

COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES

Zoom – Kosrae Campus

September 17, 2021

The Board of Regents held its second virtual community meeting in Kosrae following its September board meeting. Approximately 20 people were in attendance. Kosrae Campus Dean Nena Mike opened the meeting with a welcome to all signing in via Zoom. He then asked for a moment of silent prayer and read the college mission statement. After explaining the purpose of community meetings, which is to share highlights from the college and listen to questions and concerns from our stakeholders, he turned the floor to Interim President Karen Simion. She then introduced the members of the board: Suzanne L. Gallen, chair of the board and representing Pohnpei State; Dr. Tulensru Waguk, representing Kosrae State; Pelma Mingii, secretary/treasurer of the board and representing the national government; Johannes Berdon, representing Chuuk State; and Lt. Governor Jesse Salalu, vice chair and representing Yap State.

Chair Gallen thanked all for joining the meeting. Due to the pandemic the board is using this platform to reach out to the community. She then provided a highlights of the presidential search which will be re-started shortly; accreditation review efforts; college summit in August; covid response measures; repatriation; government mandate on vaccination; good news on attrition rate; endowment fund doing well. VPEMSS Joey Oducado congratulated deans and staff regarding enrollment and credit numbers surpassing targets. Chair Gallen also encouraged lobbying for funds to build the multi-purpose building for Kosrae Campus.

The only question/concern raised during the Q & A was regarding what opportunities are available for people with disabilities at COM-FSM. For students, the student services offices can be approached and are open to provide assistance. There have been cases of the college providing help to employees with challenges. Since no other question/concern was raised, people were encouraged to email their dean or IP Simion should they think of something later.

Dean Mike introduced Beverly Wabol, secretary of Kosrae Chapter of their Alumni Association and encouraged alumni from PONTEC, MTEC, and CCM to join the alumni association and support COM-FSM,

Kosrae Campus was congratulated on achieving their targets this fall as well as last summer. With zoom as the current platform for community meetings this does not preclude people from other campuses/states from joining community meetings at other campuses. After thanking all for their participation, the meeting adjourned around 12:45 PM (Kosrae time).