



PRESS RELEASE

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**Palau President to deliver keynote address at 2024 University of Guam
Conference for Island Sustainability**

The University of Guam announces that His Excellency Surangel Whipps Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, will be the keynote speaker at the 2024 University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability.

The conference is scheduled for April 8 to 15 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, and is a premier gathering of island leaders, scientists, policymakers, and community members committed to building a more sustainable future for island communities.

“We are honored to have President Whipps share his vision and experiences with our conference attendees,” said UOG President and CIS2024 Co-Chair Anita Borja Enriquez. “His keynote address promises to be a powerful and inspiring start to a productive and impactful conference and a great motivator for more regional partnerships.”

President Whipps is a prominent voice on the international stage, advocating for climate action and the unique challenges faced by island nations. His leadership and support for global and regional initiatives make him a motivating force in many sustainability discussions.

“President Whipps is a champion for island sustainability and a global leader in the fight against climate change,” said UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant Director Austin Shelton. “We are excited to learn more about his recent launch of the Palau Green Growth Initiative and signing of the renewed Compact of Free Association Agreement. His commitment to the future of his island nation and our planet aligns perfectly with our theme of ‘Sustainability Endures’ for this year’s conference.”

CIS2024 will explore a wide range of topics related to island sustainability, including climate change adaptation, renewable energy solutions, waste management strategies, and community resilience.

The theme of the 15th conference is “Sustainability Endures” and will showcase panels, featured speakers, and presentations made by researchers, community advocates, students, and stakeholders from all over the world. Registration for CIS2024 is now open.

For more information about the agenda, hotel information and to register, visit uog.edu/cis2024

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Photo caption:

Palau President Whipps Jr. will be the keynote speaker at the 2024 University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability on April 8 to 15 at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

Photo courtesy Office of Palau President Whipps Jr.

Headshot:

Palau President Whipps Jr.