



COM-FSM SHARKS

The Official Newsletter of the College of Micronesia-FSM

Volume 5, Issue 10

Free Copy

October 2012



Uniquely
Micronesian

Reminders

CHUUK

November 2 Holiday - FSM
Independence Day (observed) Early
November 5-9 Registration for
Continuing Students
November 12 Holiday - Veterans Day
(observed)
November 15 - 19 Entrance Testing at
the State Campuses
November 22 Holiday - Thanksgiving
Day

KOSRAE

November 2 Holiday - FSM
Independence Day (observed)
November 5-9 Early Registration for
Continuing Students
November 12 Holiday - Veterans Day
(observed)
November 15 - 19 Entrance Testing at
the State Campuses
November 22 Holiday - Thanksgiving
Day

POHNPEI and NATIONAL

November 2 Holiday - FSM
Independence Day (observed)
November 5-9 Early Registration for
Continuing Students
November 8 Holiday - Pohnpei
Constitution Day
November 12 Holiday - Veterans Day
(observed)
November 15 - 19 Entrance Testing at
the State Campuses

YAP

November 2 Holiday - FSM
Independence Day (observed)
November 5-9 Early Registration for
Continuing Students
November 12 Holiday - Veterans Day
(observed)
November 15 - 19 Entrance Testing at
the State Campuses

FSM-FMI

November 2 Holiday—Independence
Day
November 4 Monthly Report Due
November 11 Holiday—Veterans Day
November 13 Recruitment Trip to all
States

Business Advisory Council Holds First Annual Meeting

The first annual meeting of the reactivated Business Advisory Council (BAC) was held on October 23, 2012, at the Wall Mart Steak House & Bar in Kolonia, Pohnpei.

It was a gathering of busy people – business owners, managers, directors, supervisors, even CEO's and CFO's. They came by invitation of the College of Micronesia-FSM, whose message to them was clear: "We are here to listen to you." The reactivation of the BAC is an initiative of the Business Administration Division of COM-FSM.

The council's purpose is to promote a partnership between local businesses/employers and the college, in line with its goal to establish a services network for community, workforce, and economic development.

Regrets and Optimism

On behalf of COM-FSM, President Joseph



President Joseph M. Daisy, Ed.D. addressing the business community during the business advisory council annual meeting.

M. Daisy, Ed.D. apologized to the business community because, he thought, the college has let them down in the past. He said, "We lost our way, we lost our focus, we lost what was important... what our primary mission and goal was supposed to be. And that is providing quality education for

Continuation on Page 2

College Receives Donated Piano from Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd.

The College of Micronesia-FSM was the recipient of one of four pianos donated by the Kyowa Shipping Company Ltd. to schools on Pohnpei. The other recipients were St. Paul School, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, and Calvary Christian High School. Mr. Joe Vitt, the executive director of Ponape Transfer & Storage, Inc. and head of the Kyowa office in Pohnpei delivered the piano to the college on October 12, 2012. Mrs. Ginger Mida, the person selected by the shipping company to identify the recipients of the four pianos on Pohnpei, accompanied Mr. Vitt to the college. President Joseph M. Daisy, Ed.D. and COM-FSM Board of Regents Chairman Kasio Mida Sr. received the donation on behalf of the college. COM-FSM President Joseph M. Daisy,



(From Left) Mr. Joe Vitt, President Joseph M. Daisy, Ed.D., Chairman of the Board Kasio Mida and Mrs. Ginger Mida

Ed.D. thanked Mr. Vitt and Mrs. Mida for the donation on behalf of the college. He said he appreciated the donation since the college is considering purchasing a piano for use by its music students and at official college functions. President Daisy told Mr. Vitt and Mrs. Mida that the college will take care of its donated piano and store it in an air-conditioned location.

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

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Editor's Notes

The month of December is only a few weeks away. Everyone is engaged with resolving the college's accreditation concerns. Students are studying hard; the faculty members are helping students through SLO assessment; the administrators are ensuring that we incorporate our integrated academic master plan into the development of our strategic plan. At the Development and Community Relations Office, we continue to promote meaningful communication through our publications. As well, we are also promoting a fund raising drive through a raffle program by the end of the fall semester 2012. In a scheme called 50/Plenty, each college campus will be selling raffle tickets for its own 50/Plenty raffle scheme. Register at your campus to sell raffle tickets to win monetary prizes as well as free chances to enter into the raffle drawing. As usual, we always welcome your inputs and comments.

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

News & Information

Business Advisory Council Meeting From Page 1

our students so that they can be meaningful participants in the political, social, and economic life of the FSM. And when we lost our way, we lost our connection with all of you." President Daisy expressed optimism and hopes about the future of the college and that of the FSM as he looked around and noted the presence of very important people of various expertise and discipline, who came to the meeting despite their busy schedules. He said that as the college looks forward to the celebration of its 20th anniversary in 2013, he wanted to renew COM-FSM's commitment to collaboration and accountability to all, most especially to the students.

Inputs from the Business Sector

During the one-hour consultative forum that followed, business sector representatives took turns in offering suggestions, asking questions, seeking clarifications, expressing their observations and expectations about COM-FSM graduates, and volunteering

the various resources and assistance available from their respective organizations that the college can tap into for the benefit of students. Among the examples cited were providing guest lecturers, on-the-job trainings, and internship opportunities, which the division plans to incorporate in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the advisory council members and the college. Initial discussions focused on the need of most establishments for accounting graduates and local certified public accountants. Subsequent talks emphasized the importance of requiring students to do practical work before graduating. There were inquiries about the possibility of the college offering evening classes and introducing other programs such as those in the field of retail management and aviation, and suggestions about training students on the use of accounting software packages to better prepare them for work in the

real world. Failure of some graduates to communicate well during job interviews, as well as their apparent lack of self-confidence and clear sense of purpose, were among the weaknesses observed by many employers. They asked the college to do something about it to help improve the graduates' chances of getting employed.

Successful Event

The first annual meeting of the Business Advisory Council was deemed a success, with the following establishments participating and sharing their valuable time and expertise in the historic event: MiCare, FSM Coconut Development Authority, Etscheit's Enterprises, FSM Development Bank, FSMTC, JICA, CTSI Logistics, Tuna Commission, FSM Petroleum Corporation, Genesis Island Family Clinic & Pharmacy, Ray & Dors, United Airlines, Bank of FSM, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

Campus-wide Briefs

Notification of Grant Award Celebration

The ACCJC has received a Lumina Foundation grant award to implement a 30-month project exploring the Degree Qualifications Profile as a framework for developing or strengthening institutions' degree learning outcomes and programmatic assessments. The grant includes opportunities for twelve to fifteen member institutions to participate in projects and related training

Kosrae Campus LRC Converting Classification System from Dewey to LC
The College of Micronesia-FSM started converting its library collection at Kosrae Campus Library from the Dewey Decimal system to the Library of Congress system. The conversion will bring Kosrae

Campus library to the same classification system used by the other campus libraries. Though the conversion is not complete, a significant volume of the collection is already converted. According to Kosrae LRC technician, LRC patrons should not encounter any problems using the LC system since the two classification systems are similar. The LRC Technician will be available to provide group or individual orientations for patrons needing assistance understanding the LC call numbers.

College Continues Fire Drills at National Campus

The College of Micronesia-FSM is continuing a series of fire drills at the National Campus to test its Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Plan. According to Chief of

Security Warren Ching, they have completed drills at the residence halls, dining hall and at the Administration Building. They are currently preparing for fire drills at the Learning Resources Center, faculty office buildings and the classrooms. Briefings were conducted before each drill to update building occupants of the procedures involved in the drills. "The occupants need to know who the building and floor wardens are and their responsibilities. Next time we can have one that is unannounced," commented Chief Ching.

Chuuk Campus Organizes Health Fair for Students

The College of Micronesia-FSM Chuuk Campus organized a Health Fair for the campus community on October 23rd from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm.

The theme for the fair was "Be Healthy and Go Local." The event was celebrated around a campus clean up competition among student groups representing the different regions of Chuuk. As well, student groups showcased fruits and vegetables from their regions. At the end of the competitions, the first prize was issued to the Northern Namoneas Region, second prize to North West Region, third prize went to Southern Namoneas Region, and the fourth prize went to Faichuuk Region.

More Information Online



www.comfsm.fm



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



College of Micronesia-FSM (Official)



College of Micronesia Alumni

News & Information

Chuuk Campus Devoted A Saturday For Training

Chuuk Campus faculty and staff made a commitment to complete detailed accreditation training on Saturday, October 20, 2012. Faculty met from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm to learn more about the accreditation process, their specific roles and responsibilities as faculty in this process, and their important role this year towards ensuring evidence of proficiency level on our ACCJC/WASC Student Learning Outcomes Rubric. Faculty also made a commitment to work together in teams to conduct peer assessments on authentic assessment strategies for the fall 2012 semester. From 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm both faculty and staff conducted a communications exercise together, making everyone aware that each office and area of the college communicates in a slightly different language and jargon. We have to be cognizant when we communicate with others across the college, and to our external community, of the additional efforts necessary to ensure effective, clear communications. Staff continued training on the accreditation process all afternoon. The Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance (VPIEQA), Frankie Harriss, was impressed with the positive energy and clear commitment by Chuuk Campus towards assuming their portion of work necessary to move COM-FSM to where it needs to be, and to remain, as a quality institution of higher



Chuuk Campus Faculty under going accreditation training.

education. She noted, "most employees would likely not be too thrilled to give up a Saturday to sit through training, but everyone exhibited an attitude that this training was important and that they were dedicated – it was fantastic, and I greatly appreciated the hard work." Excellent questions were asked throughout the day, showing this campus is taking initiatives, under Campus Dean Kind Kanto, to do their part to be both knowledgeable and proactive in the accreditation process. The majority of faculty and staff at Chuuk campus have completed the online Accreditation Basics Course (including completion by Regent Graceful Enlet), and they are striving for 100% completion – presently second only to Yap campus for completion rates. Additionally, the faculty are meeting each month to improve upon their assessment processes and skills.

Recognition Wall

1998
to
2012

Bronze Circle
\$100 - \$999

- Andrea K. Ubedei
- Andrew Yatilman
- Ann B. Luor & daughter Sarah Hall
- Ann Wright
- Arbel D. Ben
- Asao Mikio & Naomi Wanibe
- Augustino A. Sanemai
- Bastora K. Raymond
- Benjamin I. James
- Benson Moses
- Bermin & Penny Weilbacher
- Bruce & Sook Crossan

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

CCAA

**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

SO PLENTY RAFFLE!

JOIN &

WIN CASH PRIZES!

TICKETS FOR ONLY \$1.00 EACH

Draw Date will be announced soon!!

Half of the money collected from the raffle will go to the College's Endowment Fund

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

Pohnpei

Student Services Specialist III
Vocational Instructor-Automotive Mechanic
Researcher [Agronomy]
Maintenance Worker I
Extension Assistant [Nutrition]

Yap

Agriculture Agent
Extension Agent I [Home Economics]

Chuuk

IT Technician II
Research Assistant

Kosrae

Mathematics Instructor
Science Instructor

National

Instructor - Art



Name: Yulin F. Ditchen
Title: Administrative Assistant II
Program: Talent Search
Campus: Pohnpei
Tel: 320-6177
Email: yulinda@comfsm.fm

Ms. Ditchen was recruited from Pohnpei Saint Paul Christian School where she served as an Administrative Assistant since 2010. Her previous work history also included serving as a clerk typist at the FSM Social Security Administration office for more than three years.

Certificate of Achievement in General Office, PCC, 1992



Name: Nixon Soswa
Title: Student Services Specialist III
Campus: Pohnpei
Program: Gear-Up
Campus: Pohnpei
Tel: 320-3756 Ext. 112
Email: nixososwa@comfsm.fm

Mr. Soswa was employed on a part time basis at the college under the Peer Counseling Program as a student. After his contract ended, he continued to work on a voluntary basis as a peer educator providing services to the students. Other work employment history at the college included working as a work study student at the Social Science Division and the Learning Resources Center. Beginning in 2010 until he assumed his position on October 15, he has been working at the Micronesian Human Resources Development Center in Kolonia providing outreach programs to schools and communities on the island.

AS Degree in Liberal Arts, COM-FSM 2006

Third Year Certificate in Teacher Preparation-Elementary, COM-FSM, 2009

BA Degree in Elementary Education, UOG, 2011

Currently enrolled at SDSU Masters Degree Program

Development & Community Relations

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

Joseph Saimon

DCR Director
jsaimon@comfsm.fm

Juan Paulo Santos

Administrative Specialist
jpsantos@comfsm.fm



Name: Stephen Yarofalig
Title: Student Services Specialist III
Campus: Pohnpei
Program: Upward Bound
Tel: 320-6738
Email: syarofalig@comfsm.fm

Mr. Yarofalig has been working at the college under the Upward Bound Program since 2008 as a Student Services Specialist II. He was promoted to the Student Services Specialist III position effective October 17, 2012.

AS Degree in CIS, COM-FSM, 2002

BA Degree in Political Science, UH-Hilo, 2007

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.



YES! I want to contribute to the College financially.

\$ _____ **COM-FSM Endowment Fund**

\$ _____ **Other:** _____



Send me the newsletter.

**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?

☐ YES

☐ NO

First Name:

Last Name:

☐ Mr.

☐ Ms.

Employer:

Title / Position:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone: ()

Fax: ()

Email:

Your email is used to communicate with you about the College of Micronesia-FSM