

MESEISET

Volume 3, Number 21

December 3, 2014



CAMPUS CLEAN-UP AND BEAUTIFICATION

(Friday, November 21, 2014)

That was the plan — to clean up and beautify our Chuuk Campus on Friday, November 21 — and it went well, thanks to the effort of a good number of students. According to Cecile Oliveros, co-chairperson of our Campus Beautification Committee, our campus looks so much better now. *“Of course, maintenance is part of the plan. All of us must keep our commitment every day to pick up rubbish — just keep the campus clean and beautiful.”*

Maintenance means at least two things. First, plants need watering. We are in a period of drought, according to the Chuuk State Weather Station. Without water, plants do die — just like thirsty students. So, every now and then, students, share a little bit of your bottled water with the friendly plants. Second, no one should harvest with stealth. *“Will the staff steal?”* asked two students. Let us leave that matter to the Dean — let him set up a campus policy on how we harvest and share.

Some regional gardens now include vegetable seedlings. For instance, Faichuk and Northwest students planted beans, cucumbers, whatever, behind the Multipurpose Conference Building. Hopefully, in January next year, there will be lots of vegetables for our hungry students. Remember — beans can be eaten raw! Remember — bring your own high-blood pressure salt!

One more thing — the clean-up and beautification day included a pre-celebration of Christmas. Did you see Cecile

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CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

(December 2014)

- Wed, Dec 3: Last All-Campus Meeting this year
- Fri, Dec 5: Academic Talent Showdown
- Mon, Dec 8: Last Day of Instruction this semester
[Check out story, page 10.]
- Tue-Thur, Dec 9-11: Final Exams
- Fri, Dec 12: Students’ Farewell/Christmas Party
- Sat, Dec 13: Faculty/Staff Potluck Party

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MESEISET DISCLAIMER POLICY

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Chuuk Campus News

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH **MARYLENE BISALEN**



for her fair and consistent advocacy of personnel affairs on campus. She is one of our unsung heroes who tirelessly gets her work done for us. She also serves as the chairperson of the system-wide Human Resources Committee.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH **FILEMINO KILICHO**



for his unswerving volunteerism as an unpaid tutor to students in need of academic help. He never shirks from giving his time to others. He was a 2014 student winner of the “Outstanding Classroom Participation” award.

CRE’S MIKE ABBE SAYS, “FOOD FAIR WENT WELL”

by Alton Higashi

What happened on Thursday, October 30? Well, nothing much happened — that was the problem. The planned and scheduled Food Fair, co-sponsored by our own Cooperative Research and Extension (CRE or Land Grant Program) was a dismal failure! Yet, at our latest All-Campus Meeting on Wednesday, November 5, CRE Coordinator Mike Abbe said, “The Food Fair went well.”

I interviewed more than a dozen persons on campus to verify Mike’s statement. Everyone who was interviewed claimed that the Food Fair did not, in fact, go well. Big talk, little action.

The first talk was at our Management Council (MC) meeting on February 26, 2014. The Council reached consensus that “Mike Abbe and CRE staff

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CLEAN-UP AND BEAUTIFICATION

(continued from page 1)

and a few student elves working on the evergreen tree near the seawall? They were trimming the tree with Christmas decorations. Student elves? Sure — Marivic, Miller, Best. You know, those with pointed ears.

Go to pages 3-4 for more photos, taken by JayPaul Pedrus, on campus clean-up and beautification activities. Φ





Remember when it was just an itsy-bitsy tyke? Now, it is a fledgling in need of some clothing. So, Cecile supervises the holiday adornment of her adopted child.



"We need coconut decorations for our Christmas tree," exhorts Cecile. So, she recruits willing staff from CRE to demonstrate weaving to our fetching made-moiselles. Look at their lissome fingers go to town.



The hedges along the fence at our front gate get attentive clean-up and re-beautification. Here are a few stalwart members of the College of Micronesia Federated States of Micronesia Chuuk Campus Hedge Conservation Society (best known as the COMFSM-CCHCS) in front of...



...and behind the fence.



Faichuk and Northwest gardeners join together to grow beans and cucumbers behind the Multipurpose Building. Hey, staff, do not steal any crops!

(continued on page 4)



Don't break the water pipeline, Sosiro!



Good samaritans clean up Alton's mess in front of his classroom (Building B).

Brandon says, *"Come on, Adore, get off your —ss and help us!"*

Adore replies, *"I've been hauling dirt here and there. I need a break."*



"This is easy work," Jefferson says. "Let's do this once a month and keep our campus looking beautiful."



Flowers in the garden attract the girls. A flower in the ear attracts the boys. That is called campus beauty — I mean, beautification.

Well, some work hard to beautify the campus, and others belong to Roger Arnold's category of "don't care" students. Are these ladies part of the "don't care" category? They sit at the seawall behind Building C, to hide from the "do care" students and to relax, relax, relax.

Not really. The ladies sit there to patrol the area — they keep the marijuana smokers away from their favorite hiding place. Tough luck, boys!

Photo credit (November 21): JayPaul Pedrus



ED 201 POWERPOINTERS

(Instructor Deva Senarathgoda)

Once upon a time Chuuk Campus students got together — in small groups — to share stories with their fellow classmates. So, they developed a series of PowerPoint presentations to show their stories in the classroom.

Each group had a hero or heroine (at least, one!) who did most of the planning and preparation. In the same group was a villain (at least, one!) who did very little (because he or she was lazy). Then, on the day of presentation, each group stood in front of the class and impressed its audience with a story.

The presenters talked about mysterious tunnels, monstrous killers, lonely dolphin girls, magical food for hungry birds, and blind mothers. All of their stories were based on the presenters' true personal experiences.

Presenters and audience alike were happy. They eagerly awaited the climactic announcement from their instructor. Yes, everyone got an A — even the villains!

NOTE: This Meseiset article, by the way, is fiction. The question is: Which part of the story is fictional, and which part is factual? Φ



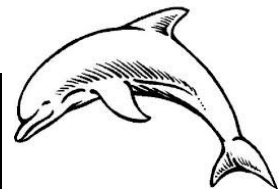
Eweneirek says, "Hurry up, Ermilio!"



"Genevieve, be quiet and listen to Kinisou!"

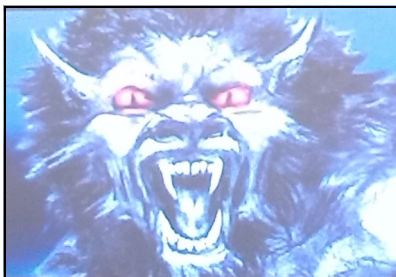


Ariel asks Anna, "Start the machine now. Did Atkin give you an A or F in CA 100?"



The dolphin girl says, "Hi, Darby!"

Who is this presenter in disguise?



"Do you want to fight with me, or should I tell Deva to give you an F!"

Photo Credit: Deva



MY PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY, by Lilly Jean Sos

(re-issued in dedication to CRE)

TOPIC = WALK THE TALK

Have you heard of the phrase, “Action speaks louder than words”? What about “talk the talk, walk the walk”? Both mean pretty much the same. My personal philosophy reinforces these ideas, but I re-state these words: “walk the talk”. When your walk matches your talk, that is “walk the talk”.



METAPHYSICS (Ontology)

- Anthropology
- Theology

Man is both an individual and a member of society. He therefore thinks about himself and communicates his thoughts with others. His communication is the talk. Sometimes he talks too much and makes promises, but he does not take action that matches his talk. Action that matches the talk is the walk.

The worst kind of communication is hypocrisy. That is when a man says one thing and does the opposite. Or, he does something wrong and blames others for his wrong. We sometimes call this kind of person as a bigot or Pharisee. We already know about Pharisees, because, in the New Testament of the Holy Bible, Jesus Christ did not at all like the words and actions of the Pharisees. Today, any good dictionary includes the definition of a Pharisee – look it up in the dictionary!

Do you know any hypocrite, bigot, or Pharisee in Chuuk? Sure, you do! Maybe you are yourself one of the hypocrites, bigots, or Pharisees in Chuuk – maybe.

EPISTEMOLOGY (Sources of Knowledge)

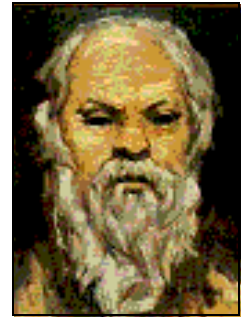
- Empiricism
- Logic and Reasoning
- Intuition
- Undisputed Authority

Now, let me describe two philosophers – the ancient Greek philosopher Socrates and the modern-day Brazilian philosopher Paulo Freire. Both have taught us how to practice “walk the talk”. First is Socrates. He was a teacher, and his lesson for students was *“to learn about the morality of the soul in man’s heart and to search for truth”*. In his discussion with students, Socrates was able to quickly figure out who was telling the truth – not by what they said, but by what they did. In effect, Socrates really believed that action spoke louder than words, and that talking the talk was nothing without walking the walk. Second is Freire. He was also a teacher, and he said something very famous, *“Human existence cannot be silent”*. What did he mean by this? The true Nature of Man lies not in his words, but in his

(continued on page 7)

MY PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY (continued from page 6)

action. Freire did not like how the Brazilian government mistreated the poor people of the Amazon River Valley. So, yes, he spoke out against the government, but he also led strikes against the government. In effect, Freire's action (leading the strikes) spoke louder than his words (hating what the government did to poor people). And, by the way, the Greek government told Socrates to shut his mouth and to stop teaching the youth. Socrates refused to obey the government, and so he was arrested and put into prison. The government told him – if he stopped teaching, he would be released from prison. Well, Socrates committed suicide in prison – his suicide was the action to show everyone that he would never stop teaching. Both Socrates and Freire really proved the practice of walking the talk.

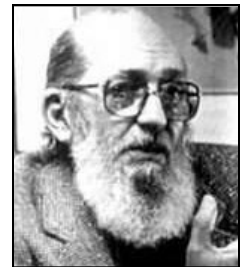


Socrates

AXIOLOGY

- Ethics
- Aesthetics

It may be easy to say “walk the talk”, but how does it work? I call it CFSC = Control + Faithfulness + Strength + Carefulness. CFSC begins with two assumptions. The first is “*Action speaks louder than words*”. At the same time, the second is “*It is easier said than done*”.



Freire

- (1) Control is a balance between two halves. The first half is to know what to say. The second half is to know how you will do what you say. In other words, control is in your mind – knowing what to say and how to implement your words.
- (2) Faithfulness is the trust in the balance. The two halves match, and you know it. However, you must have faith in yourself to make the balance work as one. This faith describes how much trust you have in yourself.
- (3) Strength is the courage and commitment in your mind and heart. You know now what must be done – what action you must take to match what you say.
- (4) Carefulness is the love that guides your footsteps. You know the consequences of your action. You know that your action is good/right, not bad/wrong. So, with care and carefulness, you take the first step in your walking the talk.

Now, walk the talk.

Value Systems

- (1) talk vs. walk
- (2) CFSC

I AM GOOD FOR YOU!

COCONUT

by Anna Suzuki

(1) My name is Coconut.



(2) I am the best in Chuuk.

Number One

(3) You can drink me.



(4) You can eat me.



(5) Change me into a mat.



(6) Change me into something else.



(continued on page 9)

COCONUT — (continued from page 8)

(7) Change me into a house.



(8) I am better than soft drink. Φ



Photo Credit:
Steve Richmond

CHUUKESSE LOCAL FOOD
WE IMAGINED BUYING
AT THE FOOD FAIR
OCTOBER 30, 2014



10x10 WORD SEARCH #1 by K.K. Kin and Marivic Preciado

N	O	I	T	R	O	P	O	R	P
M	Y	S	T	I	C	K	S	S	D
E	R	E	W	O	L	H	E	L	Y
R	Y	X	A	N	A	D	U	A	M
C	A	N	O	N	U	E	K	I	A
A	R	T	E	T	S	G	U	R	X
T	H	E	I	R	S	R	U	E	I
O	H	T	X	O	R	E	H	T	O
R	A	I	S	I	N	E	C	A	N
L	Y	T	I	S	N	E	M	M	I

There are 20 words, each five letters or more, in this word search. Find and circle all 20 words:

CANON
CHUUK
CLAUS
DEGREE
DYMATION
IMMENSITY
LATITUDE
LOWER
MATERIALS
MERCATOR
MYSTIC
OTHER
PROPORTION
RAISIN
RATION
RHEENAH
TETRA
THEIRS
TICKS
XANADU

CHUUK CAMPUS FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE

Chuuk Campus has a fund-raising committee, according to Dean Kind Kanto. He designated the following personnel to serve on the committee: Chairman Abraham Rayphand, Wilson Bisalen, Ben Bambo Jr., Caren Enlet, Antonieta Ezra, and Lucille Sain.

At our last All-Campus Meeting, November 5, Kind directed Abraham and his members to convene a committee meeting and to initiate actionable plans to raise funds for our campus, including the COM-FSM 50/50 Raffle. There are many campus improvement projects that cannot commence because we do not have available funds.

Come on, Fund-Raising Committee, we need your help as soon as possible! Identify, organize, and schedule fund-raising events. Φ

LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION

(Monday, December 8, 2014)

Last week Campus Dean Kind Kanto changed the Chuuk Campus' last day of instruction from Friday, December 5, to Monday, December 8 — for good reason.

The COMET was supposed to have been administered on campus on Friday, November 28, but the COMET test papers did not arrive from Palikir on time. So, Kind changed the test date to Monday, December 1, and declared December 1 as a “no-class” day for students. Since we lose one day of instruction this week, we need to make up the loss by adding one more day next week — Monday, December 8.

Lucky students — more time to review your lessons for final exams! Now, no more excuses for getting Fs, right? Right! Φ

10x10 WORD SEARCH #2 by Kind Kanto II and Gilbert Lippwe

P	S	Y	C	H	O	L	O	G	Y
O	E	T	P	A	D	A	E	L	S
S	G	R	N	I	A	T	S	A	P
I	O	A	C	V	C	E	N	S	E
T	I	I	M	E	S	N	E	S	L
I	S	N	N	M	P	T	T	E	I
V	M	N	O	I	A	T	N	R	P
E	O	T	Y	N	A	T	I	V	E
C	O	R	N	E	R	R	C	O	Y
R	O	I	V	A	H	E	B	H	N

There are 21 words, each five letters or more, in this word search. Find and circle all 21 words:

ADAPT
BEHAVIOR
BRAIN
CONNECT
CORNER
EGOISM
EPILEPSY
GAMMA
GLASSER
INNATE
INTENSE
LATENT
MATCH
MOTOR
NATIVE
PERCEPTION
POSITIVE
PSYCHOLOGY
SENSE
STAIN
TRAIN

SKETCH OF THE YEAR

A sketch, according to Encarta Dictionary Tools, is a “*picture done quickly and roughly, without concern for detail, made to capture the general mood of a scene or to help the artist work out an idea for a finished composition*”. Hmmm, okay. Look right — this is a sketch of an administrator on our campus.

Next, we need to understand the mood of the sketch subject. Well, he looks grossly exhausted, maybe disgusted by his day’s work. And, maybe, he attended a college in Oregon. Or, maybe, he has nothing to do with Oregon — maybe he stole the shirt from some Oregonian. It should be easy to conclude that the subject needs to relax and go fishing for tuna and mahimahi more often.

Finally, we need to know the names of both subject and artist. Who are they? Look below. Φ



Subject = Kind Kanto. Artist = David M. Nohar.

STUDENT POEMS

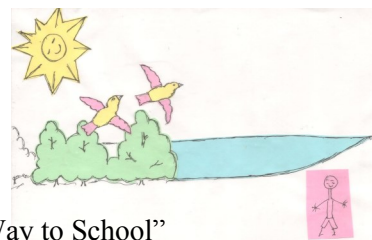
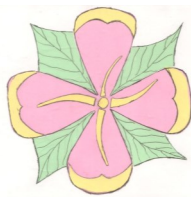
(EN 201, Introduction to Literature: Instructor Deva Senarathgoda)

“On My Way to School”

by Poriann Edmund

On my way to school I saw
A beautiful flower that reminded me
Of my Mother.

It had smooth, shiny colors
And a good aroma.
Its beauty — smooth, shiny petals —
Brought to my mind my mother —
Pleasant and kind.

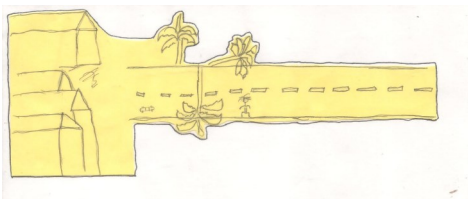


“On the Way to School”

by Kenser Romer

On the way to school
I see beautiful birds with different colors.
The trees are green and beautiful,
The sky is blue like the ocean
And the day is beautiful.

I see birds enjoy the voice of the wind
And the colorful leaves moving around.
The birds are happy and singing.
I hear the voice of the wind:
Birds, tree branches, and wind are singing,
The sun reflects the beauty of the day.



“On the Way to School”

by Jefferson Teruo

On the way to school —
Rain is heavy and cool:
Wet my clothes and books:
Yet, no turning back from school,
From the rain still heavy and cool,
Up I look.

I think that it will stop soon,
So, I rush and not look —
Down I fall — fool!
My clothes and books
Wetter now than ever befor.
Now and forever a speller poor
Too!



“I Do Not Understand”

by Lillian Simina

I just don't understand
Why people have such miserable lives,
Why people don't trust each other well,
Why people expect reward from each other,
Why people don't tell all the world
“I love you very much!”
Respect everyone, reach out.
But, most of all, I do not understand
Why people just don't think!

The Water for Life Project in Chuuk

by Ethan Allen, PREL's Director of STEM and Principal Investigator for *Water for Life*

Water for Life is a five-year-long project to: (1) improve community-based science education, using water as a meaningful theme; and (2) promote greater access to high-quality drinking water.

At sites in Chuuk and Yap States and in Palau and Marshall Islands, *Water for Life* has brought together Core Teams of community educators, environmentalists, and water resource personnel. These Core Teams identify local and regional water needs in both education and access to high-quality drinking water. The Core Team members then work with larger groups of local and regional volunteers to plan and carry out community service learning projects that provide greater access to potable water and help inform community members about water issues.

Staff from CPUC, Chuuk EPA, Chuuk Women's Council, COM-FSM Chuuk Campus, National Weather Service, Department of Health Services (Division of Environmental, Health and Sanitation), and other organizations collaborate on *Water for Life* projects and serve as *Water for Life* Core Team members.

Groundwater springs provide much of the drinking water for rural communities on the high islands of Chuuk Lagoon. Most of these springs issue into simple natural basins, and are subject



to contamination by runoff from adjacent ground, organic debris, and animal waste. The first major *Water for Life* project in Chuuk identified a spring on the island of Tol that is used by a community of about 100 residents, and provides the most reliable local source of high-quality drinking water.

The Chuuk Core Team surveyed the site, negotiated an agreement with the local landowner, and designed improvements. The *Water for Life* project purchased the needed supplies and materials to carry out the work. community leaders then assembled volunteers to build a catchment and storage system with concrete basin and cover. The volunteers also installed about 200 meters of piping off of the privately-owned land, to a public shoreline where a tap has been installed, enabling easier public access to this water source. It is anticipated that residents from other communities will now use this source also.

On Weno, a similar groundwater spring improvement project in the village of Mwan is now underway. *Water for Life* has contracted with Tos Nakayama to coordinate and organize these two groundwater spring improvement projects. Other *Water for Life* projects in Chuuk include a billboard in Chuukese urging residents to take care of and protect.



Projects at other *Water for Life* sites outside Chuuk include: (1) building, repairing, and/or improving rainwater catchment systems (e.g., installing first flush diverters); (2) engaging youth and community members in systematic monitoring of drinking water quality and raising awareness of water conservation; and (3) improving natural surface water catchment areas.

Water for Life is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation and is organized and led by staff from Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) and Island Research and Education Initiative (IREI).

More information about *Water for Life* work in Chuuk can be obtained by contacting Dorsalina William at the local PREL office (330-5449) located at AMJ building in Mwan. Visit the *Water for Life* website at <http://prelw4l.wordpress.com/>. ☎



CRE'S FOOD FAIR FLOP *(continued from page 2)*

initiate plans to sponsor a food fair in Fall 2014 and to report to the MC at its next meeting March 26 on planning progress." On March 26, Mike reported that the proposed Food Fair would be held during the Fall 2014. By August 27, specific plans were reported — that CRE, with the Chuuk State Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the International Office for Migration (IOM), would sell farmers' produce, attract up to 1,000 visitors, and sponsor an essay-writing contest and an art/poster contest. On September 24, Mike announced a postponement of the Food Fair from October 16 to October 30, scheduled to begin at 9:00 am.

By early October at least two Chuuk Campus personnel were invited to be judges in the contests. For instance, Dean Kind Kanto was selected to be a judge in a speech contest for the fair, and Alton Higashi a judge in an essay contest. In the weeks just before the fair date, both were not informed of any change in plan to judge the contest.

On Wednesday, October 29, the Management Council met once more. An agenda item was to receive from Mike or any CRE proxy a final report on the fair schedule. Mike did not show up at the meeting, and there was no knowledge that failure was impending.

On the target date, October 30, by 9:00 am, a few tents were being set up at Anderson Field, and no farmer was yet in sight. By 11:00 am, about 20-30 farmers were on site. Public attendance was embarrassingly poor. By 2:00 pm, all tents were taken down. At 2:30 pm, nothing stirred at Anderson Field, as though nothing had ever happened that day. There was, of course, no speech contest, no essay contest. The Food Fair turned out to be a flop. It did not go well!

What happened? For one thing, there was a **serious lack of coordinated planning**. Given at least three coordinating agencies (CRE, DOA, and IOM), their leaders failed to consolidate their efforts into a unitary plan. Lack of planning also means a **lack of communication** among the agencies — not enough cooperation, not enough collaboration, not enough attitude toward community. In other words, CRE's failure demonstrates an attitude that CRE itself does not actively promote the Chuuk Campus Community.

Also, the problem was a **lack of commitment or competency** to coordinate such an event. CRE, of course, has a large staff to do off-campus activities in community-based programs, but it is **weak in providing direct services to our students**. CRE's Lolita Ragus was the only staff who provided direct services a few years back, by teaching a science course with lab — AG 101. She unfortunately had to discontinue teaching due to a busy schedule of other CRE activities.

The worst problem, however, is CRE's **lack of priority** for the needs of Chuuk Campus students. According to Wikipedia, the U.S. government granted the FSM in 1972 the status of a land-grant college. Such granting purpose was to provide both off-campus support of community-based agriculture and technical education and on-campus instructional assistance. CRE's on-campus help is limited, according to Mike in the past two years, to letting students recharge their cellphones in CRE offices.

Now, let me summarize: (1) lack of planning (plus lack of communication), (2) lack of commitment or competency (plus weakness in providing direct services to our students), and (3) lack of priority (with almost no on-campus instructional assistance). I wonder if there is any other lack thereof. Maybe lack of care? So, when Roger Arnold states that Chuuk Campus has a lot of **"don't care" students**, I wonder, beginning now, if we have an abundance of **"don't care" personnel** — including CRE staff as well.

The failure of the Food Fair is just one example of a bigger context — the failure of all of us to care enough to fulfill our responsibilities on behalf of Chuuk Campus. Too much "don't care", not enough "care". Φ

MESEISET CONTRIBUTORS

(Volume 3, Number 21)

Administrative Editor: Rick Chiwi

Technical Editor: Alton Higashi

Faculty Support: Deva Senarathgoda

Staff Support: Edson Asito, Wilson Bisalen

Student Contributors: Poriann Edmund, Crystal Inchin, Kind Kanto II, K.Kin Kin, Gilbert Lippwe, Marivic Preciado, Kenser Romer, Lillian Simina, Lilly Jean Sos, Anna Suzuki, Jefferson Teruo