

AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

● ● ● Connections Newsletter ● ● ●



ASCC CHIEFS

Volume I: Issue 6 – April 2018

Institutional Updates:

Featured Highlights:

- I. **Office of the President:**
 - a. Core Curriculum Committee
 - b. Flag Day Performance
 - c. College Awareness Day
- II. **Academics:**
 - a. Divisional & Academic Programs
- III. **Community, Outreach & Research:**
 - a. Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources
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In April, Douglas W. Domenech, Department of the Interior (DOI) Assistant Secretary of Insular and International Affairs, paid a visit to ASCC as part of his review of the Territory's education system. Domenech, accompanied by Nikolao Pula, Director of the DOI Office of Insular Affairs, and American Samoa Lieutenant Governor Lemanu Peleti Palepoi Sialega Mauga, met with the ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato and members of the administration to discuss areas of mutual interest to both the DOI and ASCC.

- **ACCJC Annual Report 2018:** On the 2nd of April 2018, ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Pato certified and submitted the ASCC Annual and Fiscal reports to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior College. The reports were thoroughly reviewed and approved by the Board of Higher Education on the 29th of March. The Annual reports are accessible following the text links provided below:
 - [2018 ASCC Annual Report](#)
 - [2018 ASCC Annual Fiscal Report](#)
- **Establishment of the Core Curriculum Committee:** In a Memo released by the President's Office on the 25th of April, Dr. Pato officiated the establishment of the Core Curriculum Committee, a Standing Committee categorized Governance Group, as defined in the ASCC Participatory Governance Structural Manual. The President in her Memo stated: "The College has taken major steps to develop a strong General Education program, to follow a cycle of program review and assessment, and to ensure accountability for learning and achievement of student learning outcomes through data collection and analysis. It is in these continuous efforts that the academic departments and faculty must work toward a more focused curriculum development that allows for programs to be strengthened and show progress toward better meeting the needs of the students and community. ASCC has as its mission to provide quality programs and services that ensure a solid general education program and a well-structured curriculum that prepares students for the pathway of their choice." Access to the President's Memo is provided via the following text link – [President's Memo \(Click Here\)](#).

ASCC Photo Gallery *hyperlinked Updates:*

- [College Awareness Day – April 2018](#)
- [Flag Day 2018](#)
- [U.S. DOI Assistant Secretary visits ASCC – April 2018](#)
- [Business Diversity Day – April 2018](#)
- [Embrace Your Voice – Poetry Slam – April 2018](#)



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

ACCJC Update:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) is seeking nominations and applications from individuals who wish to be considered for election as Commissioners to the ACCJC.

Commissioners are elected for a three-year term, and are eligible for reelection to a second three-year term. The composition of the Commission membership can be found in the ACCJC Bylaws, Article III, Section 1; the process for electing Commissioners can also be found in the ACCJC Bylaws, Article IV. The ACCJC Bylaws are located on the ACCJC website at www.accjc.org.

Please visit our ASCC Website for Accreditation updates: <http://www.amsamoa.edu/institution/accreditation/ACCJCUpdates.html>.

ASCC Final Dress Rehearsal for Flag Day



ASCC Performed for the American Samoa Flag Day 2018



April Highlights:

- **College Awareness Day:** In an effort to improve relations, communication and access between ASCC and the counselors in American Samoa's public and private high schools, the ASCC Marketing Committee hosted "College Awareness Day" in early April, during which high school counselors and principals from across the Territory spent the morning at the College attending informative workshops and networking with ASCC administrators, staff and students. The counselors and principals attending "College Awareness Day" represented local high schools including Samoana, Nu'uuli Voc-Tech, Fagaitua, Faasao-Marist, Leone, Pacific Horizon, Tafuna, Kanana Fou, Iakina and South Pacific Academy. Presenters at the event included ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato, who gave the welcoming remarks, and as keynote speaker, former ASCC Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Irene Helsham. "The information in the workshops can apply to any post-high school institution, not just ours, but for those high school counselors who might not have been so familiar with ASCC, we hope they now have a clearer understanding of our own approach to the challenges of providing American Samoa's young men and women with a college education," said ASCC Financial Aid Officer Peteru Lam Yuen, who also serves as chairman of the College's Marketing Committee. The full article can be viewed on the ASCC Website at: <http://amsamoa.edu/pressreleases/180423CollegeAwarenessDay.html>.



ASCC President Dr. Rosevonne Makaiwi-Pato (right) and Vice President of Administration and Finance Dr. Lina Galea 'i-Scanlan (left) welcome their former colleague Dr. Irene Helsham, the College's previous Dean of Academic Affairs, who gave the keynote speech at "College Awareness Day" hosted by ASCC in April. Counselors and principals from most of American Samoa's public and private high schools attended the event, which focused on the transition the Territory's students make between high school and college. (Photo: D. Helsham)

- **ASCC Students Tour Samoa Businesses:** In late April, five ASCC students spent four days in the Independent State of Samoa, touring factories and other businesses to gain a firsthand perspective on the country's economic climate. The students made the trip as a project for the Business class International Marketing (MKT 212) which the Business Department has aligned with the standards for degrees in Marketing as set by the National Business Education Association (NBEA). The five MKT 212 students, Emilio Rojan Fernandez, Angelina Talamoni, Sifagaoali'i Mao, Marilyn Thompson and Vaipuna Tunoa, raised their own travel funds through campus bake sales and other activities beginning in January. Business Department chairperson Dr. Faofua Fa'atoafe accompanied the students as their guide and chaperone. Their itinerary included five Apia factories, where they observed the manufacturing and distribution of locally-produced products and a brief side-trip to Savai'i, where they visited the home-based business Swimming with the Turtles. The full article can be viewed on the ASCC Website at: <http://amsamoa.edu/pressreleases/180501Business.html>.



Four of the five ASCC Business students who made a field trip to Samoa in late April celebrate their return with Business Department chairperson Dr. Faofua Fa'atoafoe (3rd left) and instructors Lam Yuen Lam Yuen Jr. and Ioapo Tauga'i (right). (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

- Poetry Slam:** The ASCC Student Services Division and Health & Human Services Department, in collaboration with local advocacy group the Alliance for Strengthening Families, organized a “Poetry Slam” in late April at the College that went by the theme “Embrace Your Voice”. Before a standing-room-only audience in the ASCC Lecture Hall, more than two dozen performers from the College, local high schools and the community shared their views on domestic and sexual violence and related subjects, mostly through the medium of poetry, but also through music and drama. While the event’s theme reflected how the Territory’s young people typically learn not to speak out on controversial subjects like sexual abuse or intimate relations, the number and the quality of the performances at the slam, along with the appreciation shown by the audience, illustrates how, given a supportive environment, American Samoa’s young people actually have quite a lot to say about these subjects. The Slam featured performances from nine ASCC students, two community members, and 14 high school students performing in a non-competitive capacity. While every performer elicited a positive response from the audience, the judges selected Monalisa Afoa, Rhoma Jade Peau and Selesitina Scanlan, all ASCC students, as the respective first, second and third place Slam winners. (The full article can be viewed on the ASCC Website at: <http://amsamoa.edu/pressreleases/180507PoetrySlam.html>.)

Organizer Doris Tulifau (right) celebrates after the conclusion of a successful Poetry Slam at ASCC in late April. Joining her are guest speaker Sala Pa'au (left) and Sina Auva'a Hudson of the ASCC Student Services Division. The Poetry Slam, which featured students from ASCC and the local high schools, went by the theme “Embrace Your Voice” to empower young people to speak out about domestic and sexual violence. (Photo: J. Kneubuhl)



- Fono Legal Counsel Speaks to Political Science Club:** In late April, the Political Science Club welcomed Mitzie Jessop-Taase, the Legal Counsel to the President of the Senate, as their guest speaker. Using a Powerpoint throughout the club meeting, Mrs. Jessop-Taase reviewed the American Samoa legislative process, explaining how a bill becomes a law. She distributed a sample of a bill introduced within the Fono, and explained the lengthy process a bill goes through before it becomes a law, including a first and second reading, followed by a committee review. For the club's general information, Jessop-Taase gave out a list of the members of the 38th Legislature. Following a discussion of several recent controversial bills, Jessop-Taase concluded by encouraging the PoliSci Club members to keep abreast of bills going through the Fono for passage. In addition, she recommended that they never hesitate to talk to their Representatives and Senators about bills that could be introduced and made into laws, since these new laws subsequently become the responsibility of the community to obey. She also reminded the students about the importance of political participation, especially the right to vote. The full article can be viewed on the ASCC Website at: <http://amsamoa.edu/pressreleases/180508PoliSci.html>.



Mitzie Jessop-Taase (third right), Legal Counsel to the President of the Fono, spoke to the ASCC Political Science Club in late April. Here, she gathers with faculty and students from the Social Science Department following her talk. (Courtesy Photo)



National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX)

- Nursing Department:** The ASCC Nursing Department wishes to congratulate 11 nursing students who had completed their programs. Seven of the nine PN students who took their NCLEX, a national examination to obtain their LPN licenses, had passed and making it so far a 100% NCLEX pass rate. Two PN students will take their NCLEX later this month. The two RN students have completed their program and are waiting to take their NCLEX after graduation. We wish them the best.

Teacher Education Department (TED)

- **April 3, 2018: College Awareness Workshop hosted by Marketing Committee:** This event was to raise awareness and improve relations and communication between ASCC, and all local high school administrators in the territory.
- At the event, Teacher Education, Trades & Technology, Health Science, HOSA and ASCC Library Bookstore tables were set up outside the hallway for display and presentations. There were 34 confirmed participants, including students as well as DOE officials.



TED Recruiter, Faaletaua Saili, HOSA Coordinator, Monica Afalava, Student Services Math Tutor, Isaako Amosa

- **April 4, 2018: Samoana High School College Prep Class (Campus Tour):** It has been almost two years since Instructor Sabrina Mahuka brought her College Prep class for a Campus tour of ASCC. This was a great opportunity to familiarize senior students with ASCC surroundings and programs. There were testimonies from ASCC students, Norman Puipui and Zemirah Pati highlighting the “why” of attending ASCC. There were 23 confirmed Senior Participants and two High School Teachers.
- Representatives from ASCC that presented: Mrs. Elizabeth Leuma (Admissions Officer), Mr. Peter Lam Yuen (Financial Aid Officer) and Ms. Faaletaua Saili (TED Recruiter).



Samoana High School students for Campus Tour



Financial Aid Officer Mr. Peteru Lam Yuen during his presentation

April 16, 2018: Culminating Event (Spring 2018 Bachelors of Education Graduates)

- Miss Nathadia Moea'i culminating event theme was "Auala o Femalagaiga" or Ways of Transportation. Ms. Moea'i completed the required student teaching portion of the B.Ed. program with her students in Level- 2 at Pavaia'i Elementary School. She worked closely with Mrs. Ailepata Ioane as her mentor or Cooperating Teacher. Her culminating event was a compilation presentation based on the knowledge gained during their four weeks under her supervision. The class was divided into three groups representing Water, Land and Air Transportation. They presented their work through posters, songs and models that they worked on with their parents at home. Present at her culminating event were her homeroom parents, Pavai'ai VP Betty Iosfa, Assistant Director Elementary Division, Mrs. Puna Tanielu, Ms. Shilery De La Rosa (Director TED), Mr. Larry Purcell (Chairperson TED), Mrs. Feleni Alainu'uese (Instructor TED), Mrs. Christine Fuimaono (Admin Assistant TED) and Miss Faaletaua Saili (TED Recruiter).
- Mr. Mekelian Ti'a was one, an in-service teacher who graduated in Spring 2018 with his Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. He is a 3rd grade teacher at Tafuna Elementary School and his culminating event theme was "It takes a community to raise a Leader". He worked closely with his mentor Mr. Daniel Fuimaono in ensuring a successful culmination. His video presentation consists of learning objectives and student learning outcomes for his thematic unit. His students demonstrated learning outcomes through songs, acting out roles of community helpers and especially documents of their work displayed in the classroom. Present at the event were parents from his homeroom class, Principal of TES Ms. Laloleva Polu, Mrs. Puleai Aloese (ASDOE Elementary Division), Ms. Shirley De La Rosa (TED Director), Mrs. Feleni Alainu'uese (TED Instructor, Field Coordinator) Ms. Moresa Langkilde (TED Instructor) and Ms. Fa'aletaua Saili (TED Recruiter).



Agriculture, Community and Natural Resources

Instructional Programs:

- **April 10, 2018:** NUT 150 students participated in a food demonstration and nutrition education workshop conducted by ASCC-ACNR staff Suelynn Molesi, Tali Isa'ako, and Ese Tauai of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) along with the Community Nutritionist Travis Fleming.
- **April 20, 2018:** ACNR students participated in a “Farm to Table” activity under the supervision of instructors Dr. Otto M. Hansell and Ionatana Fasavalu, and ACNR station staff. Students were able to learn how to properly prepare a pig, local crops and vegetables using the traditional Samoan style of cooking and food preparation.



Students learned to prepare a simple breakfast wrap.



Students preparing a pig and local crops for an umu demonstration.

Research:

- **Produce Safety Training Manual now in Vietnamese**

ASCC-ACNR, in collaboration with the ASDoA, has been working on developing a Produce Safety Training Manual to assist Agriculture Extension agents on farm visits, teach Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Handling Practices (GHPs) to our local produce farmers. Areas covered in the manual include Agricultural Water; Soil Amendments; Worker Health, Hygiene and Training; Post Harvest Handling and Sanitation; Wildlife and Domestic Animals and Previous and Adjacent Land Use; and Pesticide Use. The manual, recently completed in English, has now been translated into Vietnamese and is in the process of being translated into Chinese and Samoan to better assist all local farmers who are producing fruits and vegetables in American Samoa. Funding for this project was provided by WSARE.



Front page Vietnamese translation of the Produce Safety Training Manual being developed at ACNR.

Extension

- **Forestry Program celebrates Arbor Week**

The ASCC-ACNR Forestry Program highlight for the month of April focused solely on this year's 23rd Arbor Week. The Arbor Week celebration kicked off with outreach presentations and tree planting activities at Lauli'i Elementary, Alofa'u Elementary, and Faga'itua High School on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. The total number of students who participated in this year's Arbor Week was 137 (20 from Lauli'i Elementary, 30 from Alofa'u Elementary, and 87 from FHS). A total of 15 native trees were distributed to the schools. Out of those 15 native trees, a total of four native trees were planted at the schools (three in Lauli'i Elementary and one in Alofa'u Elementary). The remaining unplanted trees were given to the principals and teachers as a token of appreciation. In addition, Arbor Week T-Shirts, tree-planting tools such as shovels and rakes, along with educational supplies for the students were distributed to each participant.

The final Arbor Week activity was the Earth Day wave that was held in the Utulei town area on Friday, April 27, from 7:00am to 8:00am. This wave included other environmental partners such as the AS-National Parks Service, CRAG, AS-EPA, and DOC. The purpose of this wave was to promote sustainable living and conservation awareness on forest protection, reducing the usage of plastics, clean and healthy streams, and putting a stop to littering. With the assistance from other ASCC-ACNR programs and environmental agency partners, the ASCC-ACNR Forestry Program was able to successfully celebrate this year's Arbor Week!



ASCC-ACNR staff and environmental partners at the Earth Day wave in Utulei.

- **Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Workshops**

For the month of April, ACNR Farm Safety Coordinator Lefua Amio Luvu collaborated with our partners, ASEPA & LBJ's EMS to conduct two "Farm Safety Day" workshops. The two workshops were conducted at the Vatia Elementary School and Afonotele Elementary School. Topics covered included Food Safety, Chemical Safety, Tools and Equipment Safety and First Aid. ACNR staff was able to reach a total of 124 students and 16 teachers during the safety activities. ACNR staff from the 4-H Youth Development Program, EFNEP and Agriculture Extension Program assisted with the safety workshops.



ASCC-ACNR and EPA staff with students and teachers of Afonotele Elementary School.

Samoan Studies Institute (SSI)

E māmā le avega, pe a tausoa. The weight is light when carried by all.

- The Samoan Studies Institute (SSI) participated at the College Awareness event on April 8, hosted by ASCC marketing Committee.
- The SSI donated an artwork by our Cultural Artist Patrick Mafoe. It was a *Siapo* Wrap Board given to the Amerika Samoa Special Olympics Committee for its fundraising Auction on April 18. This donation was a contribution to our community as requested by UCEDD Director Tafa Tupuola. The artwork was sold at \$200.00.



***Making history:** Students Association for Faasamoa were honored to perform for the opening of our Multi-Purpose Centre.*

Mitamita i lou tofi. Pride in your heritage and culture.

The Students Association for FaaSamoa (SAFF) had a busy schedule this month while taking the lead in our college *pese o le fu'a* practice, as per invitations. They did a cultural performance (April 7) at Tradewinds Hotel for American Samoa National Olympics Committee (ASNOC) Awards Ceremony, a vocal recording (April 18) of the CCCAS *Lo ta nuu* hymn for the Department of Marine and Wildlife promotional DVD for their International Coral Reef Conference and an entertainment for Flag Day Dine and Dance Fundraising (April 19) hosted by Afioga Fiaame Mataafa.



SAFF Vocal recording at the ASCC Land Grant Walking Trail.



Fundraising Dinner

Ua sina le galu. The wave is breaking.

- The SSI translation team was contracted by the Amerika Samoa Coral Reef Advisory Group to translate from English to Samoan, a glossary of scientific terminologies on Climate Change. On April 6, 2018 SSI Director Fauolo handed over the complete text with an SSI ISBN to the Coordinator of the Coral Reef Advisory Group, Ms. Kim Mc Guire.
- The SSI Translator contributes to the editing and translation of an article for the current issue in Apia - *Why the LTR Act of 2008 is incapable of alienating customary land.*

SSI hosting consultation meetings with different government agencies that deals with Climate Change.

Fesoasoani ma Faasoale Silafia. Help and present what we know.

- Per invitation by the Gold Star Spouses Survivors Outreach Services, the SSI outreach team presented at the Army Reserve Centre on April 5. The workshop was to provide writing tools for survivors to write their own letters or stories as part of their healing process when dealing with the loss of loved ones in the US military services.



SSI Programs Coordinator Falefata Moli Lemana



SSI Researcher and Translator Tamari Mulitalo-Cheung

A'oa'o ma faasino. Teach and show the skills.

- This is part of the practical component for some Samoan Classes in teaching and learning how to weave basic Samoan utensils such as *laulau*, *ato* and *mailo*.



Student weaving a basket.



Student weaving a laulau.



Sa ou pese i lau Fu'a Amerika Samoa. American Samoa, I sang at your Flag Day Celebrations.

