



# TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY BULLETIN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY



ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ISSN 1908-7101 ■ Issue No. 115 ■ June 2022

## TSU sends off its first batch of Capas Campus graduates

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE



TSU and WCC, WCC ATC seal partnership through MOA

Page 4



Pampanga Provincial Agriculturist eyes TSU's solar irrigation pump to help farmers counter oil price hike

Page 12



Sixty-six (66) students from the Tarlac State University Capas Campus are among the first batch of graduates for the 33rd Commencement Exercises held on June 27, 2022 at the Kastelo Verde in Capas, Tarlac.

The full onsite graduation comprises 10 graduates from BS Criminology, 31 from Bachelor of Public Administration, and 25 from Bachelor of Elementary Education.

This is also the first set of

graduates from the first LGU-funded campus established in 2018 through the initiative of Hon. Reynaldo Catacutan, outgoing Capas town mayor and TSU Board of Regents alumni representative.

Mayor Catacutan, the brainchild of the said campus, was also the guest of honor and speaker. In his speech, he said he wants to pay forward to people the success he reaped in his years of education

*Continue to page 3*

## TSU ranked 7th in the HEIRIT-TBI Preparatory Program



Photo courtesy: HEIRIT-2.0

Out of 43 Philippine universities and colleges, Tarlac State University's Technology Business Incubator (TBI), Technological Advancement for Livelihood and Holistic Innovation for Businesses (TALAHIB), placed 7th in the Higher Education Institution Readiness for Innovation and Technopreneurship-TBI (HEIRIT-TBI) preparatory program.

The award was announced in the kick-off ceremony at the World Palace Hotel in Davao City last June 23, 2022.

TSU-TALAHIB, together with 27 universities under Track 1, will receive training and mentoring as well as funding support amounting to 500,000 pesos during the two-year HEIRIT-TBI preparatory program.

HEIRIT-TBI is one of the DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD)

*Continue to page 5*

# TSU continues 33rd Commencement Exercises, sends off 40 from graduate programs

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Tarlac State University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco conferred the degrees of 40 graduates from the graduate programs of five colleges in a limited face-to-face ceremony at the TSU Gymnasium on June 22, 2022.

The second day of the 33rd Commencement Exercises for this month sent off six graduates from the doctoral programs and 34 from the master's programs.



The invited commencement speaker for this graduation is Dr. Maria Carmen P. Cuenco, Schools Division Superintendent of Tarlac City Schools Division.

Dr. Cuenco is a TSU alumna who completed Doctor of Education major in Educational Management in 1999. She also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the university in 2018.

The commencement speaker's message centered on this year's theme, "Transformative, Innovative, and Interconnected Higher Education, Paving the Way to Greater Heights and Stronger Tomorrows."

While addressing the graduates,

she tasked them to be agents of change and influence others to become one, to never be contented with the status quo (challenge, cultivate, and innovate continuously), and to continue building their network.



"The last phrase of the theme is the better half actually because that is where the action is. That is what we need now. Pagkatapos tayong padapain ni COVID, pagwatak-watakin ng election campaign, at hagupitin ng walang humpay na oil price hikes, we need all the energy we can get to rise above these seemingly endless challenges," she said.

Furthermore, she hopes that the graduates will initiate action in

this direction as they have received their "transformative, innovative, and interconnected" education at TSU.

"Be catalysts of change. Yes, there will definitely be resistance. But remember this, initiate change with a heart – may puso. Because no matter how transformative, innovative, and interconnected your education was, it is doing things with a heart that matters most – may puso, may malasakit, may pagmamahal... 'Wag puro utak ang pairalin. Madalas, kung hindi man lagi, kailangan din gamitan ng puso," she added.



COLLEGE	No. of Graduates
College of Teacher Education	22
College of Business and Accountancy	4
College of Engineering and Technology	1
College of Public Administration and Governance	11
College of Science	2

# TSU sends off its first batch of Capas Campus graduates

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

From page 1

despite loads of hardships.

He shared that he juggled work and studies when he was a college student at Angeles University Foundation in Pampanga and finished BS Criminology as a cum laude.

The mayor said poverty did not hinder him from achieving his dreams. In college, he worked as a janitor at a clinic in the morning and attended classes in the afternoon. He took the risk of pursuing a college degree even when his mother told him she could not send all her 12 children to school.

He also added that his father, a barangay captain, was killed in 1979 – a victim of Martial Law.

Moreover, he mentioned that this graduation of TSU Capas Campus is a day of joy and thanksgiving for the graduates' parents, just like this graduation day.

All three programs offered in the said campus are related to him – Criminology, his bachelor's degree; Public Administration, his master's and doctoral degrees; and Education, which he emphasized that without teachers, there would be no professionals like them.

Meanwhile, Angel Chris Pingol, a BEEed graduate and the first magna cum laude of the campus, shared in her valedictory address that she first informed his dad about her Latin honor. In response, her father said, "Kasaya ku 'nak, melako ku pagal (Masaya ako, anak. Nawala ang lahat ng pagod ko)."

"May we remember how we



first started; may we remember how we wanted to prove the doubters that they are wrong... May we remember our inspiration. Maaalala sana natin ang mga taong dahilan sa ating paglaban. Kinaya, kinakaya, at kakayanin pa para sa pangarap ng ating pamilya," Pingol said.

She also thanked TSU for the quality education she received despite the pandemic.

"We thank TSU for ensuring and providing quality education amid the pandemic. This institution has shaped us and developed a wide range of skills in a way that we are ready to become excellent in our respective fields. It is our pleasure and privilege to be called as alumni of this institution," Pingol added.

The university also held two baccalaureate services on the same day. The first was a hybrid ceremony at the TSU Gymnasium presided by Rev. Fr. Jason Aguilar, rector of the Our Lady of Peace College Seminary. The second one was presided by Rev. Fr. Melvin Castro for the TSU Capas Campus graduates at Regina Familia Crystal Chapel.

The TSU Capas Campus located at Brgy. Cristo Rey was built with the hopes of giving accessible education to those living in remote areas in Capas town. Since the three TSU campuses are situated in Tarlac City, students need to spend extra on transportation if they opt to enroll there.



# TSU and WCC, WCC ATC seal partnership through MOA

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



A memorandum of agreement (MOA) was signed between Tarlac State University and World Citi Colleges (WCC) and WCC Aeronautical & Technological College (WCC ATC) on June 22, 2022 at the TSU Main AVR.

This partnership came into fruition as TSU, WCC, and WCC ATC are among the members of the Commission on Higher Education's High-Level Higher Education Partnership Canada Mission with a separate consortium memorandum of understanding signed last June 11, 2022.

With the connection created in the CHED endeavor, WCC initiated another MOA signing with TSU.



Through the recent signing event, both institutions wish to enhance their relations and develop academic and cultural interchange in all areas of education and research.

The MOA states the promotion of international academic cooperation in terms of the following: collaborative education programs; laboratory/research facilities sharing; faculty and student exchange; student field experience/

internship; cultural experience programs; joint seminars/conferences; exchange of information and research and extension publications; and establishment of joint research projects, among others.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg



thanked WCC and WCC ATC for their commitment to work for a more standardized and quality education in her welcoming remarks.

"Through this agreement, we hope that we [can] further inculcate a mindset of internationalization in the academe and our linkages which will result in the availment of accreditation based on international standards. This will likewise enable our clientele to receive trusted and standardized teaching and learning services," she said.

In his message of commitment, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco expressed his sincere gratitude and pledged his support to all the upcoming programs.

"We pledge and commit our 101% support and our heart to all the programs stated in the MOA po. We really

appreciate this partnership, and we will be enhancing our programs; we will develop more. Nakikita ko na po ang bright side of this partnership knowing na – nakita niyo naman po ang WCC, hindi po lugi ang Tarlac State University, Sir Patrick," President Velasco said.

WCC President Mr. Raymond Patrick Guico shared the same sentiments.

"Everyone was so humble. Sabi ko 'ito 'yung mga klase ng tao na gusto kong makasama – humble yet excellent. As you can see, I have brought several of my executives, deans, and officers to show the commitment we have [to] this partnership. And we are also hoping that we can deepen the discussions and conversations between us," Mr. Guico said.

He also shared how he wants WCC and WCC ATC to be significant contributors to the global community.

"That's why we are here. We are here to collaborate, benchmark, and share resources all to pursue excellence, [to] be the best at servicing our local communities, and in the end, be significant contributors to the global world," he added.



# TSU ranked 7th in the HEIRIT-TBI Preparatory Program

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

From page 1

programs which aims to train and prepare selected university TBI managers and IP officers to run, operate, and sustain business incubators in their respective universities.

This is the university's first time participating in the program's second and last wave. The first wave started in 2018 with 22 participating universities from around the country.

Through TBI-TALAHIB, TSU will not only be a valuable tool for accelerating entrepreneurship in Tarlac and its nearby provinces, but it will also continually become relevant and adaptive in the changing times.

"The team is grateful and humbled to have been recognized by DOST-PCIEERD. It is also [somehow] a good pressure to push ourselves even more to make sure that we are able to serve our prospective clients at best and for TSU to impact the lives of our fellow Tarlaqueños," said Technology Development, Transfer and Commercialization Office (TDTCO) Director Dr. Wilmark J. Ramos in a message.

Together with Dr. Ramos, the ceremony is participated by TBI Manager and Unit Head Mr. Aldrex G. Laxamana, and Food Technology and Research Center Production Services Unit Head Engr. Dick S. Tuazon.

Other TBI members who contributed to the project are Ms. Francelle L. Calub (CASS), Ms. Kristine Mae Ipan



(COS), Mr. Jaidriel Meg G. Cabanding (URO), and Ms. Myra Salvosa (resident entrepreneur).

## TSU-TALAHIB

TALAHIB was established in February 2022 for the PCIEERD-HEIRIT TBI program. It serves as an additional unit under TDTCO to help and assist food-focused/based Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Tarlac province in various areas of operations such as production, intellectual property (IP) protection, and marketing, among others.

"The ultimate goal of TALAHIB

is to nurture both unorganized and organized business which [will] be incubated so that in the long run, they will be able to operate on their own. The role of big businesses in this project will be to serve as experts/partners/mentors who are willing to help those MSMEs needing assistance, mentorship, and guidance," Dr. Ramos said.

During the program's first year (July 2022-July 2023), the group members will undergo a series of capacity-building activities and seminars. Deliverables, such as the conduct of needs analysis and a TBI business model and sustainability plan, are expected to be accomplished, among others.

In year two (August 2023-August 2024), the group will receive its funding, where they will start implementing its programs. This includes the provision of a TBI facility and presenting at least seven fully mentored startup teams ready for incubation.

TSU-TALAHIB will start their TBI proposal defense this August 2022.

Through TSU Memorandum Order No. 20, s. 2022, a re-composition of TSU-TBI has been issued. Mr. Aldrex Laxamana will remain as the TBI manager, while Dr. Ramos is now the new IP officer/consultant. Moreover, Mr. Cabanding is still the research consultant.

Meanwhile, Ms. Emmerly Balbas will now join Engr. Tuazon as a food technology consultant. Ms. Myra Salvosa remains as the group's resident entrepreneur.



## TSU and 302nd Community Defense Center, 3RCDG send-off TSU ROTC Unit “Dangbalasik” Class of 2022

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Tarlac State University and the 302nd Community Defense Center of the 3rd Regional Community Defense Group (3RCDG), Reserve Command (RESCOM) of the Philippine Army (PA), held a joint closing ceremony for the basic and advanced cadet officers on June 15, 2022 at the TSU Gymnasium.

This event is in recognition of the students who have completed the Reserve



Officers Training Corps (ROTC) course of the National Service Training Program (NSTP).

Thirty-three advanced cadets and 710 basic cadets, dubbed as TSU ROTC Unit “Dangbalasik” Class of 2022, were presented and declared graduates by ROTC Commandant Col. Reynaldo R. Malapad (CAV) GSC PA and 3RCDG Group Commander Col. Roberto R. Sarmiento (INF) GSC PA, respectively.

Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco was invited as keynote speaker to the graduates. He spoke of the values, discipline, and commitment gained and instilled through the ROTC program.

“Being a cadet is not just about

attending trainings. Being one has a duty that should be accomplished every day; a duty that does not end as you graduate in the ROTC program here in TSU, but a duty that is for our beloved nation and people,” President Velasco said in his message.

He also talked about how the university ROTC unit should be an exemplary implementer who educates and trains students for national defense preparedness and develops them to be law-abiding and socially and economically productive citizens.

“ROTC – sometimes to us Ilocanos is ‘Rumuar (Lumabas), Omunig (Pumasok), Tumaray (Tumakbo),



Cumleb (Nagtago).’ But generally, it is also ‘Resourcefulness, Other people-mindedness, Tenacity, and Compassion.’ Let us continue our outstanding and excellent instruction and training of the basic and advanced ROTC always,” he added.

In an interview, NSTP Director Prof. Louis Adonis G. Silvestre hopes that the graduates will continue to serve the Filipinos and that some will continue

to become officers in any branch of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

“Yung pagpasok nila sa ROTC is ‘yun ang parang pinaka-hope ng Pilipinas – they were trained well, disciplined well. So, na-nurture sa kanila ‘yung love for the country – ‘yung service to the Filipino people. At sana ‘wag mamatay ‘yung spark na ‘yun – ‘yung faith na na-imbue sa kanila during trainings. Ipakita nila na ‘yung training nila sa TSU is not in vain,” he said.

The basic ROTC course is divided into lectures and basic skill training like drills and rescue. Meanwhile, the advanced ROTC course is for cadets who wish to pursue further military instruction. Completion of this course is considered a graduate qualification in Military Science.

According to Col. Malapad, the graduates will be issued a serial number as reserved members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. This will also reflect on their Transcript of Records upon their graduation.



## TSU Student Affairs honors student leaders, journos, advisers through in-person Araw ng Parangal

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Around 120 student leaders and journalists attended the Araw ng Parangal 2022 last June 13 at the TSU Gymnasium – the first face-to-face ceremony for students after the pandemic started.

This year's awarding is a formal event where outstanding student leaders, student journalists, and advisers received plaques and certificates in their Barong Tagalog and Filipiniana attires.

"The Araw ng Parangal 2022 implies that being [part] of a group or an organization means that you carry the mission and purpose of your own organization. You really made an effort to accomplish whatever is needed to be accomplished in your respective organization, especially [since] you are the leaders and the future leaders of our country. Additionally, you carry the values and principles set by [the] respective organizations that you represent," said Dr. Agnes Macaraeg, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"With leadership, it takes a lot of responsibility and hard work. Through your different organizations, you learned the value of your teamwork and organization," VP Macaraeg added.



Engr. Adrian Eliorico, Supreme Student Council President 2018-2019, now a licensed electrical engineer in Manila, imparted inspiring words to the student leaders and journalists in a speech.

"Kailangan mong tumaya. Bakit? Kasi 'yun 'yung first step natin para magawa natin 'yung bagay na alam nating makakatulong sayo. Pangalawa ay 'yung lumaban ka. Kasi after mong maglingkod dito sa loob ng TSU, sa susunod ang iisipin mo na ay 'yung 460 at yung 570 – 460 [pesos] minimum wage salary sa Central Luzon; 570 [pesos] minimum wage ng Manila," Eliorico said.

According to Eliorico, his batch was the luckiest because students enjoyed all face-to-face activities (Intramurals,



Foundation Week) during his term, which was before the pandemic.

Eliorico added that students without leadership responsibilities usually have longer time dedicated to their studies and family bonding. However, student leaders like them need to sacrifice a portion of their time to attend meetings, organize events, or for other council-related activities.

"Minsan 'di kayang i-balanse. May time na mapapabayaang mo 'yung pag-aaral mo. Yung tipong sa isang araw, mas marami pa 'yung meeting mo kaysa

sa subject na pinasok mo. Pero need mo mag-sacrifice para makausad. Sacrifice ka ng tulog over review. Sacrifice ka ng pagtulong sa event over practicum or actual presentation. Minsan, mag-event maghapon tapos thesis sa gabii. Pero kinaya dahil 'di naman ako mag-isa sa konseho, may karamay at kasama ako na maaasahan ko," Eliorico said in an interview.

Despite these setbacks, Eliorico noted that joining organizations, publications, and student councils can boost one's self-esteem and hone leadership and speaking skills.



## TSU Concepcion Campus to open in August 2022

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

The Tarlac State University Concepcion Campus will officially operate in August 2022 with programs from the colleges of Teacher Education, Public Administration and Governance, and Criminal Justice Education as announced during its onsite inauguration ceremony on June 25, 2022.

Concepcion town outgoing mayor Andy Lacson led the blessing and inauguration along with some elected town officials, TSU's executives, and Administrative Council members.

Said campus with 25 model classrooms will be catering to students from Concepcion town and other neighboring towns.

During the program, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg delivered a message on behalf of TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco stating that students need not enroll in Manila, Pampanga, or anywhere else to get quality education and become catalysts of change for the said town.



"The Tarlac State University has existed and educated hundreds of thousands of students for the past 116 years since 1906. I hope the Concepcion Campus will do the same for the next 100 years and will produce more Ninoy Aquinos, Jesli Lapuses, Andy Lacsons, and Lino Dizons," VP Macaraeg said.

Mayor Lacson shared the same sentiments and said that education is the best investment that yields the best interest.

"Kasi ang hangad po natin, kahit papaano, ay maramdaman naman ng mga lokal, ng mga estudyante, na meron silang eskwelahan na at par 'dun sa mga biggest



at prestigious universities dito sa ating bansa. At ang pinakamaganda po nito ay nandito lang sa Concepcion ang TSU. Ang laking bagay po para sa mga kababayan natin," he said.

He added that parents will no longer worry about other schooling expenses like transportation, food, allowance, lodging, as well as direct supervision of their children because of the new LGU-funded tertiary education campus that is within their reach.

Aside from the TSU Concepcion Campus, Mayor Lacson had previously inaugurated three other public schools under the Department of Education.



Also in attendance is TSU Board of Regents member Hon. Dennis Norman T. Go who reinforced Mayor Lacson's vision of having a town with more degree-holder citizens.

"Talagang I know how you (Mayor Lacson) value education keni keng lugar

ayni (in this town). And may this building, and this campus be a testament to our shared desire to provide the young people of Concepcion not only with quality education but [also] accessible education," he said.

Regent Go, together with Regent Reynaldo Catacutan, are among the TSU BOR members who fully supported the opening of the Concepcion campus that was conceptualized during the term of former TSU president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

He also suggested adding more programs to the said campus.

Rev. Fr. O'neil Sanchez, Rector of Santuario De La Immaculada Concepcion, officiated the blessing of the campus.

Meanwhile, incoming Concepcion town mayor Hon. Noel Villanueva and President Velasco led the inspection of the Concepcion Campus this afternoon on June 23 along with some university officials.





# TSU signs Consortium Memorandum of Understanding with participating HEIs in the High-Level Higher Education Partnership Canada Mission

■ Rolien Mark Balisi [IALO]

Tarlac State University and other participating higher education institutions (HEIs) in the High-Level Higher Education Partnership Canada Mission inked a consortium memorandum of understanding last June 11, 2022 at the World Citi Colleges-Aeronautical and Technological College (WCC-ATC) campus in Binalonan, Pangasinan last June 11, 2022.

Joining TSU as HEI partners are Tarlac Agricultural University, Iloilo Science and Technology University, Mariano Marcos State University, Southern Leyte State University, Universidad De Dagupan, West Visayas State University, World Citi Colleges, and WCC Aeronautical and Technological College, which was spearheaded by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

The consortium MOU stipulates the collaboration of participating HEIs



Photo courtesy: [IALO]

in the Canada Partnership Mission in Ottawa and Toronto held from March 25 to April 5, 2022.

The Canada Partnership Mission specifies frameworks on how HEIs can initiate and support specific academic cooperation programs in information exchange, education exchange, and research collaboration. Furthermore, HEIs can explore collaborative opportunities such as faculty and student exchange, training and capacity building, among

others.

The signing was attended by the presidents of participating HEIs and the CHED International Affairs Staff Director Atty. Lily Freida C. Macabangun-Milla.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, Executive Assistant to the President Dr. Brigido Corpuz, and International Affairs and Linkages Office Director Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza also attended the event.

# TSU joins CHED Higher Education Delegation in Canada

■ Rolien Mark Balisi [IALO]

In its commitment to maintain world-class and globally competitive education, Tarlac State University, along with five SUCs from the country, participated in the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) High-Level Higher Education Partnership Mission to Canada in Ottawa and Toronto from March 25 to April 5, 2022.

CHED Chairperson Dr. Prospero De Vera III signed Joint Statements on Cooperation in Higher Education with Universities Canada and Colleges and Institutes Canada (CIC) to expand education collaboration in areas such as student mobility, Indigenous Peoples education, United Nations SDGs research, and faculty and staff development, among others, as reported by the Commission.

Moreover, heads and representatives of Philippine universities and colleges signed letters of intent with the same organizations signaling their commitment to support and implement various programs that would develop from their upcoming initiatives.

TSU was represented by Vice President for Administration and Finance Dr. Marlon V. Gamido and International Affairs and Linkages Office Director Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza.

Other state universities and colleges that participated in the visit include representatives from the Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISAT-U), Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), Southern



Photo courtesy: [IALO]

Leyte State University (SLSU), Tarlac Agricultural University (TAU), and West Visayas University (WVSU).

The Higher Education Delegation - High-Level Visit was initiated in adherence to the memorandum of understanding on higher education cooperation between the Philippines and the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) last February 3, 2020.



## PANIDRM conducts general assembly at TSU, Pres. Velasco administers oath-taking of national org officers

■ Hershey D. Samia

The Philippine Association of NSTP Implementers and Disaster Risk Managers, Inc. (PANIDRM), in partnership with Tarlac State University, held its general assembly and the oath-taking of its executive officers, board of directors, and coordinators last June 12, 2022 at the Alumni Center of the Lucinda Campus.

The inducting officer for the oath-taking is TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, the organization's national adviser and consultant.

With President Velasco's role in PANIDRM, the association also signed a memorandum of agreement with TSU as its institutional partner on June 11, 2022 before the oath-taking proper.

Moreover, according to Board of Directors Chairperson Dr. Susana Fernandez, TSU was also chosen as a partner because of its good facilities, equipment, and buildings.

The event, which coincides with the 124th Philippine Independence Day, aims to promote NSTP implementation that integrates disaster risk reduction management (DRRM) for NSTP students across all state universities and colleges (SUCs) and higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country through a national organization that is guided by the revised implementing rules and regulations of the NSTP Act of 2001 (Republic Act No.



9163) and Philippine DRRM Act of 2010 (Republic Act No. 10121).

"[The activity] signifies that we have this liberty and freedom to form a united organization that will eventually enhance this very good program of the government that is Republic Act No. 9163 (NSTP Act of 2001) and Republic Act No. 10121 (PDRRM Act of 2010)," President Velasco said.

The PANIDRM agreed that there should be a standardized format when teaching common and specific NSTP modules. This will be in the form of three copyrighted books to be launched in July or August 2022.

TSU NSTP Director Prof. Louis Adonis Silvestre, one of the members of the newly formed association, said that NSTP coordinators from various regions in the

country had joined forces to intensify and promote DRRM implementation in all Philippine SUCs through NSTP.

"Ito (PANIDRM) yung avenue para magkaroon ng brainstorming ng lahat ng mga best practices, issues and concerns ng mga [NSTP] implementers, and then dito aayusin iyong kung paano nga ba dapat ituturo ang NSTP na kaakibat iyong disaster risk management. So parang ang training ng NSTP ngayon is not more on the intellectual aspect but it is more on 'learning by doing,'" he added.

According to Dr. Fernandez, the PANIDRM was created upon the release of the revised implementing rules and regulations of the NSTP Act of 2001 issued by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the Department of National Defense (DND) in November 2021.

"PANIDRM is dedicated to address issues on NSTP and DRRM laws among SUCs, HEIs, and local government units (LGUs) on how they actively implement two laws (RA No. 9163 and RA No. 10121) relevant to the lives of fellow citizens in the advent of war and catastrophes," she added.

PANIDRM is the first national NSTP organization initiated by Dr. Fernandez which will soon organize an international conference for NSTP implementers to be hosted by TSU on September 21-23, 2022.

The organization also plans to hold an annual presentation of SUCs' best practices based on students' research outputs and extension activities under the community outreach program. NSTP students will share these in a separate conference.



## TSU AAI awards incentive to Bar 2020-2021 exemplary passer

■ Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat

The Tarlac State University Alumni Association, Inc. (TSU AAI) recognized Atty. Michael John Dimarucut with a monetary incentive for being one of the exemplary passers with 85%-90% passing score in the 2020-2021 Philippine Bar examinations.

TSU Board of Regents alumni representative and Capas mayor Hon. Reynaldo Catacutan personally awarded the incentive to Atty. Dimarucut last June 1, 2022 in Capas, Tarlac.

Also present in the gathering are Executive Assistant to the TSU President Dr. Brigido Corpuz, Alumni Affairs Office Director Dr. Winston Abalos, College of Teacher Education Alumni President Dr. Nicanor Caingat, and School of Law Alumni President Atty. Jocelyn Clemente.



## DOST scholar to graduate as summa cum laude

■ Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat

A scholar of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) from the College of Teacher Education is set to finish his bachelor's degree as summa cum laude this July 2022.

Rekarlo S. Punzalan, 21, a Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Mathematics student, has a general weighted average of 1.19.

According to Scholarship and Financial Assistance Unit Head Dr. Elsie Canlas, this batch of scholars also has three magna cum laude and five cum laude graduates which she considers a milestone for the unit.

"Since I was a part of the TSU family, this is my 40 years in service, ngayon ko lang na-witness na magkakaroon tayo ng summa cum laude," Dr. Canlas said.

"Masaya ako na performing ang ating mga DOST scholars at hind sayang 'yung financial assistance ng government, specifically yung DOST," she added.

DOST scholars are receiving 7,000 pesos monthly stipend, 10,000 pesos book allowance per year, and 1,000 pesos uniform allowance per semester.



## Pampanga Provincial Agriculturist eyes TSU's solar irrigation pump to help farmers counter oil price hike

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Pampanga's Office of Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) is considering Tarlac State University's integrated solar power generator and water/irrigation pump to aid farmers using diesel for their water pumps.

TSU, represented by Vice President for Research and Extension Services Office Dr. Murphy Mohammed, University Research Director Prof. Edjie Delos Reyes, and Prof. Rodel Botio, met with OPA-Pampanga for a discussion on June 21, 2022 at the VPRES office.

According to Dr. Rowena Kassem, OPA supervising agriculturist for research, they are trying to process the papers and start the project this year for Floridablanca National Agricultural School and other local farmers in Pampanga.

Dr. Kassem also said this project is part of the ten-point executive-legislative agenda for agriculture of Pampanga governor Dennis Delta Pineda.

"We are now considering the cost of the fuel to replace fuel with renewable energies, and your university is one of the schools that already has (sic) the technology to transfer when it comes to solar and micro irrigations," she said in an interview.

Moreover, Prof. Botio expressed his support for the project between TSU



and OPA-Pampanga aimed to help the indigenous peoples of the school.

"Floridablanca National Agricultural School is a school for indigenous people – mga Aetas. Doon sila nag-garden at doon na rin sila kumukuha ng livelihood nila. So parang naging facility 'yon para sa mga Aeta kasi nagvisit ako doon last month at nakita ko yung validity nung project, and government

siya (OPA-Pampanga) at government tayo (TSU), and we need to give support to our partner agency. With the use of our solar [power], hindi na tayo gagamit ng diesel. We are now free from using diesel na mataas ang presyo ngayon at patuloy na tumataas," Prof. Botio said.

According to Prof. Botio, project leader of the solar power generator and water/irrigation pump, the devised machine can pump water for a one-hectare rice field for an entire day.

The said pump has a "daily tracking structural-mechanical part" where farmers can rotate the solar panels (360 degrees) to face the sun directly.

Aside from providing water, it is also an electricity source for farmers, which they can use to power up their lights at night. The pump can also supply electricity for their radio and television sets which they can use for information and entertainment.

Dr. Kassem said they are asking for a copy of the installation cost. They are also looking into adding another proposal for the solar irrigation pumps of farmers to replace the existing shallow tube well.

"The authorities are requesting us – our mission to go here is to collaborate to us (sic) for the preparation of this project



*Continue to page 13*

From page 12

proposal. So hinging ko lang na gawing dalawa, [one for the school] and even the local version for our farmers whose [water] source is our Pampanga river basin. Kasi may Pampanga river kami so all the farm lands that [are] traversing along the tributaries of Pampanga river would be the potential target of the solar [project] kasi mababaw yung tubig sa may tabing ilog. So meron naman na kasing mga farmers' organizations na meron nang mga nakabaon na shallow tube well," Dr. Kassem said.

She also mentioned that this is their second time visiting TSU. Joining her in the visit are representatives from the Provincial Planning and Development Office, Engr. Jojo Casto and Engr. Joann Dizon.

"They are the recipient of [technology] transfer, and the goal of TSU

is to offer its service and technology – hindi ipagkakait ni TSU yan. With our situation in energy crisis and fuel crisis, TSU should be ready to offer our technology to buffer this impact," Prof. Botio said.



In 2019, TSU and the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office III helped farmers of Brgy. Balanti in Tarlac City water their crops without spending much on diesel through its integrated solar power generator and water/irrigation pump. This made the rice and

corn farmers in Brgy. Balanti beam with joy because the water supply in the fields is not enough. Also, some farmers who cannot afford a diesel water pump would often fetch water from the river in Balanti to water their organic crops.

Through Prof. Botio, the university also installed solar power water pumps in Brgy. Dalayap and Brgy. Ungot in Tarlac City for farmers who plant vegetables.

Prof. Botio said they are still working on installing solar power generators to power more rice fields in Tarlac province this year.

In addition, TSU also has five solar-powered carts (also created by Prof. Botio), which Department of Science and Technology Region III Director Dr. Julius Caesar Sicat suggested as a solution to the prevailing oil price hike during a DOST forum last March 9, 2022, streamed via the DOST Philippines Facebook page.

## TSU formally opens Unity Cup 2022 as wellness program

■ Franc Lewis R. Juanatas

Tarlac State University launched the Unity Basketball Cup 2022 last June 3, 2022 at the TSU Gymnasium with University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco formally opening the tournament.

The first three games of the single round-robin competition also commenced on the same day.

The basketball cup is part of the university's wellness program, which promotes a healthy lifestyle among its employees. Moreover, it also seeks to reinforce unity, camaraderie, and socialization among employees of the different campuses.

"This is a friendship game. Bagamat ito ay physical game, hindi po maiwasan na minsan may physical pero sana po umiral po sa atin ang puso ng pagkakaibigan, na itong ginagawa nating ito ay to balance our living. Hindi lang puro trabaho, kailangan din po natin ng physical game tulad nito," President Velasco said in his message to the players during the formal opening.

Players of the said tournament are the teaching and non-teaching employees of the university divided into seven participating teams.

Two teams are composed of faculty members from different colleges, two are from the non-teaching staff, and one team each for the Management Information Systems Office (MISO), Facilities Development and Management



Office (FDMO), and a joint team from the College of Criminal Justice Education (CCJE) and the Civil Security Unit (CSU).

Towards the end of June, the teams FDMO, CSU-CCJE, Maestro Lucinda (Lucinda Campus faculty members), and NASA (Non-Academic Staff Association) emerged as the final four.

The tournament is set to end on July 7, 2022.

This activity is spearheaded by

Alumni Affairs Director Dr. Winston Abalos and organized by the TSU Faculty and Personnel Union (TSUFPU), Non-Academic Staff Association (NASA), and Human Resource Development and Management Office (HRDMO) in partnership with the Office of Public Affairs (OPA).

In previous years, the university also organized a similar basketball cup termed President's Cup.

## TSU, Sitel meet up to strengthen partnership for career opportunities

■ Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat

Through Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, Tarlac State University welcomed some representatives from Sitel Tarlac on June 15, 2022 to discuss projects and activities that could strengthen the existing linkage between the two institutions.

Sitel's University and Community Partnership Specialist Ms. Marie Grace N. Lulu proposed the conduct of a face-to-face or virtual career fair exclusive to TSU graduates. She noted that around 30% of the company's population comprises the university's alumni, allowing the business to expand.

"As a TSU [alumna] like other Sitel associates, I would like to give back to our Alma Mater by providing an opportunity for TSU graduates and graduating students to be employed at Sitel Tarlac – for their career growth and for their livelihood," Ms. Lulu said in a message.

Vice President Macaraeg responded affirmatively to the request since it will open more career opportunities



Photo courtesy: Prof. Augusto N. Lulu, Jr.

for the students and graduates of TSU.

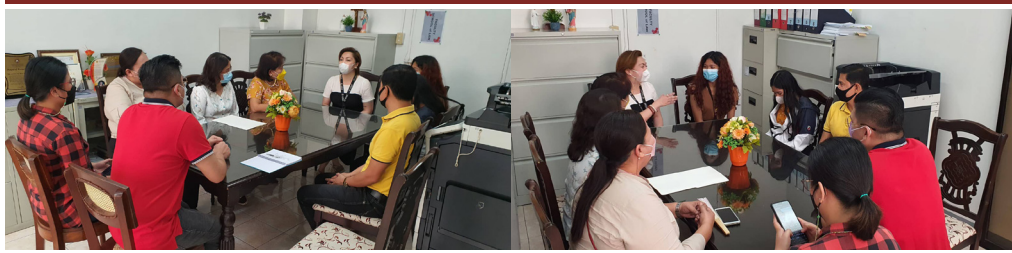
"Strengthening TSU's partnership with Sitel will immensely benefit the OJT program of the various curricular offerings of the institution. This continued collaboration will likewise provide excellent career opportunities to our graduates as Sitel is among the top

BPO companies in the Philippines," VP Macaraeg said.

The career fair is expected to happen in July 2022 after the graduation ceremonies.

Also present during the meeting are Dr. Myrel Santiago and Dr. Ninez Tullo of the International Affairs and Linkages Office, Dr. Dexter Manzano of the Student Affairs and Services, and Prof. Augusto Lulu Jr. of the VPAA Office.

Meanwhile, other representatives from Sitel who attended the meeting are Strategic People Program Director Mr. Rowel Villalobos and University and Community Partnership Specialist Ms. Mary Grace Rodelas.



## COS alumni give back to Chemistry students through calculator donations

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Forty-five students from the College of Science (COS) received scientific calculators from the COS Alumni Organization (Batch 2003) during the "Alay SayKal ng Chem Alumnay 2022" event on June 21, 2022 at the Main Campus AVR.

The TSU Alumni Association Inc. spearheaded the event alongside the college-based alumni organization. Different batches of BS Chemistry alumni raised 42,000 pesos for the scientific calculator units.

Among the recipients are BS Chemistry students, particularly the top 10 students from the first-year



From page 14

level and the top six students from the pre-board examinations. Meanwhile, second-year and third-year student recipients were chosen based on a student financial status survey.

According to COS Alumni Organization president Prof. Claire Lagrana, the idea came from Mr. Richard Macapulay, TSU alumnus and 2016 Licensure Examination for Teachers topnotcher (Top 1 - Secondary Level).

Through Macapulay's connection to the University of the Philippines' Institute of Chemistry, Prof. Lagrana said they saw the strong partnership between UP and its alumni through an alumni-sponsored building. From this, they considered adopting this best practice by providing calculator units to current students.

"Hindi kasi lahat ng students afford iyon (scientific calculators), so 'yun 'yung naisip nila. Although meron na silang mga calculators, pero siniguro ng mga sponsors nila na itong ibibigay nilang calculators ay allowed ng PRC (Professional Regulation Commission) during board exam.



So dapat ma-master na nila 'yung gagamitin nilang unit kasi it takes speed sa kanilang calculation. Dapat kabisado nila yung unit," Prof. Lagrana said in an interview.

She added that other students might be using high-tech calculators that may not be allowed during board examinations. Adjusting to a new device, such as the donated units, will take time, especially in computing. Hence, it is best to provide the units

early so students can practice using them for their computations.

In an email correspondence with Macapulay, he also shared that the groundwork was undertaken with the help of Mr. Roosevelt Tabag and Prof. Lagrana.

"Roosevelt and I scouted alumni who can pledge to the scientific calculator donation drive, collated the funding (from different batches), verified to PRC the allowable scientific calculators for the Chemist and Chemical Technician Licensure Exams before purchasing the units, and formulated the survey as to the selection of recipients," he said.

One lucky recipient for this year is Diaem Domingo, 22, a fourth-year student who will be graduating in July 2022 as cum laude.

Domingo said he is currently preparing for the October 2022 Chemist Licensure Examination. His schedule includes reviewing two topics daily and taking notes from the college's in-house review and his review center.

"Inspiring po kasi sya lalo na po alumni po yung mga nagbigay. Parang



Continue to page 17

# THE PANDEMIC TEACHER

■ Prof. Rebecca M. Mercado

**P**raises the self at times...during intrapersonal encounters  
For displaying the best foot forward

**A**ccepts changes and surprises  
Who can question a Potter s designs?

**N**urtures the body, soul and spirit  
Holistic wellness is the ultimate wealth

**D**edicates time for ICT  
The name of the game is NETIQUETTE

**#E**nriches the learners' KSAV  
In Persona Role Play, one experiences reality

**M**editates depression in prayers...seeks the holy spirit for strength  
Mediates in fine gestures...to heal broken bones

**I**nterrogates the wrath of nature  
Whispers... messages of reconciliations

**C**onverses with an old pauper  
What is a life worth living?

**T**alks to the Flora and Fauna on their immediate rehabilitations  
Envisions Forest Bathing... soothing as the cool breeze of Atimonan, Quezon.

**E**ats a hearty meal with the ants, conies and locusts  
Smiles with the grasshoppers and termites.

**A**ssesses man-made ideologies: Deforest the mountains;  
Drain the ocean...and he Dead Sea is literally...dying

**C**alculates the speed of the ticking clock  
The indolent ponders..."I will wait for no one."

**H**olds firm to the practice of Going Back to the Basics  
Revisits...appreciates our glorious past

**E**valuates a man 's tedious journey  
Yet, a foreign traveler hopes for the gifts...unseen

**R**eiterates a query to the departed...  
AFTER DEATH...WHAT COMES NEXT?



## TSU BULLETIN EDITORIAL BOARD

MS. JAZZEL LLANELI M. MANABAT  
DIRECTOR, OPA | EDITOR IN CHIEF

MS. MARIA ADELAIDA D. CALAYAG  
OIC - UNIT HEAD FOR PUBLICATION  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MS. JODIE ANDREA G. PANGILINAN  
WRITER

MS. MA. TERESA D. MADRIAGA  
MR. DENZELL JETH D. BUENA  
LAYOUT ARTISTS

MR. ALEXRAEL Y. CACULITAN  
MR. FRANC LEWIS JUANATAS  
PHOTOJOURNALISTS

### CONTRIBUTORS

HERSHEY D. SAMIA [OPA]  
ROLIEN MARK BALISI [IALO]  
PROF. REBECCA M. MERCADO [CTED]  
ALPHA M. GUIEB [OPA INTERN]  
EDUARDO F. LAXAMANA [OPA INTERN]  
MA. CHRISE MAICA CORTEZ [OPA INTERN]  
DEXTER WAYNE L. GRAGASIN [OPA INTERN]

### CONSULTANTS

DR. ARNOLD E. VELASCO  
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

DR. AGNES M. MACARAEG  
VP FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

DR. GRACE N. ROSETE  
VP FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

DR. MURPHY P. MOHAMMED  
VP FOR RESEARCH AND EXTENSION SERVICES

DR. NIÑO B. CORPUZ  
VP FOR PLANNING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE





From page 15

ito na 'yung basbas nila para sa amin. Ito na 'yung pinaka-good luck charm nila para sa amin na galingan po namin, na magstrive kami for betterness katulad po nila which is inspiration po kasi namin sila," said Domingo, a consistent dean's lister since freshman.

He plans to pursue medicine at Urdaneta State University in Pangasinan.

The COS alumni's initiative

inspired Domingo to imitate their practice of giving back to the college.

"It inspired me somehow na kung may pagkakataon ako na makatulong someday sa mga [Chemistry students], which is alam naman po namin gaano kahirap ang [BS Chemistry], it will somehow help them; I will somehow help them in the future, and I am ensuring that," Domingo told OPA.

Aside from providing qualified faculty members, the university also offers students a free in-house review. Board exam topnotchers serve as reviewers to prepare prospective examinees, especially those who cannot afford to enroll in review centers.

In-house review is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

## EDITORIAL

### Perennial problem of Free Higher Education

It is undeniable that Republic Act No. 10931, or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act signed by President Rodrigo Duterte in 2017, has been helping a multitude of Filipino youth with dreams of having a better and more comfortable life through tertiary education. While the law is well-meaning, like other statutes, there will always be loopholes that must be addressed. Policy making is a never-ending process, hence, state universities and colleges (SUCs) experience perennial problems in implementing the Free Higher Education law.

Although the statistics of complaints and queries decrease yearly, aspiring students of Tarlac State University who did not qualify for the college admission test and evaluation are still in limbo whenever they receive their results. Moreover, a few qualifiers are also doubtful if they will be paying for their tuition or not. This casts some doubt on the efficiency of information dissemination of SUCs or the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) regarding the law's features, perks, and limitations.

In a sea of available online

information, one can easily get drowned and miss out on essential details that could benefit the populace. A good law, such as RA 10931, must be converted into bite-sized pieces that Filipinos from all walks of life can easily digest. This strategy can help solve the perennial problem of the law implementation.

It must also be noted that all education institutions have a specific capacity. Even lecture rooms and laboratories are limited to 50 students to ensure a quality teaching-learning process. So, it should not be surprising that there are limits on the number of students that TSU, let alone other schools, can accept. Each building has a certain occupant capacity. This is the number of people allowed to occupy a building per the National Building Code of the Philippines.

Furthermore, since the implementation of RA 10931, it is apparent that the government subsidizes the tuition of enrolled students. Therefore, TSU has an allotted budget for implementing the law submitted to the Department of Budget and Management and CHED. The limitation is based on the

university's capacity to house students from first-year level to graduating year per Section 3 (v) of RA No. 1931 Implementing Rules and Regulations. TSU will be operating at a loss if the university goes beyond its allocation.

Also, the law states that all Filipino students in SUCs without bachelor's degrees are covered by the law as long as "they pass the entrance examination and other admission and retention requirements (Section 4 of RA No. 10931)." As difficult as it may be, an admission evaluation will always have qualifiers and non-qualifiers, and the qualified ones are entitled to enjoy the benefits and privileges of the law.

TSU understands the plight of young Tarlaqueños and their families regarding access to free education. It is also understandable that the population may not fully comprehend the 2017 law due to legal and technical terminologies. Five years after the law's implementation, the birth pains should have been overcome by now. No law is flawless when it is drafted, approved, and implemented. Problems will always arise. But all parties (students, SUCs, CHED) should do their part to make RA 10931 understood, appreciated, and recognized by everyone.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY  
LICENSED TSUIAN ARCHITECTS!**

**JUNE 2022 ARCHITECT LICENSURE  
EXAMINATION (ALE)**

FIRST TIME TAKERS    INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE  
**59.09%**            **50.55%**

*The TSU Community is very proud of you!*

**Congratulations to the  
newly licensed TSUian Nurses!**  
**MAY 2022 PHILIPPINE NURSE  
LICENSURE EXAMINATION**

FIRST TIME TAKER	<b>100.00%</b>
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	<b>88.89%</b>
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	<b>68.01%</b>

*The TSU community is very proud of you!*



**TSU-CBA** *Congratulations to the newly licensed  
TSUian Accountants!*  
**MAY 2022 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
LICENSURE EXAMINATION (CPALE)**

FIRST TIME TAKERS	<b>25.00%</b>
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	<b>25.93%</b>
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	<b>22.29%</b>

*The TSU community is very proud of you!*



## TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY

### Vision

Tarlac State University is envisioned to be a premier University in the Asia Pacific Region.

### Mission

Tarlac State University commits to promote and sustain the offering of quality and relevant programs in higher and advanced education ensuring equitable access to education for people empowerment, professional development, and global competitiveness.

### Towards this end, TSU shall:

- 1.) Provide high quality instruction through qualified, competent and adequately trained faculty members and support staff.
- 2.) Be a premier research institution by enhancing research undertakings in the fields of technology and sciences and strengthening collaboration with local and international institutions.
- 3.) Be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals

### Quality Policy

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.