


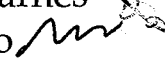


I MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2007 (FIRST) Regular Session

Exec. Comm.
Resolution No. 85

Introduced by:

Dr. David L. G. Shimizu 
Judith Wonpat 
Judith Guthertz 
Tina Muna Barnes
Rory Respicio 

Relative to commending and congratulating Dr. Rebecca Ann Stephenson and memorializing her contributions to Guam and Micronesia on the occasion of her retirement from the University of Guam.

9.39 AM

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY I MINA' BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN
2 GUÅHAN:

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Rebecca Ann Stephenson will retire in August, 2007 as
4 Professor of Anthropology at the University of Guam after 30 years of
5 research and teaching at that learning institution; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephenson began her work at the University in
7 January, 1977, after completing a five year doctoral program at the University
8 of Oregon in Anthropology; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephenson, affectionately known by her students as
10 "Dr. Stephy," was born and reared in a family of three siblings in Bemidji,
11 Minnesota near the Canadian border of the United States; she left there to
12 attend Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, graduating with a B.A. in
13 Anthropology in 1969; thereafter, she attended the University of Oregon,
14 obtaining a M.A. in 1971 and a Ph.D. in 1976, also in Anthropology; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson did extensive field research in the Cook
2 Islands, where she learned the Maori language and established long term
3 close family ties with the residents of those islands who were her sponsors;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson has done other field research in places such
6 as Ulithi in Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia; Angaur, Republic of
7 Palau; and Bali, Indonesia, and has traveled throughout Micronesia and
8 Polynesia working with various anthropologists and studying Pacific
9 cultures; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson has published many research papers on a
11 number of topics concerning ethnology, socio-cultural change, ethnicity,
12 values, youth, tourism, community development, and globalization ; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson has been a speaker and presenter at
14 numerous conferences and has been instrumental in fostering joint projects
15 between students and professors of the University of Guam and other
16 students and professors of learning institutions in the Pacific, Asia, and the
17 United States, thus fostering broader educational experiences for both our
18 students on Guam and others; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson had the privilege to work with the late
20 distinguished professor Dr. Laura Thompson, who wrote a classic book,
21 "Guam and Its People" in 1941; she was guest editor of Dr. Thompson's last
22 book, "Beyond the Dream: A Search for Meaning"; and Dr. Stephenson now
23 formally overseas general public access to the Laura Thompson Publications
24 Collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson has the honor of being a Life Fellow of the
2 Pacific Science Association; she has also been a Guest Professor at National
3 Pingtung University of Science and Technology in Taiwan, the University of
4 Tsukuba, Japan, and the National Taiwan University; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 2006, Dr. Stephenson traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota,
6 U.S.A. to receive the Outstanding Alumni Award from her undergraduate
7 Alma Mater, Hamline University; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson has also been involved in the local
9 community: she volunteered to teach “American Cultural Values” to Kurdish
10 women refugees brought to Guam in 1997; she presently serves as a member
11 of the Guam Historic Preservation Review Board and the Guam Preservation
12 Trust; she is also a member and has had responsible positions in the American
13 Association of University Women (AAUW), the International Women’s Club,
14 the Guam Council of Women’s Clubs, and the Federation of Asian Women’s
15 Associations (FAWA); she is a member of the Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia
16 Women’s Association; she is also a member of the Chi Omicron Gamma
17 Academic Honor Society of the University of Guam and the faculty advisor
18 for the Lambda Alpha National Collegiate Honors Society in Anthropology,
19 Alpha Chapter, at the University of Guam; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Stephenson is married to Dr. Hiro Kurashina, a retired
21 University of Guam Professor of Archaeology and with whom she
22 collaborated, as well as with others, in a variety of joint research projects;
23 now, therefore, be it

24 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Bente Nuebi Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does
25 hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend Dr.

1 Rebecca Ann Stephenson for her numerous accomplishments, too many to
2 recite herein, her commitment over the past thirty years to the students of the
3 University of Guam, and her community involvement on Guam, on the
4 occasion of her retirement after thirty years of teaching at the University of
5 Guam; and be it further

6 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify to, and the Secretary of the
7 Legislature attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be
8 thereafter transmitted to Dr. Rebecca Ann Stephenson.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE _____ DAY OF _____ 2007.**

Mark Forbes
Speaker

Ray Tenorio
Senator and
Secretary of the Legislature