

COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM
COMMUNITY MEETING

Kosrae Campus

May 6, 2016

The Board of Regents held a community meeting at the Rose Mackwelung Library on Friday, May 6, 2016. About 50 people were in attendance, which included personnel for Kosrae DOE, Kosrae High School, and students, faculty, and staff from Kosrae Campus some of which were also alumni and/or parents of students. Chairman of the Board Tulensru Waguk welcomed everyone and explained that community meetings are held whenever the board meets to listen to concerns from and share information about the college with the community.

Chairman Waguk introduced President & CEO Joseph M. Daisy who expressed appreciation for those availing themselves to attend the meeting. President Daisy expanded on the purpose and importance of the community meeting. He then introduced the administrators and staff present: Vice President for Instructional Affairs Karen Simion, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services Joey Oducado, FMI and Yap Campus Dean Lourdes Roboman, Chuuk Campus Dean Kind Kanto, Pohnpei Campus and Career and Technical Education Center Director Grilly Jack, Executive Assistant/President Norma Edwin, Chief of Staff/President Universe Yamase, and host Dean Nena Mike. President Daisy announced that as of Friday, Nena Mike is officially the dean of Kosrae campus.

Chairman Waguk who serves as the regent from Kosrae, introduced the board of regents: Johannes Berdon from Chuuk and vice chairman of the board, Churchill Edward from Pohnpei, Jesse Salalu from Yap and secretary/ treasurer, Kasio Mida representing the national government. The regents shared their perspectives respective to their state and work they do. Regent Edward has completed his second term and shared challenges from his past six years. Accreditation was a big issue while the college was on sanction. Although no longer on sanction, attention to accreditation is never ending to maintain accreditation standards. Financial challenges as well as the push for programs to meet community needs continue. Trying to resolve these challenges is ongoing

Regent Berdon expressed his pleasure with being in Kosrae. He now has seen all campuses and their infrastructure. Chuuk campus is still hoping for a permanent campus; there has been some recent success toward that. He is pleased to be working with the president and hopes the community cooperates with the college. The board is here to listen to concerns and see how together solutions can be made.

This is also Regent Salalu's first visit to Kosrae; he offered his respects to the leaders of the college community and congratulations to Dean Mike. He is happy to be part of the board and looks forward to working with them on the challenges ahead. Through their best practice of holding community meetings, he hopes they will find solutions after learning from each other and by working together.

Regent Mida expressed his pleasure with being in beautiful and peaceful Kosrae again, and congratulated Dean Mike. The endowment fund is at four million dollars; the goal however is to reach twenty million by 2020. That means we have a long way to go so it is incumbent on all to raise money for the college endowment. Funding is decreasing so the college must take on more responsibility in seeking funding for the college. Recently the college sold tickets for a dinner and

invited local companies; this raised \$58,000. He believes all can contribute to growing the endowment fund; it is duty for all to work together to do so.

President Daisy summarized the accreditation events and process beginning with the 2010 comprehensive visit when the college was put on sanction to the 2016 comprehensive visit. The self-evaluation report was completed with wide participation. The college embraces accreditation as the framework for the college and everything that it does. The Commission will meet in June to deliberate, and their decision will be announced in July. When this is done, it will be with a collective sense of pride in the accomplishment by many people. He commended the board for their engagement in meeting accreditation standards and increasing federal regulations and their commitment to understanding their roles and responsibilities. Recent focus of USDE has been on retention, graduation and completion rates, and student loans. While student loans do not apply here, the college has been attentive to the other two areas and has made student success and student completion as priorities. The board is also committed to these priorities. Regent Mida was acknowledged for his role in fundraising, and Kosrae Campus recognized for raising \$6,000 for the endowment.

Chairman Waguk recited the college mission statement to demonstrate his commitment to the college.

During the question and answer period, the following issues were raised: sources of revenue for operation of the college, prayer at college activities, VA benefits, vehicle surveying for the endowment, update on developing programs, how retention affects Pell eligibility, alternative requirements for admissions, expanding BA program to the state campuses, articulation agreements, and other technical programs for Kosrae Campus.