



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PROMOTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GCC breaks ground for larger Multi-Purpose Auditorium

Guam Community College is on the build again.

Dr. Mary Okada, GCC President, invited Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio, other public and private officials, plus student, faculty, and staff representatives, to break ground at GCC this morning for the renovation of Building 300 into a new and expanded Multi-Purpose Auditorium.

Dr. Okada spoke about what the renovation will mean for the college and the community, highlighting recent events that have taken place in the current MPA, including the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Awareness Month proclamation signing on April 1st that brought public, military, and private sector organizations together to fight these crimes; and the GCC students' reverse job fair, "LinkUP" on April 11 that resulted in many graduating students securing job interviews, and in some cases jobs.

"With this expanded MPA, we will be able to host more events... Someday, soon, I hope, we'll be able to expand our culinary kitchen and even cater some events," Dr. Okada told the crowd, referring to future GCC projects.

Dr. Okada acknowledged the partnerships that brought the project to this point: FEMA, which awarded GCC a \$1.19 million Hazard Mitigation Grant in June 2017 to renovate and harden Building 300; the Governor's Office and the Legislature, TRMA architects Michael Makio and Cedric Cruz, and contractor J & B Modern Tech. She also thanked the GCC Board of Trustees and the Foundation Board of Governors for their support. The BOT Capital Projects fund is providing the remainder of the funds for the \$4.45 million project.

Building 300 is the third of GCC's old Butler buildings to be renovated in the past five years, and the seventh new or renovated building on the campus since 2009. The renovated 12,500 square foot single story concrete structure will house the larger MPA, plus walkway canopies and sustainability features for LEED certification.

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