

## FSM Wrestling Team participates in 2017 Oceania Wrestling Championship

Yap Sports Council // March 17, 2017

ABAY, Yap — On March 10 – 12, 2017, an FSM Wrestling Team participated in the 2017 Cadet, Junior, and Senior Oceania Wrestling Championship held in Tahiti, French Polynesia. The team consisted of Wrestling Coach Lawrence Uwelur, Yapese athletes Paul Gibay and Thomas Wichilbuch Jr., Chuukese athletes JK Kaminanga and Joshua Aizawa, and NF Official Clark Graham.

Thomas Wichilbuch Jr. have earned medals. Paul Gibay, who competed in the 60kg junior category, won a silver medal in the Greco-Roman Style and a bronze medal in the Free Style.

Thomas Wichilbuch Jr., who was in the 70kg senior category, brought in a silver medal in the Free Style and a Gold medal in the Greco-Roman style.

“Congratulations to all members of the FSM Team and many appreciation for representing your state and country!”

From the turnout, both Paul Gibay and

## Tokyo Exhibit Features Photographs of Chuuk, Xavier High School



Floyd K. Takeuchi

“Tropical Light,” a photography exhibit featuring images of Chuuk Lagoon and Xavier High School, will open in Tokyo, Japan on May 12.

The exhibit by photographer-writer Floyd K. Takeuchi will be on display at Sophia University, the Jesuit university. The Tokyo-based Association for Promotion of International Cooperation (APIC) is sponsoring the exhibit, which runs through June 9.

“APIC’s mission is to nurture strong relations between Japan and the nations of the Pacific and Caribbean,” said Peter Y. Sato, APIC’s president. “Floyd’s photographs show in dramatic fashion the natural beauty and human potential of the Micronesia region. It’s also a part of the Pacific with long historic and family ties to Japan.”

“Tropical Light” features 15 large

photographs, the largest being 98-inches wide by 56-inches tall. The photos of Chuuk Lagoon were originally made for a commission from the L5 Hotel on Weno. They are among the photographs that are displayed throughout the hotel. The photographs of Xavier High School were made for Takeuchi’s book, “School on the Hill.”

The exhibit will open with a lecture by Takeuchi on his cross-cultural photography over the past 15 years in the Pacific, Hawaii and Japan. There will be an opening program, followed by a reception.

Takeuchi is a writer-photographer who has spent most of his 40-year career working in the Pacific. An American based in Hawaii, Takeuchi was born and raised in the Marshall Islands. He’s had 14 photography exhibits in Hawaii.

Information on APIC can be found at [http://www.apic.or.jp/index\\_eng.html](http://www.apic.or.jp/index_eng.html). More of Takeuchi’s work can be found at his website, [www.floydtakeuchi.com](http://www.floydtakeuchi.com).



## Global Green-grants Fund meets

Micronesia Conservation Trust Press Release

April 17, 2017

The Global Green-grants Fund (GGF) Pacific Islands Advisory Board met in Pohnpei from March 27-29, 2017 to discuss GGF funding priorities, meet with GGF grant recipients from Pohnpei and visit some of the project sites, and to review and approve (or reject) new project proposals from Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia. The GGF Pacific Islands Advisory Board members who attended the meeting included Cedric Schuster of Samoa, John Ericho of Papua New Guinea, Willie Atu of the Solomon Islands, Leah Nimoho of Vanuatu, and Willy Kostka of Micronesia. Also, attending the workshop were GGF Secretariat representatives Allison Davis and Margaret Rimoni. GGF is a US based foundation that supports communities to protect, restore, and transform their environments for a sustainable future. Since 1993, GGF has made more than \$63 million in grants to local groups in 167 countries. Last year the Kousapw Poahloang Organization become GGF’s 10,000th grant recipient.

The Advisory Board met with several grant recipients from Pohnpei including the U Organization of Women (UOW), the Micronesia Marine and Environmental Club (MMEC) of the College of Micronesia – FSM, the Pohnuh Women’s Organization (PWO), the Seniapein Womens Association (SWA) of Paies, Kousapw Poahloang Organization (KPO), the Pulinsokon Likin Kapin of Sapwuaifik, and the Senpehn Sensation Connection (SSC). Each of these organizations, who had received around \$5,000 from GGF, provided information on their projects.

Project activities included improving traditional agro-forestry systems, enhancing community water systems, climate change adaptation activities such as shoreline restoration, protected areas management, and green/alternative livelihoods development. The Advisory Board also visited the Paies Community to look at their community water system funded by GGF and Poahloang Community to see their dry-litter piggery and community cleanup project. The GGF Pacific Islands Advisory Board members were quite impressed with the delivery of these locally led projects.

The Board also reviewed 15 proposals from across the Pacific. Those project proposals from Micronesia approved by the Board include the following: 1) Menin Katengesed – to open a sustainable seafood market in Pohnpei; 2) Island Research & Education Initiative – to educate children and their families on the positive roles that various marine creatures play in Micronesia; 3) Hydroponics of the Pacific (HOP)– to carry out several workshops for the communities in Micronesia to learn the basics of a hydroponic project - with a tested design proven to be effective by HOP; 4) Enimwahn Development Association Inc. – to plant at least 2000 new coconut trees to support traditional uses, food security and fuel, re-use coconut byproducts, cut senile trees for lumber in Pohnpei; and 5) Awak Farmer’s Association - to expand a revolving fund to help farmers convert piggpens near streams to dry-litter system to reduce contamination of the main stream.

