

# More PCAA, Head Start, MOH and Other ROP Staff Join Endowment... So Does Melekeok!!!

Palau Community College is indeed humbled to see that employees in the community continue to pour in their support for the College by joining the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club. 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.

This week we are honored to announce the newest members. From our friends at the Palau Community Action Agency (PCAA) and Head Start Program, we welcome five (5) new members, **Stais Ngirchokebai, Stephania Carlos, Gerald Remoket, Melinda Ramarui, and Regina Mesebeluu.** At the Ministry of Justice, we also welcome one (1) new member, **Ruluked Daniel.** In the Ministry of Finance's Post Office, we proudly welcome **Edwin Tomoichi.** In the Ministry of Education, we also welcome two (2) new members, **Fermina Donatus and Basilia Terael.** Hailing all the way from the state of Melekeok, we are excited to welcome **Governor Lazarus Kodep, Stephaliza Ngirameong, and Jerome Megreos.**

We also extend our welcome to seven (7) new members from the Ministry of Health, and they are **Jocelynn Rechebong, Josephine Asanuma, Johnson Beltau, Yuriko Nolan, Judy Nestor, Arsenio Saburo, and Maureen Kuroda.** Finally, we are proud to announce the addition of one (1) new member from the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) of the ROP Vice President's Office, **Dina Sandei.** 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 Micronesia region's students. If you would like to join the PCC Endowment Fund Contributors' Club, please call Hulda, Dilubch, or Jay at PCC telephone number 488-2470/2471, extension 253. **As Always, they will be very happy to assist you!**



Stephania Carlos



Regina Mesebeluu



Ruluked Daniel



Fermina Donatus



Gov. Lazarus  
Kodep



Stephaliza  
Ngirameong



Jerome Megreos



Dina Sandei



Basilia Terael



Josephine Asanuma



Jocelynn Rechebong



Johnson Beltau



Judy Nestor



Arsenio Saburo



Maureen Kuroda



Gerald Remoket



Edwin Tomoichi

## Australia Scholarship Available

For information and application forms, contact Palau National Scholarship Office at telephone number (680) 488-3608, or write to Palau National Scholarship Office - P.O. Box 1608 - Koror, Republic of Palau - 96940.

## Celebrating Birthdays



Angela Ngirngerak March 1

**Happy Birthday To You!!!**



## Mesekiu's News

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

Printed By:  
PRA EXPRESS PRINTING  
Ph: 488-3420 Fax: 488-2732  
Email: printing@reklai.com

## Bennie and Lester Give Thanks

Two PCC staffers, **Elenita 'Bennie' Brel** and **Lester Rekesik** held simultaneous house parties this past weekend. Both of them attribute the success of their house parties to the support coming from family members, relatives and friends. In addition, they were moved by the overwhelming support that also came from their colleagues here at PCC. Therefore, both Bennie and Lester express their deep gratitude to each and every individual here at the College and the community as well for contributing to their respective house parties. **Kom Kmal Mlo Mesaul!**



PALAU  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

# Palau Community College MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE COPY



Friday, February 27, 2004

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 9

## OMIP Takes GIS Region-wide!

The journey took almost a month and covered the entire Micronesia region. That is what Don Hanser, PCC's Operations and Maintenance Improvement Program (OMIP) Coordinator, went through in what is the first step in the College's endeavor to take the PCC-based Geographic Information System (GIS) training program region-wide.

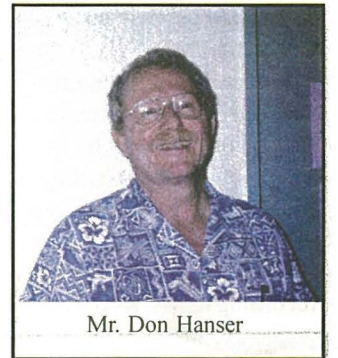
The GIS was first introduced to the College in 2001 thru OMIP at the request of the Palau national government. In essence, it may be described as a marriage between data and graphics. Its most powerful use is assisting as a decision-making tool. This is because GIS allows one to control and understand data, making for effective analysis of data. Since its inception in 2001, some 40 to 50 employees of the local government, utilities, non-government organizations have undergone this training and are now actively using their newly acquired skills in their respective workplace. One example of this powerful tool can be seen in the project of one of the program's participants, Mrs. Debbie Toribiong.

In using GIS to emphasize the strong relationship between accessibility

to tobacco (by minors) and its use by those in its surrounding environment, Mrs. Toribiong's project so impressed many that she was requested to make a presentation at the U.S. Center for Disease Control. Another participant in the national government's Ministry of Resources and Development used GIS to map out Palau's water meters, enabling one to extract information on any singular meter's specific information including date of installation, location, and history with the simple click of a computer mouse!

Due to the potential of GIS to help in the regional governments in decision making, the U.S. Department Of Interior, which funds this project thru OMIP, has now decided to take GIS region-wide; hence Mr. Hanser's recent trek across Micronesia! In an interview with Mr. Hanser, he indicated that as a result of his trip, Palau will be receiving eight (8) individuals in March who will undergo a train-the-trainer program for Spreadsheet, Data Base, and Data Base Design and Development. These people will then return to their islands and each train twenty (20) individuals to become data base experts. Then beginning in August 2004, five (5) people from each location will come to Palau to undergo GIS training, which is when they learn to map their data for use later in planning and decision making.

The OMIP and the U.S. Department Of Interior both recognize the potentially huge market in the Micronesia region. Therefore, their long range goal is to establish qualified instructors at the respective colleges in Saipan, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and American Samoa. These instructors will then provide needed training in their respective jurisdictions. In the meantime, PCC will continue to provide training on GIS. For information about GIS and OMIP, contact Mr. Don Hanser, OMIP Coordinator at PCC telephone number 488-2471, extension 254.



Mr. Don Hanser

## Team Commends PCC, Makes Recommendations

The Accreditation Evaluation Team that came to the campus last week has departed, after commending the College for its work in terms of providing educational and training opportunities for our students and the community as a whole.

The team was in Palau to validate the College's Self-Study Report as part of the accreditation process. By being an accredited institution of higher learning, PCC is eligible to participate in U.S. federal financial aid, enabling our students who so meet eligibility criteria to receive assistance

in paying for their college education. In addition, our accreditation status enables PCC credits to be transferred to other accredited institutions in the U.S.

Before leaving Palau, the Team conducted an exit meeting with PCC staff. During the meeting, the team commended the College for having a team of committed and competent faculty, staff and administrators. The Team also commended the College for the quality of its programs and was also very impressed with the level of support from the Community for the PCC

Endowment Fund. The Team also made recommendations on how the College can further improve its programs and services.

Having conducted the site visit, the Team will compile a report and submit it to the Accrediting Commission for the latter's review at its June 2004 meeting. At the meeting, the Commission will render its decision on PCC's accreditation status. Until then, all inquiries on the accreditation process and PCC's accreditation history may contact PCC Accreditation Liaison Officer Presley Etibek at PCC tel. No. 488-2471.

## PCC Students At Japanese Language Fair

Last Saturday February 21st, five (5) out of forty-eight (48) PCC students taking Japanese language class here at the College participated in the first-ever Japanese Language Fair to be held in Palau. These students, namely Jennifer Anson, Brent Ueki, Viola Kanai, Nestralda Mechaet, and Sherrie Ann Udui sang a Japanese song 'Okina Furudokei', about a grandfather's clock.

They were among students from several local schools including Palau High School, Mindsenty High School, Palau Mission Academy, and Maris Stella School who either performed skits or provided the audience entertainment by singing Japanese songs. The fair was put together by the Association of Japanese Language Teachers, whose president is none other than Ms. Junko Kobayashi, PCC's Japanese language teacher. In preparing for the fair, the teachers received much appreciated support and assistance from the Embassy of Japan in Palau.

The fair drew such a huge crowd that the PCC Cafeteria was standing room only! According to Ms. Kobayashi, the association will hold a similar event next year as it is quite



PCC students sing 'Okina Furudokei' at the Japanese Language Fair held at the PCC Cafeteria

popular, but even more importantly, it provides a great opportunity for everyone to learn more about the unique Japanese language and culture. For information about the fair, contact Ms. Kobayashi at PCC telephone number 488-2471, extension 272.

If you are interested in Japanese language courses offered at PCC, contact Admissions office at telephone number 488-2471, extension 234.



Maris Stella students performing a skit

## Charter Day Softball Tourney Drawing Near!

It looks like the 6th Annual Charter Day Softball Fundraiser for the PCC Endowment Fund will have all 16 slots filled, considering the number of teams that have reserved their space! To date, already ten (10) teams have called and secured their slots and are now preparing for the tournament which will take place the weekend of April 2-4, 2004 at the Meyuns Ballfield.

In the tournament's tradition, there will be 16 slots for co-ed teams playing in a double-elimination format. A registration fee of \$200 will be deposited directly into the PCC Endowment Fund. With only six (6) slots left open, any interested team ought to call and secure their slot. To register your team, simply call PCC telephone 488-2471 and speak to Todd, LeoBen, Dilubch, Hulda, or Jay. They will be very happy to assist you. Register your team today, ensuring your spot in the tournament. Join us for a weekend of fun activities as we help build the PCC Endowment Fund!



## PPR Exec Speaks to PCC Students

On Tuesday February 17th, the students taking the 'Human Resource Management' class here at PCC received a powerful presentation from Ms. Marleen Ngirametuker. Ms. Ngirametuker is the Human Resource Manager at the Palau Pacific Resort and is also President of the Palau Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).



Ms. Ngirametuker's presentation focused on the roles and functions of human resource in the hotel industry. She also emphasized three (3) areas that everyone must always be mindful of: 1) Punctuality; 2) Grooming/Hygiene; and, 3) Open Attitude and Willingness to Learn.

Class professor Ms. Vicki Maui stated that the students enjoyed Ms. Ngirametuker's presentation which was very informative and provided concrete and supporting evidence to the lectures and concepts provided in the classroom setting. In fact, plans are underway to have her speak on other topics in the future. Thanks, Ms. Ngirametuker!

## New Director at SBDC

The PCC-based Palau Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is sporting a new face. It is that of Ms. Lisa Abraham, the center's new director, who replaces Clinton Ngemaes who now works at the Social Security Administration Office.

Ms. Abraham comes to the center after having worked at the Palau Visitors' Authority (PVA) office for a little over eleven (11) years. At the PVA, she was the office's Community Support Services Manager. The College wholeheartedly welcomes Ms. Abraham to the campus and looks forward to a productive partnership with her!



## BITS AND PIECES...

### New Retirement Program for PCC

The PCC Board of Trustees, at its January 29, 2004 meeting, approved an additional retirement program for any and all interested PCC employees, including non-Freely Associated States (FAS) citizens. Non-FAS citizens at PCC are all other PCC employees who are not citizens of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

This **ASC Retirement Program** is a new program that would benefit both locals and expatriates. Employees who are already enrolled in the Palau Pension Plan can still enroll in this new program as a second retirement savings. Any PCC staff who is interested and wants to know more about this program may contact our Human Resources staff for details.

### Calculator Found

Last week, PCC student Nestralda Mechaet found a pocket-sized calculator in one of the College's classrooms and submitted it to the PCC Development Office. This scientific calculator, which is quite expensive, was later claimed by a very grateful student who wishes to remain anonymous; however, she expresses her sincere gratitude to Nestralda. Indeed, Nestralda provides a good example for all to follow!

## 'The GATHERING' Falls in Love

Earlier this week, the monthly *Tuesday Night's The GATHERING* took place at the PCC Cafeteria. Sponsored by PCC and Bedochel Center, *The GATHERING* is held each month providing a forum for indepth, objective and candid discussion on topics of interest to youth. Last month's meeting focused on alcohol and featured speakers from the Ministry of Justice, Olbiil Era Kelulau (Palau National Congress), etc. This month, the topic of discussion was titled, "What Is Love?" A good number of participants, most of them PCC students, turned up to listen to Ms. Victoria Maui, the key speaker who delivered what can only be described as a powerful presentation on the topic, whereby she used participant interaction to bring home her major points.

Several PCC students groups representing the different islands in Micronesia also performed skits aimed at teaching us how to truly love one another and showing it in our words and actions. Overall, it was a night well spent by everyone in attendance. Not only did the participants learn more about the subject, they were also entertained by the wonderfully-performed skits. Because *The GATHERING* has apparently gone off to a great start, many of the students are already looking forward to next month's session. For information about this, contact PCC Office of Student Life at telephone number 488-3036.

## PCC Donates To Head Start!

Palau Community College has once again donated a whole box of scratch papers to the Head Start Program. This time, the donation went to the Head Start center in Ngerchemai, Koror State. Previously, the College donated to the Ngermid and Ngerbeched centers, also both located here in Koror.

The photo on the right shows PCC student Mr. Kirkwood I. Kotaro with the grateful Ngerchemai Head Start students posing for a group picture. The PCC Development Office continues to accept scratch papers from all PCC offices and other agencies, so that we may continue providing much needed paper for our Head Start students. If you would like to make donations of scratch paper, please call Hulda, Dilubch, or Jay at the PCC Development Office telephone number 488-2470/2471, extension 253. Thank you very much!



## Graduation Committee Appointed

PCC President Patrick U. Tellei has appointed the Planning and Implementation Committee (Committee) in a memorandum that was released on Friday last week. The Committee will be responsible for planning for and implementing the 41st MOC/PCC Commencement Exercises. Appointed to serve on the committee are the following:

- Presley Etibek, Dean of Students*
- Lesley B. Adachi, Registrar*
- Marensia Edward, Dir. Stud. Life & Housing*
- Edolem Ikerdeu, English Instructor*
- Hellen Imanuel, Asst. Dir. Upward Bound*
- Dahlia Katosang, Dir. Adm. & Fin. Aid*
- Clement Kazuma, Dir. Physical Plant*
- Laura Mangham, Dir. Learning Resources*
- Vicky Maui, Associate Professor*
- Vernice Rechebei, Dir. Student Supp. Serv.*
- Dison Sbal, SBA President*

*Ezra Takeo, Food Service Supervisor*  
*Tchuzie Tadao, Dir. UB Math & Sci. Prgm.*  
*Alvina Timarong, Dean of Academic Affrs.*  
*Jay Olegeriil, Director of Development*

President Tellei, in appointing these individuals, expressed his trust in their individual and collective participation and effort toward a successful implementation of the commencement exercises. He also gave the committee the leverage to add membership to ensure a well-rounded participation in planning for this major College event.

Anyone in the College community who wishes to join the Committee is very much welcome to do so. Simply contact Presley Etibek at extension 249 or Lesley B. Adachi at extension at 257. They will be happy to have you join the Committee!



The *GATHERING*'s keynote speaker, Ms. Victoria Maui (l) and Bedochel Center's Mike Ongalibang. Ms. Maui teaches tourism and hospitality courses at PCC and is the President of the PCC Faculty Senate Association.