

CHACHALANI

GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

GCC conferred 462 degrees, certificates, and/or diplomas upon 407 graduates at the University of Guam Calvo Field House on **May 11, 2018**. Sixteen of the graduates earned both their Associate of Arts in Culinary Arts and American Culinary Federation certification, thanks to the GCC Culinary Arts program having been awarded ACF accreditation in February 2018.

The 2018 Most Distinguished Graduate was Mary Allen Tabula, who earned her Associate of Science in Visual Communications. This year's Distinguished Graduate was Katrina Mae Tahimik, whose Associate of Science in Tourism & Travel Management is a direct result of her participation in the Lodging Management Program at Okkodo High School.

Dr. Robert Underwood, retiring University of Guam president, gave the 2018 commencement address. GCC awarded Joseph James Leon Guerrero, Deputy Chief Marshal/Colonel for the Judiciary of Guam, with its 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award. Leon Guerrero graduated from the GCC Voc-Tech High School in 1987 with a focus on Electronics, and has used his technological expertise to augment his distinguished career in law enforcement.

“We are very proud of the accomplishments of all of our graduates,” said *Dr. Mary Okada, GCC president*. **“We are especially proud of the fact that, although many of them are already members of Guam’s workforce, they are now strengthened with credentials that have enabled them to increase their knowledge and skills, which will in turn strengthen the businesses that hire and promote them.”**

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MISSION

Guam Community College is a leader in career and technical workforce development, providing the highest quality student-centered education and job training for Micronesia.



GCC ACCREDITED FOR FULL 7 YEARS BY ACCJC

On June 15, GCC announced that it had been awarded full seven-year accreditation – the longest period possible for a community college – by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

“We are very pleased, yet not surprised, by the ACCJC announcement,” said Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President, at a media conference held in the GCC Learning Resource Center on June 15. “Everyone at GCC, from the faculty, to the staff and our administrators, has been working diligently in their various roles since our last visit in 2012 to ensure that all of the ACCJC recommendations for improvement we received back then were implemented, and that our assessment and governance processes are working and viable.”

The ACCJC peer review team met June 6-8 to consider GCC’s accreditation status, following a 10-member ACCJC team visit to the College March 7-9, and following the submission in January 2018 of the College’s required Institutional Self-Evaluation Report to the commission. The peer review team gave GCC four commendations, and had no recommendations for compliance, and no recommendations for improving institutional effectiveness.

“Dr. Okada and I have been on several ACCJC evaluation teams for peer colleges, and to have received no recommendations for compliance, and no recommendations for improvement, is rather amazing,” said Dr. Ray Somera, GCC Vice President for Academic Affairs and GCC’s Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO). As the GCC ALO, Dr. Somera oversees the assessment process at the College.

The full ACCJC letter to GCC is available on the GCC website at www.guamcc.edu, under About GCC, Accreditation:

http://www.guamcc.edu/Runtime/uploads/Files/01%20President/Announcements/ACCJC%20Accreditation%20Letter%206_15_18.pdf

POSTSECONDARY



PROJECT AIM TRIO AY 2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Project AIM saw 40 students graduate from its program in 2018. Those students and other participants in this year's program were awarded over \$63,215.00 in combined scholarships.

The Project AIM TRIO Award Ceremony Night was celebrated with participants, parents, mentors, staff, and family and friends of the graduates on May 4 at the Guam Nikko Hotel.

ALOIT IS NEW GCC STUDENT TRUSTEE

At the GCC Board of Trustees meeting on May 9, Frank Arriola, Board Chairman, administered the oath of office to May Ann Joyce "MJ" Aloit, the incoming GCC Board of Trustees Student Member. MJ was elected by her fellow students during the 2018 Spring Festival on March 8. She served as the treasurer for the GCC Council on Postsecondary Student Affairs (COPSA) for the 2017-2018 academic year. Congratulations, MJ!



POSTSECONDARY

GCC STUDENT AWARDED JAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to GCC student Peter Vaughan, who was accepted into the 2018 JAL Scholarship Program from June 25 to July 17 in Japan! Peter will join students from Korea, China, Taiwan, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, India and Australia. The main theme of the program is “Let’s Think about Sustainable Development Goals.” Students took part in workshops and cultural exchange activities all in the Japanese language. The scholarship program included round trip airfare to Tokyo by JAL, all domestic air/rail travel to cities outside Tokyo, all accommodations (including home stays) and meals. Congratulations and safe travels, Peter!



GUAM WOMEN’S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Kudos to the Guam Women’s Club for awarding the Rick Biolchino Memorial \$1,000 scholarship to GCC Marketing & Visual Communications student Cyndal Abad on May 25. From left: Rosemary Clement, Nancy Weare, Senator Regine Biscoe Lee, Cyndal Abad, and Sue Biolchino.

NEW COSMETOLOGY LAB UNVEILED

After an 18-month hiatus, the GCC Industry Certificate in Cosmetology program finished up its first full semester in spring 2018 with a revived, newer, and more robust curriculum. The 20 students in the program participated in a Cosmetology Salon ribbon cutting at GCC on May 8 in the newly modified Cosmetology Salon located in Rooms A6, A7, and A8 (A Building) on the GCC campus. The GCC Industry Certificate in Cosmetology runs four semesters and requires 450 clock hours each semester. Janice Baker and Anita Calceta are the full-time GCC Cosmetology instructors. For more information on the Industry Certificate in Cosmetology program, please call the GCC Education Department at 735-0265, or email education.info@guamcc.edu.



POSTSECONDARY

GCC OFFERS FREE FUTURE BUILDERS CONSTRUCTION BOOT CAMP

Construction jobs are in demand on the island, but with the challenges imposed by the federal government on the number of H-2 workers being allowed into Guam, companies are having difficulty finding qualified workers. To fill that demand, GCC provided a FREE Future Builders Construction Boot Camp this summer to give a total of 40 people basic skills in the following construction trades categories: reinforced metal worker, electrical, carpentry, masonry, plumbing, refrigeration and air conditioning, and welding. Successful participants will receive certificates of completion to become a Construction Skilled Helper. The camp runs from June - August, and will most likely repeat next year. The funding for the camp is being provided through a federal Carl Perkins Career & Technical Education (CTE) grant. The camp will partner with local construction companies in order to provide successful participants with jobs upon completion of the boot camp.

Note: The boot camp filled up in just nine hours, so much so that we opened a second cohort this year!



Isaiah Tamngig, a 2018 SSHS graduate, enrolled in GCC's Free Future Builders Construction Boot Camp in order to become a contractor in the future. He was in the GCC CTE Construction Trades program at SSHS.

GCC STUDENTS WIN NEXGEN INSURANCE INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Two GCC teams finished at the top in the finals of the NexGen Insurance Innovation Challenge at Dusit Thani on May 29-30. The competition was Guam's first insurance-specific innovation competition, providing an opportunity for college students to be a part of collaborative effort to transform the way the current insurance industry does business. Students were encouraged to draw on their creative talents and problem-solving skills to find inventive and new ways for insurance professionals to design the next-gen customer experience. They attended the Insurance Risk and Leadership Symposium where they met and learned from professionals, and gained an up-close perspective of the countless career opportunities that the insurance industry has to offer. During the symposium the two GCC teams and other contestants pitched their product to a panel of judges to vying for the grand prize.

Congratulations to both teams!



1st place winners:

GCC Team 1 Pet Insurance

Cyndal Abad, AS Marketing & Viscom
Neo Christian Pangilinan, AS Marketing & Viscom
Julianne Ballon, UOG student

2nd place:

Team 2 Eaz-surance (website to compare insurance companies and products)

Ralanda Basingar, AS Marketing
Lauren Rasmussen, GCC Apprentice at Docomo

Check more photos at this AXS Insurance NexGen Conference Photo Gallery:
<http://axspacific.com/photo-gallery/#niic>

POSTSECONDARY



Best Built Furniture Set
From left: Naomi Aldan, 14, GWHS; Kaye Gallardo, 15, JFK; Jesus Toves, 13, home-school student; and Kenneth Quilit, 14, JFK, show off their winning recycled pallet table and bench after the GCC STEEP Silent Auction June 21 in the GCC MPA.



Best Floral Arrangement:
From left: Jessy Edward, 16, GWHS; Lola Martin, 14, AOLG; Haley Salas, 14, NDHS; and Samantha Santos, 13, AOLG; show off their winning floral arrangement at the GCC STEEP Silent Auction in the MPA June 21.

STEEP STUDENTS AUCTION SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS

High school students in this summer's GCC Sustainable Technologies and Environmental Education Program (STEEP) not only learned about sustainability during the three-week program, but after their product auction on June 21, they learned the value of earning some cold hard cash for their handiwork. The STEEP students held a silent auction on June 21 for the coffee tables and benches that they created using recycled pallets, and for the floral arrangements they designed using local flora and fauna, housed in various recycled containers. Visitors/customers voted for their "People's Choice of Best-Built Set," and "Best Floral Arrangement," among the students' displays. The members of each winning group took home a little over \$50 a piece from the auction money raised.

"I liked how our knowledge was expanded," said Kaye Gallardo, 15, from JFK High School, of participating in the STEEP. "It made us more curious about science."

"I want to major in Environmental Science," said Lola Martin, 14, Academy of Our Lady of Guam High School, of going to college, noting that participating in the STEEP helped her to learn more.

The GCC summer and winter STEEP camps engage students ages 14-17 years old in the topic of sustainability through hands-on, interactive and innovative teaching strategies where they plan, construct and analyze sustainable projects. For information about the GCC STEEP go to www.guamcc.edu - Academic Resources - Sustainability at GCC, or call 735-5501 or 5638.

SUPERVISION MANAGEMENT STUDENTS HOST ZERO-K

Students in the GCC Supervision & Management program once again teamed up with the Guam Foster Families Association to host their 4th annual Zero-K on May 4 in the GCC Student Center Courtyard. It was all the fun of a 5k, but without the run - food, entertainment, games and activities for children and raffles prizes! Plus, donations went to a great cause!





MARY A. Y. OKADA, Ed.D.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

May is definitely the best month of my job as president of GCC. Conferring credentials on over 400 graduates is very gratifying for all of us at GCC. This year, though, the news in June that our accreditation has been reaffirmed by the ACCJC for seven full years – the longest term possible for a community college, is equally gratifying. I want to thank everyone at GCC for their hard work and dedication in making this accreditation happen. Each of our employees, in their various roles here at the College, had a hand in this success. And thank you also to our student leaders in the Council on Postsecondary Student Affairs (COPSA), and to Luke Fernandez, our outgoing Student Trustee, for your help, too. And congratulations to MJ Aloit, our new Student Trustee, who was sworn in on May 9.

The end of spring semester saw some very successful events for our students, including a win in the first NexGen Insurance Innovation Challenge, and successful capstone projects for CTE seniors at Simon Sanchez High School. This summer promises to be a busy one at GCC – we held our popular Sustainable Technologies and Environmental Education Program (STEEP), and the students actually made money on their sustainable furniture and flower arrangements that went up for auction. Si Yu'os Ma'ase to all of the parents and employees who supported their efforts with your generous auction bids. We are also starting our Future Builders Construction Boot Camp, which filled up in less than one day, signaling that people want the training that GCC offers to help them become sustainable, long-term members of our island's growing workforce. Keep up the great work, everyone, and stay safe this summer. And students – remember to register for classes early! Fall semester starts August 15th. We'll see you back on campus then.



D R . RAY SOMERA
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Accreditation Liaison Officer

FROM THE ACCREDITATION LIAISON OFFICER

It's official! We received definitive word from ACCJC on June 13, 2019 and two days later that same week, President Okada released our accreditation results before a group of eager media people and GCC employees at the Learning Resource Center. GCC was granted seven (7) years, the maximum allowable number of years for reaffirmation of accreditation awarded by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). In the official listing found at the Commission's website, GCC is one of four (4) high-performing institutions that were granted 7 years of reaffirmed accreditation. However, it might interest you to know that in my careful review of the action letters in the other three schools, GCC is the *only* institution that received **zero** recommendations for compliance and **zero** recommendations for improvement. The other three California-based institutions, on the other hand, received several recommendations for improvement for their respective colleges. This fact simply means that GCC was the highest performing institution in the region for the most recent ACCJC comprehensive evaluations. I salute everyone on campus who was directly or indirectly involved in preparing the ISER and the subsequent team visit. You all made the difference.

Biba GCC!

SECONDARY

NEWS

GCC CTE PROGRAMS IN GUAM PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

May 8: The Simon Sanchez Tourism Academy seniors presented their capstone restaurant project to a panel of nine judges from the industry. ProStart and LMP seniors collaborated for 3rd and 4th quarters to prepare for this event, where their Pacific island restaurant concepts came to fruition. Judges listened to their marketing plans and restaurant designs, and tasted the cuisines of Cook Islands, Samoa, and Fiji.



May 15: Outrigger Guam Resort's Human Resources Manager, Ms. Sacla, and Director of Food & Beverage, Mr. Torres, gave a presentation on employment skills presentation to Simon Sanchez Lodging Management Program Sophomores to help them prepare for summer internships.



June 27: Hyatt Regency Guam invited GCC CTE Lodging Management Program instructors and GDOE officials for a site visit to see Simon Sanchez and Okkodo CTE LMP high school students at work in the various job sites. Hyatt has nearly 30 GCC CTE student work experience interns this summer - the most of any work experience employer. This photo was taken in the Hyatt's Pastry kitchen: (from left) Naedine Simeon, Jamie Nepomuceno, and Jeramie Loyola (OHS); Jazebel Taloma (SSHS), and Assistant Pastry Chef Mina and Pastry Chef Elsayed from Hyatt.



NOTABLE

GCC hosted a public-private partnership conference set up by the U.S.D.A. on May 14.

The Sea Cadets used GCC's Computer Lab on June 23, and had a wonderful experience. "The facility and data connection are top notch," according to Patrick O'Keefe, Systems Manager, U.S. Attorney's Office Guam. O'Keefe also told the cadets about GCC programs.



Dr. Mary Okada, Dr. Gina Tudela, TSS Dean, and Eric Ji, Hospitality & Tourism Dept. chair, visited BaekSeok University in Korea on April 29 - May 2. GCC signed an MOA with BaekSeok earlier this year, to initiate a student exchange between the two institutions that begins this summer. GCC students are headed to BaekSeok University July 16-27 to learn the Korean language and culture, and BaekSeok students will visit GCC to learn English and the Chamorro culture July 30 - Aug. 24. This annual exchange program is a great way to promote our program and the college to our Korean neighbors!

FACULTY NEWS

2018 May Election Results

Congratulations to the following GCC faculty members, elected to these important committees!

Professional Development Review Committee:

Jonah Concepcion - 3 year term
Tonirose Concepcion - 2 year term
Tico Tenorio - 2 year term

Advancement in Rank Committee:

Becky Toves - 3 year term
Trisha Unten - 2 year term
Doreen Blas - 2 year term

Delegate to the AFT/AFL-CIO Summer 2018 Conference: Carl Torres II.

The Executive Council recognizes the exceptional commitment and efforts of Jennifer Artero, Kathryn Maloney, and Yvonne Tam in coordinating this election, which was the first to include voting by electronic submittal.

EMPLOYEE NEWS

GCC WINS MARCH CHAMORRO CHALLENGE BOWL!*

GCC celebrated Mes Chamorro with an awesome Team GCC victory in the 2018 Menhalom government-wide Chamorro Challenge Bowl, thanks to the native Chamorro speaking talents of competitors Frank Camacho, Bertha Guerrero, and Phil Guerrero, supported by teammates Rose Siguenza, Ely Damian, Dr. Julie Ulloa-Health, Fermina Sablan, Juanita Sgambelluri, Josephine Arceo and Roland Manglona. The College also held a Chamorro luncheon on the day of our College Assembly - March 19.

Biba Mes Chamorro, and biba Team GCC!

** Apologies - this was inadvertently omitted from the March-April issue. :)*



GCC RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM!

Kudos to all who participated in the GCC Relay for Life fundraisers, bake sales, etc., at GCC, and special kudos to this year's awesome Relay for Life committee members: Rina Aguilar, Tasi Mafnas, Tamara Hiura, Anjelica Perez, and Bobbie Blas.

GCC EMPLOYEES SHINE!

Congratulations Barbara Mafnas, GCC Medical Assisting instructor, who received her Master of Science Nursing - Nurse Educator degree from Chamberlain University College of Nursing in May.

Congratulations to Darwin Keichiro Joker, Adult Education Program Coordinator, who received his Master of Education (M.Ed.) from the University of Guam in May.

Congratulations to the following employees on your change in status!

Promotion

Joanne Blas, Admin Assistant, TSS/Dean's Office - Eff. 4.29.2018

Kimberly Taitano, Program Specialist, CEWD - Eff 05.14.2018

Retirement

Bertha Leon Guerrero, Instructor, Developmental Education - Eff. 5.9.2018

Karen Dumchus, Instructor, Nursing & Allied Health - Eff.6.01.2018

May 2018 Employee Birthdays

Norman Aguilar

Vangie Aguon

Jen Artero

Dan Bilong

Toni Chamberlain

Kathy Chargualaf

Marilyn Concepcion

Benny De Leon

Troy Lizama

Kennylyn Miranda

John Payne

Marsha Postrozny

Kirsten Rosario

Jay Sunga

Ken Bautista

Toni Cabrito

Johanna Camacho

Ardyce Duenas

Krizia Gozo

Bertha Guerrero

Paul Kerner

Terry Kuper

Eleanor Lauilefue

Tish Leon Guerrero

Tasi Mafnas

Marlena Montague

Danny Okada

Doris Perez

Rowena Perez

Dennis Santos Tomas

Gene Santos

Vicky Schrage

Isaac Williams

June 2018 Employee Birthdays



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