

9 March 1989

To: All Interested Persons
From: Maradel Gale

PROGRESS REPORT ON MICRONESIA PROGRAM - #4

Undergraduates:

We have been awarded a \$64,000 grant through the Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad program. This will enable us to take 15 undergraduate students to Micronesia in the summer of 1990 to study at the College of Micronesia in Pohnpei. Students will take four courses, taught by Micronesian faculty members at COM, and each will conduct a small research project of their choice. We will also visit Kosrae to look at a particular economic development focus there, and Majuro in the Marshall Islands to contrast a low coral atoll with the high volcanic island lifestyle. The grant covers the cost of air fare and provides a daily living allowance to the students. They will be responsible for their summer session tuition at the University of Oregon.

At this time, I am forming a committee of University of Oregon people to assist me with the application and selection process and to determine the best prerequisite courses for participating students to take during the next academic year, prior to their departure. We will announce the program to the University community during the spring term, 1989.

Graduates:

The problems of timing continue with the Federated States of Micronesia budget requests to the Department of the Interior. On Friday, March 3, I spoke with Del Pangelinan, budget officer of the FSM, and was assured that the request would go to Interior in the middle of March, and that our program request would be included in that submission. I have sent additional information to Interior in support of the proposal, and have been advised to move ahead with the program. That includes offering a course in the spring term which, in part, will prepare students to go to Micronesia. There will also be a course offered through Anthropology in Pohnpeian culture and language, taught by Mauricio Rufino, an Anthropology doctoral candidate from Pohnpei who is at the University of Oregon. This course will be required for students going to Micronesia. What I do not know at this time is the level of the funding, which will determine the number of students who will be in Micronesia this summer.

Faculty:

The USIA University Affiliations grant application has passed the technical review, and is now being evaluated by outside reviewers. There are three proposals from the Pacific islands region: one from U.S. International University for a second affiliation in the south Pacific (they were funded last year for a program with Western Samoa); one from E. Texas Community College in Paris, Texas for an affiliation with the Micronesia Occupational College in Palau; and our request for affiliation with the College of Micronesia. Apparently only one of these will be funded.

What Happens Next?

An announcement recruiting interested PPPM graduate students will be posted, giving details of the program as they are now known. I had hoped that we could select the students prior to the start of the spring term, but that is not possible given the funding delay. Interested students will enroll in PPPM 507: Planning and Administration in Developing Countries -- The Case of Micronesia (Mondays, 3-5:50) and Anth. 407: Micronesian Culture and Language (Fridays, 2:30-3:20).