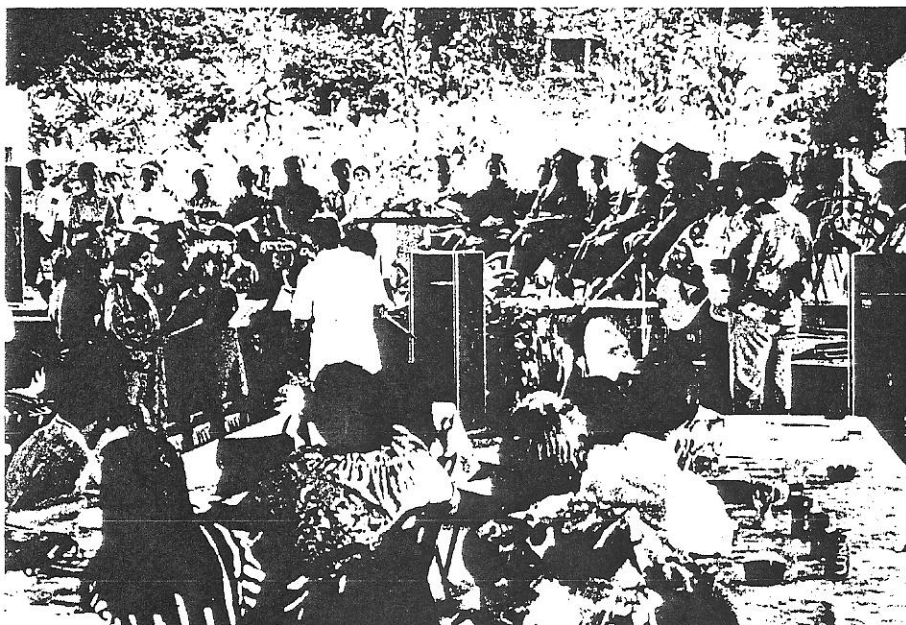


WS
of News paper

Focus

On the commonwealth

VOL. 2 NO. 12 AGANA, GUAM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1982



Daily News photo by Mark Erickson

Graduates of the first class of the Northern Marianas Community College sing a song developed in the liberal arts class at graduations ceremonies held recently on Saipan.

NMCC holds first graduation

SAIPAN — The smiles of proud families and soon-to-be graduates lit up the Chamorro Village auditorium Saturday during commencement exercises of the first graduating class of the Northern Marianas Community College.

Dignitaries attending added to the importance of this milestone event. Monsignor Martinez gave the invocation and said the graduates should use their valuable education to make the world a better place to live.

Acting Dean of the Northern Marianas College Kit Porter welcomed guests and graduates and spoke of the history and importance of the college.

"The basic aim is to provide locally trained teachers," she said. "In the future, with more school space and support from the Legislature, new courses can be offered that will save money because these locally trained graduates can fill contract hire positions."

Master of ceremonies David Sablan introduced honored guests and speakers and all rose as the band played the national anthem of the Northern Marianas.

In his graduation address, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said "we are proud of our graduates who will help us live within our resources and develop more self-sufficiency."

Superintendent of Education Loran Koprowski gave a special address and urged more cooperation between colleges.

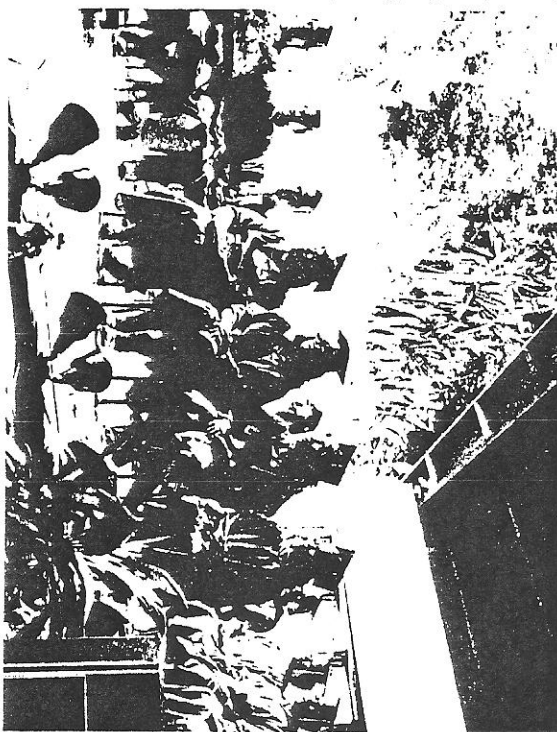
Bachelor of Arts degrees were awarded to the eight recipients by Sen. Julian Calvo. Dr. John Sala, president of the Guam Community College gave an address as Rep. Luis M. Cepeda and Rep. Misael Ogo awarded the seventeen Associate of Arts degrees.

Then the cheers rose again as the graduates filed outdoors to meet people and accept congratulations. It began to rain but nothing could dampen the festivities.

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**First
to go**

Above, graduates listen to an address by one of the many NMI officials who spoke at the ceremony. Right, a few of the new graduates file out of the auditorium after the ceremony ended.



Yes, there is a college in NM

SAIPAN ... Do you know that there is a college in the Northern Marianas? Yes, there is one. Its name is Northern Marianas Community College (NMCC). It has been in existence since 1976. Acting Dean of the college, Ms. Kit Porter, said in an interview with

the Examiner in her office Aug. 17.

The college's office is on the Marianas High School campus. It is using some Marianas High classrooms & a few other government facilities as its classrooms. During Fall semester, the college holds its classes late

in the afternoons, at week nights, and on weekends. Its Spring semester is also held in the afternoons, at week nights, and on weekends. During Summer semester, the college holds classes during the normal working hours from Monday through Friday.

The college offers AA degrees in Elementary Education and Liberal Arts. A student needs 60 credit hours in each of the two areas in order to get an AA degree. A course consists of three credits

The college plans to offer MA degrees in Educational Administration or BA degrees in Elementary Education through the University of Guam. A student needs to earn 120 credits (a course consists of 3 credits) in order to receive a BA degree.

(Continued on Page 16)

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College...

(Continued from Page 1)

Curriculum Design from San Jose State University starting in June, 1983, Ms. Porter said. A student needs to have a BA degree and 30 more credits, takes a comprehensive examination, and writes a thesis in order to get a MA degree.

Tuition is \$30 per credit, Ms. Porter said, adding that teachers and other government workers pay \$25 per credit.

NMCC has not yet been accredited, but it is preparing an application to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for accreditation. Although it is not accredited yet the college is in "good shape except in Library and solid financial base.

"We are not fiscally sound, and we don't have a college-level library," she added.

Although NMCC has not been accredited yet, its credits are accepted by institutions of higher learning because NMCC's instructors are certified by the University of Guam and the Guam Community College, Ms. Porter said. UOG and GCC are accredited by WASC. "We are working closely with UOG and GCC for our teacher training," she added.

Most of NMCC's instructors are part-time, coming from off-island institutions. Last year, off-island instructors taught 80 courses, and on-island instructors taught 24 courses.

"This Fall, we will be looking for more instructors," Ms. Porter said. "We are interested in local people to teach, mostly part-time." The college is also interested in teaching non-credit Marianas specific courses, she said.

The enrollment is 296 students. Most of these students are teachers, Ms. Porter said, adding that the college is "set up part-time" at present.

These students, mostly from the Northern Marianas, stay at home or with their relatives on Saipan. "There are no dormitories yet," the acting dean said.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



NMCC's acting dean Kit Porter in front of her office at the Marianas High School.

The college realizes the off-island students' housing needs. This summer, it housed Rota and Tinian students at Royal Tapa Hotel and at Hamilton's housing at the expense of the Federal government.

The students on Saipan are fortunate because they do not have to go off-island to acquire college education for they now have a college on their own island, Ms. Porter said.

Having a college here will enable the married students to stay with their families while taking college courses, Ms. Porter noted. It is also "less expensive" for the students to acquire college education here, and they do not lose their services as teachers. "This is also true for the nurses," she added.

The college last Saturday observed its first graduation with 8 students receiving BA degrees and 17 students receiving AA degrees. Of these people three got their AA degrees in Liberal Arts, eight received BA degrees, and the rest earned their AA degrees in Elementary Education.

The Fall semester starts on Sept. 20, 1982, Ms. Porter said. The college will continue to put emphasis on Teaching, Nursing, Business, and Vocational courses, she said, adding that Vocational courses will be taught starting in Dec. 1982. Nursing and Business may start this Fall.

But the college faces a number of problems. One of them is space. "We need rooms set up full-time for our computers, equipment, vocational, and

explained. She noted that the college has looked at and discussed several sites including some facilities on Capitol Hill and at CCM School of Nursing to use as classrooms. The Nursing School reportedly will be moved to Majuro in January of next year.

Another concern the college faces is the ever present need of money. Most of the funding comes from the Federal government, Ms. Porter said. The CNMI Legislature has not put up any money for the college because the college has not yet been established by legislation.

One example of the college's lack of funding was the graduation last Saturday. Local private companies donated \$834.09 to pay for the students' gowns, refreshment, and other commencement expenses, Ms. Porter said.

The college has received \$700,000 from the U.S. Office of Education for teacher training, and has applied for \$300,000 more for the coming year to continue courses, workshops, and curriculum development.

But the amount is inadequate to fully conduct the training and pay the employees' salaries, Ms. Porter noted.

Working for the college, beside Ms. Porter, are (not counting secretaries and clerks) acting director of admissions and records Jean Olopai, Northern Marianas financial aid officer Luis Chong, student services officer Sue Mafnas, teacher training coordinator Joe Guerrero, adult basic education coordinator Luis

resource center Joe D computer instructor specialist Brian Millh chief training officer A Olopai, and language instructor and specic Pat Murday.

The college has expanded considerably, Ms. Porter said, citing the "old days" when she had to be administrator, clerk, counselor, etc. at the same time. The college began years ago when Resident Commissioner Er Canham proclaimed that the college be used for teacher training for degrees for teachers."

First College Degrees in NMI Awarded

By Doug Campbell

The Northern Marianas Community College gained the first return on an investment Saturday, as the first graduates to receive college degrees on Saipan participated in commencement exercises at Chamorro Village.

Eight Bachelor of Arts and 17 Associate of Arts degrees were conferred on a group of students comprised mainly of Commonwealth school teachers. Eighteen of the 25 graduates attended the ceremony, which included remarks by University of Guam President Dr. Rosa Carter, Lt. Gov. Pedro A. Tenorio, and Guam Community College Provost Dr. John Salas.

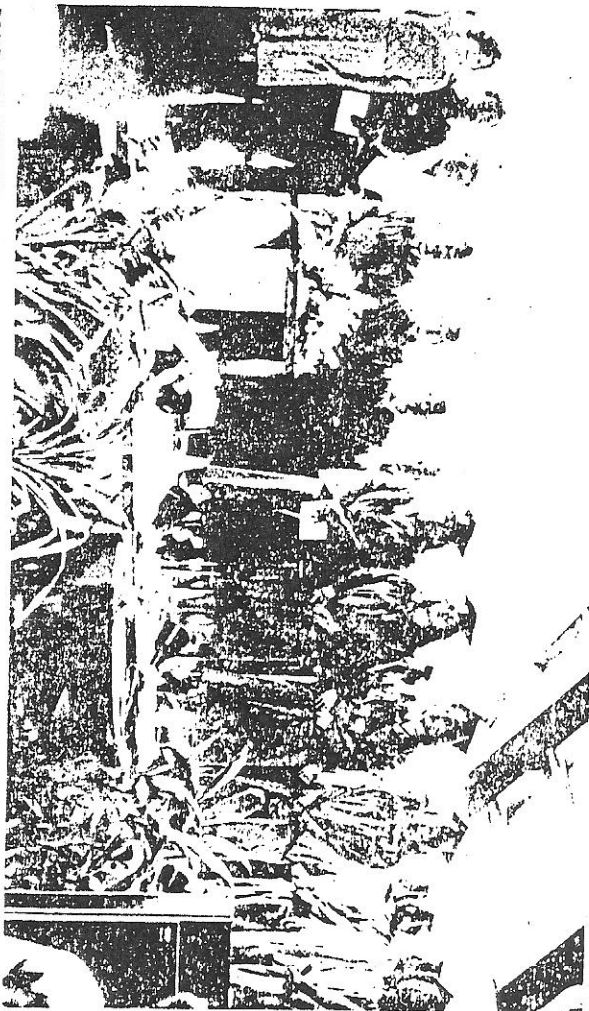
U.O.G. President Carter told the class the award of degrees is an achievement that can never be taken away, and is a reason for pride. "You are the first graduates to receive diplomas on Saipan, and that is something to be proud of for the rest of your lives," Carter said. "I urge you to continue to further your education." Carter said U.O.G. is negotiating with NMCC through what she called an "attitude of cooperation" to offer a three year bachelor's degree in

business, as well as additional practical courses in nursing and agriculture. Lt. Gov. Tenorio said the commencement marked a historic day for education in the Commonwealth, particularly because many graduates are teachers. "You are now better equipped to train the young people of Saipan, and I urge you to be faithful to your res-

ponsibilities," said Tenorio. "Because your degree is from the University of Guam does not mean less than if it came from a larger school. Use it with pride." In addition to the regular degrees awarded, Commonwealth Superintendent of Education Lorran Kojewski conferred an honorary degree on William S. Reyes for his longstanding contri-

butions to education in the Northern Marianas. Graduating with a B.A. degree were Dakesy Jolly, Rita Cruz Cabrera, Anna B. Ludwig, Jovella Riza Masawomai, Lourdes Tordella Mendiola, Bernadina Pinaula Sanchez, Moses Foy ran and Delinda Mura.

Those who earned an A.A. degree in elementary education were the following: Elaine Horger, Ricardo Atallu, Barbara Ayuyu, George Ayuyu, Victoria DLC Cabrera, Guadalupe Calvo, Susana T. Castro, Jose C. Leon Guerrero, Posalyn Mendiolan, Ignacio Mee-regon, Mary S. Moses, Macdalen T. Sablan, Mercedes San Nicolas and Elena Tamanao. Receiving an A.A. in liberal arts were Fely Calvo, Emerita Kohler and Joaquin Norita.



POM AND CIRCUMSTANCE - The first graduates of Northern Marianas Community College courses, along with dignitaries, rise for the national anthem at their graduation.

NMCC holds First Graduation

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SAIPAN—Northern Marianas Community College held its first graduation at 1:30 p.m. last Saturday (Aug. 14) at the Chamorro Village here. The College was started in 1976.

Twenty-five people received their degrees on that day. Of these 25, 18 completed their studies in Summer of 1982 and 7 finished their studies in Spring of 1982.

Of the 18 who completed their studies in Summer 1982, two received their BA degrees in Elementary Education, three got their AA degrees in Liberal Arts; and 13 earned their AA degrees in Elementary Education.

The two who received the BA in Elementary Education were Moses Fejeran and Delfina Muna.

The three who got their AA degrees in Liberal Arts were Felix Calvo, Emerita Kohler, and Joaquin Norita.

The 13 who earned their AA degrees in Elementary Education were Ricardo Atalig, Barbara Ayuyu, George Ayuyu, Victoria DLG Cabrera, Guadalupe

Calvo, Susana T. Castro, Jose C. Leon Guerrero, Rosalyn Mendiola, Ignacio Mesgion, Mary S. Moses, Magdalena T. Sablan, Mercedes San Nicolas, and Gloria Tainanao.

Of the 7 people who finished their studies in Spring 1982, 6 received their AA degrees in Elementary Education and one received her AA degree in Elementary Education.

The 6 BA recipients were Dakeisy Billy, Rita Cruz Cabrera, Anna B. Ludwick, Jovita Kisa Masimwai, Lourdes Tudela Mendiola, and Bernadita Pinaula Sanchez. The person who received her AA degree was Elaine Hocog.

The college offered a honorary degree to William Reyes, a long-time educator who has retired.

Among about 150 people present at the ceremony were Lt. Governor Pedro A. Tenorio, President of the University of Guam Dr. Rosa R. Carter, Provost of the Guam Community College Dr. John Safas, and acting dean of NMCC Ms. Kit Porter.

NMCC's first graduates being congratulated at their graduation held at the Chamorro Village last Saturday, Aug. 14.

