



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **UOG students start down road to health research**

Over the summer, six University of Guam sophomores began a three-year scientific research program out of Portland State University that will train and mentor them in developing a research project on a health-related issue in the local community. Under the acronym BUILD EXITO, the National Institutes of Health-funded program is meant to train undergraduates, in particular those from diverse backgrounds, to become scientific researchers.

Since the program's launch in 2016, 23 students from UOG have been BUILD EXITO scholars, including UOG Class of 2020 Valedictorian Megan Gimmen, who is now enrolled in a post-baccalaureate program at Johns Hopkins University in preparation for medical school.

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**Photo caption:**

The six newest University of Guam student scholars in the BUILD EXITO research mentorship program through Portland State University are (from left) Stephenie Santos, Britney Sison, Jacky Chen, Aisleabesh Maglaque, Sabrina Zhi, and Anesha Ignacio.

*Photo courtesy of the University of Guam*