

Content

2017 Training Year Launched >>>>>>>>>>>>	1
Cohort #1 Honolulu Trainees >>>>>>>>>>>>	2
Program Updates >>>>>>>>>>>>	4
PITD 2016 Participants >>>>>>>>>>>>	6
2017 Training Schedule >>>>>>>>>>>>	7

2017 Training Year Launched

The PITD welcomed 4 participants to Honolulu for Cohort #1 – 6-31 March this week. We are also anticipating the arrival of 5 trainees to our Guam location at the end of the month for Cohort #1 Guam – 27 March to 21 April.



Hawaii Cohort #1: March 6 - 31, 2017

1. Clemencia Sioneholo - Niue
2. Tavau Vaaia - Tuvalu
3. Tinomana Naea - Cooks Islands
4. Uimai Uimai – Tuvalu

Guam Cohort #1: March 27- April 21, 2017

1. Sammy Rettin - Pohnpei
2. Elai Aiseia - Marshall Islands
3. McCormick Mori - Chuuk
4. Alexander Kitalong - Palau
5. Mathias Yugbay – Yap

The PITD offers eight cohorts annually, five (5) in Honolulu and three (3) in Guam. Trainings are conducted at the National Weather Service / Weather Forecast Offices in Honolulu and Guam with site visits and field trips.

The PITD has trained 127 participants from 20 different countries since 2001.

The PITD training covers Introductory Tropical Meteorology topics, including: Thermodynamics; Satellite Interpretation; Surface and Upper-Air Analysis; General Circulation; Local Circulations; Tropical Weather Features; Numerical Weather Prediction; Forecast Philosophy; Forecast Verification; Marine Forecasts; Tsunamis; Severe Weather and Tropical Cyclones; Tropical Climate Variability; and Messaging and Weather Communications.

Cohort #1 Honolulu Trainees



CLEMENCIA SIONEHOLO is the youngest of the 6 sibling in her family. She lives with her family in the main town of Alofi in Niue. She has a strong connection with her culture and is proud to represent her country in whatever opportunity that presents itself. In her spare time it is usually spend helping out at the family restaurant or participating in community commitments. Clemencia has worked at the Niue Meteorological Service since 2015. She has participated in regional workshops and short-term training attachments within the Pacific region. Clemencia have been awarded certificates from various trainings on Quality Management System 9001:2015, Analysis and Application of Himawari-8 Data, and Maintenance and Calibration of Meteorological Instruments held in Fiji Meteorological Service and sponsored by Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Clemencia also attended the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) and Climate Data for the Environment (CLiDE) User Workshop held in Apia, Samoa in 2016. Clemencia's current duties involves in assisting in preparing the daily and three day weather forecast, collect daily and hourly observations,

data input for CLiDE, maintaining the climate station and preparing the national TV weather for Niue. She is now considering future studies within this field and is grateful to be given this opportunity to attend and experience the Pacific Desk Training.

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TAVAU VAAIA graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Mathematics from the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji in 2012. After graduation, she worked for a project co-funded by GIZ and SPC named Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Countries stationed at the Department of Environment, Tuvalu. There she worked closely in collaboration with other climate change (CC) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) related projects in collating and recording all CC & DRR related information in a database been developed. With support from SOPAC SPC and SPREP, she was able to conduct an Information Needs Assessment (INA) training workshop for key stakeholders. As a result, a situation analysis report was compiled based on feedbacks and recommendations from key stakeholders. After her contract finished with GIZ, she worked as an Assistant Environment Officer that deals mostly with land degradation. After a month, she was awarded with a new post at the Tuvalu Meteorological Service, to work as a Scientific Officer where she looks after the forecasting section. She lives with her husband

Simeona, Fisheries Officer and two beautiful daughters on Funafuti, Tuvalu.

Tuvalu Meteorological Service | Ministry of Communication and Transport | Government of Tuvalu | Vaiaku, Funafuti, Tuvalu | Telephone Number: (+688) 20736 | Email: tamanuku06@gmail.com

TINOMANA (TINO) NAEA works for the Cook Islands Meteorological Services. After graduating from High school, he took a year off to help with their family business. He joined the Cooks Islands Meteorological Service in 2013 and is currently an Operational Observer. He has attended trainings on Himawari8 Data, Tsunami Warning and Emergency



Response (PTWC Enhanced Products), and Basic Meteorological Training.

Tino is appreciative of the training opportunities in helping him develop skills to help his country. He hopes to learn more during the Pacific Desk training so to better serve his country.

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UIMAI ULUAO attends the Pacific Desk training with experience in weather forecasting at the Tuvalu Meteorological Service. Uimai completed her Form Seven Certificate at Motufoua Secondary School in 2014. She started working at the Tuvalu Meteorological in 2015 November as a meteorological observer, which she is responsible to perform daily weather observations for aircraft, coordinate the recordings of daily weather observations, prepare daily balloon launches, coordinate the maintenance of equipment, remote and communicate weather and climate activities on collecting hourly weather observation. She is a registered student at USP studying meteorology related courses.

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Program Updates

American Meteorological Society 97th Annual Meeting

January 22-26, 2017

Seattle, WA

The Pacific Desk was accepted as a poster presentation this year at the American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting in Seattle Washington.

The Pacific Desk participated in the Conference on Education with a poster presentation on the Desk and the impacts of training across the Pacific over the past 15 years.

Picture: Jennifer Strahl at the Pacific Desk poster booth in Seattle, WA.



Kamehameha Schools Career Fair

January 13, 2017

Honolulu, HI

On Friday January 13th, 2017 the Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center (PBTRC) and the Pacific International Training Desk (PITD) hosted a booth at the Kamehameha schools career fair. The booth featured several fun and educational activities for the students. One activity required the students to identify various pacific islands and territories on a map. Another activity gave the students the opportunity to send messages via a

"Chatty Beetle", a device that sends weather alerts and emergency messages via Satellite. The students enjoyed the activities and learning about the PITD and the PBTRC. The students were provided with brochures and information on the PBTRC as well. In total 173 students visited the booth as they explored the fair and learned about different career options

Picture: Jennifer Strahl, Sarah Bonham and David Hitzl at the Kamehameha Schools Career Fair.

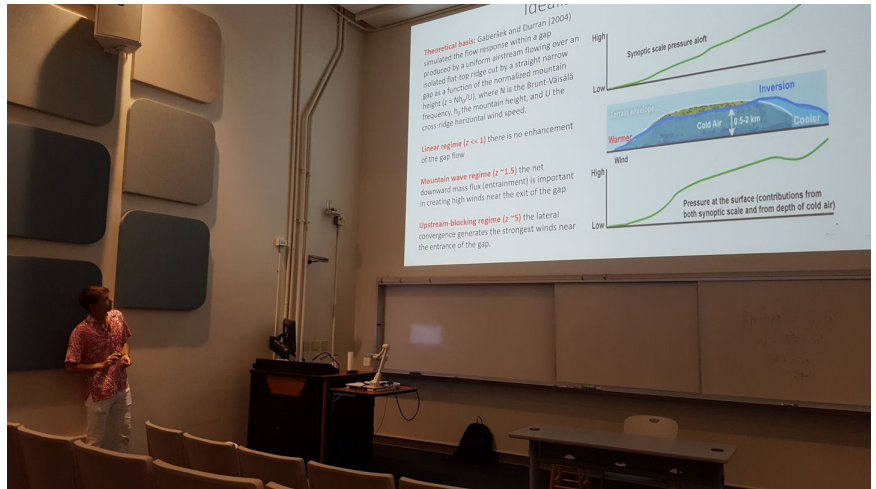
Wintertime Southeasterly Airflow in the Coastal Waters in Hawaii, David Hitzl

December 7, 2016

Honolulu, HI

The Pacific Desk Guam meteorology instructor David Hitzl presented his research in a University of Hawaii Meteorology Seminar, "Wintertime Southeasterly Airflow in the Coastal Waters of Hawaii."

Picture: David Hitzl research presentation in a UH Meteorology Seminar, December 7, 2016.



Cohort #5 Hawaii 2016

October 3-28, 2016

Honolulu, HI

Tom Evans (NOAA/NWS Director of Operations), Chris Brenchly, (NOAA/NWS MIC WFO Honolulu), Reginald Hingano (Tonga Met Service), Faingataa Vaitaki (Tonga Met Service), Christina Higa (Pacific Intl Training Desk Director), David Hitzl (Pacific Intl Training Desk Instructor), Andrew Sofeni (Samoa Met Service) and Emau Toluono (Samoa Met Service).

Cohort #4 Hawaii

August 1-26, 2016

Honolulu, HI

Ray Tanabe (NOAA/NWS PRH Director), Chris Brenchley (NOAA/NWS WFO Honolulu, MIC), Josiah Malaude (Fiji), Atinta Bauro (Kiribati), Kolinio Levuiciva (Fiji), Jennifer Strahl (Pacific Desk).



2016 Participant List

Country	Name	Cohort Dates	Training Location
Chuuk, FSM	Ann Andrew	03/07/16 - 04/01/16	Guam
Chuuk, FSM	Lukas Likiche	05/02/16 - 05/27/16	Guam
Chuuk, FSM	Sosten Sos	01/25/16 – 02/19/16	Guam
Fiji	Kolinio Levuiciva	10/3/16 - 10/28/16	Hawaii
Fiji	Ratu Maladue	10/3/16 - 10/28/16	Hawaii
Kiribati	Atinta Bauro	10/3/16 - 10/28/16	Hawaii
Kiribati	Jackie Parks	10/3/16 - 10/28/16	Hawaii
Marshall Islands	Lee Jacklick	03/07/16 - 04/01/16	Guam
Marshall Islands	Nover Juria	01/25/16 – 02/19/16	Guam
Marshall Islands	Samson Kaneko	05/02/16 - 05/27/16	Guam
Palau	Godwin Sisior	05/02/16 - 05/27/16	Guam
Palau	Joyleen Tamtk-Temengil	03/07/16 - 04/01/16	Guam
Palau	Rick Dizon	01/25/16 – 02/19/16	Guam
Papua New Guinea	Heau Lohia	04/25/16 - 05/20/16	Hawaii
Papua New Guinea	Peter Warupi	02/01/16 - 02/26/16	Hawaii
Papua New Guinea	Sakumai Kanawi	02/01/16 - 02/26/16	Hawaii
Papua New Guinea	Ula Virobo	04/25/16 - 05/20/16	Hawaii
Pohnpei, FSM	Johnny Musrasrik	05/02/16 - 05/27/16	Guam
Pohnpei, FSM	Kenely Andon	01/25/16 – 02/19/16	Guam
Pohnpei, FSM	Wilfred Nanpei	03/07/16 - 04/01/16	Guam
Samoa	Andrew Sofeni	08/01/16 - 08/26/16	Hawaii
Samoa	Emau Toluono	08/01/16 - 08/26/16	Hawaii
Solomon Islands	Joe Ganqurae	04/25/16 - 05/20/16	Hawaii
Solomon Islands	Solomon Manatanias	04/25/16 - 05/20/16	Hawaii
Tokelau	Meleka Mativa	06/06/16 - 07/01/16	Hawaii
Tokelau	Solonaima Mei	06/06/16 - 07/01/16	Hawaii
Tonga	Faingataa Vaitaki	08/01/16 - 08/26/16	Hawaii
Tonga	Reginald Hingano	08/01/16 - 08/26/16	Hawaii
Tuvalu	Alamoana Tofuola	02/01/16 - 02/26/16	Hawaii
Tuvalu	Polapola Keli	02/01/16 - 02/26/16	Hawaii
Vanuatu	Willie Molisa	06/06/16 - 07/01/16	Hawaii
Yap, FSM	Choorang Falan	01/25/16 – 02/19/16	Guam
Yap, FSM	Jane Laakthin	03/07/16 - 04/01/16	Guam
Yap, FSM	Justin Fanechigi	05/02/16 - 05/27/16	Guam