

Founding Day informal notes from 13:00 Monday 03 February 2014.

Present: Morehna Rettin-Santos, Benina Ilon, Edwin Sione, Jim Alexander, Dana Lee Ling, Paulo Santos, Universe Yamase, JT Celestine, Jeff Arnold, Bastora. Loyola.

Absent: Roldan Laguerta, Gasma Hadley, Warren Ching, Eugene Edmund, Castro Joab.

JT Celestine reported that of 207 students surveyed, 57% chose choice number two. Two separate days for coronation and games. Students were surveyed on both campuses. Students favor separate days.

National campus prefers choice number one – the combined days.

At Pohnpei campus only four voted for combined days. 44 chose choice two (separated coronation and Founding Day)

At National campus 96 chose option number one (combined coronation and games day on the first of April), 63 chose choice number two.

Discussion of the following data:

Campus	Combined	Separated	Sums
National	96	63	159
Pohnpei	4	44	48
Sums:	100	107	207

Campus	Combined	Separated	Sums
National	46.38%	30.43%	76.81%
Pohnpei	1.93%	21.26%	23.19%
Sums:	48.31%	51.69%	100.00%

Difference	3.38%
Stand Error	3.47%

Dana noted that the statistical standard error in the split exceeded the actual difference in the vote. He also noted, along with one member, that Pohnpei site was under-represented in the sample. Because Pohnpei campus strongly favored a separated ceremony, bringing that sample up in relative proportion to the national campus sample might decisively tip the balance in favor of separated ceremonies. After further extended discussions, the chair clarified that the final decision fell to the committee and called for a vote on the two options.

In favor of combined coronation: six

In favor of separated coronation and founding day ceremonies: two

Abstentions: two

Suggestion: Coronation in the morning. Championship ball games start immediately. Fun games could still be done on the side.

Community should be invited to sell take-out, food stuffs. Tents? We can maybe ask 10% of sales be donated to endowment fund.

Maybe each division should do a fun game. A carnival type atmosphere. Simultaneous. Booths maybe.

1000 take-outs. Combined cafeteria and VPSS. Catered.

Themes.

Pohnpei campus theme nomination: Although our islands are small and scattered, our rich cultural diversity unites us in a common cause of reaffirming our commitment to a better future.
Kosrae: Successful accomplishments through unity, strength, and true wisdom (submitted not by the team per se but a single member).
No other team based themes were submitted.

Dana noted the existence of a new mission statement and asked whether the theme should reflect the new mission statement as a way of bringing attention to the new mission statement. Not everyone is aware that the college has a new mission statement, and the mission is changed from the prior mission statement.

The College of Micronesia-FSM is a continuously improving best practices learner-centered institution of higher education committed to the success of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic, career and technical educational programs.

The committee decided to open up theme submissions to any individual. There is no rush to settle on a theme in a sports year – the teams do not have to interact with the theme as they do when they build theme-oriented floats in cultural years. The theme can be determined at a later date.

Minimum 1000 take-outs.

Fund raising goal remains \$10,0000.

Games opening ceremony is today at 5:00 this evening in the FSM-China Friendship Sports Center.

Discussion of the rubric and the practicalities of the rubric, implementation, how points will be reported into the coronation.

Post-meeting update:

An extended post-meeting discussion engaged in by some members led to the raising of questions as to the role of student fund raising and whether – given misgivings expressed by some in the community – student fund raising for the endowment was still appropriate. This was also discussed in light of the existence of a formal foundation for raising money and the decreased level of pressure on student groups to be a major component of annual fund raising. Noted in this discussion was the community based comment of parents and politicians that

students are sent to COM-FSM to get an education, not to raise money for the college. Intended or not, the competition to capture the "crown" pressures the students to raise money, possibly at the expense of studying.

This discussion rolled on into a discussion of whether this might be the last year for a king and queen competition. The teams from the other islands are simply permanently disadvantaged in any money based competition, only the "blue" and "purple" teams have a reasonable shot at winning on a money based basis. The discussion noted that while one team has worked to raise the minimum one thousand, the other two off-island teams have been less active. This was an informal discussion and no one in the discussion was committing to any particular position. The discussion is being reported herein as this is a discussion that should be held more formally after Founding Day is over – a discussion of the future direction of Founding Day and how it is observed. Founding Day had evolved from being a celebration of the college's birthday to being the center piece of the fund raising year for the college in academic years that end in an even year such as this academic year. Should this continue to be the role of Founding Day?

Dana later had a brief discussion with two members of the social science division. They conveyed their perception that Phi Beta Kappa is less active than in prior terms and that those who helped drive and plan the College Bowl are no longer with the college. A college bowl has not been done in some time. This information cast doubt on the practicality of a college bowl.

For reference purposes only, the proposed rubric was:

Category	Fundraising	Academic ability	Cultural knowledge and skills	Public speaking	Physically fit
Mechanism		Academic bowl	In a demonstration event to be organized by Micronesian studies program	Speech delivered, judged by EN/CO 205 instructors	In an event to be organized by recreation
Rank					
First	50	15	15	10	10
Second	45	13	13	9	9
Third	40	11	11	8	8
Fourth	35	9	9	7	7
Fifth	30	7	7	6	6
Sixth	25	5	5	5	5

Given the time lines this might no longer be a realistic proposal.