



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

MICRONESIA PROGRAM

UPDATE NUMBER 7

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Undergraduate Program Twenty-eight students applied to participate in the Fulbright-Hays Study Abroad program for summer, 1990. Interviews were conducted in December, 1989, and fifteen students were selected, along with four alternates. The group is an excellent one, with much energy, enthusiasm and interest in discovering Micronesia. Members and alternates include:

Erin Darboven (Political Sci)
Rebecca Delzell (Sociology)
Kari Grosvold (Soc/Sec.Ed.)
Vicki Jefferson (Education)
David Krutsinger (Political Sci)
Michael Masat (Political Sci)
Steve Masat (Political Sci)
Anthony Mills (Political Sci)
Shelby Rice (Anthropology)
Wendy Rider (English)

Alexa Taylor (Architecture)
Kathleen Taylor (Anthro)
Nga Vu (Psychology)
Sylvia Watts (Int'l Studies)
Tiffany Wheeler (Psychology)

Alternates:

Genevieve Drewes (Sociology)
Jena Johnson (Poli Science)
Tiffany Bogle (Anthropology)
Michon Black (Sociology)

University Affiliation The reports from Palau and Majuro regarding the course offered by Terry Moore were enthusiastically positive. Terry's audience in Palau included a range of mid- and high-level government officials. In Majuro, where Terry rearranged his syllabus to offer a shorter course, the cabinet secretaries of the government were the participants. The courses gave visibility to the College of Micronesia, which sponsored the courses through the affiliation program.

The course syllabus for Victoria Maui's course, *The Role of Women in Micronesian Cultures*, has been received, and looks like an exciting addition to the Pacific Islands offerings on the UO campus. Vicki will be on campus during May and June, 1990. We are in the process of locating housing for Vicki near the campus.

In the summer, John Baldwin will offer a course for government officials in Pohnpei on natural resources planning, and will consult with the Environmental Protection Agency officials in Majuro on topics of concern to that agency.

MICRONESIA



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Technical Assistance Program This is the project with which this entire program began, and it is finally coming to fruition. In late December, the Department of Interior's Office of Territorial and International Affairs informed us that it had appropriated \$100,000 to the University of Oregon for two programs, one in the Marshall Islands and the other in the Federated States of Micronesia. The amount allocated to each country is \$50,000, which is denominated as a pilot project, with the possibility of continued funding if the program works as planned. We are now determining exactly which of many possible planning projects will be completed during the summer of 1990 in each country, and selecting the graduate students to conduct the projects. Tracy Brown will be the project leader in Majuro, and Mike Farber will assume a similar role in Pohnpei. Faculty guidance will be provided by John Baldwin and Maradel Gale, who will be in Micronesia with the study abroad program.

The Republic of Palau, through the College of Micronesia, has developed a grant request for University of Oregon technical assistance which was submitted to OTIA in early January, 1990. If funded, this will enable the program to expand to Palau as well. This proposal is particularly exciting, as it was developed through the College, and covers a wide range of possible projects throughout Palau.

Library Project The report prepared by Mary Ann Lund assessing the libraries in Micronesia has been widely distributed and acclaimed. The follow-up grant application to USIA for a library workshop has been tentatively approved, and Mary Ann will be coordinating a three-week workshop in Eugene this June for librarians from Micronesia. As part of a longer-term involvement with library development, this grant is seen as the first of several workshops which will be held annually, with subsequent programs being conducted on various islands within Micronesia. We are working with librarians from Alaska who have considerable expertise in developing and managing libraries in remote, isolated environments which are hostile to books and printed materials.

Joint Peace Corps/Planning Degree Program Following a visit with the Peace Corps by Maradel Gale in early November, 1989, the Peace Corps restructured all of its academic programs into a more comprehensive and comprehensible series of options for collaboration. The model that we are discussing is denominated the "internationalist master's program", where students simultaneously apply to a master's degree program and the Peace Corps. Following one year of academic study on campus, the student serves a regular two-year stint in the Peace Corps in an assignment related to the field of study. Peace Corps is sponsoring a meeting for academic institutions in Washington, D.C. on February 7, where the models and issues of collaboration will be discussed more fully.

Pacific Islands Technology Consortium Faculty from the Schools of Law and Education at the University of Oregon have become involved in the Micronesia program, with the possibility of going to Micronesia through the affiliation program or through new programs developed with the Department of Education in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Meetings have been arranged with OSU faculty and graduate students in the areas of agriculture, marine resource management and nutrition. The network of interested faculty and students is expanding, and personnel will be integrated into various parts of the program as it grows and develops.

PEACESAT The system is being upgraded due to the need to work with a new satellite, as the original one no longer has a footprint which connects the Pacific region. The Pacific Islands Studies Committee has discussed the need for the University of Oregon to have a PEACESAT terminal, and negotiations are progressing to that end. The new equipment is significantly more expensive than what was needed to connect with the original satellite, and we are exploring funding sources for this equipment. Becoming a part of the new system will enable the University to participate in voice, electronic data transmission, and radio-assisted communications with all of the Pacific nations. The new satellite is expected to be operational by March, 1990, with new stations added by June, 1990.

Please contact me if you have suggestions, questions or comments on any aspect of the Micronesia program.



Maradel Gale, Director, Micronesia Program