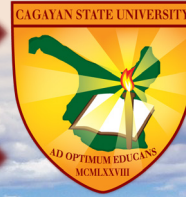


CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY

INFOCUS



The Official Newsletter of the Office of the University President



SOON-TO-BE CSU 10TH CAMPUS: A HOMEGROWN HOPE FOR THE YOUTH OF BAGGAAO

It's almost enrollment season again, and a mother from Baggao, Cagayan, sits quietly by the window of their bamboo house, calculating what little savings she has. Her eldest daughter has just graduated from senior high school—and dreams of entering college in Tuguegarao City.

But questions weigh heavily on her heart. "How will we afford the boarding house? The daily meals? The uniform? The projects?" she wonders, the weight of financial uncertainty pressing heavily on her shoulders. Sending

their daughter to college is a four-year battle requiring sacrifice, resilience, and hope.

This is the untold story of many families in rural areas in Cagayan. Behind every smiling graduate photo is a parent who pawned land, borrowed money, and skipped meals just to give their child a chance at a better life. For them, education is not merely a right. It is a dream fought for every single day.

That is why the symbolic launching and groundbreaking ceremony of the future Baggao Extension

Campus, soon to be the 10th Campus of CSU, on a four-hectare land in Brgy. Santor, Baggao, is a long-awaited answer to the prayers of parents who once believed that college was only possible if their children left home to study in the city or in faraway places.

A Message to Every Parent.

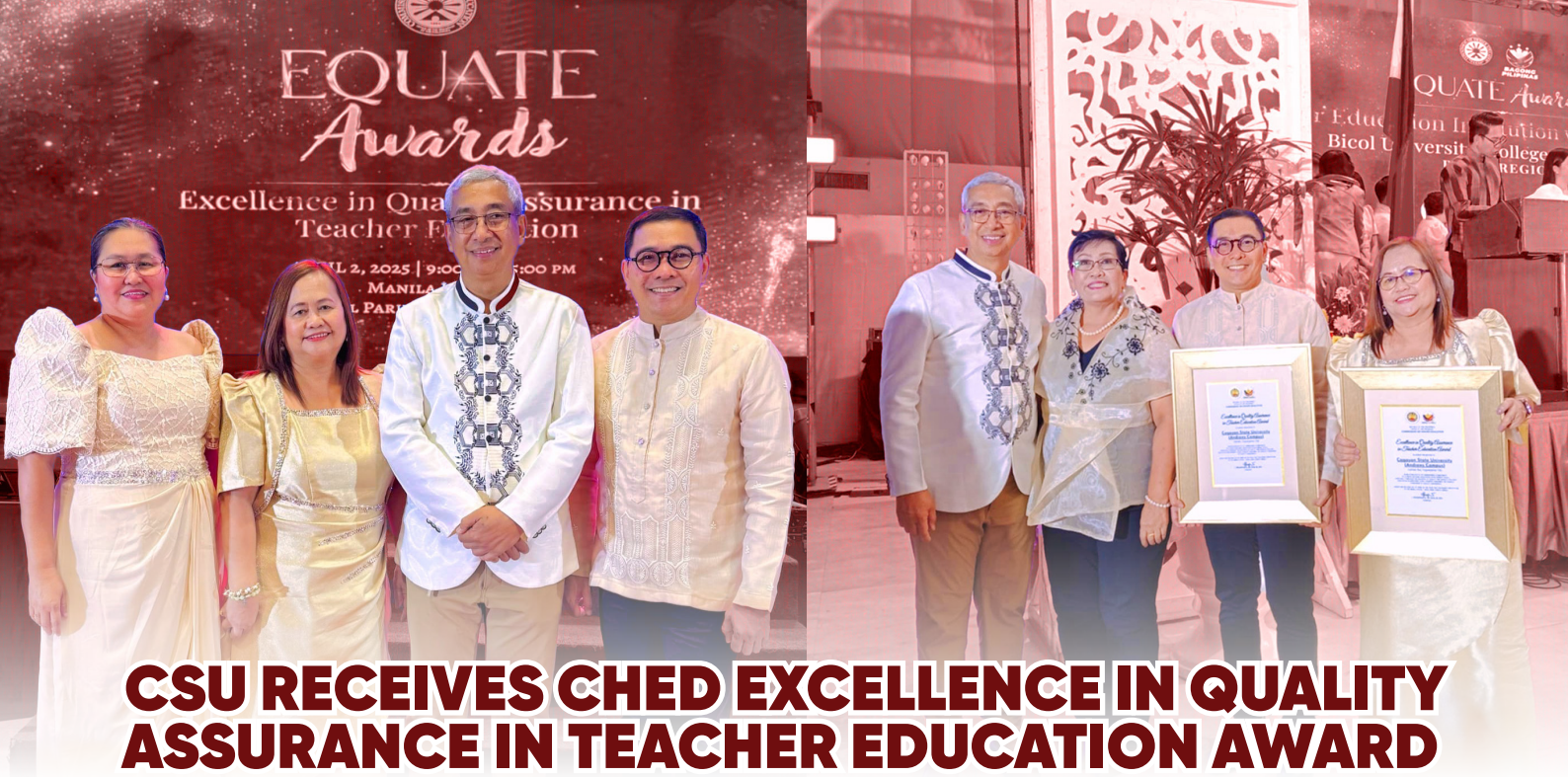
To the parents of Baggao and beyond, the ones who lie awake at night worrying about tuition fees, those who work extra hours in farms, those who cry silently behind doors wondering if they've done enough—this campus is for you and your children.

It is for your quiet sacrifices. For the dreams you hold for them and for whom they want to become someday. For the hope that they will one day build a life better than your own.

CSU extends its deepest gratitude to 3rd District Congressman Joseph "Jojo" L. Lara, a member of the CSU Board of Regents, and to Dr. Zara De Guzman Lara, the project site's benefactor. 🙏



This is the official quarterly newsletter of the Cagayan State University-Office of the President, featuring news articles, stories, and updates from across the CSU community.



CSU RECEIVES CHED EXCELLENCE IN QUALITY ASSURANCE IN TEACHER EDUCATION AWARD

Cagayan State University (CSU) Andrews Campus - College of Teacher Education received the Excellence in Quality Assurance in Teacher Education (EQUATE) Award from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) on April 2, recognizing it as one of the top-performing

teacher education institutions in the Philippines. CSU OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, QA Director and CTED University Dean Dr. Marie Claudette Calanoga, CTED Dean Dr. Ian Roger Francisco, and Program Chair Dr. Cristina Natividad accepted the award at The Manila Hotel. The EQUATE Award

recognized the university's commitment to maintaining high standards in pre-service teacher education through CHED compliance, program accreditation, and excellent performance in the Board Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (BLEPT).

CSU is among the top 120 teacher education

institutions out of 1,153 nationwide and stands among the 4 distinguished awardees in the Cagayan Valley Region for its excellence in teacher education alongside Saint Mary's University, the University of Saint Louis Tuguegarao, and Philippine Normal University - North Luzon. 🏆



CSU GONZAGA ENHANCES CAMPUS SERVICES WITH LAUNCH OF TANGKIRAN MART

Gonzaga, Cagayan – Cagayan State University (CSU) Gonzaga Campus officially launched its Tangkiran Mart, a community-vcentered campus retail hub, through a ceremonial blessing and ribbon-cutting held on May 14, 2025.

The event was graced by OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez and members of the University Executive and Management Committees. The ceremony began with the blessing of the facility, followed by the ribbon-cutting to formally open the mart.

The Tangkiran Mart is envisioned as a one-stop shop designed to provide employees and students with convenient access to daily essentials, groceries, and other necessities—promoting both efficiency and campus community engagement.

Following the inauguration, Execom-Mancom members convened at the Bambusa Espinosa Hall for their meeting to discuss key university matters and ongoing initiatives. 🏆

"NOT EVERYTHING LEGAL IS JUST": ATTY. KRISTINA CONTI INSPIRES CSU LAW GRADUATES TO SERVE WITH INTEGRITY AND COMPASSION



"You will be defined by who you represent and how you understand the law."

With these bold yet reflective words, Atty. Ma. Kristina C. Conti, guest of honor and speaker at the 23rd Academic Convocation for the Conferment of Degrees and Titles of the Cagayan State University (CSU) College of Law, challenged the 38 graduates with her deep reflections on law, justice, and service.

Held on June 20, 2025, at the CSU Claude Andrews Convention Center, the event carried the theme, "Principle to Practice: The Rule of Law in Pursuit of Justice." Atty. Conti, a journalist-turned-lawyer and human rights advocate, delivered a compelling and thought-provoking address to the graduates.

Drawing from her experience representing controversial figures and cases, she reminded the graduates that the practice of law must always be grounded in fairness, not in technical victories.

Atty. Conti warned of the seductive dangers of

power and winning at all costs. "Remember, not everything legal is just," she emphasized. She concluded with a powerful reminder: "Lahat ay may karapatan sa makatarungang batas at patas na pagpapatupad nito."

Grateful Hearts and Grounded Spirits

The ceremony opened with a Baccalaureate Mass presided over by Reverend Father Vincent Miguel, who offered a heartfelt reminder to the graduates in his homily: "Don't forget the Lord, who has always been with you."

He urged them to become people of gratitude, "because gratitude keeps us humble; it grounds us." He emphasized that their calling goes beyond defending the law. "You are called by God to serve. Offer not just legal knowledge, but compassion, just as Jesus did," he said.

A Celebration of Excellence and Endurance

With the theme, "Principle to Practice: The Rule of Law in Pursuit of Justice," the convocation echoed the aspirations and responsibilities that come

with the profession. The formal proceedings began with the presentation of candidates for graduation followed by the address of petition, concession, and the nomination of candidates.

The highlight of the ceremony came during the imposition of the doctoral beret, donning of the academic hood, and the distribution of diplomas, a moment that embodied both achievement and anticipation for what lies ahead.

Valedictorian's Message: A Reflection of Time and Growth

In his valedictory address, Mr. Marc Stephen L. Melad, the class valedictorian, spoke on the value of time, which he described as law school's most elusive resource.

"Time in law school is different. It's so limited that we miss moments with family and loved ones," he shared. "But time taught us preparation. It taught us to learn from our failures and show up stronger."

Mr. Melad reminded his fellow graduates that while passing the bar remains the

goal, graduation itself is a gift. "Our future lies ahead, but this day, this present, is a gift to us."

A New Chapter Begins

The ceremony concluded with the charge to the graduates from OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez, delivered by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Mariden V. Cautilan.

In his message, he congratulated the Class of 2025 for choosing CSU and for exemplifying the values of competence, skill, and integrity. He also expressed confidence in the legal training and moral foundation instilled by the university's College of Law faculty, led by Dean Atty. Norman Clarence T. Lasam.

Following the Pledge of Loyalty and Induction into the Alumni Association, the graduates sang their graduation song and walked down the aisle for the final recessional. This time, they march not merely as law graduates, but as future lawyers. 🎓



CSU, CPD II INK PARTNERSHIP TO STUDY OUTMIGRATION TRENDS IN REGION 2



Cagayan State University (CSU) and the Commission on Population and Development Region (CPD) II have formally sealed a research partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed on May 6, 2025, aimed at addressing the pressing issue of outmigration in the Cagayan Valley region.

Under the MOA, CPD II will engage the services

and expertise of CSU in conducting a research study titled "Outmigration Trends in Region 2: An Evidence-Based Analysis of Socio-Economic, Demographic, and Environmental Impacts for Policy Development."

The collaboration seeks to determine the root causes and far-reaching implications of outmigration in Region 2, with the findings expected to provide valuable input for the development of

evidence-based policies and responsive programs.

According to data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), migration in the country is largely driven by economic reasons, with 46% of internal movers citing such motivation. Between 2015 and 2020, about 4.7 million Filipinos changed residence within the country. Region 2, in particular, recorded a negative net migration rate of -215 and had the highest percentage of households (16%) with at least one member working abroad, based on the 2018 National Migration Survey.

With CSU's active involvement in multi-disciplinary research and CPD II's mandate to promote people-centered and data-driven development strategies, the partnership

aims to generate findings that will guide future POPDEV (Population and Development) initiatives in the region.

The study, to be conducted by researchers from the CSU Lal-lo Campus headed by CEO Policarpio L. Mabborang Jr., is expected to shed light on key migration drivers, map trends, and analyze the socio-economic and environmental implications—all of which are crucial for crafting responsive and evidence-based policy frameworks in Region 2.

The agreement was signed by CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez and CPD II Regional Director Theresa C. Soriano at the Central Ad Conference Room, CSU Andrews Campus.



CSU WELCOMES PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH FILIPINO COFFEE INSTITUTE TO ADVANCE RESEARCH AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Cagayan State University is exploring potential partnership opportunities with the Filipino Coffee Institute following an exploratory meeting with FCI President and CEO Ramon Jerry A. Cabalce. The meeting, held on April 29, 2025, focused on resource mobilization and support for research and development initiatives in the coffee sector.

Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership and Resource Mobilization Ana Marie Cristina Cavilan emphasized the university's vast land area at CSU Lal-lo as a significant asset for the partnership, noting that the extensive land available for

agricultural research at CSU Lal-lo provides an excellent opportunity to enhance coffee production and quality.

Lal-lo Campus Executive Officer Policarpio Mabborang expressed that collaborating with FCI will enable effective resource mobilization and strengthen the Lal-lo Campus' research capabilities.

Earlier, a coffee evaluation and cupping session was conducted by FCI's international Q Graders, who assessed the quality of various coffee blends developed by CSU Lal-lo. This event showcased the potential of CSU's coffee products and recognized the importance of quality assessment in the coffee

industry.

Further, CSU Gonzaga Campus has been identified as a potential site for various coffee propagation initiatives through its advance facilities. CEO Froilan Pacris noted that the Gonzaga Campus is well-positioned to support these scientific endeavors and contribute to the advancement of coffee research.

Vice President for Research Development and Extension Junel Guzman remarked that this partnership marks a significant step towards

internationalizing coffee research, emphasizing the need for collaboration to tackle global challenges in the coffee industry.

The partnership with FCI is viewed as a strategic move to address challenges in the coffee sector, including sustainability, climate change and market access. Both CSU and FCI are committed to developing programs that will benefit local coffee farming communities while promoting vresearch and development excellence in Northern Luzon.





CSU, CESB FORGE PARTNERSHIP FOR NATIONAL CENTER FOR CAREER EXECUTIVE SERVICES CONSTRUCTION

Aparri, Cagayan – Cagayan State University (CSU) and the Career Executive Service Board (CESB) have formally entered into a partnership on June 4, 2025, for the construction of the National Center for Career Executive Service (NCCES) Building, aimed at enhancing infrastructure support for government career executives.

The agreement was sealed through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed between CESB Chairperson

Dr. Urdujah G. Alvarado, CESO II, and CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, ASEAN Engr., witnessed by CESB Executive Director Maria Marcy Cosare-Ballesteros and CEO Engr. Roger P. Rumpon.

The collaboration leverages CSU's technical expertise through its College of Engineering and Infrastructure Office for the design, monitoring, and supervision of the NCCES project.

Under the MOA,

CESB is responsible for providing funding and documentation for the pre-implementation design stage, implementation, and monitoring of the building. For its part, CSU will conduct site inspections, analysis, consultations, and prepare preliminary plans and schematic designs for CESB's approval.

In his message, Dr. Ibañez expressed his gratitude to the CESB for their confidence in CSU. "On behalf of CSU, thank you for trusting CSU and for the opportunity to

be a part of CESB's history," he said, also acknowledging former CSU President Dr. Alvarado for referring CSU to the CESB.

Prior to the signing, CESB Chairperson Alvarado and Executive Director Ballesteros awarded Dr. Ibañez his Certificate of Eligibility for successfully completing the requirements of the Career Executive Service Eligibility (CESE), formally enlisting him in the roster of CES Eligibles. 🏆

CSU CARIG PARTNERS WITH MABUWAYA FOUNDATION FOR WATER DOCUMENTARY PROJECT

Cagayan State University Carig Campus, through OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Mabuwaya Foundation, Inc., led by Executive Director Mr. Merlijn Van Weerd, on May 9, 2025, for the production of a documentary video.

Titled "The World of Water: Development and Production of a Documentary Video on Water Source, Use, and Management in Cagayan Valley," the project is funded by a ₱300,000 grant from the Louwes Fund of Leiden University in the Netherlands. It aims to raise awareness about water sources, usage, and

management across Region 2.

The production team, headed by Dr. Jan Justin C. Rodriguez, includes BS Development Communication professors and students from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The project will run from April to November 2025 and will produce one full-length documentary along with several shorter versions. These outputs will be used for environmental education, academic instruction, public awareness campaigns, and policy advocacy. The materials will be co-owned by CSU and Mabuwaya Foundation. 🏆



DOST-PCIEERD AWARDS CSU ETRIKE PROJECT FOR EXEMPLARY IMPLEMENTATION

The Cagayan State University (CSU), through its Electromobility Research and Development Center (EMRDC), received the Excellence in Project Implementation and Completion (EPIC) Award from the DOST-PCIEERD in recognition of its timely, efficient, and goal-oriented execution of its eTrike project.

The EPIC Award is conferred on project teams that exemplify excellence in implementation by achieving project goals on schedule, efficiently utilizing a minimum of 90%

of their allocated budget, and fulfilling all deliverables without requesting extensions.

CSU earned the recognition for its successful project dubbed "Design, Development and Fabrication of the Different Parts and Assembly of e-Trike" which promotes sustainable and innovative transportation solutions in support of national goals on green mobility.

On behalf of CSU OIC President and Project Leader, Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, the award was accepted by EMRDC eTrike Project staff

Engr. Mark Anthony S. Ibañez and Mr. Arnold Kein T. Tolbe, alongside the project managers from DOST-PCIEERD.

The award was presented on June 6, 2025, during the 15th Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) Anniversary held at the Marriott Hotel in Pasay City.



TOP OF THEIR CLASS: THREE CSU MEDTECH BOARD TOPNOTCHERS SHARE THEIR JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

Three graduates from Cagayan State University (CSU) – Trina Orro Bernal, Precious Fernandez Tabbu, and Angelica Mae Lizardo Balino – inspired fellow students and faculty as they shared their stories of perseverance and triumph after placing in the Top 10 of the 2025 Medical Technologist Licensure Examination (MTLE).

The celebration was held during the parade of Batch Polaris on April 21, 2025, at the CSU Andrews Campus grounds.

A Dream Realized: Trina Orro Bernal (Top 3)

For Trina Orro Bernal, placing third in the MTLE felt like a dream – both figuratively and literally. "I dreamed of being a topnotcher for so long, and after the exam, I even dreamed about it while

sleeping. It still feels surreal," said Bernal.

Despite moments of self-doubt, Bernal trusted her academic foundation and internship training at AFP Medical Center and CVMC. "I knew I would pass because CSU and my internship shaped me well. The key is not comparing yourself to others—just focus on your own growth. Even small efforts count if you stay consistent."

Driven by Purpose: Precious Fernandez Tabbu (Top 5)

For Precious Tabbu, topping the boards was a step toward her ultimate dream—becoming a doctor. "Medicine has always been the dream, and I owe that to my parents. Their love, sacrifices, and unwavering support pushed me to pass the boards on my first try."

Tabbu juggled preparing for both the MTLE and the

National Medical Admission Test (NMAT), often doubting herself. But she leaned on the belief of those around her. "It was a hard three months, but my parents, friends, and mentors never gave up on me. Their support helped me hit 91.30% despite all my worries."

Faith Above All: Angelica Mae Lizardo Balino (Top 9)

For Angelica Balino, her success was a product of faith and quiet persistence. She struggled with the transition to virtual reviews, a challenge for someone who thrives in face-to-face learning. "My routine wasn't perfect, but I kept showing up. Even when I felt weak, I kept going."

She credits God as her anchor throughout the journey. "God never left me. We didn't make it here alone—our faith, our families, our mentors, and

everyone who believed in us carried us through."

The celebration didn't end with the parade. A Thanksgiving Mass presided by Fr. Ranhilio Aquino followed, along with a testimonial program attended by proud parents, faculty, and university officials including Atty. Carla L. Sumigad (CEO, Andrews Campus), Dr. Julius T. Capili (Dean, CAHS), and Mr. Enjay C. Javier (MLS Program Chair).

To honor their achievement, the university awarded cash incentives: ₱40,000 for Bernal, ₱30,000 for Tabbu, and ₱25,000 for Balino.

Their stories echo the collective triumph of all 160 board passers of Batch Polaris—a batch that continues to bring pride and excellence to CSU.

CSU STRENGTHENS ACADEMIC PUBLISHING WITH NBDB CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

Cagayan State University (CSU) has renewed its status as a Registered Publisher for both print and online formats for the third consecutive time.

Valid until April 30, 2026, the National Book Development Board (NBDB) granted the certification signed by NBDB Executive Director Charisse Aquino-Tugade, in accordance with Republic Act No. 8047, or the Book Publishing Industry Development Act.

This recognition allows CSU to publish books, journals, learning materials,

and other academic resources. It also gives the university access to apply for International Standard Book Numbers (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSN) from the National Library of the Philippines.

CSU continues to produce publications authored by faculty, students, and researchers, supporting its core functions of Instruction, Research, Extension, and Production. It has also conducted workshops to help faculty and students understand the publishing process.



CHED RO2 TAPS CSU EXPERTISE TO ELEVATE INTERNATIONALIZATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Mallig, Isabela – In a landmark initiative aimed at enhancing the quality and global competitiveness of higher education in Cagayan Valley, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Regional Office 02 has officially partnered with Cagayan State University (CSU) through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed on May 19, 2025 at Mallig Plains Colleges.

This collaboration seeks to tap into CSU's extensive expertise in university rankings and internationalization, positioning local institutions for greater success on the global stage.

During the signing ceremony, Dr. Arthur G.

Ibañez, Officer-In-Charge University President of CSU, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership through the initiative of RD Julieta Paras.

He said this agreement is a pioneering step toward unifying our universities in Region II, enabling us to meet international standards and enhance our educational offerings. "I appreciate RD Paras for bringing us together for the first time, and by working together, we can significantly improve the quality of education and research in our region," he added.

The MOA outlines several key objectives, including the engagement of CSU experts to provide capacity-building initiatives focused on prestigious global university ranking systems such as The

Times Higher Education or THE, World University Rankings for Innovation or WURI and Quacquarelli Symonds Ranking or QS.

The agreement also aims to assist higher education institutions in Region II in improving their global standings, fostering partnerships with both local and international academic entities and enhancing research and development efforts to align with international benchmarks.

In light of this partnership, Dr. Ibañez has called upon the CHED Central Office to provide financial support for the internationalization efforts in Region II. "For this initiative to reach its full potential, we need the backing of the central office. Financial assistance will

be crucial in implementing these capacity-building programs and ensuring our institutions can compete globally," he emphasized.

Joining OIC Ibañez are VP for Internationalization, Partnership and Resource Mobilization Dr. Ana Marie Cristina C. Cavilan, Director for Internationalization Dr. Kristinne Lara, Quality Assurance Director Dr. Maridy Calanoga, THE Focal Person Dr. Gigid Battung, Campus QA Directors Ms. Rio Averil Pamittan and Ms. Shelley Tungcul, Campus IPRM Director Ms. Arlen Calimag, and Focal Person for WURI and QS Rankings Dr. Ronnie Pasigui, who is also tasked to lecture on Mapping of the Different University Ranking Methodologies.



SINAG CAGAYAN VALLEY, QBO INNOVATION CONDUCT STARTUP ECOSYSTEM MAPPING



Tuguegarao City, Cagayan – The Synergistic, Innovative, and Agile (SINAG) Cagayan Valley consortium, in partnership with QBO Innovation, conducted the Startup Ecosystem Mapping initiative at the Cagayan State University Claude Andrews Convention Center on April 2, 2025.

The activity aimed to assess the current state of the city and its neighboring municipalities, evaluating their ecosystem's capacity to support startups and

technology innovators.

It featured interactive sessions, including the Startup Community Maturity Model (SCMM) and discussions on challenges and opportunities for local startups and technology innovators. The results will serve as a reference for startups, investors, and policymakers, providing a roadmap for business growth and expansion.

Dr. Junel B. Guzman, Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension and Director of SINAG Cagayan Valley, highlighted

the region's potential for startup growth. "Cagayan is rich in raw materials, and mapping these resources can inspire future entrepreneurs," she said.

Discussants and facilitators included QBO Innovation's Community & Ecosystem Program Manager Szachi Ducusin, Head Ms. Carla Legazpi, and Startup Development Program Associate Ms. Lileth Mortañez.

The initiative, attended by representatives from DICT, DTI, DOST, NEDA, NVSU-SABATAN, SUCs,

HEIs, startup founders, incubatees, MSMEs, LGUs, CSU-TBI, SINAG Founders, and student entrepreneurs, is part of the DOST-PCIEERD Regional Startup Enabler for Ecosystem Development (ReSEED) Program, which aims to strengthen regional startup communities across the Philippines.

QBO Innovation, a division of Ideaspaces, collaborates with government, academia, international agencies, and businesses to drive digital transformation, build innovation ecosystems, and support startup growth. 🇵🇭



CSU BOARD CONVENES FOR 96TH MEETING, HONORS OUTGOING PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

The Cagayan State University (CSU) Board of Regents, along with university officials and campus executive officers, convened in a hybrid setup—both onsite at the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

Central Office and via Zoom—for its 96th regular board meeting, chaired by CHED Commissioner Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis.

The meeting tackled key university matters concerning administration, finance, academics, and

internationalization, with several items presented for board approval.

At the conclusion of the session, CSU presented plaques of recognition to Hon. Arturo B. Tabbu and Hon. Loreto M. Pacay Jr. for their invaluable service as private

sector representatives. Their contributions from Academic Year 2021 to 2025 were recognized as instrumental in the continued growth and progress of the CSU community. 🇵🇭

CSU INKS MOA WITH DOST-NRCP FOR RITAC PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION



Cagayan State University (CSU) officially sealed a partnership with the Department of Science and Technology - National Research Council of the Philippines (DOST - NRCP) for the implementation of the Research Information Translation and Communication (RITAC) Program through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing held on April 21, 2025, at the CSU Conference Room.

The RITAC Program aims to strengthen research

dissemination and improve the understanding and use of basic research among stakeholders such as policymakers, industry leaders, educators, students, and the general public.

Spearheaded by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension, led by Dr. Junel Guzman, the collaboration is expected to drive meaningful and accessible research initiatives.

"We are looking forward to impactful research outputs, especially in mathematics. To the NRCP

team, we extend our full support—not only for this project but also for future endeavors, including NRCP memberships," Dr. Guzman shared during the ceremony.

Representing DOST - NRCP, President Dr. Maria Louise Antonette De Las Peñas highlighted the value of the partnership, saying, "This MOA signifies our joint commitment to advancing science and research through programs like RITAC."

Dr. Theresa Dimalanta, CSU Vice President for Administration and Finance,

also described the initiative as a strategic move to extend the reach of research. "We at CSU are honored to collaborate with NRCP in creating platforms that empower our researchers to contribute meaningfully beyond the academe," she stated.

This partnership is set to open more opportunities for CSU researchers to share their work widely and support the creation of evidence-based development policies. 🌱

CSU – EMRDC RESEARCHERS PRESENT STANDARDIZED BATTERY PACK PROTOTYPES FOR LIGHT ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Cagayan State University – Electromobility Research and Development Center (CSU – EMRDC) researchers presented prototypes of standardized battery packs for light electric vehicles (LEVs) to OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez as part of an ongoing research initiative aimed at transforming electric mobility in the Philippines, April 16, 2025.

The project, titled "Design and Development of Standardized Battery Packaging for Battery Swapping of Light Fleet Electric Vehicles and Policy," is funded by the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) with a total

grant of ₱8,000,000.00.

Led by Engr. Mark Anthony S. Ibañez, the project addresses key barriers to LEV adoption in the country, including lengthy charging times of 8 to 12 hours, limited range and charging infrastructure, and the high upfront cost of batteries, which account for nearly 60% of the total vehicle cost.

"With standardized battery packs and a swapping system, EVs can be recharged in under five minutes—making them more practical and accessible for everyday users," said Engr. Ibañez.

The developed battery packs are designed for cross-compatibility among various LEV types and feature plug-and-play capability, real-time battery monitoring



(state of charge, voltage, capacity, and temperature), and compliance with industry standards.

This initiative includes three core studies: the design of universal battery packaging, the development of a modular battery system, and the formulation of a national policy framework for battery swapping adoption. Commercial rollout is

targeted for 2026.

The CSU-EMRDC project team is spearheaded by Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez as the study leader and Engr. Mark Anthony Ibañez as the project leader, supported by a team of faculty and staff from CSU-Carig Campus. Dr. Florentina S. Dumlaog serves as the project's technical adviser. 🌱



"MAY MAGANDANG BUKAS" SEASON 4 KICKS OFF AT CSU

The Department of Science and Technology – National Research Council of the Philippines (DOST–NRCP), in collaboration with Cagayan State University (CSU), officially launched Season 4 of the “May Magandang Bukas Mula sa Pagtuklas” series with its first episode, “Byaheng Norte: Siyensya’t Turismo Para sa Kalikasan, Kultura, at Komunidad,” held on April 22–23, 2025, at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, CSU Andrews Campus.

Dr. Junel B. Guzman, CSU Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension, welcomed the participants and reiterated CSU’s commitment to

sustainability through science and innovation.

NRCP President Dr. Ma. Louise Antonette N. De Las Peñas delivered a message of support, inspiring participants to “continue discovering, innovating, and sharing knowledge to benefit communities and change lives.”

A major highlight was the policy research presentation on the eco-tourism potential of Barangay San Miguel, Echague, Isabela, led by the NRCP Research Center for Social Sciences and Education in partnership with Cong. Faustino Dy V. Asst. Prof. Jame Moren T. Mercado, the project presenter, stressed the role of evidence-based research

in local policymaking and community development.

Stakeholder insights were shared during the Pulso at Pagpapayo segment, with contributions from Mr. Louie C. Simbi (Echague Cultural and Tourism Officer), Ms. Zenaída M. Quinto (SME Development Chief, DTI Region 02), Ms. Gheraldine Labayani (Chief Technical Support, DOLE Region 02), and Mr. Yowelle Sedano (Tourism Operations Officer, Tuguegarao City).

The event also included the NRCP Roundtable Discussion Program on Government Employees’ Access to Primary Care Facilities and Services on April 23, featuring key presentations and breakout

sessions centered on improving healthcare access for government employees and their families.

Dr. Roderick Napulan, Director IV of the Department of Health, presented the project findings, followed by a response session from representatives of CSU, the Civil Service Commission Region II, the Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development, and Tuguegarao City Urban Health Unit.

An open forum for stakeholders followed the presentations, enabling in-depth discussions and resulting in the consolidation of key highlights and actionable outputs. 🌱

CSU HOLDS FIRST QUARTER FY 2025 PHYSICAL, FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Cagayan State University (CSU) conducted its Physical and Financial Performance Review for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025 today, April 25, at the Central Administration Conference Hall.

The activity gathered campus planning and budget officers along with key officials of the university to evaluate accomplishments across four major performance indicators – higher education, advanced education, research and extension, and capital outlay projects.

Spearheaded by University Planning and Development Director Dr. Ian Roger Francisco, the review served as a platform

for campuses to present their progress and status of physical and financial targets.

Dr. Francisco highlighted the importance of sustaining high standards, noting that, “Having earned an outstanding overall rating in the first Annual Performance Review of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) last year, the challenge for us now is to maintain that rating.”

Campus representatives likewise expressed their resolve to meet and exceed the university’s performance targets for the year.

CSU previously achieved an outstanding overall rating in financial, physical, and reportorial performance

during the first Annual Performance Review of SUCs in Cagayan Valley, led by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Region 02 last March.

Among those who attended the review and provided recommendations were Dr. Junel B. Guzman (Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension), Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta (Vice President for Administration

and Finance), Dr. Marie Cauilan (Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership, and Resource Mobilization), Dr. Lorraine Tattao (OSDW Director), and Mr. Alvin U. Alisasis (University Budget Officer).

The evaluation aims to strengthen operational efficiency and ensure CSU remains aligned with national goals in higher education and public service. 🌱





"NO ROLE IS TOO SMALL": OIC PRESIDENT IBÁÑEZ RECOGNIZES ADMIN STAFF ON SUPPORT PERSONNEL DAY

Cagayan State University (CSU) OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez recognized the significant roles of administrative personnel and staff in realizing the university's mission and vision during the celebration of National Education Support Personnel Day on May 16.

Speaking at the CSU Andrews Campus Gymnasium, Dr. Ibañez likened CSU to a car that cannot run without all its parts—highlighting that every role, no matter how humble, contributes to its success. "Thank you for your support, patience, and

understanding—even when leadership falls short, you remain strong," he added.

Campus Executive Officer Atty. Carla Marie L. Sumigad opened the celebration by expressing her heartfelt gratitude to all personnel and staff for their unwavering service and commitment to CSU.

Chief Administrative Officer Ramon Henry O. Kanapi followed with the rationale of the activity, emphasizing that quality education is made possible not only through teachers but also through the daily dedication of administrative personnel.

Echoing this message, Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta, Vice President for Administration and Finance, encouraged the community to recognize the often-overlooked contributions of support staff, stating, "Today, we celebrate individuals who may not always be seen but are never insignificant."

The morning program continued with a General Assembly of Administrative Personnel, followed by a fun-filled "Admin Personnel Got Talent" show.

In the afternoon, employees joined a fellowship lunch, a Zumba session, and a Health and

Wellness Program that provided free medical consultations and announced free dental services to be availed on May 20. A sportsfest also took place and concluded the celebration with a Bingo Social and a closing message from Chief Finance Management Officer Dr. Emerita P. Geron.

The event, held in observance of Republic Act No. 12178, paid tribute to the contributions of support personnel through a day-long program of appreciation, wellness activities, and camaraderie. 🇵🇭

CSU COMMENCES SECOND SURVEY VISIT FOR ANDREWS AND CARIG PROGRAMS

The Cagayan State University (CSU) formally opened the second accreditation survey visit of selected academic programs in Andrews and Carig campuses through a ceremony held at the CSU Andrews Conference Room on May 13, 2025.

In her welcome remarks, CSU Andrews Campus CEO Atty. Carla Marie Sumigad expressed gratitude to the accreditors. Dr. Mariden Cauilan, Vice President for Academic Affairs, emphasized the significance of accreditation in strengthening the university's academic standards.

CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur

G. Ibañez thanked the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) for its continued support and reaffirmed the university's commitment to academic excellence.

"We remain steadfast in our promise of continuous improvement and academic excellence," Dr. Ibañez said. "With the invaluable guidance of our accreditation partners, we are confident that CSU will continue to deliver quality tertiary education that empowers our students to thrive."

The online accreditation is headed by Dr. Eunice B. Custodio for Andrews Campus and Dr. Simeon J.



Cainday III for Carig Campus. Programs under evaluation include BS in Respiratory Therapy, BS in Public Health, and BS in Legal Management for Andrews; and Ph.D. in Psychology, MA in Psychology, and BS in Physics for Carig.

Expert accreditors evaluated institutional areas such as governance, administration, and academic processes. The accreditation ended in May 16, 2025. 🇵🇭



HEEDING THE CALL OF SERVICE: CSU KICKS OFF 42ND STUDENT CONGRESS

Cagayan State University (CSU) officially opened its 42nd Student Congress on May 21, 2025, at the CSU Andrews Campus, bringing together over 300 student leaders from across all campuses under the theme "Called to Serve: 42 Years of Student Leadership."

The annual gathering, organized by the University Student Council Federation

(USCF) in collaboration with the Office of Student Development and Welfare, aims to strengthen leadership capacities through plenary sessions, panel discussions, team-building activities, and mock sessions.

In his message, Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the University President, highlighted the importance of soft skills such as

teamwork, communication, empathy, adaptability, and leadership. "You will always carry with you the values of CSU and carry the name of CSU wherever you may be. I will always be proud of you students and soon-to-be graduates of Cagayan State University," Dr. Ibañez said.

The opening day featured a parade of delegates around the campus, followed by the opening ceremony at the Claude Andrews Convention

Center and a ceremonial torch lighting at the campus grounds.

Meanwhile, student leaders were divided into 12 houses or teams: Targaryen, Tyrell, Baratheon, Martell, Stark, Tully, Greyjoy, Arryn, Frey, Lannister, Night's Watch, and Bolton.

The 42nd CSU Student Congress included a full slate of leadership sessions, workshops, socials, and the USCf Elections. 🏆



SENATOR ANGARA'S SCHOLARSHIP GRANTEES JOIN CSU BARKADA LEAGUE 2025 KICKOFF

Cheers and yells filled the air at Cagayan State University (CSU) Carig Campus as 320 student-scholars from various CSU campuses gathered on May 19, for the opening of the Senator Angara's Barkada League 2025.

In his address, CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez extended his appreciation to Senator Angara, through

Mr. Niño Nuñez, for the continued support to CSU scholars and for initiating the event. "This event is about developing friendship and camaraderie. Enjoy your games and showcase sportsmanship in everything that you do," Dr. Ibañez said

Delegates from different CSU campuses, along with their coaches, are set to compete in badminton, basketball, and volleyball throughout the three-day

league.

Currently, a total of 563 student-scholars under Senator Angara's scholarship program for AY 2024-2025 are enrolled across the university's different campuses – Andrews Campus has the highest number with 120 scholars, followed by Carig with 77, Aparri with 71, Piat with 67, Lasam with 61, Sanchez Mira with 60, Lal-lo with 55, and Gonzaga with 52.

Since 2017, Senator Angara has supported financially challenged CSU students through scholarship grants, open to all courses and year levels.

The Barkada League serves as a platform to build friendships and promote well-being through sports among the scholars. 🏆

CSU BOARD OF REGENTS MEMBER AND FACULTY NAMED 2025 CSC REGIONAL AWARDEES

Two members of the Cagayan State University (CSU) community were named Regional Winners in the 2025 Search for Outstanding Government Workers by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Regional Office II.

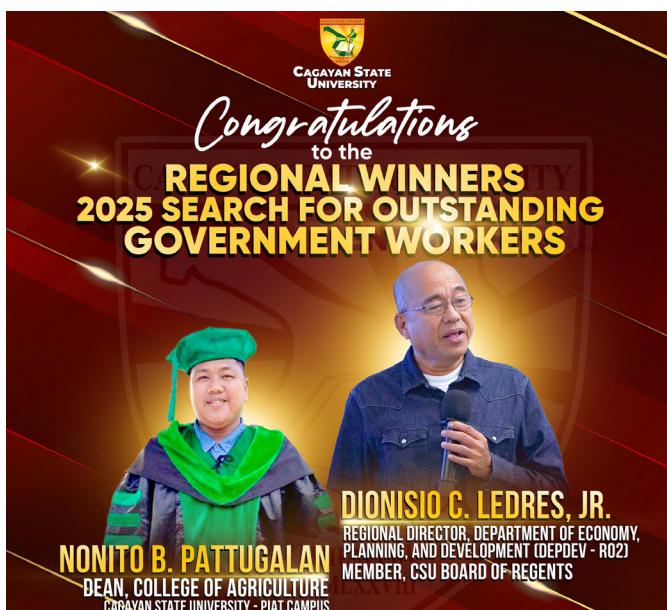
Director Dionisio C. Ledres, Jr., a member of the CSU Board of Regents and Director IV at the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development, and Nonito B. Pattugalan, Assistant Professor III at CSU-Piat Campus, were both conferred the CSC Pagasa Award (Individual Category).

Said award is conferred to a government employee whose exceptional idea

or performance has directly benefited multiple government agencies, demonstrating wide-reaching impact and excellence in public service.

Meanwhile, their nominations along with other regional awardees in different categories have been officially endorsed to the National Honor Awards Program Secretariat and will advance to the national level of the search.

The annual search is part of the CSC's Honor Awards Program, which aims to recognize government workers who demonstrate outstanding work performance, professionalism, and ethical conduct. 🏆



CSU's 9 CAMPUSES NOW ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

Cagayan State University (CSU) has officially earned ISO 9001:2015 certification, affirming its adherence to international standards for quality management in higher education.

The certification, issued by President and Managing Director Joselito C. Soler, covers all nine

CSU campuses — Andrews, Aparri, Carig, Gonzaga, Lal-lo, Lasam, Piat, Sanchez Mira, and Solana-Lara.

This achievement shows CSU's management systems meet global standards in the design, development, and delivery of tertiary education, including frontline and support services. 🏆



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Congratulations!

Licensure Examination for Teachers

Passers of June 2025 Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE) for Professional Teachers – Elementary Level.

CSU Lason	CSU Aparri	CSU Andrews
100% (2/2)	100% (2/2)	50% (1/2)
Institutional Passing Rate	National Passing Rate	
83.33%	55.69%	

TOP 10 AGOOT, ERA JOY E.
CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY - LASAM CAMPUS

83.60%

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Congratulations

to the 34 PASSERS OF MAY 2025 CHEMICAL ENGINEERING LICENSURE EXAMINATION

CSU is TOP 6 PERFORMING SCHOOL FOR CHEMICAL ENGINEERING NATIONWIDE

INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
85% (34/40)	72.34%

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Congratulations

to the 160 PASSERS OF MARCH 2025 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
92.49% (160/173)	80.26%

TOPNOTCHERS

TOP 3 TRINA ORRO BERNAL **91.80%**

TOP 5 PRECIOUS FERNANDEZ TABBU **91.30%**

TOP 9 ANGELICA MAE LIZARDO BALINO **90.70%**

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Congratulations

to the 27 PASSERS OF APRIL 2025 REGISTERED ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

FIRST TIME TAKERS	INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
92.59% (25/27)	93.10% (27/29)	61.37% (4,137/6,741)

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Congratulations!

Licensure Examination for Teachers

Passers of March 2025 (First Time Takers)

CSU Andrews	CSU Aparri	CSU Gonzaga
Elementary Level: 88.57% (31/35) Secondary Level: 94.17% (113/120)	Elementary Level: 100% (1/1) Secondary Level: 85.7% (6/7)	Elementary Level: 100% (1/1) Secondary Level: 83.33% (5/6)
CSU Cagrig	CSU Lal-lo	CSU Piat
Elementary Level: 91.38% (106/116) Secondary Level: 60% (3/5)	Elementary Level: 100% (4/4) Secondary Level: 42.86% (3/7)	Elementary Level: 100% (4/4)

Elementary Education		Secondary Education	
Institutional Passing Rate	National Passing Rate	Institutional Passing Rate	National Passing Rate
90.91% (50/55)	46.77% (16,282/34,810)	90.57% (240/265)	62.27% (38,747/62,225)

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Congratulations

to the 21 PASSERS OF APRIL 2025 ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
51.22% (21/41)	45.39%

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Congratulations

to the 30 PASSERS OF APRIL 2025 ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
76.92% (30/39)	81.75%

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Congratulations

to the 48 PASSERS OF MARCH-APRIL 2025 PHYSICIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION

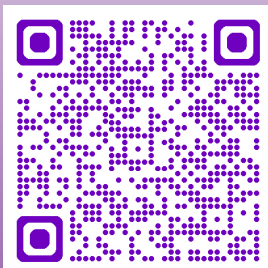
FIRST TIME TAKERS	INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
90.70% (39/43)	77.42% (48/62)	49.67% (1901/3827)

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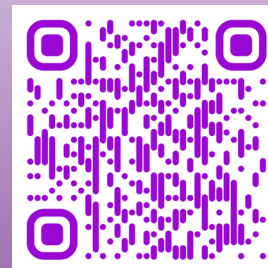
47TH Founding Anniversary CELEBRATION



INFOCUS



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



VIDEO HIGHLIGHT