



Saili le Atamai

GEAR UP NEWSLETTER



American Samoa Community College

September 2011

Issue 8

GEAR UP & Boys and Girls Club Summer Academy

Troy Polamalu *“Be humble. Be great. And be a good ambassador for American Samoa, no matter where you go”, advised Troy Polamalu of the Pittsburgh Steelers. During his remarks Mr. Polamalu urged the young audience to always remember where they come from and to never forget that they represent their country and their culture. He reminded kids about the opportunities that are available to them, if they choose the right path and stay in school. Troy was grateful to visit American Samoa and give a little of what he has learned as a professional athlete to the young students of the territory.*



GEAR UP Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Coach Jones and Troy Polamalu speaks to Summer Academy
- First Lady Tulafono Presents at NCCEP GEARUP Annual Conference
- Island NFL Athletes visit Summer Academy
- GUAS provides Professional Development Sessions
- Thank you! Summer Academy Supporters
- NVTHS Sandra Purcell selected to the NCCEP GEARUP YLS
- GUAS Student Incentive Program



June Jones *During his keynote speech to BGCAS/GUAS youth participants, Southern Methodist University Head Coach June Jones emphasized four important rules that were taught to him as a young child: 1) Always tell the truth, 2) Never steal, 3) Do not cheat and 4) Choose good friends. He stressed that he has lived by these rules and teaches them to all his student athletes. “Applying these rules in your life will help you build good character. Good character, powered by the desire to succeed in school, will help you achieve anything in life, including playing in the NFL” said Coach Jones. Jones was a former Quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons and was nationally named Coach Of The Year 1999 and three time Regional Coach Of The Year while at the University of Hawaii.*

First Lady Mary Ann Tulafono presents at the NCCEP GEAR UP Conference



First Lady Mary Ann Tulafono and Director Tupua Roy Fua led a delegation representing American Samoa to the 2011 National GEAR UP Conference hosted by the National Council on Community and Educational Partnerships (NCCEP) GEAR UP Programs in San Francisco, California July 2011.

American Samoa’s GEAR UP program was invited to provide a presentation featuring its partnership with the Boys &

Girls Clubs of American Samoa (BGCAS) and how it will help GEAR UP sustain its programs and services in the community. Entering its final year of implementation, GEAR UP has documented over five years of lessons learned in working with students and teachers to improve academic achievement and better prepare students for college enrollment.

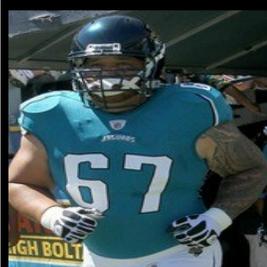
The presentation highlighted the prevention science outlining risks and protective factors that increase the likelihood of underage drinking, teenage pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, school dropout and violence in any community. Mrs. Tulafono underscored the high rates of academic failure beginning in late elementary school and lack of commitment to school as the impetus for the partnership between the TAITAITAMA, BGCAS and the American Samoa Community College.

As a benefit to the BGCAS, the GEAR UP project provides instructional and technical staff to provide mentor training, tutoring, teaching strategies and professional development for all staff working directly with youth. Additionally, GEAR UP provides access to educational technology currently available to GEAR UP cohort schools as well as using the MarkBook electronic grade book to track student performance in real time.

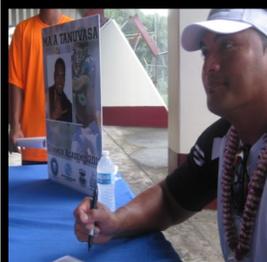
Island NFL Athletes visits BGCAS & GUAS Academy



Seiuli Jesse Sapolu attended Farrington High School and the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. He signed with the San Francisco 49ers on July 10, 1983. Sapolu is one of six 49ers to own four Super Bowl Championship Rings (1984, 1988, 1989, and 1994). He earned Pro Bowl honors in 1993 and 1994. Sapolu retired in 1997 and is currently an Offensive Line Coach for the Edison High School Chargers in Huntington Beach, CA.



Vincent Manuwai was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and attended Farrington High School. Manuwai's honors include: All-America first-team choice by College Football News as a senior, All-WAC first-team, received the Warrior Club Award (team's best player). Manuwai was recruited by the Jacksonville Jaguars in 2003 and was placed on the injured reserve after suffering an ACL & MCL injury in 2009. Manuwai intends to be back on the field this year.



Maa Tanuvasa was born in American Samoa. He played college football for the University of Hawaii helping them win the 1992 Western Athletic Conference Championship. He played nine years in the National Football League, winning two Super Bowl championships as a main component of the Denver Bronco's.



Domata Peko while attending Samoana High School Peko played on both defensive and offensive line. Peko was drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals in the 2006 NFL Draft. The Bengals recently signed Peko to a five-year contract extension.



Taitusi "Deuce" Lutui was born in Ha'apai, Tonga and grew up in Mesa, AZ. He was named Super Prep All-Far-West, Prep Star All-West, All-State, All-Region and All-Conference as a two-way lineman when attending Mesa High School. He was an All-American guard when playing for the USC Trojans. Lutui was selected in the second round (41st overall) of the 2006 NFL draft by the Arizona Cardinals. In 2009, he started 16 games as the Cardinals once again became NFC West champions with a 10-6 record.



Reagan Mauia was born in American Samoa. He is an American football fullback for the Arizona Cardinals of the NFL. He was drafted by the Miami Dolphins in the sixth round of the 2007 NFL Draft. He also played for the Cincinnati Bengals. He was an All-League and All-Area selection when attending Tokay High School in Lodi, CA. Mauia also played RB and along the defensive line when playing for the University of Hawaii.

GUAS Offers Professional Development Sessions



CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT, LESSON PLANNING

The Session explores effective ways of classroom management and lesson planning as well as learning effective teaching strategies to appropriate student behavior.

MARKBOOK CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

The MarkBook software program replaces the grade book in many modern classrooms. MarkBook works for teachers, students, administrators and parents to maximize effectiveness in necessary classroom management areas such as accountability, data management, mark calculations and data analysis.

IMPROVING STUDY SKILLS:

This training gives participants strategies to teach students skills to help them become independent and responsible learners. Specific skill sets that are targeted in the training are: a). how to be better organized, 2). how to improve listening skills, c). specific note taking techniques, d). effective study practices, and e). effective test taking exercises.

READING AND WRITING TEST SECTIONS:

Teachers are introduced to four lessons for reading that can be used as stepping stones in building skills for the SAT writing tests. Participants will review two reading lessons to build skills for the SAT critical reading tests. Highlights of the training will be taking SAT simulations in order to get a feel for what students experience when they actually sit the SAT exam.

UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID:

This training gives school counselors, students and parents an overview of financial aid and scholarships available as the GUAS cohort completes high school and graduates. The introduction of the training is focused on the economic value of a college education and post secondary options that promote their attending ASCC right after high school. It will emphasize the importance of scoring high on the SAT to qualify for scholarships and the FAFSA.

A BIG THANK YOU to our Summer Academy Supporters

The 2011 GUAS/BGCAS Summer Academy was a great success. Over 350 students ages 10-18 from the GEAR UP cohort and BGCAS thoroughly enjoyed the academic program, sports activities & motivational talks from Head Coach June Jones & Sons of Samoa who have succeeded in the NFL. This event would not have been possible without your commitment & support for the youth of American Samoa. Faafetai, Faafetai Tele Lava.

*Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono
First Lady Mary A.T. Tulafono
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Islandwide Volleyball Association
Launiusaelua Softball Association
AS Basketball Association
ASCC Security
KVZK TV Crew
BGCAS Coordinators
GEAR UP Staff and
the many, many volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event a success.*



Saili le Atamai



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICAN SAMOA





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NVTHS Sandra Purcell Selected as NCCEP YLS Student

The National Council for Community and Educational Partnerships (NCCEP) Annual Conference selected students from among hundreds of applicants nationwide to participate in the NCCEP Youth Leadership Summit. Sandra Purcell, 16, a senior at Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School, joined her peers from across the United States at the Summit, which took place in San Francisco from July 17th - 20th.

Sandra, the daughter of Mele Lusinita Purcell and Mino Gaya Purcell, has participated in GUAS since the program's inception in 2006. She has earned an impressive list of achievement awards in academics and sports from both Tafuna Elementary School and Nu'uuli Vocational Technical High School.

While Sandra participated in the Youth Summit, Director Tupua and the GUAS staff collaborated with their nationwide GEAR UP counterparts and the Boys & Girls Clubs of American Samoa to present at the national conference.

In an effort to include student perspectives and the opinions of young people, the NCCEP created national opportunities for youth to participate in the NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference. More than 200 GEAR UP high school students have participated in the Youth Leadership Summit since 2003. The NCCEP has been partnering with GEAR UP for Excellence to present the Summit since 2005. Blending leadership development with the experience of participating in a professional conference, the Summit teaches participants how to be advocates for their schools and communities, empowering them to become the voice for their peers.

GUAS Student Incentive Program

This 2011-2012 school year the GEAR UP American Samoa Program will offer our students a Student Incentive Program and activities that will help better prepare students for college as well as letting students earn Incentives (gift certificates). The Student Incentive Program is designed to help them keep busy with their studies and have fun while doing it.

All Program Activities must be verified with the Cohort School Coordinator and the ASCC GEAR UP Director.

Program Activities	Points
Homework Attendance, 50%, 70%, 90%	2, 3, 4 pts
Student College Knowledge Survey	2 pts
Parent College Knowledge Survey	2 pts
Reading Book, Essay's (per book/essay)	2 pts per
College Placement Exam	3 pts
Take the SAT	3 pts
Financial Aid Registration	4 pts per
College Night Attendance	2 pts
Scholarship Applications	2 pts per
ASVAB Pre-Session (4 week session)	5 pts
Pre-SAT English (4 week session)	5 pts
Pre-SAT Math (4 week session)	5 pts

For every five points earned students will receive a gift certificate for: a movie ticket, Carl's Jr., McDonald, Blue-Sky or ASTAC phone card.

GUAS Points will be counted as an eligibility criteria towards the GUAS Scholarship.

GEAR UP AMERICAN SAMOA Scholarship Criteria

- Must be a GEAR UP student
- Must have a 3.3 or better GPA
- Must submit a High School Transcript
- Must earn 1000 or more on the SAT exam
- Must have earned minimum of 20 GUAS Package Points
- Must have excellent student attendance and school behavior
- Must submit College Intent Essay (no less than 300 words typed)
- Must show improvement with the Pre-CPE and Post CPE Test Results
- Must submit 3 Letters of Recommendation (from Teachers, Counselors or Principals)