

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Resolution No. 394-31 (LS)

Introduced by:

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V. Anthony Ada

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T. R. Muña Barnes

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R. J. Respicio

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Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.

M. Silva Taijeron

Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to recognizing, commending and applauding the Students, Alumni, Faculty, Staff, President, and Board of Regents of the University of Guam, and the community, on the observance of the University of Guam Founder's Day Celebration 2012, and the evolution of the institution of higher learning throughout the past sixty (60) years.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, through the signing of the Organic Act of Guam in 1950, the
4 island inaugurated a civilian government replacing the U.S. Naval government, and
5 shortly after, Governor Carlton Skinner, the island's first appointed civilian governor,

1 established the Department of Education selecting as its director Dr. Jose R. Palomo,
2 who would soon thereafter approach Governor Skinner with an idea to develop a
3 college-level teacher-training school on par with those in the Continental U.S., an idea
4 that was also shared by education pioneers Simon Sanchez and Agueda I. Johnston;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, in early 1951, with the Governor's support, Dr. Palomo went
7 before the Guam Legislature and successfully lobbied for a Fifteen Thousand Dollars
8 (\$15,000) appropriation, which the Governor supplemented with Thirty Thousand
9 Dollars (\$30,000), bringing the total to Forty-five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to
10 begin the process of establishing what would become the Territorial College of Guam;
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, in September 1951, Dr. Palomo ventured off island reaching out
13 to three (3) universities – the first two (2), the University of California at Berkeley and
14 New York University, were unable to commit to the proposal because of obligations
15 to projects in Korea and Puerto Rico, but the third institution, Ohio State University,
16 responded positively; and

17 **WHEREAS**, on March 26, 1952, the government of Guam, through the
18 authority of the Governor of Guam, the Guam Legislature and the Board of Education,
19 entered into an agreement with the Ohio State University for the development of a two
20 (2)-year college-level education program to prepare students as elementary school
21 teachers; the College remained under the purview of the Department of Education,
22 marking the inauguration of the Territorial College of Guam; and

23 **WHEREAS**, throughout the next six (6) decades, the newly established college
24 would experience physical and academic developmental boons evolving from a two
25 (2)-year degree college that offered Associates in Arts (AA) degree programs in
26 elementary education and liberal arts, and non-credit courses in vocational education

1 to what is now the only accredited U.S. baccalaureate and master's degree-granting
2 university in Micronesia that currently offers six (6) baccalaureate (BA, BA Ed,
3 BBAA, BS, BSN, and BSW) degrees, and six (6) master's (MA, MEd, MPA, MS,
4 PMBA, SW) degrees conferred in thirty-four (34) undergraduate areas of study and
5 fifteen (15) graduate programs; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Territorial College of Guam held its first classes on June 30,
7 1952, in the quaint settings of the elephant Quonset huts at the former George
8 Washington High School campus, then located in the village of *Mongmong*, with an
9 enrollment of one hundred ninety-two (192) full-time students; graduating its first
10 three (3) students with AA degrees on August 21, 1953; and

11 **WHEREAS**, after the agreement with the Ohio State University ended on April
12 1, 1957, and administrative control of the College was turned over to the local
13 government, the institution would continue to experience a rapid staccato of changes,
14 including, the beginning of construction of its new campus in the village of *Mangilao*
15 in 1958; receiving accreditation as a Junior College from the Western Association of
16 Schools and Colleges a year later, in 1959; and continuing to expand its curriculum to
17 meet the needs of the growing student population, such as the addition of a nursing
18 program; and college graduates formed the Alumni Association in 1960; and

19 **WHEREAS**, at the beginning of the 1960s, the campus would move to its
20 present-day *Mangilao* location, where a two (2)-story building housing classrooms
21 and a library were constructed; and in 1961, with the signing of Public Law 6-40, the
22 Territorial College of Guam was renamed to the "College of Guam"; and in 1963,
23 Public Law 7-66 was signed granting the College further autonomy, removing it from
24 the authority of the Department of Education to a five (5)-member governing Board of
25 Regents; and

1 **WHEREAS**, throughout the 1960s and 1970s, the fledgling institution would
2 experience unprecedented burgeoning growth under the leadership of President
3 Antonio C. Yamashita, beginning with the College receiving accreditation to start
4 conferring baccalaureate degrees in 1963, and again in 1965; and initiating the plans
5 for the organization of three (3) undergraduate schools and the Graduate School in
6 1967. Within that same year, the College President gathered noted scholars of Guam
7 history to begin the Richard F. Taitano Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC),
8 which would become, after decades of development, a world-class facility for social
9 sciences and humanities research about Guam and Micronesia, and to an extent, other
10 Pacific islands; and throughout the years, in addition to making publication possible of
11 numerous invaluable resources recording the history of Guam and Micronesia in hard
12 copies, the MARC has partnered with the private non-profit organization Guampedia,
13 an online encyclopedic resource about the history, culture and contemporary issues of
14 Guam, to digitally publish a series of MARC documents on the Guampedia website,
15 to include historic documents, such as issues of the *Guam Recorder* from the early
16 1970s, the first of many MARC documents to be shared with a worldwide audience
17 over the internet, bringing the resource library into the digital era; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Guam Legislature passed a bill that was signed by Governor
19 Manuel F.L. Guerrero as Public Law 9-233 on August 12, 1968, renaming the College
20 of Guam to the “University of Guam”; and over the next two (2) years, from 1968 to
21 1970, the physical facilities would grow in tandem with the faculty and the student
22 population: in 1968, a new library and the Fine Arts Building were built, and in 1970,
23 the Science Building, the Student Center, dormitories, and the Health/Science
24 Building were erected, and the world-renown University of Guam Marine Laboratory
25 was established as a research unit; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1972, the U.S. Congress designated the University as a Land-
2 Grant Institution, and two (2) years later, in line with the designation, the College of
3 Agriculture and Life Sciences was created; and in May 1975, the Water and Energy
4 Resource Center (what is today known as the Water and Environmental Research
5 Institute of the Western Pacific) was established, with its mission to seek solutions,
6 through research, teaching and outreach programs, to issues and problems associated
7 with the location, production, distribution and management of freshwater resources in
8 Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Federated States
9 of Micronesia; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the University would further its autonomy in 1976 with the
11 enactment of Public Law 13-194, “The Higher Education Act of 1976,” that
12 established the University as a non-membership, non-profit corporation under the
13 governance of a nine (9)-member Board of Regents appointed by the Governor,
14 subject to the advice and consent of the Legislature; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 1980, in what would eventually lead to the further cultivation
16 of local artistic talent and culture, the *Isla* Center for the Arts was established as a
17 non-profit organization by University art faculty to showcase international artwork,
18 with the art gallery holding its first exhibition in 1984; *Isla* became integrated into the
19 University in the 1990s; it holds four (4) to six (6) shows a year that include:
20 exhibitions of its permanent collection of over five hundred (500) objects primarily
21 from the Micronesian region; juried university students’ exhibitions; traveling exhibits
22 from renown institutes, such as the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street
23 (MOMS); a biannual juried exhibit for local artists called “Creative Hands”; the
24 International Shoebox Sculpture Exhibition that for the past decade has featured a
25 large number of well-known artists from Hawaii, the U.S. mainland, Australia,
26 Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Norway, China,

1 Taiwan, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom; and the annual Art-A-Thon, an
2 exhibit of selected works from the local school children's fund raising event of the
3 same name, that provides funding for participating schools; and *Isla* and has raised
4 more than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) over the years to benefit island students,
5 and to continue gallery operations; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Program
7 was established at the University of Guam on October 19, 1979 through the efforts of
8 President Yamashita, a U.S. Army Veteran, who pushed to bring the U.S. Army
9 ROTC program to the University during his tenure; and as the Dean of the ROTC
10 Program, Dr. Wilfred P. Leon Guerrero, also a UOG President, was instrumental in
11 laying the groundwork for the future successes of the ROTC program; the ROTC
12 Program's first military science classes were held in Fall 1980, originally called the
13 "Gold Warrior Battalion," (which would later be renamed the "Triton Warrior
14 Battalion" in 1994); and by 1984, the UOG ROTC Program received the coveted
15 "Warrior of the Pacific" Award from the U.S. Department of the Army, the
16 "Excelsior" award from the University President, and U.S. Congressional recognition
17 for their performance; academic scholarships followed, with cadets obtaining national
18 ROTC scholarships, as well as scholarships granted by the University Board of
19 Regents; and in 2002, the Program received official recognition from the Department
20 of the Army as the Top U.S. Army ROTC Program, beating two hundred seventy
21 (270) schools nationwide; and to date, approximately three hundred fifty (350) cadets
22 have graduated and became commissioned as officers in the U.S. military; and

23 **WHEREAS**, as a further example of the excellence of the UOG ROTC
24 program, three (3) graduates: Lieutenant Colonel George Charfauros, who graduated
25 from UOG with a BA Degree in 1989, Colonel Diron Cruz, who graduated from UOG
26 with a BA Degree in 1985, and Colonel Roderick Leon Guerrero, who graduated from

1 UOG with a BA Degree in 1989, received their commission from the UOG ROTC
2 program before going on to receive their Master's Degrees in Strategic Studies from
3 the U.S. Army War College in 2011, and the UOG ROTC program was key to
4 providing the foundation in their successful military career; and the UOG ROTC
5 program has provided young men and women from Guam and the surrounding islands
6 an opportunity to become leaders in the U.S. Army; the three (3), and numerous other
7 officers, would not have successful careers in the U.S. Army as Commissioned
8 Officers if UOG did not have the ROTC program; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in the 1980s, the UOG Field House, a multipurpose sporting
10 complex with a five thousand (5,000)-seat capacity, opened its doors to host myriad
11 events for the University and the community; in 1982, the University of Guam
12 Endowment Foundation, Inc. was established, and in 1988, the Board of Regents
13 approved the articles of incorporation and by-laws for UOG Endowment Foundation,
14 a non-profit organization, to receive contributions in support of University projects
15 and programs not traditionally funded by the government of Guam; and since its
16 inception, the UOG Endowment Foundation has been instrumental in stewarding
17 projects, soliciting and securing both financial gifts and in-kind contributions from the
18 local government and community donors for projects such as support for the
19 construction financing of the Jesus S. and Eugenia A. Leon Guerrero School of
20 Business and Public Administration Building, and for renovations to the Robert F.
21 Kennedy Library, the Micronesia Area Research Center, the Computer Center and
22 the UOG Field House; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in addition to the University's colleges, the institution has also
24 expanded its research units, such as the Guam Center for Excellence in
25 Developmental Disabilities Education, Research & Service, which serves as a training
26 and technical assistance provider in the Pacific Basin region, the largest training,

1 service, and technical assistance center at the University; the Cancer Research Center,
2 a partnership between the University of Guam & University of Hawaii; the Office of
3 Sponsored Programs and Research (OSPR), whose mission addresses three (3)
4 primary foci: teaching, research, and outreach pertinent to the western Pacific region;
5 Sea Grant, a partnership between universities and the federal government's National
6 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); the Western Pacific Tropical
7 Research Center, the research division within the College of Natural and Applied
8 Sciences associated with the national Land Grant System; the Assessment Program
9 and Review; the Center for Island Sustainability, established in 2009, to tackle various
10 issues in regards to island sustainability; and the Western Pacific Coral Reef Initiative,
11 a collaborative regional partnership whose mission is to protect and preserve
12 Micronesia's reefs through multidisciplinary basic and applied scientific ecosystem
13 research that is directly applicable to management practices, as well as via training
14 and education; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in addition to building facilities, structures and expanding
16 curriculum, the University has formed partnerships with the local and international
17 community, the latest being the April *Memorandum of Understanding* between the
18 University of Guam and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, in which the
19 organizations will "further the development of basic scientific and applied research
20 with goals of advancing research in ocean science, gaining a more fundamental
21 understanding of the oceans, and benefitting society at large"; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the University continues to experience the successes of its
23 students and faculty members who have received recognition in national-level
24 competitions, and awards, as well as academic accolades; and the University's
25 programs annually receive millions of dollars after competing for grants that will help
26 to improve the quality of life on Guam and in the region; and under current University

1 President Robert A. Underwood, the institution delves in the 21st century as students'
2 “natural choice” as it continues to successfully compete in a rapidly changing global
3 economy by establishing new curricula and programs, such as a pre-engineering
4 program and the Center for Island Sustainability, among others; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in the past sixty (60) years the University has conferred more than
6 thirteen thousand five hundred (13,500) degrees and has graduated twelve thousand
7 (12,000) alumni, many of whom remain on Guam serving as the professional fiber of
8 the local community, as well as in other areas of Micronesia and throughout the U.S.;
9 among them are families; business chief executive officers and presidents; a Pulitzer
10 Prize winner; non-governmental organizations executive directors; governmental
11 agency directors and board members; a noted geneticist; doctors; lawyers; nurses;
12 U.S. military officers; police officers; editors; teachers; principals; a governor and a
13 lieutenant governor of Guam; senators and speaker of the Guam Legislature;
14 university and college professors; a governor and a lieutenant governor of the
15 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and a member of the Senate of the
16 Republic of Palau, among many others who have contributed and continue to
17 contribute in the communities where they reside; and

18 **WHEREAS**, from 1952 to 1963, the governing body of the Territorial College
19 of Guam was the Board of Education, with Education Directors and Appointed Deans
20 serving as Chief Administrative Officers of the College; the Directors were: Jose R.
21 Palomo (1952); John S. Haitema (1953 to 1957); Simon Sanchez, who served in an
22 acting capacity (1957); John R. Trace (1957 to 1962); Cecil Well and Tom Rathbone,
23 who served in an acting capacity (1962 to 1963). The Deans included: Erwin E. Lewis
24 (1952 to 1953); Leonard O. Andrews (1953 to 1954); Eldon B. Sessions (1954 to
25 1956); J. Marshall Hanna (1956 to 1957); Pedro C. Sanchez, who was also the first
26 locally hired professor (1957 to 1962); Harm Harms and Andrew Shook, who served

1 in acting capacities (1961 to 1962); Floyd L. Taylor; and Antonio C. Yamashita, who
2 served in an acting capacity (1962 to 1963), and who would later become the first
3 President of both the College and the University; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Presidents of the University include Antonio C. Yamashita
5 (1963 to 1970 and 1974 to 1977); Alex C. Flores, who served in an acting capacity
6 (1970); Pedro Sanchez (1970 to 1974); Rosa R. Carter (1980 to 1983); Jose Q. Cruz
7 (1983 to 1987); Wilfred P. Leon Guerrero (1988 to 1994); John C. Salas (1994 to
8 1996); Jose T. Nededog (1996 to 2000); Roy T. Tsuda, who served in an acting
9 capacity (1987 to 1988 and 2000 to 2001); Harold L. Allen (2001 to 2008); Helen J.D.
10 Whippy, who served in an acting capacity (2008); and Robert A. Underwood (2008 to
11 the present); and

12 **WHEREAS**, the successes of the University of Guam in the past six (6)
13 decades highlights the multitude of reasons why it is the “natural choice” for our
14 students, and validates the University’s endeavors to continue to provide a state-of-
15 the-art learning environment. The University of Guam, via the UOG Endowment
16 Foundation, has embarked on a five (5)-year capital fundraising campaign, dubbed
17 “Celebrating the Triton Spirit,” to reach a fundraising goal of Thirty Million Dollars
18 (\$30,000,000) by the year 2017 to fund the needs of the UOG physical master plan.
19 To further exemplify the community’s partnership with the institution, the UOG
20 Endowment Foundation has already received generous support from many
21 organizations, and also financial donations from private organizations toward reaching
22 its goal, including, but not limited to, GHD (the former Winzler and Kelly); ASC
23 Trust Corporation; Bank of Guam; Moylan’s Insurance Underwriters, Inc.; Phillips
24 and Bordallo, P.C.; Coeval Design Partners; and Sodexo; now therefore, be it

25 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
26 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize, commend and applaud the Students,

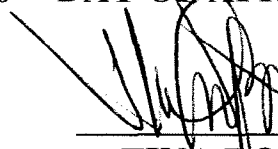
1 Alumni, Faculty, Staff, President, and Board of Regents of the University of Guam,
2 and the community, on the observance of the University of Guam Founder's Day
3 Celebration 2012, and the evolution of the institution of higher learning throughout
4 the past sixty (60) years; and be it further

5 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to,
6 the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Dr. Robert
7 A. Underwood, President of the University of Guam; and to the Honorable Edward
8 J.B. Calvo, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA*
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 26TH DAY OF APRIL 2012.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES
Legislative Secretary