

THE PEIR PROGRAM

Pacific Educators in Residence at PREL

By Winona Chang, EdD

The Professional Educators in Residence (PEIR) program began in 1986 when educators were “borrowed” from departments and ministries of education in the Pacific region to work in PREL’s Honolulu office.

Hanson Sighra, from Kosrae, was the first participant in the program. Curtis Hayseck from Chuuk, in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and Kanchi Hosia from the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) recently completed their special year at PREL as PEIRs.

As the mathematics specialist for the Chuuk State School System, Mr. Hayseck has been involved in Pacific Mathematics and Science Regional Consortium projects, such as the Pacific Algebra Network and the National Science Foundation-funded Mathematics Education for Novice Teachers:



▷ 2004–2005 PEIRs Curtis Hayseck (left) and Kanchi Hosia (right)

Opportunities for Reflection (MENTOR) Project, but he felt the need for more PD. Under the mentorship of mathematics and science professionals at PREL, Mr. Hayseck developed an innovative curriculum titled, *The Scaffold and Frame Instructional Strategy*. This program covers what he says “the textbooks

don’t teach.” The PEIR experience has been “100% wonderful,” said Mr. Hayseck, who returned to Chuuk in August to resume his duties.

Mr. Hosia received a master’s degree in Deaf Education and was a Special Education Specialist in the RMI. He has taught hearing impaired and regular education students. Mr. Hosia completed his second year as a PREL PEIR in August. He was involved in the assessment portion of the 5-year PREL Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) project that researched the improvement of student achievement resulting from long-term teacher training. Mr. Hosia was granted the additional year to see the completion of the project in summer 2005. He is grateful for his experience and the opportunity to learn from PREL’s professionals.

Mr. Hosia and Mr. Hayseck were the 46th and 47th PEIRs. Previous PEIRs are now serving as educational leaders in a variety of roles throughout the Pacific.

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