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Changes made to the Academic Calendar due to Cyclone Gita

During February, the event of Cyclone Gita made it necessary for ASCC to re-structure its timetable for the spring 2018 semester. The cyclone began on Friday, February 9th, and by the end of the weekend, much of Tutuila had sustained serious damage. Fortunately, the College's infrastructure for the most part remained intact, but classes could not be held because full electricity was not restored until later in the following week. This made it necessary for ASCC to cancel its 2018 Spring Break so that its current classes could make up for the credit hours lost during the forced closure. Along with this re-arrangement, the staff and faculty of ASCC took immediate action to get the semester back on track. While classes were suspended, many of the ASCC staff joined in the effort to clean up the campus and assist with needed repairs. With the support and immediate response by the American Samoa Governor - Honorable Lolo Matalasi Moliga and ASG Cabinet members, critical operational needs that included electricity, telecommunications, and water were restored and the College resumed its operations on the 20th of February following the President's Day Holiday.

ASCC Updated Schedule:

- March 21st: 1st Session Instruction Ends (*6-weeks accelerated session*)
- March 5th – 7th: 1st Session Final Examinations (*6-weeks accelerated session*)
- March 9th: 1st Session Grades Due
- March 14th – 15th: 2nd Session Registration (*6-weeks accelerated session*)
- March 12th – 16th: Spring Break Cancelled (*Instruction continues*)

ASCC President's Post-Cyclone - Meet and Greet Assembly:

President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato invited all ASCC students to attend a special "Meet and Greet" session on Wednesday, February 21st. With students filling the Auditorium in the New Multi-Purpose Center, Dr. Makaiwi-Pato gave a welcoming address reminding the audience of the College's Mission and its student-centered focus. Dr. Pato also emphasized the support that College faculty and staff will ensure to accommodate the instructional needs of students that were impacted by Cyclone Gita. She clarified academic and student services personnel that are prepared to accommodate and communicate their educational needs and encouraged all students to utilize these services.



Following the Meet and Greet assembly, Dr. Pato introduced the Culture Crew, a group made up primarily of California-based Polynesian singers, musicians and MCs who were on a tour through the Pacific. Culture Crew, who regularly perform across the United States, treated the ASCC audience to a lively and engaging performance that lasted nearly an hour. Afterwards, Dr. Makaiwi-Pato thanked the visiting entertainers for helping to lift the spirits of all of those in attendance, following the traumatic experience of Cyclone Gita less than a week prior.

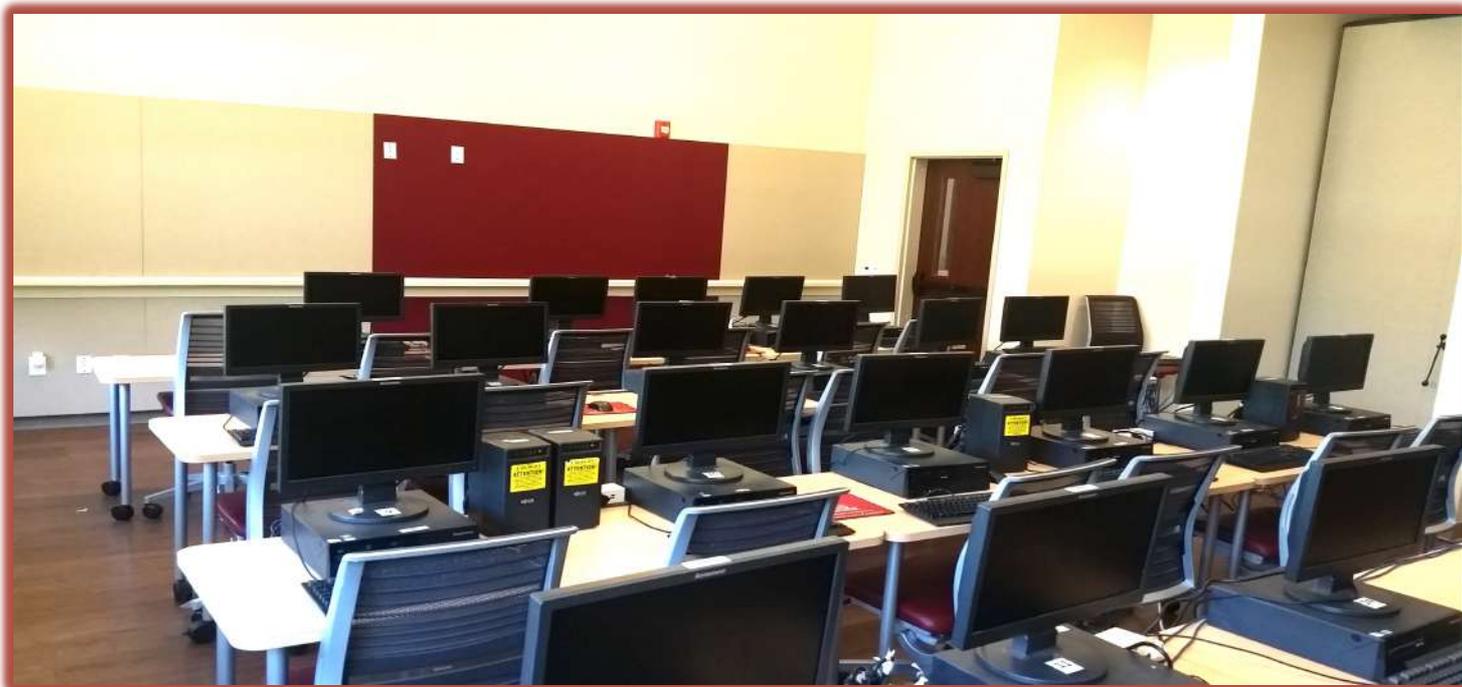


A glimpse of the Cyclone Gita aftermath:



Academic Highlights:

- ***February 1, 2018:*** The Curriculum Committee held its opening meeting for the spring 2018 semester on the 1st of February 2018. One main goal for the Curriculum Committee this spring is to complete the review of the ASCC academic catalog to provide necessary updates to academic programs and services offered at the College. The reviews include academic program mission statements, program learning outcomes, course descriptions, degree requirements, certificate requirements, student services and academic policies, and any other curricular services.
- ***February 9-16, 2018:*** Cancellation of ASCC classes due to damages caused by Cyclone Gita.
- ***February 16, 2018:*** Successful set up and relocation of one of the Computer Science Labs in the Multi-purpose Center (MPC). In an effort to continue instruction for all ASCC students regardless of the damages caused by Cyclone Gita, one of the computer science labs has been set up in the Conference Room on the 2nd floor of the MPC. The lab is being used for computer science courses scheduled from 8:00- 4:00 p.m., accommodating four classes scheduled on Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays and three classes scheduled on Tuesdays, and Thursdays.



- ***February 20, 2018:*** All ASCC spring 2018 classes resumed after a one-week cancellation due to cyclone Gita. In an effort to ensure contact hours are met for all courses, the spring 2018 Academic Calendar was revised to reflect necessary changes to ensure contact hours are met for all courses, and deadlines for student services were adjusted to accommodate students affected. One of the noted changes for the spring 2018 Academic Calendar is the official cancellation of the 2018 “Spring Break” for all ASCC students and faculty. The College will continue instruction on March 12, 2018 – March 16, 2018, for all sessions including the 10-Week Session.
- ***February 27, 2018:*** The Phi Theta Kappa Induction was rescheduled from February 8th to February 21st 2018, welcoming 17 new members into its ranks. President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato and other ASCC administrators joined the PTK, their families and friends for the occasion, which went by the theme “Good as Gold”. The Keynote Speech was given by current Math Department chairperson Mrs. Amete Mulipola-Moefiainu, herself a former PTK member and ASCC graduate who subsequently completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics at Texas A&M University. The full article can be accessed on the College’s Website at: <http://www.amsamoa.edu/pressreleases/180305PTK.html>.



ASCC student Utaifeau J. Tilo (left) celebrates with his family after being inducted last week into the ASCC chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)



ASCC student Monalisa Afoa (center) celebrates being inducted into the ASCC chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society last week. Ms. Afoa is seen here with ASCC faculty member Mrs. Elisapeta Faalafi-Jones (right) and guest Mrs. Maria Perofeta. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)



Student Support Services



The mission of the Division Student Services (DOSS) is to support the educational pursuits of all students attending ASCC through the provision of high quality services, student access, and learning support. The DOSS provides information and services in financial aid resources, library, counseling, tutorial, admission, and records that are available to all ASCC students.

The DOSS works collaboratively with the Division of Academic Affairs to provide guidance to students for career planning/transferability and successful entry into the workforce.

February 2018 Highlights:

- Federal Work Study program started January 29th, 2018. First pay date was on 2/21/2018.
 - Total Funds: \$ 4,389.91
- First Batch for Spring 2018 closed on Thursday, 2/8/18.
 - Total Funds: \$ 450,926.00
- ASCC Net Price Calculator is now updated as of 2/21/18 and is located on our website:
<http://www.amsamoa.edu/financialaid.html>
- Student Government Association (SGA) Clubs in Spring 2018 consists of 12 clubs registered under SGA:
 - Total of 445 students
- SGA worked collaboratively with the ASCC Marketing Committee to organize the Cyclone Gita Drive to lend a helping hand to students that were affected.
- A workshop presentation on sexual harassment was held for the ASCC student body in February 2018. The workshop was led by peer mentor Dorris Tuisamatatele.
- Manu'a High School Outreach:
 - Presentations on the Admission process and information on applying for FAFSA online were made to all 24 students (Juniors and Seniors)
 - Placement Testing - 6 students
- Library Services usage/visits:
 - Total of 5,816 students
- Counselors and Tutors:
 - All counselors (Academic, Personal, Transfer, VA, PD Counseling) have moved to the MPC and situated as a one-stop service area, and no longer scattered all over the campus.
 - All tutors are also situated on the first floor of the MPC stationed in the Student Lounge and easily accessible to assist the student body.
 - The Academic Counselor took the College and Life Planning (CLP 150) course to another level with the inclusion of the MOODLE program as a requirement aligned with technology usage.
 - The Personal Counselor has participated in two local workshops sponsored by the local Parent Network Group with connections to Hawaii. These workshops focused on policies, resources, services, and awareness on children with disabilities.

Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources

Instructional Programs:

Local High School students get hands-on learning experience with ‘School to Work Program’

The ASCC ACNR Instructional Program is currently hosting six students from Nu’uuli Vocational Technical High School as part of the School to Work Program. The program began on February 5, and will run for a total of 10 weeks. The six students are gaining valuable hands-on learning experience in the field. Three of the students are assigned to work in the Fruits for Life Greenhouse under the supervision of Greenhouse Technician Eirenei Tesimale while the other three students are working under the supervision of ACNR Horticulturalist Dr. Ian Gurr. The ACNR Instructional Program has been hosting students from the School to Work Program for several years now and has seen its benefits, not only for the students but also for its faculty and staff. Some of the past students who participated in this program are now current ASCC students and majoring in ACNR related fields.



Nu’uuli Vocational Technical High School students in the School to Work Program working in the ACNR Fruits for Life Greenhouse.

Research:

ASCC-ACNR Health Communications Research and Media Leading the Way: Healthy Islands-Healthy People Session at Association of Social Anthropologists of Oceania Meetings.

ASCC ACNR Health Communications Researcher Fepulea’i Dr. Micah Van der Ryn organized and convened an all day working session entitled “Healthy Islands-Healthy People: Examining Health Promotion Programs and NCDs in the Pacific” at the Annual Association of Social Anthropologists of Oceania (ASAO) meetings held January 31 - February 4, 2018 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The session brought together anthropologists working throughout Oceania to examine sociocultural determinants of Pacific Islander health and the effectiveness of health promotion programs addressing the epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCD), such as diabetes.

Heading the ACNR Health Communications Research and Media (HCRM) unit, Van der Ryn has been designing, developing, implementing and evaluating media-based interventions informed by evidence and research to address the NCD and obesity epidemic in American Samoa. Connecting with other cultural anthropologists working on similar projects, and using their anthropological training and expertise, helps further develop and refine HCRM’s work and contributes towards getting the research published. The ASAO Healthy Islands session is focusing on bridging anthropological scholarship to the practical health providers and policy makers in the Pacific to realize tangible positive health outcomes for island communities.



Health Communications Researcher Fepulea'i Dr. Micah Van Der Ryn (left) facilitating the Healthy Islands-Healthy People discussions at the Association of Social Anthropologists of Oceania 2018 annual meeting in New Orleans.

Hurricane Gita affects ASCC ACNR Research

ASCC ACNR researchers gave a big sigh of relief in the aftermath of Hurricane Gita's impact on the Samoan islands. The ACNR research building and labs, including the newly refurbished roof, came through largely unscathed. The ACNR generator was able to maintain power to all the labs, including all the plant and insect growth chambers and freezers and refrigerators holding critical research materials. ASPA power and ASTCA phone and internet service was restored to the facility after only a day and a half of downtime. The research greenhouse and insectary in the back of the Land Grant station remained intact and required only minor repairs. The ACNR horticulture research program conducts much of its research in field plots on farmers' lands, and some of those plots were damaged. An ASCC ACNR taro variety trial in Taputimu was damaged when the roof of a nearby house was blown off and landed on top of the taro field. A newly planted tomato variety trial was also destroyed by the strong winds. Wind gusts up to 59 mph were recorded by a weather station located at the plot. Though recovery will take some time and a lot of work, and some research was lost in the storm, the researchers are grateful, as they are well aware that things could have been much worse.



Severe damage to three of the four ASCC ACNR greenhouses caused by Hurricane Gita.



Emily Ilaoa, Plant Tissue Culture Specialist of the ASCC ACNR Horticulture Research program helps dismantle and remove a roof that flew off a nearby house onto their taro research plot in Taputimu during Hurricane Gita.

Extension:

Funding Approved for “Pesticide Safety Certification Training”

On February 1, 2018, the American Samoa Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator, Autagavaia Tunai Alfred Peters, of ASCC ACNR received a congratulatory letter from the CEO of Extension Foundation in Kansas City, Missouri announcing the approval for funding of the “Pesticide Safety Certification Training” grant proposal. This sub-award of \$11,427.00 is for the period of January 01, 2018 - December 31, 2018.

The goal of this project is to improve the quality of training materials and classes provided to farmers, pest control officers and others whose work requires pesticide use. The Pesticide Safety Education Program, which is administered jointly by ASEPA and ASCC ACNR, has been in place for more than 20 years now. Emphasis is placed on proper use of pesticides including proper mixing, handling, transporting and storing. Improper pesticide use can harm human health and the environment; so all applicators must have the knowledge and skills needed to use these chemicals safely.

With this grant, ASCC ACNR is proposing to recruit an expert to translate their current teaching materials into the Chinese language to accommodate the many Chinese vegetable farmers in American Samoa who do not understand English or Samoan. The new person will also help teach the materials on a quarterly basis.

ACNR Forestry 2018 Program Review



(Left to Right) Duke Vele, DPS Cooperative Fire Grant Coordinator; Sherry Hazelhurst, Director of State & Private Forestry, USDA Forest Service; Katie Friday, Forest Legacy/Stewardship Program Manager, Hawaii and Pacific Islands; David Bakke, Pesticide-Use Specialist, Invasive Plants Program Manager; Luavaasiitia Mary Taufete'e, ACNR Forestry Program Manager; Miranda Hutten, Urban & Community Forestry Program Leader; Barbara Geringer-Frazier, Cooperative Fire Specialist Prevention; Richard Straight, Agro-Forestry Specialist and Aufa'i Apulu Ropeti Areta, ASCC ACNR Director.

Program managers and specialists from the Pacific Southwest Region of the United States Forest Service (USFS) visited the ASCC ACNR to conduct a weeklong review of the ACNR Forestry Program and the Department of Public Safety Cooperative Fire Grant. The program review is conducted every five-years. The USFS Review Team consisted of Sherry Hazelhurst, Director of State & Private Forestry, USDA Forest Service; David Bakke, Pesticide-Use Specialist, Invasive Plants Program Manager; Katie Friday, Forest Legacy/Stewardship Program Manager, Hawaii and Pacific Islands; Miranda Hutten, Urban & Community Forestry Program Leader; Barbara Geringer-Frazier, Cooperative Fire Specialist Prevention; and Richard Straight, Agro-Forestry Specialist.

During the review, the USFS Review Team and Forestry program staff planted native trees at the Fagalii Elementary School. Other activities included visitations to the Leone watershed, the National Park of American Samoa and checking on invasive tree growth in Maloata. The USFS Review Team also met with the ASCC President, Dr. Rosevonne Pato, commending her support and leadership for the ACNR Forestry Program. The USFS Review Team also commended the ACNR Forestry Program and ACNR Director for completing all 13 Recommendations from the 2013 Program Review. Many Forestry Program success stories contributed to the success of the 2018 Program Review.

Health messaging displayed in the community

The ASCC ACNR community nutritionist met with the ASWIC Nutrition Coordinator and showed her a "sugar shocker drink" display and two health communications posters that were used during the ACNR Health Communications Research Program Study, "Trial Testing of Household Based Health Promotion Intervention at the ASWIC Program." The ASWIC Nutrition Coordinator agreed to have a sugar shocker drink display and two health communications posters displayed at each of the four WIC Clinics which are located in Amouli, Leone, Lion's Park, and Utulei. The community nutritionist is currently working with a local graphic design company to change the dimensions of the two health communications posters to accommodate the needs of ASWIC.



Owen Peery, the Tafuna Branch Manager of ANZ Amerika Samoa Bank stands next to a sugar shocker drink display that was delivered to and set up in the break room at the Fagatogo Branch of ANZ Amerika Samoa Bank in December 2017. Peery has observed fewer employees consuming sugary drinks since the display was set up nearly three months ago.

ACNR Bulletin for the month of March 2018:

- **February 26th – March 5th:** ACNR Extension Program Coordinator will attend the 2018 National 4-H Leadership Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- **February 27th – March 2nd:** Six United States Forest Service (USFS) Administrator, Coordinator, Specialists, and Managers will conduct the Program Review of the ASCC-ACNR Forestry Program.
- **March 1st – 8th:** ACNR EFNEP Agent, Agriculture Extension Agent II, and Agriculture Extension Assistant will conduct Progressive Farm Safety Days in Olosega & Ofu, Manu'a.
- **March 1st – 7th:** ACNR EFNEP Agents will conduct Nutrition Education Lessons to clients at the Food Stamp Program.
- **March 5th – 9th:** ACNR Director will attend the Technical Meeting for Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) 2020 Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) in Toluca, Mexico.

Samoan Studies Institute (SSI)

E tupu le iloa i le taugologo. Awareness increases when we continue to speak.

One of the SSI outreach workshops prepared for February 16th at the Army Reserve Centre has been postponed to April 5, 2018. The SSI outreach team schedule was pushed back a week due to Cyclone Gita. SSI acknowledges the High Schools administrations for accommodating and allowing for SSI to visit their schools. SSI Outreach team was able to present at the following High Schools on the following topics:

- General Information as to why ASCC is the right choice (using ASCC Marketing Committee information).
- Samoan Studies Institute services and its degree program. The benefits of knowing your fa'asamoa.

The outreach team to the high schools consisted of Evile Feleti SSD Chairperson, Moli Lemana Program Coordinator, Faleosalafai Tipa Assistant Researcher, Patrick Mafoe Cultural Artist and Vincent Tofilau, Videographer.

SSI Leone High School Outreach



SSI Nu'uuli Vo-Tech. High School Outreach

Outreach Dates in High Schools:

- Leone High School:
February 23, 2018
- Nu'uuli Vocational
Technical High School:
February 28, 2018
- Tafuna High School:
February 26 & 27, 2018



SSI Tafuna High School Outreach



O si mea ota ma si mea fou! Something raw and something new!

One of the growing services at SSI is its translation of English to Samoa or vice versa, and this month it has seen a variety of typical translation needs as well as something new on the block. From off-island academics and organizations to local community members, a Ph.D. candidate needing translation for their interviews of the elderly, to high school students and government leaders needing another pair of eyes to cross check translations, SSI continues to move forward in this area having done so over the last 10 years.

Per request from the American Samoa Community Cancer Coalition Network, SSI was tasked with interpretation and justification on the usage of Samoan language for a community survey that was already translated from English to Samoan. This was the first time SSI had to do something like this. Provided below is part of the report our SSI translation team presented to ASCCCN.

Our usual approach to doing the work generally falls under the following. We consult our sources such as: 1) the few known dictionaries (Pratt, Milner) 2) glossaries obtained through networking with other institutions on island and off island as well as online sites 3) the English and Samoan Bible 4) other translators etc. 5) Coined words based on the target language and the translated term are offered from time to time.

Language is a mixture of technical and common everyday practice.

With the technical jargon particular to this medical field and interest of cancer research, like many of our previous and ongoing work as Translators, we have been faced with the question of when to transliterate (eg. Sitoroperi for strawberry), and when to create a word when we cannot find any sources offering translations.

“l” versus “r”

- sikareti, sikaleti
We acknowledge that the known popular word is sikaleti and users alternate between “r and l”. SSI stance –try stick close to the word except where it is already popular in usage
- polokalama/porokarama.
- siaki instead of siati

Wrong translation offered

- faatauma’oi=harmful – (in J5). FT 1 offers: Much less harmful= Matuā itiiti le fa’atauma’oi (ref: electronic cigarettes)
 - Destroyed.....demolished, received punishment.
 - Pratt offers “ill-use, waste”.
 - The Tusi Paia offers ... Iere 6:28 “...o i latou uma ua latou faatauma’oi mea. *King James Version: corrupters*. Tanielu 4:23. “Ina tuu i lalo ia le laau, ma faatauma’oi i ai”. *KJV destroy* Mataio 18:34 “Ona ita ai lea o lona alii, ua tuu atu ia te ia i e faatauma’oi, seia tauia mai ana mea uma”. *KJV tormentors*.
 - Suggest - “Matuā itiiti le afaina”
- “Faaauau” means “continue” and “next page” translates to “itulau e sosoo ai”.

“o” versus “a”

- eg. fai sou siaki should be “fai sau siaki”
- fai “ou” faamalositino –fai “au” faamalositino
- lou fomai-lau foma’i

Tenses

“sa” and “na” are both past tenses though “na” refers to something that rarely happens/done. eg Na maliu Iesu”, Na falelauasi ananafi “Tomasi Mareko”. “Sa” is used where something can be repeated. “Sa fai le maliu i le falesa ananafi.

E manatua Pule ae le manatua Faalaeo. Pule is remembered, not Faalaeo.

When our presence in public is consistent and of good quality, an improved reputation is achieved. The deputy of Prime Minister of Samoa visited SSI with a request for its SAFF to possibly perform for the Lotofaga fund raising activity. The positive achievements for SAFF would be exposure, experiences, team effort and ability to perform for a very different audience. However, this is yet to be finalized as ASCC is tasked to sing for our territory's Flag Day.



L-R: Moli Lemana, Fiame Mataafa, Okenaisa Fauolo, Alofia Afalava and Tamari Mulitalo-Cheung.

E māmā se avega pe a tausoa faatasi. The load is light, if we carry it as a team.

SSI is working in collaboration to compose our College song for this year's Flag Day celebrations.



Administrative Services Highlights:

- ASCC Bookstore staffer Ms. Nathadia Moea'i will be completing her final Student Teaching Practicum this spring semester for the requirements of a Bachelor's in Elementary Education Degree.
- In February, the Bookstore held its 'Spring 2018 Sale' in preparation for the summer new stock.

ASCC President Dr. Pato thanks the Administrative Services divisions under the supervision of Vice President Dr. Lina Galea'i-Scanlan, and personnel for collaborating on the restoration of the College's facilities, campus environment, and services rendered after cyclone Gita. "This is a true demonstration of the ASCC Core Values and commitment to the overall Mission of the College," stated Dr. Pato during the College's Meet and Greet Assembly held in February. Administrative Service divisions include Physical Facilities and Maintenance, Human Resources, Finance, Management Information Systems, and Procurement are services that are not always recognized, but are critical elements that contribute to institutional effectiveness.

ASCC Administrative Services in action during and after cycle Gita....

