

Fond Recollections from 43 Years of Service at the University of Guam
Dr. George K. Kallingal, Professor Emeritus of Educational
and Developmental Psychology

My academic Journey began in North Bengal University in India, where I earned my bachelor's degree in the Humanities. I completed a degree program in Classical Philosophy in Salesian College before going to Michigan State University (MSU) to pursue my master's degree in Developmental Psychology and my doctoral degree in Educational Counseling and Abnormal Psychology. I served as an adjunct Professor at MSU and a high school teacher in the Lansing public school system, where I have a secondary school teaching license from the State of Michigan.

It was not until 1978 that I began teaching at the School of Education at the University of Guam. I had come to the island because my other family members were here. My brother, Anthony Kallingal, had been a professor at UOG and would later be appointed as the dean of the School of Education. I completed two years of internship and was given license to practice clinical psychology by the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, which allowed me to practice as a clinical psychologist at Kallingal's Medical Clinic.

My experiences and credentials have given me the opportunity to provide psychological consultations to agencies like the Community Mental Health Center in the Hemodialysis Unit at Guam Medical Hospital and a vocational rehabilitation center at the Department of Corrections. I have served as an expert witness at the District Court of Guam and the Superior Courts in both Guam and Saipan, and I have also testified as an expert witness in court martial cases on island.

I have been hired to provide psychological services to the Guam Police Department, Customs and Quarantine, and D4S Security. I have also extended my services to the veteran's evaluation services in Houston, Texas and conducted compensation evaluations for veterans in Japan, Korea, and the Philippines.

Through my active participation at the university and the community, I was nominated for the Researcher of the Year Award and the Service to Community Award. I was elected as Professor of the Year for Teaching and given an award by the Governor of Meghalaya State in India for many years of service in advancing education in the northeastern areas of India. I was also given the Karl Houser Award by the American Psychological Association at Washington, D.C. for enhancing psychological practices in Guam.

My work and teachings have allowed me to travel all over the world from India, Brunei, and the Philippines to Australia, Saipan, and the continental U.S. I've presented several papers at professional and non-professional conferences locally, nationally, and internationally. I was also a key-note speaker at several of them, including the United Nations conference in Manila and the UNESCO conference in Paris.

In 2003, I retired and joined the Society of Emeritus Professors, where I was given the title of Professor Emeritus by the UOG Board of Regents.

The early years at UOG were rough, and the University has taken strides to be where it is now, but there is still a need for knowledge, skills, and action for success in future professions. What UOG gives is primarily information. We need to do a better job in guiding students in converting the information they receive into knowledge, skills, and actions. This conversion is not automatic, and it is a missing link in education. As educators, we need to find more productive ways to provide a bridge for this gap for our students.

Despite this hurdle, however, the administration and professors continue to give their best to make the University what it is today, and I am happy to have been a part of UOG's ongoing progress. I've accumulated an array of special memories from the courses I've taught, the field trips I've taken, the research projects, conferences, programs and university events I've participated in, which include several community and regional outreach and engagement programs. I will always remember these special memories shared with the faculty, administrators, and students from the School of Education. They have made my time at UOG a worthwhile and fulfilling journey.



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