

CLASS CONNECTIONS

Fañomnåkan 2024 Newsletter



Watch the livestream on:
<https://fb.watch/IzQd9-UXAT/>

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Fanuchånan 2023 graduates at the CLASS Pinning Ceremony held at the CLASS Lecture Hall on December 7, 2023.

See full list of Fanuchånan 2023
CLASS Graduates on pages 6 & 7.

IN THIS ISSUE

NEW FACULTY

PAGE 3

GRANT DEADLINES & AWARDS

PAGE 4 & 5

CLASS 2023 AWARDS

PAGE 6

STUDENT & ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

PAGE 6 & 7

FEATURED PROGRAM

PAGE 8 & 9

COLLEGE EVENTS

PAGE 10 - 12





From the Dean's Desk

Dear Professors, Students, and Friends of the College,

People ask, "What is the value of a college degree?"

The value of a college degree is twofold, and it aligns nicely with UOG's vision statement, namely, Transforming Lives, and Advancing Communities.

First and foremost, the value of your degree depends on what you make of yourself; how you continue your own personal quest and journey of personal transformation. The education behind your degree should assist you to find your path with heart.

For me, the value of my college degrees is rather personal because the diplomas are not merely symbols but evidence of the time and energy, I spent transforming myself, growing up, becoming an adult, a positive and contributing member of society. And most importantly, the diplomas and credentials helped me shape my personality, my career, and the deeper meaning of my life.

Graduates, please give yourself a little breathing room. You may not immediately acknowledge your own personal transformation. At the time of your graduation, you are filled with the excitement of the new beginnings before you, that is your commencement into the rest of your life. Over the next few years, you will begin to see how your studies are continuing to transform your life, especially if you consciously embrace the endeavor of being a life-long learner.

Second and more importantly, the value of your degree depends on what you contribute to your community.

Your college degree makes you an authority, a subject matter expert, and the expectation is that experts contribute to their communities; experts apply their knowledge and expertise to assist other people. As gregarious creatures, we cannot enjoy the value of personal transformation without having been raised and enculturated in a human community. There is no meaningful personal life without being part of a community, and there are no communities without individual persons. When we grow as persons our family and community develop with us, and as our communities advance, we as individuals also advance.

The twofold value of your degree, the personal transformation, and the community advancement are intimately tied together in the cultural evolution of the human species. What you do now and for the rest of your life defines both yourself and the entire human race.

For me the most important value of a college education is the moral and ethical transformation of individuals and society. If you are interested in the financial value of a college degree, then the latest data shows that people with a Bachelor's degree will earn an average salary of \$52,000 or \$22,000 more than a high school diploma that will amount to over \$1.7 million dollars in their life time.

There are good/profitable reasons to obtain graduate degrees. An MA degree holder will earn an average salary of \$82,000 or \$30,000 more than the BA holder. The PhD will earn an average salary of \$100,000 to \$130,000 for starters. Depending on your abilities, location, and a bit of serendipity the sky is the limit. The highest paid Harvard professor makes \$1.6 million a year.

There are many good reasons to stay in college.

Wishing you a productive and fun filled Fañomnakan 2024 semester.

Yours Truly,

James D. Sellmann, Ph. D.
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Dean

Biba CLASS! Biba UOG! Biba!



College Academic Affairs Committee (L-R)

Dr. James Sellmann, Dean; Dr. Mary Therese Cruz, Interim Associate Dean;

Division Chairs: Dr. Kirk Johnson (Social and Behavioral Sciences); Dr. Michael Clement (Humanities);
Dr. Christopher Garcia-Santos (English & Applied Linguistics); Dr. Irena Keckes (Communication, Media, & Fine Arts)

New Faculty



ARVIN BOLLER II INSTRUCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Arvin Boller is a psychologist that focuses on the fields of peace psychology, political psychology, and cyber-psychology. He teaches the courses on experimental psychology at the University of Guam. His research focuses on the interface of human behavior and technology, with particular interest on the implications on the wider sociopolitical context. He prefers the use of mixed methodology in his studies, particularly innovative research approaches like text mining, social network analysis, and sentiment analysis. He has wide experience in the use of experimentation both in the academic setting through biofeedback, eye tracking, and reaction time studies. He also has experience in the industry where he serves as a consultant for corporations, government agencies, civil society, and medical practitioners.

CLASS Administrative Staff



COMMUNICATION, MEDIA, & FINE ARTS

Tammy Muña

Administrative Assistant
(671) 735-2700 || adat@triton.uog.edu

ENGLISH & APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Jocelyn Mesngon

Administrative Assistant
(671) 735-2725 || mesngonj15583@triton.uog.edu

HUMANITIES

Diana Glaizy Peregrino

Administrative Assistant
(671) 735-2800 || peregrinod@triton.uog.edu

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Jeannette Palisoc Jose

Administrative Assistant
(671) 735-2870 || josejp@triton.uog.edu

DEAN'S OFFICE

Preston Boynton

IT Support Technician
(671) 735-1160 || boyntonp@triton.uog.edu

Nichole "Nicky" Castro

Administrative Officer, CLASS Advising Specialist
(671) 735-2851 || nicky.castro@triton.uog.edu

Muturwan Choay

Communications & Outreach Coordinator
(671) 735-2852 || choaym@triton.uog.edu

Doreen Fernandez

Program Coordinator III
(671) 735-2853 || fernandezd@triton.uog.edu

K-Dee Takawo

Administrative Technician
(671) 735-2850 || takawok@triton.uog.edu

For general inquiries, contact us at classdo@triton.uog.edu or call 671-735-2850

CSR Grant Dates!

CSR Grants have a maximum award amount of \$3,000. These are seed grants intended to fund small one-time projects or to start fledging projects and help faculty in applications for external funding. The budget for CSR grants is \$24,000 this year. There is only \$12,000 per semester.

CSR Grant Application

<https://questionpro.com/t/AUwHOZzPjn>

For AY 2023–2024, the deadlines for CSR Grants are **April 3 in the Fañomnākan** semester. Grant funds are valid for one year.

Travel Grant Dates!

Faculty Travel Grants are awarded for a maximum of \$1,500. Priority is given for presenting at academic conferences. The budget for Faculty Travel Grants is \$29,000 this year. There will be roughly \$7,250 per quarter to award.

Faculty Travel Grant Application

<https://questionpro.com/t/AUwHOZzPjk>

Student Travel Grants are awarded for a maximum of \$500 for undergraduate students and \$1,000 for graduate students. Priority is given for presenting at academic conferences. Either the student or the faculty member may apply, but the student must have a faculty sponsor.

Student Travel Grant Application

<https://questionpro.com/t/AUwHOZzPjb>

Applications will be accepted and considered on an ongoing basis, subject to the availability of funds. The deadlines for priority consideration for AY 2023–24 are:

- For travel in April–June, the deadline is **January 31** for review on February 2.
- For travel in July–September, the deadline is **May 1** for review on May 3.

Priority consideration will be given to applications received by the deadline.



Faculty Travel Grant Recipients

Hunter Fine

Awarded \$1,500 supporting travel to Maryland for the National Communication Association

Jonathan Wurtz

Awarded \$1,500 supporting travel to New Orleans, Louisiana for the American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting

Marshaley Baquiano

Awarded \$1,500 supporting travel to Legazpi City, Philippines for the Psychological Association of the Philippines 59th Annual Convention

William Jeffrey

Awarded \$1,500 supporting travel to Gwanju, South Korea for the Asia Pacific Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage

Irena Keckes

Awarded \$900 supporting participation in the International Mokuhanga (Print) Conference 2024, Sophia Graphic Arts Triennial, STMG–Krakow Print Triennial, Kosovo Graphic Arts Biennial, and International Print Exhibition–USA



Raymond Anderson

Awarded \$1,500 supporting travel to Las Vegas, Nevada for the Broadcast Education Association Annual Conference

Sinora Lourdes Manglona

Awarded \$1000 supporting travel to Saipan for the Marianas History Conference

Student Conference Grant Recipients

Caley Jay Chargualaf

Awarded \$500 supporting travel to Saipan for the Marianas History Conference

Chauntae Quichocho

Awarded \$250 supporting travel to Saipan for the Marianas History Conference

Iain Twaddle

Awarded \$1385.50 supporting student participation in the Ethics and Ethical Decision Making Workshop

Psychology Program

Awarded \$1,450 supporting participation in the Neurodiversity Conference

Muturwan Choay, Nolan Flores, and Jesus Lujan

Awarded \$500 each supporting travel to Saipan for the Marianas History Conference

Sinora Lourdes Manglona and Tricia Lizama

Awarded \$1,750 supporting student travel to Rota for the 7th Annual Coconut Festival

Raymond Anderson

Awarded \$240 supporting the entry of student films into the Festival of the Arts in Las Vegas, Nevada

PI102 Students

Awarded \$130 supporting participation in the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Virtual Regional Competition

Student Travel

FANUCHĀNAN 2023



MICRONESIAN STUDIES - SAIPAN



CHAMORU STUDIES - ROTA

Student & Alumni Highlights

Tritons explore Korean Culture in Guam



Students of Dr. Lynsey Lee's Elementary Korean course (KO-101) explored the influence of Korean culture and expand their understanding of our island's cultural dynamics. Students visited local Korean establishments and conducted research.

Tritons donate to Guam Memorial Hospital



Students of Professor Natasha Suba's Critical Thinking courses (CT-101) organized a community baby shower. Donations were given to the Guam Memorial Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Items include bottles, diapers, blankets, pacifiers, onesies, and so much more.

Tritons compete in the Ethics Bowl



Four students of Dr. Brett Fulkerson-Smith's Contemporary Ethical Problems course (PI-102) competed in a virtual ethics bowl. The team showcased their ethical reasoning and critical thinking skills.

FANUCHANAN 2023 GRADUATES

ANTHROPOLOGY

Lucia Atienza
Maikita King

CHAMORU STUDIES FOR EDUCATION

Denise Benavente
Chauntae Quichocho
Joseph San Nicolas

COMMUNICATION

Tatiana Ananich
Noelle Guinto
MacQuinn Manning
+Minor in Sociology
Reese Meno
Mikaela Yanto

ENGLISH

Gia Aromin
+Secondary Education
Anita Castro
+Minor in Sociology
Kiara Difuntorum
+Minor in Japanese Language
Amberlyn Flores
+Secondary Education
+Minor in Writing
Jericho Macaraeg
+Minor in Writing
Darren Palmes
+Minor in Political Science
+Minor in Writing

FINE ARTS

Victorino De La Peña | ART
Jonathan Jabinigay | ART
Jaira Natividad | MUSIC

Psychology Valedictorian: “A transformative journey”



Aspiring psychologist Haley Mae M. Carreon is the valedictorian of the Fanuchānan (Fall) 2023 Commencement. Born in Guam and the daughter of Filipino immigrants, Carreon credits her family's strong support of her education since childhood. She studied psychology as her major and sociology as her minor. “We gather... as people who have experienced a transformative journey, molded by the obstacles we have overcome, the knowledge we have gained, and the connections we have created here at UOG. Today is a celebration of resilience and growth,” Carreon stated.

CLASS 2023 Trivia Night Scholarship Winners



Congratulations to our CLASS Trivia Night Scholarship Winners, Chelsea Manibusan & Jaenna Palma!

Elementary Chinese class creates Beijing Opera masks



FAÑOMNĀKAN 2023 GRADUATES

FINE ARTS

Mikaela Oliva | MUSIC
+Secondary Education
Jonelle Velasco | MUSIC
+Secondary Education

PHILOSOPHY

Kai Rekdahl
+Communication

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Keilani Edmund
Juan Gofigan
Shallae Torres

PSYCHOLOGY

Kristoffer Aquino
+Minor in Sociology
Lolita Blas
+Minor in Sociology
Haley Carreon
+Minor in Sociology
Won Joon Han
Paul Mendoza
Josiah Mesngon
Jesselle Ocampo
Jaenna Palma
+Biology: Bio-Medical
Shuting Palomo
Charlynn Patris
Zelain Perman
Brenna Rodriguez
Andrea Unsay

SOCIOLOGY

Francine Termeteet

MASTER OF SCIENCE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Seahara Cruz
Samantha Uncango-Meno

CHAMORU STUDIES PROGRAM



During the Fanuchānan 2023 semester, the CHamoru Studies Program hosted workshops, visited neighboring islands, and so much more. Here are some program highlights capturing students learning the CHamoru culture and practices. **See highlight photos on page 12.**

NIHI TA FAN MĀMFOK CM-210 Weaving Workshop

Siñora Martha Tenorio's CM210 CHamoru Arts and Practices (Weaving) students hosted a free weaving workshop that was open to the public on November 21st in the HSS Atrium. Each table had a student demonstrating how to weave a certain object. People were able to learn how to weave the guihan dangkolo (large fish), guihan dikike' (small fish), gue'ha (fan), rosat (rose), estreyas (star), paluman dikike' (small bird), and katupat (container for cooking rice). The CM210 students and instructor also displayed woven personal projects and assignments.



HA'ĀNEN HATDIN

Volunteering at the GSC Community Garden

Dr. Kisha Borja-Quichocho-Calvo took her CHamoru Studies and Indigenous Philosophy students to the Guāhan Sustainable Culture (GSC) Guam Green Growth Community Garden in Hagātña. The Ha'ānen Hatdin (Garden Day) consisted of learning about the resources and services GSC offers and the work they do with and for the community. The students were also able to assist the GSC staff with taking care of the garden, which was part of their service project hours for their respective classes.





YO'AMTE VISIT SAIPAN & ROTA

Traditional Healing with AMOT

The amot or also known as CHamoru medicine course offered at the University of Guam is a series of three classes that were designed for students to become more knowledgeable of this traditional healing practice in Guam and the Mariñas. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding CHamoru values and healthcare beliefs and practices of the CHamoru people. In this course, students will gain knowledge in CHamoru values, plant recognition and use, topography of the land, and the use of amot in indigenous healthcare. During the Fanuchanan 2023 semester, students of the Yo'amte program presented at the Marianas History Conference in Saipan and the Annual Coconut Festival in Luta.



ÁSODDA' YAN ÁTUNGO'

CHamoru Studies Program Meet and Greet

The CHamoru Studies Program held its second annual Meet and Greet event in October 2023. Students were able to learn about what the program offers, converse with faculty and current majors and minors, and listen to alumni and majors from the program speak about their current careers and how the UOG CHamoru Studies program prepared and benefited them.



PUENGEN MINAGOF NOCHEBUENA

Celebrating CHamoru Christmas Traditions

The annual Puengen Minagof was held on December 1. This event is celebration of CHamoru language and culture featuring CHamoru Christmas traditions, songs, fashion, arts, and food. The community event was planned and hosted by the CHamoru language classes and their instructors, Siñora Teresita Flores, Siñora Soledad Cabrera, and Siñot Cody Lizama. Event highlights include CHamoru Christmas songs, the nubenan Niño, various Belen (nativity scene) displays, a fashion show, and CHamoru chesa. The event also included songs and a Belen setup from the GDOE Faneyakan Sinipok (CHamoru immersion) students. The event raised \$300 from the Belen display donations for the Alee Shelter, a local organization for Guam's families and youth.

Mellon Foundation Award for CHamoru Studies Center



The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded the University of Guam with a \$900K grant to support the creation of a CHamoru Studies Center and other projects to revitalize CHamoru language and culture. The grant seeks to reverse the decline in CHamoru language speakers, support pathways for students towards a BA in CHamoru Studies, establish an archive of CHamoru language learning materials, and develop the program to prepare students for graduate work.

Geography Program at STEM DAY 2.0



Dean Sellmann on the Teaching like Ted Lasso Show



Dr. James Sellmann joins Dave on the Teaching Like Ted Lasso Podcast to discuss mentoring first year, first generation college student, in a series called "Mentoring Special."

Watch the podcast episode at: <https://youtu.be/3wLbiHvE2rs>



HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



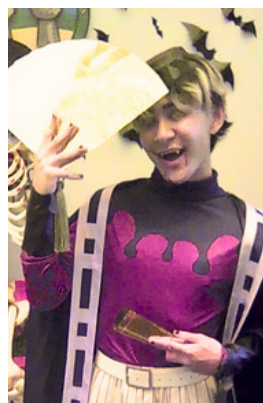
SCARIEST
1ST PLACE
CALL OF DUTY
"GHOST"
CONGRATS!
JEDIDIAH PINEDA



MOST CREATIVE/DIY
1ST PLACE
ANGEL
CONGRATS!
MARIA FEJERAN



BEST COUPLE/GROUP
1ST PLACE
TEEN TITANS
RAVEN & STARFIRE
CONGRATS!
ANGELA TOPACIO & MARVEANNE OLALIA



SCARIEST
2ND PLACE
DEMON SLAYER
"DOMA"
CONGRATS!
DEVLIN MOYLAN



MOST CREATIVE/DIY
2ND PLACE
STAR WARS
STORM TROOPER
CONGRATS!
DARREN CALDWELL

High School Outreach: Tiyan Career Day



CLASS professors, students, and staff hosted an outreach presentation to share what our college offers future Tritons. Our team consisted of two student organizations, the Linguistics and Language Appreciation Society (LALAS) and the Marianas History Club. Thank you Tiyan High School for learning about CLASS!

Thanksgiving Luncheon 2023



HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



BEST COUPLE/GROUP

2ND PLACE BOB'S BURGERS "BOB & LINDA"

CONGRATS!

EMANN ADONAY & MUTURWAN CHOAY



SCARIEST

3RD PLACE CARRIE

CONGRATS!

CLARISSA TARROMA



MOST CREATIVE/DIY

3RD PLACE FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDYS "CHICA"

CONGRATS!

SHAYNA PATRICIO



BEST COUPLE/GROUP

3RD PLACE SPIDER-MAN "GREEN GOBLIN & DR. OCTOPUS"

CONGRATS!

RICCI FUELLAS & RACHAEL CABALES

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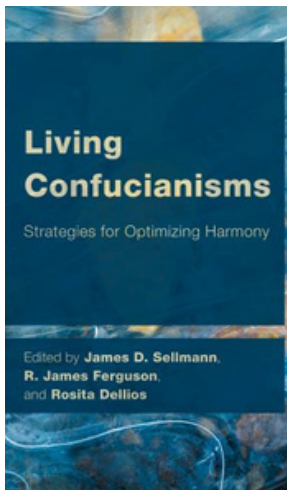
Thank you!

Philosophy Camp, “Our Island, Our Future”



The Philosophy program was awarded two grants to develop philosophy camp for Guam’s youth, “Our Island, Our Future”. Congratulations to Dr. Brett Fulkerson-Smith and Dr. Jonathan Wurtz for receiving the Humanities Guahñ and National Humanities Endowment Foundation Community Grant and the Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization (PLATO) grant!

Book Publication co-edited by Dean Sellmann



Living Confucianisms: Strategies for Optimizing Harmony explores contemporary harmony from a wide range of perspectives across philosophy, religion, politics, linguistics, diplomacy, international relations and education, with writers from numerous cultural and national backgrounds.

This volume presents diverse ‘Confucianisms’ as hybrid, evolving traditions that have been indigenized and creatively interpreted to support human fulfillment, using the vast cultural resources of the past to meet the needs of the present and the future.

Presidential Investiture



FAMILY FUN DAY



WELCOME BACK TRITONS



Teaching CLASS Outside



Photo Credit: Students of Dr. Kirk Johnson, Sociology and Students of Master Navigator Larry Raigetel, Seafaring.

GIVING TREE PROJECT



DONATIONS TO ALEE SHELTER

PI SIGMA ALPHA INDUCTION



POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY



UPCOMING EVENTS

- CHAMORU LANGUAGE COMPETITION
- 45TH ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE
- CHARTER DAY
- CLASS BASH & TRIVIA NIGHT
- UOG FILM FESTIVAL
- CLASS AWARDS CEREMONY
- CLASS PINNING & HOODING CEREMONY

For updates, follow us!



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