

MORTLOCKS WINS ACADEMIC TALENT SHOWDOWN!

The Mortlocks team won first-place honors in the Academic Talent Showdown on Friday, November 22. It received 86 points by answering questions on English, math, science, social sciences, and business/computer. Runner-up was Faichuuk with 68 points, beating Northern Namoneas by just three points.

The showdown was sponsored by our SBA Council, headed by SBA President Shawn Mori. During the two-hour event on November 22, he was seen walking around the Student Center. He was visibly worried that something might go awry and ruin the event. He should not have been worried at all, for the showdown was a huge success.

More than 50 students participated in answering easy, medium, and hard questions, while many more students were on-lookers. The Student Center was crowded with students, participants and on-lookers alike.



Faichuukese team runners-up

Faculty and staff were involved. For one thing, instructors were responsible for submitting questions for students to answer. The number of questions submitted was so numerous that it was impossible to select (randomly) the actual questions asked of student participants. Also, several persons assisted the SBA's production. Wilson Bisalen and Virginia Mamangon were the hosts. Lynn Sipenuk was the quiz master, or mistress of ceremonies. Rick Chiwi, Alton Higashi, and Danie Mamangon served as judges. Ben Akkin and Kersweet Eria were timekeepers. Other faculty/staff members were in the audience to cheer the students on.

For two weeks prior to the showdown, the questions (without answers) were distributed to the five regional teams. Team members then organized practice sessions of their own. Teams were allowed to ask tutors and instructors for assistance; and, of course, tutors and instructors were duly informed to guide students, not to give answers to them.

How did instructors develop questions? The showdown questions were based on questions which the instructors would have asked on their final exams. The showdown questions were therefore not exactly final exam questions, just similar to final exam questions. In effect, student participants benefited a great deal by practicing for two weeks how to review for their final exams.

Near two o'clock, when the showdown was expected to end, a student requested that the time be extended to 5:00 pm. Other student participants also wanted to lengthen the showdown time period. After the showdown had ended, several faculty/staff members voiced strong support to have another showdown during the Spring Semester 2014.

On Wednesday, November 27, our Chuuk Campus Management Council reviewed and discussed showdown activities. A motion to request the SBA Council to initiate plans for another showdown during the spring semester was unanimously approved. So, everyone, let us expect another great inter-region competition — maybe even greater than last month's event!

Congratulations to the Mortlocks team members! Congratulations to all of the student participants. φ



Mortlockese team winners