



*Chambers of  
Hon. Steven S. Unpingco  
Judge*

## **SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM**

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**January 19, 2001**

**To: Faculty Senate  
University of Guam**

**Now that you all have taken your oaths, it is indeed an honor to be vested the duty and responsibility of representing the faculty on academic matters. This senate legislative body must ensure that the faculty exercise their rightful and proper responsibility in the shared governance of academic matters at the University. The future of our University as well as our island community will depend on your abilities to provide academic leadership so that we may be able to resolve our show cause status and reaffirm the accreditation of our university. I am confident that this body will provide the academic vision to guide the University administrators so that they may be able to develop and maintain academic policies relating to accreditation standards, curriculum policy, academic freedoms, program requirements and reviews and other matters affecting the academic welfare of the University.**

Because we live in a litigious society, I am not at liberty to comment on many issues; however, as a former faculty member, I feel privileged to prevail upon this senate body to consider three (3) factors in discharging your duties:

1. Always consider the best interests of our students in making policies affecting the structure, process and resources of our university;
2. Always build and nurture coalition among the administrators, faculty and students; especially during these most trying times;
3. You must always protect our institutions from the external pressures antithetical to autonomy, academic freedom and integrity of our institution.

Having said that, I won't be surprised if some lawyer moves for my disqualification in cases involving our University, but I can honestly say this with all candor that these standards merely advocate our goals and mission statements. And I am certain that all of you colleagues know what I am talking about.

I commend all of you for supporting the University and please remember that your service to the University is also service to the entire community and that what you deem is good for the University is good for our island.

Thank you for your support.