

The Memories of the Anthropology Program at the University of Guam

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Preamble

*“Far-Away Places with strange-sounding names, Far away over the sea,
Those far-away places with strange sounding names
Are calling, calling me. . .*

*Going to China or maybe Siam, I want to see for myself, those far-away places I've been reading about, in a book
that I took from my shelf. . .”*

Song: “Far Away Places”, sung by Bing Crosby, 1949.

Personal Background Information

My place of birth is a small town called Bemidji in northern Minnesota in the USA. Some 10,000 people lived there during my childhood. My parents were the proprietors of Steve's Cafe in the Bemidji downtown area. Our family's cafe can still be viewed online among many of Bemidji's 1950s vintage black-and-white photos. When I was a teen-ager, my older sister Nancy and I worked as waitresses in Dad's café. Those experiences taught us so much, such as attentiveness to others, especially the customers; personal money management; rigorous personal good grooming; a cheerful attitude; and the like. My waitressing experiences at Steve's Café led me to some memorable opportunities for gainful employment during my college years. These included Yellowstone National Park, where I worked as a Soda Fountain Clerk at Old Faithful Lodge in Summer 1966, after completing my freshman year at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Pier 7 Restaurant at the Ilikai Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii, hired me as a part-time waitress in Summer 1967, when I was taking classes in Pacific Islands Studies at the University of Hawaii in Manoa. And I was employed for the summer at The Cedar Tree, a fine dining establishment at Salishan Lodge near to Newport on the Oregon coast, after completing my first year in Graduate School at the University of Oregon.

While I lived in Bemidji as young person, my sister Nancy Stephenson and I rode our bicycles everywhere around town, including way up 12th Street to visit our Grandma Clara Isaacson. In summer, our family drove to Diamond Point Park for a swim in Lake Bemidji, a very cold (!) fresh water lake. We could go to swim there from mid-June until early August. After that time, a thick stringy plant grew in the water in most of the small freshwater lakes in northern Minnesota. A late summer-time swimmer would surely get “water itch”-- rather like poison ivy -- from contact with that plant. As a person who loves to swim, I carefully considered ways to find a career that would take me to the beach! Nancy and I later traveled extensively via Eurail Pass during one unforgettable summer in Europe. We two flew from Minneapolis on a long flight to London, traveled by train to visit many places, and then flew back home to the USA from Lisbon.

During the winter, our family went to the Bemidji Country Club to enjoy winter sports in the snow-covered hills. We even convinced Grandma Isaacson to take a spin down one of the slopes on our new silver-colored flying saucer, because downhill sleds were outdated objects by then! Back at home from the slopes, our younger brother Jim always liked to build a big snowman in front of our house.

As a child, reading was one of my primary interests. I was inspired to explore wonders of the world such as those undertaken by Richard Halliburton. His books in print included *Richard Halliburton's Complete Book of Marvels* published by Bobbs-Merill Press in 1937. The book was available for check-out in the Bemidji Public Library, which made it possible for me to read and re-read this book many times.

Academic Background

Upon graduating from Bemidji High School in June 1965, Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota offered me a college scholarship, as well as additional financial-aid in the form of a loan and also campus work-study. My undergraduate academic courses at Hamline were challenging and stimulating. Many friendships that were formed during my Hamline years, as well as academic endeavors undertaken there, continue to be a major part of my life. I graduated from Hamline in June 1969 with a B.A. Degree in Anthropology. This area of academic inquiry had been my chosen career path since my young years. The University of Oregon attracted my full attention for Graduate School, offering dynamic M.A. and Ph.D. Programs in Anthropology with a significant Pacific Islands focus. One of the senior faculty members at UOG at that time was Dr. Homer G. Barnett, who was the Project Director for the CIMA Project, also known as the Coordinated Investigation of Micronesian Anthropology.

My employment at the University of Guam in the Department of Anthropology began in January 1977. This full-time position was offered to me while I was still completing my doctoral dissertation in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oregon in Summer 1976. My doctoral field research was conducted on the island of Atiu in the southern Cook Islands, Polynesia, for 18 months during 1973-74. There were some 1400 local residents, mostly Cook Islands Maori people, residing on Atiu at that time. Atiu island encompasses some 10.4 square miles in area. Papa Vaine Rere Tangatapoto invited me to live with his family in Teenui village. Papa Vaine Rere was a well-known community leader throughout the Cook Islands. Recently, he had received a great honor within the Cook Islands, being awarded the international distinction of OBE [Order of the British Empire].

During my field research stay on Atiu, life took on many unexpected dimensions. While growing up at home in Minnesota, we were a family of five members. In contrast, there were 11 of us residing in the Vaine Rere household on Atiu. I was viewed by local people as the ninth "child" in Papa and Mama's family. The children at home always knew whose turn it was to ride with me on the back of my motorcycle, when I went out to conduct prearranged household interviews within and among the families in Atiu's five villages. In the Atiuan point of view, if a child was with me, then surely I must be a responsible person. Tera Vaine Rere, my dearest sister on Atiu, is always kept very close to me in my heart. We two have enjoyed sharing our lives over so many years. Our times together began in my initial 18 months in residence on Atiu to conduct my Graduate School Dissertation field research. Tera and I remain in close contact, after all these many years.

It is of considerable interest for me, as a Pacific Islands Anthropology Researcher, that some 1400 Cook Islands Maori people were living on Atiu at the time of my original field stay there, from January 1973 through July of 1974. However, at present, it is likely that there may be less than 400 people living on Atiu. Why? Where did the other Atiuans go? One of the causes is the shift on Atiu from a self-sustaining economy based on local agriculture and fishing to greater dependency, for example, on imported goods that require a cash income within households on the island. The successes within Atiu island that I observed during my long field research stay were based on a meaningfully derived local sense of community. There are five villages located on Atiu. The population size of each village varies to some extent. Residents of the villages in a variety of ways were often involved, nonetheless, in friendly competitions with each other. Which village sports team was the best? Which of the villages would design the most unique style of women's clothing for the Sundays that comprise the Women's Special Celebrations? Did it matter??? Events of this sort involved mostly friendly competitions, because, it was said, cooperation can become boring after awhile. Competition is much more interesting!

Statistics in print indicate that 434 people were residing on Atiu in 2016. The socio-cultural issues of importance on Atiu in contemporary times include the meaning of family, the sense of community, and making ends meet via sharing. Youthful Atiuans now work overseas for gainful employment, especially in New Zealand or Australia, in order to send or bring money back home to Atiu. Young adults who reside on Atiu seek to be gainfully employed locally, in order to earn money. Local people of Atiu enjoy spending time with family members who are Atiuans or with others who are "just like family." Being stylish is greatly admired. The churches on Atiu serve as important focal points in peoples' lives, including activities such as dancing and singing. These days, local Cook Islands musicians are now producing their own DVDs.



"Kia Orana Koutu Katoatoa!" Dr. Rebecca A. Stephenson and Mataiapo Mrs. Ngatamariki John Moni Vainerere at home on Atiu.

Highest Academic Rank I Held and My Major Field/Academic or Administrative Position(s) at the time of Retirement:

My current status at UOG is that of Professor Emerita of Anthropology. In May 2007, I retired from teaching with the status of a Full Professor at UOG, after some 30 years of faculty service completed. My UOG career in Anthropology began in January 1977. After retiring from UOG, it was very inspiring for me to become a member of the UOG SEPRS Association [UOG Society of Emeritus Professors and Retired Scholars].

How were you recruited by UOG? What in particular brought you to UOG?

UOG was advertising to hire faculty members in Anthropology in the Fall of 1976. Various field research endeavors during my years in Graduate School at the University of Oregon had taken me to the Pacific Region as my study area. With my Ph.D. dissertation in Anthropology nearly completed, I was actively job hunting. Most likely, the Search Committee at UOG within the Social Sciences who reviewed my application materials especially appreciated my University of Oregon academic training, my Pacific-Asia focus in Anthropology, and my commitment to Anthropology as a Major course of study for UOG students. Clearly, I was committed to teaching, field research, and community service for and with the UOG post-secondary students. UOG offered me an employment contract. My hiring for gainful employment at UOG began in January, 1977.

What UOG was like at the time of the beginning of your employment as you remember?

The UOG campus was very well designed. The buildings and landscape were attractive and appealing. At that time, a large set of Guam Latte Stones graced the entrance to the UOG Library on campus. Those of us who taught in the College of Arts and Sciences, known back then as C-A-S, used to park our cars at the back of what was then called Building A. Doors and windows were open in all the classrooms. Students sat quite close together in rows. I recall that UOG students were attentive in class, and even spoke up! Newly arrived UOG Faculty members on the campus found the established Faculty members to be very friendly and approachable. Exam outcomes in my classes indicated that the students were learning their academic work in Anthropology successfully and enthusiastically.

In my earliest weeks of teaching at UOG, it was my distinct honor and pleasure to begin to get to know Eulalia-Julia Harui, a graduate student in CAS. She was born and raised in Ulithi Atoll in Micronesia. Lolly, as she was known, was then writing her M.A. Thesis within the Social and Behavioral Sciences Graduate Program at UOG. It was most inspiring for me to be able to guide Lolly, along with the other UOG faculty members who served on her M.A. Committee, while she explored and academically developed the heart and soul of her thesis.

Lolly later married Dr. John Walsh, known as Jack, who was a longtime faculty member at UOG within the English Program. A photo taken at their wedding in 1979 appears on page 136 in the recent book entitled *Ulithi Atoll, Micronesia: Recalling the Past, Reaffirming the Future*, which was edited by myself and Mary L. Spencer and distributed via the UOG Press beginning in 2019. Lively and dynamic chapters written by a variety of Micronesian Islands scholars are found in this book, including a chapter by Joshua D. Walsh, Lolly's oldest son. He contributed the chapter (pp. 129-138) entitled "My Parents Named Me Joshua."

About the second week of my initial employment at UOG in 1977, a most singular event occurred. A distinguished scholar came to Guam to serve as the Keynote Speaker at an Educational Conference being convened at Guam Community College. The highlighted scholar, Dr. Laura Maud Thompson, Ph.D., a Cultural Anthropologist, had published an iconic book in 1947 entitled *Guam and Its People*. Laura had spent much time living on Guam in the pre-war years. Guam was her chosen study area; she collected extensive field research data regarding Guam while residing locally. Laura and I first met on the occasion described above at Guam Community College. We two became very close friends, as well as committed academic colleagues.

Laura later invited me to be the Guest Editor for her upcoming autobiography entitled *Beyond the Dream: A Search for Meaning*. On page 91 of this book, a photo can be seen of Laura visiting once again her longtime field research associate on Guam, Mrs. Rosa Aguigui Reyes of Merizo. This joyful photo was taken during Laura's return visit to Guam in 1987, when Laura and Rosa were able to spend time together again in Merizo, after 40 years. The Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC) at the University of Guam was instrumental in making the publication of this book a reality in 1991, in both hardback and paperback editions. Great breadth and depth of field concerning Guam are found in this memorable publication written by Laura Thompson. She designated me to serve as the Intellectual Executor of her Manuscripts Collection, which is housed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Contemporary scholars of Laura such as Dr. Harold Conklin of Yale and Dr. Elizabeth Colson of UC Berkeley complimented Laura for publishing her autobiography.

Your legacies sought to be remembered as part of the 70-year history of UOG:

Publications in print where my written works appear include: *The Challenges of Globalization: Cultures in Transition in the Pacific-Asia Region*, 2004, edited with Lan-Hung Nora Chiang, John Lidstone, and myself, by University Press of America, Inc., 180 pages. This book serves as the outcome of a lively and interesting academic conference held at UOG. A very recent University of Guam Press publication in 2019 with 247 pages is entitled *Ulithi Atoll, Micronesia: Recalling the Past, Reaffirming the Future*. This book was edited by Mary L. Spencer and myself, accompanied by 12 separate chapter writers. Other books, book chapters, journal articles and such are included within my academic works in print accomplished while I was a full-time faculty member at UOG. For example, a Book Review of mine appears in print as "Cross-cultural Studies of Contemporary Youth" in *Current Anthropology*, Vol. 19, No. 1, Feb. 1998, pp. 181-182. This book review is derived from a book entitled *Youth Cultures: A Cross-Cultural Perspective*, edited by Vered Amit-Talai and Helena Wulff, London and New York: Routledge, 1995, 239 pp.

It was my good fortune to be able to present my research papers at many academic conferences, some of which were held on Guam, and others which were convened in various overseas locations. On March 27, 2003, a UOG Media Release issued by Cathleen Moore-Linn, Director of Integrated Marketing Communications, announced to the UOG community the news of my selection as a Pacific Science Association (PSA) Honorary Life Fellow. This is indeed a very special achievement within my academic career in Anthropology at the University of Guam, as I am the first and only female Honorary Life Fellow within the PSA, which is one of the oldest academic associations in Oceania.

One of my UOG students some years ago was Joakim (JoJo) Peter, who was born in Chuuk state in Micronesia. In his youth, JoJo had the misfortune to fall and break his back, which then became a permanent disability. During his time as an undergraduate student at UOG, nonetheless, he was a fine student and a most promising scholar in Anthropology. JoJo asked me very seriously whether I thought it would be presumptuous of him, because of his wheelchair needs, to seek admission to the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I strongly encouraged him to apply to UH. Clearly, he was a very capable and also very committed to Academia. With my assistance, a place for him to live near to the UH Manoa campus became available. A friend of mine in Honolulu was always looking for students to reside in her near-to-campus lodgings. She warmly welcomed JoJo as a new resident.

JoJo advanced steadily in his academic endeavors during his time spent in residence at the University of Hawaii - Manoa. After completing his B.A. Degree there, among so many other accomplishments, his greatest highlight was earning his Ph.D. Degree at UH - Manoa. His most recent book in print is entitled *Coconut Ratz & Kung Fu Cowboys: Tales of a Pacific Islander's Childhood* (2021). JoJo taught with great success at UH for many years. He was very well-spoken and he inspired so many University of Hawaii students. It is hard to comprehend that JoJo passed away in Hawaii on April 8, 2019. JoJo will be greatly missed by all who had the joy of knowing him, and sharing his academic pursuits as a university faculty member and also as an academic scholar. His life and career can be vividly engaged online via computer inquiry. In the photos that appear online, JoJo's personality and zest for academia are clearly apparent.

UOG Field Schools highlighting Anthropology have been a significant dynamic within my teaching endeavors over a time frame of many years. Whenever possible, it seemed to be of significant value to find ways for UOG students to travel with faculty team leaders, and thus to encounter and engage places located off-island away from Guam. Over the years, we have conducted UOG Field Schools in Anthropology in Rota in the Mariana Islands, in Ulithi Atoll in Yap state, on Ngeaur [Angaur] Island in Palau, and we have studied several locales on site within Chuuk, in the Federated States of Micronesia. In Bali, Indonesia, our UOG group was headquartered up-country in the village of Ubud, within the Mawar Family Homestay. The UOG team's goal was to study first-hand the behavior of Balinese Macaque monkeys residing within Wanara Wana Monkey Forest. Other University-level faculty and students have joined our Anthropology Field Schools via UOG to earn academic credits, and they have come from a variety of places of origin. Faculty and also university student team members have joined our off-island UOG Field Research Projects, coming from locales which include Guam, Micronesia, the USA, the Cook Islands, Hawaii, Japan, Taiwan, Mexico, and Norway.



UOG Students at the Mawar Homestay.
During Anthropology Summer Field School in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia. Guest Professor Dr. Jon Jonassen is seated on the right. On the left is UOG Project Director Dr. Rebecca A. Stephenson.



Field Research Faculty Colleagues from Indonesia, Guam and the USA of the Balinese Macaque Project, conducted in Ubud, our Bali Study Area, in Wanara Wana Monkey Forest.



Balinese Macaque Project Team Leaders and Members at Mawar Homestay in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia are inspired by Distinguished Guest Lecturer (at center in red): Dr. Hildred Geertz of Princeton University, USA.

Special Memories of UOG – Teaching, Courses Taught, Field Trips, Field Schools, Research Projects, Conferences, Programs, Events, University Service, Community Service, Community and Regional Outreach and Engagement

It was most inspiring for me to teach especially designed UOG Introductory Anthropology classes to women and youthful girls who were living temporarily on Guam in the status of Kurdish refugees. A sizeable number of Kurdish families had been airlifted for their safety out of Kurdistan to Guam in 1996, in a USA military endeavor entitled “Operation Pacific Haven.” A number of these Kurdish refugees were housed at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam, while precise details regarding their resettlement within the U.S.A. were being arranged. The women and girls who enrolled in my Anthropology classes conducted at Andersen AFB were focused on their future lives in the USA. My classes offered all of us a conversational learning experience, and to talk together in the English language about their upcoming new lives in America. For example, I suggested: “Be friendly in America. But, unlike in Kurdistan, it is not appropriate to impose on other people. For example, when someone is getting into a car, it is not proper for you to say: “Stop! I want to go with you!” As we conducted our Guam-based academic studies together, several Kurdish women later asked me quietly and privately, “How can I get divorced after I am living in America?”

On campus at UOG, students enrolled in my Anthropology classes particularly enjoyed the assignment of preparing a detailed Kinship Diagram of their Extended Family. The goal was to describe the particular kinship system lived within the context of their ethnicity, or linked to their place of birth, or to their country of origin. Students shared together enthusiastically these classic details that are a significant part of studying Cultural Anthropology. According to many

anthropologists, there are just six varieties of kinship systems that are found among all of the world's people. UOG students prepared their Kinship Diagrams on lengthy rolls of paper, which were then spread out on the floor of the classroom, so we could view all of the details.

Lengthy anthropological field research time for me has been spent overseas in places including the Cook Islands, New Zealand, Hawaii, Micronesia, Indonesia, and Taiwan. These endeavors involved interviewing local residents, library reference research, examining photo collections, reading other academic works already in print to enhance my knowledge and understanding of Pacific-Asian societies, life-ways, values, and such. Key academic mentors of mine within the discipline of Anthropology over so many years include, but are not limited to (in no particular order): Homer G. Barnett, Robert Tonkinson, Yoshihiko Sinoto, Marshall Sahlins, Laura M. Thompson, Jane Hainline Underwood, Ben Finney, Marion Kelly, Nani Mary Bowman, Ward Goodenough, Leonard Mason, Jane Goodale, and Hildred Geertz.

Academic Conferences that highlight Anthropology are held in various locations around the world. It has been very helpful to be able to listen to interesting research papers, as well as present my own research papers, at events such as the Pacific Science Congress. Locations where my academic papers have been presented include the following: Australia, New Zealand, Russia (Khabarovsk), Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Academia Sinica in Taipei, Norway (Norwegian University NTNU), and Harvard University, USA.

The advancement in my Academic Rank at UOG has occurred over a time-frame of many years. My academic teaching contract at the University of Guam began in January 1977. A variety of events have aided me to become more knowledgeable with regard to my areas of expertise in Anthropology, especially with regard to Cultural Anthropology, Ethnology and Ethnography, and particularly with reference to the Pacific-Asia Region.

A most singular academic learning experience for Anthropology students and faculty at UOG for several years was our Field School in Ethno-Primatology, centered in Wanara Wana Monkey Forest in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia, for several consecutive summers, to earn hands-on academic credits. Our UOG students in Anthropology were invited to become members of an ongoing Summer Field School in Bali directed by Dr. Agustin Fuentes, a most distinguished and well known American Ethno-Primatologist. While learning to identify on site the individual macaque monkeys living in the forest (and the macaques are as different from one another as humans are!), and watching and correctly coding their observable behaviors, our UOG students truly experienced "hands-on science" outside of a university classroom. This was a stellar experience in academic inquiry and learning for all of us. Stateside students newly arrived from the USA were teamed together with Guam students from UOG. When we walked along the narrow village pathway from our residence, going to our field research site in Monkey Forest, the stateside students were not yet comfortable in this new setting. They stayed closely together as a group, and they seemed easily startled. In contrast, the UOG students strolled calmly, and they greeted with enthusiasm the local people they encountered on the pathways. The UOG students guided the visiting USA stateside students with warmth and enthusiasm, to help them learn how to engage in this new and foreign hands-on academic venture. Having the unique opportunities to direct academic field schools for University-level academic credits in Bali offered me the time and the circumstances to work closely with prominent Indonesian senior scholars, such as Prof. Harya Putra of Udayana University, and Prof. Ir. Wiendu Nuryanti of Gadjah Mada University. Distinguished American senior scholars, including Dr. Hildred Geertz of Princeton University, USA, were most enthusiastic when invited to speak with our students, which was a singular experience for everyone present. We were so very fortunate that Dr.

Geertz was already on-site in Bali conducting her own field research endeavors, during the time that our UOG Field School was taking place.

Academic Awards, Special Professional Recognitions, these are some examples:

- **2012 Elected President**, American Association of University Women (AAUW), Guam Branch
- **2010-2012 Secretary**, Elected Executive Board, Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Association (FAWA) International, headquartered in Manila, Philippines
- **2012 Life Member**, Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA), Hawaii
- **2007** Established the Dr. Rebecca A. Stephenson Scholarship at the UOG Endowment Foundation upon retirement from UOG
- **2007 Commendation by the Guam Legislature** for 30 years of Distinguished Teaching, Research and Service to the Univ. of Guam and the Guam Community
- **2007 Award for Extraordinary Contributions** in Teaching, Service, and Scholarly Activities at the University of Guam, 1977-2007, bestowed by the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the Annual Awards Ceremony, UOG
- **2007 Award for Excellence in Teaching** for Team-Teaching AN/SO 405 with Dr. Kirk Johnson, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Awards Day Ceremony, UOG
- **2007 Retirement Special Award for 30 Years of Service**, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Awards Day Ceremony, UOG
- **2007 Certificate of Appreciation** for 30 Years of Academic Service in the Anthropology Program, Division of Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Awards Day Ceremony, UOG
- **2007 Certificate of Appreciation** for 14 years of Academic Service to the Graduate Program in Micronesian Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Awards Day Ceremony, UOG
- **2006 Outstanding Alumni Award**, College of Liberal Arts, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. Presented at the Annual All-College Reunion Dinner, Walker Field House, Hamline University Campus, Minnesota, USA
- **2005 Invited Visiting Professor**, Graduate Program in Area Studies, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, Pingtung, Taiwan
- **2004 Elected 2nd Vice President of the Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Association (FAWA)**. 17th FAWA Convention, Singapore, October 19-22
- **2004 Award for Distinguished Service to FAWA**. 17th FAWA Convention, Singapore, Closing Ceremonies, October 19-22
- **2003-to the Present time, Honorary Life Fellow of the Pacific Science Association**, based in Honolulu, Hawaii. Awarded at the 20th Pacific Science Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand, March 17-21. First woman ever granted Honorary Life Fellow Status in the Pacific Science Association since the award was introduced in 1962
- **2003 Invited Visiting Professor** in Pacific Studies. Master's Degree Program in the Social Sciences, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan, in March. One week of guest lecturing in Pacific Anthropology and Cultural Geography courses, during her One Semester Sabbatical in Spring Semester from UOG

- **2002 and 2003 Invited Visiting Professor**, Peoples of the Pacific Graduate Course. Master's Degree Program in Area Studies, University of Tsukuba, Japan
- **2002 Professor of the Year in Teaching**—University-Wide Award, University of Guam
- **2001 Publication Grant**, Pacific Science Association, Honolulu, Hawaii, with Lan-Hung Nora Chiang. *Proceedings of the Globalization Session*, 10th Pacific Science Congress, Guam, June
- **2001 Professor of the Year Award in Teaching**, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Guam. Annual CAS Awards Ceremony
- **2001 CAS Award for Community Service** (with three CAS Colleagues), University of Guam, at the CAS Awards Ceremonies, May 4. For Volunteer Teaching Assistance to the Burmese [Myanmar] Refugees on Guam
- **2000 to Present Designated Intellectual Properties Executrix**, for the Papers of Dr. Laura Maud Thompson, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- **2000 Highlighted in** “Trans Tasman: Monkey Business” by Helen Brown. *Next Magazine*, Auckland, New Zealand, Issue 116, November, p. 64
- **1997 Award in Community Service**, College of Arts and Sciences (with four other CAS Colleagues). For Volunteer Teaching Assistance to Kurdish women and girls, Operation Pacific Haven: The Kurdish Refugees on Guam
- **1995 Highlighted in** “Ancient Temple Suggests Indonesian, Marianas Link” by Jan Furukawa. *Guam Variety*, Vol. 1, No. 415, September 6, pp. 1, 22
- **1995 Travel Award**, American Council of Learned Societies, for travel to present a paper at the XVIII Pacific Science Congress, Beijing, China, June 5-12 [regretfully declined owing to illness]
- **1994 Secured financial assistance** for the UOG Anguar [Palau] Summer Field School in Anthropology from Continental Air Micronesia, Bank of Hawaii-Guam, Atkins-Kroll of Guam and of Koror, Palau, and the University of Guam
- **1993 Travel Award**, UNESCO. To serve as Senior Guam Delegate to UNESCO Sponsored “International Environmental Education Seminar for Women.” Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, August 16-19
- **1992 Research Award**, University of Guam Research Council. To assist in funding the University of Guam Summer Field School in Anthropology held in Ulithi, Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia, May 27-June 2. Additional funding awarded by Continental Air Micronesia and National Office Supply-Guam
- **1991 Registration Stipend Award** from the Pacific Science Association, Honolulu, Hawaii. To chair a Session at the Pacific Science Congress Meetings, Honolulu, May 27-June 2
- **1987 Excelsior Award for Excellence in Research**, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Guam
- **1987 Travel Grant Awardee**, Pacific Science Institute of the Pacific Science Association. For travel to the XVI Pacific Science Congress to chair a Session, Seoul, Korea, August 20-30

- **1987 Field Research Grant**, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Rome, Italy. For Mitiaro, Cook Islands, Aquaculture Development Project. Final Report submitted to FAO, Rome, Italy, Summer
- **1986-1987 Research Grant-in-Aid**, South Pacific Commission, for "Sacred Stones of Polynesia." EARTHWATCH/Cook Islands Project. Co-Principal Investigator with Hiro Kurashina. Final Report submitted to the South Pacific Commission, Noumea, New Caledonia
- **1985-1989 Field Research Grant**, Co-Principal Investigator with Hiro Kurashina. Center for Field Research/EARTHWATCH, USA, for a Five-Year Summer Project entitled "Sacred Stones of Polynesia"
- **1985-1989 Honorary Research Associate**, Dept. of Anthropology, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, during the course of the EARTHWATCH/Cook Islands Project in the southern Cook Islands
- **1984 (June)-1985 (July) Visiting Colleague**, Pacific Islands Program, University of Hawaii at Manoa. One year Sabbatical Leave from UOG
- **1984 Research Award**, Research Council, University of Guam, for "Atiu Tumu Tatou: We Are Real Atiuans." Field Research Study conducted among Cook Islanders of Atiu Island residing in New Zealand in Summer 1985
- **1982 Renewal Award**, Center for Field Research/EARTHWATCH for "Ancient Ways in Modern Umatac." Co-Principal Investigator with Hiro Kurashina
- **1981-1982 Field Research Grant**, Center for Field Research/EARTHWATCH, USA for "Ancient Ways in Modern Umatac [Guam]." A Two-Year Summer Project involving UOG Anthropology students as field team members. Co-Principal Investigator with Hiro Kurashina
- **1981 Travel Grant**, Center for Field Research/EARTHWATCH. For travel to the EARTHWATCH Training Conference for Principal Investigators, Belmont, Massachusetts, USA, February 28
- **1980 Travel Grant**, Wenner Gren Foundation. For travel to present a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO), Galveston, Texas, Feb. 26-March 2
- **1979 Travel Grant**, National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council. For travel to present two papers at the XIV Pacific Science Congress, Khabarovsk, Russia [formerly USSR], August 20-Sept. 5
- **1979** until the society lapsed in the mid-1990s. **Member** in good standing, Chi Omicron Gamma, Academic Honor Society of the University of Guam
- **September 1971-June 1975 Traineeship**, National Institute of Health. Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, USA
- **September 1970-June 1971 Teaching Assistantship**, Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon, USA
- **September 1969-June 1971 Graduate Study Award in Anthropology** at the University of Oregon, Elmer L. and Eleanor J. Andersen Foundation, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
- **Summer 1967 College Student Trainee: Soda Fountain Clerk** for Hamilton Stores, at Old Faithful Lodge, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, USA

Notable Publications

- 2019 Stephenson, Rebecca A. and Mary L. Spencer (eds). *Ulithi Atoll, Micronesia: Recalling the Past, Reconfirming the Future*. 247 pages. Distributed by the UOG Press.
- 2018 Kurashina, Hiro and Rebecca A. Stephenson. Book Review: *Curve of the Hook: Yosihiko Sinoto, An Archaeologist in Polynesia*. Yosihiko Sinoto with Hiroshi Aramata; ed. Frank Stewart, trans. Madoka Nagado. *Manoa: A Pacific Journal* 28(1) Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2016. xxix + 205 pp., color and black-and-white photographs throughout. Paper, US \$29. ISBN 978-0-8248-6623-5.
- 2012 Stephenson, Rebecca A., L.H.N. Chiang, H. Kurashina, Y.C. Chen, and Y. Li., "Guam Is Our Home: Taiwanese Chinese 'Old Timers' Perceptions of Guam." In *Pacific Asia Inquiry: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives*. Occasional Papers in Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Guam, 1(1): 20-26.
- 2010 "Globalization and Danger: University-level Overseas Travel-Study Programs in the Age of International Terrorism." With Hiro Kurashina. In *PAI [Pacific Asia Inquiry]: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, Occasional Papers in the Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Online Journal, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Guam. Volume 1, Number 1, pp. 5-14.
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Special UOG Colleagues, Students, and Staff as well as Administrators to be remembered:

Heartfelt memories of Dr. Rosa Roberto Carter are a significant part of my legacy at UOG. She had just been named the new President of UOG when I arrived on Guam to teach for UOG In January 1977. In fact, Rosa herself was at the old Guam Airport in person to meet me and welcomed me upon my arrival, along with other CAS faculty members.

The person who became my most significant mentor and closest friend among the UOG Faculty was Prof. Lolita Leon Guerrero Huxel. Lolita taught the Chamorro language on campus for many years. Lolita and I shared a variety of academic experiences, including presenting scholarly papers at the Pacific Science Congress that was convened in Khabarovsk in the former Soviet Union. Other special recollections of these times include Holidays spent at the home of Lolita’s parents, former Governor Manuel Guerrero and his wife, who was known to all on Guam as “Mom Guerrero.”

Dr. Hiro Kurashina at MARC on campus became a greatly valued academic colleague and friend. We two were married in 1984 in Hawaii, during the time that we were both in residence in Honolulu on a one year Sabbatical from UOG. I was based at the University of Hawaii on the Manoa Campus, and Hiro was based at the Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Hiro and I have always shared endless enthusiasm for a great variety of Anthropology research endeavors on Guam and within the Pacific-Asia region, including Polynesia and Micronesia, as well as Indonesia and Taiwan.

Dr. Marjorie Driver and Prof. Emilie Johnston of MARC (bless them!) on the UOG Campus were treasured longtime colleagues of mine for their tireless passion for everything about Guam and our region -- including publications in print, artifacts, reviews of new academic works in print about the region, and so much more. Dr. Ann Q. Lynn in Sociology instructed many UOG students within CAS and was a most appreciated colleague for me. Prof. Iris Spade taught the Japanese Language on campus with passion, enthusiasm, and creativity. Iris kindly allowed me to audit her Japanese language classes for a lengthy period of time. Father Tom McGrath and “Father Mac” (Father James McDonough) were also members of the earliest group of faculty who greatly enhanced the reputation of UOG. They warmly welcomed those of us who were hired at UOG at a later time, when they were already established. For me, my Anthropology career at UOG began in January 1977.

More recently, Dr. Kirk Johnson in Sociology in the CLASS Unit at UOG has exhibited excellence in teaching, research and community service on campus, especially highlighting UOG students’ capabilities and farsightedness, while at the same time learning to trust their personal knowledge and insights. Dr. Stephen J. Winter was the Director of the Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) at UOG, and then the unit became renamed WERI (Water and Energy Research Institute of the Western Pacific). I will always be so very grateful to Steve for inviting me to undertake a number of “hands-on” applied anthropological freshwater resources research field projects within a wide variety of islands in Micronesia. There are so many very well remembered University of Guam students who enrolled in my Anthropology classes. A number of them took part in our out-of-the-classroom field projects that were conducted on Guam, as well as on other nearby islands within the Western Pacific region. Field research sites where our UOG Field Teams earned academic credits in Anthropology, and traveled to and from for our field studies on Guam and off-island away from Guam, and for which we printed or published our research findings, include Rota, Angaur, Palau, Yap, Ulithi, and Indonesia. UOG students who earned academic credits in many Anthropology in classes that I taught during those times include (in no particular order): Priscilla Perez, Carmen Sanchez (Senior), Carmen Sanchez (Junior), Dr. Joakim “Jojo” Peter, Ken Perez, Dr. Kelly Marsh Taitano, Shawn Holstrum, Joliene Hasugulayag, Kathy Martin, Verna Chargualaf Mendiola, Yvonne Singeo, Charles Acosta, Risa Tagai, Nadine Kaschak, David Dewey, William Hernandez, Kaaren Struthers, and a number of others.

At the University of Guam, some of my past and present Campus Service, Community Service, Public Service, and the like include:

- Appointed Board Member of the Guam Preservation Trust and of the Guam Historic Preservation Review Board.
- Past President of AAUW [American Association of University Women], Guam Chapter.
- Member, International Women’s Club of Guam.
- Member, American Association of University Women [AAUW], Guam Chapter.

- AAUW Representative to the Guam Council of Women's Clubs.

Your advice or Words of Wisdom for current and future professors or administrators:

Reach out to find out what UOG has to offer--- for you, and for so many others around you. Take some time to gather the data. . . And then, just do it! Make your professional and personal commitment(s) to UOG, in the many ways and means that are possible and inspiring. Doing so will change and enhance your life forever.



“Aere ra!” and “Farewell!”

Dr. Rebecca A. Stephenson departs Atiu Island in Polynesia after an extensive field research project.

Year you joined SEPRS:

It was my great joy to become a member of SEPRS upon my retirement from UOG, at the end of Spring Semester in 2007.