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18 students pinned during
GCC Practical Nursing ceremony

Eighteen young women and men took part in the time-honored pinning ceremony for the Guam Community College Practical Nursing program on Saturday, January 20, at the Crystal Ballroom of Lotte Hotel Guam. The ceremony, during which a loved one "pins" each nursing candidate with a program pin, is a symbolic entrance into the profession.

Rose Grino, RN, President of the Guam Nurses Association, gave the keynote address, reminding the future nurses that with all of the technology available now in the profession, to "keep that human connection" in their care. Grino also urged the program graduates to study for and pass their NCLEX, or National Council Licensure Examination.

Mishaleen Sunga, the GCC Practical Nursing Student Association president, also urged her classmates to study for and pass the NCLEX. Dr. Mary Okada, GCC president, told the students that passing the NCLEX "demonstrates to everyone – your patients, your employer, and to us here at GCC, that your nursing program – OUR nursing program, has equipped you with the essential knowledge and skills you need to meet the basic standards of quality care for patients in a medical facility."

Nineteen people completed the year-long GCC Practical Nursing program in 2017 (one person was not present at the pinning ceremony.)

Suggested photo caption:
GCC Practical Nursing graduates gather for a class picture after their traditional Pinning Ceremony on Saturday, January 20 at the Lotte Hotel Guam.
From left: Gina Macaraeg, Kristin Bansil, Danica Pamintuan, Samantha Marquez, Ryan Ato, Krystal Takai, Roehl Panlasigui, Janize Kelly Leonen, Francis Unsay, Jaena Claire Cabrera, Tiahna Gabrielle Diaz, Carl Mui, Abegail Quiambao, Elisa Guerrero, Kimberly Ordillas, Emily Romero, Mishaeleen Sunga, and Josh Carl Palomo. Not pictured: Gerald De Roxas.

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