



Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

# COM-FSM SHARKS

The Official Newsletter of the College of Micronesia-FSM



Uniquely  
Micronesian

Volume 3, Issue 2

Free Copy

August 2010

## Reminders

### CHUUK

- September 9— Early Warning Due from Instructors
- Sept. 29-30 Mid-term.

### KOSRAE

- September 1— Mid-Year Graduation Applications Deadline
- September 8— Holiday - Kosrae Liberation Day
- September 9—Early Warning Reports Due from Instructors
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 Mid-term

### POHNPEI and NATIONAL

- September 1—Mid-Year Graduation Applications Deadline
- September 9—Early Warning Reports Due from Instructors
- September 10—Holiday - Pohnpei Liberation Day (observed)
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1—Mid-term
- Sept. 22-24—President's Retreat

### YAP

- September 9—Early Warning Reports Due from Instructors
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 Mid-term

### FSM-FMI Campus

- September 3 - Monthly Report Due
- September 8 - Early Warning Deficiency Reports Due from Instructors
- September 13 - Tutoring Start

## Registration Numbers Rolling In and Counting

As of Friday, August 20, a total of 2,712 students registered at all COM-FSM campuses with a shortage of 48 to reach the 2,760 projection. The figures represent the number of students who registered. According to information from the college's admissions and institutional research and planning offices, the numbers are subject to change until registration and add and drop of courses are completed. The fall registration officially kicked off during the week of August 9—13. At the National Campus alone, new, returning and adult students patiently waited in lines to register and enroll. The first day of registration experienced a slight delay due to network problems which was quickly resolved by the College's IT team. According to information from the institutional research and planning office, a projection

of 2,626.5 students were expected to be registered as fulltime students. As of August 20, the fulltime equivalent count stands at 2,479.7, that is 146.8 fulltime students short. The average credits per student projection is at 11.4 credits. The actual credit per student is currently at 11 credits. The total credits projection for this semester is 31,517.5 with an actual credit count of 29,757. Pohnpei Campus is the only campus that exceeded its target to enroll 669.8 fulltime students. The campus exceeded its target by nine students. More information about the final enrollment figures from all campus will be made available at the end of the add and drop grace period.

## Ramsie Joab Studying in Hawaii Thanks to Dr Pretrick Scholarship

In memory of the late Dr Eliuel Pretrick, a scholarship program was named after him to continue his passion for sports and to promote sports for the citizens of the FSM. The first ever Dr Eliuel Pretrick Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Ramsie Joab of COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus. The scholarship will fund Ramsie's education at the University of Hawaii at Hilo as he attempts a bachelor's degree in Sports Science.

The scholarship is worth \$10,000 a year with the prospect of the recipient completing his degree in two years. The late Dr Pretrick's sons - Moses, Rony, and Elden Pretrick presented the scholarship to Ramsie. Ramsie works at COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus as a student



Ramsie Joab (far left) is currently at the University of Hawaii at Hilo Campus to earn a bachelor's degree in sports science.

services staff with numerous accomplishments in the area of sports. According to Ramsie, he is honored to be the "recipient of the prestigious scholarship" award. He further said that "at first sports was just a hobby, then it became

a passion. Why not make a career out of it?" The objective of the Dr Pretrick scholarship program is to select qualified FSM citizens and help them financially in pursuing a bachelor's degree in sports.

## College of Micronesia-FSM Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund was created for the purpose of generating income for the support of the future needs of the College.

To support us, contact Spensin James, President of the College of Micronesia-FSM.

## You can make a difference!

### Contribute to the Endowment Fund

P.O. Box 159, Kolonia Pohnpei, FM 96941  
Phone: (691) 320-2480  
Fax: (691) 320-2740

email: national@comfsm.fm  
website: www.comfsm.fm

## Editor's Notes

We would like to thank our readers for their positive responses to volume 3 issue 1 of *COM-FSM Sharks Newsletter* since the publication started and went out of print in 2004. We would like very much to also thank the only person who responded to our call for stories. A special thank you goes out to Cirilo Recana of Pohnpei Campus for contributing a story to this issue. Cirilo is also the editor for the Pohnpei Campus newsletter and is also a member on the Publications Committee representing Pohnpei Campus. We continue to encourage all campuses, office and division heads to consider contributing to future editions of this newsletter.

Contact the *COM-FSM Sharks Newsletter* at P.O. Box 159, Pohnpei, FM 96941; Phone: (691) 320-2480; Fax: (691) 320-2479; Email: [newsletter@comfsm.fm](mailto:newsletter@comfsm.fm)

## Campus-wide Briefs

### Maintenance Head Monitors Chuuk and Yap Campuses Projects

Director of Maintenance and Security, Francisco Mendiola, accompanied the FSM PMU staff to Chuuk and Yap to monitor progress of the college's ongoing projects at the campuses. Part of his travel plans to Yap was to work with FSM-FMI to isolate the electrical power used by the staff from the campus' power meters. Director Mendiola was to also work with vendors in Guam to expedite orders that pertain to the renovations of college facilities. He was also to re-establish connection with the Locksmith company in Guam to purchase locking systems for the College.

### Electronics Course at Pohnpei Campus a Huge Hit for Students

Of the many courses offered at Pohnpei Campus during summer 2010, VEE125 Electronics Circuits is one of the most popular among students, according to information from the Trades and Technology division at Pohnpei Campus. Students who took the course were students who are currently pursuing their certificate/degree requirements in Electronics or Telecommunications program. With assistance of JICA senior volunteer, Mr Satoshi Koyahata, several hands-on student projects were introduced and incorporated in the course during the summer.



Electronics Circuits Students at Pohnpei Campus

### New Sidewalk Connecting A+ Center and Administration Building Completes at National Campus

Construction of the sidewalk connecting the A+ Building to the Administration Building was completed by the first week of August. The project was constructed by the maintenance staff at the National Campus. This project will enable the disabled with counseling services needs to have access to the A+ building.

### Nine Students Graduate from Upward Bound program at Yap Campus

Upward Bound completed their summer institute on July 30th with a banquet catered by Yap Campus staff to raise funds for the college's endowment fund. Nine seniors graduated from UB program and began their college education during the summer session on campus. All nine students have decided to continue

their college education on Yap Campus before transferring to National Campus or to other colleges.

### Access Road Reaches Chuuk Campus Permanent Site

The construction of the access road in Nantaku has reached the College's permanent site in Chuuk. Work is ongoing to install water drainages and culverts.

### New Members of Faculty/Staff Senate at National Campus Finally Named

The president of the Faculty and Staff Senate for National Campus Faustino Yarofaisug officially released the names of the new executive officers. They include Mr Martin Mingi as vice president, Ms Ruthy Lebehn as treasurer, Professor Mariana Ben Dereas as secretary, Professor Susan Moses as faculty representative, and Mr Salpasr Tilfas as staff representative.

### Kosrae Campus Graduates 21 Students

Kosrae Campus held its annual commencement last July 22, 2010. Twenty-one students marched during the Kosrae Campus commencement exercises. Over 150 people reported to have attended including some state senators, director Paul Hadik who also represented the governor, principals, and managers of the corporate sectors, parents, students, and friends of the college.

### COM-FSM Congratulates Staff and Students Participants in the recent Micronesian Games

In the recently concluded 7th Micronesian games held in Palau, staff and students of COM-FSM participated in the biggest sporting event in Micronesia. The College's very own Debra Daniel, a 2nd year HCOP student from National Campus took home 13 medals at the swimming events. The following are students and staff from the College who won medals: Debra Daniel (Swimming) - 7 Gold Medals, 6 Silver Medals.

Mike Ioanis (Wrestling) - Bronze Medalist  
LA Peter (Wrestling) - Bronze Medalist  
Maridell Ferdinand (Wrestling) - Bronze Medalist  
The 7th Micronesian Games opening ceremony was held on Sunday August 1, 2010, until August 4, 2010. More than 1,000 participants from the ten island nations participated in the Micronesian Games.

### Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Visits National Campus

The Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta and his entourage was received by President James when they visited National Campus last July 2010. The visitors toured the national Campus and according to President James, the visitors were

impressed with the way the college maintains its buildings. Late in July, the Assistant Secretary also visited the Agriculture and Natural Science division at National Campus and discussed how can the US assist COM-FSM in developing its Agricultural programs specifically in the fertilizer processing or pig compose. They also talked about ways to grow crops while promoting inexpensive nutritious meals for a better health.



Assistant Sec. Tony Babauta, Kiyoshi Phillip, US Ambassador Prahar and Director Nik Pula of Department of Interior

### UB Banquet Awards at Kosrae Campus

The Annual Kosrae UB Awards Banquet was held last July 30, 2010 at the Kosrae State Gymnasium. A total of 84 students participated in the ceremony. They include 11 exchange students from TSP Pohnpei and 4 students from UB Marshall Islands. Twenty-one UB students graduated from the program. Special recognition awards were also given to UB students who attended summer programs in the US (JSA at Stanford University, Leeward Community College, and University of Hawaii) and UB Marshall Islands. Other awards that were given during the Banquet night in the areas of computer literacy, English, Science and Math.

## More Information Online



[www.comfsm.fm](http://www.comfsm.fm)



<http://com-fsm.blogspot.com/>



College of Micronesia-FSM  
(Official)

## News & Information

### President Provides Q & A for College's Accreditation Status

Q: Is COM-FSM still accredited?

A: Yes. The decision by the Commission to place COM-FSM on warning status does not change the college's accreditation status. The College of Micronesia-FSM is still an accredited institution and is still committed to offering high quality educational programs and student services.

Q: What is accreditation?

A: Accreditation is a status given to an educational institution that has been found to meet and or exceed certain standards of educational quality. Institutions voluntarily seek accreditation, and it is conferred by non-governmental bodies. The college is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), which is part of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The fundamental purposes of accreditation are to assure the quality of the institution and to encourage institutional improvement.

Q: Why does accreditation matter or is important?

A: Accreditation matters or is important

because it certifies to the public that the institution meets or exceeds specific standards of quality; facilitates institutional eligibility to participate in Title IV student financial aid programs; and provides a process of periodic self and peer review. These activities are a positive force in improving institutional effectiveness. Many institutions rely in part on regional accreditation in their decisions to recognize transfer credit. Also of note, over 68% of the COM-FSM operational budgets are from the federal grants and programs.

Q: What does warning status mean?

A: Warning is issued when the Accrediting Commission finds that an institution has not fully met the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Standards of Accreditation, or policies. Reaffirmation of accreditation is withheld until the conditions which warranted the warning are resolved.

Further clarifications and answers to questions regarding COM-FSM's accreditation are available by contacting the college at [national@comfsm.fm](mailto:national@comfsm.fm)

Continue in Volume 3 Issue 3

### COM-FSM, FSMTC, PDOE and PUC to Offer Apprenticeship Program

Contributed by :  
Cirilo Recana  
(Pohnpei Campus)

The College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM), the Pohnpei Utilities Corporation (PUC), Pohnpei Department of Education (PDOE) and the FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) partnered to offer an apprenticeship training program. According to the college, this is a recent development in the promotion of technology and career.

Currently, four students were identified and selected by the PDOE from among different public high school students as participants/apprentices of the new program. According to the Pohnpei Campus Technology and Trades division, these four students will be enrolled in their program as part-time students taking one or two courses starting fall semester 2010. At the same time, the four apprentices will be working to acquire on-the-job experiences with PUC, PSDOE and FSMTC. In addition, another four Technology & Trade graduates were selected to join the program. The graduates have completed their classroom requirements and will only be required to complete the on-the-job-training requirements. While the process will take place, the final job placement for the apprentices will also take place.

The long term plan is to ensure that all career and technology programs offered by COM-FSM Pohnpei Campus will become part of this initiative as it progresses. According to the Technology and Trades division at Pohnpei Campus, this program fulfills their mandate to create a high quality workforce through educational excellence and student success in collaboration with its diverse communities.

This piloted partnership was initiated through the joint efforts of Pohnpei Campus Technology and Trade division chair Mr Gardner Edgar, the Director for Vocational Community and Continuing Education for COM-FSM Mr Grilly Jack and Pohnpei DOE Workforce Development and Skills Training Coordinator Mr Kadalino Damarlane.

## Recognition Wall

Thank you for contributing to our Endowment Fund!

1998  
to  
2009

**Platinum Elite**  
\$100,000 & over

- **FSM Telecommunications Corporation** 
- **U.S Department of Education Title III Endowment Challenge Grant**

1998  
to  
2009

**Platinum**  
\$50,000 - \$99,999

- **Rotary International District No. 2750**

## CCAA

CCM/COM-FSM Alumni Association

**How about we get to know each other better?**

**Please fill out our survey on SurveyMonkey**



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G7RC596>

**CCM/COM-FSM Alumni Association (CCAA)**  
P.O. Box 159  
Pohnpei FM 96941  
Email: [jsaimon@comfsm.fm](mailto:jsaimon@comfsm.fm)

## Our Mission

Historically diverse, uniquely Micronesian and globally connected, the College of Micronesia-FSM is a continuously improving and student centered institute of higher education. The college is committed to assisting in the development of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic, career and technical educational opportunities for student learning.

## Human Resources

### New Instructors to begin fall 2010

Emily Pedneau - Public Health, National Campus  
 Rohaizad Suaidi, Assistant Professor - English, National Campus  
 Raymond Hoffman, Instructor-ESL, Yap Campus  
 Robert Jonas, Instructor-ESL, transferred from Pohnpei Camp to Kosrae Campus

### New Hires that started during August

Raleigh Welly, promoted to Grant Writer, IRPO-National Campus  
 Jason Reiong, Youth Extension Agent, CRE-Chuuk Campus  
 Susyann Saimon, Clerk IV, UB-Chuuk Campus

### Vacancy Announcements

For more information visit [www.comfsm.fm/jobs/](http://www.comfsm.fm/jobs/)

#### Pohnpei Campus


Instructor - English[2]


#### National Campus


Instructor - English[3]  
 Instructor—Music  
 Instructor—Chemistry  
 Health Assistant


**Administrative Services**


The Who's Who at the College of Micronesia-FSM


  
**Joe Habuchmai**  
 VP for Administrative Services


  
**Danny Dumantay**  
 Comptroller


  
**Francisco Mendiola**  
 Maintenance and Security Director


  
**Gordon Segal**  
 Information Technology Director


  
**Jimmy Hicks**  
 Institutional Research and Planning Director


  
**Joe Saimon**  
 Development & Community Relations Director


  
**Kalwin Kephass**  
 Kosrae Campus Director

  
**Lourdes Roboman**  
 Yap Campus Director

  
**Joakim Peter**  
 Chuuk Campus Director

  
**Matthias Ewarmal**  
 FSM-FMI Campus Director

  
**Penny Weilbacher**  
 Pohnpei Campus Director

  
**Rencelly Nelson**  
 Human Resources Director

## Open Seasons for Programs

**Group Life Insurance Plan - Enrolling or making changes in your Group Life Insurance Plan is still open. For more Inquiries contact the Human Resources Department.**

Cut along dotted line and mail it in an envelope along with donations to the College of Micronesia-FSM

## Contribute TODAY to the Endowment Fund

Alumni and community support for the College of Micronesia-FSM and its initiatives is imperative to its success and financial sustainability. This support enables the college to build its endowment for the future needs of the college, to support new programs, technologies, infrastructure development and maintenance faculty/staff development and scholarships.

**YES!** I want to contribute to the College financially.

\$ _____ COM-FSM Endowment Fund
\$ _____ Student Scholarship
<input type="checkbox"/> Timothy Jerry <input type="checkbox"/> Gene Ashby <input type="checkbox"/> COM-FSM Endowment Scholarship <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
\$ _____ Other: _____

No. I don't want to contribute now.

**Send Slip and Donations to:** COM-FSM Endowment Fund  
 Attention: Development and Community Relations  
 P.O. Box 159, Pohnpei FM 96941

<b>ARE YOU A CCM OR COM-FSM ALUMNI?</b>			<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>FIRST NAME:</b>		<b>LAST NAME:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> MR. <input type="checkbox"/> MS.
<b>EMPLOYER:</b>		<b>TITLE/ POSITION:</b>		
<b>YOUR ADDRESS:</b>				
<b>CITY:</b>		<b>STATE:</b>	<b>ZIP:</b>	
<b>PHONE: (    )</b>		<b>FAX: (    )</b>		
<b>EMAIL:</b>				
Your email is used to communicate with you about the College of Micronesia-FSM.				