



College of the Marshall Islands

Board of Regents Regular Meeting **Board Conference Room** **Tuesday, October 17, 2017**

Approved Minutes

The Board of Regents of the College of the Marshall Islands convened at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 in the CMI Board Conference Room. The regular presiding officer and the new recording secretary were present.

Present: Chairman Benjamin Chutaro, Vice Chairman Joseph Bigler, Regent Jelton Anjain, Regent Patrick Chen, Regent Marie Maddison, Regent Jabwil Ned, Regent Kathryn Relang, Regent Dr. Pinano, Student Regent Luston Binejal, and President Dr. Theresa Koroivulaono.

Apologies: Regent Julia Alfred and Regent Sultan Korean.

Staff in Attendance: Dr. Melinda Nish, Executive Advisor to the President/Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs; Stevenson Kotton, Vice President of Business and Administrative Affairs; and Jimmie Akeang, Special Assistant to the President/Translator-recording secretary.

Guests: None

Opening Prayer/Call to Order

Chairman Chutaro led the opening prayer, then called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Remarks by Chairman

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting and reintroduced the new Special Assistant to the President (for Board of Regents meetings and documents), Jimmie Akeang. The Chairman summarized the matters before the board.

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

The Chairman moved to approve the CMI Board of Regents Agenda. Regent Kathryn Relang seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Regent Relang moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 23, 2017 and the special meeting minutes of June 20, 2017. Vice Chairman Joseph Bigler seconded. The motion to accept the May 23, 2017 minutes passed with a unanimous vote. The motion to accept the June 20, 2017 minutes carried (information added) with a unanimous vote.

Old Business

The Chairman moved to approve the proposed standing committee membership and schedule. Regent Relang seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The general assembly of the Board of Regents adjourned to move into standing committee meetings at 10:10 a.m.

New Business

The general assembly of the Board of Regents reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

President's Report

Madam President, Dr. Theresa Koroivulaono, presented the President's Report to the Board of Regents. This Report included details regarding

the College's continued push to improve the quality of education in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). These initiatives include collaborative participation in international conferences sponsored by such organizations as the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), the University of the South Pacific (USP), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Carnegie Institute and the Pacific Post-secondary Education Council (PPEC). The report was also delivered for CMI's participation as part of the RMI team at the Joint Economic Management and Fiscal Accountability Committee (JEMFAC) meeting in Honolulu on August 29, 2017. Former CFO Kotton gave a presentation to JEMFAC that was well received.

Regent Chen attended the Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress in September 2017.

The President reported to the Board that a recent survey showed significant interest in the Certificate of Marine Science and the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education programs.

The President updated the Board on the changes underway for the online monitoring system of the CMI Strategic Plan 2016-2018, the progress of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) Mid-Term Report, and the College's construction and renovation projects.

The President reported on partnerships with K-12 educators, businesses, industry, and the community. In particular, the President reported on CMI's collaboration with the Minister of Education's Policy and Advisory Group, and participation in "Improving Quality Basic Education" (an ADB-funded project), and the Regional Education Laboratory (REL).

The Chairman recommended that the private sector be included in all decision-making processes involving initiatives to fill the human resource needs of RMI employers.

The Chairman and President led a discussion on the College's plans to mitigate the challenges that it will face if RMI loses a significant amount of or all of the funding under the Compact of Free Association (CoFA) between the United States and the RMI. The CoFA is due to expire in 2023.

The President summarized CMI's reorganization of key positions that will streamline processes and increase efficiency at all levels. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Vice President of Administration (VPA) posts have been merged to create the Vice President of Business and Administrative Affairs (VPBAA) position. The major functions of the discontinued Executive Director of Institutional Integrity and Effectiveness post have been reassigned to the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs (VPASA), the Special Assistant to the President/Translator, the Director of Institutional Research, and the IT Director.

Other major initiatives that the President updated the Board of Regents on include the institutional data and document management system, the CMI Succession Development Plan, and the METO Education Master Plan. Four operational plans will also be a part of the METO Education Master Plan : the Enrollment Management Plan, the Facilities Master Plan, the IT Master Plan, and the Safety & Security Master Plan.

Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)

Present: Committee Chairman Bigler, Regent Dr. Pinano, Regent Relang, and President Dr. Koroivulaono.

Vice Chairman Bigler introduced the report which was given by President Dr. Koroivulaono. The President reported that the SPC focused on lessons learned from the implementation of the current Strategic Plan which will expire at the end of 2018. In particular, the SPC identified strengths and weaknesses in the current Strategic Plan with the goal of using the results of their

analysis to create the new Strategic Plan which is expected to cover 2019 to 2023.

Finance/Risk Assessment/Audit Committee (FRAAC)

Present: Committee Chairman Chutaro, Regent Chen, and VPBAA Kotton.

Chairman Chutaro gave the report. The FRAAC report focused on the financial risks associated with the 2023 expiration of the financial provisions of or the funding under the Compact of Free Association.

Chairman Chutaro reported that the College has taken positive steps in financial risk mitigation through the adaptation of a financial management system that is modern, operates and updates in real-time, and has built-in safeguards. The new system supports the College's drive to ensure its future financial stability.

Regent Chen added that the College is taking the right steps by focusing on continually improving academic success rates and providing quality employees for the economy.

Academic & Student Affairs Committee (ASAC)

Present: Committee Chairman Anjain, Regent Maddison, Regent Ned, Student Regent Binejal, and VPASA Dr. Nish.

Regent Anjain introduced the ASAC report given by the Executive Advisor to the President/VPASA, Dr. Melinda Nish. The committee's meeting centered around the VPASA Dr. Nish's enrollment report covering the 2016-2017 academic year. She reported that the Fall 2017 semester showed a significant increase in the overall enrollment compared to Fall 2016. She reported that the proposed Enrollment Management Plan (EMP) which will support the proposed Educational Master Plan or the METO is under development and will include enrollment targets. The College is

studying enrollment trends and will include specific strategies in the proposed EMP to reverse negative trends and increase the momentum of the positive ones.

The VPASA's report also covered the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program, the College's RMI high school diploma equivalency. The ABE program also offers training and testing on the HiSet, a US high school equivalency test that replaced the GED program and test that the College formerly used. To date, the ABE program is now offered at the Uliga campus, the Ebeye and the Jaluit Centers. The ABE program is funded by the Special Education Grant (SEG).

VPASA Dr. Nish elaborated on the success of the pilot Accelerated Program (AP) which the President covered earlier. She said the goal was to have students successfully complete two levels of Developmental English in 8 weeks, 4 weeks for the level 2 course and 4 weeks for level 3. Developmental Education (DevEd) Students are eligible for credit English courses upon completion of the level 3 course. 100% passed level 2 and 82% passed level three. Additionally, she reported, 92% of these students registered for Fall 2017 classes. The success of the summer pilot program led to the DevEd Department's creation of modified AP pilots for the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters. The results of these pilot programs will be analyzed once mid-term grades are available, she reported.

The VPASA's report briefly covered the Navigating Student Success in the Pacific (NSSP) grant program which made possible the creation of two specialized advanced certificates in special education—one with a concentration in teaching deaf students and another with a concentration in teaching students with severe disabilities.

VPASA Dr. Nish reported that the first cohort of students are enrolled in CMI's first ever bachelor's degree program that was recently

approved by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Sixteen students are enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education (BAEE) program for Fall 2017. Student Regent Binegal was congratulated for choosing to be one of these first students in this historic program.

CMI also gained approval from ACCJC for a new credit certificate program in Marine Science, the VPASA reported. The enrollment numbers for this program are good.

The VPASA stated that the College has improved its English and Mathematics placement methodology by using, for the first time, four separate measures instead of only using entrance exam scores to place students. The College is now using the following: 1. CMI placement exam score 2. English/math grades for 11th graders 3. English/math grades for 12th graders 4. Cumulative high school GPA. The College will also include standardized exam results if available including TOEFL, SAT, and ACT scores. The recently placed students' academic results will be used to assess the new placement methodology.

The Board of Regents applauded the College leadership for their innovative measures and hard work.

ACTION ITEMS

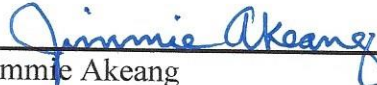
Regent Relang moved to approve the Budget Portfolio FY 2017-2018. Regent Pinano seconded. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Vice Chairman Bigler moved to approve the Board of Regents 2018 Meeting Schedule. Regent Ned seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

The Executive Session started at 12:57 p.m. and ended at 1:30 p.m.

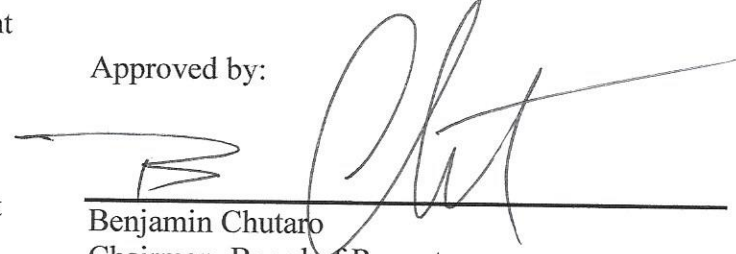
The Board of Regents' meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Jimmie Akeang
Recording Secretary

Approved by:



Benjamin Chutaro
Chairman, Board of Regents