

Going Places

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

MICRONESIA AND SOUTH PACIFIC PROGRAM

FROM MARADEL GALE,
MSPP DIRECTOR

Classes at the University of Oregon were finished in mid June, and the busy summer session for the Micronesia and South Pacific Program (MSPP) begins. The technical assistants leave for their assignments in the Pacific Islands (see related story in this newsletter), and my travel schedule includes visits to each of the projects. Between July 6 and August 15, I will visit American and Western Samoa, Fiji, Palau, Yap, Pohnpei, Kosrae, and Majuro. With the large number of technical assistants in the field, there are many projects to visit. This process involves meeting with technical assistants and their counterparts and supervisors to discuss project progress, review any unexpected problems, and make certain that adequate follow through is being planned for the continuation of the work when the technical assistants leave their assignments.

This year, for the first time, there are University of Hawaii-Hilo interns assigned to two projects on Kosrae. A new program, Micronesia and American Samoa Internship Program (MASIP)—coordinated by the Pacific Islands Network and the University of Hawaii—has been developed to recruit, select and train Micronesian students attending the University of Hawaii who are nearing graduation and who would like to return to their home islands. Sam Olter is working with the Kosrae Marine Park Development Project, and Steven George working on the Kosrae Island Resources Management Program. These interns—who will work for eight

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MSPP Staff Members Attend United Nations Conference

Staff members in the Micronesia and South Pacific Program (MSPP) joined more than 110 countries in the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, an event held in Barbados during April and May and sponsored by the United Nations (U.N.).

According to MSPP Director Maradel Gale, the conference is a direct result of the agreements reached by the international community at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. The Barbados conference presented attendants with their first opportunity to build partnerships to implement the commitments made during the Earth Summit.

The MSPP participated as a nongovernmental organization during the conference, meaning its representatives could address the conference's members, participate in working committees, and attend all plenary sessions.

Held in conjunction with the U.N. conference were meetings for the nongovernmental organizations, where groups met to voice concerns.

"It took us a few days to really understand the complex interrelationship between the two conferences, and the rules of each," said Gale. "We became quite involved with coalitions of the island nongovernmental organizations, first as observers and later, as we demonstrated our interest in providing assistance without usurping leadership roles from the islanders, we were active participants in the process."

This was the first U.N. conference Gale and technical assistant Beverly Moore have attended. "The opportunity to attend the conference was a wonderful one for both of us, and we each learned a great deal about the needs, concerns, and functions of island nongovernmental organizations from around the world. We were able to become better informed about island government concerns in the area of sustainable development, and we also learned about United Nations procedures and politics," concluded Gale.

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Rapaport: Undiscovered Resource

Although Dave Rapaport has worked at the UO for one year, he is a resource largely undiscovered. His work for the university involves collaborating with faculty and students on their work in the Pacific and on issues of sustainable development. His openness and willingness to share information make him easy to talk with and a wealth of information.

Dave's expertise in environmental issues and the Pacific comes from several years work with Greenpeace. He worked first as director of the U.S. toxics campaign in Washington D.C., and most recently, as a clean development and pollution prevention specialist with Greenpeace's Pacific Campaign based in San Francisco.

On one of Dave's many trips to Micronesia, he met Maradel Gale and learned about the University of Oregon's Micronesia and South Pacific Program (MSPP). Since then, he has informally advised MSPP technical assistants on their projects and promoted MSPP among his contacts in the Pacific. When Dave and his family decided to move to Eugene last year, Maradel encouraged direct involvement with the program by offering a courtesy faculty appointment at the uni-

versity. This relationship proved especially valuable when Dave recently traveled to Fiji for Greenpeace. During his trip, he also worked on behalf of MSPP to strengthen the relationship between the University of the South Pacific and the University of Oregon.

In addition to his work for the university, Dave continues to work for Greenpeace's Pacific Campaign, and he is currently helping to move its base of operations to Fiji. He also manages the Center for Clean Development, a non-profit organization that encourages small-scale, locally controlled and environmentally sound development. The center promotes the use of biological toilets, waste prevention and environmentally sound tourism, with a special focus on the developing islands of the Pacific.

All of Dave's activities focus on the Pacific islands and on community-based, environmentally sound development options. According to Gale, Dave is a tremendous resource for the university, MSPP, and the UO's Institute for a Sustainable Environment.

Dave's wife, Jeanne Kirby, also works for the Greenpeace Pacific Campaign. She often represents Greenpeace on the topic of coral reefs.



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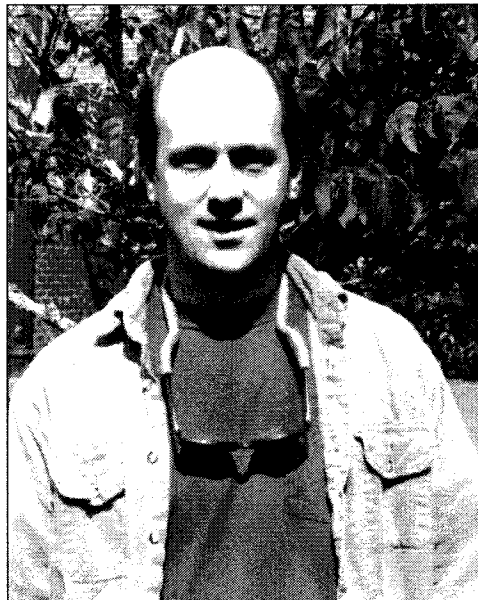
weeks—will work as team members with University of Oregon technical assistants and their local counterparts.

Following several years of discussion and negotiations, the UO has acquired the necessary computer hardware to join the PEACESAT network; we will be the first in Oregon to have a terminal. We expect to be on line in late July. We see our role in this important communication system as a resource for islands communities seeking information not available locally. We are excited to become a part of PEACESAT and look forward to meeting many islanders over the network.

This summer we also say goodbye and thank you to Julie Fischer, our first staff member. Julie has served as project coordinator for the Technical Assistance Program since 1990 and has brought many innovative ideas and creative solutions to the program. She will be missed as she leaves to pursue other professional opportunities.

Graduate Student to Visit Islands

Kevin Kilduff, a graduate student in community and regional planning at the UO and a professional photographer, will visit a number of islands during July and August to develop a portfolio of photographs and video footage for future use by the program. The photographs will be used in newsletters, while the footage will be incorporated into a new video about the MSPP Technical Assistance Program. Kevin will also be taking footage for a CD-ROM project on sustainable communities development. The CD-ROM is being developed for the MSPP by Wim Aspeslagh and Harry Bondareff. More information about the CD-ROM development will be included in the fall term newsletter.



MSPP Students Leave for Summer Assignments

AMERICAN SAMOA

• Park Design: Economic Development and Planning Office

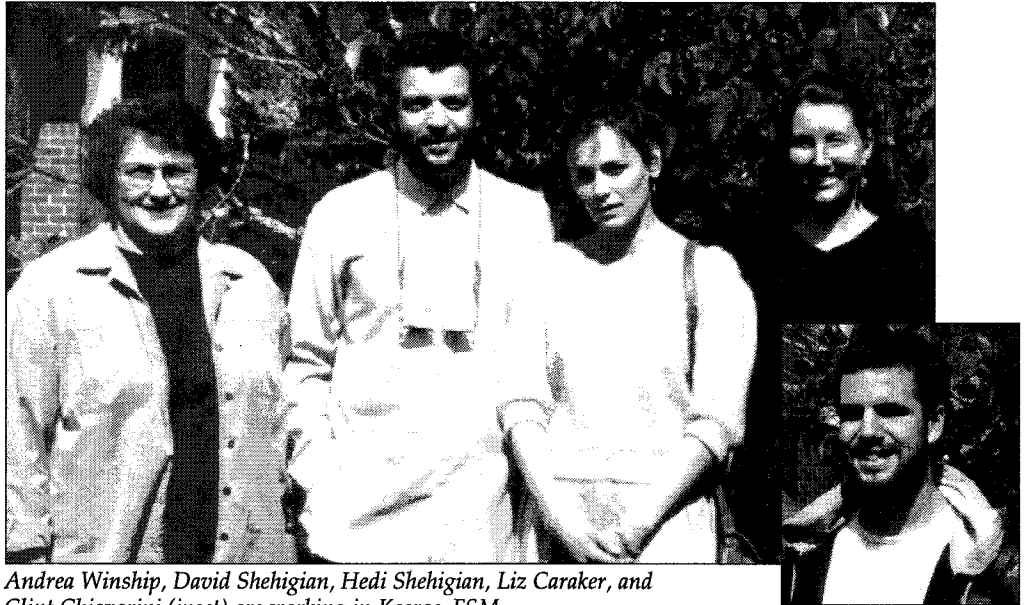
The American Samoa Government has several community park areas that need design studies and development proposals. Because American Samoa will be the site of the 1997 South Pacific Games, it is critical to begin planning facilities for those events. Denise Jackson, a landscape architect and graduate student in community and regional planning, will assist the agency with planning and designing park and recreation facilities.

• Environmental Education: Economic Development and Planning Office

Kathy Roos, a graduate student in environmental studies, will assist the planning office with its public education campaign. Kathy and her counterpart will address a host of issues including pollution and recycling. Kathy was a graduate teaching fellow for the Micronesia and South Pacific Program during the 1993-4 school year, and she researched a variety of environmental issues in Guam during the summer of 1993.

• Water Pollution and Hazardous Waste Public Education: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Roger Roos, an environmental studies master's degree candidate and general-practice physician, will assist an EPA staff person with controlling and preventing water pollution. Together, they will develop a strategic plan and public outreach materials. If time allows, Roger will also assess the current level of knowledge on hazardous materials and develop a public education strategy about chemicals in the environment.



Andrea Winship, David Shehigian, Hedi Shehigian, Liz Caraker, and Clint Chiavarini (inset) are working in Kosrae, FSM.

KOSRAE-FSM

• Kosrae Island Resources Management Plan: Office of Budget and Planning

The Office of Budget and Planning has requested assistance in developing several resource management strategies to be completed by the end of 1994 for the Kosrae Land Use Plan. These strategies focus on the management of forests, shorelines and reefs, solid waste, and ocean resources. Beverly Moore and Vanessa Rudin, both graduate students in community and regional planning, will work with counterparts in the KIRMP conducting inventories and creating management guidelines for each strategy. Beverly worked on the land use plan with the Office of Budget and Planning last summer, and Vanessa has experience in

land use planning, marine resources, and engineering.

• Social Programs Development: Community Development Office

This office has requested assistance developing sectoral programs targeted at youth, seniors, and women. The office has already developed programs for 1994, but is in the process of planning for 1995 and beyond. David Shehigian, a graduate student in Asian studies and former Peace Corps trainer in the Solomon Islands and Hungary, will provide assistance to the Community Development Office.

• Facilities Assessment: Kosrae Sports Council

The Kosrae Sports Council will be developing a plan for upgrading sports facilities on Kosrae. Currently, the Council supports programs and facilities for baseball, basketball, tennis, and track. They would like to expand to include other sports, such as soccer, rugby, and swimming. David Shehigian, mentioned above, will also assist with this project.

• Automation of Public Works Information: Department of Public Works

The department will receive assistance from Clint Chiavarini, a graduate student in community and regional planning and a computer technician. Clint will help develop a database for personnel information, work orders, and operational divisions. In addition, Clint will help train staff on word processing and spreadsheet software.



Kathy Roos, Roger Roos, and Denise Jackson are technical assistants who are working in American Samoa.

• **Marine Park Management Plan: Division of Tourism**

The Division of Tourism is currently working with the divisions of marine resources, forestry and culture to implement an ecotourism marine park project. Specifically, the Division of Tourism wants to educate Kosraeans about the interactions between ecosystems and impacts of human action, encourage ecotourism, and establish a conservation area on the island. The division will receive assistance from Liz Caraker, a graduate student in community and regional planning and former teacher at the College of Micronesia. Liz is particularly qualified for this position; she worked with Enipein Marine Park in Pohnpei last year.

• **Developing a Card Catalogue: Department of Education, Library Services**

Library services will be developing an automated card-catalogue system for their library. Andrea Winship, a graduate student in international studies and a librarian, will help select a system, organize data entry, and train staff on computerized catalogue creation and use.

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

• **Strategic Planning for the Alele Museum**

In addition to the museum, the Alele also manages the public library, Majuro Educational Television Station, national archives, the gift shop, and several special projects related to culture. The Alele is in the process of developing a plan to improve services. Specifically, the Alele wants to expand their public-outreach strategies and make the museum more



Technical assistants Nancy Peyron, Eldon Haines, Linda Rose, Jason Kruckeberg, and Sachiko Kataoka are working in Palau.

accessible to both students and the general public. In addition, the museum receives a variety of grants, and they are improving their accounts management process. Erik Heim, a graduate student in business management and anthropology at Oregon State University, will be working with the Alele.

• **Print Media Upgrading Project: Ministry of Education Print Shop and Media Center**

The Print Shop and Media Center are currently providing support services for all Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) ministries as well as serving the Marshalls education system. The center requested assistance with desktop publishing for the RMI Gazette and the Ministry of Education Newsletter. Staff train-

ing will focus on desktop-publishing, interviewing, composing, writing, editing, and layout. Ari Seligmann, a graduate student in journalism with experience in magazine publication will assist the media center.

THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU

• **Development Planning and Funding: Palau Community College**

The development office was established in January of this year to focus on building additional expertise and funding for the college. This project will assist with developing an evaluation system, establishing an alumni office, augmenting private contributions to the College, and improving student placement after graduation. Nancy Peyron, a graduate student in organizational development, will assist with strategic planning, organizing, and grant writing. Nancy has worked in the UO Office of the President and for the UO Foundation.

• **Curriculum Development: Palau Ministry of Education, Science Department**

The department of education has developed a new framework and guidelines for each subject area taught at the elementary and high school level. The Science Department is in the process of revising their curriculum to focus more on the local environment. The department will receive assistance from Eldon Haines, a chemist with a vast array of experience in the sciences, and Linda Rose, a teacher with over twenty years of experience in both elementary and secondary education.



Erik Heim and Ari Seligmann are technical assistants working in the Marshall Islands.

• **National Economic Evaluation: Office of Planning and Statistics**

The Office of Planning and Statistics would like assistance calculating the Gross Domestic Product for the Republic of Palau. The project will involve tracing contributions from all sectors of the economy, including the subsistence sector. In addition, the Office would like to develop a Consumer Price Index. Sachiko Kataoka, a graduate student in economics with international experience, will assist on this project.

• **Visitor Exit Survey: Palau Visitors Authority**

The Palau Visitors Authority would like assistance implementing and evaluating the PVA visitor exit survey. Jason Kruckeberg, a graduate student in community and regional planning with tourism experience, will help develop visitor profiles to identify visitor trends and focus tourist marketing strategies. In addition, Jason will develop a database to process the visitor surveys.

POHNPEI-FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (FSM)

• **Student Activities and Sports Programs: College of Micronesia/FSM**

The College of Micronesia/FSM is the center for post-secondary education in the Federated States of Micronesia. The goal of the project is to explore ways to improve planning, implementation and evaluation of student activities. Laura

Gerards, a landscape architecture graduate student with a variety of work experience in youth activities programs, will assist the college.

• **Coastal Zone Management Plan: Department of Conservation and Resource Surveillance**

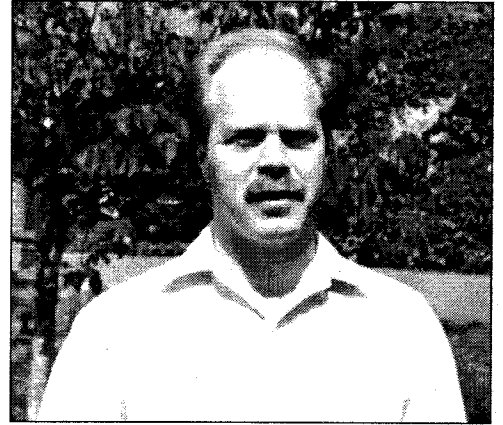
Pohnpei State is interested in pursuing a major planning project similar to the Kosrae Island Resource Management Plan headed by the Office of Budget and Planning in Kosrae. The goals of the project are to develop strategies for sustainable development, ensuring the preservation of resources necessary for subsistence fishing and agriculture. Jean D'Agostino, a graduate student in community and regional planning with experience in marine resources, will provide assistance to the department.

• **Research Library Development: Office of Historic Preservation**

The Office of Historic Preservation is developing an on-site library for use by Pohnpeians and outside researchers. This project includes establishing a system for organizing, collecting, and reviewing materials related to the history of Pohnpei. The office will work with Andrea Winship, who is also assisting the Kosrae Library.

• **Drug and Alcohol Program for Youth: Office of Human Resources**

Currently, three consultants provide counseling to high-risk youth through a grant which ends in September. The di-



Tom Harrison is working with the Yap State Environmental Protection Agency.

rector of human resources would like to develop a program which is sustainable after funding and when professional counseling is no longer available. Developing and organizing activities for youth with drug or alcohol problems is seen as a low-budget and sustainable approach to the substance abuse issue. Kelly Wyatt, a graduate student in public affairs with much experience in youth issues, will assist the office.

YAP-FSM

• **Hazardous Waste Management: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The Yap EPA is responsible for disposal of hazardous waste. It would like assistance developing regulations on the importing, handling and disposal of hazardous waste. Tom Harrison, a marine resources graduate student from Oregon State University with certification in hazardous materials handling, will provide assistance to the agency.

• **Colonia Land Use Survey: Office of Planning and Budget**

As a follow-up to the Colonia Center Plan developed last year, the Office of Planning and Budget has requested the services of planner Larry Vasquez to assist staff with conducting a comprehensive land use survey for Colonia.

• **Yap State Cultural Preservation Plan: Office of Historic Preservation**

Amy Drought, graduate student in community and regional planning, is working with the the Office of Historic Preservation to complete the second phase of the cultural preservation program begun last year. Utilizing the cultural inventories completed by the staff and Chris Descantes, Amy will assist with the preparation of a plan of action for cultural preservation in Yap.



Pohnpei is hosting Andrea Winship, Jean D'Agostino, and Laura Gerards (inset).

MSPP Students Working Abroad in the Pacific



Enjoying a break in the sun during the MSPP cross-cultural communication class are 1994-95 technical assistants and staff members. Front row: Joe Livingston, Nancy Peynon, Denise Jackson, Kathy Roos, Sachiko Kataoka, Ari Seligmann, and Julie Fischer. Standing: Maradel Gale, Roger Roos, Liz Caraker, Andrea Winship, Tom Harrison, Hedi Shehigian, David Shehigian, Kevin Kilduff, Jason Krucheberg, Jean D'Agostino, Linda Rose, Eldon Haines, Clint Chiavarini, Laura Gerards, Erik Heim, and Bob Roberts.

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This edition of *Going Places* was edited by Maradel Gale, MSPP director. Julie Fischer prepared the material on the technical assistance placements, and Kathleen Roos prepared the article on Dave Rapaport. Photos by Bob Roberts.

For information about the Micronesia and South Pacific Program, please call or write:

Micronesia and South Pacific Program
5244 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-5244

Maradel Gale, director, (503) 346-3815

Fax: (503) 346-2040

E-mail: mkgale@oregon.uoregon.edu



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