

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7 August 2024

10am (Kosrae & Pohnpei time)/9am (Chuuk & Yap time)

Zoom Meeting ID: **306 133 9702** Passcode: **133187**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order: **President & CEO**
2. Prayer: **VPAS**
3. Reading of the College's Mission Statement: **Recited by Yap Campus**

"The College of Micronesia-FSM is a learner-centered institution of higher education that is committed to the success of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic and career & technical education programs characterized by continuous improvement and best practices."

4. Declaration of Quorum/Roll Call: **Quorum is met.**
 - A/g Dean Allentino – Yap Campus
 - A/g Dean Tilfas – Kosrae Campus
 - A/g Dean Genevy – Chuuk Campus
 - Dean Silbanuz – CTE Campus
 - Comptroller
 - VPIA
 - VPAS
 - VPIEQA
 - VPCRE
 - President
 - Additional resources: EO to OTP
 - a. Apologies: **VPEMSS is off-island on leave.**
5. Review and adoption of agenda: VPIEQA motioned to adopt. Moved. **Carried.**
6. Approval of Minutes (4 April 2024): VPAS motioned to approve. Moved. **Carried.**
7. Old Business
 - a. Corporate Credit Card: VPIEQA was advised by the Comptroller to bring this request to the Board because the respective departments are not included in the existing policy; therefore, not required to go through the usual channels. The Comptroller confirmed the information provided by the VPIEQA. Amendment or change in the existing policy allowing only the OTP a corporate credit card.
 - b. Update on Meal Ticket Increase: Comptroller said the committee will introduce this change to the students at the upcoming orientation for Fall 2024 along with other increases. The Comptroller would like the EC to acknowledge that this will also depend on the support of the government.
 - c. Update on the Factbook: VPIEQA is pleased to report that the Factbook is moving along with the recent sharing of documents by the former researcher. Collected student demographics and data from all of the

campuses to include in the Factbook and is waiting on the audit report 2023 – financial part of it.

- d. Update on Chapter 9 Advisory Committee: CRE is not moving forward because the other departments are not providing the standing committee members. VPCRE continues to wait for the other departments to provide him the information so he can move forward with the process. Dr. Theresa recommended that this be put on hold until the conclusion of the Summit.

8. New Business

a. The Summit

- Strategic Plan 2024-29
 - o IEMP (Integrated Education Master Plan)

Note: Presented by the President. It is still in draft form, but will be completed (2nd draft form) for the Board meeting next week. The final form or version will be presented to the general public at the Summit on the 20th.

VPCRE wanted to reconfirm that this is the process the SP (and IEMP) needs to go through prior to presentation. EC confirmed that this is it. VPCRE further recommended that the EC, if this is indeed the process, that the EC vote to include “Respect” in the SP. In the end, EC decided to keep this as tentative until the end of the Summit.

b. Proposals: Income Generators for the Endowment Fund

- Tax Break: Anyone who makes contributions to the College fund will get some sort of tax break. This will require more work i.e., change of legislation, laws, etc. The College attorney is looking into this before proceeding. The Board will be informed of this proposal just for FYI purposes.
- Faculty & Staff Housing: It is legally allowed for the College land to house a building serving as a Faculty & Staff Housing. This was also introduced to the Executive leaders at the National Government. They are in full support.

5 studio type apartments, 15 1-bedroom type apartments and 10 2-bedroom type apartments. Plan and proposal will not be ready until the September Board meeting.

Q & A: A/g Dean KSA is asking if the same can be duplicated in other state campuses. Dr. Theresa responded positively “depending on funding”. As long as there is funding and available lands to accommodate the other campuses, this will be considered.

Dean Silbanuz asked if we are also increasing the number of spaces of residence for the students as well. She is concerned about the students who come from farther sides of the island (Madolenihmw specifically). There are no plans to increase residence spaces, but if there is a need, it will definitely be put into consideration.

VPCRE asks if the tax break is for all FSM citizens who make a contribution. Dr. Theresa confirmed, but also acknowledged those who contribute from outside of the FSM. VPCRE also asked how much money

is going to save these contributors since the College is exempt from paying taxes. VPAS interjected by informing EC that the law was amended and the College does pay for taxes. VPAS will look for the copy of that law and share it when it becomes available.

Sidenote by Dr. Theresa: She reiterated a suggestion made by VPCRE and this is for each department to look to other grants for additional sources of revenue (operations).

Note: The Endowment Fund zeroed out – the \$500,000 the FSM Congress used to donate to the EF was currently rescinded causing the College extreme concerns.

c. Proposed Changes for the Education Programs presented by the VPIA

- Proposed change for admission to the Third-year Certificate of Achievement in Teacher Preparation – Elementary;
- Proposal to add a new course, EN/ED 210 English Language Arts for Teachers, to the requirements for the AA in Pre-Teacher Preparation. The addition of these three credits would result in a total of 130 credits being required to earn a BS in Education;
- Proposal to change admission to the fourth-year of the BS in Elementary Education program;
- *Proposal to change requirement to enroll in Student Teaching or Internship course. – For reference purposes only.*

VPIA proposed to delete the requirements being the NSTT and only rely on the required courses i.e., Math, Language Arts and Science Methods. The Language Arts (LA) course will be added to the Education courses to replace the NSTT requirements. It is proposed for the LA to be an AA credit requirement, thus changing the number of credit numbers overall. The current credit number of credits is 127. If approved, the LA will bring up the credits to 130 for the Bachelor of Education. VPCRE expressed concern about COMFSM students taking on too many credits while other institutions of higher learning (UOG) have lesser credits in the Education field.

VPIA introduced the Built-in Teacher Certification – students here at COMFSM obtain their degree and are automatically certified as opposed to students pursuing the same field at the UHM and UOG who are still required to take courses in order to be certified after obtaining their BS degree in Education.

1 abstention. 9 voted yes. Proposals approved.

EC approved the proposals from the IA division. However, IA should put into consideration VPCRE's recommendation that the committee meet to discuss the possibility to take out a course or two from the credit course requirements. VPCRE's main concern is the students who might be taking longer to complete their studies in this field, which will be more money for them, just to complete the 130 credits.

I. Review of Board Policies

Note: All policies due for review will be discussed at the next EC meeting before the BOR meeting in September. Please ensure all policies are processed through the proper channels prior to presentation to the BOR.

- A. President (Chapter 1 & 6)
- B. VPAS (Chapters 5 & 7)
- C. VPEMSS (Chapter 4)
- D. VPIA (Chapter 3)
- E. VPCRE (*Chapter 9*)
- F. VPIEQA (Chapter 2 & 8)

9. Miscellaneous:

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:40pm.

- Second EC meeting will be scheduled sometime early September 2024. EO will send the Google Calendar invite to all members once a date has been identified.