



COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM

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Office of the Director
Learning Resources Center

October 29, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mariana Ben-Dereas, VPIA

FROM : Jennifer Hainrick, LRC Director

SUBJECT : **Salt Lake City Trip Report, October 1-9, 2012**

In August, I was invited via email to participate in the Connecting to Collections (C2C) Exchange at the 2012 American Association of State and Local History (AASLH) conference in Salt Lake City, Utah from October 3-6, 2012. Airfare was provided by AASLH and Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL), Hawaii. I traveled with Jane Barnwell, Director of Library and Information Literacy Initiatives (LILI) at PREL office to the conference.

I departed Pohnpei on October 1st to Honolulu and met up with Jane. We arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah on October 2nd. The next day, Jane gave a presentation titled *Regional Strategies for Connecting to Collections in the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands* and I gave a presentation titled *Connecting to Collections Grant Project Findings: Federated States of Micronesia* during the lunch poster sessions.

I met and talked with Connie Bodner, Senior Program Officer of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) about other feasible options available for the FSM region in reaching out more to the public and creating community awareness of our heritage collections. Stories on the C2C planning grants and implementation grants were shared with participants. The C2C planning grant is what FSM was a part of and it included administering surveys of heritage collections around the islands and communicating the findings of those surveys and creating awareness. Some common themes that kept coming up in the conference that our library can relate to and learn from are mentioned below.

Collaboration/Partnerships

There was a high level of collaborative work involved in making sure that projects were carried out and were successful. Partnerships were formed with outside agencies, institutions, and certain individuals who were experts in their fields of historic preservations.

Training/Workshops

Constant training and workshop were developed and conducted at various partnering agencies to help upgrade the skills of the staff and introduce new techniques and tools in historic preservation.

Disaster Planning

An exercise with disaster planning was held within groups where we had to devise plans of action for make-believe disaster scenarios. Formulation of a pocket reference guide with key contact personnel is an integral part of a disaster plan. This has made me question where our library is in terms of disaster planning.

Diversity

One group talked about nurturing diverse groups in the community within libraries, museums, or archives as a way of promoting preservation of heritage collections. Developing programs for preserving history and artifacts for the youth instills in them an interest that goes a long way in paving a career path for them.

On October 7th, Jane and I departed Utah to Honolulu where I met with Daniel J. Peacock, a former director of library services in Micronesia during the Trust Territory era. He donated a piece of a locally crafted coconut grater to be added to the Pacific Collection in the LRC. Arrangements to ship the item were made with Jane before departure from Honolulu to Pohnpei.

Thank you.



Jennifer Hainrick
Director, Learning Resources Center