



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PROMOTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GCC to graduate 407 on May 11th

Guam Community College will confer 462* degrees, certificates, and/or diplomas upon 407 graduates at the University of Guam Calvo Field House at **4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 11, 2018.**

“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 turn strengthen the businesses that hire and promote them.”

The 16 graduates who are earning their Associate of Arts in Culinary Arts next Friday will be taking home two credentials, their GCC associate degree *and* American Culinary Federation certification, thanks to the GCC Culinary Arts program having been awarded ACF accreditation in February 2018.

GCC’s Most Distinguished Graduate for 2018 is Mary Allen Tabula. Ms. Tabula is earning an Associate of Science in Visual Communications. She participated in the recent GCC Business & Visual Communications Department’s “LinkUP” reverse student job fair, and currently has several job offers to consider.

This year’s Distinguished Graduate is 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. Ms. Tahimik plans to pursue a career in the airline industry.

Dr. Robert Underwood, retiring University of Guam president, will give the 2018 commencement address. Dr. Underwood has served as the president of UOG since 2008, is also a former member of U.S. Congress, having served as the Guam Delegate from 1993-2003. He is also an accomplished Chamorro writer, historian, and cultural advocate.

During the commencement, GCC will award 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. Among other accomplishments, Leon Guerrero served as Operations Chief/Deputy Director for the Mariana Regional Fusion Center of Guam Homeland Security from 2013 to 2016, and spearheaded the creation of the web-based Mariana Law Enforcement Regional Information Network, and created the Pacific’s Most Wanted site.

The number of credentials being earned by 2018 GCC graduates in each degree category is as follows:

Associate degrees	285
Associate of Science: 205	
Associate of Arts: 80	
Certificates	85
Journeyworker Certificate	20

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

(Apprenticeship)	
Adult High School Diploma	38
High School Equivalency	34
Total number degrees earned*	462
Total number of graduates	407

**Please note that some graduates have earned more than one degree or certificate, which is why the total number of degrees awarded exceeds the total number of actual graduates.*

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