

COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM BOARD OF REGENTS
Minutes of the June 30, 2020, Meeting
Zoom Meeting

Present: Regent Tulensru Waguk, PhD, from Kosrae (chairman); Regent Jesse Salalu from Yap (vice chairman); Regent Pelma J. Mingii representing the National Government (secretary/treasurer); Regent Johannes Berdon from Chuuk; Regent Suzanne Gallen from Pohnpei; and Acting President & CEO Karen Simion (*ex officio member*)

Resources: Vice President for Administrative Services Joseph Habuchmai; Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services Joey Oducado; Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance Caroline Kocel; Vice President for Instructional Affairs Karen Simion; Dean of Chuuk Campus Kind Kanto; Dean of Kosrae Campus Nena Mike; Dean of Yap Campus Lourdes Roboman; Dean of Career & Technical Education Center Grilly Jack; Director of FSM Fisheries and Maritime Institute Tioti Teburea; Director Cooperative Research and Extension Steven Young-Uhk; and Comptroller Roselle Togonon.

1. CALL TO ORDER – 1:03 PM

Chairman Waguk called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Regents Mingii and Gallen recited the mission statement.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called; all present. A quorum was declared.

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Gallen/Salalu

Moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 2, 2020

Two misspelled names were noted.

Mingii/Salalu

Moved to adopt the minutes of the April 2, 2020, meetings as corrected.

CARRIED

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. June 29, 2020, letter from ACCJC informing that our Midterm Report was accepted.

6. REGENTS' REPORTS

- a. **Regent Waguk** reported Kosrae is still COVID free and on the preparation/activities being made in the event that it does come and on plans for the upcoming school opening.
- b. **Regent Salalu** also reported Yap being COVID free and working to keep it so; praised the college for their work in keeping the college safe; and thanked Chuuk for helping students from Yap transiting through Chuuk.
- c. **Regent Mingii** thanked Karen and her team for their hard work in spite of the challenges posed by the pandemic.
- d. **Regent Gallen** praised the college for its seriousness and commitment as evidenced by

the precautionary measures put in place and thanked Grilly and Ankie for their presentation to the Task Force and college for getting students home. She said Pohnpei's borders are still closed and explained the Task Force's effort to ensure things are done properly.

- e. **Regent Berdon** reported finally being back in Chuuk and on COVID preparation in Chuuk; commended Dean Kanto for his work at Chuuk Campus; and reminded all to keep the new Chuuk Campus a priority.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Acting President** Simion expressed appreciation to her team for making her work easier and to Dean Kanto and his staff for their help with Yap students held up in Chuuk, and then highlighted the following: receipt of CARES Act funding and how it was distributed; COVID-19 challenges; and information provided to JCRP stressing the importance of Pell funding.
- b. **VPAS** Habuchmai highlighted the following: activating the emergency management plan due to COVID-19; HR data; procurement activity; and status of building projects assuring Chuuk Campus is not forgotten. Comptroller then reported on the financial status of the college: as of June 19, 2020, the endowment fund decreased by 13% and the reserve fund decreased by 8% with total investment loss of 11%; retirement plan loss at \$5 million; need to monitor cash balance due to effect of COVID-19 on revenue and how to mitigate that.
- c. **VPIEQA** Kocel thanked all at the college for their hard work to keep us going, and then shared important challenges: results of survey among staff and students indicates accreditation and future funding as top two concerns, but differ after the top two (we need to listen to students); shift to on-line learning in June (appreciation to Shaun and IT staff); plans for a help desk on website; document COVID-19 (voice across the college with different situations); Paulo working on spring 2020 graduation documentary with messages; and need for communication strategies.
- d. **VPIA** Simion highlighted a series of Zoom meetings with, instead of a site visit from, ACCJC to follow up on the baccalaureate program; and going on-line for the summer session.
 - i. **Kosrae Campus** Dean Mike reported trying to accommodate students during this trying time and the challenges, mostly technical, to do so. He recommends an orientation course and to coordinate courses with similar content.
 - ii. **CTEC** Dean Jack expressed appreciated for the support from administration in accommodating COVID-19 requirements; represented the college in reporting the college's plans for the summer to the Task Force; and shared the challenges and opportunities afforded by the requirements.
 - iii. **Chuuk Campus** Dean Kanto reported their summer on-line classes are going well, but recommends identifying weaknesses for the fall.
 - iv. **Yap Campus** Dean Roboman reported although there are many challenges, summer session is going well; a need for on-line readiness class before fall classes and discussions on how to better help students.
 - v. **FSM-FMI** Captain Teburea reported on their shipboard training; graduation on May 12 with 13 graduates; plans to launch master 4 courses after COVID-19 restrictions are gone; summer plans; no shore leave due to the virus; and thanked deans for helping with recruitment of new students.
 - vi. **CRE** Director Young-Uhk reported on the giant clam project in Yap; and

research project using pineapple crown leaves for rapid multiplication of planting materials in Chuuk.

- e. **VPEMSS** Oducado reported on summer 2020 enrollment data showing higher than projected enrollment but lower than last summer due to the pandemic (all campuses lower except Chuuk); end of spring 2020 academic standing; spring 2020 graduation; 91% of eligible students awarded Pell grant; and Public Health enrollment.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on President Search

Deadline for applications was May 31. A shortlist for interview was made, and interviews begin tomorrow.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board Development –Governance Leadership Institute for New Trustees

Information on the virtual ACCT conference was shared. Norma will help interested regents enroll. Both Regents Gallen and Waguk expressed interest.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was tentatively set for the second week in September.

11. ADJOURNMENT – June 30, 2020

The chair thanked everyone who joined the meeting and asked we all work together during this challenging time. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Minutes of the COM-FSM Board of Regents June 30, 2020, meeting was approved this 8th day of August 2020.