



**UNIVERSITY OF GUAM**  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
& SOCIAL SCIENCES



**47TH CLASS**  
**ANNUAL RESEARCH**  
**CONFERENCE**

# MANILAO:

## GENEALOGY OF KNOWLEDGE

# PROGRAM BOOKLET





# ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences hosts the 47th Annual Research Conference, *Manilao: Genealogy of Knowledge*. This year's theme draws from *ilao*, the root of Mangilao's name, which calls attention to both the act of searching and the elevated limestone terrace on which our university stands. From this vantage point, we are invited to consider how ancestral ways of knowing continue to shape and anchor our inquiries across Oceania and beyond.

We encourage conference participants to consider how our knowledge is shaped by the people, places, and ideas, to reflect on these connections, revisit the thinkers who guide us, and imagine new ways of understanding the Pacific and our place within it.

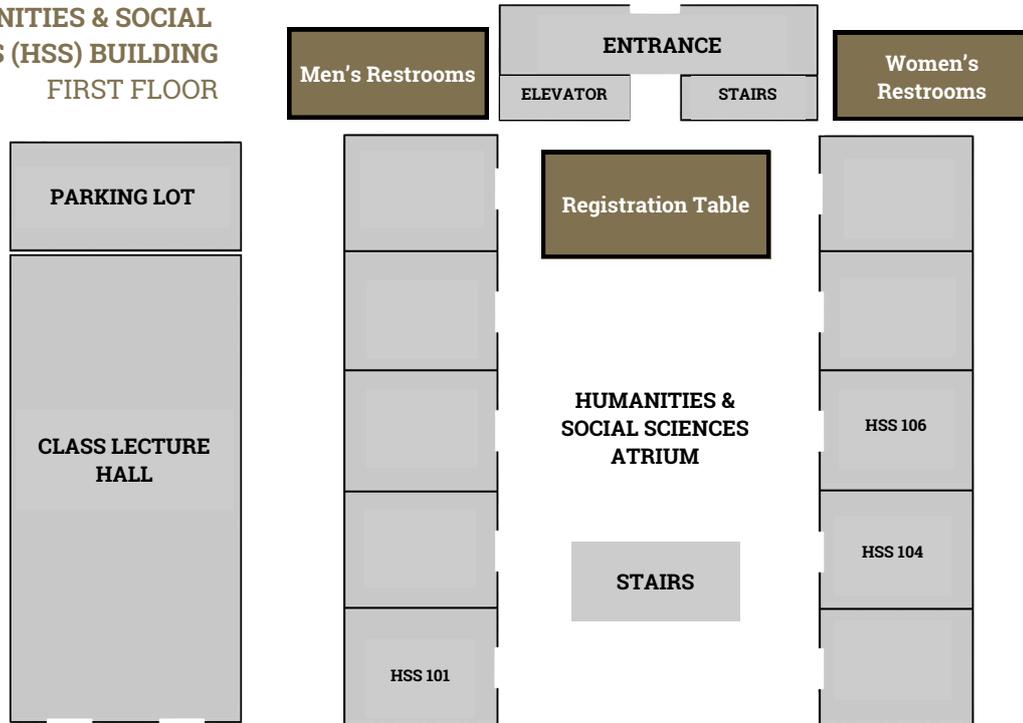
This year's plenary panel, *Applying Scientific Methods in Everyday Life*, brings together Drs. Troy McVey, Christopher Schreiner, Debra Cabrera, and Arvin Jay Boller, with James D. Sellmann serving as chair. The panel examines how scientific and academic methodologies extend beyond formal research settings and into daily life. Through personal experiences and practical insights, the panelists will discuss how technical approaches can guide decision-making, problem-solving, and creative thinking in everyday contexts.

The conference will conclude with the Conference Art Exhibition at the Isla Center for the Arts. Drawing from the diverse regions and traditions, from Guam, to the Marianas, the mainland US, Europe, Australia, and South Korea, the exhibit highlights emerging voices, regional contributors who have shaped our communities, and artists from afar whose perspectives enrich our collective understanding.

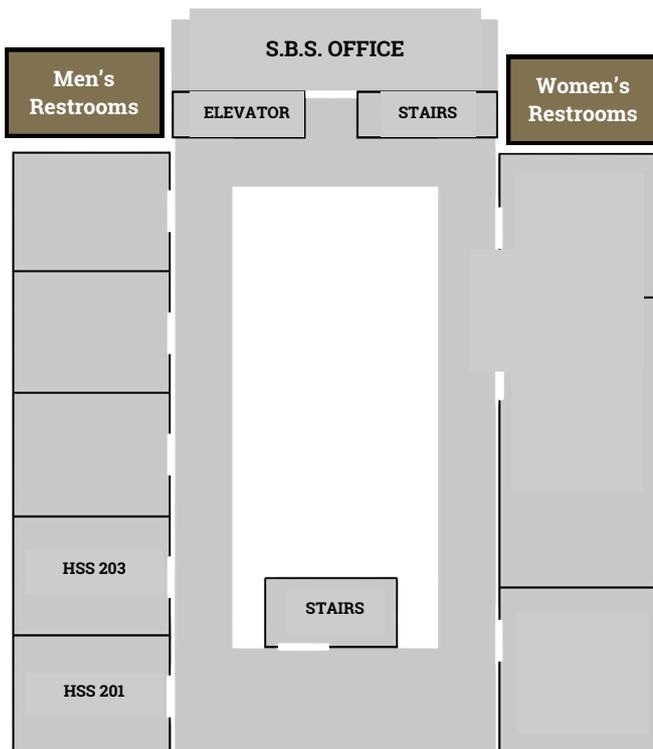
We welcome local, regional, and international scholars, scientists, artists, community experts, and students to join us in these conversations.

# CONFERENCE MAP

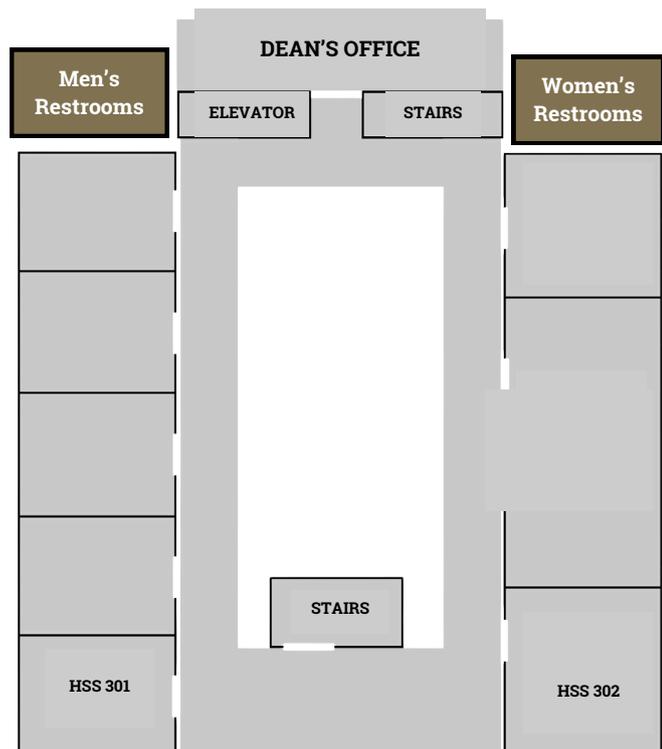
## HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (HSS) BUILDING FIRST FLOOR



## HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (HSS) BUILDING SECOND FLOOR



## HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES (HSS) BUILDING THIRD FLOOR



# PROGRAM FLOW

MARCH 6, 2025

08:30 AM

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN

📍 HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING

09:00 AM

## OPENING REMARKS

### PLENARY PANEL

BY DRS. TROY MCVEY; CHRISTOPHER SCHREINER; DEBRA CABRERA, AND ARVIN JAY BOLLER.

PANEL CHAIR IS JAMES D. SELLMANN

📍 CLASS LECTURE HALL

🕒 09:00 AM - 10:20 AM

10:30 AM

## MORNING SESSIONS

📍 SEE PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

🕒 10:30 AM - 11:50 AM

12:00 PM

## CONFERENCE LUNCHEON

📍 HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

3RD FLOOR, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ROOM

01:10 PM

## AFTERNOON SESSIONS

📍 SEE PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

🕒 1:10 PM - 4:00 PM

04:00 PM

## CLOSING CEREMONY & ART SHOWCASE

📍 ISLA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, HOUSE #15, DEAN'S CIRCLE

# PLENARY PANEL



JAMES D.  
SELLMANN, PH.D



TROY MCVEY,  
MFA, ED.D



DEBRA T.  
CABRERA, PH.D



CHRISTOPHER S.  
SCHREINER, PH.D



ARVIN JAY  
BOLLER, PH.D

**APPLYING SCIENTIFIC METHODS IN EVERYDAY LIFE**  
9:00 AM - 10:20 AM, CLASS LECTURE HALL

**PLENARY PANEL | Drs. Troy McVey; Christopher Schreiner; Debra Cabrera, and Arvin Jay Boller. Panel Chair is James D. Sellmann**

The ability to transfer knowledge from one context to another is possibly the most important part of learning, and yet there are few classroom lessons on the importance of transferring knowledge from one discipline or aspect of life to another. This panel proposes that scientific and academic methodologies can be applied in everyday life. The panel members discuss some personal experiences of how they applied technical methods in their everyday life. The objective of the panel is to offer suggestions on how to apply scientific and academic methods in your everyday life.

**CONTINUE >**

# SCHEDULE

Plenary Panel: Applying Scientific Methods in Everyday Life CLASS Lecture Hall				
9:00 AM - 10:20 AM	The Panel consists of Drs. Troy McVey; Christopher Schreiner; Debra Cabrera, and Arvin Jay Boller. Panel Chair is James D. Sellmann			
	HSS101	HSS104	HSS106	HSS201
	PRESENTATIONS	PANEL	PRESENTATIONS	PRESENTATIONS
	<p><b>10:30 AM - 10:50 AM</b> <b>Learning Chamorro Grammar</b> By Dr. Gerhard Schwab, Ray Gil Bolden</p> <p><b>10:55 AM - 11:15 AM</b> <b>Gathering Wisdom: Facilitating the Intergenerational Transmission of Knowledge</b> By Nolan Muña</p> <p><b>11:20AM - 11:40 AM</b> <b>Roots of Identity: The Role of Chamorro Oral History Storytelling in Shaping Cultural Expression Across Generation</b> By Lei Bao, Grace Carreon, Iziah Trecepona, Kate Manaloto</p> <p><b>11:40 AM - 11:50 AM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>Examining Lifeworld Dynamics in Frameworks of Care</b> By Tori Revello</p> <p><b>Defying Thesis Writing Rules</b> By J-Mae Fernandez</p> <p><b>Working Graduate Thesis: Of Spells, Politics, and the Struggle of the Working Class</b> By Mike Castro</p> <p><b>Working Graduate Thesis: Effects of Standardized Testing on Attitudes of Literacy Learning</b> By Mika Cabrera</p>	<p><b>10:30 AM - 10:50 AM</b> <b>Put i Fino' CHamoru, i Tiningo' CHamoru yan i Mapasã-na gi Manmamaila'</b> By Cody Lizama</p> <p><b>10:55 AM - 11:15 AM</b> <b>(Em)bodying the Body: I Sinangan siha put i Tinituhon-mãmi (The Stories of Our Beginning)</b> By Kisha Borja-Quitchocho-Calvo</p> <p><b>11:20AM - 11:40 AM</b> <b>Rapid 3D Mapping of Archaeological Artifacts Using Portable Scanning Lidar Technology</b> By Jose Edgardo Aban, John Paul Labadan</p> <p><b>11:40 AM - 11:50 AM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>10:30 AM - 10:50 AM</b> <b>Applying Cultural and Community Insights to Psychology in Micronesia: A Collection of Clinical Psychology Thesis Research</b> By Camarin G. Meno, Annie Fay Q. Camacho, Daniel J. F. Quitchocho, Riza B. Sejalbo, Ayana Rose Pinkney</p> <p><b>10:55 AM - 11:15 AM</b> <b>Learning Through Service: A Student's Experience of Mental Health and Community in Yap</b> By Luke Taisipic, Kirk Johnson</p> <p><b>11:20AM - 11:40 AM</b> <b>Temples and Textiles: Reframing Community Development through in Experiential Learning in Bali</b> By Kirk Johnson, Morgan Gale, Kylee Quitugua, Noah Somera and BrieAnnadah Foruw</p> <p><b>11:40 AM - 11:50 AM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>
	HSS203	HSS301	PRESENTATIONS	
<p><b>The New Manamko: A Look at Elder Based Cultural Norms in Today's Society</b> By Kyle Mandapat, Louella Losinio, Patti Arroyo, Reese Espinosa, Mark Pangelinan</p>	<p><b>Bahay Kubo, Nanay, and Tãta: Examples of Indigenous Research in the English MA Program</b></p> <p><b>10:30 AM - 10:50 AM</b> <b>"Hãyi Yu: Deploying Indigenous Research Methods in the Humanities"</b> By Evelyn Flores, Thesis Chair</p> <p><b>10:55 AM - 11:15 AM</b> <b>Ilaw ng Tahanan: The Moveable House and the Filipino Nanay</b> By Anna Marie Uy</p> <p><b>11:20 AM - 11:40 AM</b> <b>How the Story Goes: An Exploration of Oral History, Storytelling and Dementia</b> By Mia Alvarez</p> <p><b>11:40 AM - 11:50 AM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>			

# SCHEDULE

Lunch served at the Dean's Office, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor of HSS Building					
	HSS101	HSS104	HSS106	HSS302	HSS203
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>1:10 PM - 1:30 PM</b>  <b>Honoring Saina: Toward a Traditional Knowledge Practitioner Framework at the University of Guam</b>            By Rebecca Grunzke, Tricia Lizama</p> <p><b>1:35 PM - 2:20 PM</b>  <b>Examining Culture Through Visual Ethnography</b>            By Hunter Fine and students</p> <p><b>2:20 PM - 2:30 PM</b>  <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>1:10 PM - 1:30 PM</b>  <b>Mamaisen Saina: CHamoru Marriage Traditions</b>            By Royce Palomo Camacho</p> <p><b>1:35 PM - 1:55 PM</b>  <b>Saina Yoamte: The Journey of a Traditional Chamoru Healer</b>            By Nicole Monforte</p> <p><b>2:00 PM - 2:20 PM</b>  <b>Chuukese Legends as Pathways of Knowing</b>            By Hyun-Jong Hahm</p> <p><b>2:20 PM - 2:30 PM</b>  <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>PANEL</b></p> <p><b>Navigating Identity and Well-Being Perspectives on Health, Policy, and Peace in Guam and the Philippines</b>            Session Conveners: Marshaley J. Baquiano, Yoshito Kawabata</p> <p><b>The Association Between Nutrient-Poor Diet and Mental Health Among Guam's Emerging Adults</b>            By Shareen Gabriel, Yoshito Kawabata</p> <p><b>The Relationship Between Social Media Internalization, Social Comparison, and Body Dissatisfaction as Predictors for Body Dysmorphic Disorder Symptoms Among Emerging Adults</b>            By Shanice Castro, Yoshito Kawabata</p> <p><b>Exploring Risk and Resilience: A Thematic Analysis of Adolescent Substance Use in Guam</b>            By Veronica C. Basilio, Yoshito Kawabata</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>1:10 PM - 1:30 PM</b>  <b>History Capstone- Education as Control: The Japanese Dormitory School in Guam.</b>            By Maria Isabel Santos</p> <p><b>1:30 PM - 1:50 PM</b>  <b>History Capstone: Postwar Modern Women: Americanized Ideals of Femininity in the 1964-1965 Miss Guam Beauty Pageants</b>            By Emma Marie Rolinski</p> <p><b>1:50 PM - 2:10 PM</b>  <b>Archiving Identity: Bitirau's Role in Guam's History and Cultural Revival</b>            By Kevin Mesias</p> <p><b>2:10 PM - 2:30 PM</b>  <b>The Factors And Pioneers Of Tourism On The Island: How The Guam Hilton Played A Part In Guam's Tourism History</b>            By Kelvin Gaza</p>	<p><b>PANEL</b></p> <p><b>Writing at UOG in Composition Theory and Practice</b>            By Carol Simpson-Warner, Chris Garcia-Santos, Terry Perez, Elizabeth Rutun, Royce Palomo Camacho, Jose Cruz Jr.</p>
1:10 PM - 2:30 PM					

# SCHEDULE

	HSS101	HSS104	HSS106	HSS302	HSS203	HSS301
	<p><b>PANEL</b></p> <p><b>Student Perspectives on Student Health: Analysis of PICCS Survey</b> By Francine Naputi, KC Abordonado, Ethan J. Aguon, Christian A. Aninzo, Mia-Lahnee R. Aquino, Gerome T. Asuncion, Sandra M. Baquiran, Vicente M. Blaz, Caera C. Bonto, Arisa Camryn L. Borgonia, Jania Fe P. Castor, Nagisa K. Concepcion, Tyler Q. Concepcion, Faamanusina J. Cooper, Allen D. Costelo, Rolly D. De Juan, Benny D. Dingcong, Ethan M. Elwell, Jordannah C. Eustaquio, Ji Y. Han, Mia R. Hidalgo, Fang-Chu Kuo (Daisy), Sean M. Manlutac, Kylee B. Quitugua, Ghracejoy C. Santos, Cassandra M. Tihpen, Nierra O. Ubaldo, Princess L. Yabut</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>2:40 PM - 3:00 PM</b> <i>I chalan Mo'na: Inherited Ideas, Emerging Voices in the Genealogy of Knowledge</i> By Brett Fulkerson-Smith, Rylan O'Connor (FDMS), and Zane Whitehead (SJS) will share work representing students from Academy of Our Lady of Guam, Father Duenas Memorial School, George Washington High School, Okkodo High School, and St. John's School.</p> <p><b>3:05 PM - 3:25 PM</b> <i>"For Those Who Come After": Clair Obscur: Expedition 33's Use of Bequeathed Knowledge as a Medium for Generational Grief</i> By John Pereda</p> <p><b>3:30 PM - 3:50 PM</b> <i>From Trilled [r] to Retroflex [ɻ]: The Continuing Sound Change in Tagalog Rhotics</i> By Clarisa Quan and Hyun-Jong Hahm</p> <p><b>3:50 PM - 4:00 PM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>PANEL (CONT)</b></p> <p><b>Navigating Identity and Well-Being Perspectives on Health, Policy, and Peace in Guam and the Philippines</b> Session Conveners: Marshalee J. Baquiano, Yoshito Kawabata</p> <p><b>Positioning of Methamphetamine Users in Guam</b> By Veronica C. Basilio</p> <p><b>Social Representations of Career Politicians in Guam</b> By Deisha David, Ayana Rose Pinkney</p> <p><b>Narratives of Normalization Among Bangsamoro Decommissioned Combatants</b> By Carmille Serrano, Marshalee J. Baquiano</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>2:40 PM - 3:00 PM</b> <i>Lagrimas Leon Guerrero Untalan: Language, Education, and Expansion of Chamorro Authority in Postwar Guam</i> By Camarin Therese San Agustin</p> <p><b>3:05 PM - 3:25 PM</b> <i>History Capstone Kapamapangan Migration to Guam Post World War</i> By Ray Caseres</p> <p><b>3:30 PM - 3:50 PM</b> <i>History Capstone: Establishing a New Identity: Guam's Tourism Beginnings in 1962-1964</i> By Katrina Penaflor</p> <p><b>3:50 PM - 4:00 PM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>2:40 PM - 3:15 PM</b> <i>Cultural and Community Contexts as the Foundation for Advanced Education: Supporting the Creation of New Research</i> By Dr. Kathrine Gutierrez, Dr. Alicia C. Aguon</p> <p><b>3:15 PM - 3:50 PM</b> <i>Strengthening 21st Century Skills in Guam's Public Schools</i> By Erickson Aquino, Dr. Emma Omoruyi</p> <p><b>3:50 PM - 4:00 PM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>2:40 PM - 3:00 PM</b> <i>Potential Stakeholder Collaboration from Executive Order 85-12 in Addressing Guam's Tourism Sector</i> By James Ji Jr., Dr. Fred Schumann</p> <p><b>3:05 PM - 3:25 PM</b> <i>Improving Water Solubility and Functional Properties of Curcumin through HP-β-Cyclodextrin Complexation for Functional Food Applications</i> By Edina Lee, Jian Yang</p> <p><b>POSTER</b></p> <p><b>3:30 PM - 3:50 PM</b> <b>Value-Added Processing of Local and Tropical Crops to Enhance Food Security and Economic Opportunities in Guam</b> By Gwindaleen Espulgar, Jian Yang</p> <p><b>3:50 PM - 4:00 PM</b> <b>Final Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>2:40 PM - 4:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Conference Art Exhibit</b> <b>Conference Photo Op</b> <b>Isla Center for the Arts</b> <b>Refreshments will be served</b></p>					
<p><b>4:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b></p>	<p>Collected work from 39 artists from Guam, the Mariana's Islands, the Mainland USA, Europe (UK and Poland), Australasia, and South Korea.</p>					

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**LEARNING CHAMORRO GRAMMAR | 10:30 AM - 10:50 AM, HSS 101**

**PRESENTATION | Dr. Gerhard Schwab, University of Guam, LearningCHamoru.com (co-webmaster) Ray Gil Bolden, LearningCHamoru.com (co-webmaster)**

This presentation gives a brief overview of the 'Chamorro Grammar' book written by Sandra Chung (2020; University of California, Santa Cruz). It outlines the participatory action research which have led the presenters to transliterate the CHamoru texts in 'Chamorro Grammar' from CNMI spelling to Guam spelling and to produce web-based audio learning materials complementing 'Chamorro Grammar'. The presenters illustrate how they use these new web-based CHamoru learning materials, in both CNMI and Guam orthographies, to continue to learn how to learn CHamoru.

**GATHERING WISDOM: FACILITATING THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE | 10:55 AM - 11:15 AM, HSS 101**

**PRESENTATION | Nolan Muña**

For last semester's CM225: Issues in Language Revitalization, I completed a language revitalization project that used data collected from six of Guåhan's Senior Centers to create an entertainment program performed for audiences in all of the Guam Public Library system story hours. CHamoru academic leaders have insisted that intergenerational transmission of knowledge within the home is a key component of language revitalization. One purpose of this project was to test whether public institutions could successfully replicate the intergenerational transmission of knowledge that would normally occur within the home and the efficacy of transmissions in public institutions other than established educational institutions. Goals achieved with this project include reestablishing connection between some of the Guåhan's oldest and youngest populations apart from using direct familial ties, using the performing arts as a medium for cultural and social education, and creating assurances for all parties involved that their knowledge bases have actionable value.

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**ROOTS OF IDENTITY: THE ROLE OF CHAMORRO ORAL HISTORY STORYTELLING IN SHAPING CULTURAL EXPRESSION ACROSS GENERATION |**

**11:20 AM - 11:40 AM HSS 101**

### **PRESENTATION | Lei Bao, Grace Carreon, Iziah Trecepona, Kate Manaloto**

**Project Overview** This project explores how Chamorro oral history and storytelling traditions shape cultural expression and identity across generations in Guam. Through intergenerational narratives, myths, proverbs, and lived experiences, Chamorro storytelling serves as a living archive of history, values, and community knowledge. The project examines how these stories influence how individuals understand who they are, how they relate to their heritage, and how cultural identity is expressed in contemporary life.

**Research Questions** - How does Chamorro oral storytelling transmit cultural knowledge and values across generations? - In what ways do these stories shape personal and collective cultural expression? - How do younger generations interpret and engage with traditional stories in modern contexts?

**Methods** This project will use mixed methods social research: - Surveys (quantitative): to gather broad perspectives on exposure to oral storytelling and its perceived impact. - Interviews (qualitative): with elders and younger community members to capture lived experiences and narratives. - Thematic Analysis: to identify recurring themes such as identity, resilience, values, and continuity. All participants will be treated respectfully, and participation will be voluntary.

**Significance** This project aligns with the ARC theme "Manilao: Genealogy of Knowledge" by highlighting storytelling as a living genealogy of knowledge. It demonstrates how ancestral narratives continue to inform contemporary cultural expression and identity formation. The project contributes to preserving cultural knowledge, amplifying local voices, and reinforcing the relevance of indigenous knowledge systems in modern academic spaces.

**Expected Outcomes** - A clear thematic analysis of how oral storytelling shapes cultural expression across generations - Visual and narrative presentation of key findings - Increased awareness of Chamorro oral traditions as a source of knowledge and identity - A student-led research experience that integrates critical thinking, credibility assessment, and ethical inquiry

**Format** The project will be presented as a 20-minute conference presentation, including: - Brief background on Chamorro oral storytelling - Overview of research methods - Key findings and themes - Short excerpts from interviews (if approved) - Visuals (photos, quotes, or diagrams)

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

In this panel, graduate students of the UOG English Division return to share their critical and creative works in a trial thesis defense. They use this research space to present their progress and invite audiences to ask questions and discuss ideas.

**EXAMINING LIFEWORLD DYNAMICS IN FRAMEWORKS OF CARE | HSS 104**

### PANEL | **Tori Revello**

**Examining Lifeworld Dynamics in Frameworks of Care:** Applying existential-phenomenological concepts to literary criticism, this working thesis project interprets the lifeworld in three literary works to develop an ontology of care.

**DEFYING THESIS WRITING RULES | HSS 104**

### PANEL | **J-Mae Fernandez**

**Defying Thesis Writing Rules:** This presentation explores the meaning of adaptation in film and literary studies by adapting a thesis manuscript on word-formation and morphology into a screenplay.

**WORKING GRADUATE THESIS: OF SPELLS, POLITICS, AND THE STRUGGLE OF THE WORKING CLASS | HSS 104**

### PANEL | **Mike Castro**

**Working Graduate Thesis: Of Spells, Politics, and the Struggle of the Working Class:** The goal of this in-development thesis project is to contribute to the wider fantasy genre with strange Guåhan Sword and Sorcery. The presentation will discuss the problematic origins of fantasy as well as local issues like the colonial history of the Pacific and class and political party divisions.

**WORKING GRADUATE THESIS: EFFECTS OF STANDARDIZED TESTING ON ATTITUDES OF LITERACY LEARNING | HSS 104**

### PANEL | **Mika Cabrera**

**Working Graduate Thesis: Effects of Standardized Testing on Attitudes of Literacy Learning:** This section will summarize a paper-in-progress that examines the effects of standardized placement (standardized process test) tests (like the SAT) on literacy attitudes of college-entry level students.

**MORNING SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**BAHAY KUBO, NANAY, AND TĀTA: EXAMPLES OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH IN THE ENGLISH MA PROGRAM**

**HĀYI YU: DEPLOYING INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODS IN THE HUMANITIES**

**10:30 AM - 10:50 AM HSS 301**

### **PANEL | Evelyn Flores, Thesis Chair**

Two Fañomnākans ago, in 2024, four Master of Arts students in the English program enrolled in my EN680 Seminar on Indigenous Literary Theory. The thrust of that course was to ferret out what we mean by Indigenous literary theory, authorize that theory in our research, and then apply its presuppositions in our final projects. Of the students who took the course, two will be presenting where they are today, at the threshold to completing their master's studies, after two years of pursuing the concepts and skills learned in EN680 and their other courses. A key question they will be answering is this: If we are to deploy Indigenous means of analysis, what would these look like and what would be their complexities?

**ILAW NG TAHANAN: THE MOVEABLE HOUSE AND THE FILIPINO NANAY |**

**10:55 AM - 11:15 AM HSS 104**

### **PANEL | Anna Marie Uy**

My journey in higher education reveals that I have a small fixation with buildings and their meanings. Four years ago, I wrote a poem entitled "Concrete House." No, the poem was not about houses; it was about my mother. Why did I compare my wonderful mother to a house? That's what this presentation and my master's thesis project is about. In this story of buildings and poetry, there are two characters: the bahay kubo, a traditional Filipino cubed house, but, most of all, moveable house, and my mother or nanay, who herself has been also quite "moveable." The key questions in my project are these: What is the history and symbolic significance to Filipinos of the bahay kubo and of nanay? Where and how do these intersect? What is the meaning of these intersections? After my presentation, you should get to know better both the bahay kubo and my nanay, but even more, how material symbolism and storytelling play one of the most enduring and monumental parts in shaping identity and in cultural persistence.

**HOW THE STORY GOES: AN EXPLORATION OF ORAL HISTORY, STORYTELLING AND DEMENTIA | 11:20 AM - 11:40 AM HSS 104**

### **PANEL | Anna Marie Uy**

Oral history and storytelling are valued traditions for the CHamoru people. However, the rise of dementia among our manāmkō' provokes questions of possibilities: How do we gather and tell the stories of our elders, even trust these stories, despite the barriers posed for memory and recollection? This presentation seeks answers for that dilemma. Among them: a) Is accuracy what storytelling is about and if so, accuracy according to what or whose standards? and b) Where does audience impact stand in regards to a story's value? The presentation poses answers to these questions through a combination of oral history and storytelling techniques to meet the challenges posed by this robber of memories.

**MORNING SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**PUT I FINO' CHAMORU, I TININGO' CHAMORU YAN I MAPASÁ-ÑA GI MANMAMAILA' | 10:30 AM - 10:50 AM HSS 106**

### PRESENTATION | Cody Lizama, CHamoru Studies

Este na presentasion didide' put i matransferen tiningo' entre i kumunidât CHamoru, i finana'guen CHamoru guato gi manhoben yan put i lengguahen CHamoru, hâfa i tradisionât yan hâfa taimano para ta kontinuha este na kustumbre gi manmamaila' na tiempo achok ha' matulalaika i tiempo yan todû gi uriya. Este na presentasion u ma cho'gue gi fino' CHamoru ha'.

**(EM)BODYING THE BODY: I SINANGAN SIHA PUT I TINITUHON-MÂMI (THE STORIES OF OUR BEGINNING) | 10:55 AM - 11:15 AM HSS 106**

### PRESENTATION | Kisha Borja-Quichocho-Calvo

This presentation will focus on CHamorus as i manaotao tâno' (the people of the land), how CHamorus in Guåhan were connected to our lands in the past, how such connections were interrupted — with a focus on the US Naval administration (1898-1941) and US occupation post-WWII (1944-present) — and the implications of these interruptions on i manaotao tâno' in terms of being disconnected from traditional knowledges of places. It will further highlight ways in which CHamorus are reconnecting and re-claiming access to and knowledges of our lands. Using the CHamoru creation story of Pontan and Fo'na, this presentation will highlight three points in relation to lands and stories: 1) Stories can serve as reminders that CHamorus have always been i manaotao tâno'; 2) Stories can be used to teach and learn traditional knowledges (e.g., land practices and beliefs); and 3) Stories can represent CHamoru resurgence, our re-connecting and returning to our lands.

**RAPID 3D MAPPING OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARTIFACTS USING PORTABLE SCANNING LIDAR TECHNOLOGY | 11:20 AM - 11:40 AM HSS 106**

### PRESENTATION | Jose Edgardo Aban, Geography Program, John Paul Labadan, School of Engineering

This study investigates the technical capabilities of portable LiDAR-based 3D scanners and test their application on "Latte Stones" or simply, "Latte", one of the many cultural and archaeological artifacts found in the Mariana Islands in the Western Pacific. The Latte is a manmade construct carved from limestone or basalt that was used as a foundation for a shelter against the elements or as a structure which may have represented a sacred place. The Latte was constructed and used by the CHamorus throughout the Mariana Islands during the Latte Period from 1,000 Before Present (BP) to 500 years BP (Guampedia, 2024). The techniques and procedures developed during the study is envisaged to be applied further todigitally documenting and archiving other archaeological artifacts found in the Mariana region, as well as, enhance research and academic exchange of 3-dimensional, high-resolution, digitally archived archaeological data and information, among global experts in the study of Micronesian artifacts, in which travel to the Mariana islands poses a huge impediment. Additionally, the 3D digital capture and rendition of the latte stones have huge applications and prospects of being used for museum curation, computer-aided and computer-enhanced education, among others.

**MORNING SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**APPLYING CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY INSIGHTS TO PSYCHOLOGY IN MICRONESIA: A COLLECTION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY THESIS RESEARCH | 10:30 AM - 10:50 AM HSS 201**

### **PRESENTATION | Camarin G. Meno, Annie Fay Q. Camacho, Daniel J. F. Quichocho, Riza B. Sejalbo, Ayana Rose Pinkney**

The Micronesian region experiences high rates of physical and mental health concerns, including elevated rates of suicide, substance use, and non-communicable diseases. To effectively address these concerns, community responses emphasizing cultural strengths and direct engagement with the community may be necessary to create lasting change. This presentation brings together Master's thesis research from the University of Guam Master of Science in Clinical Psychology Program. Each study focuses on cultural and community insights into clinical psychology issues in our region, including the following: 1) Exploring historical trauma from the perspective of Carolinian traditional navigators by Annie Fay Camacho; 2) Navigating mental health and identity: LGBTQ+ experiences in Guam by Daniel J. F. Quichocho; 3) Cultural connectedness and the prevention of adolescent substance use in Guam by Riza B. Sejalbo; and 4) A collection of community voices: Developing a community needs assessment of Clinical Health Psychology in Guam by Ayana Rose Pinkney.

**LEARNING THROUGH SERVICE: A STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY IN YAP | 10:55 AM - 11:15 AM HSS 106**

### **PRESENTATION | Luke Taisipic, Kirk Johnson**

This presentation reflects on a week-long service-learning experience in Yap through the lens of a senior psychology and sociology student from the University of Guam. Seeking meaningful engagement, the student lived with a family from the outer island of Satawal while volunteering at Yap State Hospital, gaining exposure to local mental health realities. The experience highlighted the complexities of providing care in a culturally rich yet resource-limited setting. Stepping away from the fast-paced environment of Guam, the student developed a deeper appreciation for cultural humility, human connection, and community-based understandings of well-being. This reflection explores how immersive experiences can challenge assumptions, foster personal growth, and shape future aspirations in education and service.

# ABSTRACTS

## Morning Sessions

**TEMPLES AND TEXTILES: REFRAMING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN BALI | 11:20 AM - 11:40 AM HSS 201**

**PRESENTATION | Kirk Johnson, Morgan Gale, Kylee Quitugua, Noah Somera, and BrieAnndah Foruw**

Over the past twenty-five years, the University of Guam's Bali Field School has offered a transformative model of experiential, place-based education in community development. This presentation explores how immersive engagement with Balinese communities—particularly through the lens of temples and weaving traditions—enables students to explore the interconnected relationships between spirituality, culture, ecology, and social organization. As active participants in their own learning, students learn to appreciate the importance of local resilience and indigenous knowledge systems to community development. Ritual practices and weaving traditions serve as both metaphor and method for understanding identity, sustainability, and social transformation. This presentation challenges conventional development paradigms, arguing for approaches grounded in local knowledge, spiritual values, and participatory learning, and offers a model of higher education that is both rigorous and transformative.

**THE NEW MANAMKO: A LOOK AT ELDER BASED CULTURAL NORMS IN TODAY'S SOCIETY | 10:30 AM - 11:50 AM HSS 203**

**PANEL | Kyle Mandapat, Louella Losinio, Patti Arroyo, Reese Espinosa, Mark Pangelinan**

The discussion will be based around the modern take on manamko roles in Guam society. Historically, elders were looked to to guide and lead, but does this modern makeup break that practice down? Is it because the younger people aren't listening or is it because the manamko aren't taking up the role?

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**NAVIGATING IDENTITY AND WELL-BEING PERSPECTIVES ON HEALTH, POLICY, AND PEACE IN GUAM AND THE PHILIPPINES | 1:10 PM - 4:00 PM HSS 104**

### **PANEL CONVENERS: Marshaley J. Baquiano, Yoshito Kawabata**

**This session explores the complex interplay between individual experiences and the broader sociocultural structures that shape life in Guam and the Philippines. By bringing together six research papers, the panel examines how dietary habits, social media, social policy, and political transitions shape mental health and social identity. The first half of the session focuses on the psychosocial health of emerging adults in Guam. These papers investigate the impact of nutrient-poor diets on mental health, the predictive value of social media internalization for body dysmorphic disorder, and the ecological 'risk and resilience' factors that influence adolescent substance use. Together, the papers highlight the intersection of physical health, digital culture, and cultural socialization. The second half shifts to the power of discourse and social narratives, analyzing how methamphetamine users are positioned in public rhetoric, how 'career politicians' are represented in local consciousness, and how decommissioned combatants in the Bangsamoro transition navigate the fragile path toward peace. This session illustrates how personal well-being is inseparable from the broader sociocultural context and underscores the need for culturally grounded research to address stigma, promote community well-being, and inform policy. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how narratives and social environments either reinforce or challenge individuals' lived realities in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.**

**The Association Between Nutrient-Poor Diet and Mental Health Among Guam's Emerging Adults | By Shareen Gabriel, Yoshito Kawabata**

**The Relationship Between Social Media Internalization, Social Comparison, and Body Dissatisfaction as Predictors for Body Dysmorphic Disorder Symptoms Among Emerging Adults | By Shanice Castro, Yoshito Kawabata**

**Exploring Risk and Resilience: A Thematic Analysis of Adolescent Substance Use in Guam | By Veronica C. Basilio, Yoshito Kawabata**

**Positioning of Methamphetamine Users in Guam | By Veronica C. Basilio**

**Social Representations of Career Politicians in Guam | By Delsha David, Ayana Rose Pinkney**

**Narratives of Normalization Among Bangsamoro Decommissioned Combatants | By Carmille Serrano, Marshaley J. Baquiano**

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**HONORING SAINA: TOWARD A TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE PRACTITIONER  
FRAMEWORK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM | 01:10 PM - 01:30 PM HSS 101**

### **PRESENTATION | Rebecca Grunzke, Tricia Lizama**

The University of Guam's strategic commitment to Island Wisdom recognizes that 'Pacific ways of knowing and Western models of higher education are central to the institution's teaching, research, and service.' Yet institutional credentialing requirements often exclude master practitioners of traditional knowledge from formal teaching roles. This presentation examines the case of Saina Lou, a CHamoru traditional medicine expert in her seventies whose decades of ethnobotanical knowledge and healing practice cannot be translated into conventional academic credentials. Through her example, we trace the genealogies of knowledge transmission in Oceania—from oral traditions and apprenticeship models to contemporary challenges of institutional recognition—and examine how transnational movements toward indigenous knowledge validation offer pathways forward. Drawing on comparative analysis of credentialing policies from indigenous-serving institutions across the Pacific, Aotearoa New Zealand, Hawai'i, and indigenous communities in North America, we propose a collaborative research agenda to develop a 'Traditional Knowledge Practitioner' appointment framework for UOG. This framework would honor ancestral epistemologies while meeting institutional accountability standards, creating space for i saina-ta (our elders/experts) to transmit knowledge that cannot be captured in transcripts alone. By re-narrating what constitutes expertise and qualification within the university, we advance UOG's vision to transform lives and communities through balanced consideration of Pacific and Western knowledge systems.

**EXAMINING CULTURE THROUGH VISUAL ETHNOGRAPHY |  
01:35 PM - 02:20 PM HSS 101**

### **PRESENTATION | Hunter Fine and students**

In this panel I will be facilitating and participating in the presentations of various visual ethnographic projects by faculty and students. Ethnography is a qualitative research method that entails the study and writing of cultural group formations. It is commonly associated with communication studies, anthropology, sociology, and cultural studies. When combined with visual, such projects explore the multi-mediated ways we learn from and experience cultural perspectives and materiality through image, sound, text, and video. The topics of examination in the presentation include traditional Micronesian seafaring, popular cultural artifacts, anime, and hip-hop music.

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**MAMAISEN SAINA: CHAMORU MARRIAGE TRADITIONS |**

**01:10 PM - 01:30 PM HSS 104**

### **PRESENTATION | Royce Palomo Camacho**

This presentation will explore traditional knowledge about “mamaisen saina” (the protocol for asking elders permission to marry). Within this broad subject, the expectations of the bachelor (I katgon lâhi) will be the focal point. The research presented here is grounded in documented conversations with CHamoru language speakers across multiple generations. Additional considerations related to this investigation will be discussed such as research protocols from a CHamoru perspective, orthographical choice, and language use in academic writing.

**SAINA YOAMTE: THE JOURNEY OF A TRADITIONAL CHAMORU HEALER |**

**01:35 PM - 01:55 PM HSS 104**

### **PRESENTATION | Nicole Monforte**

This video presentation explores the life and healing journey of Jesuzanne Marie Taitano Aguon, known as Saina Yoamte, a respected traditional CHamoru healer from Guåhan. A lineal descendant of the legendary Supeano clan, renowned for their generations of Yo'åmte. Saina Yoåmte's story embodies the continuity and resilience of CHamoru cultural knowledge. Through several pivotal moments in her life, the film chronicles her early years learning local plants and massage methods, her initial reluctance to embrace the healer's path, her awakening to her inherited gift and sense of duty, and her eventual acceptance of her role as a mañåmko' (elder) and full-fledged traditional healer. Told entirely in the CHamoru language, the video not only highlights the depth of indigenous healing practices but also serves as an act of language and cultural revitalization. By centering CHamoru voices and ancestral wisdom, this work contributes to the preservation and perpetuation of Guåhan's intangible heritage, affirming the vital connection between language, land, and identity in the ongoing story of the Chamoru people

**CHUUKESSE LEGENDS AS PATHWAYS OF KNOWING |**

**02:00 PM - 02:20 PM HSS 104**

### **PRESENTATION | Hyun-Jong Hahm**

This presentation shares Chuukese legends recorded across multiple islands of Chuuk. It treats these legends as ancestral knowledge sustained through oral performance and social relationships. I begin by describing the circumstances of collection and the way legends circulate through intergenerational retelling across families and communities in Chuuk. Then I present selected narratives through audio excerpts, accompanied by Chuukese transcription and English translation on screen. The transcriptions and translations were developed collaboratively with Chuukese contributors who supported the project in multiple capacities, including community members in Chuuk as well as Chuukese individuals who were my students and/or research assistants. Attending to what is foregrounded through performance - recurrent references to people, relationships, places, and consequences - the presentation illustrates how these oral stories remain anchored in local epistemic commitments, such as community history, cultural values, responsibility, and norms of social conduct.

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**HISTORY CAPSTONE- EDUCATION AS CONTROL: THE JAPANESE DORMITORY SCHOOL IN GUAM | 01:10 PM - 01:30 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Maria Isabel Santos**

The Japanese occupation of Guam introduced a series of mechanisms to reshape Guamanian society. Among these efforts, in 1942, a Japanese dormitory school was established to represent an intensified attempt to educate locals in linguistics, culture, and administration to fit the grand occupational agenda. Building on the works of several World War II historians, it was clear that the Pacific War increasingly strained Japanese military stability and resources, thereby changing the purpose of these dormitories over time. The three Japanese dormitories reveal a shift from cultural simulation to the extraction of improvised wartime labor, demonstrating the breakdown of the Japanese imperial project as the Pacific War turned against Japan. By examining the organization, curriculum, daily routines, and lived experiences of the program's students, this research paper argues that the deterioration of educational ideals mirrored the collapse of the Japanese government on Guam.

**HISTORY CAPSTONE: POSTWAR MODERN WOMEN: AMERICANIZED IDEALS OF FEMININITY IN THE 1964–1965 MISS GUAM BEAUTY PAGEANTS | 01:30 - 01:50 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Emma Marie Rolinski**

Beauty pageants of the post-World War II years acted as a public display of modern feminine ideals. The 1964 and 1965 Miss Guam Beauty Pageants serve as a window into the impact Americanization had on the popular culture and gender expectations of Guam in the 1960s. The competitions were part of the larger international Miss Universe Pageant, which promoted contemporary notions of femininity. The pageants were detailed in the Guam Times Weekly magazine issues of those years, which reflect new ideas through their language and content. Scholars of Guam have written about the effects of modernization; however, little has been discussed on the impact on popular culture and the expectations of women. This paper aims to shed light on these changes by analyzing the first Miss Guam pageants, situating them within a post-war global context, and examining how the Miss Guam winners served as a symbol of the island's modernization.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**ARCHIVING IDENTITY: BITIRANU'S ROLE IN GUAM'S HISTORY AND CULTURAL REVIVAL | 01:50 PM - 02:10 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Kevin Mesias**

Bitiranu Gi Geran Vietnam is a digital heritage project that preserves Guam's Vietnam War stories through the direct views of Chamoru veterans. Avoiding dominant national stories, it collects interviews spoken in the Chamoru language with Vietnam-era songs and messages from community leaders. Set within decolonial history trends, it challenges western centered knowledge by favoring native ways of knowing, spoken traditions and online tools to fight knowledge loss and support fair history writing in a global decolonizing context. Compared to the U.S National Archives' official records or Texas Tech's wide Vietnam collection, Bitiranu stands out with detailed, Chamoru focused approach, showing new methods in shared archiving and cross cultural study. Similar projects for Pacific Islanders are rare. An example like Remembering Saigon covers Guam's refugee role but skip native language accounts and cultural renewal. Bitiranu boosts overlooked voices, maintains language heritage, and passes on Chamoru veterans' experiences to future generations.

**THE FACTORS AND PIONEERS OF TOURISM ON THE ISLAND: HOW THE GUAM HILTON PLAYED A PART IN GUAM'S TOURISM HISTORY | 02:10 - 2:30 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Kelvin Gaza**

This paper examines the Guam Hilton as pivotal in the emergence of Guam's tourism industry during the 1960s and 1970s. It argues that the Guam Hilton was more than a hotel development, but rather an anchor that helped reorient the island's economy toward tourism. The Hilton had become more than just a place for tourists, enabling a new shift in lifestyle and culture for people on Guam. Through analysis of government records, economic planning, and newspapers, the study expresses how policies, infrastructure expansion, and entertainment amenities aided the hotel's rise. The research highlights key political leaders and business pioneers who facilitated its establishment and situated the Hilton within broader transformations in Guam's visitor economy. By addressing gaps in existing historiography that briefly reference but do not explain tourism's formation, this paper demonstrates how the Guam Hilton became a defining model and enduring icon of Guam's transition to a tourism-based economy.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**WRITING AT UOG IN COMPOSITION THEORY AND PRACTICE |**

**01:10 PM - 02:20 PM HSS 203**

**PANEL | Carol Simpson-Warner, Chris Garcia-Santos, Terry Perez, Elizabeth Rutun, Royce Palomo Camacho, Jose Cruz Jr., DEAL**

The practices of English as normalized in the education system along with the underlying ideologies that inform classroom practice are shaped by the sociopolitical influences on language in this region. Within this background, UOG's composition program has evolved along with the university and the field of composition studies. This presentation begins with an overview of major directions compositionists have taken over the past few decades. Within UOG programs, faculty and students enact various aspects of these approaches. The second part of this session brings the two worlds of theory and practice together in order to learn about writing at UOG. In keeping with the program's mission for "... students, faculty, and community members to locate, generate, and share knowledge about the practice of writing in our region," this session provides a space for students and faculty to unpack the writing they assign (faculty) or are assigned to do (students).

**STUDENT PERSPECTIVES ON STUDENT HEALTH: ANALYSIS OF PICCS SURVEY**

**02:40 PM - 04:00 PM HSS 101**

**PANEL | Francine Naputi, KC Abordonado, Ethan J. Aguon, Christian A. Aninzo, Mia-Lahnee R. Aquino, Gerome T. Asuncion, Sandra M. Baquiran, Vicente M. Blaz, Caera C. Bonto, Arisa Camryn L. Borgonia, Jania Fe P. Castor, Nagisa K. Concepcion, Tyler Q. Concepcion, Faamanusina J. Cooper, Allen D. Costelo, Rolly D. De Juan, Benny D. Dingcong, Ethan M. Elwell, Jordannah C. Eustaquio, Ji Y. Han, Mia R. Hidalgo, Fang-Chu Kuo (Daisy), Sean M. Manlutac, Kylee B. Quitugua, Ghracejoy C. Santos, Cassandra M. Tihpen, Nierra O. Ubaldo, Princess L. Yabut**

This panel will discuss the results of the Pacific Islands Cohort of College Students (PICCS) survey administered by Health Sciences majors. The PICCS survey was developed in 2010 as a response to the non-communicable disease (NCD) epidemic amongst Pacific Islanders. The survey is administered annually to students at the University of Guam to measure various health behaviors to include, but not limited to cigarette and vaping use, alcohol consumption, and nutrition habits. In this panel, five student groups will each present on a research question based on their analysis of the PICCS data. They will explore variable relationships such as, fast food consumption and academic performance or sleep quality and feelings of distress. The panel is not only student-led research but the results will directly impact the health of the university overall. The analyses conducted can aid us in building health interventions that will positively impact University of Guam students.

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS >**

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**I CHALAN MO'NA: INHERITED IDEAS, EMERGING VOICES IN THE GENEALOGY OF KNOWLEDGE | 02:40 PM - 03:00 PM HSS 104**

**PRESENTATION | Brett Fulkerson-Smith,, Rylan O'Connor (FDMS), and Zane Whitehead (SJS) will share work representing students from Academy of Our Lady of Guam, Father Duenas Memorial School, George Washington High School, Okkodo High School, and St. John's School.**

This panel features high school seniors from I Chalan Mo'na, a humanities and civic engagement program at the University of Guam supported by the Teagle Foundation through its Knowledge for Freedom initiative. The program cultivates principled dialogue and civic formation through sustained engagement with philosophy, literature, history, and ethics. Drawing on thinkers such as Isaiah Berlin, F.A. Hayek, Charles Taylor, Frederick Douglass, and local authors addressing Guam's political future, students developed public-facing essays that articulate original theses on freedom, identity, justice, and self-determination. Their work engages enduring debates about political status, collective memory, and intergenerational responsibility. In conversation with the conference theme, "Manilao: Genealogy of Knowledge," this panel highlights youth as both inheritors and contributors to Guam's evolving intellectual traditions: emerging voices entering the public sphere with arguments worth sharing.

**"FOR THOSE WHO COME AFTER": CLAIR OBSCUR: EXPEDITION 33'S USE OF BEQUEATHED KNOWLEDGE AS A MEDIUM FOR GENERATIONAL GRIEF | 03:05 PM - 03:25 PM HSS 104**

**PRESENTATION | John Pereda**

Much of Guam's cultural preservation efforts, by both consequence and necessity from her colonial provenance, is concerned with holding on to those remnants of our cultural identity that remain. As a result, we often find ourselves looking back so as to not forget, and less able to look forward so as to evolve and build on that past. Last year, Clair Obscur: Expedition 33, developed by French studio Sandfall, was released to critical acclaim, in part due to its exploration of individual grief. Using Worden's mourning process as a framework, I examine the game's theme of grief on a more collective scale, and draw parallels and contrasts to Guam's cultural preservation, which I assert is itself a form of "grieving." Lastly, I offer ideas of how we can better focus on laying foundations for those who come after without forgetting what came before.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**FROM TRILLED [ɾ] TO RETROFLEXT [ɻ]: THE CONTINUING SOUND CHANGE IN TAGALOG RHOTICS | 03:30 PM - 03:50 PM HSS 104**

### **PRESENTATION | Clarisa Quan, Hyun-Jong Hahm**

Traditionally, Tagalog speakers have always trilled their [ɾ]s in ordinary speech. In a past presentation, we remarked hearing random Tagalog speakers replacing it with a retroflex [ɻ] instead. Upon Examination of the taped and transcribed retroflexed words, we identified them as merely function words. All other non-function parts of speech remained the same.

However, today, there appears to be more speakers who are extending this sound change beyond Tagalog function words. This presentation will document the additional words now being affected by this sound change, describe the contexts when and where the retroflex is more likely to occur, and identify the possible role of the media and the use of code switching in this continuing sound change in Tagalog.

**"LAGRIMAS LEON GUERRERO UNTALAN: LANGUAGE, EDUCATION, AND EXPANSION OF CHAMORRO AUTHORITY IN POSTWAR GUAM | 02:40 PM - 03:00 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Camarin Therese San Agustin**

This paper examines how Lagrimas Leon Guerrero Untalan used language, education, and culture to shape political life in postwar Guam under colonial rule. Rather than presenting her work as efforts towards cultural preservation, this paper argues how her work served as a form of political engagement that strengthened Chamorro presence, authority and persistence under colonial rule. Centering Untalan in Guam's twentieth century history, this paper examines her early life and leadership roles that have often been overlooked throughout previous narratives. Drawing from archival documents, newspapers, government reports, and Untalan's writings, this paper analyzes her work in the Third Guam Legislature, her role in the Marianas Orthography Committee, and the translation of the Fanohge Chamorro. Together, these show how language, education, and cultural work became environments for political engagement and influence from Chamorro people. By focusing on Untalan throughout this time period, this paper challenges the male-centered narratives throughout Guam's history.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**HISTORY CAPSTONE KAPAMAPANGAN MIGRATION TO GUAM POST WORLD WAR | 03:05 PM - 03:25 PM HSS 104**

### **PRESENTATION | Ray Caseres**

The post-World War II migration of Kapampangans to Guam is a narrative often marginalized in broader Filipino migration studies. While existing scholarship extensively documents the Visayan labor experience at Camp Roxas, the specific contributions and challenges of migrants from the Luzon region remain under-researched, with the focus on the personal history of Carding Quiambao, who migrated to Guam in the early 1950s. Drawing on a comprehensive four-hour oral history interview conducted on November 18, 2025, the research documents Mr. Quiambao's journey as a representative case of Kapampangan hardship and triumph. By synthesizing this primary testimony with scholarly literature, the paper highlights critical points of convergence and divergence between established historical records and individual lived experiences. Ultimately, this research advocates for a more nuanced, regionalized understanding of Filipino diaspora and labor in Guam's reconstruction era.

**HISTORY CAPSTONE: ESTABLISHING A NEW IDENTITY: GUAM'S TOURISM BEGINNINGS IN 1962-1964 | 03:30 PM - 03:50 PM HSS 302**

### **PRESENTATION | Katrina Penaflo**

The emergence of Guam's tourism economy during 1962–1964 was a turning point in the island's modern history. Drawing on archival sources including Guam Daily News, Pacific Profile, Guam Business News, and Robert Rogers' *Destiny's Landfall*, this study argues that tourism developed as a direct response to decades of military dependency, restricted mobility, and Chamoru economic struggle. The lifting of U.S. Navy travel clearances in 1962, combined with post-Typhoon Karen reconstruction and the creation of the Guam Tourist Commission, enabled Guam to reenter global networks of travel and commerce. Unlike existing scholarship that emphasizes tourism's later economic success, this research highlights how early tourism planning reshaped Guam's identity, land use, and political visibility. By centering local archival voices, this paper demonstrates that tourism was not merely an industry but a process of cultural and economic reorientation, marking Guam's transition from a closed military territory to a modern Pacific destination.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CONTEXTS AS THE FOUNDATION FOR  
ADVANCED EDUCATION: SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF NEW RESEARCH |**

**02:40 PM - 03:15 PM HSS 203**

**PRESENTATION | Dr. Kathrine Gutierrez and Dr. Alicia C. Aguon  
from the School of Education, UOG.**

This presentation will highlight a signature feature of our EdD program that supports the creation of new research to address educational issues or problems in/of practice relative to our Pacific region. Presenters will dialogue with conference attendees to proffer research perspectives as an awareness and connection to our geographic context and the origins of knowledge relative to our setting and community. We center on supporting the creation of new research as intertwined with the cultural and community contexts in which educational issues exist.

**STRENGTHENING 21ST CENTURY SKILLS IN GUAM'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS |**

**03:15 PM - 03:50 PM HSS 203**

**PRESENTATION | Co-Author Erickson Aquino, Co-Author Dr.  
Emma Omoruyi**

This presentation examines a pronounced 21st-century skills gap in Guam's public high schools as a product of the island's educational genealogy—shaped by place, policy, language, and historical inequities. Drawing on constructivist learning theory, organizational learning, and sociocultural approaches to bilingualism, the presentation synthesizes international evidence on 21st-century competencies, teacher professional development, civic and inquiry-based pedagogy, and bilingual education. These findings are situated within Guam's context of territorial funding constraints, high poverty, COFA-related migration, linguistic diversity, and chronic teacher shortages. Rather than attributing outcomes to individual deficits, the analysis frames weak performance as a systemic opportunity gap in access to skills-rich, culturally and linguistically responsive learning environments. It proposes a phased reform framework centered on system-wide professional development, participatory civic education, constructivist learning pilots, and equity-driven bilingual education to advance both 21st-century readiness and educational equity.

# ABSTRACTS

## Afternoon Sessions

**POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION FROM EXECUTIVE ORDER 85-12 IN ADDRESSING GUAM'S TOURISM SECTOR | 02:40 PM - 03:00 PM HSS 301**

**PRESENTATION | James Ji Jr., Dr. Fred Schumann, UOG SBPA**

As of 2025, the challenges of tourism as an economic driver have been substantial. Tourism arrivals, hotel occupancy, and other apparent and logical correlated factors (such as business closures), signal a need to address the decline of a major financial output from a holistic and potentially collaborative initiative from a public and private focus. Executive Order 85-12 established a framework for a uniform tourism policy with oversight of tourism Guam through collaboration between government agencies and the private sector. As Guam's tourism industry continues to recover from global disruptions and confront long-term challenges related to workforce capacity, infrastructure, and sustainability, the collaborative intent of this Executive Order remains highly relevant. This study examines the order as a potential foundation for positive stakeholder collaboration to address Guam's tourism sector needs using the Savage et al. (2008) six-factor stakeholder collaboration model.

**IMPROVING WATER SOLUBILITY AND FUNCTIONAL PROPERTIES OF CURCUMIN THROUGH HP-B-CYCLODEXTRIN COMPLEXATION FOR FUNCTIONAL FOOD APPLICATIONS | 03:05 PM - 03:25 PM HSS 301**

**PRESENTATION | Edina Lee, Jian Yang, PhD**

Curcumin, the principal bioactive compound of turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), possesses antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-diabetic, anticancer, and other health-promoting properties. However, its practical application is limited by poor aqueous solubility, rapid metabolism, and low bioavailability. This study aimed to enhance curcumin solubility by forming an inclusion complex with hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HP- $\beta$ -CD) using a solvent evaporation method. Curcumin/HP- $\beta$ -CD complexes were prepared at a 1:1 molar ratio in ethanol and water systems. Curcumin recovery was 15.8% in the ethanol system and 0.68% in the water system. The ethanol-prepared complex exhibited greatly improved water dispersibility and higher antioxidant activity compared to free curcumin. The total phenolic content of the complex (792 mg GAE/g) was slightly higher than that of curcumin alone (780 mg GAE/g). In addition, the complex retained comparable anti-diabetic activity. These findings indicate that curcumin/HP- $\beta$ -CD inclusion complexes may enhance curcumin stability and functionality for applications in functional food development.

**VALUE-ADDED PROCESSING OF LOCAL AND TROPICAL CROPS TO ENHANCE FOOD SECURITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN GUAM | 03:30 PM - 03:50 PM HSS 301**

**POSTER | Gwindaleen Espulgar, Dr. Jian Yang UOG Faculty, Cooperative Extension Food Scientist**

Guam cultivates a wide range of tropical and subtropical crops, yet remains heavily dependent on imported foods, creating supply chain vulnerability and imbalanced local production. Many locally grown crops are underutilized or lost due to short shelf life, postharvest deterioration, and limited processing capacity. This extension project strengthens community capacity through education and hands-on training in food preservation and processing technologies. By applying food technology and product development strategies, local crops can be transformed into safe, convenient, and functional food products that extend shelf life, reduce postharvest losses, and increase value. The presentation features three case studies—breadfruit, turmeric, and dragon fruit—to demonstrate practical pathways for developing value-added products that enhance food security, promote health benefits, and create specialty market opportunities. Through workshops and technical support, the University of Guam Cooperative Extension & Outreach supports farmers, entrepreneurs, and residents to advance local production, self-reliance, economic growth, and community health.

# ART EXHIBITION

📍 ISLA CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
HOUSE #15, DEAN'S CIRCLE, UNIVERSITY OF GUAM



UNIVERSITY OF GUAM  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
& SOCIAL SCIENCES



47TH CLASS  
ANNUAL RESEARCH  
CONFERENCE

## MANILAO: GENEALOGY OF KNOWLEDGE CONFERENCE ART EXHIBITION

At the root a genealogy is a collection of data points starting from a unique origin descending from a place history towards the present moment. The wisest lines draw in material from a wide range of sources strengthening the whole with both tradition and diverse novel contributions.

This exhibition pushes to give form to a rich strain of tangible thoughts, germinating from a kernel of aesthetics and conceptual knowledge. Growing through craft practices and into a contemporary context of art, this exhibition incorporates knowledge from many regions but is divided into three specific spaces: Emerging Voices, Voices from the Region and Voices from Afar. This exhibition highlights our young people pushing to create a new, better space, our regional experts who have shaped the community and a series of stake holders from far away adding to the richness of our thoughts.

Contributors to this Genealogy of Knowledge originate from Guam, the Mariana's Islands, the Mainland USA, Europe (UK and Poland), Australasia, and South Korea.

**MARCH 6**

**4:00PM - 6:00 PM | Isla Center for the Arts,  
House #15, Dean's Circle**

**Closing Ceremony & Art Exhibition at 4:00 PM.  
Light Refreshments will be served.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## FAÑOMNÁKAN 2026

# EVENT SCHEDULE

### Theatre Senior Showcase

Feb 27, 28, & Mar 1 7:00 PM  
Mar 2, 2026 2:00 PM

Feat. Kristian Jaie Castro, Randy Crisostomo,  
and Alexandre Villaflor

### Charter Day Events

Music Preview Concert 11:00 AM  
Theatre Encore Performance 2:00 PM

### University Music Concert

Mar 8, 2026 2:00 PM

### Butterfly's Dream

March 2026 TBA

### A Doll's House, Part 2

Apr 30, May 1, 2 7:00 PM  
May 3, 2026 2:00 PM

### Finale Music Concert

May 9, 2026 7:00 PM

### Senior Music Recital

May 12 | Micah Edusma, Clarinet 7:00 PM  
May 13 | Lani Wooten, Piano 7:00 PM  
May 17 | Roben Paulino, Vocalist 7:00 PM

### Music Student Recital

May 20, 2026 7:00 PM

Fine Arts Theatre, UOG, Mangilao

[www.uog.edu/class](http://www.uog.edu/class)



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## 47TH ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**Royce Camacho (co-chair), Kate Yusi (co-chair), Dr. Michael Clement, Dr. Andrew Ippoliti, Dr. Mary Cruz and the Staff of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

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