BROWN-BAG PRESENTATION

Pacific Islands Development Program & Center for Pacific Islands Studies, UHM presents

Was In Micronesia Passiert?
Rethinking The German Colonial Period

Father Francis X. Hezel, SJ
Former Director of Micronesian Seminar

Friday, March 14, 2014
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
John A. Burns Hall, Room 3121/25 (3rd floor)

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the end of German colonial rule in Micronesia. The question is what happened to Yap, and Palau, and Pohnpei, and the Marshalls, and the Marianas during the years prior to World War I. How did the local people fare in general?

Drawing on his deep knowledge of Micronesia and recent research, Father Hezel will offer some broad conclusions on the German period in Micronesia, and on the wider colonial experience.

“Things are not always what they seem.”

Father Fran Hezel’s books include The First Taint of Civilization, Strangers in their Own Land, and The New Shape of Old Island Cultures. He has lived and worked in Micronesia since 1963—first at Chuuk’s influential Xavier High School and then as founder and Director of the church–sponsored research institution, Micronesian Seminar (MicSem), in Pohnpei. Fr. Hezel is currently in residence at Fordham University and and blogs about regional issues on a regular basis (http://www.wheresfran.org/). His most recent book, Making Sense of Micronesia: The Logic of Pacific Island Culture, was published last year by the University of Hawai‘i Press.