

## Commission's Recommendations

In the letter to President Spensin James date June 30, 2009, President of the ACCJC Dr. Barbara A. Beno stated **"The Commission took action to accept the report and notes that the final resolution of the Chuuk site is still pending. The commission therefore requires the College of Micronesia to report on the resolution of the Chuuk site issue including the implementation of a reliable power source for that site, within its Self Study Report"**.

### Resolution to Chuuk Permanent Site:

Following the visit by Vice Chairperson Floyd Takeuchi on April 21 & 22, 2009, the college continued to improve and cleared the access road to the Nantaku site where the board of regions selected to be the permanent site for the Chuuk Campus. The project was ceased temporarily due to difficulty in obtaining reliable road construction equipment thus requiring the college purchased an excavator which arrived in Chuuk on September 28, 2009. On October 12, the project resumed with clearing of shrubs and trees from where the new road will be located. The project is expected to be completed with coral top finish with road side drainage system by November 2009. **Photos below shows progress as of Oct. 19, 2009.**



### Resolution to supplying reliable power to current site:

The power supply in Chuuk has been unstable for many years. This problem consists of management of the corporation, land issues, political pressures and issues that combined to complicate matters even more. It finally leads to a stage where most major enterprises have installed their own power generation system. The college adopted the concept and purchased and installed a 300KW generator to add on to its 90 KW unit and was commissioned on Oct. 12, supplying the whole campus with power with half its capacity. The 90KW unit will be relocated to the new power house and modified to a three phase system to act as the standby generator while the 300KW becomes the prime generating unit.

Delegates of the college including President Spensin James, Vice President of Administrative Services Joseph Habuchmai, Chuuk Campus Director Joakim Peter met with the leadership of Chuuk State on government August 10-12, to express the concern over the unreliability of power supply to the current campus site. Following the meeting the college requested a supplemental budget of \$212,000 to provide consistent power to campus through self generation. A deadline of October was set for the Chuuk State to act on the request while the college establish an Adhoc committee to develop a contingency plans in the event matter do not progress as anticipated. In addition to the funding issues the CPUC acting general manager has informed the college that it has modified its power distribution switch-off locations to reduce the college from being cut-off.

The adhoc committee has met several times to and reviewed the draft budget for self power generation and revised the budget based on more accurate information which reduced the level of subsidy required to \$78,000 per annum. With this amount the adhoc committee believed that by redirecting its priorities and stream lining of operations can accommodate the amount needed.

#### Commission Recommendation 9: Physical Master Plan:

“The college must develop physical master plans, with the appropriate financial plans, for each state campus ensure facilities equity with the national campus, and allow the state campuses to provide instructional and student services that are consistent with the strategic plan and educational master plans of the college.”

In early 2005 the college developed its first long range infrastructure development plan to support the increasing enrollment and to address concerns raised by the commission in reference to equity to facilities throughout the state campuses. The 20 years infrastructure plan was estimated to cost approximately \$26 million primarily to support the increasing enrollment from school year 1998-1999 having 3,890 students and peaked in school year 2004-2005 with an enrollment of 6,479. Because of the absence of an educational master plan, the college assumed that the current program being delivered will either maintain or expand throughout the state campuses. These background information along with the commission’s recommendation improve facilities throughout the system resulted in the enactment of the resolution signed by the Nation’s Economic Policy Implementation Council (EPIC) in March 2005 to provide funding support for the college’s infrastructure needs.

Since school year 2005-2006 enrollment trend began to decline to 4460 by school year 2007-2008. This trend along with funding limitation from the FSM National Government to support the college operations have lead the college to review and re-evaluate its plans and practices beginning at the 2007and 2008 retreat. Following the retreat, recommendations to restructure the college, streamline operations and delivery of programs throughout the system considered and being deliberated at the committee levels within the college.

As a result, the college has resorted to maintaining the five years “Capital Improvement Project Budget Plan” as its Physical Master Plan. This plan is reviewed annually during the annual budget review cycle to ensure its consistency with the college’s strategic plans and goals as well as addressing current issues and challenges as they arise. Funding for the projects listed in the CIP budget plan for year 2005 to 2010 have either been approved or pre-approved for construction and design as released by US Department of Interior on November 13, 2009.

