

## Alumni Notes

### Class of 2001 & 04 (PCC)

Kubarii Joe-



2001 & 2004 PCC graduate. In 2001, she graduated with a Certificate of Achievement (CA) in Early Childhood Education (ECE). In 2004, she earned an Associate of Science (AS) degree in

Elementary Education (EDEE). Joe works for the Ministry of Education as a classroom teacher for Meyuns Elementary School.

### Class of 1995 (PCC)

Pualanie Ngiraswei-



1995 PCC graduate with a Certificate of Achievement (CA) in Secretarial Science (SEE). Ngiraswei is a Legal Researcher at the Olbiil Era Kelulau (OEK) - House of Delegates.

### Class of 1985 (MOC)

Ibuuch M. Ngiriu-



1985 MOC graduate with a Certificate of Achievement (CA) in General Office Clerk (GOC). Ngiriu is a Supervisor at the Travel Section with the Ministry of Finance.

She has been with the ministry for 21 years.

**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

### Celebrating Birthdays

Anne Mobel September 6

Happy Birthday To You!

## More PCC Personnel Show Support for Endowment Fund



PCC staff Ality Inawo of the president's office, Bluu Ongiil of maintenance department, Arlyn Ignacio of the business office, Pam Bidwell of academic affairs department, and Deskim Tutii (not pictured) of the Upward Bound office recently signed on as new contributors to the PCC Endowment Fund. Akilina Maech (not pictured) of the Talent Search office who is already a contributor increased her contribution. PCC welcomes the new supporters of the Endowment Fund and invites others who have not signed up to show their support as well. For more information about the PCC Endowment Fund, please contact Hulda, Dilubch, Charlene or Armstrong at the Development office at ext. 253. (Read about new supporters from ROP gov't. in next issue)

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she is closest to her family before venturing out further. Gbewonyo who is running for freshmen representative in the upcoming SBA elections says she plans to be at PCC for at least a year. Stating that since PCC is accredited with a number of colleges and universities in the states, she might just decide to complete the liberal arts program here before going abroad.

Gbewonyo moved to Palau in 1990 with her family when her father received an employment offer from a local company. Gbewonyo is very active in sports and actually represented Palau in the recent Micronesian Games held in Saipan, taking in a number of medals for the athletics team.

Gbewonyo is thrilled to be a college student and asks for support from her fellow students in the upcoming SBA election where she is a candidate for freshmen representative.

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!

## Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)

CTBTO is the official abbreviation for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization. We grossly erred by referring to it as CBTTO and CVTTO in the two previous issues of the Mesekiu's News and we apologize. Now we can all learn what CTBTO stands for and what is its relevance to Palau.

CTBTO or Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization is an organization set up to monitor the international Treaty- CTBT or Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. The CTBT which bans nuclear testing and explosions underground was ratified in 1996 and to date has been signed by 150 countries including Palau.

Palau is not only a signatory to the treaty but is also an active partner in the global monitoring system to ensure that the treaty is observed. In fulfilling that role, Palau is hosting an Infrasound station which is housed at the Palau Community College's Research & Development station in Ngermeskang, Ngaremlengui on the big island of Babeldaob. The Palau Infrasound station along with sixty other stations in the Pacific area provide data to the International Data Center. The International Data Center then processes and analyzes the data to guarantee that there is international compliance with the treaty to ban nuclear testing.

To visit the Palau Infrasound station, please contact PCC Vice President Thomas Taro at 488-2746.



# Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, September 1, 2006

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 35

## ETS Grant Proposal Approved for Four-Year Cycle

The Educational Talent Search (ETS) program at Palau Community College, a federally-funded member of the federal TRIO programs, received notification last month that its grant proposal has been approved for funding by the US Department of Education.

Larry Oxendine, Director of the Federal TRIO Programs based in Washington DC said in the Grant Award Notice to PCC President Dr. Patrick U. Tellei that the new grant cycle will be for a period of four years and will commence in 2007. With the current ETS grant cycle to end next year, this fresh four-year cycle will ensure that the ETS program and the services that it provides can continue beyond 2007.

The award notice also indicated that the annual funding under the new cycle will be at \$220,000, an increase of \$16,000 from the current cycle's funding of \$204,000. Under the new cycle to begin in 2007, the ETS program will receive close to \$900,000 for four years to help continue its largely-needed services to students.

The ETS program makes available services in academic counseling and tutoring, financial aid sourcing and

preparation, and educational field trips to elementary and high school students in Palau.

Services are aimed at improving students' academic performances, preparing grade school students to successfully advance to the next grade level, and high school students to succeed and continue on to college. The program also helps individuals apply for college, assisting them with college application processes and also helping them identify and apply for financial aid.

Mandated to serve no less than six hundred (600) students every year, the ETS program has extended its services outside of the Koror area to include schools in Airai as well as schools in the various states on the big island of Babeldaob.

PCC thanks the Ministry of Education and all school principals for their support in helping implement ETS services to students, thus making the new grant cycle possible.

For more information about the PCC Educational Talent Search program, contact Laura Mangham at 488-0826.

## Dorm Students Try to Cope Amidst Blackouts

PCC dorm students say that they're learning to cope under the current island power crisis which began nearly two weeks ago. They are getting somewhat used to the blackout schedule and are arranging their study time around it. In the blackout schedule implemented to ration power, PCC campus and the surrounding area experiences blackouts twice (4 hours long) every 24 hours.

They are in the morning from 5:00 am to 9:00 am and again in the evening from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Dorm students say that the morning schedule does not really affect them as much as the evening power outage does.

"It has really been hard on us because the evening outage happens around the same time when we need to study, said

Retsin Mariano and Maicka Ifamilik both freshmen from Pohnpei. "A generator has been hooked up to provide lighting to general areas of the dorms designed for studying, but it is easy to get distracted by the heat," they added.

Other dorm students also say that they prefer to study in the comfort of their own rooms which have electric fans, and thus opt to wait for the power to come on at 9:00 pm before studying. They say that because of the later than usual study time, they sometimes find themselves dozing off during morning classes. "We can manage with the alternative lighting system, it is just the heat that is intolerable," said students gathered in the open air TV lounge to escape the humidity of their rooms. Construction Technology instructor Elizabeth deJong who resides on campus said that she tries to get all her work done before sundown, but sometimes she can't. "We are managing by and large but hope for an end soon to this jam," she said.

Latest news from PPUC-island power supplier- has the blackouts continuing on at least until the middle of this month.



Dorm students while away the 4-hour blackout in the evening with dorm manager Ephraim Ngirachitei (r) and instructor Elizabeth deJong (back-right).

**Palau Community College Welcomes Leaders from the Republic of China-Taiwan, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Nauru, and the Marshall Islands to the 1st Taiwan-Pacific Allies Summit.**

## UB Director Joins Growing Number of Adjunct Faculty



Kuye Belelai, Director of Upward Bound Program and adjunct faculty member.

Upward Bound (UB) Director Kuye Belelai joined the ranks of other PCC personnel who also serve as adjunct faculty members. Belelai who has served as director of the Upward Bound program for twenty-three years said that she wanted to share her knowledge, especially in the area of psychology to students through teaching.

Belelai who holds a master's degree in counseling is teaching two classes - Sociology and Introduction to

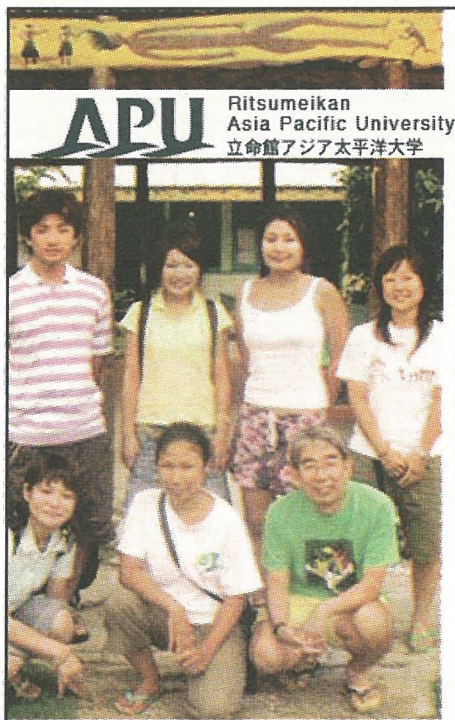
Psychology- this fall semester. Belelai said that she was initially interested in teaching classes in counseling but because they are not offered in the social science curriculum, she opted to teach the sociology and psychology courses.

"I am very excited to be teaching, she said. Teaching, especially at the college level is always a challenge and I am looking forward to it," she added.

In helping her to better understand the students capabilities, Belelai administered a learning pattern inventory at the beginning of the semester to both of her classes. She said that through this inventory, she can modify her instructions as necessary to optimize student learning.

Belelai's classes are scheduled during evenings and weekends to allow her to continue to perform her duties as director of the Upward Bound program. Belelai can be reached at telephone number 488-5895.

## APU Professor's Return Marks 5th Year of Seminar Class



Japanese students from Ritsumeikan-Asia Pacific University pose for a photo with their professor Nobuyuki Hatada (kneeling right) on PCC campus before heading out to conduct field research on eco-tourism in Palau. Standing (l-r) is Kohei Shudo, Aya Shimazui, Shiori Hatsuda and Asami Abe. Kneeling (l-r) is Nayo Nishikawa, Kiyoko Taniguchi and professor Hatada.

Professor Nobuyuki Hatada of Ritsumeikan-Asia Pacific University, College of Asia Pacific Studies arrived last month with six new students to conduct studies on Palau eco-tourism for their seminar class.

This trip marks the 5th year since professor Hatada began bringing students in his seminar course-Sustainable Tourism Development in Small Pacific Island Countries- to Palau for field research.

Hatada said the course came about as a result of his meeting with PCC President Dr. Tellei in 2001 when Tellei visited the APU campus back in 2001. He said the housing accommodation and logistical support by PCC are a big part of what makes it possible for him to continue the seminar course which requires him to bring students every year to Palau.

## Exceptional Alum Obtains BS Degree, Gets Full Ride for Grad School



Laureen Joseph, PCC Alumna

Laureen Joseph, a PCC alumna who graduated in 2004 as class valedictorian recently graduated Cum laude, receiving a bachelor's degree in Business

Administration in Accounting from Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in Michigan, USA. Joseph is in Palau for one month to rest and visit family members before leaving to attend graduate school at The Ohio State University (OSU) in Ohio, USA. Joseph will attend graduate school as a fellow of The OSU Graduate Enrichment Fellowship program- one year full scholarship. Joseph who is also an alum of the famed Upward Bound program is the daughter of business office manager, Lorenza Joseph. Congratulations all around!!!

Students enrolled in the course are each responsible for their own travel expenses which include a roundtrip airfare from Japan and living accommodations while in Palau. "We are very thankful to President Tellei and PCC for their support over the last four years. Without the low-cost accommodations here at the college, not many of my students would be able to afford this research trip to Palau," he said.

Hatada and his students live in the campus dormitories along with the rest of PCC dorm residents. Their schedule has them on island for 20 days. They will be visiting government agencies as well as private tour agencies to conduct surveys and interviews on eco-tourism and its development locally.

Hatada, who started his seminar class in 2002 said that everyone in the community has been tremendously helpful, as in previous years. The only drawback this time is the power dilemma which has caused them to forego a number of interviews and meetings.

## BITS AND PIECES... PRIC Student Essay Competition...

Palau Community College in association with the Pacific Region Investment Conference (PRIC) and Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies (APFAS) are sponsoring a student essay competition. Any student who is over the age of 18 and enrolled at PCC for fall semester 2006 is eligible to participate in the competition. Deadline is September 20, 2006. The winner will be awarded a roundtrip airfare from Palau to Manila, including airport-hotel transfers, lodging at Shangri-La Makati hotel and a \$75 per diem for expenses. For additional information, please contact Robert Ramarui at 488-2471, ext. 240.

## THANKS Students Thank Guest Speaker ...

Students in the SS 100 (Introduction to College) class and their instructor Maurine Alexander extend their gratitude to Armstrong Debelbot of the Development office for his presentation to the class.

## REMINDER Upcoming Student Elections...

The election of SBA officers and Student Trustee for the new school year 2006-07 will take place on Wednesday, September 13. Interested candidates need to confirm their qualifications with Director of Student Life Deikola Olikong no later than Wednesday, September 6.

## REMINDER STOP KILL Everything...

With no clear end in sight to the rolling blackouts, all offices are reminded to turn off COMPUTERS, BATTERIES, and SURGE PROTECTORS to protect computers and other sensitive office equipment from EXTREME POWER SURGE generated when the power comes back on line. Your utmost cooperation in this matter is required. Thank you for your continued care in the use of all scarce college properties.

## Volunteers Keep Bookstore Well Stocked



Since the beginning of fall semester, a number of student volunteers have been helping bookstore staff Helene Moros and Gibson Towai in the sale of textbook to students and also have kept the shelves stocked with snacks and the coolers filled with cold softdrinks. Many thank to them for their generous deed in helping with our campus bookstore.

## Looming Deadline

In preparation for Year-End Closing of Books for FY 2006, the Administration Department has designated **Friday, September 15, 2006** as deadline for all local requisitions for this fiscal year. Therefore, all departments and offices are requested to prepare and submit their requisitions following the above-mentioned date. Any requisition submitted after the deadlines will be addressed in the next fiscal year. For further information, contact ext. 227.

## Continuing Education Training

PCC Continuing Education (CE) program will be conducting a computer training for the staff at the Ministry of Health (MOH). The training will begin on September 26.

Also working in conjunction with the Behavioral Health division of the MOH, the CE program will also be offering the fourth round of the Crisis & Clinical Counseling class. Registration is now open for interested individuals.

For information or registration about CE training programs, please contact Taruu Nakamura at 488-6223.

## Upward Bound- Math & Science

The Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) Center at Palau Community College announces its recruitment efforts for the new SY 2006-2007. Any high school student who is interested in UBMS services can apply. Applications are available at UBMS office or via PCC website: <http://www.palau.edu/ubmath.htm>. UBMS' academic services will begin on September 30, 2006 with a student orientation. **UBMS is a member of the TRIO program funded by a grant from the US Department of Education.**

## PCC Attracting Students From All Over



Barbara Gbewonyo, a freshman student from Ghana, West Africa is now a member of the fast-becoming diverse student body at PCC.

Palau Community College continues to attract not only Palauan and Micronesian students but also students from other parts of the world.

Barbara Gbewonyo, a citizen of the West African country of Ghana enrolled this fall semester at PCC. She recently graduated from Mindszenty High School and chose to enroll at Palau Community College over other colleges in the Pacific or US.

Gbewonyo who ultimately wants to practice law as a career says that she chose PCC because of its liberal art program. She said that she wants to experience college life here at PCC where

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