stella Elementary School to observe popular snorkeling sites. Departing from Koror at 8:30 in the morning, the group first stopped at Milky Way and students and parents alike jumped in the water to experience the cloudy water that is said to have skin



Talent Search Students at Long Beach island.

cleansing characteristics. Others dove and took samples from the bottom silt to bring with them. The next stop was at *Kemurbeab*, also known as Long Beach island. Some students had their snacks while others went off swimming and exploring around the rock island. Tourists divers started arriving around noon to eat their lunch and rest before their second dive. A healthy conversation ensued with the tourists learning about Palau from the students.

After lunch at Long Beach island, the group headed for the famous snorkeling spot of Soft Coral Arch. Upon arriving at Soft Coral, the students and parents donned their snorkeling gear and got to experience one of the most frequented snorkeling site. Students got to see the brilliant-colored soft corals and the fish species in the area.

After Soft Coral Arch, the group made one last stop and this time at an old WWII shipwreck. After a briefing about the history of the wreck, the students were able put on their snorkel gear one more time and see the wreck up close.

All in all, the trip was fun, adventurous, and most of all educational. Students learned about a lot about the major attractions that are the reason thousands of tourists visit Palau every year- the world-famous rock islands and the beautiful waters and the marine life that surrounds them.

The ETS program thanks Mitsuo Sugiyama and his staff for giving the Talent Search students the opportunity to explore such wonderful and beautiful corners of Palau's Rock Islands.

Yano & Sons Gives More Green Cafeteria

Yano & Sons market donated yet again close to 90 pounds of vegetables to the PCC cafeteria from their harvest earlier this week. This time they gave margozo, cucumber, long beans and okra. Yano & Sons market owns a farm in Ngerikiil and during its harvest, gives vegetables to the college cafeteria for use in student meals. Ezra Takeo, cafeteria supervisor thanked Shay Yano, manager of Yano & Sons for the donation and said that vegetables will help him in providing a well balanced meal, especially to dorm students who do not have the luxury of home cooked meals.



Esisebangiau women's group of Airai gather for a photo after their tour of the CRE's R & D station. Notable members are Edangel Ayano Baules (seated far left), former employee of CRE, now retired and new Airai governor Vicky Kanai (standing 7th from left).

Esisebangiau Women Visit CRE's R&D Station

About forty officers and members of the Esisebangiau Women's Group at Airai State visited the PCC-CRE R & D Station in Ngaremlengui State last April 21, 2006. The group was led by Gov. Vicky Kanai, Tucherme Geggie Anson, and Ms. Ayano Baules.

The women were able to visit the taro and tapioca plantation and consulted with the CRE personnel on how to improve their farming techniques. Tissue-cultured taro grown at the greenhouse was also shown to them. Some problems on pests were brought out and solutions on how to control the pests biologically were discussed. Beneficial insects were released to the Airai farm after the visit.

Taro shochu production was demonstrated and the members had a good time tasting the CRE product.

Taro ice cream, taro cookies and tapioca cookies were also served to the group. Some of the members are familiar to the processing of these products as they also attended the CRE Food Technology Class conducted last March, 2006.

Technical services on agriculture, crop protection, aquaculture, food technology and consumer and environment education may be availed of through a request to PCC-CRE Vice President Thomas Taro at telephone number 488-2746, and fax number 488-3307, or e-mail address at taro@thomas@yahoo.com.

BITS AND PIECES...

Dorm students and Planet Blue Kayak Clean Mangrove....



PCC dorm students and local kayak tour company -Planet Blue Kayak Tours- teamed up for a coastal cleanup of the mangrove area from the Meyuns causeway to T-Dock. Owned by Ron and Leticia Leidich, Planet Blue Kayak Tours provided six ocean Kayaks which were used by the students to hauls debris and trash to the PCC canoe ramp at *Idederach* bay. The cleanup which was supervised by dorm manager Ephraim Ngirachitei and recreation staff Eriko Yahagi was a success as they say that the regularly-held cleanup is having an impact as amount of trash hauled is diminishing.

Palau Community College extends its appreciation to Ron and Leticia Leidich of Planet Blue Kayak Tours for the kayak use and looks forward to working together again in the next coastal cleanup. Thank you for helping us keep our coasts clean and Palau beautiful.

High School Valedictorians Choose PCC...

Three valedictorians from three different high schools in Palau have chosen Palau Community College to begin their college educational career. They are:

Leena Muller from Palau High School; Clarita Renguul from Belau Modekngai School; and Stephanie Wiley from Mindszenty High School. PCC is happy and proud to have attracted students of such caliber. Congratulations on your accomplishments and welcome to PCC.

Upward Bound Retreat

The PCC Upward Bound Program (UBP) began its 2006 summer component by doing something it had never done before—have a student retreat at the rock island.

The theme for the retreat was "Endurance". The director and staff of the program felt that the students needed to be reminded that yes, sometimes tackling with life, school, and the many other responsibilities and obligations that come from being a teenager requires endurance.

Activities and exercises for the retreat began promptly at 9:00am with a brief introduction of what the retreat itself hoped to accomplish; it was followed by an ice breaker to enable students to be comfortable with each other; then guest



speakers shared some real-life experiences which pertained to the theme; afterwards, the students were divided into smaller groups where they shared their own enduring experiences.

In between the sometimes inspiring and emotional sharing between guest speakers and students, there were other games and activities which made the entire day fulfilling.

As the Upward Bound director duly noted on the first day of summer classes: "The students seem relieved, focused, and fulfilled." If such enthusiasm pervades throughout the summer, the retreat just may become a part of the summer component.

New Chancellor, State University of New York

John R. Ryan, Vice Admiral, USN (Ret.) is the new Chancellor of the 64-campus State University of New York (SUNY) System.

Ryan advanced rapidly through the ranks after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. A former

navy pilot, he holds the distinction of being the first in his class promoted to admiral. He held naval career positions such as commander for the Fleet Air Mediterranean in Naples, Italy, commander of the Patrol Wings for the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl harbor and director of logistics for the U.S. Pacific Command.