

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2009 4:00 p.m.

GCC breaks ground on new Learning Resource Center

Guam Community College broke ground this morning on its new, state-of-the-art Learning Resource Center. Designed by Taniguchi Ruth Makio Associates, the LRC will consist of a two-story, 22,000 square foot LEED-certified facility that will include a reading area/collection section, computer work areas, a computer lab, group meeting rooms, audio visual rooms, staff areas, and a large group meeting room.

The contractor for the project is Asanuma Corporation. Total cost for the project is \$5.2 million, including \$4.3 million for construction and \$900,000 for contingencies such as furniture, etc. Funding for the project was secured through a grant from U.S. Department of Education under the Asian American and Native American Pacific Island-serving Institution.

"Our enrollment this fall semester at GCC is over 22 hundred students –the highest enrollment the college has ever seen. It is a signal that our people are investing in themselves – in their potential and their ability to acquire the skills and training needed to succeed in the workplace," said Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President. "Our breaking ground on our new Learning Resource Center this morning is proof that GCC is also investing in its students."

Dr. Okada noted that the new LRC is part of GCC's 15-year campus expansion plan to handle the increase in the college's student population. "GCC's new Allied Health Center is scheduled to open in December. Also, the design phase of the college's new Student Center is complete and we expect to break ground early next year," she said. "As Guam's population makes the investment in education that it needs to be a part of the unprecedented growth that we expect to happen over the next decade, GCC is ready to be a part of that investment."

Construction of the new Learning Resource Center is scheduled to be completed by October 2010.

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