



**KUMISION SETTEFIKASION PARA I MANMANIDUKA**  
**GUAM COMMISSION FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION**  
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GCEC Regular Meeting UOG-SOE Rm103 MEETING  
 Monday, November 18, 2024  
 Minutes

I. Call to order / Roll call of members

Meeting started at 4:03 p.m., roll call conducted.

<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Other explanation</i>
Roberta M. Abaday, <b>CHAIR</b> (Community Representative) <a href="mailto:msrabaday@gmail.com">msrabaday@gmail.com</a>	X	
Lisa Baza-Cruz, Ed. D. <b>VICE-CHAIR</b> (Terminal Degree-Education Rep.) <a href="mailto:bazacruz@gmail.com">bazacruz@gmail.com</a>	X	
VACANT, <b>TREASURER</b> (Community Representative)		
Lisa Cooper-Nurse, Ed. D. (Administrator Representative) <a href="mailto:lscooper-nurse@gdoe.net">lscooper-nurse@gdoe.net</a>	X	Zoom Connection
Michelle M. S. Santos, Ed.D. (Terminal Degree-Education Rep.)	X	
VACANT (School Teacher Representative)		
Lulene C. San Agustin (School Counselor Representative) <a href="mailto:lulenec@gmail.com">lulenec@gmail.com</a>	X	
GDOE - Dolores Faisao <a href="mailto:dffaisao@gdoe.net">dffaisao@gdoe.net</a>	X	Zoom Connection
UOG - Alicia Aguon, Ed. D.(SOE) <a href="mailto:aliciaaguon@triton.uog.edu">aliciaaguon@triton.uog.edu</a>	X	Zoom Connection
GCC Marivic Schrage <a href="mailto:marivic.schrage@guamcc.edu">marivic.schrage@guamcc.edu</a>	X	Zoom Connection
Fran Nicole Camacho Certification Officer, Gwendolyn Manglona Admin. Asst.	X X	

## II. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve by M. Santos, seconded by L. Cooper-Nurse. APPROVED.

## III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes reviewed, September 23, 2024.

Discussion: M. Santos just needed clarification if the former test BESTE was the correct term or not, R. Abaday stated that it is. L. Baza-Cruz asked if the October 16, 2023 date was correct under New Business A. UOG CHamoru Studies for Education Courses/Program section, R. Abaday stated that it is the correct date.

Motion to approve by M. Santos, seconded by L. San Agustin. APPROVED.

## IV. Reports

- A. Treasurer: L. San Agustin presented the treasurer's report. The total appropriation for FY 2025 is \$296,271.00. The year-to-date allotments is \$251,830.00. The unallotted balance is \$44,441.00. The year-to-date total expenditures is \$33,189.00 and there are no outstanding encumbrances. The year-to-date total funds available is \$218,641.00. Collection fee account rollover allotment beginning funds available for FY 2025 is \$86,322.85. Total expenditures for FY 2025 are \$17,394.15 and the outstanding encumbrances is \$12,891.90. The year-to-date collection fee account available balance is \$56,036.80. The general ledger account total carry over collected is \$128,499.01. The year-to-date expenditures and outstanding encumbrances are \$3,658.81. There were zero fees collected to date. Total fees collected and deposited to the treasurer of Guam to date is \$13,760.00. Grand total of fees collected and not loaded is \$124,840.20. The difference to load is \$77,627.21 from the certification fee collection account.
- B. Chairperson: R. Abaday stated that they had a meeting with the education committee. It was actually only with Senator Barnett for the confirmation of L. Baza-Cruz and L. Cooper-Nurse.
- C. Executive Director: No report at this time due to vacancy of the position.
- D. Sub-Committees:
  - I. Extension Committee: L. Cooper-Nurse stated that they had 2 extension requests.

## V. Old Business

- A. GCEC Vacancies: Abaday stated that the individual for the school teacher vacancy was asked to resubmit her application packet to the Governor's office. There was also a community representative that was presented to us and the nominee's application packet is being forwarded to the legislature.
- B. Administrative Assessment for use in SOP: R. Abaday stated the changes that were made and that it just needs to be approved. Motion to approve the applicant confirmation document in SOP 2023-01 made by M. Santos, and seconded by L. San Agustin. APPROVED.
- C. SOP Review:
  - 1. Alternate option of SAT, ACT, or GRE in lieu of a PRAXIS CORE score – SOP 2024-01 Discussion from the last meeting to use these tests as an alternative to the PRAXIS CORE. R. Abaday shared the scores that could be accepted to replace the PRAXIS CORE. No time limit for when the test was taken. Commission members further discussed the scores and how it will be provided to GCEC. Motion made by M. Santos to approve SOP 2024-01 Alternate option of SAT, ACT, or GRE in lieu of a PRAXIS CORE score, seconded by L. San Agustin. APPROVED.
  - 2. Adding a Teaching or Content Area to Multiple or Single Subject Credentials – M. Santos stated that she did not get to respond to the Chairperson's comments but did her research on what other

states for guidance for someone who wants to switch from elementary to secondary or change from English to PE. California and no internship is required to switch from high school to elementary but they are required to take a methods course in reading. Many states are requiring that the science of reading be used in all the states, in all of the schools, and in educator preparation. GCEC does not have that legal requirement to do but GDOE is investing in teachers being trained in the science of reading and curriculum they are using that supports the testing of those skills. It will need to be discussed further because we don't require that of anyone at this time. To go from elementary to high school, this was not a requirement. To change your content area, they did ask for a methods course but in a small institution such as UOG, everyone is in the same classroom, and it is up to the student to be guided to all the resources that help in their content specific methods. A principal may not want to hire someone with an endorsement because they may not have the depth of knowledge because it only requires 15 credits for the endorsement. If the person is taking the subject assessment, it is built on the idea that someone have a degree in that area. If someone is taking and passing the subject assessment, then they have the depth to be fully certified and it would make it more credible for the principal to hire them. M. Santos requested further discussion on the matter. Roberta asked if this would be for Initial Educator too and suggested removing number 4 and 5 which indicates an Initial Educator certificate. M. Santos only brought this up because she has had many teachers ask what they need to do to move from elementary to secondary. F. Camacho explained that in the past when the certification office was under GDOE, the individual would just need to pass the content test and get the full certification in that content area before the law. Some teachers do take and pass the content test and receive full endorsement without taking courses for the endorsement. D. Faisao mentioned that as long as a teacher has a professional endorsement it will not affect their pay or their classification. R. Abaday said they need to discuss, make suggestions and bring this up at the next meeting again.

- D. Discussion from hearings: Certifications for those with 25/30 years of teaching with a certification (lifetime certification?) R. Abaday stated that this was a discussion brought up by the union but was unable to get any information from them. To her understanding it is someone who is going to be retiring and will be losing their certificate right after retirement. This would mean they could get a lifetime certificate if they have completed their years and are getting ready to retire and have positive evaluations. L. Baza-Cruz asked if it will be 25 or 30 years. R. Abaday stated that is for the commission to decide if they want to have this or not. M. Santos stated that it is a great idea, however she is worried about issues with technology, with teaching reading and math. There are things that are changing and we need to make sure that our teachers are on top of it and right now we are trying to teach them in the preparation part and GDOE is trying to invest in a lot of training. Imagine a situation of having to go online again and they don't possess the skills to do so. L. San Agustin stated that once you allow them to have the certification, they may not make the effort to keep up because even with what they have now, it is difficult. L. Cooper-Nurse stated that it should be considered and the employer will have to be the one responsible to ensure that the training is there and in place for when they need it. M. Santos suggested that they look at what other states require for their lifetime certificates. R. Abaday stated that the commission will do more research and discuss it at the next meeting.
- E. PRAXIS update: F. Camacho reached out to Lisa with ETS because there was no response from Jason with ETS. We did receive the paperwork to adopt the Computer Science test and it is available for test takers to take now. As for the Japanese test, we need to let ETS know if we have individuals that need to take this test and they will open dates for this test to be available at the testing center. So, if we know of any students needing to take this test, we just have to reach out to Lisa with ETS and she will open up some dates for us.

## VI. New Business

- A. PRAXIS Elementary Content and CKT Test: M. Santos stated that she was looking at different tests that will potentially assess the skills that GDOE is trying to push to test literacy and the science of

reading. She came across the elementary content knowledge for teaching assessment called CKT and only seven states are currently using this. The advantage of the CKT test is that the content test is divided into 4 subtests and if a student was not doing well in one area or another the whole test would not be thrown out. If the student passed the reading, language arts, and mathematics, but did not do well in the science and social studies, then they will only have to retake the portion of the test they did not do well on. This is a preliminary and finding more information about it is necessary. She would like for this to come up again in old business.

- B. Three year review of SOP (Committee or as a whole group in January?): R. Abaday stated that is up for review in a working session with committee members.
- C. New Officers for GCEC: L. Baza-Cruz nominates R. Abaday as the Chairperson, Ms. Santos nominates L. Baza-Cruz as the Vice-Chairperson, and M. Santos nominates L. San Agustin as the Treasurer. All members voted in favor of this decision. APPROVED. L. Cooper-Nurse is still willing to head the extension committee as well.
- D. Request for approval to load funds into the GCEC Fee account: R. Abaday stated that the \$77,627.21 that was identified in the treasurer's report needs to be loaded because we are running out of money, and this will give us enough to cover operational costs. L. Cooper-Nurse asked why the fee account is being used to handle operations. G. Manglona explained that the current special funds allotted by the Governor's office are only to sustain the salary and fringe benefits for the executive director and the staff's salary. This fiscal year they included rent as well, but we are still short. They don't allow any carryover in the special fund account. Funds that are for salaries are not allowed to be moved to other categories. The money from the executive director's salary is not carried over into the new fiscal year. M. Santos stated that the fees collected should be used for training for the teachers and not to fund operations. M. Santos suggested meeting with the Senator assigned to education. F. Camacho explained why it is best to load the money into the different categories rather than it sitting in the pot at DOA. This way they know we need our money and we don't risk BBMR/DOA taking it from us to use on something else. L. Cooper-Nurse made the motion for the \$77,627.21 to be loaded into the fee account, seconded by M. Santos. APPROVED.

#### VII. Ex-Officio:

- A. GCC: None at this time.
- B. GDOE: D. Faisao stated that GDOE is still struggling to fill vacancies. As of today, there are still 67 vacancies with Special Education being the highest. The numbers continue to change based on retirements and resignations.
- C. UOG: A. Aguon stated that the Special Education cohort has started. The Ed.D. cohort will begin classes in the Spring. Others grants are being explored to increase revenue at SOE and meet the regional needs.

#### VIII. Announcements:

Next meeting will be December 11, 2024 at 4:00 P.M.

#### IX. Executive Session

Not needed at this time.

#### X. Adjournment:

L. Baza-Cruz made the motion to adjourn and seconded by L. San Agustin. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.