



COM-FSM SHARKS

The Official Newsletter of the College of Micronesia-FSM



Volume 3, Issue 3

Free Copy

September 2010

Reminders

CHUUK

- OCTOBER 1: HOLIDAY - CHUUK CONSTITUTION DAY
- OCTOBER 6: MID-TERM DEFICIENCY NOTICES DUE
- OCTOBER 20: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH "W"
- OCTOBER 25: HOLIDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY

KOSRAE

- SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1: MID-TERM
- OCTOBER 6: MID-TERM DEFICIENCY NOTICES DUE
- OCTOBER 20: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH "W"
- OCTOBER 25: HOLIDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY

POHNPEI AND NATIONAL

- SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1: MID-TERM
- OCTOBER 6: MID-TERM DEFICIENCY NOTICES DUE
- OCTOBER 20: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH "W"
- OCTOBER 25: HOLIDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY

YAP

- SEPT. 30 - OCT. 1: MID-TERM
- OCTOBER 6: MID-TERM DEFICIENCY NOTICES DUE
- OCTOBER 20: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH "W"
- OCTOBER 25: HOLIDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY

FSM-FMI

- OCTOBER 4-5: MID-TERM EVALUATIONS
- OCTOBER 6: MID-TERM DEFICIENCY NOTICES DUE
- OCTOBER 8: MONTHLY REPORT DUE
- OCTOBER 24: HOLIDAY - UNITED NATIONS DAY

COM-FSM Board issues statements on job audit

After weeks of anticipation by the College community, the COM-FSM Board of Regents finally issued four statements regarding the Job Audit/ Compensation & Benefit study that was conducted by Alan Searle of Alan Searle & Associates Limited.

The board, however, delayed any actions on the proposed streamlining recommendations as presented by the Streamlining Committee, which was chaired by COM-FSM Vice President Ringlen Ringlen of student services.

The following are the statements that Board Chair, Mr Graceful Enlet, issued on behalf of the Board:

- The proposed compensation schedule was adopted with conversion for faculty to the 20th

market percentile and the rest of the non faculty to the 10th market percentile effective January 11, 2011;

- The Board will carefully study the recommendations regarding the streamlining of the College until December 2010;
- The Board has agreed on retaining the names "state campuses" instead of "centers"; and
- The board tasked the president of the College to establish an ad hoc committee to review systematically all contractual services in all areas of the College based on certain criteria.

More information about the job audit and the streamlining recommendation are available online and can be downloaded at www.comfsm.fm.

EducationUSA center opens at COM-FSM National Campus

The College and the U.S. Embassy opened a new EducationUSA at the College's National Campus. The center is located at the A+ Center, a building at the National Campus where counseling and tutoring services are provided to students.

According to U.S. Ambassador Peter Prahar, the center will help "to actively promote U.S. higher education around the world by offering accurate, unbiased, comprehensive, objective and timely information about educational institutions in the United States and guidance to qualified individuals on how best to access those opportunities." In his remarks, President James encouraged the students to take advantage of the new service. He further encouraged them to further their education abroad then return to the FSM as to lead a young nation to a better



From Left: President James, VP Thoulag, Ambassador Prahar, VP Ringlen, COM-FSM students and CCA High school Students at the center.

future. Morehna Rettin-Santos is the EducationUSA advisor. According to Morehna, EducationUSA will offer free advising to interested students such as information about financial aides, provide directions for students on U.S. college preparation and steps on how to attain a college

education in the U.S. EducationUSA will be available throughout the semester and will be open to the general public. Books about college education in the U.S. along with information about different colleges and universities all over the United States are available at the center.

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 the Development and Community Relations Office

You can make a difference!

CONTACT US TODAY

P.O. Box 159, KOLONIA POHNPEI, FM 96941

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Editor's Notes

The month of September was very busy for the Development and Communications Relations (DCR) office. We were busy running between getting prepared for and taking part in both the President's Retreat and the COM-FSM Board of Regents meeting during the last two weeks of September. I spent the two weeks focusing on these two continuous improvement activities. The few story contributions I used to enjoy from offices and campuses gradually came to a halt. I was also informed by the College president that he will be discontinue his regular President's Updates and will focus on contributing to this publication. This is good news indeed. With the new fiscal year, the DCR, like most offices at the College, can barely pay for any major services except for salaries. Nevertheless, we are determined to continuously update you on the current affairs of our very own College of Micronesia-FSM. This current edition is done using Adobe InDesign. Please bear with us as we continue to learn to use this particular layout program.

Contact the COM-FSM Shark newsletter at P.O. Box 159, Pohnpei, FM 96941; Phone: (691) 320-2480; Fax: (691) 320-2479;

Email: newsletter@comfsm.fm

Campus-wide Briefs

US Coast Guard personnel lectures on boating safety at COM-FSM

Two United States Coast Guard lieutenants from Guam gave a presentation about boating safety at the National Campus. Lieutenants Greg Maye and Estevan Olivera were at the National Campus to give boating safety lectures to students, faculty, and staff. The presentation covered areas like seamanship, proper boating equipments, distress signaling equipments, search and rescue (SAR) fundamentals and float plan. They also talked about the Search and Rescue Optimal Planning System (SAROPS), a comprehensive search and rescue planning system used by the United States Coast Guard in planning and execution of almost all search and rescue cases in and around the United States and the Pacific. The presenters encouraged the audience to develop float plans, or a list left with someone on land which includes important details about the boat, trip, leaving and returning times, persons aboard and any other important information.

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society welcomes new members

The 9th induction ceremony for the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society took place at the National Campus last September 25, 2010. Twenty-six COM-FSM students were inducted as members of the prestigious honor society and nine out of the new members were named new officers. In her speech as guest speaker, Attorney Marstella Jack encouraged the students to study hard and become leaders. Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society serves to

recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership and service programming. Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American Higher Education with 1.3 million members and 1,200 chapters located in the 50 states. To be eligible for membership, a student must complete a minimum of 12 hours of associate degree course work and generally earn and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

STAP awards scholarship to COM-FSM students

The STAP Filipino organization based in Pohnpei gave scholarship awards to seven COM-FSM students. The ceremony took place on August 24, 2010. STAP stands for Samahang Tagalog ATBP at Pohnpei. From among 11 scholarship applicants, seven were chosen to receive the scholarship awards amounting to \$500 each. The seven students were Laura Fujimoto, Venessa James, Anthony Lukogfunay, William Piki, Fitzgerald Weilbacher, Mylee Mario and Lashauna Wilson. The organization has been giving away scholarships to COM-FSM students for the past 10 years which started on September 2000

with the aim to help COM-FSM students finance their college education.

Nurse reports

mumps outbreak at National Campus

The College nurse at the National Campus reported that 14 National Campus students contracted the mumps virus by the beginning of September. Seven out of these reported cases were dorm students. Infected students were isolated in separate rooms to avoid the further spread of the virus. The campus nurse distributed posters and fliers around campus to inform the College community on how to prevent the spread of the virus.

College holds first preventive maintenance workshop

Maintenance supervisors and staff from all six COM-FSM campuses met at the FSM-China Friendship Sports Center at the National Campus for their first preventive maintenance workshop from September 13 – 17. The main purpose of the workshop was to train the maintenance supervisors and staff on all aspects of their work.

Generator provides back-up power at National Campus

A fully automatic 150 Kilowatt power generator was installed at the National Campus last September to provide back-up power for the College's server. Since the server is housed in the Administration building, all offices there are also benefiting from the power supply. According to Francisco Mendiola, the director of maintenance and security, there are proposals to extend the back-up power to the Learning Resources and the old faculty buildings.

Rotary Club of Pohnpei awards scholarship to COM-FSM students

Four COM-FSM students were chosen to be the recipients of the Rotary Club of Pohnpei Scholarship Program amounting to \$500 each. The recipients of the awards were William Piki, Liberal Arts; Vanessa James, Third Year Certificate in Accounting; Tinson Daniel, Air Conditioning

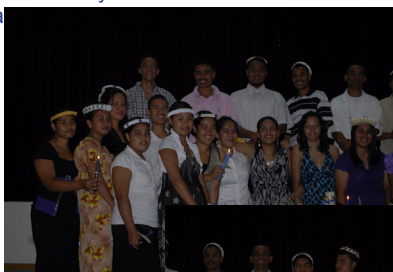
and Refrigeration Technology; and Yolanda Joab, Liberal Arts. The awardees were invited to the Rotary Club regular lunch meeting where they were introduced and shared their educational goals with club officials and members. The Rotary Club hosts an annual "Rotary Quiz Night" where they raise funds for the scholarship. November 13, 2010, is the date for the next quiz night and everyone is encouraged to participate.

PICS students visit Agriculture Division at National Campus

PICS High School Agriculture students visited the agriculture division at the National Campus last September to learn more about the agriculture courses offered at the College. The students were welcomed by the division chair, Kiyoshi Phillip and Director for Academic Programs Karen Simion. Professor Phillip shared information about the agriculture program with the visitors. He encouraged them to enter the program for a chance to be considered for scholarship opportunities for bachelor's level degrees at the University of Guam.

Roger Arnold to be made chair of CTOP

The Career Training Opportunity Program (CTOP) at Chuuk Campus is progressing with the official appointment of Mr Roger Arnold as the division chair for this new division. CTOP combines the vocational and the business divisions under one division in order to continue the College's efforts to provide more career oriented services and programs.



Society members after induction ceremony

More Information Online



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: What will happen next?

(Cont. from Vol 3 Iss 2)

A: The college must correct the deficiencies noted and submit a follow up report demonstrating the steps taken to address the concerns of the Commission by March 15, 2011. Commission representatives will visit the college following submission of the follow-up report. During their June 2011 meeting, the Commission will review the follow up report and the report from the visiting team and deliberate on the college's status.

Q: What is COM-FSM doing to overcome the warning status?

A: Immediately following the exit meeting with Commission's evaluation team in March 2010 during which the chairperson reported on the team's observations, the President began working with his management team to strategize on how to address the concerns noted. An action plan was developed which listed the tasks to be done, and assignments and timeline for completion for each task. Following the Commission's decision and recommendations and release of the evaluation report, the action plans has been expanded. A general assembly has been planned to take place after faculty, staff and students return from their summer break to inform the college community about the work ahead and encourage all to participate in the process. President James will be working with his cabinet and the college community to draft the follow-up report during middle of Fall Semester 2010 and to have the final draft of the follow-up report ready for final comments from college community and stakeholders by end of January 2011.

The College of Micronesia-FSM community has overcome warning status before and is confident that COM-FSM's accreditation will be reaffirmed.

Q: Can I still register for classes?

A: Yes. The COM-FSM is still committed in providing quality programs and services for its students and clients. Students at all our campuses have completed their early registration for Fall Semester 2010 courses.

Q: Are my courses from COM-FSM transferable?

A: Yes. Because our accreditation status continues, credits from COM-FSM to other higher institutions of learning will continue to transfer based on the receiving institution's criteria. COM-FSM counseling offices, admissions and registrar's office will continue to assist students that are interested in transferring to other institutions abroad.

Q: What happens to the financial aid program at the college?

A: Nothing. COM-FSM's accreditation status continues so students' financial aid will not be impacted.

Q: Where can I find out more information about accreditation?

A: You can find more information on the college's accreditation on COM-FSM's website at www.comfsm.fm.

Mr Jon Berger is now the ALO. His appointment came into effect on October 1, 2010. Jon can be reached at berger@comfsm.fm.

College holds 4th Annual President's Retreat

On September 22-24, 2010 over 140 individuals from the College's six campuses along with the College's stakeholders met at the FSM/China Friendship Sports Center to participate in the 4th annual 2010 President's Retreat. Key issues addressed by the retreat included review of the college's mission, values and goals; the action by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC /WASC) regarding the College's accreditation status; JEMCO resolutions relating to the College; and the job audit along with the streamlining of the College.

A common theme for the retreat was to offer opportunities for the college community and stakeholders to share views and thoughts regarding critical issues facing the College. Breakout

sessions were held to discuss the current mission, values and objectives of the college and what changes might be considered best for the college's future. Additional sessions were devoted to actions steps needed to meet accreditation concerns and for developing a comprehensive master plan for the College. A critical feature of the retreat was to develop FY 2011 institutional priorities to focus the College on meeting accreditation concerns while FY 2012 institutional priorities will guide the College's performance budget development process.

Presentations regarding the condition of the College (data review), accreditation and the College's central role of student learning outcomes, job audit, streamlining were also discussed during the retreat.

The President's Retreat was concluded with a dinner reception at Lapw Kopwou.

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**

GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION : CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING : QUANTITATIVE AND SCIENTIFIC REASONING : ETHICS AND CULTURE : WORKFORCE READINESS

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

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 Hires for September 2010

Yap Campus

George Chuwmai – Research Assistant

National Campus

Tracey Resetar – English Instructor
 Silverina Pretrick – Administrative Specialist / AHEC Project
 Delihda Waltu – Student Services Specialist / Peer Counseling

Pohnpei Campus

Stacey Tadlock - English Instructor

Vacancy Announcements

Pohnpei Campus

ESL Instructor
 Math Instructor

National Campus

English Instructor – 2
 Administrative Specialist III

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

Instructional Affairs



Jean Thoulag
 VP - Instructional Affairs



Karen Simion
 Director of Academic Programs



Grilly Jack
 Director of Voc., Comm. & Cont. Edu



Lucy Oducado
 Acting Director of LRC



John Berger
 Assessment Coordinator / ALO



Ross Perkins
 Instructional Coordinator Yap



Nena Mike
 Instructional Coordinator Kosrae



Maria Dison
 Instructional Coordinator Pohnpei



Mariano Marcus
 Instructional Coordinator Chuuk



Kasiano Paul
 Instructional Coordinator FMI



Mariana Ben-Dereas
 Chair of Social Science Division



Resida Keller
 Chair of Language & Literature Division



Frankie Harris
 Chair of Math & Science Division



Robert Andreas
 Chair of Education Division



Kiyoshi Phillip
 Chair of Agriculture Division



Roldan Laguerta
 Chair of Exercise Sports Science Division



Joe Felix
 Chair of Business Division

Out 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

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