

17 July 1989

To: All Interested Persons
From: Maradel Gale

PROGRESS REPORT ON MICRONESIA PROGRAM - #5

1. Today I received confirmation from U.S.I.A. of the University Affiliation grant between PPPM and the College of Micronesia. This is the program that enables the interchange of faculty between the two institutions. The first exchange will occur this fall term, when Terry Moore travels to Pohnpei to present courses on evaluating economic development proposals. The courses will be open to government officials as well as students enrolled at the College of Micronesia.
2. More than eighty students expressed an interest in the Summer, 1990 undergraduate study abroad program in Micronesia. The application process has begun, with an application form and interview process through the Office of International Services. In the fall, additional interviews will be done with a committee which will make the final selection of the students to be included in the grant-funded travel. Students will take courses during fall, winter and spring terms of 1989-90 in preparation for the summer experience.
3. The technical assistance portion of the program is mostly on hold due to the failure of the Federated States of Micronesia government to submit their application for technical assistance funds to the Department of the Interior. This process was to have been done in November, 1988, and still has not occurred. The UO program represents only a tiny portion of the requested funds, which are apparently caught in some political wrangling in the FSM. At this point, we are hoping to implement the program in the fall term, utilizing the excellent group of students who prepared for the experience in the spring term courses on Micronesia.

The part of the TA program that is working has been funded through U.S. Information Agency, which has commissioned an assessment of the libraries in Micronesia. Mary Ann Lund, graduate student in Public Affairs and holder of an M.L.S. degree will be conducting the study for USIA. Mary Ann will travel to Palau, Yap, Guam, Truk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Ebeye (Kwajalein) and Majuro in the course of her work.

4. On August 3, I will travel to Micronesia on a multi-faceted trip. In Palau, I will attend the Advancement of Pacific Education conference, which includes elementary through tertiary educators from many of the Pacific islands. In Palau I will also work with the faculty members who will be visiting the U.O. under the university affiliation grant. During the early part of my trip, I will be working with Mary Ann on the library assessment. In Guam, I will contact persons at the U. of Guam to discuss our programs, and I will visit the Micronesia Area Research Center. In Saipan, I will work with personnel at the College of the Northern Marianas who are interested in the UO programs. In Truk, my purpose is to visit the Micronesia Seminar, which has been a leading source of research and studies on Micronesian cultures. In Pohnpei, my tasks include finalizing the fall term visit from the UO faculty member to COM, arranging the details for the courses and logistics for the study abroad program, and pursuing the technical assistance program. In Kosrae, I will be setting up the field experience for the study abroad program. And in the Marshall Islands, I will be exploring the feasibility of implementing the technical assistance program there through the government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. In addition, there are details to be finalized regarding the field experiences in Majuro for the study abroad program, and the university affiliation program.