

MESEKIU'S NEWS

FREE!



Campus Buzz: Free Weekly Newsletter

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 29



PCC MOURNS THE LOSS OF REVERED GRANDMASTER NAVIGATOR AND TRADITIONAL WAYFINDING TEACHER MR. SESARIO SEWRALUR



GRANDMASTER NAVIGATOR SESARIO SEWRALUR

Palau Community College (PCC) deeply mourns the recent loss of Grand Master Navigator, Mr. Sesario Sewralur, who passed away on July 10th 2026 at the age of 56. His sudden departure came shortly after completing the storm-defying 20th anniversary expedition of the Alingano Maisu Canoe through the Western Pacific—a final testament to a life spent keeping ancient maritime traditions alive. While his passing marks the end of an era, his profound legacy remains permanently anchored at PCC, where he transformed traditional wayfinding from a fading ancestral art into a vital pillar of modern higher education.

Sewralur was born into an unparalleled lineage of seafaring excellence as the son of Dr. Pius "Mau" Piaailug, the legendary Micronesian navigator who revitalized Pacific voyaging in 1976 by guiding the Hawaiian canoe Hōkūle'a

to Tahiti without modern navigation. Raised in the sacred Weriyeng school of navigation, Sesario inherited not just his father's title, but a global responsibility: to ensure that the ancient Indigenous knowledge of reading the stars, ocean swells, and wind patterns would not die out. To fulfill this mission, Grandmaster Navigator Sesario partnered with Palau Community College in 2008 to launch the groundbreaking PCC Non-Instrument Navigation Program. Serving as the master instructor, he brought an oral tradition into an academic setting, teaching students how to memorize complex star paths and read the elements. The true heart of the program was the Alingano Maisu, a 57-foot traditional double-hulled voyaging canoe gifted to his father by the Polynesian Voyaging Society. Under Sesario's command, the Maisu became a living, floating

campus, taking PCC students on major regional expeditions to Yap, Guam, Saipan, and beyond. His final voyage in early 2026 was the ultimate demonstration of his life's work. He guided the Alingano Maisu and its crew on a historic, multi-month expedition to Taiwan, Japan, and back to Palau, successfully navigating severe typhoon conditions using only ancestral methods. Though Grandmaster Navigator Sesario has sailed over the horizon for the last time, his partnership with PCC permanently embedded this irreplaceable knowledge into the framework of modern education, ensuring that the ancient pathways of the Pacific will continue to be sailed by generations to come.



MR. SESARIO SEWRALUR PICTURED WITH FAMILY



GRANDMASTER NAVIGATOR SESARIO PICTURED WITH THE CREW OF THE ALINGANO MAISU PRIOR TO LEAVING FOR THE CANOE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY VOYAGE

Unity, Pride, and Athletic Excellence: The 15th Belau Games



PALAU NATIONAL ATHLETES LEAD THE CROWD IN SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The spirit of national pride and athletic camaraderie took place on Monday, July 13th, 2026, as the official opening ceremony of the 15th Belau Games commenced. Hosted at the Palau Community College (PCC) track and field, the event brought together athletes, officials, and spectators from across the republic to celebrate the official start of Palau's premier sporting event.

The festivities began at the PCC Track Parking lot, where athletes from every participating state gathered in a vibrant display of color and unity. Wearing their respective state jerseys and proudly assembled behind their state banners, the competitors waited in anticipation to parade towards the track. One by one, as the intercom called their names, the state delegations marched onto the track holding their state signs. The crowd erupted in cheers as each team made its way to the field. During the introductions, the announcers highlighted the specific sports each state would be competing in and introduced the distinguished flag bearers leading their teams onto the field. Following the parade, the atmosphere turned quiet as the crowd gathered for an opening prayer,

followed by a stirring rendition of the national anthem. Distinguished guest speakers then took the stage to offer words of encouragement, emphasizing the importance of sportsmanship, unity, and healthy competition before officially declaring the 15th Belau Games open.

No sooner had the opening remarks concluded than the track was cleared for the major event of the night: the highly anticipated 100m sprint finals for both men and women. The crowd was treated to a showcase of pure speed and determination as the runners bolted from the starting blocks, setting an exciting tone for the days of competition ahead.

For the Women's 100m, Peleliu took Gold, Sonsorol took Silver, and Airai took Bronze. For the Men's 100m, Koror won both Gold and Bronze, while Aimeliik claimed the Silver. With the track events off to an electric start and state pride on full display, the 15th Belau Games are officially underway.



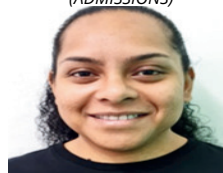
EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT



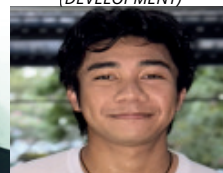
KEITH IGNACIO
(ADMISSIONS)



O'KEEF KOKICHI
(DEVELOPMENT)



KRISTY OLKERIIL
(BUSINESS)



MARK TAKSIAU
(UB)



MITOKO CHARLES
(UBMS)

Excitement is building at the 15th Belau Games, and a dedicated group of PCC employees have stepped away from their campus roles to trade them for state jerseys, competing for glory across a wide range of sports:

- Keith Ignacio (Koror): Tennis & Badminton
- O'Keef Kokichi (Koror): Table Tennis & Badminton
- Mark Taksiau (Peleliu): Triathlon
- Kristy Olkeriil (Ngarchelong): Tennis
- Mitoko Charles (Koror): Volleyball & Beach Volleyball

The entire PCC community rallies behind these athletes, celebrating their outstanding balance of professional commitment and competitive spirit.

Good Luck

BITS AND PIECES

TAN SIU LIN PCC LIBRARY

Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday
7:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Friday
7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Closed On Sundays

*Closed on National Holidays

For more information, call:
488-3540

Available To Interested

Readers:

OFFICE PRO



The March/April 2026 issue of OfficePro focuses heavily on navigating the modern corporate landscape by balancing human-centric soft skills with structured digital communication. The issue guides administrative professionals away from traditional, reactive roles and toward strategic leadership positions through the cultivation of emotional intelligence, optimized workflow technology, and boundaries against hybrid-work burnout.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

JUL 23 (TH)
GRADES DUE BY 11:00 AM

JUL 30 (TH)
LAST DAY FOR CHANGE OF GRADES

UBMS Participates in a Rock Island Clean Up



UBMS STUDENTS AND STAFF WITH BAGS FULL OF COLLECTED DEBRIS FROM THE BEACH OF NGARABLOBANG

The Palau Community College Upward Bound Math and Science Program recently completed a successful coastal clean-up at Ngarablobang Rock Island, made possible by the support of the Koror State Government and the Koror State Rangers.

This hands-on initiative provided local students with a valuable opportunity to directly participate in conserving Palau's delicate marine

ecosystems. By removing debris and restoring the shoreline, participants experienced firsthand the power of community-led environmental stewardship.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Koror State's leadership and rangers for their trust, partnership, and dedication to conservation. Together, we are fostering a sustainable future and preserving the pristine Bountiful Isles for generations to come.



PCC ADMISSION

OPEN FOR 2026

**CLASS REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN
FOR ALL NEW, READMITTING AND
RETURNING STUDENTS.**



ENROLL NOW

More Information:

☎ 488-2470/2471 ext 269

🌐 <https://pcc.palau.edu>

IMPORTANT DATES

- ✓ **Registration Dates**
 - July 13 – August 13, 2026
 - August 14, 2026 (Late Registration)
- ✓ **New Student Orientation**
 - August 4, 2026
- ✓ **Fall 2026 Semester Begins**
 - August 17, 2026



Start your journey
with us

Announcement

Pacific STEP-UP Summer Research Program

What: An 8-week paid summer biomedical research mentorship for high school students, ending with an August symposium.

Who: High school juniors and seniors (U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or residents of U.S.-affiliated Pacific territories).

Apply: October 15 – February 15

To Learn More Please Scan the QR Code below or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/StepUpFlyer1>



Interested in learning transferrable media and marketing skills? Volunteer with the PCC Development Office. Stop by at the Dort building to sign-up.

Celebrating Birthdays

July 17 - July 23, 2026



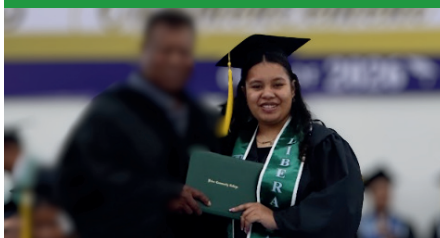
**Ngirachermang
Polloi**



**Husto
Ulengchong**

ALUMNI NOTES

Madison D. Ngirmidol



Madison D. Ngirmidol earned her Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts in the Spring of 2026. We at PCC extend our heartfelt congratulations and wish her continued success and good luck in her future endeavors!

PCC ENDOWMENT

**INVEST IN THE FUTURE
TO SUPPORT,
CONTACT US TODAY!**

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Phone: 488-2470/2471
(Ext. 251/252)
e-mail: tellei@palau.edu
or pccdev@palau.edu

*If you want to join the Bi-Weekly Allotment Program, **Contact Us Now!***



Mesekiu's News welcomes stories/articles/announcements from students, faculty, and staff. Submission deadline is Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in hard and/or electronic copies to pccdev@palau.edu

Articles from MOC/PCC Alumni are also welcome. Please call 488-2470/2471 (extensions 251 or 252) for more information.

Announcement: Enrollment Now Open at Palau Community College CTE Lab School

Palau Community College CTE Lab School invites interested students to apply for our Construction Technology program. We are dedicated to admitting students who aspire to achieve a degree in this field.

The program spans four years, with the first two years focused on secondary education before transitioning into the Construction Technology, Associate of Applied Science Degree Program in the final two years.

To ensure a smooth application process, applicants are reminded to prepare a complete application form alongside all required documents.

Important deadlines and application requirements can be found on our website or by contacting us directly. For questions, please reach out to us at 488-2470/2471 ext. 281 or contact Teacher Bradley R. Augustine at 775-8065.

For more info, scan the QR code:



We appreciate your interest in the PCC CTE Lab School and look forward to welcoming new students!

