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Guam On-Site Training Program (Guam OSTP) Launched!

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Pacific International Training Desk Guam On-Site Training Program (Guam OSTP), on 25 January 2016 at the NOAA/NWS Weather Forecast Office Guam. The Guam OSTP will focus on training observers from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the basics of Tropical Meteorology; Weather Analysis; Forecasting; and Communications Systems. The Guam OSTP is intended to prepare observers to understand the forecast process, learn fundamental variables and skills required for forecasting and provide an opportunity for basic hands-on work with meteorological analysis and predictions, and communication systems. The Guam OSTP will have 3 cohorts in 2016.

25 JAN	Cohort #1 – 25 Jan to 19 Feb 09:00am
07 MAR	Cohort #2 – 7 Mar to 1 Apr 09:00am
02 MAY	Cohort #3 – 2 May to 3 June 09:00am



The Pacific Desk would like to acknowledge experts and partnering organisations past and present that have continued to support the Pacific Desk but especially the NOAA/NWS Pacific Region Headquarters and Director Mr. Raymond Tanabe; NOAA/NWS International Activities Office and Pacific Desk Project Officer Mr. Dan Beardsley; NOAA/NWS WFOs Honolulu, Acting MIC Mr. Tom Evans and Guam MIC Ms. Genevieve Miller who have all been key to the establishment of both Pacific Desk sites.

Figure 1 Guam OSTP Cohort #1 participants from left to right: Sosten Sos (Chuuk); Rick Dizon (Palau); Kenely Andon (Pohnpei); Nover Juria (Marshall Islands) and; Choorang Falan (Yap)

Guam OSTP Instructor



David E. Hitzl

Pacific Desk

DAVID E. HITZL David Eugene Hitzl joins the Pacific Desk with experience in educational program development, tropical weather research and forecasting, and teaching. He has been fascinated with meteorology since the age of ten when he would read the entire newspaper weather page each day before his paper route. David earned his Bachelor's Degree in Literature from the University of California at Santa Cruz and subsequently a Master's Degree in Meteorology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. His master's thesis focused on mesoscale weather phenomena around the Hawaiian Islands, using the WRF model, with emphasis on airflow through the 'Alenuihāhā Channel.

In 1999, the UCSC Humanities Department presented David with an undergraduate Dean's Award for excellence in writing. The previous summer, he interned at a local southern California newspaper where he arranged interviews and wrote several articles. More recently, he has published in Monthly Weather Review and is currently preparing a subsequent paper for the same meteorological journal. David has taught English at a French lycée and reading and writing to adolescents at a school for those with Asperger's Syndrome. He is fluent in French and has a working knowledge of Spanish and Japanese.

His final semester of college, David volunteered at the Homeless Garden Project in Santa Cruz and administered writing seminars leading to the creation of a book of poems written by the workers. He was also involved in the creation and running of the The Kickstand bicycle shop in Honolulu, which provided full-scale shop services as well as bicycle maintenance education for the community. He has a love of travel and enjoys experiencing other cultures. He is also an avid and accomplished surfer and has lived in Hawaii for the last 15 years.

Pacific International Training Desk – Guam c/o NOAA/NWS Guam Forecast Office | 3232 Hueneme Rd | Barrigada, GU 96913 | Tel: 808-398-7561 | Email: pacificdesk@uhtasi.org |

Pacific International Training Desk – Honolulu | 2424 Maile Way Saunders Hall 713 | Honolulu, HI 96822 | Tel: 808-956-9557 | Fax: 808-956-8019 | Email: pacificdesk@uhtasi.org |

2016 Pacific Desk Guam Cohort #1 Participants



Choorang Falan

WSO Yap, FSM

CHORANG FALAN Choorang Falan is a Weather Service Specialist with the Yap Weather Service Office. He has been with the Weather Service since 1985. His main duties include taking hourly observations, relaying weather information to V6al radio and collecting storm/typhoon warning and advisory to the DCO and general public.

Yap Weather Service Office | PO Box 10 | Yap, Federated States of Micronesia, 96943 | Tel: 691-350-2194 | Email: choorang.falan@noaa.gov |



Kenely Andon
WSO Pohnpei, FSM

KENELY ANDON Kenely Andon was hire to work for the Weather Service office in Pohnpei on June 17, 1991. He was trained and passed the surface and aviation examination on November 05, 1991 and becomes the Weather Service Observer or Meteorology technician at that time. He went to Guam for Fundamentals of Meteorology Training from January 14 to February 13, 1992. He took the Upper Air or Micro Art training on July 08 1992 and becomes certify to take Upper Air observations. He was trained and certify to do the Pilot Briefing on October 1995. The Pilot briefing certificate should be renewed every year but the program was stop in 1996. He worked at the Weather Service office from June 17, 1991 as Meteorology Technician or Weather Service Observer and on August 14, 2008 he becomes the Supervisory Weather

Service Specialist. As a Supervisory Weather Service Specialist (SWSS), he is responsible for Weather Service Specialist operations of the station. He also responsible to train the newly hired Observers for Weather Service Office Pohnpei, Kosrae state and Outer Islands synoptic stations. He lives in Nanponmahl Sokehs.

Pohnpei Weather Service Office | PO Box 69 | Tel: 691 320 2248 / 5605 5947 | Fax: 691 320 4700 / 5787 | Email: kenely.andon@noaa.gov |



Nover Juria
WSO Majuro, RMI

NOVER JURIA Nover Juria is a weather and climate specialist working at the National Weather Services in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands. He joined the National Weather Services in September 2010 and served as a weather specialist and climate focal point until now. Nover graduated from the college of the Marshall Islands with his Associates of Science degree in Business Administration and Computer Science in 2008, and few years later he graduated again with his Associates of Arts degree in Liberal Arts with Specialty in Computer Science. He is currently taking Geospatial Science and GIS courses at the University of the South Pacific and he's aiming to complete his studies sometimes next year.

Nover attended and participated in many climate trainings, workshops, and conferences already by the NWS Guam, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), SPREP, SPC, and the Korean APEC Climate Center and he's familiar with their climate tools, products and services.

He attended his climate trainings and conferences in Australia, Korea, Germany, and some of the South Pacific Island Countries including Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Tonga. In 2012, he also participated in the 10 week computers training with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Lincoln Laboratory in Kwajalein, Marshall Islands. Before he came to the Pacific Desk training in Guam, he also participated in the Korean APCC 2015-Young Scientist Support Program Training in Busan, Korea from October 18 to December 20, 2015.

Majuro Weather Service Office | PO Box 78 | Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands 96960 | Tel: 692-625-3214 | Email: nover.juria@noaa.gov |



Rick Dizon
WSO Koror, ROP

RICK DIZON Rick Dizon has been a Weather Service Specialist at National Weather Service Office (WSO) in Koror since October 03, 2006. Duties required are collecting meteorological data at the surface: wind parameters, visibility, sky condition, temperatures, pressure, precipitation, which also includes synoptic data, and upper air meteorological data for different levels of the atmosphere. Additional training related to his field includes the 9th WMO Southern Hemisphere Tropical Cyclone Workshop and the Public Weather Forecast Workshop in September of 2011 both held in Melbourne, Australia at the Bureau of Meteorology. On July 2013, Rick attended the 1st Aviation Meteorology Personnel Workshop Quality Management System (QMS). Shortly thereafter, he became the focal point for Aerodrome Flight Information Services' (AFIS) surface observations. Then on April 23-25, 2014 he attended the Proceedings of the Pacific Islands Climate Services Dialog workshop at Majuro of the Republic of Marshall Islands, to discuss preparedness measures during an El Nino event. Ongoing daily training is done locally with WSO's Staff Meteorologist on Weather and Climate forecast products. These

workshops/trainings have enabled Rick to analyze numerical predictions models and disseminate information to the National Emergency Management Office, other sectors in the Republic of Palau, and the public. Currently, Rick is the secondary climate focal point for WSO Koror and the other Weather Service Cooperative Stations.

Koror Weather Service Office | PO Box 520 | Koror, Palau | Tel: 680-488-1034 | Email: rick.dizon@noaa.gov |



Sosten Sos
WSO, Chuuk, FSM

SOSTEN SOS Mr. Sosten Sos lives on the island center of Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia. He is married to Yerinta, a Practical Nurse at the Chuuk State Hospital and they have six children. He started his civil service as a youth advisor. After coming from abroad while furthering his studies, Mr. Sos had a short stint at the Chuuk Public Safety as a police officer for five years. While working as a law enforcement officer, Mr. Sos decided to enroll in some courses for his career. He took some courses at the College of Micronesia-Chuuk Campus and changed his career to embark in another field. He eventually received his Associate Degree in Teacher Education while majoring in Mathematics in June 2012.

After graduating in June 2012 from the College of Micronesia, Mr. Sosten Sos joined the National Weather Service. While working at his current job as a Weather Service Specialist, Mr. Sos was selected as a vocal point after five years for the MAPSO Program and was certified as a Surf Spotter. Mr. Sos also attended many Meteorological Trainings and workshops including those on climate data (eg. CliDe), climate validation, modeling, impacts, risk reduction (DDR), and disaster prevention.

He went on to represent the Federated States of Micronesia in the MWO training in Melbourne, Australia and the Sixth Asia/Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' conference on the Himawari Satellite in Tokyo, Japan. Moreover, Mr. Sos attended other meteorological trainings on Guam and on Pohnpei.

Mr. Sos is currently a member of the Climate Team who are responsible for updating of all daily data such as rainfall, temperature from all the second order stations, surf sites, and the electronic F-6 form. Additionally, Mr. Sos joined the monthly PEAC telephone conference and the outreach program. He was involved in outreach sessions to the public and private schools and the general public.

Last October 2015, Mr. Sosten Sos was appointed by the Mayor of Weno Municipality to become a councilman for his village at the Weno Municipal Government. He endeavored to assist the youths, women and men's groups to upgrade their living standards.

Chuuk Weather Service Office | PO Box A | Chuuk State, FSM 96942 | Tel: 011 691 330 2548 | Email: sosten.sos@noaa.gov

Program and Travel Updates



American Meteorological Society 96th Annual Meeting 10-14 January 2016

This year the Pacific Desk attended the 96th Annual American Meteorological Society Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Founded in 1919, the American Meteorological Society (AMS) is the US's premier scientific and professional organization promoting and disseminating information about the atmospheric, oceanic, hydrologic sciences. More than 13,000 members include scientists, researchers, educators, broadcast meteorologists, students, weather enthusiasts, and other professionals in the fields of weather, water, and climate.

The annual meeting included more than 30 conferences, symposia, workshops, and special sessions. Of particular interest to the Pacific Desk was the 28th Conference on Climate Variability and Change, the 25th Symposium on Education, the 11th Symposium on Societal Applications: Policy, Research, and Practice, Fourth Symposium on Prediction of the Madden-Julian Oscillation, and a Special Session on US-International Partnerships. Attendance was well over 3000 meteorologists from 28 countries, representing research, operations, education, media, government, and private sector.

Learn more about AMS: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/>



Pacific RANET Technical and Planning Meeting, 19-22 January 2016

Pacific Desk joined in on discussions with experts from around the Pacific Region to review the status RANET technologies and plan for a way forward. The meeting was hosted by the NOAA/NWS and supported by the University of Hawaii Telecommunications And Social Informatics Research Program / PEACESAT at UH Manoa campus.

2001-2015 Pacific Desk Participants

2001:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. Ms. Angeline Prasad | Fiji (1) | 3/12/01 - 5/11/01 |
| 2. Mr. Sagato Tuiafiso | Samoa (1) | 5/29/01 - 7/27/01 |
| 3. Mr. Ofa Faanunu | Tonga (1) | 8/6/01 - 10/5/01 |

2002:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 4. Mr. Michael Siau | Solomon Islands (1) | 1/7/02 - 2/6 /02 |
| 5. Mr. Maara Vaiimene | Cook Islands (1) | 3/18/02 - 5/17/02 |
| 6. Ms. Hilia Vavae | Tuvalu (1) | 5/28/02 - 7/26/02 |
| 7. Mr. Williams Worwor | Vanuatu (1) | 8/12/02 - 10/10/02 |
| 8. Ms. Malia Daleb | Tokelau (1) | 10/21/02 - 12/20/02 |

2003:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 9. Ms. Asha Fernandes | Papua New Guinea (1) | 1/6/03 - 3/7/03 |
| 10. Mr. Moreti Tibiriano | Kiribati (1) | 3/17/03 - 5/9/03 |
| 11. Mr. Sean Tukutama | Niue (1) | 5/27/03 - 7/18/03 |
| 12. Mr. Neniasi Havea | Tonga (2) | 8/4/03 - 9/12/03 |
| 13. Mr. Allan Rarai | Vanuatu (2) | 9/22/03 - 10/31/03 |
| 14. Mrs. Mai Chi Nguyen | Vietnam (1) | 11/10/03 - 12/19/03 |

2004:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 15. Mr. Rition Kabunateiti | Kiribati (2) | 1/12/04 - 2/27/04 |
| 16. Mr. Tauala Katea | Tuvalu (2) | 3/8/04 - 4/16/04 |
| 17. Mr. Balbir Singh | Fiji (2) | 5/3/04 - 6/11/04 |
| 18. Mr. Murray Kwapena | Papua New Guinea (2) | 6/21/04 - 7/30/04 |
| 19. Mr. Vaaua Wilson | Samoa (2) | 8/30/04 - 10/8/04 |
| 20. Mr. Mario Palafox | Philippines | 10/25/04 - 12/10/04 |

2005:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 21. Mr. Kakemaunga Ioane | Cook Islands (2) | 1/18/05 - 2/18/05 |
| 22. Mr. David Gibson | Vanuatu (3) | 3/7/05 - 4/22/05 |
| 23. Ms. Rosslynn Pulehetoa | Niue (2) | 6/6/05 - 7/15/05 |
| 24. Mr. Eteuati Loli | Samoa (3) | 7/28/05 - 9/2/05 |
| 25. Mr. Khairul Najib Ibrahim | Malaysia (1) | 9/29/05 - 10/27/05 |
| 26. Mr. Moleni Tu'uholoaki | Tonga (3) | 11/21/05 - 12/16/05 |

2006:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 27. Mrs. Le Thi Loan | Vietnam (2) | 1/16/06 - 2/17/06 |
| 28. Mr. Renito Paciente | Philippines (2) | 2/27/06 - 4/7/06 |
| 29. Mr. Benjamin Malai | Papua New Guinea (3) | 4/24/06 - 6/2/06 |
| 30. Mr. Ian Huri | Vanuatu (4) | 6/19/06 - 7/28/06 |
| 31. Mr. Manoah Tapa | Solomon Islands (2) | 9/4/06 - 10/13/06 |
| 32. Mr. Kabangaki Baraniko | Kiribati (3) | 10/30/06 - 12/8/06 |

2007:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 33. Mr. Ofa Taumoefolau | Tonga (4) | 1/16/07 - 2/23/07 |
| 34. Mr. Renato Molina | Philippines (3) | 3/12/07 - 4/20/07 |
| 35. Mr. Tile Tofaeono | Samoa (4) | 5/7/07 - 6/15/07 |
| 36. Mr. Freddy Ferah | Solomon Islands (3) | 7/9/07 - 8/17/07 |
| 37. Mr. Sionetasi Pulehetoa | Niue (3) | 9/4/07 - 9/21/07 |
| 38. Mr. Laurent Blaize | New Caledonia (1) | 10/29/07 - 12/07/07 |

2008:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 39. Mrs. Subekti Mujiasih | Indonesia (1) | 1/7/08 - 2/15/08 |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|

Country	#
Cambodia	1
Cook Islands	5
Fiji	7
Indonesia	1
Kiribati	9
Malaysia	2
New Caledonia	1
Niue	5
Papua New Guinea	8
Philippines	3
Samoa	11
Solomon Islands	9
Tokelau	1
Tonga	13
Tuvalu	6
Vanuatu	9
Vietnam	3
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40. Ms. Sandra Richard	Malaysia (2)	2/25/08 - 4/4/08
41. Mr. Ryna Oum	Cambodia (1)	4/28/08 - 6/6/08
42. Mr. Nang Tran	Vietnam (3)	6/23/08 - 8/1/08
43. Mr. Selwyn Suri	Solomon Islands (4)	8/25/08 - 10/3/08
44. Mr. Iokenti Beniamina	Kiribati (4)	10/27/08 - 12/5/08
2009:		
45. Mr. Samiuela Salusalema Vite	Tonga (5)	1/20/09 - 2/27/09
46. Mr. Kilima	Tuvalu (3)	3/16/09 - 4/24/09
47. Mr. John Fakafu	Solomon Islands (5)	5/11/09 - 6/19/09
48. Mr. Lawrence Aumora	Papua New Guinea (4)	7/6/09 - 8/14/09
49. Mr. Luteru Tavuale	Samoa (5)	8/31/09 - 10/9/09
50. Mr. Yan Nelson	Vanuatu (5)	10/26/09 - 12/4/09
2010:		
51. Mr. Nathan Tisam	Cook Islands (3)	2/1/10 - 3/12/10
52. Ms. Teera Tetam	Kiribati (5)	3/29/10 - 5/7/10
53. Mr. Kien Teteki	Kiribati (6)	3/29/10 - 5/7/10
54. Mr. Edward Maru	Solomon Islands (6)	5/31/10 - 7/2/10
55. Mr. Gregory Auwakea	Solomon Islands (7)	5/31/10 - 7/2/10
56. Mr. Jeremiah Malaibe	Papua New Guinea (5)	7/26/10 - 8/27/10
57. Mr. Mr. Konny Nato	Papua New Guinea (6)	7/26/10 - 8/27/10
58. Mr. Abel Nalau	Vanuatu (6)	9/27/10 - 11/05/10
59. Mr. Kalsuak Godden	Vanuatu (7)	9/27/10 - 11/05/10
60. Ms. Seluvaia Finaulahi	Tonga (6)	11/15/10 - 12/17/10
61. Mr. Aisea Akauola	Tonga (7)	11/15/10 - 12/17/10
2011:		
62. Mr. Nikotemo Iona	Tuvalu (4)	2/21/11 - 4/1/11
2014:		
63. Mr. Elifaleti Ene	Tuvalu (5)	6/16/14 - 7/11/14
64. Mr. Richard Gokrun	Tuvalu (6)	6/16/14 - 7/11/14
65. Mr. Maccarios Auvae	Samoa (6)	8/11/14 - 9/5/14
66. Mr. Silipa Mulitalo	Samoa (7)	8/11/14 - 9/5/14
67. Mr. Slade Ririmae	Solomon Islands (8)	8/11/14 - 9/5/14
68. Mr. Wayne Pene	Fiji (3)	8/11/14 - 9/5/14
69. Mr. Anthony Kalai	Papua New Guinea (7)	9/15/14 - 10/10/14
70. Mr. Charlie Vulum	Papua New Guinea (8)	9/15/14 - 10/10/14
71. Mr. Kolinio Seru	Fiji (4)	9/15/14 - 10/10/14
72. Mr. Manea Maretapu	Cook Islands (4)	10/20/14 - 11/14/14
73. Mr. Edwin Kant	Fiji (5)	10/20/14 - 11/14/14
74. Ms. Mellissa Talagi Douglas	Niue (3)	10/20/14 - 11/14/14
75. Mr. Taumoa Bateriki	Kiribati (4)	10/20/14 - 11/14/14
2015:		
76. Ms. Mele Lakai	Tonga (8)	4/27/15 - 5/22/15
77. Ms. Uinita Vea	Tonga (9)	4/27/15 - 5/22/15
78. Mr. Levu Antfalo	Vanuatu (8)	4/27/15 - 5/22/15
79. Mr. Fredrick Vuti	Vanuatu (9)	4/27/15 - 5/22/15
80. Mr. Alexander Rilifia	Solomon Islands (9)	6/15/15 - 7/10/15
81. Mr. Bates Manea	Cook Islands (5)	8/3/15 - 8/25/15
82. Ms. Hingano Laufoli	Niue (4)	8/3/15 - 8/25/15
83. Mr. Tevita Taufa	Tonga (10)	8/3/15 - 8/25/15
84. Ms. Siutiti Tapu	Tonga (11)	8/3/15 - 8/25/15

85. Mr. Maciu Saukuru	Fiji (6)	9/14/15 – 10/9/15
86. Mr. Albert Niko	Samoa (8)	9/14/15 – 10/9/15
87. Mr. Togi Fauena	Samoa (9)	9/14/15 – 10/9/15
88. Mr. Thomas Zackious	Kiribati (5)	9/14/15 – 10/9/15
89. Mr. Sione Tuungafasi	Tonga (12)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15
90. Ms. Annie Maua	Samoa (10)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15
91. Mr. Manu Solomona Jr.	Samoa (11)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15
92. Mr. Tomasi Cati	Fiji (7)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15
93. Mr. Samiu Vaitaki	Tonga (13)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15
94. Ms. Katanute Tuevi	Kiribati (6)	10/19/15 – 11/13/15



The Pacific International Training Program is intended to prepare observers to understand the forecast process, learn fundamental variables and skills required for forecasting, and provide an opportunity for basic hands-on work with meteorological analysis and prediction. The Pacific Desk will prepare trainees to return to their NMHS for further operational forecasting experience.

Who Should Attend Training

The Pacific Desk program is intended as an early step in initial forecast training preparing trainees for lengthier and more advanced training programs such as AUS Bureau of Meteorology programs, Regional Training Programs/Courses in Japan, Philippines, etc.). Future iterations of training will include more in-depth materials for experienced forecasters.

Modules

- General atmospheric variables, physics, and dynamics relevant to tropical meteorological operations
- Tropical weather/climate features and their global role
- Weather-forecasting process
- Messaging and Weather communications

Locations

NOAA/NWS Weather Forecast Office,
Hawaii
2525 Correa Road, Ste. 250
Honolulu, HI 96822

NOAA/NWS Weather Forecast
Office, Guam
3232 Hueneme Road
Barrigada, GU

2016 Schedule

Hawaii OSTP

01 FEB	Cohort #1 1 st to 26 th Feb 2016
25 APR	Cohort #2 25 th Apr to 20 th May 2016
06 JUN	Cohort #3 6 th Jun to 1 July 2016
01 AUG	Cohort #4 1 st to 26 th Aug 2016
03 OCT	Cohort #5 3 rd to 28 th Oct 2016

Guam OSTP

25 JAN	Cohort #1 25 th Jan to 19 Feb 2016
07 MAR	Cohort #2 7 th Mar to 1 st Apr 2016
02 MAY	Cohort #3 2 nd May to 3 rd June 2016

Contact Details

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