



GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Council On Postsecondary Student Affairs (COPSA)

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July 27, 2011

Michelle Santos, Ed.D  
Dean, School of Technology and Student Services  
Guam Community College  
Mangilao, Guam

**Dear Dr. Santos,**

In an effort to promote recycling and the Guam Community College going green, we, the COPSA Officers of Guam Community College, strongly feel that it is important that all the beverage vending machines that have plastic bottled drinks be changed out for vending machines that only dispense aluminum cans.

To initiate the recycling efforts on campus, COPSA purchased trash cans to collect aluminum cans and plastic bottles. The cleaning company empties the trash cans placing the aluminum cans in a special dumpster donated by the I-Recycle Program. This dumpster is emptied when full and the college receives funds from the I-Recycle Program for all the aluminum cans collected.

The plastic bottles are placed in a hand-made wooden crate-type dumpster. When this dumpster is full, staff and students must physically collect the bottles, unscrew any lids that were left on, and take them to a company who will send them off-island to a recycling plant. While the college is helping our campus and community in the overall recycling efforts for plastic bottles, no funds are received for these efforts.

The GCC Eco Warriors group, comprised of faculty, staff and students, was created over the last year and has done an amazing job re-painting the recycle trash cans; assisting in cleaning out the trash cans and dumpsters; and promoting recycling on our campus and in the community. They are also the lead group in organizing the collection and movement of the plastic bottles to the off-campus company.

As you can see by the attached listing of beverage vending machines on campus, one (1) of 16 machines dispenses aluminum cans only. The other 15 machines dispense either plastic bottles and aluminum cans or plastic bottles only.

We strongly urge the college to replace the beverage vending machines that dispense plastic bottles with machines that only dispense aluminum cans. This way, we cut down on the plastic bottles that staff and students must collect and deliver and we collect more aluminum cans and receive more funds from the I-Recycle Program.

We look forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any questions, we can be contacted through the Center for Student Involvement office at 735-5518/9 or by email at: [ariane.nepomuceno@guamcc.edu](mailto:ariane.nepomuceno@guamcc.edu) or [butgadiana.masga@guamcc.edu](mailto:butgadiana.masga@guamcc.edu)

Respectfully,

**Ariane Nepomuceno**  
COPSA President

**Butga Diana Masga**  
COPSA Vice President

## Elizabeth Duenas

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**From:** ariane nepomuceno [ariane\_0929@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 26, 2011 11:06 AM  
**To:** Liz Duenas  
**Subject:** Fw: Vending Machines

Have a blessed day,

**Ariane Nepomuceno**

Council On Postsecondary Student Affairs-*President*  
Guam Community College

[ariane.nepomuceno@guamcc.edu](mailto:ariane.nepomuceno@guamcc.edu)  
(671)787-8755

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*If your actions inspire others to dream more ,learn more,  
do more and become more,you are a leader.  
-John Quincy Adams*

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Michelle Santos <michelle.santos@guamcc.edu>  
**To:** ariane.nepomuceno@guamcc.edu  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 4:27 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Vending Machines

Sorry Ariane, I misspelled your name in your address the first time.  
Michelle

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**From:** Michelle Santos [mailto:michelle.santos@guamcc.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2011 4:26 PM  
**To:** 'ariane.mepomuceno@guamcc.edu'; 'butgadiana.masga@guamcc.edu'  
**Subject:** Vending Machines

Dear Ariane and Butga,

Thank you so much for your letter and I appreciate the concern the COPSA leaders have for our campus and community environment. I want to empower you as student leaders to address this issue with the College Governing Council (CGC). Your evidence is powerful. Please use your student voice on this council to seek action and allow the participatory governance process to work. Please understand you may need to reconsider the availability of water, so we may need to have an exception to the "no bottle" proposal.

Once again, I thank you for bringing this to my attention. I just spoke with the Vice President for Finance and Administration, the Chair of the CGC, and was informed they should be meeting toward the end of August or beginning of September. Please let me know if you are not satisfied with this response and we can surely set up a time to meet and discuss a plan of action.

Sincerely,

Michelle

*Michelle Santos, Ed.D.*

# GCC Beverage Vending Machines & Locations

	Location Site	Machine Sign (Vendor)	Type of Containers	Cost	Products Sold
1.	A-Bldg, by stairs near Room A-6	Coca Cola	Plastic Bottles	\$1.00	Soda, tea, OJ, water
2.	A-Bldg, between A-9 & A-10	Minute Maid (Coca Cola)	Plastic Bottles	\$0.75	Soda, tea
3.	C-Bldg, in Room C-2	Pepsi	Alum Cans	\$0.60	Soda, tea
4.	C-Bldg, by stairs near C-6	"Cold Drinks" (Ambros label)	Alum & Metal cans	\$1.00	Iced Cappucino & coffee; Aloha teas
5.	D-Bldg, near D-2	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles	\$1.00	Soda, water
6.	D-Bldg, near D-2	Coca Cola	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.75	Soda, water
7.	Bldg 300	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$1.00	Soda, water, Gatorade
8.	Bldg 300	Coca Cola	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.75	Soda, water, energy drink
9.	Allied Health Bldg (inside, 1st flr)	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles	\$1.00	Soda, tea, water
10.	Bldg 900	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.60	Soda, water
11.	Bldg 900	Coke	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.75	Soda, water, energy drink
12.	Between Bldgs 500 & 600	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.60	Soda, tea
13.	Between Bldgs 500 & 600	Coca Cola	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.75	Soda, tea
14.	Tech Center, 1st floor	Coca Cola	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.75	Soda, tea, OJ, water
15.	Tech Center, 2nd floor	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles	\$1.00	Soda, tea, water
16.	SSAB (outside, back of Rotunda)	Pepsi	Plastic Bottles & Alum Cans	\$0.60	Soda, Gatorade

