

RECEIVED
MAR 06 2012

Center for Student Involvement

Learning Today ... Leading Tomorrow!

TO: Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D.
President

VIA: R. Ray Somera, Ph.D.
Vice President, Academic Affairs

VIA: Virginia Tudela, Ph.D.
Acting Dean, School of Technology & Student Services

FROM: Bobbie Leon Guerrero
Program Specialist, Center for Student Involvement

RE: "Investing in Guam's Future with President Mary Okada" meetings
(February 22 & 23, 2012)

DATE: March 6, 2012

Guam Community College
RECEIVED

MAR 06 2012

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
Initials: *[Signature]****Hafa Adai President Okada!***

Attached, please find a summary of the "Investing in Guam's Future with President Mary Okada" meetings held on February 22 & 23, 2012. This semester, over the two day period, 296 students, staff and faculty signed in and attended your meetings!

Should you need additional information, please contact me at 735-5519.

cc: Marlena Montague, Acting Assistant Director, AIER
Aaron Unpingco, Student Member, Board of Trustees
Ariane Nepomuceno, President, COPSA

“Investing in Guam’s Future with Your President Mary Okada”

February 22 & 23, 2012

Prior to President Okada’s introduction, the Center for Student Involvement started the session by promoting upcoming student events for the spring semester.

The college’s Management Team and Administrators that were present were introduced.

President Okada was then introduced, informed the students and faculty of all the GCC activities and projects at the college, and then answered questions from the audience.

1. Funding

Traveled off-island to Washington D.C. with the Board of Trustees to attend a conference and meetings with numerous federal agencies to seek additional funding for our programs and facilities.

President Obama’s state of the union address stated they are working on a special designation of \$8 billion for community colleges for construction and renovation of facilities and training. Sometimes these special designations do not include the territories so we are working to make sure Guam is included in the funding.

2. GCC Accreditation

From March 19-22, an 11 member team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) from California and Hawaii will be at GCC to evaluate our campus and recommend if GCC should continue to receive accreditation for another 6 years. This is an important component because without our accreditation, we will not receive financial aid and we will not be eligible for federal grants. During their visit, they will be looking at what has happened in the last 6 years and over the last 15 years; they’ll stop by student activities; they may stop by classrooms; and they may just stop and talk to students and ask them about their college and if they know what an SLO is, what you can accomplish at the end of a course. At the end of their visit, they will give us their evaluation on what the accreditation standards are, how well we are performing, what we can do better, and whether or not we remain accredited.

3. Physical Master Plan

The college is in the process of finalizing a new Physical Master Plan that identifies how we will move the college forward, the next buildings we renovate or build, and other aspects to improve our campus. Some of the things in the Plan: buildings D, 100, 200, 300, construction trades, and automotive are slated to be two-story buildings; there will be a new facility for the maintenance department so we can free up their existing space for more expansion for programs; and there will be other areas for parking.

4. New Program

Photovoltaic Training – course curriculum being prepared already. Photovoltaic are the solar panels placed in the Allied Health Center and the Learning Resource Center that produces energy for those buildings. We just received federal funding to put the panels in the Student Center and the Foundation Building. All the parking lots already have the photovoltaic panels.

5. Improvements

Before the end of the year, the college will have a new electronic catalog, a new website, and more wireless access points around the campus.

6. Scholarships

There are many scholarships that are available for our students. Please apply as it’s free money. Look on the website or stop by the financial aid office.

7. Sustainability

There is a student organization on campus called the ecoWARRIORS spearheaded by Ms. Jonita Kerr. They continue to ask the college community to use the recyclable containers around the campus for your aluminum and plastic bottles.


Questions asked February 22 & 23, 2012

1. **Can the Library hours be extended to 9:30pm?** I will work with the Dean on this and to possibly include Saturday hours.
2. **If you're going to open the Library, can you extend the Student Lounge hours till 9:30pm also?** We will also look into this.
3. **Can you please check on the chairs in the study hall at the Tech building as they are falling apart?** I will check on this.
4. **Do we have a journalism/communications program?** No, we don't have this program.
5. **Compared to other GovGuam agencies and UOG, GCC faculty are really kind, they're motivating, and so I was wondering if GCC has some kind of special leadership philosophy?** We only hire the best! We make sure the people we hire are also a good fit with GCC. We offer leadership and professional development for our faculty. A lot of our faculty are passionate about what they do and they help mentor other faculty. If they want to become an administrator, we help them with that also. Last year, we had 30 employees sign up for the chair academy which is all about leadership development. For all the faculty members here tonight, this is now proof that our students recognize your passion in the classroom and that you're doing an excellent job!
6. **Will GCC be able to have an ROTC program?** I have begun discussion with an organization in Florida and the military must approve and support it.
7. **Are there plans to upgrade or repair the computers in the Tech Center? Specifically, the PC lab in room 1220 as there are not many computers that will boot up.** MIS Frank Camacho: some of the computers are recycled systems that students fix as part of their class. President: we just ordered over 100 new computers for the campus but we'll check on this.
8. **Is there a way for faculty to control the pace of the course?** If you have a specific issue or you don't understand something, have that discussion with your faculty member. People learn at different paces so work it out with your instructor. When you complete that class, whether you're fast or slow, you all should be able to achieve your course SLOs.
9. **Did the legislature take our GCC land that we were going to use for solar training?** Yes, that land is gone. It was transferred by the legislature, signed by the Governor, to the Ancestral Lands Commission. Over 300 acres were taken for possible return to the original land owners. However, we are working with the Department of Land Management to identify some excess government property that we can use but that will take some time.
10. **Can GCC put together a sports program for teams like paddling?** If you can get enough students together for a team, put together a proposal and I'll look at it. **Can GCC at least buy the t-shirts for the team?** Put your proposal together and get it to me.
11. **For the automotive shop building, when do you plan to fix the roof as we always have to run around when it rains because the rain comes inside?** We do have plans to fix that building but first we must approve the campus Master Plan as it includes expanding the automotive area to a two-story facility. **Why don't you just use the welding shop since it doesn't seem to be used?** We'll look into that.
12. **How can we get rid of the boonie dogs that are running around the campus?** We have to call the Department of Agriculture to assist us with this. But the biggest thing is for everyone to stop feeding the dogs. People here are feeding them and they keep coming back so please stop feeding them.
13. **Our campus is tobacco and betel nut free, but people are still chewing and spitting. Can we make a smoking area in the middle of the campus?** NO, there is a public law regarding government facilities and we are complying with the law. **What about the betel nut and tobacco chewers that sneak around the campus and no one does anything about it?** People were caught yesterday and people are being reminded. Please respect the laws and our GCC policy to not smoke or use betel nut on campus and if you see someone who is violating this, tell them, remind them. This is your campus so remind them of the rules.
14. **Will GCC consider having a blacksmith class?** Not at this time. But you may be able to take a welding class which may have components of it.
15. **Is there any way to get the parking fee waived if we don't need a parking decal and don't drive to school?** The parking fee is also used to upkeep the parking areas. It would not be cost effective for us to have someone man the gate to check everyone coming in and out. These are standard fees that everyone pays.

16. **There is confusion about whether or not aliens can take the GED. I had that problem and we finally settled that I can take the GED but my friend went and she is having the same problem. Can you please make sure everyone knows all the rules for who can take the GED?** Doris Perez is in charge of the GED office and she will take this info and make sure proper information is provided for our students.
17. **Is the shooting range open to anyone?** No. In order to use it, you must have a range master and you must go through safety procedures. It is not open to the public. It is available for Government of Guam agencies and federal officials for practice. When it is in use, we must post it with the mayor's office for the veterans in the area.
18. **In your Master Plan, will there be any day care or nursery?** No. **Can we do a survey with students to see if having one would help?** OK.
19. **For accreditation, are we confident about it? Are there any issues or concerns?** In preparation for the visit, we had to give the team our Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) before they come showing evidence of what we do and have done. The only issue that may be of concern is the financial support from the Government of Guam on a regular basis to the college. I'll give you an example, it is now February, the fiscal year started in October, and we just received our first check for the year on Monday of this week. We are still able to function, prioritize, plan, expand, identify and receive federal funds, and operate, but the issue is the flow of funds to the college to support the programs. Things in classrooms are delayed because of the cash flow. It's not that it won't be done, it will just be delayed but we still move forward. We always plan on what to do if we don't get the cash. We identify federal funds to assist. When you are reviewed by the accreditation team, they look at your resources; they look at your contingency plans. We have 10 years of clean audits. No other GovGuam agency has ever done that and looking at the draft audit, we will probably be hitting 11 years. They'll identify areas where we do really well and areas where they may make recommendations on how to improve.
20. **Are there plans for BCS to get bigger?** No, in the Master Plan, that building is gone. But in July, the Foundation Building will be complete and there will be a coffee bar open downstairs.
21. **The auto-body shop air con is not working, can you fix it?** OK. I believe we're just waiting for the air con units to come in.
22. **What are the security guards for? My car was broken into on Monday, so what are they there for?** Security guards on campus are meant to deter people from stealing and breaking into cars. We started a program with an administrator walking around the campus so there are additional people walking around. We'll take a look at your car being broken into and how we can deter that. For your own safety, please do go where it's dark.
23. **There's all this trash outside the front gate, can you get rid of it?** If you see people putting trash on the ground, tell them to pick it up. Help with the recycling; this is our campus, keep it clean. Remind your fellow students to pick up their trash.
24. **Do you plan to expand the parking lots?** In the Master Plan, there are two facilities being planned. One structure is on top of the ponding basin and the other one is back by the limestone forest. There is the new parking lot near the firing range. The parking immediately outside of MPA will no longer be available in the next few weeks.
25. **Can you please check on the errors for class listings when it comes to service learning? My class didn't have it and then I took the class and it had service learning. If there's an error, then please post it on-line. A lot of my classmates have a hard time with their work and class schedules and can't do the service learning?** MO: What class was this? SO130. OK, I will take a look at this.
26. **People are hanging outside around their cars? Are they students? Has security stopped to check these individuals?** Yes, security is checking on these people.
27. **Can there be an incentive for students to report unusual activity?** We can post something on MyGCC to alert students to secure their cars, don't leave any valuables inside, and if they notice suspicious activity, please report it right away.
28. **What can be done about people just sitting in their cars in the parking lot and taking spaces of people who are looking for car parking? Why doesn't security patrol the area and tell people to leave?** If it's a student who paid their fees and has a parking decal, you can't ask them to leave. SSS Joanne Ige: Only 50% of students pick up their decals each semester. MO: we will see what we can do about enforcing the parking decal display.
29. **Are you planning to put up street lights on Sesame Street?** We have to work with Land Management first to reclaim that property so we can fix that.

30. **I am a culinary student and we don't have the wireless access in our area but we are still being charged for this fee, why?** You are being charged a Technology Fee, not a wireless fee, and this fee covers different aspects of the technology on campus. For example, there are over 1500 computers on the campus right now and we use this fee to upgrade computers that students use. We also use it to purchase new computers and we just ordered over a 100 new computers.
31. **We have a fee for Food and Beverage of \$110 and we are not aware of what this fee is for?** I am aware of this issue as this is a lab fee attached to a specific course. Lab fees should support the supplies necessary for that specific course and there is an issue with this right now and we are taking care of it. If supplies were provided by students, we may have to reimburse students. **Will the college have the proper room needed for the mixology class because right now we just have tables and glasses?** I will take a look at that.
32. **For MyGCC, can anything be done if I forget my password so I can reset it on-line instead of having to drive up to the campus?** I'm sure we can work on this.
33. **Congresswoman Bordallo has an internship program with UOG, is there any way that GCC can also participate in that program?** The Board and I have already met with Congresswoman Bordallo to discuss this and she has just announced that GCC students can participate in this internship program. Her office will forward the rules regulations that the college has to follow for our students to qualify. Currently, a UOG student is selected and works here in the local office and then flies to the DC office to also intern there. As soon as we receive all the rules, we will announce them and then follow the process to select a student.
34. **It is my understanding that senior citizens can't take Continuing Education classes under the senior citizen program?** Correct. **How do you determine whether a program or class is under CE or under a regular college program?** CE classes typically are non-credit or you get CEUs (Continuing Education Units) associated with those courses. There are also special packaged courses for particular companies, grants or programs; or there are some courses for credit. We are in the process of reviewing courses that are part of a regular curriculum and moving them back to a regular semester. But CE courses are typically specially packaged for specific cohorts. **Do you know which ones might be moving back?** We are looking at the culinary and electronics programs.
35. **I am a VisCom major; can we have a specific lab for Macs?** We are in the process of getting Macs for the Student Center computer lab. Because of limited staff at MIS, we don't have the Mac Labs at the Tech Center open right now. Part of the issue is that we can't purchase the old software that you need to put into the new Macs we purchase. We're looking at this right now.
36. **At the end of our course, we fill out course evaluations and teacher evaluations. What happens to these papers after we fill them out? It doesn't seem like anything gets done.** All those evaluations were in my office last month and I read all the comments. Faculty members are evaluated on an annual basis and they are reviewed by administrators through classroom observations. We extract information from these evaluations to determine what kind of professional development or leadership training might be needed, what supplies or facility upgrades are needed. If you have a specific complaint, you can turn that in. They are being read and the evaluators are being made aware.
37. **Are there any future plans for additional medical programs such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and x-ray?** Not right now but if we get requests to offer special short term courses, we can do it. To offer it as a program, you have to set up the course syllabus, identify the books needed, and you have to go through the accrediting commission to get permission to offer a new program. We may pilot it through Continuing Education because you can't just launch a program; you have to be able to sustain it. It will also require us to find teachers then get enough students to fill the class.
38. **I just wanted to compliment your ASL program. I've taken ASL the past two semesters and the quality of teaching and the course material we learned truly exemplifies the SLOs.** We only hire the best and our faculty members are great and passionate about their work. A lot of our faculty come here and stay. It's always good to hear when students are satisfied. **It's not just me, even the community is happy.** Thank you.
39. **There's a Nursing Assistant program going on right now. Will it just be for now or will it be offered even next semester?** If there are enough students to fill it, we will keep it going.
40. **I know that GCC used to have a day care facility; can GCC bring it back again?** We will take a look at it again. We closed the program in the late 90s. We don't have the facility for it right now and we were renting an off-site facility at the time.
41. **Regarding smoking, I take public transportation and people use the bus stop at the front of the campus as their area to smoke? Can you do something about this?** Let me see what we can do as we requested for the Mayor's office to put that bus stop there.

42. **I have a parking issue. We are required to get decals to park on campus so can we get that more regulated as we have underage drivers coming on campus?** We're taking a look at that and at some point, everyone who parks on campus must have a decal.
43. **With the extension of the bookstore, can we look at a program where once we use a book, we can sell it back to the bookstore?** Yes, we want to do this but we just don't have the space right now.
44. **Why do we have to pay for IDs each semester?** You need a validated ID each semester. There was an ID check in the Student Center Computer Lab just last night and there were people who did not have valid IDs. Get your ID validated each semester and carry your ID with you when you are on campus.
45. **The UOG ID has a number in the back, and they put a new sticker on the back each semester, can we do something like that?** We will take a look at that as they may be in process of buying a new machine.
46. **I am a CJ major and many of the courses are during the day and I work all day. Is there any way that you can have more classes in the evening?** Let your instructors know so they can let their Department Chairs know and if there are enough students to fill the evening class, they can open it.
47. **Is the LRC a public library or it is just open for GCC students?** The LRC use is a priority for GCC students so we don't advertise to the public. However, because of the funding we received, we must be open to the public.
48. **People are bringing their kids on campus.** Please don't bring your kids to class as it's an insurance liability and a distraction to the other students in the class.

Guam Community College
RECEIVED
OCT 24 2011
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
Initials: 

TO: Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D.
President

VIA: R. Ray Somera, Ph.D.
Vice President, Academic Affairs

VIA: Virginia Tudela, Ph.D.
Acting Dean, School of Technology & Student Services

FROM: Bobbie Leon Guerrero
Program Specialist, Center for Student Involvement

RE: "Investing in Guam's Future with President Mary Okada" meetings
(October 4 & 5, 2011)

DATE: October 20, 2011

Hafa Adai President Okada!

Attached, please find a summary of the "Investing in Guam's Future with President Mary Okada" meetings held on October 4 & 5, 2011. This semester, over the two day period, 323 students, staff and faculty signed in and attended your meetings!

Should you need additional information, please contact me at 735-5519.

cc: Marlena Montague, Acting Assistant Director, AIER
Aaron Unpingco, Student Member, Board of Trustees
Ariane Nepomuceno, President, COPSA

“Investing in Guam’s Future with Your President Mary Okada”

October 4 & 5, 2011

Prior to President Okada’s introduction, the Center for Student Involvement started the session by promoting the “Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) Music Video Contest”. The winning entries for the Fall 2010 “SLO Jingle” and Spring 2011 “SLO Song” contests were played prior to the start of the meeting for further promotion.

The college’s Management Team and Administrators that were present were introduced.

President Okada was then introduced and immediately began informing the students and faculty of all the GCC activities and projects at the college.

1. Accreditation 2012

The college is preparing for the accreditation team visit in March 2012. Accreditation is important so that college credits can transfer to another institution and we can continue to receive federal funding. Approximately 10 people from an accreditation team will come to GCC to review our curriculum, how we plan, how we budget, how we hire, how our Board operates, how our facilities look, how we interact and relate to the outside community, and how our students are doing in the classrooms and in their student activities.

2. Construction and Building Projects

- a. The Student Center, a 100% federally funded construction project will be completed by October 31st. Offices will begin moving in and the ribbon cutting is set for December 9, 2011.
- b. The renovation of the Foundation Building is also a 100% federally funded construction project and will be completed in May or June of 2012.
- c. The parking area across from the Firing Range will be done in November and there will be additional parking slots for use.
- d. The funding has been identified and the architectural design is underway for two more buildings: Building 200 and the Forensic building. As soon as plans are done, construction can begin.
- e. The college received \$500K to install photo voltaic street lights around the college to save energy and reduce our power consumption. A study was done to determine where to place lights to allow our students and staff to move safely between the parking lots and the buildings.

3. Financial Information

- a. The college has just received notice that the \$1.5M College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP) grant has been approved. If you have family attending middle and high school, please encourage them to take advantage of the tutoring services, workshops, English and math placement tests, and financial aid services that are provided to assist students with finishing middle school, going on to high school, and then finishing high school to go on to college.
- b. The college is constantly applying for grants to support all our needs for classroom instruction and facility upgrades.
- c. The last tuition increase took place in Fall 2011 and there is no scheduled increase being planned at this time. The tuition increase set asides are to be used for more faculty, more staff and administrators, and classroom improvements and renovations.

4. Miscellaneous

- a. The college started a text book rental program to alleviate student expenses this semester but no one is renting. If your class is not doing a text book rental, encourage your instructor to try a pilot program. The new Bookstore will be in the Foundation Building by May or June 2012.
- b. Wireless internet – a bid was issued a couple of months ago, it is now being evaluated to try and include all the buildings around the campus. We will focus on high student traffic areas first.

Questions asked October 4 & 5, 2011

1. **Does GCC have a Master Plan?** Yes, our Master Plan is in the final stages of being updated and will be shown to students before finalization. We determine what programs need to be added or expanded and the plan helps us to take care of those needs.
2. **What is the status of the Tech building parking lot?** This parking lot should be done by November. The college realizes that parking is a big issue and we are addressing that in the overall plans and design as we upgrade all our buildings.
3. **Are we going to upgrade the computers soon?** That will be addressed this year.
4. **Can we have projectors in all the classrooms?** We are working towards that being a standard and can write a grant to support that.
5. **Why doesn't GCC have a representative to help process paperwork for vets?** Financial Aid Office—Micki Lonsdale: in the past, we have only had a few veterans enrolling. Now that we have quite a few more veterans enrolling and there are more programs for veterans, Mr. Ken Terlaje will now devote more time to assist with their applications and programs. We are building up to meet the demand. President Okada: this is an example of how the tuition increase helps us to meet demands in different areas.
6. **Will we have more computer labs?** The labs at D-building will soon move to the second floor of the new Student Center and there will be a few more computers. We will then use those D-building rooms for classroom space while we continue to expand our buildings so we can work on getting more computer labs.
7. **Is there anything we can do to limit the number of non-GCC students on campus? Increase security, mandate wearing our GCC I.D. badges? Besides the GW students, there seems to be a number of non-students on campus?** Future plans include placing all high school students in one area to help with the high school aspect. In the meantime, we will monitor the situation but remember that we have two buildings being constructed right now; two more buildings in the design so that means more construction workers on campus; and, our enrollment keeps going up so we have more visitors coming on campus to learn how they can become students.
8. **Are there any plans to put showers in the automotive department?** No. There will be showers in the new Student Center building.
9. **Can we get more GCC credits transferred to UOG?** We are working on this. There are courses listed on the back of the catalog that transfer now and we are adding more courses all the time. We are also working on possibly having entire programs transfer over.
10. **During the accreditation visit, are there any key areas that need a lot of improvement? How can we as students help?** We evaluate ourselves based on accreditation standards. **Did GCC meet the standards?** I believe we did. We are almost done with a report on all the standards which contain Planning Agendas that outline what we think we need to do and how we are going to do it. When that report is complete, it will be available for all to review by the first week of December. Certain students have already provided feedback. Let the Center for Student Involvement know if you want to participate in other reviews.
11. **Is there a different parking lot for staff and students?** No, everyone has the same equal access.
12. **Parking is really bad and some vehicles have no GCC parking decals. What can we do to not allow vehicles that don't have the proper decals?** You have to remember that GCC has lots of visitors for meetings, construction people, people who are coming to register, etc. so that can be hard to monitor at times. We encourage you to use your decals so that we know your vehicle is authorized to be on campus and should any emergency arise, your decal will allow us to locate you. Associate Dean for Student Services--Joanne Ige: Please be advised that CAPE volunteers, people authorized by GPD to ticket parking violators on Government property, are issuing tickets at GCC to vehicles not in compliance. Be advised that these are actual tickets and not just warning notices.
13. **Can we make sure that all the air conditioners work in the classrooms?** We are putting out a bid to try and standardize all air conditioners, and will try to start outsourcing that aspect.
14. **We have classes that offer hairdressing, how about offering home economics?** Not now, but if there is an interest, we can do a short term class during the summer.
15. **The coffee shop in the Foundation Building is an innovative idea. Will it be run by an outside vendor or GCC?** It will be run by an outside vendor for now.

16. **Will GCC have a gym?** We were going to have one in the Student Center but we had to modify the plans. Maybe in the future we can put one in our plans.
17. **How about placing surveillance cameras around the campus for security?** We may place them around the campus but we won't let you know where they are placed.
18. **Now that we will have more parking slots near the Firing Range, will it still remain an open range as that is very dangerous for our students?** I will be meeting with federal officials regarding the Firing Range to discuss cleaning it up as there is lots of lead involved and also to discuss making it an indoor range.
19. **Is there a nurse available at night?** Associate Dean for Student Services--Joanne Ige: Yes, there is a nurse as the Health Center opens up to 8pm except on Fridays. President Okada: The current Health Center will move to the new Student Center by the end of the year and the old building will be torn down.
20. **Will the college have more on-line classes?** We are working on it.
21. **Will there be any changes to the GCC website?** The college has recently issued a contract to change our website so the new site, which will be up next year, will be more student friendly and student centered.
22. **Why do classes seem to be consistently missing their text book orders?** We have an old bookstore system and are working on purchasing a new system to be in place by the time we move the bookstore to the new location at the Foundation Building.
23. **Can you get someone to come and audit your IT needs so you know what you need?** We have an IT audit going on now.
24. **Are there any plans to upgrade the automotive facility?** Yes, we are working on this.
25. **I have not seen improvements in the automotive program or the buildings and I've been here for 4 semesters. I also see the college spending money for a type 'A' fire sprinkler system when the automotive facility is more likely to have type 'B' & 'C' fires. When will there be money for this program for tools, equipment and to fix the leaks in the roof?** The automotive department is one of the most successful grant writing departments and has received more than \$500K. It may not be in the tools and equipment you may need, but there have been upgrades. Regarding the sprinkler system, the fire department came at our request to survey the campus and they noted there was no system. We asked GFD to write us up so we can get money to begin addressing the sprinkler systems. Regarding the roofing issue, this is the first I'm hearing of it so I will check on this. We will take care of the leaking in the buildings.
26. **Will there be additional security on duty since the new parking photo voltaic lights are not as bright?** The photo voltaic lights are designed to provide enough lighting so you can get safely from the parking lots to the buildings. There are always security guards here during the night roaming the campus.