

INFOCUS



The Official Newsletter of the Office of the University President



CHED CHAIRPERSON AGRUPIS VISITS CSU, RECEIVES HIGHEST ALUMNI HONOR AND PLEDGES STRONGER SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL INNOVATION

Cagayan State University (CSU) welcomed Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Chairperson and CSU Board of Regents (BOR) Chair Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis in a series of momentous events from August 8 to 10, 2025, marking her first official visit to the university since assuming her post as CHED Chairperson.

During her visit, Dr. Agrupis was conferred the "CSU Distinguished Alumna Award 2025", the highest alumni recognition bestowed by the university through its Federation of Alumni Associations. An alumna of the former Bukig National Agricultural and Technical School—one of the institutions that merged to form CSU in 1978—Dr. Agrupis was honored for her exemplary achievements, outstanding professional contributions, and steadfast service to her community and alma mater.

Following the conferment ceremony, Dr. Agrupis presided over CSU's 97th Regular Board of Regents Meeting, where discussions focused on strengthening the university's strategic directions in

instruction, research, extension, internationalization, finance, and administration.

Her three-day visit also highlighted her commitment to advancing higher education and innovation in Northern Luzon. She was warmly received by OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, former University President Dr. Urdujah G. Alvarado, CHED Regional Office II Director Dr. Julieta M. Paras, university officials, and campus executives.

At CSU Carig Campus, she witnessed research breakthroughs at the Electromobility Research and Development Center (EMRDC)—the first and only e-mobility center in the country funded by DOST. The Chairperson lauded CSU's efforts in integrating science and innovation for sustainable community development.

Dr. Agrupis then embarked on a multi-campus tour covering seven CSU campuses, including Piat, Solana-Lara, Gonzaga, Lal-lo, Aparri, and Carig, where she personally observed niche programs that drive local and regional advancement.

At CSU Piat, she visited the Dairy Processing Center, home to the "Itawes Fresh" milk drink. In Solana-Lara, she toured the university's newest campus built on land donated through the efforts of Congressman Joseph "Jojo" Lasam Lara. In Gonzaga, she explored the Mangrove and Bamboo Research and Innovation Center (MABRIC), which promotes bamboo agroforestry and commercialization.

In Lal-lo Campus, Dr. Agrupis witnessed the thriving Coffee Hub Program, which integrates research, production, and tourism. A new coffee variety, the "Agrupis Blend," was launched in her honor, a tribute to her leadership, resilience, and innovation. "Like its namesake, every brew is purposeful, bold, refined, and unapologetically excellent," remarked Dr. Ana Marie C. Cauilan, Vice President for Internationalization and Resource Mobilization.

Dr. Agrupis encouraged CSU to sustain its momentum, assuring her continued support for funding-worthy projects. "Submit proposals that merit funding so you can step up and

dominate the coffee world," she said.

Her final stop was CSU Aparri, where she received a heartfelt hometown welcome and toured the campus' fishery and aquaculture facilities, featuring saline tilapia, milkfish, and mangrove crab production. She lauded CSU's unified dedication to innovation and community development, stating, "The zeal and commitment that the university shows inspire me to be your partner in making CSU the central hub of development in the country."

As she concluded her campus visit, Dr. Agrupis reaffirmed her dedication to uplifting higher education in Cagayan, saying that CSU's achievements embody the spirit of excellence and service that every Filipino university should emulate. 🇵🇭



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 CONCLUDES 2025 ACADEMIC CONVOCATION SEASON WITH 7,734 GRADUATES ACROSS ITS CAMPUSES

Cagayan State University (CSU) officially closed its 2025 Academic Convocation season with a total of 7,734 graduates from its eight campuses.

From June 20 to July 28, CSU held a series of commencement ceremonies across Andrews, Aparri, Carig, Gonzaga, Lasam, Lallo, Sanchez Mira, and Piat campuses, culminating in the final rites for medical doctor students of the CSU College of Medicine at Carig Campus.

Nation-building, service, and compassion at the heart of keynote messages

Throughout the convocation season, national and university leaders highlighted themes of resilience, integrity, and service.

The convocation season featured an esteemed lineup of guest speakers across campuses, including Dr. Marites M. Buturan, Dean of the ISU College of Medicine; Dir. Virginia G. Bilgera of DOST Region II (represented by Ms. Raquel Santos) in Gonzaga; and Dr. Dexter R. Buted, Chief Executive Officer of the Philippine Carabao Center, in Sanchez Mira. Their messages emphasized compassion in professional practice, science-driven innovation, and leadership rooted in kindness and purpose.

CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, who delivered charges to graduates across the campuses, called on the Class of 2025 to embrace shared responsibility, ethical

leadership, and service to communities, particularly those underserved.

"In challenges, your purpose begins," he told the medical graduates. Earlier at Carig Campus, he posed a reflective question to graduates: "If Filipinos excel abroad, why not within our own?" urging them to consider serving the nation first.

CHED Chairperson and CSU Board of Regents Chair Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis also delivered messages throughout the ceremonies via video, reminding graduates of their role in nation-building, the sacred duty tied to free education, and the expectation for them to lead with integrity. "Libre ang tuition, libre ang pag-asa," she affirmed.

A unified CSU legacy

The Class of 2025 embodies Cagayan State University's unwavering dedication to academic excellence, leadership, innovation, and public service. Their journey, shaped by resilience during the pandemic, mastery of emerging technologies, and a commitment to nation-building, showcases the enduring spirit of CSU.

As CSU concludes its 2025 Academic Convocation season, the university celebrates not merely number of graduates but the collective narrative of achievement, resilience, and hope that defines a true CSUan. 🎓



CSU, ZONTA CLUB INK MOA TO STRENGTHEN ADVOCACY AGAINST INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

July 24, 2025 – Cagayan State University (CSU) and the Zonta Club of Tuguegarao City have formalized a partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) aimed at advancing gender equality and women empowerment, particularly in addressing intimate partner violence.

Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, CSU Officer-in-Charge, and Zonta President Ms. Liza Mora-Arroyo signed the MOA, which centers

on the dissemination and application of the completed CSU research study entitled "Breaking Cycles of Abuse: Empowering Women Through a Primary Support Program and Advocacy Intervention in Intimate Partner Violence." The study was spearheaded by Dr. Chona P. Agustin and her research team from the College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy.

Through the agreement, CSU commits to providing

Zonta Club with research findings and educational materials, while offering technical consultation and extending support for aligned advocacy efforts.

In turn, the Zonta Club will integrate key findings into its ongoing and future community programs, promote awareness campaigns, and ensure ethical use of CSU's outputs.

The Zonta Club of Tuguegarao, part of a global network of over 7,000 Zonta clubs in 63 countries, has

long championed women's rights and gender-responsive advocacy in the region.

With this new collaboration, both parties look forward to creating broader impact through research-based, community-driven approaches to support women affected by violence.

The MOA will be in effect for one year, with provisions for renewal and joint activities such as training, public forums, and advocacy campaigns. 🌸

PHILIPPINE DELEGATION STRENGTHENS HIGHER EDUCATION TIES IN CAMBODIA; CSU OIC PRESIDENT IBAÑEZ REPRESENTS CSU IN STATE VISIT

Phnom Penh, Cambodia — The Philippine delegation, led by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), strengthened higher education cooperation with Cambodia during the State Visit of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. from September 7–9, 2025.

Among the official delegates was Cagayan State University (CSU) Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, who represented the university and the Philippine higher education sector in this milestone diplomatic mission.

Together with CHED Chairperson Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis, University of the Philippines (UP) President Angelo A. Jimenez, and Batangas State University (BSU) President Tirso A. Ronquillo, Dr. Ibañez joined courtesy meetings with Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport (MoEYS), focusing on advancing bilateral cooperation in education, research, and innovation.

A highlight of the visit was the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education between CHED and MoEYS, represented by Dr. Agrupis and Cambodia's Education

Minister Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, respectively. The signing was witnessed by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet at the Peace Palace in Phnom Penh on September 8, 2025.

The agreement establishes a framework for stronger academic and research linkages between the two nations, encompassing student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects, academic information-sharing, and credit transfer programs. Priority areas include health sciences, agriculture, food security, engineering, aviation, renewable energy, and innovation.

Following the signing, the Philippine higher education team, including Dr. Ibañez, visited Phnom Penh International University (PPIU) and the National University of Management (NUM) to explore potential joint academic projects and collaborative research initiatives.

Dr. Ibañez emphasized CSU's commitment to contributing to the broader goals of the Philippine higher education sector in fostering regional cooperation.

"It is a distinct honor to join this important mission led by CHED Chairperson Dr. Shirley Agrupis. Representing



CSU in this delegation affirms our commitment to building stronger linkages with Cambodian institutions and contributing to the long-term vision of inclusive and globally competitive higher education," he said.

The Philippine delegation also included Cabinet officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department

of Agriculture, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Migrant Workers, Presidential Communications Office, and the Department of Transportation, along with Philippine Ambassador to Cambodia Florida Ann Camille P. Mayo. 🌸



CSU, ALUMNI LAUNCH UNIQUE ADOPT-A-CSU STUDENT PROGRAM

Cagayan State University (CSU) has rolled out a unique initiative through the Office of the Vice President for Internationalization, Partnerships and Resource Mobilization: the Adopt-A-CSU Student Program, designed to mobilize alumni in support of students facing daily financial struggles.

While tuition is already free under RA 10931, many CSU students continue to grapple with costs for books, uniforms, transportation, lodging and incidental

expenses that add up to heavy burdens. The program links financially challenged but high-potential students with alumni benefactors who can help cover these essential needs.

The Memorandum of Agreement was formally signed at the Central Administration Conference Hall by OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, Federated Alumni Associations President Atty. Carmelo A. Villacete, and Andrews Alumni Association President Dr. Nestor C. Ave, whose

group will pioneer the program.

Vice President and Program Proponent Dr. Ana Marie Cristina C. Cauilan, explained that the program was inspired by the hidden struggles of students, noting that "free tuition alone does not cover the full cost of being a student." She added that the program is also about instilling a culture of giving back among future graduates.

OIC President Ibañez lauded the initiative as a strategic response to the

nation's low graduation rates, made possible through the strength of CSU's alumni network. Student Regent Kyle Aaron T. Tan also pledged support, calling the initiative "a lifeline for students in need."

By directly engaging alumni, the Adopt-A-CSU Student Program supports CSU's SUC Levelling targets in access and equity and graduation outcomes, with Andrews Alumni Association leading the way under the stewardship of Dr. Nestor Ave. 🙌

CSU RANKS 221ST OUT OF 1,253 UNIVERSITIES FROM 87 COUNTRIES IN WURI 2025, TOPS IN STUDENT SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT

Cagayan State University (CSU) achieved a global rank of 221 out of 1,253 higher education institutions from 87 countries in the 2025 World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI), placing it among the top 400 innovative universities worldwide.

CSU ranked first in the category of Student Support and Engagement (A1), which highlights programs that promote student welfare, academic success, inclusion, and active participation.

The university also garnered high rankings in two other key categories: Rank 3 in Entrepreneurial Spirit (A4) for its programs that foster supportive environment conducive to entrepreneurship and

innovation, and Rank 12 in Industrial Application (A3) for its application of industry-related education and research to generate tangible, real-world impacts.

The WURI rankings evaluate universities based on real-world impact and innovation, rather than traditional academic metrics. This year's edition evaluated 1,253 universities from 87 countries, drawing insights from a total of 4,866 cutting-edge innovative programs submitted for assessment.

The 2025 edition covered 16 categories and was announced during the 5th Annual Hanseatic League of Universities (HLU) Conference held at Negros Oriental State University on July 10, 2025. 🙌

CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Congratulations

CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY

RANK 221 **WURI** The WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS for INNOVATION

2025 WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS FOR INNOVATION

TOP 1	STUDENT SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT (A1)
TOP 3	ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT (A4)
TOP 12	INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION (A3)

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CSU RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP IN INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY



The Cagayan State University (CSU) has officially received the 2025 Presidential Recognition for Outstanding Development Partners

under the Accelerating Technology and Innovation Category, conferred by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Philippines at Malacañang Palace.

The award honors institutions and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to empowering micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) across the country through innovation and sustainable development.

CSU was recognized for its pioneering program "Venturing on Electric Transportation" through its Electromobility Research and Development Center (CSU-EMRDC) at Carig Campus. The program promotes local innovation in electric mobility, aiming to transform the transport landscape through research-based and sustainable solutions.

Established in 2021 through the Department of Science and Technology's (DOST) Science for Change

Program – Niche Centers in the Regions for R&D (NICER), CSU-EMRDC is one of the country's pioneering research and development centers focused on advancing electric transportation systems.

Funded by the DOST, the center continues to drive innovation through projects such as C-Trike: Converted Electric Tricycle, E-Trike: Design, Development, and Fabrication of Components, Conversion of Conventional Buses to Electric Public Utility Buses (ePUBs), eBuggy: Mini Four-Wheeled Electric Vehicle, eTranvia: All-Electric 18-Seater Tourist Tram with Charging Station for Intramuros, Manila and Standardized Battery Packaging for Battery Swapping of Light Fleet Electric Vehicles. 🇵🇭

CSU EARNS OUTSTANDING RATING IN DBM 2024 AGENCY PERFORMANCE REVIEW



Cagayan State University (CSU) has been recognized by the Department of Budget and Management as one of only 14 agencies out of 308 to receive an Outstanding Performance Rating in the 2024 Agency Performance Review, earning a perfect score of 5.0 across

all evaluation areas: financial, physical, and reportorial compliance.

The recognition was officially announced by Budget Secretary Hon. Amenah F. Pangandaman, following the performance review conducted under the newly recalibrated criteria of DBM Circular Letter 2025-2. 🇵🇭



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CSU CONCLUDES 2025 INTERNATIONAL TVET CONFERENCE WITH BEST PAPER AWARDS AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENTS



Cagayan State University (CSU) successfully concluded the 2025 International Conference on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) on October 31, 2025 at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, highlighting best paper awardees and solidifying global partnerships for advancing technical education and sustainable development.

The two-day conference, held from October 30 to 31, 2025, gathered delegates from 14 Countries and 44 Institutions from across the Philippines under the theme “Global Landscape: Aligning TVET and Industry for Sustainable Development.” It served as a platform for educators, researchers, policymakers, and industry leaders to share best practices, research innovations, and strategies for shaping future-ready TVET systems.

In his keynote address, Professor Dr. Suresh Kumar Dhameja, Director General of the Colombo Plan Staff College, emphasized the rising importance of skilled professionals in an era dominated by automation and artificial intelligence (AI).

“AI may replace the technicians, but AI cannot replace skilled people,” he said, underscoring the value of learner-centered, hybrid education in preparing future-ready workers.

CSU OIC President Dr.

Arthur G. Ibañez welcomed participants by underscoring the university’s commitment to innovation and inclusive education.

“Education rooted in skills, inclusivity, and innovation can uplift lives and build resilient communities. Our TVET programs embody this spirit, opening doors to employment and empowering communities in the region,” he said.

Echoing his remarks, Andrews Campus CEO Atty. Carla Marie Sumigad described the conference as a “vital platform for exchanging ideas, sharing best practices, and fostering partnerships that transcend borders,” while Carig Campus CEO Engr. Roger Rumpun urged participants to strengthen global credential recognition and industry-aligned curricula in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The conference featured four plenary themes—Evolving Industry Demands,

Building a Future-Ready Workforce, Certification Without Borders, and Transforming TVET Curricula for Sustainable Industry 5.0—through which international and local experts shared insights, while educators and researchers presented studies addressing innovation, sustainability, and workforce readiness.

During the closing ceremony, CSU recognized best paper awardees across the four conference themes.

Engr. Michael B. Orpilla won under Evolving Industry Demands for his study on electric bus retrofitting under CSU’s Electromobility Research and Development Center (EMRDC). Engr. Bernard D. Bisuecos was recognized under Future-Ready Workforce for developing a machine learning-based predictive maintenance system for electric tricycles.

Ms. Rachelle Joy A. Consigna received the top award for Certification

Without Borders for her research on SINAG Cagayan Valley’s mentorship programs that enhance startup and faculty innovation. While Ms. Myrally L. Marcos won under Transforming TVET Curricula for her study on lifelong learning initiatives for local agripreneurs led by CSU Gonzaga Campus.

Serving as evaluators were Dr. Florentina S. Dumlao, Dr. Junel B. Guzman, Dr. Mariden V. Cauilan, Dr. Josie Y. Bas-ong, and Dr. Rodel Francisco T. Alegado from CSU, and Director Genaro Ronald Ibay, Mr. Rogelio Rambuyan, and Ms. Katrina Amore V. Vinarao from TESDA.

The conference concluded with renewed commitments to foster academic-industry collaborations, global mobility, and joint research initiatives that advance sustainable TVET practices. 🌱



CSU HOSTS 2ND KAMAG-ARAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION



Tuguegarao City, Cagayan — The Cagayan State University (CSU) hosted the 2nd KaMaG-Aral National Conference on July 24–25, 2025, at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, CSU Andrews Campus.

Organized by the Katipunan ng mga Mananaliksik at Guro ng Araling Panlipunan (KaMaG-Aral), the two-day national event was attended by social studies educators

and researchers from the Department of Education and various state universities and colleges across the country.

With a focus on critical thinking and innovation in Social Studies education, the conference featured plenary lectures on topics such as “Ang Kasaysayan sa Araling Panlipunan,” “Critical Thinking in the Teacher Education Curriculum,” and “Critical Thinking and Artificial Intelligence in Social

Studies.” It also included a workshop on skeptical resilience and fighting fake news, as well as research presentations from the participants.

In his message, CSU Officer-in-Charge Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez highlighted the significant role of Social Studies in shaping civic competence, critical thinking, and national identity. He cited current studies and pressing issues that reflect challenges in curriculum depth, teacher training, and the fight against misinformation.

“Social Studies helps students ask questions that matter—questions about justice, identity, freedom, and responsibility,” OIC President said. “It grounds learners in historical consciousness, enabling them to connect past struggles with present realities and future

aspirations.”

Dr. Ibañez also shared CSU’s ongoing research and extension projects related to social sciences, including studies on local governance, cultural heritage, gender issues, public health education, tourism, entrepreneurship, and environmental sustainability.

He further expressed his full support for faculty-led initiatives aimed at strengthening Social Studies instruction and content development in the university.

At the end of the conference, participants are expected to demonstrate enhanced competence in Social Studies education, apply critical thinking in classroom and community contexts, and present relevant research aligned with national educational goals. 🇵🇭

CSU STRENGTHENS INTEGRITY MEASURES THROUGH CODI ORIENTATION

To strengthen its commitment to fairness, professionalism, and respect within the academic community, the Cagayan State University (CSU) held an orientation on the administrative and quasi-judicial functions of the Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) at the Central Administration

Conference Hall, August 26.

Resource Person and University Consultant Fr. Ranhilio C. Aquino discussed the roles and responsibilities of CODI under the Anti-Sexual Harassment Law, the Safe Spaces Act, the Revised Rules on Administrative Cases in Civil Service (RRACS), and CHED Memorandum Order No. 3, series of 2022.

With the theme “The Decorum Imperative: Defining and Upholding Professional Conduct,” the seminar gathered key university officials, including Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Mariden V. Cauilan, representing OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez; CODI Chairperson and Vice President for Administration and Finance

Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta; University GAD Director Melvin Mora; Campus GAD Focal Persons; and CODI members.

CODI is an institutional body mandated in higher education institutions tasked to uphold integrity, accountability, and order in the resolution of administrative and disciplinary matters. 🇵🇭



CSU, CHR REGION 02 EMPOWER STUDENT LEADERS ON INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

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ASCU-SN 2025 GAMES OPENS IN LA TRINIDAD; CSU JOINS 24 SUCS IN CELEBRATING ATHLETICISM, CULTURE, AND UNITY OF SOLID NORTH

La Trinidad, Benguet – The 2025 Association of State Colleges and Universities–Solid North (ASCU-SN) Games officially opened today, July 15, at the Benguet State University (BSU) in La Trinidad, Benguet with delegates from 25 participating State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) from Regions I, II, III, and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

Cagayan State University (CSU) is represented by 219 faculty members, officials, and administrative personnel, led by OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez.

Set in the cool highlands of the Strawberry and Rose Capital of the Philippines, ASCU-SN 2025 highlights regional solidarity through sportsmanship, creativity, and collaboration among SUC employees from Northern Luzon.

BSU President Dr. Kenneth A. Laruan formally opened the event by encouraging delegates to engage in the activities with joy and purpose.

"We encourage everyone to pray for the events, not in the spirit of rivalry but of joy

and fellowship. Let this be a celebration of recreation, camaraderie, and well-being," the host president said.

Local and national leaders graced the event. La Trinidad Mayor Roderick C. Awingan, in his welcome message, praised the organizers and noted the value of the event, emphasizing the importance of human connection beyond competition.

"You are not just athletes, you are educators, mentors, and leaders. May this event reconnect you with one another and reinvigorate your purpose as molders of dreams," said the local chief executive, who also urged the participants to "enjoy not just the sights of La Trinidad, but the meaningful connections you will create."

Apart from Awingan, Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Commissioner Desiderio R. Apag III was also present at the opening program held at BSU's gymnasium.

In his message, he highlighted the broader relevance of the event. "ASCU-SN is more than a celebration of physical strength; it reaffirms collaboration and unity



across SUCs. It reminds us that education goes far beyond classroom walls. We thank the leaders of SUCs not only for academic excellence but for supporting the holistic well-being of employees."

Despite her absence, CHED Chairperson Shirley C. Agrupis sent her greetings to the delegates. In a video message, she commended the annual tradition as a platform to strengthen regional identity and academic collaboration.

"This is one of the most anticipated traditions of our alliance, where we not only showcase talents but [also] the spirit of unity and values of the Ilocano people. Let us compete with integrity, and build lasting friendships with compassion and commitment," the former Mariano Marcos State

University President said.

Speaking in both Ilocano and English, she also recognized the significant role of SUCs as equalizers in society and as institutions that shape both character and culture.

"Through sports and arts, we teach our communities how to work together, dream bigger, and honor one another, said chair Agrupis, the former president of ASCU-SN.

With the theme "Celebrating Athleticism, Culture, and Unity," the ASCU-SN 2025 Midyear Sports and Cultural Festival has been a platform to showcase the role of SUCs in promoting wellness, resilience, and nation-building through inclusive, values-based engagement.

CSU, DOH-TRC 02 FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN DRUG AWARENESS EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS

The Cagayan State University (CSU) and the Department of Health–Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (DOH-TRC) Region II have formally entered into a three-year partnership to intensify drug awareness and education among CSU students across its nine campuses.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed by CSU OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez and Dr. Charity I. Canapi, represented by Atty. Abegail Ancheta, strengthens the commitment to promote a healthy and drug-free learning environment.

Under the agreement, DOH-TRC Ro2 will provide technical assistance, resource speakers, and lectures on drug awareness during the general semestral student orientation every academic year. These activities will be conducted in Andrews, Aparri, Carig, Gonzaga, Lallo, Lasam, Piat, Sanchez Mira, and Solana.

CSU, for its part, will ensure that the lectures are a regular feature of student orientations, coordinating with DOH-TRC Ro2 to schedule activities in all campuses. The initiative also supports CSU's role in educating students on the

risks of substance abuse and encouraging community participation in prevention efforts.

The program supports the mandate of Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of

2002, which upholds the State's responsibility to protect the youth from the harmful effects of dangerous drugs and to promote their physical, mental, and social well-being. 🇵🇭



CHED PARTNERS WITH CSU IN CONDUCTING CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON TRANSNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

Tuguegarao City, Cagayan – The Commission on Higher Education Regional Office 02 partnered with Cagayan State University in conducting a Capacity Building Workshop on Republic Act 11448, or the Transnational Higher Education (TNHE) Act, held at the Claude Andrews Convention Center.

The workshop gathered Vice Presidents, International Relations Officers, Directors and Deans from leading Higher Education Institutions in Region II, including Isabela State University, Nueva Vizcaya State University, St. Paul University, University of St. Louis, St. Mary's University, alongside CSU officials. The activity aimed to strengthen the capacity of HEIs in understanding the law, its regulatory requirements

and opportunities for international collaboration.

In her welcome message, Dr. Ana Marie Cristina C. Cauilan, CSU Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership, and Resource Mobilization, thanked CHED for choosing CSU as host and emphasized the university's commitment to internationalization.

Representing OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Mariden V. Cauilan described TNHE as a strategic tool in preparing graduates for a competitive global environment and assured that CSU is ready to support TNHE as part of its broader mission to provide students access to world-class education.

Vice President for Administration and Finance Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta

likewise highlighted CSU's readiness to sustain TNHE initiatives and build stronger global partnerships.

Resource persons from CHED IAS, Atty. Ednalyn Grace Viste, Co-Lead of TNHE, and Ms. Ma. Celina Marino, Education Program Specialist, led in-depth sessions covering the legal and policy bases of TNHE in the Philippines, application processes for institutions, the TNHE Self-Assessment Form and Toolkit and operational considerations for implementation.

CHED Region II Director Dr. Julieta M. Paras further contextualized TNHE within the ACHIEVE framework of newly appointed CHED Chairperson Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis, stressing its call for "Expanded and Impact-Driven Internationalization Strategies" to ensure Filipino

students are equipped with globally competitive education.

The workshop concluded with participants gaining a clearer grasp of TNHE's requirements and processes. CSU through VP Dimalanta's ways forward reaffirmed its pledge to integrate TNHE programs into its internationalization strategy, while Deans completed a self-assessment evaluation showing CSU's readiness to implement TNHE initiatives with the proper administrative support.

With CHED's guidance and CSU's commitment, the workshop marked a significant step toward strengthening the region's participation in transnational higher education and positioning local graduates for success in the global arena. 🇵🇭



TAN TAKES OATH AS NEW STUDENT REGENT

Mr. Kyle Aron Tan, president of the University Student Council Federation (USCF), assumed his post as the new Student Regent after taking his oath of office on August 08, administered by Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Board of Regents (BOR) Chairperson Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis during the 97th Regular BOR Meeting of

Cagayan State University (CSU).

He succeeded outgoing Student Regent Mr. John Lester Jaime, whom the board honored with a Plaque of Recognition for his outstanding leadership and selfless service. As the new Student Regent, Tan now sits as a member of the BOR, representing CSU students from its nine campuses for Academic Year 2025-2026. 🇵🇭



CSU LAL-LO UNVEILS COFFEEHUB CAFÉ AND VALENA VIEWDECK, HIGHLIGHTS ₱5-MILLION RDE PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

Lal-lo, Cagayan — Cagayan State University Lal-lo Campus officially launched yesterday, August 06, its most ambitious coffee innovation initiative yet, with the blessing and unveiling of the CSU CoffeeHub Café and Valena Viewdeck.

These landmark developments are part of the ₱5-million institutionally funded CoffeeHub Program, led by Dr. Ana Marie Cristina C. Cauilan, Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership, and Resource Mobilization.

Attended by representatives from partner agencies and institutional stakeholders, the event showcased CSU's sustained commitment to coffee-centered instruction, research, extension, production, tourism and enterprise.

The highlight of the program was the formal introduction of the CoffeeHub Café—a student-

managed learning and training space—and the Valena Viewdeck, a scenic educational site overlooking CSU's coffee plantation.

“What began as a bold vision by Dr. Urdujah Alvarado—to revive and reimagine coffee in CSU Lal-lo—has blossomed into a dynamic, multi-dimensional platform for academic and community transformation through the strong support of OIC President Arthur G. Ibanez,” said Dr. Cauilan as she presented the program's major accomplishments.

The CoffeeHub Program integrates eight RDE projects, an extension initiative, and infrastructure support into a unified framework. Among its Key Milestones are the following:

- Refurbishment of the Coffee Processing Center and establishment of the CSU Coffee Shop, completing the full coffee value chain on campus;
- Launch of Valena

Heritage Coffee Blends, featuring specialty roasts such as Urdujah Premium, King Arthur Dark Roast, and Olivante Robusta;

- Development of Valena Bliss, a wellness product line using coffee by-products for spa essentials, including soaps and candles, with filed utility model applications;

- Implementation of the Coffee Farm Tourism Project, with the Valena Viewdeck, among others, as a scenic and educational centerpiece;

- Creation of CoffeeHub Website (<https://valenanet.free.nf/?i=1>), an operational e-commerce platform connecting local producers to wider markets;

- Execution of the From Bean to Cup Extension Project, training 125 farmers, distributing 650 seedlings, and establishing five technology demonstration hubs;

- Successful implementation of the Quality Coffee Seedling

Production Project, producing over 5,400 seedlings, constructing nurseries and clonal chambers, and establishing a one-hectare demonstration plot.

The CoffeeHub Café will be operated by students from the College of Hospitality Management, offering CSU's signature blends alongside food service, providing real-world training opportunities.

Dr. Cauilan expressed gratitude to the administration, project leaders and CSU's partner, the Filipino Coffee Institute. She gave special recognition to the Infrastructure Team for its tireless work in completing the facilities in time for the launch.

As CSU Lal-lo continues to expand the CoffeeHub's reach, the university now stands as a regional model for coffee innovation rooted in sustainability, academic engagement, and community empowerment. 🇵🇭



CSU CARIG SECURES CHED APPROVAL TO OFFER BS IN NURSING FOR AY 2025–2026

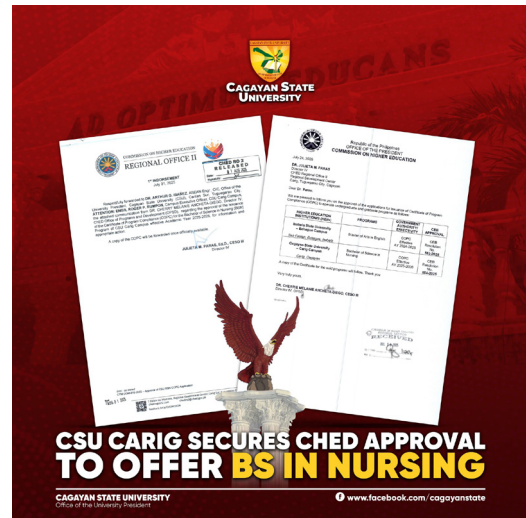
Cagayan State University - Carvig Campus has officially secured approval from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program beginning Academic Year 2025–2026.

The CHED Central Office approved the application for the issuance of the Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) with CEB Resolution No. 554-2025, as formally communicated by Dr. Cherrie Melanie Ancheta–Diego,

Director IV of the CHED Office of Programs and Development (OPSD).

Following the Central Office's decision, CHED Region 02 Director Dr. Julieta M. Paras issued the formal endorsement through a letter addressed to CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez.

By granting the COPC, CHED certifies that CSU Carig has met all the requirements and complied with national standards for delivering the BSN program. 🇵🇭



CSU, AACCUP CONDUCT TRAINING ON ACCREDITATION AND INTERNATIONALIZATION INITIATIVES



To further equip its employees and stakeholders with essential knowledge on systematic and quality assurance requirements in line with the university's accreditation efforts, Cagayan State University (CSU), in partnership with the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP), is conducting a two-day training from August 4-5, 2025 at the Claude Andrews Convention Center.

With the theme, "Strengthening CSU's Quality Assurance Culture through AACCUP

Perspectives in Level III and IV Program Certification cum Internationalization Initiatives," the training gathered 65 participants on its first day.

These include quality assurance and academic coordinators, college deans, and program chairs, who are being equipped with technical knowledge on institutional accreditation, especially for programs undergoing Level III and IV certifications.

CSU OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, in his message, expressed his gratitude for the presence of AACCUP representatives,

led by Executive Director Dr. Maribel E. Ho, and for the agency's continued support.

Dr. Ibañez also thanked the accrediting agency for recognizing CSU as the Top 1 performing SUC in the Philippines with the highest number of Level IV-accredited programs, an award conferred during the 31st AACCUP Annual National Conference held in March 2025 at Marikina State Polytechnic College.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ho lauded the university's accomplishments, particularly highlighting CSU's Electromobility Research and Development

Center, which she described as "a revolution" for the institution.

She also introduced AACCUP's revised accreditation standards and survey instruments, which include the streamlining of accreditation areas, differentiated instruments for various levels and program types, and other recent updates.

The training resumes tomorrow, with continued focus on accreditation processes, as well as internationalization and institutional linkages. 🇵🇭

CSU OFFICIALS CONVENE FOR MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Cagayan State University's Vice Presidents, University Directors, Division Chiefs and Section Heads, gathered for a comprehensive assessment review to evaluate the university's performance across key areas—academics, administration and finance, internationalization and graduate employability.

The review adopted a root cause analysis and

corrective action approach to identify gaps and design catch-up strategies for the rest of the year. These outputs will be presented to OIC President Arthur G. Ibáñez and a panel of evaluators as part of the Mid-Year Evaluation of accomplishments.

The exercise aims to ensure that CSU stays on track in meeting its institutional commitments and SUC levelling targets. 🇵🇭



NEW USCF OFFICERS INDUCTED; STUDENT LEADERS URGED TO EMBRACE RESPONSIBILITY AND UNITY



The newly elected officers of the University Student Council Federation (USCF), the highest student governing body of Cagayan State University (CSU), officially took their oath of office on August 1, in a ceremony held at the CSU Central Administration Conference Hall.

CSU Officer-in-Charge President Dr. Arthur G. Ibáñez administered the oath of office, formally inducting the new set of officers led by Mr. Kyle Aron T. Tan, the incoming USCF Chairperson, who succeeded former Student Regent John

Lester S. Jaime, the outgoing chairperson.

In his message, Dr. Ibáñez emphasized the weight of responsibility that comes with student leadership, reminding the officers of their duty to represent over 43,000 students across the university's nine campuses.

"You play an important role. You represent 43,000 students—this is a big task, a big challenge," Dr. Ibáñez said. "Take care of your constituents. Provide interventions, provide solutions. Respect the authority. You cannot be a good leader if you don't respect the hierarchy. This

is how we build a vibrant, healthy, and dynamic organization."

He also encouraged the student leaders to remain engaged with the university administration. "My office, and that of the VPAA, are always open to hear your concerns. Congratulations," he concluded.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Mariden V. Cauilan likewise addressed the student leaders, highlighting their significant role within the institution.

"You are the heart of the operation of the university. You are the voice of your constituents. You are our

allies," she said. "Service, excellence, and teamwork, when combined, make one strong Cagayan State University."

Also present during the event were the student council and USCF advisers, along with Dr. Lorraine S. Tattao, University Director of the Office of Student Development and Welfare (OSDW).

Following the induction, the USCF conducted its operational planning and held its first quarter meeting for the School Year 2025–2026 to align its priorities with student needs and university goals. 🇵🇭

SIXTEEN YEARS STRONG: CSU CARIG CELEBRATES LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

September 19, 2025 – Cagayan State University–Carig Campus officially commenced its founding anniversary, a milestone that reflects years of growth, innovation, and service to the Cagayan Valley region.

OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, Board of Regents members, university and campus officials, Campus Executive Officers, partner agencies, faculty, and students actively took part in a series of meaningful activities that celebrated both the past and the future of the campus.

The celebration began with a tree-growing activity themed “Nurturing a Tree, My Intergenerational Responsibility,” symbolizing CSU Carig’s enduring commitment to sustainability and community stewardship.

In his message, Campus Executive Officer Engr. Roger P. Rumpon traced the history of CSU Carig while commending the campus’

strong performance in recent licensure examinations. “We believe in our faculty, we believe in our staff as well as our students. We invest in our students’ needs in their preparation for their board and bar examinations,” he said.

CEO Rumpon also emphasized CSU Carig’s continued role as a technology generator in the country, citing its pioneering work in electromobility and its dedication to bringing essential services, which include legal, medical, dental, and social, to even the most geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas of the province.

Returning to a campus he once led for more than a decade, OIC President Dr. Ibañez expressed pride in its accomplishments and growing influence. “CSU Carig has been a campus for 16 years – 16 years of growing, 16 years of thriving, 16 years of delivering quality and excellent tertiary

education, relevant research, and impactful extension and community services,” he said.

A major highlight of the opening program was the launch of the Ivatan coffee table book, “Rakuh – A Morphology of Ivatan Houses.” The book, a product of CSU’s extensive research on strengthening Ivatan houses against natural disasters, was led by Dr. Ibañez himself. Richly illustrated and deeply informative, the book represents the university’s commitment to research that preserves cultural heritage while addressing modern challenges.

The event also featured the signing of two Memoranda of Agreement. One with the Department of Agriculture Region II, led by Regional Executive Director Dr. Rose Mary G. Aquino, for the Livestock Economic Enterprise Development (LEED) Program - Rabbit Multiplier Farm Project and

another with the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists, Inc. (PAMET) - Cagayan Chapter led by President Michelle Bagapuro, for a program on health and wellness for humans and animals.

The groundbreaking of the Rabbit Multiplier Farm followed, marking the start of a project envisioned to strengthen food security, support farmer-entrepreneurs, and contribute to regional livestock development.

To promote camaraderie, the first day wrapped up with a cook fest competition and socialization activities among the colleges and administrative offices.

The anniversary celebration will resume on September 22, 2025, with sports events and traditional Laro ng Lahi, highlighting the vibrancy, talent, and unity of the CSU Carig community. 🇵🇭



CSU ANDREWS INTRAMURALS '25: A CALL FOR UNITY AND RESPECT AMIDST DIVERSITY

Kicking off one of the most anticipated events of the school year, Cagayan State University (CSU) – Andrews took its Campus Intramurals to the grounds of Cagayan Provincial Sports Complex on September 9, 2025.

Parade of Pride and Colors

Students from the College of Allied Health and Sciences (CAHS), College of Teacher Education (CTED), College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy (CBEA), and the College of Hospitality Management (CHM) marched with pride and joy from the CSU grounds to the gates of the Provincial Sports Complex.

Waving banners and shouting chants, the students proudly carried their college identities. The streets were graced by a stream of colors symbolizing not only competition but also the shared pride of the CSU Andrews community.

First of Its Kind

CSU Andrews Intramurals just keep getting better and bigger. The grandeur opening of this year's at Cagayan Provincial Sports Complex proves what student leaders can reach.

Through the Campus Student Council, led by President Kyle Aron T. Tan, the event is aided by the City Government and the

Provincial Government. An achievement that construes with the CSU belief that "Where there is unity, there is victory."

A Call for Unity and Respect

In their messages, university, campus, and city officials highlighted the essence of camaraderie and sportsmanship. They reminded the students that beyond the rivalries and differences, the true spirit of the Intramurals lies in the lessons learned, the respect for opponents, and the honor brought to the university.

Campus President and University Student Regent Tan officially opened the 4-day event, emphasizing that intramurals serve not only as a venue for talents beyond academics but also as a reminder of the values of sportsmanship, unity, and acceptance in both victory and defeat.

Echoing the same message, Campus Executive Officer Atty. Carla Marie L. Sumigad emphasized: "Let us witness these events not simply as competitions but as the confirmation of unity across programs and colleges."

Meanwhile, OIC President Arthur G. Ibanez, represented by Mr. Romar Palattao, reminded everyone that "the real winner is not only measured by results but also by how you respect your opponent, accept defeat, and



carry yourself."

Representing Mayor Maila S. Ting-Que, Atty. Renz Angelo P. Umabon furthered the call, declaring that "strength is gained from differences", that is, unity amidst diversity. He furthered that after the competitions, each team should "rise as one Cagayan State University – Andrews Campus."

Deafening Yells

The dominating cheers and deafening yells are bloodlines of intramurals. They keep adrenalines high – the gush of excitement and the suspense when one team competes with the other, as one color taunts another color. Friendly competitions are chances to experience a community not to divide one. After all, the deafening yells and dominating cheers of each college, when combined, become one voice which identifies one CSU Andrews.

Loosing and Winning

In every competition, one team rises above the rest; at times, one may even dominate the entire arena.

The College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy is the defending champion from last school year's intramurals and, surely, eyeing to remain the same.

This might yet again be proven as the college just bagged the championship for Cheer Dance – the first competition lined up for the 4-day Intramurals Celebration.

Yet, history reminds us that champions can also fall. Teams that once held the crown now find themselves as challengers. The glory of victory does not last forever. But what lasts a person a true victory is the ability to accept defeat while lauding the winner until one's history comes. 🏆

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ANDREWS CAMPUS STUDENT COUNCIL

CSU WELCOMES CHED CHAIRPERSON AND CHAIR OF CSU BOARD OF REGENTS DR. SHIRLEY AGRUPIS



