



CLASS Connection

SPRING 2015 NEWSLETTER
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES

Millado Lectures on Culture



Courtesy N. Analista

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Chris Millado, Vice President and Artistic Director of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) delivered a lively and insightful presentation entitled “Making Art Matter: The Role of the Cultural Center of the Philippines in the Life of Every Juan” at the 5th Annual Philippine Studies Lecture. The event was held on Oct. 17 at the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Lecture Hall at the University of Guam. Millado provided audience members with an insider’s view of the changes and directions that have brought the center closer to issues that matter to people, the community and the nation. His own journey from political street theater activist to becoming the Artistic Director of the largest cultural institution in the country has allowed him to provide insightful discussions on the significance of the arts in the 21st century.

Considered the premiere art and cultural institution of the Philippines, the CCP was transformed from being an elitist establishment to an open institution reaching to the broadest publics. Founded in 1969 by Imelda Marcos, the CCP underwent massive changes during the 1986 People Power Revolution that democratized public participation in arts and cultural activities.

Lilnabeth Somera (CFA) says Milado offers an authentic voice that people must listen to. “The CCP was inaccessible to most Pinoys at that time. Imelda had a penchant for showcasing international artists like Margot Fonteyn, Van Cliburn, the Bolshoi Ballet, and so forth, whose shows were beyond the means of most Pinoys. He used to demonstrate against the CCP during the Marcos regime and used street theater as a means of protest against its elitist policies. His presentation about the transformation of the CCP is something every Filipino should learn about, and appreciate,” she explains.

Somera along with Filipino faculty at UOG: Clarisa Quan (DEAL), Claret Ruane (SBPA), Stephen Acabado, (now at UCLA) and Mila Alcazaren (DH) have been instrumental in organizing the annual lectures. The University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Guam (UPAAG), currently headed by Tessie Marcos, and Consul General Marciano de Borja have also provided support for the educators’ vision to expand and promote the lecture series.

From the Dean's Desk

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Students,

January 20, 2015

Happy New Year! 新年快乐! Welcome back to campus and the beginning of the Dry Season semester, 2015. I hope you had a relaxing and productive holiday season.

In 2015 Mr. Mendiola, the director of the Endowment Foundation, ensures me that we will start the capital fund raising campaign for the Fine Arts building. If you have not already contributed to the ongoing campaign, now would be a good time to start your contributions for the Fine Arts building. Your contribution will make the next stage of campus development a reality.

The self-imposed silence of the liberal arts must find its voice on campus this year to advocate for the importance of the humanities and social sciences. Both the good to great process and the proposed revised General Education structure will require that we, the practitioners of the liberal arts need to convince other programs within and beyond the College to accept the value the arts, the humanities, the liberal arts especially Modern Languages, and the social sciences for developing the student's command of the five core competencies required by WASC. The liberal arts, social sciences, arts and humanities are more important now than ever before to met our student's needs and the five core competencies required by WASC.

Carol Geary Schneider and David Townsend in "Defunding Disciplines Basic to Democracy (Liberal Education, 99/3, Summer 2013) begin by lamenting that many leaders "... think technical training and job skills are the way to prosperity and security." They go on to argue that deep emersion in the humanities and arts are the correct path to "...be successful in the pursuit of happiness, economic justice and entrepreneurial prosperity..." (p. 2).

They argue that:

"The contemporary dismissal of the humanities and arts weakens America domestically and also undermines brave people globally seeking to build effective self-governing 5republics based on the consent of the people. Those serious about these goals understand that the ideas of democracy and liberty are stronger than militaries or disbursals of cash. Free societies will not be achieved by technocratic means without a foundation in ideas and values. The humanities and arts are disciplines 'basic to democracy' because, while all learning is important to civic inquiry and vitality, the humanities and arts play a distinctive role in developing knowledge and a temper of mind and heart that are indispensable to a free society" (p. 3).

A diversity of ideas is needed to bring order and rational discourse to a diverse community let alone a diverse world.

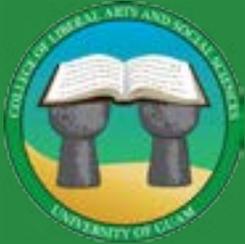
Biba the Arts and Humanities! Biba UOG!

Wishing you a fruitful and productive Dry Season 2015 semester,

Yours Truly,

James D. Sellmann, Ph.D.

Dean



COMMUNICATION & FINE ARTS GRADUATES

Joy Ada
Communication

Brittany Aguon
Communication

Ruzelle Amparo
Communication

Clariza Aviles
Fine Arts

John Borja
Communication

Catherine Bung-
abong
Communication

Ashley Chua
Communication

Karl Davis
Communication

Nathaniel Mac-
araeg
Communication

Samantha Mar-
quez
Communication

Asha Roberts
Communication

Omron Soto
Fine Arts



The Dean hosted a workshop in August about creating learning community (LC) courses, conducted by Dr. Sharon Rowe, Professor of Philosophy at Kapio’lani Community College. Almost 30 faculty participated.

Language Arts Conference

On November 15 and 16, 2014, more than 200 educators attended the 27th Annual Regional Language Arts Conference (LAC) on Literacy, Assessment, and Core Curriculum Standards, held at the Hyatt Regency Guam. During the opening session, Senior Vice President Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez delivered welcoming remarks.

LAC Chairs invited GDOE Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Improvement, Joe Sanchez, as the Friday and Saturday Plenary Speaker. Mr. Sanchez presented “20/20: A Clear Vision for Education on Guam” on Friday afternoon, and on Saturday, he spoke about “Guam DOE’s Quest for higher and more focused standards: Dispelling Common Core Myths.” At the Chairs request, Dr. Margaruite Smith delivered the Keynote address, “Unlocking Literacy with the Common Core State Standards.” The conference also included 18 breakout sessions featuring over 40 speakers.

For more than 15 years, CLASS has sponsored the Conference. The School of Education and the International Reading Association also continue to co-sponsor the conference. On October 11, 2014, the International Reading Association (IRA) presented a check in support of the 27th LAC to Dean Sellmann. At the ceremony, Dean Sellmann thanked IRA for their continued partnership and commitment to the Annual Regional Language Arts Conference.



Courtesy J. Cyrus





HUMANITIES GRADUATES

Alissa Paine
Anthropology

Faculty Travel Grants

- David Atienza (DH) was awarded \$900 to present at the Pacific History Conference in Taiwan.
- Michelle Blas (CFA) was awarded \$1500 to direct at the American College Theatre Festival in Utah.
- Micheal Clement (DH) was awarded \$900 to present at the Pacific History Conference in Taiwan.
- Kirk Johnson (SBS) was awarded \$1200 to direct at the Bali Field School in Bali.
- Melissa Ghandour (CFA) was awarded \$1500 to present at the American College Theatre Festival in Utah.
- Jimmy Huang (DEAL) received \$900 from CLASS and \$400 from the conference to present at the Rendez-vous de cernet de voage in Paris.
- Hyun Jong Hahm (DEAL) received \$800 from CLASS and \$2100 from the Faculty Senate to present at the Texas Linguistic Society.
- Anne Hattori (DH) received \$2100 from the Faculty Senate to present at the Pacific History Conference in Taiwan and \$1200 from the Common Heritage of Pacific Islanders Conference to present in Paris.



Courtesy J. Viernes

- Randall Johnson (CFA) was awarded \$1500 for the presentation of his piece at the American Choral Directors Association Conference.
- Mark Ombrello (DH) was awarded \$1000 to attend the American History Association Conference.
- Curtis Rigsby (DH) was awarded \$1200 to present at the Center for Process Studies in Claremont.
- Matilda Rivera (DEAL) was awarded \$1200 to present at the National Association For Bilingual Education in Las Vegas.
- James Viernes (DH) was awarded \$822.9 to attend the Pacific History Conference in Taiwan.
- Sarah Smith (SBS) received \$1500 to present at both the American Public Health Association and American Anthropological Association Conferences.

Student Travel Grants

- Elyssa Santos (HI) was awarded \$500 to present at the Pacific History Association in Taiwan.
- The Spring 2015 AN/SO 405 class was awarded \$5000 to be divided equally amongst enrolled students, up to \$500 each, to participate in the Bali Field School.
- Steven Torres (FA), Christlyn Ochoco (FA), Jesse Manatona (FA), and Marilyn Webber were each awarded \$500 to compete at the Region 8 American College Theatre Festival.
- Other Fine Arts students were awarded \$300 each to attend the regional festival.

Pacific Asia Inquiry

Volume 5 of the Pacific Asia Inquiry went online in November. CLASS faculty who had articles published in the journal were David Atienza (DH), Anne Perez Hattori (DH), and Tabitha Espina Velasco (DEAL). Book reviews by David Gugin (DEAL), James Sellmann (Dean), Chris Schreiner (DEAL), and James Viernes (DH) were also included. Dean Emerita Mary Spencer was the book review editor, and Nick Geotzfridt was the General Editor of volume 5.

CSR Grants

- David Atienza (DH) was awarded \$2000 to assist in translating early Spanish documents.
- Doug Farrer (DH) was awarded \$2700 to continue work on his ethnographic film on Hong Kong's reunification.
- Masumi Kai (DH) was awarded \$1530 for her research into effective use of technology in teaching Japanese.

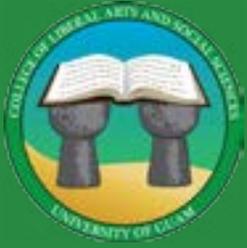


College Academic Affairs Committee. L to R, Randall Johnson (CFA), Troy McVey (Assoc. Dean), Kim Skoog (DH), James Sellmann (Dean), Evelyn Flores (DEAL), and Kyle Smith (SBS).

Staff Appreciation Luncheon



In partial celebration of Halloween, the new secretaries in the Dean's Office (Jessica Urbano and Velma Camacho), and the end of extension associate Jerome Ocampo's emergency appointments, the Dean honored staff accomplishments at the Hyatt's Islander Terrace.



ENGLISH & APPLIED LINGUISTICS GRADUATES

April Cordova
English

Pauleen Mateo
English

Dylan Orot
English

Angelica Ramos
English

**Natalia Char-
gualaf**
English

Edwin Balmonte
English

Haane Barcinas
English

Erika Camacho
English

Tiana Camacho
English

Travis Simpao
English

**Angelina Ya-
mashita**
English

Erika Untalan
English

Tin Gugin
ESL

Creative Hands



The Isla Center for the Arts at the University of Guam sponsored the 12th biennial exhibition *Creative Hands: Selected Works by Local Artists*, with an opening reception on November 20, 2014. The exhibition consists of a variety of media including watercolor, acrylic, and oil paintings, photographs, pastels, ink and graphite drawings, digital art, and glass sculptures. The exhibit will close on January 30, 2015.

The juror for this exhibition was Michael Marshall, Professor of Art at the University of Hawaii, Hilo. He has taught at UH Hilo since 1984 and currently serves as Chairman of the Art Department. Professor Marshall holds a BFA degree from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and an MFA in Painting from Yale University.

The Isla Center for the Arts received 157 entries from 18 artists for consideration for this exhibition. Juror Michael Marshall selected 76 works of art for the display. The selected artists include: John Barber, Julius Sotomayor Cena, Richard Colfax, John Dierking, Maria Fitzpatrick, Monaeka Flores, Linda Frank, Richard Olmo, Robin Olmo, Yeon Sook Park, Nina Peck, Monte Reavill, Yasunori Sakikibara, Viktoria Sayers, Carol Simpson-Warner, Cole Schreiner, Jay Sullivan, and Nahono Tsuruga.



As the Best-in-Show, Professor Marshall selected Yasunori Sakakibara's *Hagatna Bay from Fort Apugan*. Additionally, five artists received honorable mention for specific works of art including: Richard Colfax for *Bubbles on the Move*, John Dierking for *St. Joseph's Church*, Maria Fitzpatrick for *Yap House*, Julius Sotomayor Cena for *Third World Times Square*, and Richard Olmo for *Underlap*.

UOG Singers perform with NEA Fellows

In September, the University Singers were again honored by being selected to perform as the opening act to the Birmingham Sunlights at a special concert at Southern High. The Birmingham Sunlights are an internationally recognized a capella gospel group awarded with the 2009 National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellowship. The Sunlights draw on the rich tradition of African-American quartet-style singing that developed in Jefferson County, Alabama in the early 20th century and moved North with the great African-American migration. The group's repertoire consists of standard quartet gospel songs, traditional spirituals and fresh, innovative arrangements.

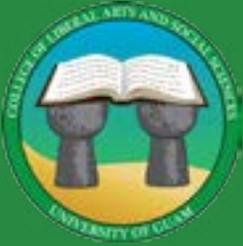
During the concert, the Singers sang several a capella songs, and then sang with the Sunlights during an exciting audience participation soul jam on stage. The Singers were also able to have a master class with Sunlights, in which the two groups sang for each other, and the Sunlights offered feedback, told stories of their careers, and shared personal stories.



Courtesy Guam Humanities Council

Faculty & Staff in the News

- Todd Ames (SBS) completed his sabbatical.
- Velma Camacho and Jessica Urbano joined to the Dean's Office from the executive offices.
- Ric Castro (CFA) did a community painting workshop. Ask for pictures on Facebook.
- Kathleen Duenas (DEAL) completed her MPA degree in December.
- Jonathan Guerrero (SBS) was hired as Instructor of Psychology for another semester.
- PK Harmon (DEAL) had a poem published in The Southeast Review.
- Andrea Hartig (DEAL) completed the first semester of her year-long sabbatical.
- Anne Hattori and Michael Clement (DH) secured UOG's bid to host the 2016 PHC.
- Yuka Iwata (DH) completed her sabbatical.
- Romina King (SBS) was hired as Instructor of Geography for another semester.
- Tom Maxedon (DEAL) was emergency hired to teach composition for one semester.
- Curtis Rigsby (DH) was promoted to Associate Professor.
- Jason Taitano (SBS) was emergency hired to teach Psychology for the Spring term.



SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES GRADUATES

Mae Acain
Sociology

Jasmin Benavente
Psychology

Theamika Blas
Psychology

Jennifer Camacho
Psychology

Alice Mendoza
Sociology

Myotel Ngwal
Sociology

Kayla Sablan
Sociology

Sophia Sablan
Psychology

Eunice Salonga
Psychology

Charlette Santos
Psychology

Maya Wong
Psychology

Brislin wins CLASS Alumni Recognition

Outstanding alumni from each college and school are honored annually. This year's outstanding CLASS alumnus is Dr. Thomas J. Brislin. Tom received his BA in English / Secondary Education in 1968. He is currently the Associate Dean of Arts of Humanities at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. Brislin speaks highly of his time at UOG:



“The value of my College/University of Guam education crystallized for me when I was confined to a small room for eight hours in 1972 to write my PhD exams. I found in answering the myriad questions from learned scholars in Communication, Sociology, Film, and Psychology, that I was drawing heavily from the knowledge I gained at COG/UOG. From 1964-68, it offered a true Liberal Arts education. It was smaller, and what divisions there might have been between academic areas was porous.

“We took courses across the broad spectrum of ‘ologies.’ Students – and Faculty – mixed their interests freely, whether they looked forward to a career in business, law, nursing, education, fine arts or sciences. We absorbed from each other. We left with a tremendous worldview from such a small Island; with a continuing and consuming intellectual curiosity from such a small school with such large ideas. I aced those exams. COG/UOG taught us we could make a difference. And we did.”

Contact the Dean's Office or Endowment Foundation to learn how to nominate an outstanding alumn.

Alumni Success Story



Ana Cornwell, an alumni of UOG sociology program, is in her final year of Law School at UH, where she serves on the Law Review.

CLASS CONNECTIONS is a semi-annual newsletter distributed by the CLASS Dean's Office at the University of Guam.

Photographs are provided courtesy of staff and faculty in the College. Except where noted, text and layout are by Bruce ES Warner with input from Troy McVey. Copy editing is provided by James Sellmann.

Courtesy: T. Brislin

Courtesy: K. Johnson