



Reminders

CHUUK

January 3 Spring Semester Begins
January 3 Faculty Workshops
January 4-6 Registration
January 9 First Day of Instruction
January 13 Last Day to Add/Drop Courses
January 16 Class List Due from Instructors
January 25 - Feb 12 Recruitment/Entrance Testing at State Campuses/High Schools

KOSRAE

January 3 Spring Semester Begins
January 3 Faculty Workshops
January 4-6 Registration
January 10 Kosrae Holiday - Constitution Day
January 11 First Day of Instruction
January 16 Last Day to Add/Drop Courses
January 18 Class List Due from Instructors
January 25 - Feb 12 Recruitment/Entrance Testing at State Campuses/High Schools

POHNPEI and NATIONAL

January 3 Spring Semester Begins
January 3 Faculty Workshops
January 4-6 Registration
January 9 First Day of Instruction
January 13 Last Day to Add/Drop Courses
January 16 Class List Due from Instructors
January 25 - Feb 12 Recruitment/Entrance Testing at State Campuses/High Schools

YAP

January 3 Spring Semester Begins
January 3 Faculty Workshops
January 4-6 Registration
January 9 First Day of Instruction
January 13 Last Day to Add/Drop Courses
January 16 Class List Due from Instructors
January 25 - Feb 12 Recruitment/Entrance Testing at State Campuses/High Schools

YAP FMI

January 3 Students Return from Christmas Break
January 4 Orientation and Registration
January 5-6 Faculty Workshops
January 6 Monthly Report Due
January 9 First Day of Instruction
January 11 Advisors meet with their Advisees

College Holds 54th Commencement Exercises

The College of Micronesia-FSM celebrated its 54th Commencement Exercises at its National Campus on December 15, 2011. During the celebration, which was held at the FSM-China Friendship Sports Center, the College graduated 172 students. This figure does not include the number of graduates from Kosrae Campus since that campus has different reporting dates. According to the College's Office of Admissions and Records, the College is yet to verify 12 candidates for graduation from Kosrae Campus. In his welcoming remarks, Interim President Ringlen P Ringlen noted that 40 students graduated after completed their courses during summer 2011. The theme for the commencement exercises was "Confronting Challenges and Breaking New Ground". In keeping with this theme, Interim President Ringlen said in his welcoming remarks that the "college will be taking a close look at the impact of instructional priorities on its physical infrastructure... [and] the current structure" of the College in light of potential revenue for the College. "The college will have also take into account JEMCO resolutions has reduced the funding available to the college by \$2.8 million over four years from the compact's Education Sector Grant and the freeze on infrastructure Development Plan funding until 2016," he said. Interim President Ringlen also commented that "the most important issues to be addressed revolve around improving student learning, graduation and placement rates and the broader issue of long term sustainability of higher education in the FSM." The College was also pleased to have welcomed His Excellency, President Emanuel Mori of the FSM as the commencement speaker. In his commencement remarks, President Mori congratulated the graduates and gave them words of advice on how to improve on what they have learned through the College of Micronesia-FSM. The FSM president also commented that the reduction of funding to the college will have



2011 Fall graduates from National Campus listen carefully to the keynote address.

"detrimental effects on the future operation of the college." However, he also believes that "the college can still make it with or without the \$700,000," he said. President Mori further lamented that "millions of dollars have been expended to run the College and yet the manpower need of the nation is far from being met. The nation cannot continue to pour millions of dollars into the College without demanding in return for disciplined and productive workforce to sustain growth in the nation's economy," he said. The President challenged the graduates to be the disciplined and productive workforce that the nation needs. Seventeen graduates under the University of Guam and the College of Micronesia-FSM Partnership Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education Program took part in the commencement exercises. For the first time, the UOG President, Dr Robert Underwood, took part in the celebration to accept the new graduates and present them their diplomas. From among the COM-FSM graduates, the valedictorian was Christlynn Mary Sappa from Chuuk and the salutatorian was Neelma Pearl Skilling from Kosrae. The 54th Commencement Exercises was attend by more than 400 people including Pohnpei traditional leaders, state and national government leaders, members of the diplomatic corps, parents, students and friends of the College.

College of Micronesia- FSM Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund was created for the purpose of generating income to support 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

PHONE: (691) 320-2480

Fax: (691) 320-2479

EMAIL: fundcomfsm@gmail.com

website: www.comfsm.fm

Editor's Notes

When we were instructed by former President Spensin James to initiate a newsletter for the college, we were a little worried. We were not worried about how to run a newsletter. Instead, we were worried because not everybody understands what goes into a newsletter production, and our disagreement to start the publication at that time could be translated to mean insubordination on our part, or just simply lazy. The COM-FSM Sharks Newsletter is in circulation for almost two years now. This is a miracle since our college does not have a culture of communication. This newsletter marks over a year of literally begging people to provide information. We finally got relief during this month of December. Interim President Ringlen issued a memo requiring regular updates be sent to us. This is a huge step toward living a true culture of communication. As always, we continue to thank those who contribute to this publication.

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

Campus-wide Briefs

COM-FSM Holds Virtual College Fair

The EducationUSA Advising Center (EAC) at the COM-FSM National Campus held a Virtual College fair last November 16, 2011, at the Media and Instructional Technology Center. The tour was part of the International Education Week, November 14-18, 2011. The tour was presented by the Center for Global Advancement of Community Colleges in Washington DC and coordinated by the EducationUSA regional director in Japan, specifically for FSM and other East Asia and Pacific audiences. The main idea of the fair was the "2 + 2" path meaning two years of community college plus two years of university equals a bachelor's degree. High school students from Calvary Christian Academy (CCA) and students from COM-FSM National Campus attended the fair. For more information please visit www.2plus2.org.

EducationUSA Presents College Fair at National Campus

Presenters representing over 20 colleges and universities around the US presented during a college fair sponsored by the EducationUSA program, at the COM-FSM National Campus. Over 800 junior and senior



High School students from all over Pohnpei attend the EducationUSA College Fair at the National Campus.

Cheif of Mission Lori Peterson Dando. Besides the many US colleges and universities represented during the event, representatives from the COM-FSM academic divisions were also present.

College Observes World Diabetes Day

The College's Student Services Division organized a 2011 World Diabetes Day Activity in front of the National Campus Learning Resources Center building on November 18, 2011. Different

types of activities were held throughout the day such as diabetes and hypertension screening, obesity screening/ weight and height measurement, influenza vaccination and the issuing of deworming medicine. Mr Kipier Lippwe, coordinator for the FSM Non Communicable Disease and Diabetes Program was present as a guest and talked about practicing a healthy diet to avoid the chances of getting diabetes. Fun walk to promote healthy living was conducted at the National Campus where students, faculty, staff and visitors took part. T-shirts were



Nursing Students from National Campus perform blood pressure testing.

given to the first 70 finishers.

Work on Cultural Huts at National Campus Nears Completion

Just before the end of fall semester 2011, National Campus students from the four

FSM island groups started renovating their cultural huts. Three of the cultural huts were completed. Kosrae and Yap were completed and received payments already. Unlike the other island groups, the Pohnpei students contracted the work on their hut to outsiders. According to the vice president for administrative services, he is planning on seeking additional funds to build a bigger Pohnpei meeting house or Nahs for the National Campus to be located near the huts as a study place for the students.

College Seeks Funding From FSM

The college is seeking funding for additional backup generators for the dorms, cafeteria, gym, maintenance building and Pohnpei Campus. A letter was sent to President Mori requesting for the generators and the National Campus water improvement project.

Interim President Visits Chuuk and Yap Camus

Interim President Ringlen P Ringlen conducted site visits to Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and FSM-FMI campuses last November 2011. The interim president took a tour of all the facilities to ensure that all maintenance challenges are resolved. According to Interim President Ringlen, a two-member team was dispatched to Chuuk and Yap to address those concerns at Chuuk and FSM-FMI campuses. The Interim President also met with external stakeholders from Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei to share and update them on the status of the college. The stakeholders were very supportive of the college in terms of expressing their dissatisfaction

and disappointment on the JEMCO resolutions to cut operational funding.

DCR, IT and IRP Continue Work on Communication Improvement Recommendations

DCR, IT and IRP staff met on December 09, 2011, at the National Campus and evaluated a plan to strategize on recommendations to improve the college's information communications management. The three objectives for the plan include the following:

- Establish a COM-FSM Brand with a clear audience and objectives;
- Reconsider the design/ content of the COM-FSM Web site for better usability and accessibility; and
- Portray a correct image of the college by developing a plan to distribute COM-FSM information in other mediums.

Several implementation strategies were recommended and some of them were already completed. The College has identified February 2012 as the timeline for implementing all the improvement strategies. The current plan will be presented to the Planning and Resources Committee for their review and final submission to the office of the President for his authorization before implementation. The work is done in response to improvement recommendations by accreditation consultant Mr Floyd Takeuchi.

More Information Online



www.comfsm.fm



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



College of Micronesia-FSM (Official)



College of Micronesia Alumni

News & Information

Board Names Dr Joseph M Daisy as New President

The Board of Regents for the College of Micronesia-FSM announced it has successfully completed the search process for the position of president, which has been vacant since former president, Spensin James, stepped down in March. After an intense search, Chairman Kasio E Mida reported that Dr Joseph M Daisy has accepted the position and will officially begin the first week of February 2012. Dr Daisy comes from Cambridge College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he served since 2005 in a wide range of administrative and leadership positions, including most recently as the Executive Vice President. In 2001, Dr Daisy was engaged by the college as a senior faculty member in the School of Education, teaching courses in leadership and social science research. During his tenure at Cambridge College, he acted in a provost equivalent role and provided academic and administrative leadership for the college for eight months during their search for a new president. Dr Daisy has a strong background in



Dr Joseph M Daisy

accreditation, curriculum development, and strategic planning and implementation. With the numerous challenges currently facing the college, great expectations await Dr Daisy. In accepting the position, Dr. Daisy wrote that it is with "great anticipation and pride that I look forward to serving the College as its next President."

Improving Communication Through Sharing of Information

Besides the cultures of evidence and accreditation that the College must have as a continuously improving institution of higher learning, we must also maintain a culture of communication. This means both internal and external communications. For our use, we currently maintain a newsletter and a website to disseminate information within and outside of the college community. The Development & Community Relations (DCR) office is tasked with providing the information that goes on

these two communication tools. However, the DCR will need continuous information sharing from the college community in order to provide the content for these publications. *The Interim President* is requiring all departments, operations, offices, divisions or activity heads to update the DCR on their activities. As a general practice, you may send in a bullet list answering the 5 Ws and H for each of your activities to the DCR.

Possible Four Paragraph News Story Template

This is a template that contributors can use to develop news stories from the various campuses for inclusion in the COM-FSM web site and other publications. As much as possible, stories should be written in the perspective of the contributing campus. This kind of news writing is focused mostly on facts and not style of writing. Keep it simple and sweet (KISS)

FIRST PARAGRAPH:

The lead paragraph and the most critical paragraph in the story. It should include the gist of the story – almost always the "who" or "what" of the story. Typical length – two or three sentences. If a reader only reads the lead paragraph, he or she should understand the main point of the story.

SECOND PARAGRAPH:

Often the "quote" paragraph. Have a key quote, or quotes, from the primary "who" in the story about the main element in the story. Typical length: two or three sentences.

THIRD PARAGRAPH

Use this paragraph to expand focusing on the other "W" elements: "when," "where," "why." And perhaps the "how." Typical length: two or three sentences.

FOURTH PARAGRAPH

This paragraph can be used to expand on the third paragraph, or add other points of view. The other points of view could be a new quote from another participant, clearly identified and whose relationship to the story is clear. Typical length: two or three sentences.

Recognition Wall

Thank you for contributing to our Endowment Fund!

1998
to
2010

Silver Circle
\$1,000 - \$9,999

- Kosraen Students (Founding Day 1999)
- Kosraen Students (Founding Day 2000)
- Micronesian Island Conservation, Inc.
- Miki Higashi Lion's Club
- Mobil Oil Micronesia Inc.
- Mr. & Ms. Founding Day 2002 Blue Team
- Mr. & Ms. Founding Day 2002 Brown Team
- Mr. & Ms. Founding Day 2002 Purple Team

To be continued on the next issue...

GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS

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



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

Employment Opportunities at COM-FSM

National

English Instructor
Instructor - Agriculture
Instructor-Business
Distance Learning Coordinator

Pohnpei

Extension Assistant I [Agriculture and Climate Change]

Chuuk

English Instructor
Health and Nutrition Agent III

For more information check our
website: <http://www.comfsm.fm/jobs/>
or

Call Human resources at 320-2480
Ext. 156

Development & Community Relations

**For Contributions to the COM-FSM
Sharks Newsletter Please Submit to:**

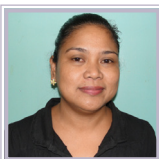
Joe Saimon

DCR Director
jsaimon@comfsm.fm

Juan Paulo Santos

Administrative Specialist
jpsantos@comfsm.fm

or Call us at 320-2480 ext. 125 / 152



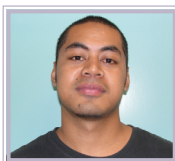
Name: **Ms. Mariana Ben-Dereas**

Title: VP Instructional Affairs
Campus: National
Department: Instructional Affairs
Tel: 320-2480 Ext: 128
Email: mben@comfsm.fm

Professor Mariana Ben Dereas has served the College for 14 years in the Instructional Department from Instructor to Division Chair and Coordinator of the Micronesian Studies and the Trial Counselor certificate program. She serves as chair for 5 years till present. On occasion, she has served as Acting Vice President for Instructional Affairs in the absence of the VPIA.

In May of 2011, she was once again awarded the Faculty of the Year award. She was given the Student's Choice award in previous years also more than once. She is a lead faculty adviser for the Phi Theta Kappa Student Honor Society.

Certificate, Higher Education Leadership, Higher Education Resources Services (HERS), 2011. MA, Pacific Islands Studies Program, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 2007. BA, Political Science, University of Hawaii at Hilo, 1996.

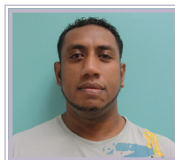


Name: **Mr. Clayton Eliam**

Title: Administrative Specialist I
Campus: National
Office: Human Resources
Tel: 320-2482 Ext: 156
Email: claytone@comfsm.fm

A product of COM-FSM, Mr. Eliam has returned to COM-FSM this time to work following his graduation in August of this year. During his study program at COM-FSM, he completed his work study program at the Division of Languages and Literature Computer Lab, FSM MiCare, and FSM Immigration Office. While studying at UH-Hilo, he worked in the Library as a student assistant from 2008 till he graduated this year.

BA, Economics, University of Hawaii at Hilo, 2011 Third-Year Certificate, Accounting, College of Micronesia-FSM, 2008 AS, Business Administration, College of Micronesia-FSM, 2007



Name: **Mr. Tomasi Mawi**

Title: Student Services Aide
Campus: National
Division: Sports and Recreation
Tel: 320-2480 Ext: 159
Email: tmawi@comfsm.fm

Mr. Tomasi Mawi has been working for the College of Micronesia-FSM for 5 years plus as a part-time employee as a Sports Assistant. While working he also enrolled and completed 43 credits in the Computer Information System Program at the College.

Mr. Tomasi is certified to officiate sports such as basketball, volleyball and table tennis. He was a member of the Pohnpei State Basketball Team representing Pohnpei in the Micro Games in 2006 and 2010. He was also a member of the FSM Basketball Team representing FSM in 2005.

Cut along the 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"/> Others: _____
\$ _____ Other: _____	

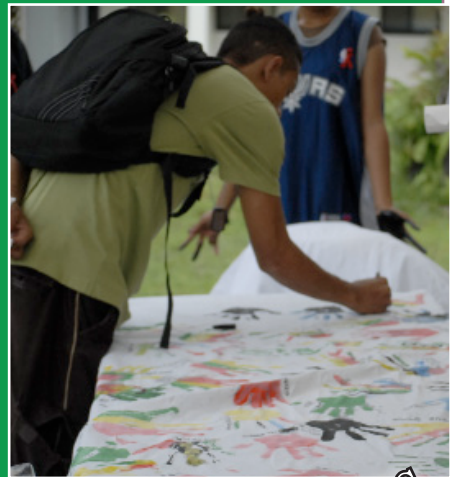


NO. I don't want to contribute now.

Send Slip and Donations to: COM-FSM Endowment
Fund Attention: Development & 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:	
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone: ()	Fax: ()	
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Your email is used to communicate with you about the College of Micronesia-FSM		





World Diabetes Day and World Aids Day Activities