



TSU, LGU Concepcion signs MOA for continued municipality-based campus operations



To ensure continued campus operations, the Tarlac State University administration and the local government of Concepcion renewed their partnership through a memorandum of agreement signed on May 19, 2023, at the TSU Concepcion Extension Campus grounds in Brgy. San Nicolas Poblacion.

This MOA signing and the

establishment of extension campuses in the three towns of the third congressional district of Tarlac Province is the university's response to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) on ensuring quality education, according to Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg.

"This [bringing TSU to

Concepcion town] would mean an answer to the mantra of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals that no one will be left behind. And this will mean a lot [to the students]," VP Macaraeg added.

TSU Board of Regents member Hon. Dennis Norman T. Go emphasized

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Tarlac State University set another record after garnering three topnotchers in the March 2023 Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET).

In the secondary level, Roosevelt

Tabag Jr. ranked second with an average of 93 percent, and Rekarlo Punzalan ranked eighth with 91.40 percent. Kyla Adams also secured the sixth rank in the elementary

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TSU, LGU Concepcion signs MOA for continued municipality-based campus operations

■ Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat

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the importance of partnership renewal for well-defined provisions relative to quality education delivery.

“Kailangan eh magkaroon tayo uli ng MOA signing dito sa Concepcion regarding dito sa Concepcion Campus by and between TSU atsaka ang local government of Concepcion. Ang sabi ko po sa sarili ko, siguro ito yung magandang pagkakataon para ma-renew nating mabuti at ma-define nating mabuti ang magiging relasyon ng ating state university at ng local government of Concepcion,” Hon. Go said.

The agreement stipulates the addition of the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering program among its course offerings alongside the existing programs, namely Bachelor of Elementary Education, Bachelor of Science in Criminology, and Bachelor of Public Administration.

The offering of the civil engineering program is in line with TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco’s plan to strengthen the university’s niche in engineering while also mentioning that both he and Concepcion town mayor Noel L. Villanueva are engineers.

Among the other new provisions in the MOA that would benefit the students and faculty members are converting some classrooms into a faculty room, faculty dormitory, library, computer laboratory, crime laboratory, and canteen and providing faculty members’ transportation allowance.

In his message of commitment, Pres. Velasco expressed his positive dedication to the agreement and the continuing partnership with LGU Concepcion.

“I also would like to anticipate and [be] optimistic that, in the near future, this is not just the start and end but the beginning of more programs and projects that will enhance the education of the youth – kayo po na kabataan dito

sa bayan ng Concepcion,” Pres. Velasco said.

In response, Mayor Villanueva thanked the university for the partnership renewal.

“Sa araw na ito, I would like to



extend my eternal gratitude to the TSU administration for this opportunity to work hand-in-hand with them in our quest to provide quality education to our youth,” he said.

On the other hand, according to Mayor Villanueva, LGU Concepcion and third congressional district representative Hon. Noel “Bong” Rivera will provide financial assistance amounting to 3,000 pesos per semester to all students enrolled in the campus regardless of residence in the district.

“Isa sa pinakiusap ko sa ating sumunod na kinatawan (third congressional district), si Cong. Bong Rivera, na huwag niyang tanggalin ‘yung 12 million na pondo para sa mga mag-aaral natin sa TSU. Kaya tuloy-tuloy pa po ‘yan,” Mayor Villanueva said.

The Concepcion town mayor is the former third congressional district representative who had allotted 12 million pesos for scholarship grants to tertiary students, particularly in TSU.

Mayor Villanueva also mentioned the newly established Concepcion Scholarship Foundation Inc., which would also benefit the tertiary students of the said campus. This is his project as returning town mayor, together with some prominent

figures of Concepcion as founding incorporators.

Moreover, BOR member Hon. Alvin P. Belarmino noted the essence of free quality tertiary education in the Philippines that is now within reach of Concepcion town residents.

“Makwento ko lang po my experience in one of the ASEAN countries that I visited, and specifically this is Vietnam. Doon ay nakausap ko ‘yung tourist guide, nandoon kami sa bangka, and he was telling me that, ‘You in the Philippines are very lucky, because your country, your president, provides



[free] education up to the tertiary level,” Hon. Belarmino said.

“Alam ho ninyo, hindi ho libre ito na basta... Binigay ‘yung budget para sa mga estudyante na katulad po ninyo. Ito po ay pinantayan ho ng ating national government. We have the budget for this. And the good thing here now, it has cascaded to the municipal level. I really appreciate po the administration of Concepcion, much so si Mayor Villanueva ay itinuloy po niya... So kayo pong mga estudyante, ay binabati ko kayo – kayo po ay iskolar ng bayan,” he added.

The campus welcomed its first batch of students last August 2022 under the leadership of former Concepcion mayor Andres “Andy” Lacson and former TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

“This memorandum of agreement signing started actually with the establishment of this building together with the then mayor of Concepcion, Mayor Andy Lacson, and our [former] president Dr. Myrna Mallari. Wala po itong building na ito kung hindi kay Mayor Andy at kay President Myrna Mallari,” VP Macaraeg said in her opening message.

Meanwhile, BOR member Hon. Reynaldo L. Catacutan challenged the Concepcion campus students to finish their studies and contribute to the exemplary passing rates of the university once they graduate.



29 student research groups join 3rd Saliksiklaban; CAFA, CET bag awards

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon

Twenty-nine student research groups from different colleges participated in Tarlac State University's third Saliksiklaban spearheaded by the Office of Technology Development, Transfer, and Commercialization (OTDTC) at the College of Computer Studies AVR of the TSU San Isidro Campus on May 18-19, 2023.

Researchers from the College of Engineering and Technology (CET) and the College of Architecture and Fine Arts (CAFA) topped the STEM and ABLESS categories of this year's university-wide research competition for undergraduate students.

The Saliksiklaban 3, which commenced in 2018, recorded the biggest number of participating teams this year.

OTDTC Director Dr. Wilmark J. Ramos shared that the Saliksiklaban is one of the university's means to become a globally competitive university recognized for excellence in sciences and emerging technologies.



"Saliksiklaban, as a platform, is a means to generate research projects through student-faculty partnerships that may be later protected by copyright through applications of utility models and patents. It is also possible that your projects may be used in our community through adoption, transfer, and commercialization," he said.

Likewise, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco gave a push to the student researchers that being knowledgeable in research could leverage them in their future endeavors.



"Nagsimula rin ako sa mga ganitong activities. Sa mga estudyante nating researchers, if you are planning to be in the academe and in any other offices, ito (research) ang naging bridge for me to attain my academic rank," Pres. Velasco said.

Other participating groups are from the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), College of Business and Accountancy (CBA), College of Public Administration and Governance (CPAG), College of Science (COS), and College of Education (COEd).

Saliksiklaban 3 winners

Representatives presented their papers alongside their posters. They underwent an on-the-spot question-and-answer with the judges.

On its first day, 22 papers under the ABLESS category were assessed by the board of judges, namely PHINMA Education Graduate Studies Dean of Deans Dr. Gladys M. Navarro, UP Diliman assistant professor Dr. Kristoffer Esquejo and YGOAL, Inc. Social Mission Head and PH -LEAD Vice President Mr. Joseph Navarro.

CAFA students Raniel Darren Domingo and Alexandra Lopez topped the ABLESS category with their paper "Beyond Placemaking: A Study on the Genius Loci of Growing Tourism

Community of Sitio Dueg."

ABLESS second placer, also from CAFA, "Mga Kwentong Kloseta: A Comic Book Illustrator of Coming Out Stories of Filipino LGBTQIA+ Teens" by Danz Raeden Lopez and Mayo Isaac, also received the Most Gender Sensitive Research Paper award with 4,000 pesos cash prize from GAD.

The third placer is the paper titled "Battle of Brands: Brand Audit of Plastic Wastes in Tarlac City Town Markets," produced by Noelyn Dulay, Arlie Jean Millo, Michael Angelo Pagarigan, and Jullieca Villaluna from COS.

Moreover, the ABLESS category best poster was granted to COEd students Ivan Karlo Pating, Stephen Mejia, Shem Maielle Padilla, Mike Julius Napiza, Baron Mangino, and Jhustin Jay Gayla. Their paper is titled "Phenomenologizing the Experiences of Social Studies Teachers in Modular Distance Learning Among IP Students."

For the STEM category on the second day, seven research papers and posters were judged by DOST Provincial Science and Technology Director Ms. Karen Yaňgo-Dañez, Our Lady of Fatima University Program Head and Graduate Studies Coordinator Dr. Adrian Bon Santiago, and TSU Vice President for

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Research Development and Extension Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed.

CET students Genere James Nool, Jaimei “Yusoph” Eusebio, Neil Jonathan Maxian, Gerald Christian Pugat, and Mark Jefferson Zapanta finished first place with their research paper titled ‘Design and Fabrication of Dynamic-Structural-Response-Detecting Device for Structural Health Monitoring using Arduino. They also received the best poster of the same category.

The second place was awarded to the paper “Design and Development of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle 9UAV) for Hotspots Detection in PV Modules” by Darwin Fajardo, Kate Feliciano, Jayvee Ferrer, Ivan John Flores, Angel Micah Foronda, Neil Ian Gabriel, Arjay Geronimo, Sheila May Granil, Ferdinand Hipolito Jr., and Eduard Joseph Labasan also from CET.

STEM third placers Aaron John Dimatulac, Fatima Marie Espinosa, and Mary Ivy Nardo from COS won with their research “Lead, Cadmium, and Mercury Analyses of Surface Water, Sediments, and Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis Niloticus*) Present in Masalasa Creek Tarlac Province, Philippines.”

Office of Gender and Development (GAD) Director Dr. Rita E. Pulmano also took part in the evaluation as she assessed which outputs strengthen the value of gender sensitivity.

GAD chose seven research groups with gender-related studies and will receive 1,000 pesos each.

ABLESS category first placers will be awarded 15,000 pesos, while the second and third placers will receive 10,000 pesos and 7,000 pesos, respectively.

Meanwhile, under the STEM category, the first placers will receive 20,000 pesos, the second place will accept 15,000 pesos, and 10,000 pesos for the third placers.

The best posters for both categories will receive 5,000 pesos each. Insights from judges

After the ABLESS evaluation, Dr. Navarro motivated the student researchers to consider themselves not only as mere researchers but also as investors and creators of knowledge.

“We have to keep on moving forward. This is the challenge for us, students and researchers – we are not just researchers, we are to be developers and innovators. Gone are the days when we have to produce originally. Tapos na yun. That was industry 1.0. Yan ‘yung mga discovery ng ilaw, discovery ng steam engine, at kung paano patakbuhan ang mga makinarya. Tapos na tayo sa panahong ‘yun. Lahat ng ginagawa natin ngayon ay ini-innovate natin ang nagawa na ng science. And that is where we have to move forward from here on”, she said.

Another highlight of the Saliksiklaban’s day two is a keynote speech from Hon. Nerrisa T. Esguerra, National Economic and Development Authority Regional Director and TSU Board of Regents member. She emphasized that modern-day researchers should prioritize their communication skills to maintain the validity of information to benefit the community.

“Let me urge you to give importance to communication skills or what they call soft skills. I urge you to make an effort not just to understand but to be understood by others. Great things and ideas need to be shared more widely. Write, talk, express your ideas in a language, style, or format that more people can understand and appreciate,” she said.



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PhilSA taps TSU for its first Space Technology Applications Exhibit

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA), an attached agency under the Office of the President, formally opened its Space Technology Applications Exhibit with a mobile planetarium on May 16, 2023 housed at the Tarlac State University Gymnasium.

TSU is the first educational institution in the country to host this kind of exhibit from PhilSA that ran until May 18, 2023.

Grades 9 and 10 students from Sto. Cristo Integrated School, Capas National High School, and Tarlac Montessori School and selected engineering students of TSU attended

the exhibit's opening program graced by officials from PhilSA, the Department of Science and Technology, and TSU.

The exhibit, aimed to bring students closer to space, features replicas of the Philippine microsattellites, space technology applications, and other satellites and models.

Among the replicas in the exhibit is the Diwata-1 built by Filipino scientists and engineers from the University of the Philippines Diliman in collaboration with the Tohoku University and Hokkaido University in Japan with the help of DOST.

“Sa mga nakikita niyo ngayon,

kami ay tuwang-tuwa dahil nung ni-launch ang Diwata a few years back, about a decade ago, talagang palakpakan. Naiiyak kami nung ni-launch ang Diwata satellite sa space, naiiyak kaming taga DOST dahil sa wakas nakapunta ang Pilipinas sa space,” DOST III Regional Director Dr. Julius Caesar V. Sicat said in his speech.

Moreover, PhilSA Director General Joseph Joel Marciano Jr. highlighted the importance of satellites in the country, especially in environment and climate awareness.

“Dahil tayo ay isang archipelago,

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napapaligiran tayo ng tubig, napakaimportante na meron tayong view from that vantage point. Namonitor natin ang environment para malaman natin ang climate change at reresponde tayo at makapaghanda tayo sa mga calamities,” he said.

According to Ms. Jasmine Albelda, Chief Science Research Specialist of the Science Education for the Space Academy, they want to boost their office’s presence through more programs that will reach the students.

Claire Chiu, 16, a grade 10 TMS student, shared that the PhilSA exhibit is her first science-related field trip.

“Natutunan ko po ‘yung mga different constellations pati kung paano po nabubuo yung mga black holes. Nakita ko rin po kung paano po nagpa-progress ‘yung mga stars sa solar system natin, different types of application of technology, at different works ng PAGASA. Nakaka-excite pong tingnan to think ito po ‘yung nasa outer space at gawa po ito ng mga Pilipino,” Chiu said in an interview with the Office of Public Affairs.

In addition, Chiu said she wishes that students who are not enrolled in the Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE) programs could also experience the said exhibit.

Echoing Chiu’s statement, SCIS STE adviser Mr. Renzu Bruno also hopes that more teachers and students can get firsthand experience in this exhibit to



enhance students’ learning since it is free and available in the province.

“Sana mas marami pang ganito kasi ‘yung mga students natin hindi sila nakaranas ng ganito dala ng pandemic for two years, and most of them are fascinated sa mga nakikita nilang equipment na hindi talaga nila nakikita kahit sa school,” he said.

Meanwhile, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco thanked the organizers for staging the exhibit at TSU.

“This exhibit is a testament to the fondness of human imagination and our melting thirst for knowledge and innovation. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to the realization of this exhibit, especially [to] the dedicated team and passionate

employees whose unwavering support made this day a reality,” he said.

The week-long exhibit at TSU was also available to walk-in students who can win PhilSA merchandise in a raffle draw.

Aside from TSU, PhilSA also visited Capas National High School last May 15 for a school tour and exhibit. They also visited Tarlac National High School, Maliwalo National High School, and O’Donnell High School in Capas town on May 16-18.

The PhilSA is the central government agency addressing all national issues and activities related to space S&T applications. The agency was created through Republic Act No. 11363 or the Philippine Space Act.



PhilSA taps TSU for their first Space Technology Applications Exhibit



Three TSUians are March 2023 LET topnotchers

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



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level with a 91.20 percent average.

These topnotchers are also known as achievers back in college. Tabag initially completed a bachelor's degree in chemistry as magna cum laude in 2013. Moreover, he placed fifth in the Chemist Licensure Examination in 2013.

"There is no room for mediocrity as a student, especially as a student-teacher. I always reminded myself that schooling is not just about passing a subject, earning a high GWA upon graduation, or even passing the boards. It is about preparing yourself to become a productive and useful member of society through [the] excellent practice of your profession," Tabag said.

Tabag is currently employed at TSU as a lecturer at the College of Science.

Punzalan also graduated with honors in 2022. He is a summa cum laude graduate of the Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in Mathematics. He is now a lecturer at the College of Education.

Like the two topnotchers, Ms. Adams is a cum laude who graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education last July 2022.

Tabag and Punzalan were also scholars of the Department of Science and Technology.

Meanwhile, the institutional passing percentages of TSU for both the elementary and secondary levels are higher than the national passing rates.

The university posted an 81.85 percent passing rate among its first-time takers in the elementary level and a 71.43 percent institutional passing rate. The

national passing percentage is 40.77.

In the secondary level, the passing rate for first-time takers is 69.76 percent. The institutional passing percentage is 61.83 against the 46.85 national passing percentage.

Preparing for the board exam

The TSUian topnotchers employed different strategies during their preparations for the boards.

Adams said she did not aim to be a topnotcher at first. But when she was immersed in the program and was inspired by the stories of the other topnotchers who taught in the review center she was enrolled in, she exerted more effort to be at their level.

"I approached my studies with a sufficient level of seriousness to meet the requirements. I invested effort in creating outputs, particularly in areas where I excelled. However, there were certain requirements that I struggled with, and [I] anticipated lower grades in those instances. Nevertheless, I found contentment in the grades I received. When it came to examinations or quizzes, memorization and logic-based subjects, like math, were not my strong suits. Instead, I relied on my analytical skills to navigate through these assessments," Adams said in an interview.

Tabag shared that he reviewed to improve his teaching profession over aiming to top the boards.

"I did not simply study what usually comes out in the LEPT (LET). I studied everything contained in the ToS (Table of Specifications) and much more. I studied everything I thought would be useful once I am already practicing my

profession. I did not study to simply pass or ace the boards, but I studied to be a great teacher," Tabag said.

"If I simply wanted to top the boards, I would have just focused more on handouts from the best review centers and the plethora of LET resources online. But then again, the goal was not to top but rather to excel," Tabag added.

On the other hand, Punzalan said he uninstalled most of his social media applications to focus on reviewing, trying to balance his time as a lecturer at TSU.

"I had to cut down my leisure time, uninstall all my social media apps, and spend every idle time I had reviewing my notes and studying beyond what is taught in my review center every weekend. Unlike most of my fellow aspiring LPTs, I was not actually reviewing full-time," Punzalan said.

Their inspiration

Adams was born to Mr. William, a tricycle driver, and Mrs. Ruby Rose, a housewife. According to Adams, her family greatly inspired her in her studies, motivating her to strive more. She said her family taught her the importance of education. Their sacrifices for and pride in her fueled her determination to take the path of success.

Adams is the first licensed professional teacher in their family. Her Senior High School teacher, Ms. Diane Marie Camila-Fabros, played a significant role in influencing her to take up education.

"She left a lasting impression on

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me. Witnessing her positive impact on students and experiencing her remarkable attributes as a teacher deeply influenced my decision,” Adams said.

Punzalan said his family is also his primary source of inspiration. His older sister, Erika, is also an LPT who teaches at Benigno S. Aquino National High School in Concepcion town.

On the other hand, Tabag shared that he did not come from a well-off family. His father is a farmer, a welder, and a tricycle driver at the same time. Tabag had since developed a deep passion for teaching when he started teaching in 2017 as a part-time lecturer at TSU COS, an instructor at the University of the Philippines Diliman, a lecturer in two review centers, and a tutor before the pandemic.

“I realized that I always found a deep sense of satisfaction in my job. Nothing makes me feel more confident than being in front of a classroom, teaching. I’d always step outside the classroom with this lasting sense of achievement. Teaching is indeed my calling, and that is one of the most certain things I know in the world,” Tabag said in an interview.

Role of TSU in their success

According to Tabag, a lecturer for six years, the university has provided him with opportunities to hone his teaching skills, fine-tune his educational philosophies, and apply the theories he learned, where he and his students mutually learn from each other.

“I admit the idea of settling down as a secondary high school teacher in public schools seems practical, as it is a solid path towards tenure and financial security. But I dream bigger than that. I want a bigger audience. I want to influence more people. I want to create a greater impact on society,” Tabag said.



Punzalan initially planned to be a faculty member in his Alma Mater’s Senior High School Department. However, as time passed, he realized that being a college faculty gave him more flexibility and freedom in facilitating his students’ learning. He also mentioned COEd faculty members Dr. Nelvin Nool and Engr. Ezra Lagman as reasons for pursuing the path where he is now.

“The instructors I had during my undergrad here at TSU were really hands-on in nurturing us to become the best versions of ourselves. I’m also thankful to the College of Teacher Education faculty headed by Dean Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza for their boundless support and encouragement during my preparations for the exam,” Punzalan told OPA.

Adams said the university played a significant role in her success. For her, TSU provided comprehensive preparation and inspiration and fostered a nurturing environment. She said staying at TSU

under the care of her professors shaped her journey.

On hardships, struggles, and tips for future LET takers

Tabag said the LET was quite challenging because he graduated from the old curriculum.

“I also did not have the advantage of K-12 graduates who studied the new LEPT subjects like Ethics, Understanding the Self, Art Appreciation, etc. I had to catch up on these through self-study,” Tabag said.

He also shared some tips for future LET takers.

“If you simply want to pass the boards, all you need to learn is on the internet. You just have to know where to look. There is no other board exam in the country with more available review materials on the internet than LET. Enrolling in review centers would certainly increase your chances of passing,” Tabag shared.

Adams said her struggles revolve around personal challenges and maintaining self-discipline. She said she faced obstacles like balancing her responsibilities while studying, including self-doubt and managing stress.

Punzalan, born to Lolita and Carlito Puzalan, a refrigeration and aircon technician, said he wants to impart his ideas to the next generation to inspire and make the students realize that mathematics can be challenging but not difficult.

Punzalan said he is planning to pursue a master’s degree to serve his students better as he hones them to become mathematics teachers in the future.



TSU gets boost for research collab, student exchange with Taiwan universities

■ Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat (with reports from OURD)



Through the Office of University Research Development (OURD), Tarlac State University visited four Taiwanese universities to secure potential partnerships and immerse with various research centers on April 24-27, 2023.

The TSU delegation, composed of University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, OURD Director Dr. Robert V. Marcos, and Research Publications, Information, and Communications Unit Head Ms. Maria Sheila G. Medina, personally facilitated the partnership talks with the Taiwanese universities, which the OURD identified through a series of virtual meetings since December 2022.

Among the universities visited by the TSU delegation are the National Ping Tung University of Science and Technology (NPUST), National Taipei University (NTPU), National Central University (NCU), Ming Chi University of Technology (MCUT), and the Providence University via a virtual meeting on May 5, 2023.

Led by Pres. Velasco, TSU secured research collaborations with Taiwanese professors and researchers with most of the universities visited, including probable financial support from the Taiwanese government as well as the use of research laboratories and equipment.

Dr. Thijs Velema, NTPU International Cooperation Division Consultant, and Prof. Hsi-Sheng Wei, NTPU Office of Research and Development Dean, encouraged researchers from TSU to submit research proposals for potential collaborations. Eventually, promising research outputs could be financed by the Taiwanese government.

In addition, Prof. Jyh Jian Chen of the NPUST Biomechanics Engineering wishes to visit the university to work with its scholars on academic projects.



Moreover, NCU and MCUT agreed to ink memoranda of understanding and agreement for student exchange and a 3+2 program.

MCUT's 3+2 program provides academic opportunities to TSU students enrolled in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronics engineering, industrial engineering, chemistry, financial management, and visual communication. The selected students shall complete their three years of study or an undergraduate degree at TSU, while the remaining two years, equivalent to a master's degree, will be completed at MCUT.

Meanwhile, three TSU students will also benefit from a ten-day all-expense paid summer camp in Taiwan.

Likewise, faculty members and TSU students are given research opportunities in Taiwan through internships with the MCUT. The internship aims to produce research outputs congruent with the TSU's mission of having a future-proof research culture.

TSU also discussed its Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL), an online platform to facilitate collaborations between faculty members and students that could enhance the learning experience and promote international engagement.

EDITORIAL

Access to information for good governance

Since the 1987 restoration of democracy, Filipinos have been clamoring for good governance. A big part of good governance is the protection of human rights, including the right to information. The constitutional right to information alone is insufficient to provide rigorous protection for citizens. There is a pressing need to institutionalize transparency in the Philippines to ultimately shift to the “right-to-know” basis for obtaining government information, resulting in increased public trust, accountability, and empowerment of Filipinos.

For decades, the Philippines has been claiming to be a democratic country, and political actors are keen on campaigning for good governance. The national government’s implemented Transparency Seal has been in place since 2012 for proactive disclosure of government information. Such is a mark of good governance – but something is still lacking. To fill in the gaps, reactive disclosure of government information is still necessary, and this rests upon the Freedom of Information (FOI) law – a key to institutionalizing transparency.

According to political scientist Daniel Berliner, transparency is highly political, and political competition, such as opposition strength and turnover frequency, is a crucial factor in explaining the timing of FOI passage as opposed to democratic transitions or political openings. In the Philippines, opposition within the Duterte and Marcos Jr. administrations is

relatively low based on surveys and election turnouts. Still, the turnover of the chief executive position in terms of political parties is high. Since 1987, Philippine presidents have come from different parties.

While the Philippines’ FOI is not yet a law but an executive order, its issuance could have been driven by political competition – primarily on the turnover frequency and political uncertainty. When former President Rodrigo R. Duterte took office in 2016, he signed Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016, which exudes his commitment and political will to have a transparent and open government.

Having the FOI ensures that incumbents can continue accessing government information even if they are no longer in office. Although former President Duterte’s term had ended, the FOI can still afford him the benefit of accessing government information to continue monitoring his legacy programs.

Access to information is also a form of education. It may not be a formal kind of education, but considering that learning is a lifelong process, lodging a request in one click and receiving relevant responses on the same platform can liberate citizens and inform them on matters they need to be more informed about.

In this digital age, it is easy to access information through the Internet and the world wide web. However, a person could drown in the sea of available data. This is when reactive disclosure takes place, which provides the specific information

requested by an individual. This is how transparency works: it opens avenues for a more informed society.

At Tarlac State University, most FOI requests, or 64.5%, had been denied because these are intended for other government agencies and offices. Despite these being wrongly addressed, the university still leads the requesting parties toward the answers they seek. Going the extra mile is vital because this is one way to show citizens they can trust the government. Transparency is not just about getting access to information but also about establishing trust and accountability.

Although EO No. 2 lacks the power of law, its implementation in the executive branch is stellar, demonstrating that the country’s constitutional right to information is enforced. The Philippines still needs to institutionalize transparency through an FOI law so that all government branches are subjected to proactive and reactive disclosure, resulting in enhanced constituent trust. Such is also necessary to bind future governments to uphold the right.

Future administrations could revoke this EO due to the country’s competitive political environment, but constituents and civil society groups with positive FOI experiences will protect this constitutional right – soon to be a statutory right for all Filipinos.

With institutionalized transparency, we can genuinely say that democracy lives, and good governance thrives in the Philippines.

TSU officials meet new NEDA RO 3 director

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat



Tarlac State University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco paid a courtesy visit to the new National Economic and Development Authority Regional Director on May 15, 2023 at the NEDA Regional Office III in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga.

After nine years at the NEDA Central Office, Hon. Nerrisa T. Esguerra was reassigned to NEDA 3 as its regional director last February 2023. As the regional director, she holds a seat as one of the TSU Board of Regents members.

In a brief meeting, Pres. Velasco thanked Hon. Esguerra for her objective support to TSU and its endeavors and activities raised to the BOR, noting the plans to boost the university's engineering programs as its niche.

Meanwhile, Hon. Esguerra shared that investing in quality tertiary education is imperative now that access to education has been operationalized through the UniFAST.

She visited TSU last May 19, 2023 as the keynote speaker of the 3rd Saliksiklaban organized by the Office of Technology Development, Transfer, and Commercialization.

Other university officials who joined Pres. Velasco in the courtesy visit are Vice President for Administration Dr. Grace N. Rosete, Vice President for Research Development and Extension Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed, Executive Assistant to the TSU President Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, and Executive Secretary Dr. Ronnie A. Dungo.



TSU partners with non-profit organization for community development

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Tarlac State University and It Takes a Heart Association, Inc. (ITH) inked a memorandum of understanding aimed at further strengthening community development and creating an impact on May 18, 2023, at the Office of the University President (Main Campus).

The two parties agreed to mutually help each other in the fields of academics, research, and extension cooperation.

Meanwhile, as a non-profit organization, ITH commits to establishing community development in the areas of education, agriculture, healthcare,

and youth.

"It Takes A Heart is a community development project [which] aims to help the last, the least, and the lowest. We realized that the government cannot do it alone and the private sector cannot do it alone; there must be [a] collaboration between private people, government, and institutions," ITH president Ms. Myra Lourdes Salvosa said in an interview.

Aside from Ms. Salvosa, owner of Bale Mi and an advocate of local farming in Brgy. Balanti in Tarlac City, the MOU signing was attended by Dr. Godofredo Dunga



and Ms. Carmela Prado, ITH board of directors.

They are also working with Atty. Jo Clemente and Mr. Francis Aquino Dee, grandson of the late President Corazon Aquino, in

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creating sustainable activities for society.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco signed the partnership on behalf of the university, which will develop collaborative activities based on equality and reciprocity.

Previously, ITH has been engaged in some small infrastructure projects like fixing the damaged footbridge in Sitio Barbon in Brgy. Tibag. They also helped provide hand pumps to residents of barangays San Juan Bautista (formerly Matadero) and Sto. Cristo to fulfill the necessities that they cannot afford to have.

Ms. Salvosa said they are also teaching children who cannot read with the help of the College of Education through students who are undergoing their practicum.



TSU SOL reinforces alliance with SSC-Recoletos Manila

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon

Tarlac State University and the San Sebastian College-Recoletos Manila signed the amended memorandum of agreement relative to the offering of the Master of Laws consortium program through the TSU School of Law.

Through this upgraded MOA, law graduates can now continue pursuing their master's degree in law within the Tarlac Province for a minimal financial cost.

SOL Dean Dr. Jose I. Dela Rama Jr. and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg led the TSU representatives on March 24, 2023 in the MOA signing with the SSC-R Manila at the latter's campus.

Both institutions agreed to expedite the enrollment process, manage enrollment fees, and address the



difficulties associated with studying away from home.

“Around 30 students are now writing their thesis, and they expect to defend them before the end of the year. They will be the first graduates under this program. At present, there are new students who enrolled in the program since this is needed to enhance their professional achievement,” Dean Dela Rama said in an interview with the Office of Public Affairs.

He added that the program would enable the student lawyers to serve the public better and be more competent in the legal profession, including teaching.

Furthermore, the amended MOA between TSU and SSC-R Manila will further strengthen the relationship between the two institutions and enhance

the graduate school program.

As shared by Dean Dela Rama, SOL looks forward that the partnership will encourage aspiring lawyers from Tarlac province, neighboring provinces, and other municipalities to enroll at TSU.

The initial MOA with SSC-R Manila on the consortium program was signed on September 30, 2022 at the TSU Main Campus AVR.



Photo Courtesy: Dr. Jose I. Dela Rama, Jr.



TSUAAI recognizes board toppers, LET passers; gives back to TSU through book donations

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



The Tarlac State University Alumni Association Inc. (TSUAAI) recognized the four recent board exam toppers and the 20 pioneering education graduates of the TSU Capas Campus who passed the March 2023 Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) on May 31, 2023 at the Alumni Center in Lucinda Campus.

Roosevelt Tabag Jr., LET secondary level top 2, received a 15,000-peso cash incentive from the College of Science (COS) and College of Education (COEd) alumni chapters, while Rekarlo Punsalan, secondary level top 8, and Kyla Adams, elementary level top 6, received 5,000 pesos and 10,000 pesos, respectively, from the COEd alumni chapter.

Moreover, Rommel Gadia, April 2023 Electronics Engineer Licensure Examination top 2, received 15,000 pesos as an incentive from the College of Engineering and Technology (CET).



TSU AAI President and alumni regent Hon. Reynaldo Catacutan also gave due recognition to the LET passers of the TSU Capas Campus who were present in the activity.

According to Hon. Catacutan, 20 out of the 23 takers from the said campus passed the licensure exam. He added that the first batch of Capas Campus graduates struggled during the pandemic yet graduated strong.

Furthermore, he posed a challenge to the La Paz and Concepcion campus students – to beat the record of the pioneering graduates of the Capas Campus. Previously, all its Criminologist Licensure Examination takers passed, making TSU the top one performing school in the country in December 2022.

“I am very happy to have you this afternoon recognizing the workforce and function of the university to recognize (sic) and to give incentives to our passers of the different board examinations just to motivate other students who are going to take their board exam to do their best,” Hon. Catacutan said.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco echoed the sentiments of the alumni regent in sustaining and further improving the university’s performance in board exams.

“It is our goal to enhance and elevate the performance of our graduates. We are not

simply satisfied with what we have now; we want more. I even challenged the deans to do their best. And the creation of new offices of the university will be adding more to our curriculum, particularly the course model; plus, giving more time for the in-house reviews and reviews outside the university just to really make sure that



the performances of our graduates or our board examinations will not just be at par with other universities but more than what we have now,” Pres. Velasco said.

Meanwhile, under the ILAW (Alumni International Extension Program), the TSU USA alumni chapter donated various books to the College of Business and Accountancy’s Hospitality and Tourism Management Department, COS Nursing Department, and COEd.

OTDTC leads TSU'S IP Month 2023 celebration

■ Engr. Jayriz Dungca [TDTCO]



The Office of Technology Development, Transfer, and Commercialization (OTDTC) led the month-long university-wide National Intellectual Property Month and World Intellectual Property Day celebrations this April 2023.

OTDTC organized various activities for the IP Month 2023 celebration with the theme "Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity." These activities include a four-day IP foundation course, a short video competition, university brand manual launching, university IP manual orientation (under the OTDTC manual), and a three-day patent search and draft seminar-writeshop.

Around 250 students, faculty members, and personnel attended the four-day foundation course composed of webinars on copyright and trademark; introduction to patents, utility models, industrial designs, and invention spotting; and technopreneurship.

OTDTC Director Dr. Wilmark J.

Ramos, IP Development and Protection (IPDP) Unit Head Engr. Jayriz Dungca, and Technology Business Incubator (TBI) Manager Prof. Aldrex Laxamana served as the resource speakers for the said webinars.

The TBI-ASLAGAN was also introduced to the students by TBI Project Development Officer Mr. Samuel Saroza.

Meanwhile, the office launched a short video competition for students to showcase their talents by making short clips that emphasized women's contributions in developing and protecting intellectual property through innovation and creativity.

The OTDTC, through IPDP technical staff Engr. Yvy Clydylyn Rabara, also conducted an orientation program for the newly approved TSU brand manual, which indicates the proper and official use of university-owned marks in official documents, publicity materials, merchandise, and other paraphernalia.

At the same time, Dr. Ramos

and Engr. Dungca briefed the student organizations and non-teaching personnel on the TSU Board of Regents-approved revisions to the university's IP manual found in the OTDTC manual.

The month-long celebration culminated with the three-day seminar-writeshop on patent search and patent draft writing with Dr. Adrian Bon Santiago of Our Lady of Fatima University as the resource speaker-trainer.

This activity trained faculty members to conduct patent searches on their respective inventions and subsequently wrote their patent drafts for protection applications. The office initiates this annual training to aid faculty inventors in fostering innovation and creativity in the university.

OTDTC also distributed various merchandise supporting intellectual property advocacies in support of IP promotion as part of the IPOPPL Innovation and Technology Support Office (ITSO) network.

CASS proposed BS Human Services program now CHED approved

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



The College of Arts and Social Sciences' proposed Bachelor in Human Services program under the Psychology Department received its Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) on May 23, 2023, giving a green light as to the offering of the said program this upcoming academic year.

The Commission issued the COPC to Tarlac State University in compliance with CHED Memorandum Order No. 033, s. 2017 and after passing the onsite evaluation with CHED Regional Office III-Regional Quality

Assessment Team last May 16.

The offering of the Human Services program is the university's response to the growing demand for mental health professionals and well-trained individuals to support the vulnerable population, given the increasing complexity of social issues that negatively affect people.

It is an allied course to counseling and psychology positioned to promote the importance of mental health in our society.

During the onsite evaluation, the

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RQAT assessors, led by Dr. Roel Anicas, evaluated the instruction, administration, and student services areas, as well as other university facilities in line with the proposed program.

Along with Dr. Anicas are Dr. Jarrent Tayag and Dr. Emmanuel Parreño, education supervisors, who visited the Guidance and Counseling Unit's office at the Student Center in Lucinda Campus.

According to Psychology Department Chairperson Ms. Angela Christinne V. Pangilinan, the assessors were impressed with the university's facilities and faculty members' qualifications.

"They were actually amazed [by] the facilities especially doon sa Lucinda Campus at sa faculty profile natin since lahat po ay may license at merong higher education na kino-commit ngayon", she said.



She also shared that the department submitted the proposal to CHEDRO III in March 2023 after six months of preparation.

The program is eyed to contribute to developing research initiatives within the university, like exploring topics on social justice, mental health, and community development.

Graduates of this program could land careers as professional counselors or future mental health advocates. They could also pursue a master's degree in counseling to acquire a Registered



Guidance Counselor (RGC) license.

This academic year 2023-2024, incoming first-year students could enroll in the Human Services program.



LS students bag awards in RSPC 2023

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

Three student journalists from the TSU Laboratory School secured ranks in two individual categories of the 2023 Regional Schools Press Conference (RSPC) held last May 20, 2023 at San Jose City National High School in Nueva Ecija.

Maria Althea T. Del Rosario ranked third in the Column Writing-Secondary Filipino category. At the same time, John Rey M. Sabal and Casey Ashley S. Ramos placed sixth and eighth in the Photojournalism-Secondary Filipino category.

The official results were released by the Department of Education Regional Office III through DepEd Region III Regional Memorandum No. 234, s. 2023.

The TSU LS student journalists competed in the 2023 RSPC under the DepEd Tarlac City Schools Division.

During the Division Schools Press Conference held last February 17-18, Del Rosario, LS Supreme Student Government President, bagged first place

in the same category, prompting her to compete in the RSPC as a representative of the Tarlac City Division.

Meanwhile, Sabal and Ramos are the first and second placers in the DSPC's Photojournalism-Filipino category.

Both are photojournalists of The Work Jr., the LS official student publication.

Mr. Jhayvi C. Dizon, College of Education and LS faculty member, was the students' coach and trainer. He is also one of The Work Jr.'s advisers.



NHCP, TSU host Commissioner Dizon's Tarlac Province sesquicentennial lecture

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

As Tarlac State University's contribution to the 150th year of Tarlac as a province, Dr. Lino L. Dizon, National Historical Commission of the Philippines Commissioner and retired TSU professor, conducted a lecture on the sesquicentennial of Tarlac as a province with a virtual launching of the publication "The Beginnings of Tarlac Province (1571-1873)" last March 22, 2023 at the Alumni Center, Lucinda Campus.

Along with NHCP, the lecture was co-organized by TSU's Center for Tarlaqueño Studies and MAHARLIKA, an organization of social studies students from the College of Education.

During the lecture, Commissioner Dizon discussed the province's beginnings and corrected some information on Tarlac history that Tarlaqueños had long known, such as the origin of the province's name. He said Tarlac was not coined from the "Malatarlak" plant because the province already existed in 1858.

The renowned historian carefully recalled his documents to trace the province's establishment.

According to Commissioner Dizon, writer Rosario Mendoza Cortes believes that Maestro de Campo, D. Martin de Goiti's expedition in 1571, only touched a part of Pangasinan and covered the southernmost part of a certain province near Pampanga. The province was later called Tarlac.



On April 30, 1858, a royal order under the King of Spain approved the creation of the Commandancia de Tarlac.

"Meaning kung ano 'yung Tarlac, nabuo na 'yan as early as 1858. Kaya hindi tama 'yung sasabihin na Tarlakenyo tayo na minadali ang pagsasama. As early as 1858, magkasama na tayo. So we need to correct na minadali ang Tarlac kasi as early as 1858, wala pa 'yung Porac, wala pa 'yung Floridablanca, of course wala pa 'yung Concepcion diyan kasi nga [nasa] Magalang pa," Commissioner Dizon said.

In addition, the commissioner shared that Tarlac province was founded on May 28, 1873 by Governor General Juan Alaminos y Vivar.

Before the founding of Tarlac, there was a plan to establish the province "Nueva Cuenca" during the time of the economic blueprint of the Spanish governor generals in the early 1800s. The supposed "Nueva Cuenca" towns include Paniqui, Barug (presently Gerona), Cuyapo, Guimba, Munoz, San Jose, Puncan, Lugsit, Umingan, and Tayug.

"But it (Nueva Cuenca) was never formed. Instead, what would be formed was Tarlac Province, [which] was half a century later. The first step towards the erection of Tarlac into a province was made in 1858 with the creation of a portion of western Pampanga into a military commandancia — Comandancia-Militar de Tarlac. This is from an old account

that needs to be updated," Commissioner Dizon said.

Part of the lecture is Commissioner Dizon's virtual launching of his book "The Beginnings of Tarlac Province (1571-1873)" with the help and support of the university and the Tarlac provincial government.

Historically, Tarlac is part of the eight rays of the sun in the Philippine flag, symbolizing the first provinces that revolted against Spain in 1896. NHCP Chairman Emmanuel Calairo emphasized this in his video message during the lecture's preliminaries.

"Lingid sa kaalaman ng mga nakararami, saksi ang Tarlac sa iba't-ibang makasaysayang pangyayari. Pinakanatatangi dito ay ang pagiging lunsaran ng himagsikang Pilipino, dahilan para mapabilang ang Tarlac sa isa sa mga sinag ng araw ng ating pambansang watawat," Chairman Calairo said.

Chairman Calairo also celebrated the historicity of TSU being a part of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo's republic in Tarlac.

"Naging maksayasayan pa lalo ang lalawigan ng Tarlac noong 1886... dalawang beses na naging kabisera ang Tarlac: una sa Bamban at sunod ay sa lungsod ng Tarlac. Mapalad ang Tarlac State University sapagkat sa Main Campus nito dating nakatayo ang palasyo ni Emilio Aguinaldo," he added.



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In his account, Commissioner Dizon also corrected the province's founding year from 1874 to 1873 when Tarlac became a civil government in 1893 headed by the gobierno politico militar. This pertains to the event in 1974 when Tarlac Province celebrated its centenary.

Tarlac Province's sesquicentennial celebration on May 26, headed by Governor Susan Yap, features the unveiling and presentation of the "Tarlac 150" commemorative stamp, the distribution of land titles to 150 beneficiaries, a cultural show, and a concert.



The "Araw ng Lalawigan ng Tarlak" is usually celebrated every May 28 per Proclamation No. 109, s. 1999 signed by then President Joseph Estrada.

This year, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. issued Proclamation No. 233, declaring May 26 a special non-working day in the Province of Tarlac.

SOL free legal aid clinic wins first two cases

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon

Tarlac State University's Marc Andrei Marcos Legal Aid Office (MAMLAO), the free legal aid clinic of the TSU School of Law (SOL), won its first two cases filed at the Municipal Trial Court in Paniqui town of Tarlac.

Having no lawyer to represent the accused, a farmer from Paniqui, last December 29, 2022, the MAMLAO took over the case on January 31, 2023 and assigned qualified law student practitioners.

He was charged with two separate cases: (1) reckless imprudence resulting in homicide and (2) reckless driving under the influence of alcohol.

SOL student practitioners Alexander Garcia and Maria Andrea Lopez handled the first case where the defendant was acquitted on March 27, 2023.

Garcia, as the law student on duty, first entertained the defendant, who visited the clinic to ask for free legal aid services. After the in-person consultation, Garcia sought the advice of Atty. Mykedox Cuchapin, MAMLAO Director, if the clinic can take over the case.

Meanwhile, the second case, wherein the defendant was charged with a violation of RA 10586 or the Anti-Drunk and Drugged Driving

Act of 2013, was dismissed on May 18, 2023 due to the witnesses' lack of personal knowledge of the incident.

The latter was handled by SOL students Mary Cryzl Escoto, Trishia D. Estavillo, and Arlieanne Ibañez.

Both groups of law student practitioners conducted several virtual legal consultations with the defendant regarding the case details. They also conducted an ocular of the place where the incident happened.

They were directly supervised by SOL Dean Dr. Jose I. Dela Rama Jr. and Atty. Cuchapin. Moreover, Atty. Mariemeir Marcos-Rivera also assisted



while making legal services available to the marginalized sector.

"Truly, the CLEP program of the LEB is working. Thank you, Atty. Mykedox Cuchapin, the legal aid director, who supervised our students in defending the case. Good job, guys! Thank you for all the support. The accused now walks as a freeman!," Dean Dela Rama Jr. said in his Facebook post.

With the authorization under Rule 138-A of the Rules of Court, the law students are trained by MAMLAO to serve the community with respect, honesty, and nobility and to be practice-ready.



in the preparation of pleadings.

In a Facebook post by Dean Dela Rama, he commended the Clinical Legal Education Program (CLEP) of the Legal Education Board (LEB) aimed to equip law students with the skills for eventual law practice

SOL invites first blind Bar passer in PH as testimonial dinner guest speaker

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



The Tarlac State University School of Law held a testimonial dinner in honor of the November 2022 Bar Examination passers last May 27, 2023 at the Alumni Center, Lucinda Campus, with the visually impaired new lawyer as the inspirational guest speaker.

Atty. Anthony Emocling, the first blind Philippine Bar passer, enrolled at TSU SOL under its refresher program before taking the Bar.

His speech inspired the newly licensed TSUian lawyers, who gave TSU a 69.23% passing rate, and other SOL students who attended the event.

Emocling said he learned life skills, like being independent as a blind man, where his dream to become a lawyer grew stronger. That is where his hope to be a human rights lawyer and lawyer for people with disabilities started.

“Success, my fellow students of law, is not merely defined by the accolades or achievements we accumulate. It is the culmination of our relentless pursuit of justice, our relentless dedication to the rule of law, and our relentless dedication to serve the greater good. Success is not an individual congress. It is a collective endeavor that requires empathy and deep understanding of the human condition,” Emocling said.

The visually impaired lawyer

shared his struggles while adjusting to law school, saying there were delays in the availability of braille materials.

“The path to success is not a smooth one. It is paid with setbacks, disappointments, and moments of doubt. But the key light is in our response to the setbacks. Will we come to self-doubt and give up or will we rise to the obstacle? Armed with resilience and determination, the choice is ours,” he said.

According to Emocling, he was born with normal eyesight. However, he encountered an accident when he lifted several objects at their home, which caused him a total retinal detachment.

He also shared that his parents did everything to regain his eyesight. He underwent surgeries and even felt sadness and experienced depression because of disappointments. He even stopped schooling for three years until his parents saw a school for the blind, the Northern Luzon Association for the Blind in Baguio City, where he learned how to write and read in braille.

As a native of Baguio City, he finished both his bachelor’s degree as cum laude and his law degree at the University of Baguio.

During the program, SOL Dean Dr. Jose I. Dela Rama Jr. lauded the Bar passers and emphasized that

TSU is PWD-friendly, evidenced by the university’s acceptance of Atty. Emocling under its refresher course.

“I would like [everyone] to know that Tarlac State University is PWD friendly, and anyone who [enrolls] in the School of Law will find grace and find wisdom after they leave the portals of our beloved school. [With that thought], let us congratulate, once again, my former students, my kumpanyeros and kumpanyeras,” Dean Dela Rama said in his speech.

Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco said that aspiring lawyers no longer need to go out of the province to study law and be exemplary jurists. Students can already find a good law school in Tarlac because the university offers “the best and brightest set of faculty members.”

“These new lawyers will not just be counsels of clients in local courts of limited jurisdictions. We will not just handle minor administrative, civil, and criminal actions and small claims, but will be lawyers, solicitors, barristers, Esquires of national and international jurisdictions along broad and varied legal realms,” Pres. Velasco said.

Meanwhile, Atty. Bethina Jane Garcia, batch 2022 valedictorian, also the fifth Justice Jose C. Dela Rama Law Foundation scholar who passed the Bar, delivered a message to the law students on behalf of the new lawyers.

“Trust your chosen school; build this conviction that anything the Tarlac State University does for you prepares you for your dreams. All the activities, recitations, and exams are all means to prepare you to overcome the course not only for the Bar exams but also for your future legal career. Listen to your mentors as they impart knowledge and wisdom to you. Their sharings during the class will always be your weapon while answering the Bar exam questions and while answering the questions of your neighbors,” Garcia said.

Garcia also told the law students to put their trust in their Bar review institution, which will be their partner in the Bar review struggle. She also advised them to avoid worrying about the things that Bar examinees cannot control.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
 NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS!**

MARCH 2023 LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS

| | ELEMENTARY LEVEL | SECONDARY LEVEL | SECONDARY LEVEL |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| FIRST TIME TAKERS | 81.85% | 69.76% | TOP 2 ROOSEVELT TABAG JR. 93.00% |
| INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE | 71.43% | 61.83% | TOP 8 REKARLO PUNZALAN 91.40% |
| NATIONAL PASSING RATE | 40.77% | 46.95% | ELEMENTARY LEVEL TOP 6 KYLA ADAMS 91.20% |

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



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

MAY 2023 NURSING LICENSURE EXAMINATION

| FIRST TIME TAKERS | INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE | NATIONAL PASSING RATE |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 100% | 100% | 74.94% |

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



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

MAY 2023 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT LICENSURE EXAMINATION

| FIRST TIME TAKERS | INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE | NATIONAL PASSING RATE |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 66.67% | 67.86% | 30.37% |

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY

Vision

A globally competitive university recognized for excellence in sciences and emerging technologies.

Mission

TSU shall develop highly competitive and empowered human resources fostering responsive global education, future-proof research culture, inclusive and relevant extension programs, and sustainable production projects.

Core Values

T-ruth in words, action and character
 S-ervice with excellence and compassion
 U-nity in diversity

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.