



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## GCC makes "Best for Vets 2015" list

Guam Community College is proud to announce that once again this year, its commitment to providing Guam's veterans with education and workforce skills has landed GCC on the Military Times Best for Vets Career & Technical Colleges list. This is the second consecutive year that GCC has been selected by The Military Times as a Best for Vets institution. The distinction recognizes GCC and 35 other schools for their commitment to providing opportunities to America's veterans.

"We are honored to have made this list again this year, in large part because of our Keep Your Guard Up program. We offered accelerated training to returning vets that were either unemployed or underemployed, and we are proud of the over 150 soldiers that completed our program," said Dr. Mary Okada, GCC president. "GCC is committed to helping our veterans be as successful in the workforce as they were in defending our country," added Okada, who is also the spouse of a veteran.

"GCC's staunch commitment to our island veterans was evident in the successful 2014 "Keep Your Guard Up" partnership initiative with the Guam National Guard," said Col. (Ret.) Dennis Santo Tomas, POST Commission executive director and advisor for the upcoming GCC Student Veterans organization. "Veterans can choose from different career paths at GCC, including traditional college degrees, workforce development, our apprenticeship program, and industry certifications. GCC offers the best programs for service members, who upon return from deployment, are looking for ways to leverage their educational benefits in order to become part of the growing civilian workforce on Guam," Santo Tomas added.

According to a Military Times news release, to create the Career & Technical Colleges rankings, the *Military Times EDGE*, comprising Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times and Marine Corps Times, focused on benefits coverage, support services and widely available statistical measures when conducting and scoring the Best for Vets: Career & Technical Colleges survey. The survey is a highly respected, nearly 110-question analysis of a college's efforts to provide veterans with an environment for success.

The Military Times 2015 Best For Vets listing can be found at:

www.militarytimes.com/bestforvets-ctc2015

Log onto <u>www.guamcc.edu</u> under Admissions, Veteran Students, to view GCC's information and assistance for veterans.

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