



**In appreciation.** American Memorial Park Visitor Center gift shop sales supervisor Shoko Calvert, 2nd left, presents author and DiscoverSaipan.com part-time tour guide, Walt Goodridge, a gift in recognition of his consistent efforts to bring tourist visitors and customers to the center. Also in photo are Jennifer Rosario, sales representative; Brooke Nevitt, lead park ranger; and Jovannalyn Mafnas, educational specialist, Pacific Historic Parks. **Contributed photo**

## Palau college board holds organizational meeting

**KOROR (PCC)** — The Palau Community College board of trustees held its annual organizational meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018.

Republic of Palau Public Law 4-2, or the Higher Education Act of 1992, mandates that members of the PCC board meet each year in order to elect its officers and establish its calendar of regular meetings.

During their annual meeting on Monday, the trustees re-elected the incumbent officers for the 2018 calendar year:

Masa-Aki N. Emesiochl, chairman; Rev. Billy G. Kuartei, vice chairman; Dr. Emais Roberts, secretary/treasurer; and Eoghan O. Ngirudelsang, student trustee.

Emesiochl will continue to represent the board on the three-member College of Micronesia board of regents.

In addition, the PCC board of trustees organized its standing committees:

Academic Programs – Emesiochl

Personnel/Finance – Roberts

Facilities – Kuartei

Student Affairs – Ngirudelsang

All committees include key college officials as ex-hoc members. The annual organizational meeting of the PCC board of trustees is held on the second Monday of January of each year.

# Guam November tourist arrivals 2nd best on record

By Kevin Kerrigan

For Variety

**HAGÁTÑA (The Guam Daily Post)** — Visitor arrivals took a dip in November 2017 compared to the year before, but the total still represents the second-best November on record, according to the latest preliminary figures from the Guam Visitors Bureau.

The island welcomed 122,377 visitors in November 2017, about 2,000 fewer than the same month in 2016. That total remains the best monthly record, with 124,442 arrivals.

Tourism officials have acknowledged they're bracing for a tough year ahead in the wake of threats from North Korea and the ongoing decline in arrivals from Japan, which fell 26 percent in November 2017.

Arrivals from Taiwan fell by 39.7 percent, and mainland China arrivals dropped 23.2 percent.

Overall, arrivals are down by 5 percent since the start of the current fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2017.

However, the South Korea market continues to be the bright spot with November arrivals climbing to 61,093, a 25.5 percent increase over the November 2016 total.



Tourists cross the street on Pale San Vitores on Jan. 4 in Tumon, Guam. Photo by David Castro/The Guam Daily Post

GVB president and chief executive officer Nathan Denight still expects calendar year 2017's total will be another record for arrivals, but he cautions "we still have much to do (to) grow and diversify our

visitor mix."

The November arrivals report was delayed due to the switch to new, "visitor-friendly" Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency forms, which began in November.

GVB has also launched updated analytic software to scan and process the arrival data that should produce more efficient reports and surveys that are used by the tourism industry.