## AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DIVISION OF STUDENT SERVICES





Weekly Information Bulletin "Connects Students to What is Happening On Campus" January 4, 2010 to January 8, 2010

Quote of the week:

"What really matters in Life is people, not objects; Tolerance, not judgment; Love, which is at the heart of a family"

~ Arthur Bowler

OPY New Year



## **Next Meeting: TBA!**

Come on! Let's give back to our one and ONLY College on island and join our ASCC Alumni Association. We would love to have you. So when you're ready to join, please contact Panisia Neueli: 699-9155 ext.463 {p.neueli@amsamoa.edu}, Peteru LamYuen: 699-9155 ext.379 {p.lamyuen@amsamoa.edu}, Amio Luvu: 699-1575 {amio1@yahoo.com}, or Matesina Willis: 699-9155 ext.461 {m.willis@amsamoa.edu}, for more information. **Hope to see you soon!**©

<u>Notice:</u> For all 2009 Summer & Fall Graduates, please fill out an "Alumni Exit Survey form" with the ASCC Alumni Counselor, Ms. Matesina Willis.

<u>Where?</u> Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC) located at the old Book Store before entering the cafeteria.

## **BUSINESS OFFICE**

\* If you have any questions pertaining to your tuition payment, please see Moala Mago or Benjamin Ah Siu at the Business Office.

\*After 1 week of holding on to checks, Business Office will mail out the student's checks to their existing addresses. So please pick up your F/A checks ASAP.



Credit & Collections

<u>To all students</u> with outstanding balances for the month of October, please make arrangements to get this matter resolved immediately. Your immediate response to this matter is greatly appreciated. Give us a call or stop by our office for any inquiries and/or payments. Vaesavali Ta'ala, ext.342 (v.taala@amsamoa.edu), Carmen Umi ext.342 (c.umi@amsamoa.edu), Enele Seumanutafa

ext.389 (e.seumanutafa@amsamoa.edu)

## COUNSELING SERVICES OFFICE: Located in the cafeteria

#### • Student Transferability

Prospective graduates of Fall 2009 must come in to see counselors at their offices located in the cafeteria for the following:

- Fill out an Exit Counseling Survey
- Transferring to a 4-year college or university for assistance with college search, filling out college applications, and retrieving college document checklists
- Students seeking assistance in resume writing or job coaching
  - \*If you have any problems seeing any of the counselors in person, you can contact them via interoffice extensions or email: Annie Panama (a.panama@amsamoa.edu) ext.362; Mark Mageo (m.mageo@amsamoa.edu) ext.326; Mary Taufete'e (m.taufetee@amsamoa.edu) ext.377; Matesina Willis {m.willis@amsamoa.edu} ext. 461

#### Personal and Academic Counseling / Peer Counseling

- Students who have any personal issues such as: peer pressure, family issues, thoughts of suicide, relationship problems, dealing with emotional distress, and just need someone to talk to... please see the Personal Counselor- Mark Mageo or call 252 YANA (9262) or email: {yana@amsamoa.edu}
- YANA You Are Not Alone!
  - Don't be scared...don't be ashamed... come talk to me@....Mark Mageo@699-9155 ext.326 or email me: m.mageo@amsamoa.edu

## **Financial Aid**

1. Students that need to do corrections on their financial aid application may do so at the MIS computer lab.

2. Pick up an attendance form if you are not adding or dropping any classes if all you classes are posted with no other changes, please see the financial aid office for an attendance form.

3. If you graduated high school after January 1, 2005, please be sure to turn in a high school transcript to the financial aid office.

4. The financial aid office will ONLY process financial aid for students that have the following:

a. Complete Financial Aid application

b. High School transcript (required only for students that have graduated after 1/1/05)

c. Copies of the following documents:

- i. High School diploma
- ii. Local ID
- iii. Birth Certificate and/or US Passport

iv. Social Security Card

d. Attendance form (complete with signatures from instructors)

5. If you are not sure of your financial aid status be sure to stop by the financial aid office and see the appropriate counselor.

# WHY STUDENTS SHOULD BRING THEIR TRANSCRIPTS:

The reason for this is the Academic Competitiveness Grant, or ACG. Last year this grant was only offered to students who are U.S. citizens. This year it is open to U.S. nationals. Eligibility for ACG is dependent on student's coursework while in high school and only if you graduated in 2005 or later. It is not open to students who graduated from high school before 2005. In order for the financial aid office to determine if you are eligible, we must review your high school transcript. Successful completion of a rigorous high school program as identified by the U.S. Secretary of Education includes the following:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I and above)
- 3 years of science, including 2 of the following: biology, chemistry and physics
- 3 years of social studies
- 1 year of language other than English. Your transcript must specify the name of the
- language course you completed. If you took Samoan Culture instead of Samoan Language, you are not qualified.

If you know you did not successfully complete a rigorous high school program of study, you may simply let your financial aid counselor know that fact and you will not have to provide your transcript.

# WHICH BENEFITS ARE YOU USING?

POST 9/11 VETERANS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2008 MONTGOMERY GI BILL – ACTIVE DUTY MONTGOMERY GI BILL – SELECTED RESERVE RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



POST 9/11 BENEFITS- Can pay some or all of your tuition. Provides a housing allowance for resident training. Provides a stipend for books and supplies. If you are active duty, it will pay all of your tuition and fees no matter the cost. Please see your School certifying official if you have any questions. There are certain requirements to meet all the criteria for payment of each of the above. Yellow ribbon is also a benefit of Post 9/11; however some schools may have limited participation.

MONTGOMERY GI BILL- ACTIVE DUTY- Provides a monthly stipend to go to school. Your rate is based on the number of years of active service and your rate of pursuit, kicker or buy-up. MONTGOMERY GI BILL-SELECTED RESERVE- Provides a monthly stipend to go to school. Your rate is based on rate of pursuit and kicker. Requires a six year contract with the Reserves or National Guard and actively drilling.

RESERVE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM- Provides a monthly stipend to go to school. Your rate is based on the number of years of aggregate active service and your rate of pursuit, kicker.

DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM- Provides a monthly stipend to go to school. Students with this benefit are a spouse or child of a veteran who is permanent and totally disabled or determined to be unemployable. Not to be confused with Transfer of entitlement for spouses and children of active duty persons transferring Post 9/11 entitlement.

Please contact Mrs. Fuala'au Lancaster at 699-9155 ext.426 or email: f.lancaster@amsamoa.edu for any questions regarding VA benefits.

