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## CCSSE: POSITIVE CHANGES IN STUDENT PERCEPTIONS

We must be doing something good on campus! The CCSSE (Community College Survey of Student Engagement) reveals an improvement in the way students perceive campus activities.


The survey was administered, near the end of the Fall Semester 2017, to about $17 \%$ of all students at Chuuk Campus. Students were asked to describe their own perceptions of five sets of best practices: (1) active and collaborative learning, (2) student effort, (3) academic challenge, (4) student-faculty interaction, and (5) support for learners. The students, in general, were engaged very positively in academic challenge and student-faculty interaction. For instance, many participated actively in the Academic Talent Showdown. In addition, students expressed a desire for more Campus Clean-Up and Beautification activities on Saturdays.

At the same time, student participation in tutoring services was low. This included tutoring, career counseling, and academic advising. Campus Dean Kind Kanto explained, at an Assessment Committee meeting on February 27, that only one math tutor was available, and that CCSSE findings pointed to the need to hire more tutors for our students at academic risk. Instructional Coordinator Mixon Jonas encouraged all instructors to improve academic advising to students. Kind agreed that students perceive their learning experiences more positively than before; however, there is still a need to improve our services to help students more.

According to CCSSE findings, we need to focus more on "active and collaborative learning" and "support for learners". This should be our priority as soon as possible. $\Theta$
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25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SCHEDULE
Plans for Chuuk Campus’ 25th Anniversary Celebration were announced by Roger Arnold at our Management Council meeting on Wednesday, February 28. Lots of activities are now scheduled:

## (1) SATURDAY, MARCH 24 FISHING DERBY

There will be a fishing derby immediately after our regular Campus Clean-Up and Beautification. The derby will require a registration of interested persons, and all fishing activities will take place at our seawall.

This event is being coordinated by Memorina Yesiki and her working group. She said that there will be rules to follow and prizes to be won by the best fisherpersons on campus. Join the fun and win a prize!

## (3) TUESDAY, MARCH 27 COOKING CONTEST SPORTS TOURNAMENT

Two big events are scheduled on Tuesday, March 27 - a cooking contest and a sports tournament. Again, prizes will be given to the winners!

The cooking contest is being coordinated by CRE's Lolita Ragus and her food experts. We hope that students are good cooks, because they will compete in cooking. For more information, get in touch with Lolita and find out the details. Are you getting hungry? Sounds like a delicious event.

The sports tournament will highlight two competitions - volleyball and ping pong. For the volleyball games, get into teams and play well to win the championship. For ping pong, get your paddles ready for table action, back and forth, back and forth. It is going to be exciting.

The sports tournament is chaired by Reagan Repen and his tough workers. He will make sure that the games are fair and square.

## (2) MONDAY, MARCH 26 TREASURE HUNT

A treasure hunt is scheduled sometime on March 26. Students will get into groups, receive a set of clues, and figure out step by step what they must find. Prizes will be given to the winning groups.

Chairman of the treasure hunt is Danie Mamangon. Think about that! He loves to do math games and puzzles. Now, think about the clues that Danie and his planning team will use. Think, students, think!
(4) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 CULTURAL PERFORMANCES, DISPLAYS, DEMONSTRATIONS FUN AND GAMES A FREE MOVIE A SPRING FORMAL
Four events will end our 25th anniversary celebrations:

- Cultural performances, displays, and demonstrations - to show off our Chuukese customs - coordinated by Genevy Samuel and her fellow traditionalists;
- Fun and games - to energize our minds and bodies - coordinated by Kersweet Eria and his studious folks;
- A movie entitled "Island Soldier" - to make you feel like a fighter - coordinated by Roger Arnold and Wilson Bisalen; and
- A spring formal - to select a Chuuk Campus king and a queen from one region coordinated by the SBA officers and council.
After the four days, students will take a break and enjoy their Easter break. Have a good time, one and all!

by Alton Higashi
Do you know how to "angangfengen"? In English, it means "working together" or "teamwork". It is easy to define or describe, but it is also hard to achieve at Chuuk Campus.

According to our COM-FSM Board of Regents (March 8, 2017), "teamwork" is one of our five core values, and it has 11 best practices (as shown in the box, right). WHEN WE DO ALL BEST PRACTICES (not just some practices), WE ACHIEVE TEAMWORK. In other words, teamwork is the goal, and there are 11 steps, or best practices, which we need to follow. Some people might say:

| teamwork $=$ talk the talk |
| :---: |
| the 11 best practices $=$ walk the walk |

I agree. However, I would add that, at Chuuk Campus, we think (wrongly) that
(01) Actively build working and learning relationships.
(02) Actively listen.
(03) Appreciate your colleagues.
(04) Be positive and encouraging.
(05) Engage and contribute wholly to all team activities.
(06) Offer your assistance and guidance when necessary.
(07) Pursue an understanding of diverse points of view and ideas.
(08) Recognize the needs of others.
(09) Respect yourself and others.
(10) Respond respectfully when others disagree with your views.
(11) Share and use resources responsibly. we have lots of teamwork among everyone. I disagree. What we do is to talk big about teamwork, but we do very little of walking the 11 steps. "Angangfengen" is a real-life way of thinking and doing in the traditional Chuukese family, clan, or community. It is a rarity in a non-traditional, non-Chuukese setting, and Chuuk Campus is a nontraditional and non-Chuukese group - UNLESS WE THINK OF OURSELVES AS A FAMILY OR COMMUNITY. That is the meaning of $\mathrm{CCC}=$ Chuuk Campus Community. For some of us, CCC is a reality, but many others among ourselves CCC is a fantasy.

Look again at the 11 best practices - 11 steps toward "angangfengen". Several steps require a mindset of "(individual) growth and (socio-cultural) development", "pro-active attitude and behavior", and "communications networking". Too many of us think "territorial". In other words, we consider our realm of duties and responsibilities to be restricted to our own work (territory), not to be inclusive of what all of us do for the COMMUNITY. Now, think of the 4Cs:

$$
\text { cooperation } \rightarrow \text { collaboration } \rightarrow \text { collegiality } \rightarrow \text { community }=\text { communication }
$$

True, "community" is a CCC goal of "angangfengen", and the result of "angangfengen" is our ability to communicate among ourselves. Territory at Chuuk Campus is the enemy of our Chuuk Campus Community.

So, how do we achieve "teamwork"? First, think education. Second, think culture. Education assumes "fengen" - together. The culture of education (at Chuuk Campus) assumes learn-
ing to "fengen". In other words,
we need to learn how to "fengeni ne
angang". Think of a new common
purpose: SIPWE KAN FENGENI NE
best practices of teamwork, and we will all move up-
ward at CCC. $\Theta$


10x10 WORD SEARCH by Jsalyn Mitasi (Psychology 101)

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There are 19 words, each 6 letters or more, in this word search. Find and circle all 19 words:

CHANGE
COLORS
CONTEXT
CONTROL
GATORS
HEALTHY
HISTORY
MYELIN
NEURON
OBSERVE
ORGANIC
PLEASE
SCIENCE
SENSORY
SHEATH
SLALOM
SOCIOLOGY
SYNAPSE
THEORY

## 

$\begin{array}{lll}\text { * SCRAMBLED WORDS IN MATH } & & \text { SERIES IN ENGLISH }\end{array}$

## FOUNDATIONS OF EXCELLENCE (FoE): Philosophy of the Instructional Department, Chuuk Campus

[NOTE: The Foundations of Excellence has a working philosophy of Chuuk Campus’ Instructional Department. It was written locally and approved by our faculty last month.]

We in the Instructional Department pledge to engage actively in fulfilling student needs at Chuuk Campus. Each student is both an individual learner and also a citizen in Chuuk. Instructors therefore commit professional time and effort in facilitating and guiding each student toward his or her own academic success in a certificate or degree program. This student success includes knowledge, skills, and attitudes specified in course outlines, and we are responsible for helping the student achieve cognitive and affective growth and development embedded in program goals.

We abide by COM-FSM's five core values - excellence, learner-centeredness, commitment, professionalism, and teamwork - and their best practices. We further endorse COMFSM's strategic direction \#1, as applied to our State of Chuuk and the Chuuk Campus: To innovate academic quality to ensure student success. We therefore infuse our efforts in practicing the core values and in following the strategic direction by applying key educational philosophies, primarily through cognitive development, civic responsibility, and cultural preservation.

Central to our efforts is, of course, the student. In the context of his or her learning environment is choice in what and how to study. We develop, make available, and deliver educational settings that enrich that environment, but greater emphasis on the student's freedom of choice is his or her interest in active engagement and learning. We therefore strive to instill in the student a passion for knowledge and a lifelong love of learning.

The student is not graded by arbitrary metrics, but rather according to the instructional leaders' daily assignments for engagement with and mastery of the material. We have an Assessment Plan 2017, as revised, and use assessment strategies and instruments, both cam-pus-wide and classroom-specific. Campus-wide strategies and instruments include (1) the Administration Accountability Checklist; (2) Self-Assessment of Involvement in Core Values and Best Practices; and (3) Program-Level Assessment and Program Review. Classroomspecific strategies and instruments include (4) Course-Level Assessment, CSLOs, and SSLOs. We also endorse the notion that each and every student contributes to our instructional growth and development and play a key role in assessment through (5) CCSSE Survey and (6) COMFSM's Teacher Evaluation Checklist. We therefore intend to implement our own Chuuk Campus Assessment Plan 2017.

We obviously set high standards for ourselves in curriculum, instruction, and assessment. For one thing, our professionalism directs us to be the best in our academic disciplines and in continuous improvement as instructors through the use of best practices. We accept the fact that, at minimum, we are qualified to perform as instructors; however, we do not remain at that entry level of qualification and competence. We seek self-improvement through professional faculty development and through our own Chuuk Campus communications networking of our 4Cs system: cooperation, collaboration, collegiality, and community. After all, we believe that the students are our future, and that we must teach them well and let them lead the way.

## ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

CCSSE defines＂active and collaborative learning＂in seven ways．Students should：（1）ask ques－ tions in class or contribute to class discussions；（2）make a class presentation；（3）work with other stu－ dents on projects during class；（4）work with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments； （5）tutor or teach other students；（6）participate in a community－based project as a part of a regular course；and（7）discuss ideas from assigned readings or classes with others outside（i．e．，other students， family members，co－workers，etc．）．Do you？

About $68 \%$ of our students say that they are engaged in＂active and collaborative learning＂．Good． However， $32 \%$ are not so engaged．That is about one－third of our students not learning actively and collaboratively．Bad．Well，there may be three basic reasons：
－Some students are＂don＇t care＂students．Are you one of them？Caring is an enemy of selfishness， and some students are super－selfish．
－Some students talk big about＂angangfengen＂，but they do not know how to＂fengeni ne angang＂．To－ getherness is a dying art in Chuukese culture．
－Some students do not want to help others．They work well alone，and they do not want to help others to succeed．Sharing is antithetical to self－aggrandizement．
Too many students enjoy blaming their instructors，＂We＇re not learning because our instructors are not teaching us well．＂There may be some truth in this criticism．However，some students should also

## Scrambled Words in Math：Answers <br> （from page 4）

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| Series in English：Answers <br> （from page 4） |
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## Series in English：Answers （from page 4）


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 （c） blame themselves．They sit in class，say nothing， fail to take notes．They look dead－not physi－ cally dead，but mentally dead．They use Face－ book，plagiarize，go to class late．They do not have time to study and learn．In fact，they think that studying is an obstacle to fooling around．

They think that student－faculty interaction is the only activity on campus．They forget that student－ student interaction is just as important in achiev－ ing academic success．
＂Don＇t care＂students — big talkers－selfish and self－promoting students－they are losers in life．Some day－when the students leave Chuuk Campus and start working－they will fail to help themselves to improve，they will fail to help their own parents，and they will fail to help Chuuk and the FSM．$\Theta$


