

UOG Memories: Micronesian Area Research Center

Fr. Thomas B. McGrath, S. J.

Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, Micronesian Area Research Center

Personal Background

I am a Jesuit Priest from the Eastern Province of the United States. My first experience in Micronesia was at Xavier High School on Chuuk, F.S.M. I taught English, History, and Latin to students from all the Districts of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from 1958-1961.

Academic Background

I studied Anthropology at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. receiving an M.A. in 1969. I have an AB in Classics from Fordham (1957) and an M.A. in Education (1959).

UOG Employment Period

Employment at UOG: 1969-1973, 1977-1995.

Highest Academic Rank Held and Major Field

Associate Professor of Anthropology

How the Recruitment to UOG Occurred

Fr. Gerald Kernan, S.J., a professor at Georgetown came to Guam on sabbatical. He was the first Jesuit to return since they left in 1769. He passed away on his return journey home. Others were invited, one to Teach English, one to Administration in Student Services, and one to M.A.R.C.

Fr. James McDonough taught English and served as an administrator. He also published Ancient Greek texts with Brill.

What UOG was like at the time of the start of employment

UOG had a number of Quonset type classrooms at that time. M.A.R.C. was under the direction of Paul Carano, with Marjorie Driver, Sr. Felicia Plaza, M.M.B., and Emilie Johnston heading the Library. Mrs. Driver and Sr. Felicia were working on Spanish Documents.

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

We worked on reviving the Guam Recorder. My first article was on the *proas* seen by the early explorers. Later we worked on the publication of books.

Special Memories of UOG

I took an interest in the history of the church on the island of Guam and wrote a history of the Cathedral and a Novena in honor of Fr. Diego Luis de Sanvitores, S.J. for use in parishes. I also gathered documents on Whalers in the Region at the Mystic Museum in Connecticut, and the New Bedford Whaling Museum in Massachusetts. I published in the documents section of

the Journal of Pacific History and the Journal des Oceanistes. I published on the Kava Ceremony in Pohnpei and the Catholic Reconciliation Service, and on the ceremonies around marriage in Guam.

University Service, Public Service and Engagements

For a few years, M.A.R.C. had a Speakers Series. I remember Jack Jones, the architect, speaking on earthquakes and damage to local structures. I managed that series of presentations.

On the community level, I served as a Judge with an insult on the Marriage Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Agana. This took me into the lives of people in all walks of life seeking an annulment to a previous marriage.

On the national level, I entered the Naval Reserve as a Chaplain in 1971. My service for training took me to Hawaii, Norfolk, Subic Bay, Diego Garcia, and the Great Lakes. I trained with the Naval Air, Submarines, Marines, and Coast Guard. When I was promoted to Commander (05), there were only four in the country selected. I retired as a Captain (06).

On the University level, I served on the Promotion and Tenure Committee as Chair and Secretary.

As a Professor Emeritus since 1998, I have continued my service to the community by serving as the contract Catholic Chaplain for the Archdiocese of Agana at the Naval Hospital. I took a year to take Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Joseph's Hospital in Kansas City. I then became a Board Certified Chaplain with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. I completed 20 years of Service at the Naval Hospital in the Fall of 2019. I am now a Parochial Vicar at the Agana Cathedral Basilica.

I also contributed to the publication: *The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Agana* (Editions du Signe 2015).

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