



GUAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kulehon Kumunidát Guáhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GCC, Triple J partner for heightened training opportunities

With two strokes of a pen today, Guam Community College and Triple J Auto Group entered into a historic training opportunity that could eventually benefit everyone on Guam who drives a vehicle.

Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President, and Jay Jones, Triple J Auto Group Senior Vice President, signed the first memorandum of agreement between GCC and a dealership. The MOA sets in motion the process for the development of the first brand specific training programs on island.

With this partnership, Chris Dennis, GCC Automotive Department chair, says GCC automotive students will receive brand specific technical training for Triple J lines such as Ford, Honda, and Kia, improving their employability and providing a clearer career pathway for them into industry. Triple J will benefit, Dennis says, from a competent pool of students to pull from, which translates into better customer service.

“This agreement will benefit our students from day one of classes to employment,” said Okada.

“We’ve added a lot of vehicle technology, and it is more and more important to have technicians with detailed and intricate training,” added Jones, noting that people can no longer learn about car repair from their dad under the shade tree.

Mike Fejeran, Triple J Technical Training Manager, explained that today’s automotive technician has to know computer science and electrical and mechanical engineering, in addition to knowing about vehicles.

“It’s a soup bowl of all those skills,” said Fejeran. He noted that graduates from GCC’s automotive program stand out because of their attention to detail. “Families are driving these cars. We stress that to our technicians.”

“The potential of this agreement is vast, as it is not limited to just service technicians, but also includes parts counterpersons, marketing, sales, and management,” Dennis said.

Dennis noted that if other dealerships follow suit with other brand-specific training for GCC, it benefits everyone on the island.

Suggested photo caption:

Jay Jones, Triple J Auto Group Sr. VP, and Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President, sign the first-ever MOA between GCC and an island auto dealership. The MOA will provide brand-specific training to GCC students, who will then have a clear pathway to employment with Triple J. At right is Chris Dennis, GCC Automotive Dept. Chair. Standing behind are GCC officials, automotive instructors, and GCC automotive students.

Suggested photo caption:

Seated from right: Ken Ray Paulino, Triple J Operations Mgr; Jay Jones, Triple J Auto Group Sr. VP; Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President; and Chris Dennis, GCC Automotive Dept. chair, celebrate with GCC automotive students, instructors, and college officials the first-ever MOA signed between GCC and a Guam car dealership. The MOA will provide brand-specific training to GCC students, who will then have a clear pathway to employment with Triple J.

GCC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services please contact 735-5597.

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