



Report to the Board of Regents

Administrative Services | Enrollment Management & Student Services
Institutional Effectiveness & Quality Assurance | Instructional Affairs

September 14-15, 2017, Tofol, Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia



DEPARTMENT OF Enrollment Management & Student Services

CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP | COUNSELING | FINANCIAL AID | REGISTRAR | STUDENT LIFE

College awards \$9.5 Million Federal Pell Grant to students during AY 2016-2017.

The college's Financial Aid Office (FAO) reported that it awarded \$9,546,921.90 to students during academic year (AY) 2016-2017. According to the director for FAO, "\$8,941,192.90 Federal Pell Grant were awarded to students during fall 2016 and spring 2017 semester, and \$605,729.00, during summer 2017." Tables below show the distribution by academic term and campus.

Table 1. Pell Awards for fall 2016 semester

Campus	Enrollment (N)	Pell Eligible (n)	n % of N	Pell Recipient (n1)	n1 in % of n	Pell Award in US\$
National	918	864	94%	834	97%	\$2,323,832.00
Chuuk	250	233	93%	216	93%	\$553,974.00
Yap	157	140	89%	140	100%	\$343,380.00
CTEC-Pohnpei	597	580	97%	544	94%	\$1,313,409.00
Kosrae	171	143	84%	135	94%	\$310,181.00
Total	2,093	1,960	94%	1,869	95%	\$4,844,776.00

Table 2. Pell Awards for spring 2017 semester

Campus	Enrollment (N)	Pell Eligible (n)	n % of N	Pell Recipient (n1)	n1 in % of n	Pell Award in US\$
National	817	794	97%	761	96%	\$2,083,951.90
Chuuk	230	191	83%	186	97%	\$478,206.00
Yap	129	119	92%	119	100%	\$274,775.00
CTEC-Pohnpei	458	444	97%	420	95%	\$1,033,602.00
Kosrae	114	103	90%	93	90%	\$225,882.00
Total	1,748	1,651	94%	1,579	96%	\$4,096,416.90

Table 3. Pell Awards for summer 2017 semester

Campus	Enrollment (N)	Pell Eligible (n)	n % of N	Pell Recipient (n1)	n1 in % of n	Pell Award in US\$
National	455	168	37%	168	100%	\$208,219.00
Chuuk	123	78	63%	78	100%	\$94,500.00
Yap	109	60	55%	60	100%	\$71,965.00
CTEC-Pohnpei	182	126	69%	126	100%	\$141,755.00
Kosrae	99	85	86%	73	86%	\$89,290.00
Total	968	517	53%	505	98%	\$605,729.00

College signs 2017-2018 MOU with Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF)

2017-2018 APIASF AANIPISI scholarship program opens September 1, 2017, and closes October 18, 2017.

On July 18, 2017, the college signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for 2017-2018 with the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) to continue providing financial support to eligible low-income Asian and Pacific Islander(AAPI) students, and document the impact of the grant aids (or scholarships) on recipients's academic outcomes from Asian American & Native American Pacific Islanders-Serving Institutions (AANIPISI).

According to the college's VP for Enrollment Management & Student Services who is the APIASF AANIPISI point-of-contact, "this will be the college's third MOU with APIASF, with the first MOU in 2015-2016, and the second, 2016-2017. During the school year 2015-2017, there were 18 COM-FSM students who received between \$2,500 to \$5,000 AANIPISI scholarship grants from APIASF." He further added that the APIASF General Scholarship will open September 14, 2017 through January 11, 2018.

The APIASF General Scholarship is open to AAPI high school seniors, current college students, and students with a GED who will be entering or enrolled in Fall 2018 in a U.S. accredited college or university as a degree-seeking undergraduate student.

SPRING 2017 GRADUATE SURVEY

94.25% of the graduates signified that they are satisfied with their overall experience, benefits, learned useful information, services, activities, information and learning from the college. 94.25% signified that they would recommend COM-FSM to family and friends.

US ED recertifies the college's eligibility to receive financial assistance under Title IV

College qualifies to participate in programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amend, and the Federal student financial assistance programs (Title IV, HEA programs) until June 30, 2023.



On July 22, 2017, the San Francisco/Seattle School Participating Division, Federal Student Aid Program Compliance, US Department of Education, informed the college that it meets the minimum requirements of: (a) institutional eligibility, (b) administrative capability, and (c) financial responsibilities, satisfying the definition of an eligible institution under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended.

On August 8, 2017, the college received from US ED a copy of the Program Participation Agreement (PPA) that has been

signed on behalf of the US ED secretary, the Eligibility and Certification Approval Report (ECAR), and the approval letter indicating that the college qualified to participate in programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) and the Federal student financial assistance programs (Title IV, HEA programs). According to the college's director for Financial Aid Office (FAO), "the expiration date of the college's PPA with US ED will be on June 30, 2023, and reapplication date on March 31, 2023."

The year-round Pell is back: Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2017 enacted amending section 401(b) of the HEA, as amended

\$5,920 maximum award for 2017-2018, an increase by \$105

US Congress enacted the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017, which became Public Law 115-31 on May 5, 2017. The law amended section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), to allow a student to receive Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant) funds up to 150% of the student's Pell Grant Scheduled Award for an award year. According to the college's director for Financial Aid Office (FAO), "the law restores year round (summer) Pell. In

the past, students who receive a full-time Pell Grant in both the fall and the spring semesters would have no remaining Pell Grant funds for the summer semester. With this new law, eligible students who are enrolled at least half-time may have funding available for the summer semester." The law also increases the maximum award to \$5,920 in the 2017-2018 school year, an increase of \$105, he added.



Perspective drawing of the Student Center, National Campus, Palikir, Pohnpei

\$420,133.25 Supplemental Education Grant (SEG) to students during AY 2016-2017

Student received \$273,234.75 from SEG Work-Study during AY 2016-2017.

The college's Financial Aid Office (FAO) reported that \$420,133.35 SEG were awarded to students during AY 2016-2017. According to FAO, "\$105,133.25 of SEG were awarded to 111 students in fall 2016, \$61,226.05 to 96 in spring 2017, and \$253,773.95 to 554 students in summer

2017." FAO further reported there were 602, 623 and 75 students who had enrolled in the SEG Work-Study program during fall 2016, spring 2017, and summer 2017 terms, respectively. These students received \$273,234.75 from the SEG Work-Study program.

\$241,482.25 of financial assistance from FSM National & State scholarships were awarded to students during AY 2016-2017

A total of \$241,482.25 financial assistance from the FSM National & State scholarships were awarded to students during AY 2016-2017. According to FAO, 151 students during fall 2016 received \$123,540.25

financial assistance from the FSM National & State scholarships; while, \$103,350 and \$14,592 were awarded to 126 students during spring 2017, and six students during summer 2017, respectively."

Table 4. FSM National and State scholarship awards, AY 2016-2017

	Fall 2016		Spring 2017		Summer 2017	
	Recipient	Award in US\$	Recipient	Award in US\$	Recipient	Award in US\$
FSM National Scholarship	51	\$52,430.00	43	\$42,500.00	6	\$14,592.00
Chuuk State	38	\$24,885.25	32	\$19,900.00	0	\$0.00
Kosrae State	31	\$15,500.00	21	\$10,500.00	0	\$0.00
Yap State	31	\$30,725.00	30	\$30,450.00	0	\$0.00
Total	151	\$123,540.25	126	\$103,350.00	6	\$14,592.00

College graduated 363 students during AY 2016-2017

17 students were graduated from the college's BA partnership program with University of Guam (UOG) during AY 2016-2017

The college's Office of the Registrar reported that the college graduated 363 students during the academy year 2016-2017. According to college registrar, "For academic year 2016-2017 (fall 2016, spring 2017, and summer 2017), 47 students were graduated

with third-year certificates of achievement; 243 with associate of arts, associate of science, and associate of applied science degrees; and 73 with certificates of achievements."

EMSS Student Life to hold college-wide Student Body Association (SBA) officers retreat

EMSS Student Life will hold a college-wide Student Body Association (SBA) officers retreat on September 11 to 14, 2017. According to the director for student life, "At least, one SBA officer from Chuuk, Kosrae, and Yap Campuses, including the FSM Fisheries and Maritime Institute (FSM FMI) will be participating in this retreat. All SBA officers from the National Campus and the Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) in Pohnpei will also attend." The SBA

officers will be housed in the college's residence halls, she further added.

Workshops and activities for the retreat shall include but by no means limited to: (a) indication ceremony; (b) a presentation with the US embassy on leadership, pursuing higher education, being successful in school and beyond, and the importance of getting involved on campus; (c) a presentation by the Australian embassy on gender equality;

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UPDATES

Center for Entrepreneurship
Mason Wiley, Executive Director

Incubator Program

4Stars

4Stars has just wrapped up designing the National Fisheries Corporation (NFC) website, which can be viewed at www.nfc.fm. The students who run 4Stars demonstrated a growing understanding of client relations, as this project required much less guidance from the Center's Executive Director. The students have worked closely with the NFC's IT manager to train him in basic HTML editing and management so he can periodically update the site. Both the CEO and the IT manager have commended 4Stars for their professional behavior and quick turnaround time. Unfortunately, 4Stars is losing another student to the University of Guam, so the company plans to recruit new talent from the COM-FSM's computer science students.

Hydroponics of the Pacific (HOP)

HOP was very busy over the summer constructing systems for a variety of local beneficiaries. As mentioned in previous reports, the funding for these hydroponics systems came from a Global Greengrant for \$5,000 and is intended to test local interest in hydroponics and possibilities for growing produce that cannot be grown in local soil. HOP made many useful findings. For instance, one system was installed in Saimon's Market to see if customers would like to purchase produce while it was fresh and still growing. However, HOP discovered that the system requires more sunlight than the clear ceiling panels in the store would allow, which was an important learning experience. Several recipients of the systems also had problems with reading PPM meters or keeping the water nutrient levels at the right level; also a good learning experience. HOP also found that it could successfully grow a variety of produce that is normally imported at expensive prices and is usually half-rotten by the time it reaches the FSM. Highlighting the successes of the Center and HOP, the Center was just awarded a \$36,000 grant to build a greenhouse on National and Pohnpei campuses. The greenhouses will be used to test commercial level production of hydroponics produce and for general experimentation.

RentAText

RentAText experimented this summer with renting textbooks through the College's Bookstore and Financial Aid office. RentAText found last spring that many students did not have the money to rent textbooks upfront as most of them rely on Pell Grants or other forms of financial aid to buy textbooks. The students who run RentAText worked with several faculty committees and departments within College to allow RentAText to charge against students' financial aid accounts through the COM-FSM Bookstore. The Bookstore charges a fee of \$3 to process the paperwork. Students over the summer found this arrangement to be much more agreeable than paying cash up front. RentAText managed to bring in over \$400 in profits for them and several textbook owners over the summer and expect to make much more over the fall semester when there are considerably more students and classes that require textbooks. RentAText's next goal is to increase its database by having more students with textbooks commit to the program. RentAText started a new marketing campaign where they are targeting specific books that they are certain will rent well this upcoming semester.

DGR Studio

DGR Studio is finishing up their wall murals for the Sexual Assault Awareness Month award they won back in May. The first murals are in the Dining Hall on National Campus and the second murals will be on Pohnpei Campus. They've already received buzz over social media for their work even before it's finished. They drummed up enough excitement that the Center's Associates chose DGR Studio's project for Kolonia beautification through artwork during the Center's workshop retreat to Lenger.

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We provide quality education today for a successful tomorrow.

UPDATES

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Workshops

Lenger Leadership Workshop Retreat

On the weekend of July 29th, the Center took 14 Associates on a retreat to Lenger. Several months prior to the retreat, the Associates were asked to come up with an idea for the Center’s fall semester activity. Over the course of the summer, Associates approached the Center’s Executive Director to discuss possible projects to brainstorm ways to make their idea workable and creative. The students then pitched the idea to the group for a vote. The Associates had many clever ideas, including a marketing campaign for a blood bank, a food competition amongst Micronesian islands to promote local cuisine, a farmers market in the center of Kolonia, and others. As mentioned above, Destiny Etse of DRG Studios received the most votes for her Kolonia beautification idea. The Associates will now work with her to pick a site within Kolonia and find funding to make the project real.

Similar to previous semesters, the Center experimented with timing and topics for its workshops. The Center’s Associates believed the summer would be the best time for the Center to hold a retreat because they would have fewer obligations to contend with. However, the turnout was relatively low compared to other workshops and retreats the Center has held in the past. Most of the Associates who did not attend found that they have more family and work obligations over the summer when their families and employers do not think they are competing with College activities for the students’ attention. Therefore, the Center will likely only hold future retreats during fall and spring semesters.

Other Activities

Chuuk Campus visit

The Center’s Executive Director and Administrative Specialist made a trip to Chuuk to explore expansion of the Center’s activities there. The Executive Director and Administrative Specialist had a very positive meeting with Dean Kind Kanto and Roger Arnold, an instructor who teaches several business classes. Mr. Arnold was impressed with the variety of entrepreneurial projects the Center has undertaken and believed that he could work with the Center on similar endeavors in the future. He seemed particularly interested in using some of the Center’s funding in helping the business students to create small businesses for a day or two, similar to the F4 or other business expos.

SBA officers retreat Continued from page 2.

(d) a meeting with the 25th Founding Anniversary working group; (e) a movie showing of “Whale Rider,” which highlights Pacific Culture, leadership, gender norms, and climate change, followed by a panel discussing led by Marstella Jack; (f) discussions, overview, and amendments to the SBA constitution and by-laws; (g) trainings on positions: taking meeting minutes, proper formats or procedures when conducting meetings, budget tracking, etc.; (h) planning of student activities calendars, generating new student initiatives, and compiling objectives or goals for the upcoming year; (i) leadership workshops and activities; (j) team building, communication and teamwork games and activities; and (k) others.

College registered 2,021 head counts, with 24,469 credits equivalent to 2,039 full-time equivalent students

Campus	Headcounts	Registered Credits	Full-time equivalent
National	930	11,832	986.00
CTEC-Pohnpei	529	6,113.5	509.46
Chuuk	241	2,934	244.50
Kosrae	152	1,592	132.67
Yap	169	1,997.5	166.46
Total	2,021	24,469	2,039.08

According to the college’s registrar, “Of the 2,021 students, 1,480 (or 73%) are registered full-time, and 541 (or 27%), part-time.”

Tutorial assistance & Counseling’s resume-writing workshops

The counseling office reported that 175 students availed of its tutorial services during AY 2016-2017. These students received tutorial assistance on courses, such as natural sciences, English, computer and information systems, business and accounting, social sciences, and education. Of the 183 students, 153 (83.61%) passed their courses tutored, and 30 (16.39%) either failed or withdrew from courses tutored.

Of the 153 students who passed their courses tutored, 131 (85.62%) received

either A, B or C grades; while, 22 (or 14.38%) received D grades.

On April 5, 2017, the counseling office facilitated a 60-minute resume-writing workshop participated by 14 students (N). To assess the effectiveness of the workshop, students were submitted to pre and post tests. Results showed that 11 (or 79% of N) students scored equal to or greater than the median on the pre-test, and 14 (100% of N) scored equal to or greater than the median on the post-test.



Student Life organized a two-day training for Peer Coaches

In preparation for the fall 2017 orientation for new and returning students, selected students from the National Campus and the Career Technical and Education Center (CTEC) in Pohnpei participated in the two-day training for Peer Coaches organized by

Student Life last July 20 to 21, 2017. The training included sessions on Title IX & Bystander Intervention, mentor reflections, overview of the 2017-2018 Student Handbook, the orientation schedule values workshop.

