
Status Update: MCSF Summary Budget and Decision Memos

Jason Aubuchon <jason@pitiviti.org>

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To: Joanne Brown <j.msbrown@yahoo.com>

Cc: Bernard Adiniwin <bernardadiniwin@gmail.com>, Churchill Edward <lt_governor@mail.fm>, "Esther S. Fleming" <esther.fleming@gov.mp>, Jesse Mori <jmchuukdas@yahoo.com>, Joses Gallen <jrgallen@yahoo.com>, Marion Henry <marionh@mail.fm>, Sebastian Anefal <sebastian_anefal@mail.fm>, Shawn Gumataotao <shawn.gumataotao@gmail.com>, "Steven L. George" <dres@mail.fm>, Victor Yano <VicYano@gmail.com>, Yumiko Crisostomo <yumiko.crisostomo@gmail.com>, Conchita Taitano <conchita@guam.net>, David Louis Bell <davidlouisbell@gmail.com>

Joanne, and all:

I'm taking this opportunity to respond to your most recent communication to update all of the Designated Representatives on the current status of the three decision memos put forward on 1/30. I'll address each of the three decision memos in order:

(1) **MCSF Decision Memo 05 - Non-Profit Filing Fees.** I received positive responses from FSM, Yap, Pohnpei, Palau, CNMI, Kosrae, and Guam (Guam's Designated Representative provided a positive response on 2/3; I assume Guam remains in support of this despite the subsequent question regarding the nature of the \$3,808 budgeted for this activity.) More importantly, I received no objections to this activity prior to 2/4.

Status: These payments are currently in process.

(2) **MCSF Decision Memo 06 - RISC Workshop.** I received positive responses from FSM, Yap, Pohnpei, Palau, CNMI, Kosrae, and Guam. More importantly, I received no objections prior to 2/11, and this activity is considered both authorized and approved.

Status: Arrangements to support the RISC Workshop are currently underway.

(3) **MCSF Decision Memo 07 - Fundraising and Initial Brochure & Website Development.** I received positive responses from FSM, Yap, Pohnpei, Palau, CNMI, Kosrae. However, there is a standing objection from Guam as presented below.

Status A: Fundraising: At Guam's request, the Governor of Guam is expecting to have a discussion with the other Chief Executives about the proposed expenditure of \$16,829 out of an authorized \$25,000 in support of fundraising activities. I will be following up with Guam's Designated Representative to determine whether the Governor of Guam has already communicated in writing with the Chief Executives, and whether the proposed discussion at the Chief Executive level has happened yet. I note that one of the prominent requests from the Chief Executives at the 14th MCES, and one of the key outcomes of our Designated Representatives' Exit Meeting, was that our highest priority activity going forward should be this fundraising activity. If either Guam's Designated Representative or anyone else acting on behalf of MCSF request the attention of your Chief

Executives, I trust you'll advise your principals accordingly.

Status B: Brochure & Website Development: The second objection was related to the Website content and brochure design in the amount of \$4,858 out of an authorized \$65,000. These were considered preliminary activities designed to complement the proposed fundraising efforts. This initial activity would be undertaken in advance of the creation of more sophisticated and substantial website functionality. It should be noted that if the anticipated further work is to be completed during the period in which the Graduate School is responsible for the inception award, procurement would follow the Graduate School's procurement methodologies which would not include a restricted RFP process.

Finally, a question was raised as to the timing of the next meeting of Designated Representatives. At the Designated Representatives' Exit Meeting following the close of the 14th MCES, we identified the need for a meeting during the month of April, in advance of the 15th MCES. I will separately poll each of the Designated Representatives to determine a date that will work for as many as possible.

Thank you,
Jason

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Jason D. Aubuchon
Program Manager, Pacific Islands Training Initiative
Graduate School
900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1540
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: [\(808\) 523-1650 ext. 772](tel:(808)523-1650)
Fax: [\(808\) 523-7634](tel:(808)523-7634)
E-Mail: jason.aubuchon@graduateschool.edu
Websites: www.graduateschool.edu, www.pitiviti.org