

**COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**Minutes of the June 17, 2022, Meeting**  
**Zoom Meeting**

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**Present:** Regent Suzanne Gallen from Pohnpei (chair); Regent Jesse Salalu from Yap (vice chairman); Regent Pelma J. Mingii representing the National Government (secretary/treasurer); Regent Tulensru Waguk, PhD, from Kosrae; Regent Jeffrey Arnold from Chuuk; and Interim President Karen Simion (*ex officio member*)

**Resources:** Vice President for Administrative Services Joseph Habuchmai; Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services Joey Oducado; Acting Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Assurance Shaun Suliol; Vice President for Instructional Affairs Karen Simion; Dean of Chuuk Campus Kind Kanto; Dean of Kosrae Campus Nena Mike; Dean of Career and Technical Education Center Grilly Jack; Dean of Yap Campus Lourdes Roboman; Dean of FSM FMI Tioti Teburea; Director of Cooperative Research and Extension Steven Young-Uhk; Comptroller Roselle Togonon; Yap Campus Director of Upward Bound Serphin Ilesiyualo; and Acting Dean of Chuuk Campus Genevy Samuel

**Guests:** Amanda Gima from Raymond James

**1. CALL TO ORDER – 10:32 AM**

Vice Chair Salalu called the meeting to order and requested a moment of silence.

**2. READING OF MISSION STATEMENT**

Everyone recited the mission statement.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Roll was called with Regents, Salalu, Mingii, and Arnold present; a quorum was declared. Regent Gallen and Waguk joined the meeting later.

**4. REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Raymond James will join the meeting at 12 noon to do their presentation.

Arnold/Mingii

*Moved to accept the agenda as presented.*

CARRIED

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 11, 2022**

Arnold/Mingii

*Moved to adopt of the minutes of the March 11, 2022, meeting as presented.*

CARRIED

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Letter from ACCJC dated May 24, 2022, regarding approval of our substantive change application to offer BS in Business Administration with Emphasis in Accounting.
- b. Notification from ACCJC dated June 8, 2022, announcing Dr. Mac Powel as the next ACCJC President.

## 7. REGENTS' REPORTS

- a. **Regent Mingii** shared Acting Secretary of Education Albert's briefing to the national government on 1) Project FSM Skills Academy (FSA) which include renovation of old PATS school (technical vocational focus) and extension and improvement of one high school in each state funded by World Bank for \$17million; 2) amending FSM Title 40 to include 5 year old under compulsory education age; 3) special education year 2 Project CELPP (Certificate in Education Leadership, Policy, and Practice), staff development project for two scholars from each state; 4) special education year 1 Project CURRENT for two selected schools in each state to undergo training and work on development of a retention plan; and 5) a nation-wide paper on post COVID challenges and vision and way forward for the UN Transforming Education Summit to be presented by President Panuelo in September.
- b. **Regent Arnold** said his report on the task force will be reserved for the agenda item; he then reported on positive incoming COVID cases; Chuuk state running low in funds for repatriation; and dilemma with bringing citizens home and accommodations costs.
- c. **Regent Salalu** reported plan to open the borders on August 1; busy with plans on how to manage that; push for vaccination; and on fencing projects at Yap campus and FMI.
- d. **Regent Gallen** reported issue wit Covid – who controls repatriation; both governor and lt. governor off-island; and Pohnpei state considering seceding.
- e. **Regent Waguk** apologized for being late; he had a graduation ceremony to attend

## 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. **Interim President** Simion explained that FSM Education contacted the college about the technical vocational project and sees a positive impact on the college – we will improve our level of vocational education since students transferring would already have learned the basic skills. She reported college has lots to celebrate: approval for the BSBA/Accounting program; number of graduates up; enrollment up; construction projects moving along; funds for teaching clinic identified; and plans for new strategic plan initiated.
- b. **VPAS Habuchmai** reported on monitoring tour of CTEC projects; status of projects (CTEC vocational building, signage, HTM renovation, teaching clinic, Kosrae multi-purpose building, fencing all campuses, generators all campus); and laptops for students.
  - i. **Financial Status Report:** Comptroller Togonon reported all numbers down during the pandemic but with HEERF college liquid; operations back to normal so expenses higher but still liquid with \$4million in bank and cash reserves not touched; audit is on-going; and moving to on-line transactions for business office and bookstore.  
Inquiry made on HEERF and on earlier concern about the flooding/drainage along the fencing.
  - ii. **Raymond James** representative Amanda Gima reported since the 2021 high, the market has pulled back and provided a broad market overview; summary of the six key 2022 year-end targets; and reported on our investments as of June 15, 2022 – our endowment fund at \$9,077,328 and our reserves fund at \$3,234,449.

- c. **Acting VPIEQA** Suliol cited difficulty of hiring a new VPIEQA – on fourth round of advertising; and updated the status of the laptop for students project – more students with laptops resulting in improvement with on-line instruction.
- d. **VPIA** Simion highlighted the BS in Business Administration with Emphasis in Accounting to be offered fall 2022; and speakers for the nursing and doctors and dentist for tomorrow programs nurturing future health professionals.
  - i. **Director of CRE** YoungUhk highlighted CRE youth programs and activities, one of the six approved targets, and shared activities across the FSM. Their challenge is reaching the communities due to the pandemic.
  - ii. **FSM FMI Dean** Teburea reported first graduation ceremony for five traditional navigation students April 30<sup>th</sup>; FMI graduation May 18 with ten cadets; founding day activities; upgrading of FMI instructors; and fencing project. Challenges include preparation to add Class IV and upgrading instructors.
  - iii. **Yap Campus Dean** Roboman reported student activities resume on-campus - founday day, faculty & staff professional development day with training on TracDat and Canvas and team building activities, college fair, incentive award day, and May 19 graduation ceremony with 14 graduates; and Yap Upward Bound renewed for another five years. Their challenge is bringing services to on-line students.  
 IP interjected that Pohnpei Upward Bound was also renewed and a new Director of ISLET Glenda Cornelius has been hired; she has a strong background in education technology and will focus on distance learning.
  - iv. **Chuuk Campus Dean** Kanto introduced Chuuk Campus Instructional Coordinator Genevy Samuel who is acting dean while he is attending ConCon in Pohnpei. She shared their pilot program, WeCare, to reach out to non-admit students to improve their math and English skills and prepare them to-retake the COMET. The program is free and taught by volunteer instructors. Their challenge is reaching out to students to participate in programs designed to help them.
  - v. **CTEC Dean** Jack said his report is in the written report.
  - vi. **Kosrae Campus Dean** Mike reported 12 students graduated spring 2022; graduates from the previous year invited to participate; founding day, incentive award day. Their challenge is identifying certified licensed contractors; former contractors no longer available. Fencing project awarded but on hold waiting for materials.
- e. **VPEMSS** Oducado reported on 2022 summer data, second highest in nine summer sessions; fall 2022 data highest in ten years with all campuses exceeding enrollment and credits projections; \$3,898 million Pell awarded to 1,386 students Spring 2022; \$129,604.25 from SEG work study to 337 students; \$115,009.75 from SEG financial assistance to 114 students; 168 graduates Spring 2022; 1,055 (or 79%) offered admission out of 1,336 taking spring 2022 COMET.  
 Challenge for EMSS is maintaining enrollment momentum and how to retain and support students to graduate on time.  
 Challenge for IA is recruiting faculty, currently 22 positions announced, some vacant

for two years. Challenge for IEQA is hiring the vice president Inquiry to enrollment trend attributed to efforts to close the equity gap, increase in returning students, and availability of on-line classes. Inquiry also made about Senator Palik's suggestion at the hearing about evaluation of our money manager; contract just renewed and used by few other organizations so put on hold for now.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Presidential Search.** Regent Gallen, who chairs the search committee, reported the deadline for applications was May 31; received over twenty applications; only a small number with complete application package; committee to decide how to proceed.
- b. **Chuuk Campus.** Since the board meeting in Chuuk was postponed, the committee has not met. Regent Arnold, however, has been fact finding and reaching out to former regents to learn the history of a new campus for Chuuk. The quest started many years ago, through several board chairs/regents, shifting roles of people, and many hurdles. The governor is new and not yet familiar with the situation. He will reach out to him and work with the committee to determine how to proceed.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Review of BP 5106 Petty Cash Fund and Delete BP 5107 Petty Cash – Pohnpei Campus and BP 5108 Petty Cash – National Campus.** BP 5106, BP 5107, and BP 5108 were reviewed by appropriate committees. Recommendations include no changes to BP 5106 and to delete BP 5107 and BP 5108 and make them into administrative procedures (AP) under BP 5107.  
Arnold/Mingii  
*Moved to accept the review of BP 5106 and deletion of BP 5107 and BP 5108.* CARRIED
- b. **Review of BP 4100 COM-FSM Entrance Criteria.** The Recruitment, Admission, and Retention Committee reviewed the recommendations from the Director of Academic Programs to BP 4100 to add a new section C. Other Entrance Criteria. This section will include other standardized English language proficiency tests especially for students applying for admissions but cannot take the COMET.  
Arnold/Mingii  
*Moved to accept the amendments to BP 4100 COM-FSM Entrance Criteria.* CARRIED
- c. **Review of Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER).** The college began preparing this report two years ago by conducting gap analysis to determine strengths and weaknesses of the institution. Standards were assigned to writing committees, each set of sub-standards was validated by appropriate committee. The report is the final draft, all issues are reflected and going through final edit. If approved, it will be submitted to ACCJC. Chair Gallen thanked IP and staff for creating the report.  
Arnold/Mingii  
*Moved to approve the Institutional Self-Evaluation report and submission to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges/Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges* CARRIED  
IP shared the next steps to when the final decision on the report will be made.

- d. **Request for Sabbatical.** Michael Muller, music instructor, submitted this request for sabbatical leave August to December 2022. IP shared the circumstances, reasons, and objectives for the request.

Mingii/Arnold

*Moved to approve the sabbatical leave requested for Michael Muller beginning fall 2022.*

CARRIED

## 11. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. The regents thanked Norma for her services to the board and students on behalf of their state.
- b. **Community Meeting.** Because of circumstances the community meeting in conjunction with this board meeting was cancelled. If there are issues, they can be addressed to the board or college. Chair asked for volunteer to host the next community meeting.

## 12. NEXT MEETING

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first full week of September. Suggestion made to try again to hold the meeting in Chuuk.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT – June 17, 2022,

The regular meeting ended at 2:04 PM. followed by executive session of the board.

Minutes of the COM-FSM Board of Regents meeting of June 17, 2022, approved this \_\_\_\_ day of September 2022.