

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## First Program-to-Program Articulation Agreement signed between GCC and UOG

The University of Guam and Guam Community College have teamed up to provide students with an even more cooperative means to pursue postsecondary education. Effective immediately, students who earn their Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies at GCC will have fulfilled their UOG General Education requirements at GCC and can now transfer their entire degree over to UOG to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences. These students would enter UOG with a junior class standing to complete course and baccalaureate requirements. Prior to this agreement, articulation between the two institutions has been on a course-by-course basis.

"We are pleased that our Liberal Studies program, which aims to provide students with the means to engage in critical insight, reasoning, mature judgment and independent thinking, is now a bridge for them to pursue further postsecondary education over at UOG. This type of articulation between two fully accredited institutions is a major milestone for our students and our island workforce," said Dr. Ray Somera, GCC Vice President for Academic Affairs. Somera noted that program-to-program articulation agreements are also being discussed with UOG for several other GCC associate degree programs.

"This agreement is evidence of UOG's and GCC's shared commitment to increasing opportunities for student access and success in higher education," said UOG Senior Vice President, Dr. Helen Whippy. "These students now have an opportunity to pursue their bachelor degrees in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, preparing them to be competitive candidates entering the workforce after graduation."

James Pangelinan, who serves as the student representative on the GCC Board of Trustees, said "As a student in the Liberal Studies program here at the Guam Community College, I am elated to know that when I receive my AA, it will fully articulate over to the University of Guam's BA in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences program without any hindrances. I commend both GCC and UOG for giving students like myself the opportunity to pursue a higher degree without having squandered any time."

Details of the GCC AA Liberal Studies to UOG BA IAS degree will be available in the Academic Year 2013-2014 catalogs of both institutions. Details on this program-to-program articulation are available on the UOG website at: <u>http://www.uog.edu/dynamicdata/SVPRegionalPartnerships.aspx?siteid=1&p=62</u>, and on the GCC website under Majors/Programs – Liberal Studies, at <u>http://www.guamcc.edu/Runtime/aaLiberalStudies.aspx</u>.

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