

PACIFIC news

Guam

After almost a year of double sessions, students at Price Elementary School returned to a regular schedule November 17, when 17 new classrooms were completed. The classrooms replace those destroyed by last December's Super typhoon Pongsona. Work continues at other Guam schools; a total of 117 classrooms are being rebuilt at 14 of the island's public schools.

Hawai'i

A five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education will strengthen violence- and drug-prevention among Native Hawaiian students. PREL's Nā Hoa Ho'ōla program will receive \$637,393 in annual funding from the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program.

PREL

PREL received a Healthy Workplace Award (HWA) from the Hawai'i Psychological Association for its staff development program and community participation. PREL was also recognized as one of Hawai'i's top 250 businesses by *Hawaii Business Magazine*.

Region

The European Union has announced grants of more than \$8 million to fund basic education in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and 12 other Pacific nations. New Zealand will contribute an additional \$3 million.

More than 1,500 pairs of eyeglasses were distributed free of charge to people in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap. The eyeglasses were donated by the Lions Clubs of Hawai'i and distributed by PREL in cooperation with the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA).

Yap

On November 25 Typhoon Lupit hit Ulithi Atoll and Woleai and Fais islands, causing extensive property damage but no injuries. The storm forced school closings of a week or more in these areas. Leaks destroyed instructional materials in some classrooms. Crops were also damaged, and this year's harvest will be significantly impacted.

Photo: Doug Herman



In Memoriam

Callistus Legdesog, a respected Yap educator, passed away in early September. He was a Pacific Educator in Residence at PREL from 1992-1995 and a founding member of the Pacific Curriculum and Instruction Council (PCIC). In April, while serving as Yap's Deputy Director of Education, he completed a Master of Science degree program in Instructional Technology and Telecommunications from Western Illinois University.