

# INFOCUS



*The Official Newsletter of the Office of the University President*

AD ASTRA PER ASPERA



THEY ACED IT ALL. Batch Hayag-Tala beams with pride during their parade at the CSU Andrews Grounds, February 24, after achieving a 100% passing rate and producing 25 national topnotchers in the 2025 Respiratory Therapy Licensure Examination.

## 25 TOPNOTCHERS, 100% PASSING RATE: CSU NAMED TOP RESPIRATORY THERAPY SCHOOL IN PH

Cagayan State University (CSU) achieved a 100% passing rate in the February 2025 Respiratory Therapy Licensure Examination (RTLE), with all 139 examinees successfully passing the board. The university also produced 25 national topnotchers, significantly exceeding the national passing rate of 77.75 percent (853 out of 1,097 examinees).

To celebrate the achievement, the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) conducted a testimonial program and recognition ceremony on February 24, following a parade of topnotchers and passers. The event was held at the CSU Andrews Gymnasium and was attended by the newly registered respiratory therapists, their parents, university officials, and CAHS

faculty and staff.

During the program, OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez commended the passers for their hard work and encouraged them to pursue further studies at the CSU College of Medicine and Surgery. He assured them that the university is fully equipped to support their professional growth.

The university awarded a total of ₱695,000 in cash incentives to the national topnotchers. The incentive distribution was as follows: ₱45,000 for Rank 2, ₱40,000 for Rank 3, ₱35,000 for Rank 4, ₱30,000 for Rank 5, and ₱25,000 each for those who placed from Rank 6 to Rank 10.

This marks the seventh consecutive year that CSU's Respiratory Therapy program has recorded a 100% institutional passing rate, maintaining its status as the

Top 1 Performing School for Respiratory Therapy in the Philippines.

The 25 national topnotchers from CSU in the February 2025 RTLE are as follows: Zach Cedrick Nicol Bumanglag (Rank 2); Ma. Andrea Gayle Guzman Vidad (Rank 3); Jae-D Turingan Aban and Abigail Bumagat Balagan (Rank 4); Yzabelle Rabusa Encoy, Pauline Ruth Caoagas Ilac, and Andrea Gaile Ebas Rescopin (Rank 5); Ma. Jesusa Vanessa Caraang Erjas, Mary Claire Allam Malillin, and John Marc Baccay Viernes (Rank 6); Karyl Joyce Guiawan Dawadao (Rank 7); Manuel David Marcos Acosta and Cherrylyn Tamayao Ignacio (Rank 8); Mary Angel Ann Turingan Anog, Jessamiah Salvador Baculi, Ma. Jezrel Aira Rosendo Cabarong, Marc Andrei Tagatac Gorospe,

Giovanni Luis Nidoy Gumatay, Ronson Ulrick Interno Ong, and Chesca Turingan Vinculado (Rank 9); and Kaira Ma-anne Calacsan Domingo, Cynthia Dalog Espedido, Wyneth Kate Gaspar Fronda, and Rianne Mae Blanco Ida (Rank 10).

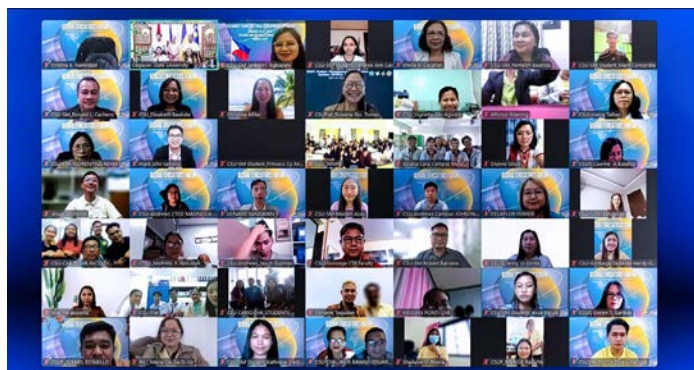
CSU continues to reinforce its reputation for academic excellence in allied health education through consistent top-level performance in national licensure examinations. 🏆



*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 LAUNCHES FINAL FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH INDONESIAN UNIVERSITY



**C**agayan State University (CSU), through its Office of the Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership, and Resource Mobilization (VPIPRM), launched the third and final framework of its long term international exchange program on January 23, 2025.

The initiative, conducted in partnership with Universitas Mahasaraswati Denpasar (UNMAS), Indonesia, is titled "Global Educators Forum: Enhancing International

Perspectives in Teacher Education." The program will equip future educators with essential skills, knowledge, and cultural competencies to thrive in diverse educational settings.

It emphasizes faculty and student mobility as key to fostering long-term international engagement, enriching educational experiences, and enhancing professional development.

In his message, CSU OIC University President Dr. Arthur Ibañez thanked

UNMAS for the collaboration and highlighted the need for educators to adapt to global trends and use data-driven, personalized teaching methods to ensure all students succeed.

The program was conceptualized and developed by Dr. Ana Marie Cauilan, VPIPRM, and implemented by Internationalization Director Kristinne A. Lara. Meanwhile, Dr. Maridy M. Calanoga, University Dean of the College of Teacher Education, spearheaded the

event, supported by College of Teacher Education and College of Human Kinetics deans and faculty members across CSU campuses who served as facilitators.

The convocation series, which will run for 6 months, includes sessions and activities focused on innovative teaching, improving classroom effectiveness, and giving faculty and students a well-rounded educational experience for a globalized world. 🌍

## CSU HOSTS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON GLOBAL COMPETENCIES FOR ACCOUNTANCY AND BUSINESS EDUCATION

**C**agayan State University (CSU), in collaboration with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Accounting Education Work Group, hosted a roundtable discussion on Industry-Based Global Competencies Towards Internationalization via Zoom on March 21, 2024.

The discussion

aimed to advance the internationalization of CSU's Accountancy and Business academic programs by addressing six key global workforce competencies, including innovative technology, sustainability, data privacy, and risk compliance.

It brought together business industry experts and international certification

providers to exchange insights with a panel of reactors from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Universitas Warmadewa Indonesia, Universiti Kuala Lumpur, and Unitar International University.

The event was attended by Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez – OIC University President, Dr. Gigid T. Battung – University

Dean, College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy deans, selected faculty members and students.

The initiative supports Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Partnerships for the Goals and strengthens CSU's commitment to global collaboration and academic excellence. 🌍

# CSU LAUNCHES P5-MILLION FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY LABORATORY

**M**arch 14, 2025 – Cagayan State University (CSU) inaugurated its P5-million Food Quality and Safety Laboratory to enhance food research and ensure compliance with industry standards in Cagayan Valley Region.

Funded by the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD), the facility will provide essential food

laboratory testing services, reducing the need for researchers to seek testing facilities outside the region.

Dr. Enrico C. Paringit, DOST-PCIEERD Executive Director, encouraged faculty, students, and researchers to maximize the laboratory's capabilities to advance food innovation and safety.

"We need these kinds of facilities in order for us to meet the highest quality standards. Let's continue to work together to maximize, optimize the food potentials of this laboratory to advance

food research and ensure food safety and accelerate the journey of innovative food products," he added.

Dr. Junel B. Guzman, CSU Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension and project leader, highlighted the laboratory's key services, including Crude Fat Analysis, Crude Protein Analysis, Crude Fiber Analysis, Moisture Content Determination, and Ash Content Determination.

Dir. Virginia G. Bilgera, DOST 02 Regional Director, expressed support for CSU

and envisioned the facility as a hub for collaboration among researchers, industry leaders, and policymakers to address food safety challenges and drive economic growth.

The event included a ribbon-cutting ceremony and laboratory tour, attended by university officials, government representatives, and industry stakeholders. The facility is set to receive its Certificate of Authority and License to Operate on April 4, 2025. 🇵🇭



# CSU AND JOLLY LEARNING SCHOOL RENEW PARTNERSHIP FOR TEACHING INTERNSHIP

**C**agayan State University (CSU) and Jolly Learning School strengthened their collaboration with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), January 31, 2025.

The agreement, signed by OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez of CSU and Dr. Angela Frances Fragante of Jolly Learning School, facilitates student observation, participation, and teaching internships for Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (BECEd) students.

Under the partnership, BECEd students will serve as practice teachers, completing 360 hours of teaching internship. This hands-on experience will enable them to observe, participate, and apply theoretical knowledge to real classroom settings, preparing them for professional teaching careers. Now in its second year of implementation, the agreement initially began in Academic Year 2023-2024 and will continue until A.Y. 2025-2026. 🇵🇭







## CSU EXPLORES COLLABORATION WITH BAUERTEK FARMACEUTICALS TECH CORP

**C**agayan State University (CSU) headed by OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez convened with Bauertek Farmaceuticals Tech Corp, led by Dr. Richard Nixon Gomez, on January 29, 2025, at the CSU Hotel Conference Room to explore potential collaborations in food security and innovation.

Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez emphasized in his message the significance of forging a partnership with Bauertek to address global challenges in food innovation and security.

Former CSU President, and University Consultant Dr. Urdujah G. Alvarado highlighted the need for alliances with trusted industry leaders to drive impactful change.

Dr. Nixon stressed the importance of sustaining projects beyond research and ensuring their continued development for commercialization.

During the meeting, CSU campus executive officers presented their niche programs, including seaweed and clam production in Aparri,

essential oil extraction and malunggay cultivation in Lal-lo, cacao production in Lasam, tissue culture in Gonzaga, coconut products of Sanchez Mira, rice production of Solana, Dairy products of Piat, industry and technology of Carig and health product research in Andrews.

The discussion focused on identifying raw materials and products for development, with plans for further research, laboratory testing, and potential commercialization.

Further, the possibility of

future training programs and on-site visits to Bauertek for CSU students and employees were also tackled.

Following the meeting, the Bauertek team visited CSU's Bioanalytical Nexus Center at Andrews Campus, the Food Innovation Center at Carig Campus, and the Mangrove and Bamboo Research Innovation Center (MABRIC) in Gonzaga.

The visits aimed to assess production capacities, innovative ideas, and research products for collaboration. 🇵🇭

## CSU, SAN BEDA PARTNERSHIP YIELDS SUCCESSFUL FUTURES THINKING FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY



**C**agayan State University recently hosted a successful Futures Thinking Forum on climate change, resiliency, sustainable development and environmental justice.

This event, held both virtually and in-person at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, was made possible through a Memorandum of Agreement with San Beda University Graduate School of Law.

The forum featured distinguished discussants from San Beda, including

Dr. Antonio Gabriel M. La Viña, Atty. Karen Olivia V. Jimeno, Dr. Cheselden George V. Carmona and Dean Rev. Fr. Ranhilio C. Aquino. Their expertise engaged over 149 participants from CSU and various local and international universities.

Dr. Arthur G. Ibanez, OIC of the Office of the University President, thanked Father Aquino and the event organizers, particularly the VP for Internationalization, Partnership and Resource Mobilization Office.

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# Interdisciplinary Convocation Program and Cultural Exchange

Theme: Futures Thinking Towards Sustainable Development Goals

February 03, 2025 (Launching Program) | Via Zoom Video Conferencing

February 24-28, 2025 (Face-to-Face) | Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

## Participants:

Faculty and Students from Cagayan State University (CSU) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)

## Fields of Study:

- ✓ Engineering and Architecture
- ✓ Management and Accounting
- ✓ Applied Science
- ✓ Computing Sciences
- ✓ Arts and Humanities
- ✓ Social Sciences
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Biology
- ✓ Technology



# CSU LAUNCHES INTERNATIONAL CONVOCATION PROGRAM AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH UTM

Cagayan State University (CSU), through the Office of the Vice President for Internationalization, Partnership, and Resource Mobilization (IPRM), launched the Interdisciplinary Convocation Program and Cultural Exchange in collaboration with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) on February 3, 2025.

Themed "Futures Thinking Towards Sustainable Development Goals," the event was held via an online conference.

In his message, OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez reaffirmed CSU's commitment to becoming a globally competitive institution, emphasizing that internationalization is a key pillar in achieving that vision.

"This partnership with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia is a shining example of how we aim to build bridges with like-minded institutions—

bridges that foster meaningful exchanges, inspire innovation, and develop solutions to the pressing challenges of our time," he said.

Carig Campus CEO Engr. Roger P. Rumpon highlighted the importance of academic excellence and mutual respect among institutions in his opening remarks.

Meanwhile, VP for IPRM Dr. Ana Marie Cristina C. Cauilan emphasized the convocation's purpose – "Our program, as a proactive response to the global challenges on sustainable solutions, aligns with our Internationalization Roadmap at CSU and the Antenna IZN Roadmap of CHED.

By enabling international mobility for our students and faculty, we are not just opening doors, we are building bridges that connect diverse minds and cultures," she said.

The program is rooted in the MOU between CSU

and UTM, and the Board of Regents resolutions which served as the legal and academic foundation for the collaboration.

The event aims to increase awareness of the SDGs among the participants, empowering them to become advocates for sustainable practices in their respective fields.

The topics of the convocation series includes plenary sessions on the overview of the 17 sustainable development goals, to lay down the foundation of the event's mission; The Triple Bottom Line: balancing economic, social, and environmental sustainability, to grasp the need for stability in SDGs; Global Challenges Addressed by SDGs and role of governments, business and individuals in achieving the goals.

Additionally, the series' breakout sessions focused on engineering and technology,

computing sciences and information technology, humanities and social sciences, agriculture and life sciences, education, environment and natural sciences, and law and governance.

The event, spearheaded by Director for Internationalization Prof. Kristine Lara, features a month-long series of plenary sessions, research presentations, and lectures aimed at generating collaborative research proposals that can lead to impactful projects addressing specific SDGs and create educational resources that can be shared across our institutions, strengthening academic networks.

Meanwhile, a face-to-face convocation is set to take place on February 24-28, 2025, at UTM Johor Bahru, Malaysia. 🇵🇭

CSU, San Beda Partnership from page 4...

"This is a timely gathering as the world faces numerous calamities. Our path to resilience must be rooted in sustainable development," he noted.

The forum also included as reactors distinguished faculty members from CSU, such as

Dr. Policarpio L. Mabborang, Engr. Roger P. Rumpon, Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta, Engr. Mathew Miguel H. Custodio and Prof. Mark Jerome B. De Leon, who provided valuable insights.

Vice President Ana Marie Cauilan highlighted that this

event is the first of a series of faculty convocations in collaboration with San Beda University, aimed at addressing urgent global challenges through knowledge sharing.

The forum concluded with an engaging open discussion,

allowing participants to interact with the discussants.

Dr. Cauilan expressed her gratitude to Fr. Ranhilio Aquino and emphasized the importance of continuing the partnership with San Beda University for future initiatives. 🇵🇭





## CSU PARTNERS WITH 22 SUCS NATIONWIDE TO ESTABLISH ACHIEVE CONSORTIUM

**C**agayan State University (CSU), led by OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez, formalized its partnership with 22 State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) nationwide through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the establishment of the ACHIEVE Consortium.

The ACHIEVE Consortium, chaired by MMSU, aims

to promote innovative research collaborations, academic engagements, and community-building initiatives among member institutions, government and non-government organizations, and international agencies.

Under the agreement, the SUCs will collaborate on joint conferences, research activities, capacity-building programs, sharing of

academic resources, faculty and student exchange programs, development of transnational education and short-term courses, and promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The signing coincided with MMSU's 47th founding anniversary, during which former MMSU President and current Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Commissioner Dr. Shirley

C. Agrupis presented the ACHIEVE milestones from 2017 to 2024. Dr. Agrupis, who now serves as CSU's Board of Regents Chair, was also honored with a retirement program commending her remarkable contributions to MMSU.

The signing ceremony was held on January 21, 2025, at Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) in Batang City, Ilocos Norte. 🏆

## SINAG CAGAYAN VALLEY, QBO INNOVATION CONDUCT STARTUP ECOSYSTEM MAPPING



**T**uguegarao 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 Ideaspace, collaborates with government, academia, international agencies, and businesses to drive digital transformation, build innovation ecosystems, and support startup growth. 🏆



# CSU SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION



**C**agayan State University (CSU) has successfully completed its accreditation process with the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP), January 16, 2025. The rigorous evaluation began on January 13 and culminated in an exit program held at the CSU Claude Andrews Convention Center.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Mariden Cauilan, Vice President for Academic Affairs, expressed gratitude to the accreditors for sharing their expertise with the university.

Further, Dr. Milabel Ho, AACCUP lead accreditor, commended CSU for its commitment and professionalism and highlighted the dedication to excellence that the team has

exemplified during the review. Meanwhile, OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez pledged CSU's continued pursuit of academic quality and thanked the accreditation teams for their relentless efforts.

"CSU promises to commit, with all its available resources, and by the power vested in me, to reach new heights and excel further in the areas of academics, research and extension, and all areas of

bringing quality education," he said further expressing his gratitude to the Vice Presidents and accreditation teams of Cagayan State University - Andrews Campus and Cagayan State University - Carig Campus for executing a job well done.

The institutional accreditation status will be officially granted by AACCUP upon the approval of the accreditors' initial report. 🇵🇭

## CSU HIGHLIGHTS 2025 TARGETS IN TWO-DAY CASCADING EVENT

**F**ollowing the Office Performance Commitment Review (OPCR) of the university's Vice Presidents held last January 10, the Cagayan State University (CSU) – University Planning Office conducted a two-day cascading of the 2025 targets at Mines View Park Hotel, Baguio City, from January 23 to 24, 2024.

Board of Regents member and NEDA Regional Director Dir. Dionisio C. Ledres Jr. and University Consultant and former CSU President Dr. Urdujah G. Alvarado delivered lectures on cascading

strategies, mechanics aligned with the university's mandate and policies, the Philippine Development Plan framework, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez emphasized focusing on high-impact projects and shared leadership principles inspired by Justin Wright's 11 Laws of Effective Leadership. He stated, "I always adhere to these ideals to improve this administration beyond its previous best."

Dr. Ibañez also presented CSU's milestones and 2025 targets, including

higher levels in QS Stars, Times Higher Education Rankings, UI GreenMetrics, International Organization for Standardization, SUC leveling, Philippine Quality Award, Institutional Accreditation, PRIME-HRM, and transforming CSU into a Smart Campus with advanced network infrastructure and smart learning environments, among others.

Vice Presidents Dr. Mariden V. Cauilan (VPAA), Dr. Junel B. Guzman (VPRDE), Dr. Theresa B. Dimalanta (VPAF), and Dr. Ana Marie C. Cauilan (VPIPRM) shared their OPCR reports under

various strategic priorities, while Ms. Monaliza V. Guzman presented the campus income report for 2024 and income targets for 2025.

A panel of evaluators, including Dir. Ledres, Dr. Alvarado, Fr. Ranhilio C. Aquino (via Zoom), and Dr. Florentina S. Dumlaog (via Zoom), provided feedback and insights during the event.

The cascading will continue tomorrow, January 24, 2024, for the presentation of different Campus Executive Officers for their 2025 Targets along other priority areas based on the Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028. 🇵🇭



# CSU AND CPD FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN ADVOCACY ON ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND GENDER EQUALITY



**T**he Cagayan State University (CSU) and the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) Region II formalized a partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed on March 3, 2025, to strengthen programs addressing adolescent health, gender equality, and the prevention of violence against women and children (VAWC).

The partnership focuses on the development and production of Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) materials, advocacy

campaigns, and research collaborations targeting issues such as adolescent pregnancy, intimate partner violence (IPV), and responsible parenthood.

Under the MOA, CSU through its College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy (CBEA) will provide technical support and professional services for CPD initiatives, including conducting seminars and workshops on livelihood, finance, gender laws, and empowerment programs.

Meanwhile, CPD Region II will provide

technical assistance and collaborate with CSU in the implementation of awareness campaigns, community education, and training activities.

The agreement aligns with the mandates of Republic Act No. 10354 or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Act of 2012, as well as Executive Order No. 141, series of 2021, which prioritizes interventions to address the growing concern of teenage pregnancies in the country.

This partnership is expected to enhance the

reach and effectiveness of both institutions' programs and contribute to a wider effort of promoting adolescent health, gender equality, and the prevention of violence within communities in the region.

The agreement was signed by CSU Officer-In-Charge, Office of the University President, Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, and CPD Region II Regional Director Theresa C. Soriano at CSU Andrews Campus. 🇵🇭

## CSU HOSTS PACPH 2ND ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE, STRENGTHENS PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITMENT

**C**agayan State University (CSU) hosted the 2nd Anniversary Conference of the Philippine Academic Consortium for Public Health (PACPH) on February 20-21, 2025, at the CSU Claude Andrews Convention Center with the theme "Higher Educational Institutions in Public Health Contributing to the Attainment of Universal Health Care in the Philippines."

OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez highlighted the critical role of students, researchers, healthcare professionals, and faculty members in advancing public health. "Our faculty serve as torchbearers of

knowledge, ensuring that students are equipped to tackle today's most pressing health challenges.

Their commitment to universal healthcare extends to research that informs policies, advocating for health equality and ensuring that no one is left behind," Ibañez stated.

As part of CSU's commitment to public health, he shared the establishment of a clinical laboratory within the new College of Allied Health Sciences building, which will provide essential laboratory services to stakeholders across the city.

The conference featured symposiums on various public health topics, including

preparing the next generation of public health professionals, addressing challenges and setting standards in higher education, and presenting case studies and research in collaboration with DOH and DOST.

Distinguished speakers included DOH Undersecretaries Dr. Kenneth Ronquillo and Dr. Glenn Mathew Baggao, DOST Undersecretary Sancho Maborang, PACPH President Dr. Vicente Belizario, PASMETH President Dr. Jose Jurel Nuevo, and Dir. Johanna Banzon, along with experts from UP-Manila, UP-Visayas, Silliman University, University of Saint Louis Tuguegarao, St. Paul University Philippines,

Kalinga State University, and DOH-Central. DOH Region 2 Regional Director Amelita Pangilinan, DOST Ro2 Regional Director Virginia Bilgera, and other delegates from higher education institutions and partner agencies also graced the event.

The Philippine Academic Consortium for Public Health (PACPH) is a collaborative network of higher educational institutions across the Philippines dedicated to advancing public health through research, education, and service. CSU is one of the consortium's active members. 🇵🇭



## CSU HIGHLIGHTS WOMEN'S ROLE IN NATION-BUILDING AT NWMC LAUNCH

**M**arch 10, 2025 – Cagayan State University (CSU) officially launched the 2025 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) with a series of activities held across its campuses, recognizing the role of women in nation-building and celebrating their invaluable contributions to society.

At the CSU Andrews Campus led by CEO Atty. Carla Marie Sumigad, the celebration commenced at the Claude Andrews Convention Center. Faculty, staff, and students donned purple attire, symbolizing justice, dignity, and women's empowerment.

Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, in his keynote address, highlighted the significance of gender equality, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 5—Achieving gender

equality and empowering all women and girls—as a key pillar of national progress. He emphasized the vital role of Gender and Development (GAD) initiatives in addressing critical issues such as early pregnancy and ensuring that CSU's infrastructure is designed to be inclusive and gender-sensitive.

Dr. Ibañez also expressed his deep appreciation for the women of CSU, recognizing their invaluable contributions to the university. "As the Officer-In-Charge of the Office of the University President, I encourage every woman here today—our employees and students—to embrace your limitless potential and step into your power. You are capable of achieving greatness, and your contributions are vital in shaping a 'Bagong Pilipinas,'" he said.

The program included the awarding of certificates to university offices and departments for their dedication to gender responsiveness and development initiatives. Women faculty, staff, utility and campus security personnel were recognized with flowers and certificates as tokens of appreciation for their service.

Anchored on the theme "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas," CSU's month-long celebration aims to advocate for gender inclusivity and women's empowerment in various sectors of society.

The event was graced by key university officials, including OIC University President Dr. Arthur Ibañez, Dr. Mariden Cauilan (VPAA), Dr. Theresa Dimalanta (VPAF), Dr. Ana Marie Cauilan

(VPIPRM), Dr. Junel Guzman (VPRDE).

Also present were Zonta Club of Tuguegarao President Liza Mora Arroyo and Lallo Vice Mayor Maria Olivia Pascual, who both delivered inspiring messages.

The activity is an initiative of the Office of the University Gender and Development headed by Director Melvin Mora in partnership with the Zonta Club of Tuguegarao.

Meanwhile, CSU Lasam also began its observance of Women's Month last March 7.

The event featured video tributes and the awarding of certificates to outstanding female faculty and staff. Further, CSU Piat also officially kicked-off the celebration of the National Women's Month on March 10. 🌸

## CSU CONFERS DEGREES TO 345 GRADUATES IN 7TH MIDYEAR ACADEMIC CONVOCATION

**C**agayan State University (CSU) conferred degrees to 345 graduates during its 7th Midyear Academic Convocation held on January 31, 2025, at the CSU Carig Red Eagle Gymnasium.

The graduates included 157 students who completed

their studies last summer across various CSU campuses (Aparri-13, Carig-131, Lal-lo-3, and Sanchez Mira-10), joining 188 graduates from Andrews (118), Carig (54), Lal-lo (1), Lasam (7), Piat (1), Sanchez Mira (5), and Aparri (2) campuses.

OIC President Arthur

G. Ibañez addressed the graduates, urging them to contribute toward achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizing the importance of eradicating poverty, protecting the environment, and enhancing the quality of life.

"Congratulations on your graduation, and may your journey be illuminated by the brilliance of your accomplishments. Ad astra per aspera—through hardships to the stars," he concluded, inspiring the graduates as they embark on their future endeavors. 🎓







## CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY NAMED NO. 1 IN LEVEL IV PROGRAMS AT 38TH AACUP ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**M**arikina City — March 7, 2025 — Cagayan State University (CSU) has been recognized as the Top 1 University in the Level IV Accredited Programs Category for 2024 by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP), Inc.

OIC President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, accompanied by CHED Commissioner Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis, VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Mariden Cauilan, VP for Administration and Finance Dr. Theresa Borja Dimalanta, University Quality Assurance Director Dr. Marie Claudette Calanoga, CEOs

Roger Rumpon and Atty. Carla Sumigad, and campus QA coordinators, received the award during the 38th AACUP Annual National Conference and General Assembly held at Marikina State Polytechnic College.

Running from March 5 to 7, 2025, this year's national conference gathered higher education leaders and QA professionals across the country under the theme "Elevate, Empower, and Expand QA in Higher Education."

The event aimed to enhance institutional excellence through innovation, capacity-building, and collaborative partnerships

in the field of quality assurance.

Organized around three main objectives—elevating standards, empowering stakeholders, and expanding collaboration—the conference featured sessions on digital transformation in accreditation, data-driven decision-making, and international benchmarking.

It also highlighted the critical role of QA in ensuring that Philippine higher education institutions remain globally competitive and responsive to dynamic challenges in education.



## CSU-ANDREWS TVET REGISTERS NEW TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CAREGIVING (ELDERLY) NCII

**T**he Campus Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Office of CSU Andrews has successfully registered its training program in Caregiving (Elderly) NC II under TESDA's Unified TVET Program Registration and Accreditation System (UTPRAS).

The training center underwent a thorough inspection on January 10, 2025, conducted by Ms. Rosana Reyes, the TESDA Provincial Office UTPRAS

Focal Person, and Caregiving (Elderly) NC II expert, Ms. Ruby L. Domingo. They were assisted by Ms. Rizalyn Joy I. Besa, the registered trainer for CGE NC II at CSU Andrews; Mr. Ramon Henry Peregrino O. Kanapi, the training and assessment center manager; Dr. Lianne T. Abuan, the Campus TVET Coordinator; Ms. Belinda B. Melad, the Campus TVET Focal Person; Mr. Bryan Z. Piñon and Mr. John Ivan C. Villafior, the Campus TVET Staff; Dr. Julius Capili, the dean of the College

of Allied Health Sciences; and Ms. Vilma T. Villaluz, the program chair of BS Public Health.

The TESDA Provincial Office issued the Certificate of Training Program Registration (CTPR) for the CGE NC II Training Center on January 15, 2025.

The training center was blessed by Rev. Fr. Ranhilio Aquino on February 6, 2025, and inaugurated by various university and campus officials, led by OIC President Arthur G. Ibañez, ASEAN

Engr., Ph.D., who inspected the facilities prior to the blessing and inauguration.

The Campus TVET Office extends its deepest gratitude to the university officials, led by OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, ASEAN Engr., and the campus officials, led by Atty. Carla Marie L. Sumigad, CPA.

Their unwavering support during the preparation, registration, and opening of the Training Center for Caregiving (Elderly) NC II has made this endeavor possible.



# CSU INKS MOA WITH CPD, STRENGTHENS ADVOCACY AGAINST IPV



**C**SU through the College of Business, Entrepreneurship, and Accountancy (CBEA) - Andrews and the Regional Population Commission has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to collaborate on vital research and advocacy programs addressing intimate partner violence, adolescent pregnancy, VAWC, male involvement in responsible parenthood, and women empowerment.

The agreement was signed by Engr. Arthur Ibañez, OIC-Office of the University President and Ms. Theresa C. Soriano, CPD Regional Director together with Andrews CEO Carla Sumigad and Dr Melani L. Perez, CPD Population Program Officer

III, CBEA Dean Antonia Taguinod, Andrews Research Coordinator July Calleda, CBEA research Coordinator Christopher Caurel and PopDev Coordinator Xyra Krizelle T. Abalos.

The MOA looked into the use of the Findings and Recommendations of the research - Patterns of Intimate Partner Violence and Chronic Psychosocial Enormities on Battered Women: A Basis for Primary Support Program and Advocacy Intervention.

According to CPD Director Soriano, the said partnership is very significant in the entire promotion of the different population and development (POPDEV) strategies of the agency on advanced adolescent health

and development, responsible parenthood and family planning with emphasis on the male involvement such as the "Kalalakihang Tapat sa Responsibilidad at Obligasyon sa Pamilya" or KATROPA, and other interventions that address the prevailing population issues in the region.

CSU's OIC Ibañez in his speech thanked the commission for the partnership and promised to give the support that the commission need in line with the partnership.

Also present during the MOA signing are the research authors: Dr Chona Agustin, Dr. Julia Cardona, Irene Aquino, Dr Catherine Hizon, Grace Delelis, Rayma Lagundi and Dr. Rhodora Romero.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is a widespread issue affecting many individuals, particularly women. This research examined the patterns of IPV and the long-term psychosocial effects on battered women, including mental health challenges like depression, anxiety, and PTSD.

It aimed to propose a comprehensive primary support program and advocacy intervention to mitigate domestic violence.

By analyzing data from government agencies such as the Philippine National Police Regional Office 2, the research underscored the need for tailored support programs to address the complex challenges faced by battered women.

## CSU'S C-TRIKE SEEN TO MAKE TUGUE TRIKE-RIDING ENV'T-FRIENDLY



### CSU's C-Trike seen to make Tugue trike-riding env't-friendly

As the C-Trike comes close to being ready for rollout, the C-Trike promotes a cleaner and more economical mode of transportation through innovative electric conversion technology, transforming conventional tricycles into eco-friendly, battery-powered vehicles.

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**A**s Tuguegarao City continues its efforts to implement measures for a cleaner and more environmentally friendly lifestyle, Cagayan State University (CSU) Carig offers the C-Trike to the members of the Federation of Tricycle Operators and Drivers Association (FETODA) in the city as part of their initiative to establish a sustainable transportation system in the locality.

Through its Electromobility Research and Development Center (eMRDC), CSU

Carig introduces its latest innovation, the C-trike, funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), which involves converting the traditional mechanical engine with an electric motor, resulting in zero emissions.

As it comes close to being ready for rollout, the C-Trike promotes a cleaner and more economical mode of transportation through innovative electric conversion technology, transforming conventional tricycles into eco-friendly, battery-powered

vehicles.

Carig Campus Research Coordinator, Michael Orpilla, said that initial discussions have already taken place with the FETODA of Tuguegarao City, according to a report by Radio Pilipinas Tuguegarao.

The federation is now awaiting the passage of ordinances that will regulate the use of C-Trikes in the city.

### Traditional Tricycle vs C-trike

The city is home to over seven thousand licensed tricycles, along with thousands of colorum units, many of which still rely on 2-stroke or 4-stroke gasoline engines, which emit pollutants such as carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides, contributing to air pollution.

On the contrary, the C-Trike completely replaces the gasoline engine with an electric motor, making it a

zero-emission vehicle.

Orpilla explained that, based on their calculations, 2-stroke engine costs drivers approximately P3.20 per kilometer, while a 4-stroke engine costs around P2.30 per kilometer.

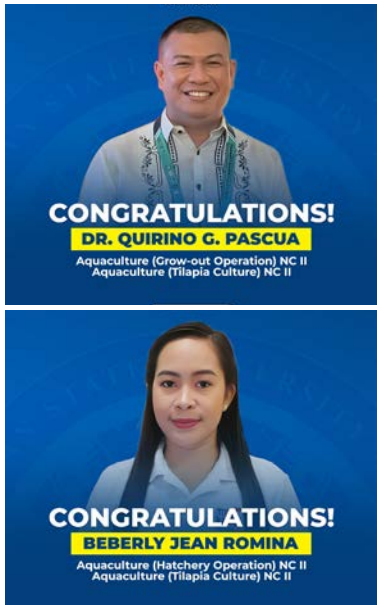
In comparison, the C-trike can just cost them P0.88 per kilometer, providing significant savings.

Beyond cost-efficiency, the C-Trike also stands out in terms of maintenance. Unlike gasoline-powered tricycles, it requires no oil changes or extensive engine repairs, further reducing maintenance costs.

Meanwhile, the center is working on its fourth project, converting a traditional bus into an Electric Public Utility Bus (ePUB), which began in December 2023 and will continue until December 2025.



# CSU APARRI FACULTY, STAFF EARN NATIONAL CERTIFICATIONS IN AQUACULTURE



Aparri, Cagayan – Cagayan State University (CSU) Aparri Campus marked a significant milestone in fisheries education and training as two of its personnel earned national certifications in aquaculture during the Capability Building Program for Prospective Regional Lead Assessors held from April 1 to 4, 2025, in Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte.

Dr. Quirino G. Pascua, Dean of the College of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, successfully

obtained certifications in Aquaculture (Grow-out Operation) NC II and Aquaculture (Tilapia Culture) NC II.

Joining him was Mrs. Beberly Jan Romina, Campus TVET staff, who earned certifications in Aquaculture (Hatchery Operation) NC II and Aquaculture (Tilapia Culture) NC II.

These certifications are issued under the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and are aligned with national competency standards in aquaculture

operations.

The qualifications of Dr. Pascua and Mrs. Romina are expected to strengthen CSU Aparri's capability in delivering outcomes-based education and enhancing instruction, research, and industry-relevant practices in the fisheries sector.

The certifications also contribute to the university's flagship Bachelor of Science in Fisheries program and support CSU's goal of promoting sustainable aquaculture practices in Region 2 and beyond.

## CSU APARRI, PHILIPPINE SEABIRDS PROJECT EYE MARINE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

Aparri, Cagayan – Representatives from the Philippine Seabirds Project of Isla Biodiversity Conservation visited Cagayan State University (CSU) Aparri Campus on March 25, 2024, to initiate discussions on a potential collaboration in marine seabird research and conservation training programs.

Project Leader Ms. Cynthia Layusa-Oliveros and Research Assistant Mr. Jameson Reynon met with Campus Executive Officer Engr. Audy R. Quebral and Director for Research Development and Extension Dr. Lenimfa Molina to explore the establishment of a formal partnership.



The initiative aims to strengthen marine biodiversity conservation and enhance the scientific understanding of seabird populations in Philippine waters. Discussions focused on possible joint research activities and capacity-building efforts in marine seabird monitoring and protection.

Both parties expressed interest in formalizing the partnership, which is currently in the planning stage.

The proposed collaboration aligns with CSU Aparri's ongoing efforts to promote environmental stewardship and expand its research portfolio in marine and aquatic sciences.

## DBM REGION 02 RECOGNIZES CSU FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE

Cagayan State University (CSU) earned an outstanding overall rating in financial, physical, and reportorial performance during the first Annual Performance Review of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in Cagayan Valley, led by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Region 02.

The assessment, led by

Cherry W. Bravo, Assistant Regional Director Macario Gumabay Jr., and CHED Regional Director Julieta Paras, brought together representatives from different SUCs and CHED Region 2 to evaluate institutional financial management and physical accomplishments.

Mandated under the Administrative Code of 1987, the Department of Budget and Management

(DBM) conducts Agency Performance Reviews to ensure proper fund utilization and achievement of physical targets.

Under the newly recalibrated evaluation criteria of DBM Circular Letter 2025-2, CSU emerged with an Outstanding Rating, reflecting the university's commitment to excellence.





## CSU APARRI UNVEILS IP-TBM OFFICE MARKER TO BOOST REGIONAL INNOVATION

**A**parri, Cagayan – Cagayan State University (CSU) Aparri Campus marked a milestone in regional innovation with the ceremonial unveiling of the Intellectual Property Technology Business Management Office (IP-TBMO) marker on March 13, 2025.

The event gathered representatives from key institutions in Region II, including Quirino State University, Nueva Vizcaya

State University, Batanes State College, and officials from the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD), as well as the Cagayan Valley Regional Agri-Aqua Innovation System Enhancement (CV RAISE) program.

CSU Aparri Campus Director for Administration and OIC Campus Executive Officer Patrocinio Abad

Jr. welcomed guests and partners, while Dr. Josie Y. Bas-ong, representing the Office of the Vice President for Research Development and Extension, provided insights on the university's innovation initiatives.

DOST-PCAARRD TPD Director Noel A. Catibog delivered the keynote address, underscoring the role of IP-TBM offices as "change agents" for regional innovation and economic development.

"You are the spark for the fire of innovation to continue to flow in Region II," said Director Catibog, emphasizing the importance of knowledge-sharing in intellectual property management and technology commercialization.

The ceremony concluded with closing remarks from Mrs. Glycinea P. Banauag, Project Leader of Project RAISE at CSU Aparri, followed by a guided tour of the IP-TBMO facilities. 🇵🇭

## CSU APARRI SELECTED FOR DICT NATIONAL BROADBAND PROGRAM



**A**parri, Cagayan – Cagayan State University (CSU) Aparri Campus has been selected as a recipient of the Department of Information and Communications Technology's (DICT) National Broadband Program, which will implement Microwave Radio Link Collocations for the Cagayan Wireless Broadband Network.

DICT Region II officials visited the campus on February 5, 2025, to formally announce the development. The initiative aims to enhance digital infrastructure in the region, particularly at CSU Aparri, by addressing campus connectivity challenges and supporting the university's SMART Campus goals.

During the visit, DICT Region II representatives, including Engr. Rogelio T.

Layugan (Cagayan Provincial Officer), Engr. Cyrill Shane T. Cepeda (Assistant Provincial Officer), Ramon III A. Gutierrez (Engineer II, National Broadband Program), and Casey James Q. Simeon (PDO II, National Broadband Program), conducted a courtesy call to Campus Executive Officer Prof. Engr. Audy R. Quebral.

They also discussed potential locations for the

construction of a DICT tower in Cagayan province, identifying two viable sites on the CSU Aparri campus.

The project is expected to enhance internet speed and reliability, promoting educational innovation, operational efficiency, and campus safety. An ocular inspection of the proposed broadband tower site followed the meeting. 🇵🇭



# DOST VISITS CSU FOR E-TRIKE COMMERCIALIZATION AND PROJECT UPDATES



**D**epartment of Science and Technology (DOST) Undersecretary Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang and Dr. Virginia G. Bilgera, DOST Region 02 Regional Director, visited Cagayan State University - Carig Campus on March 10, 2025, for a Strategic Planning Meeting for the Nationwide Commercialization of E-trike and Presentation of Accomplishment Reports of ongoing DOST Funded Project.

During the meeting,

Undersecretary Mabborang emphasized the need for these research projects to serve not only the researchers and institutions involved but, most importantly, the general public. He stressed that the primary goal of research and development should be to create tangible, positive impacts for communities across the country, underscoring the DOST's commitment to ensuring that innovation benefits the wider population.

The presentation highlighted several key

projects that have been funded by the DOST, showcasing the agency's ongoing support for initiatives aimed at advancing technology, environmental sustainability, and community development. Among the projects discussed were the 6+1 electric tricycle (eTrike), Converted Electric Tricycle (CTrike), Electric Public Utility Bus (ePUB), eTranvia, Standardized battery packaging, Ivatan Houses Project, Smart Batanes Greenhouse Project and Smart Water Infrastructure

Management (SWIM) Project.

The visit and discussions highlighted the DOST's essential role in driving forward innovative solutions that have the potential to improve the lives of millions of Filipinos. As the DOST continues to lead efforts in advancing science, technology, and innovation, the collaboration between government agencies, educational institutions, and local communities is critical to ensuring the success of these transformative projects. 🌱

## DOST-PCIERRD CONDUCTS ON-SITE PROJECT MONITORING AT CSU CARIG



**D**r. Enrico C. Paringit, the Executive Director of the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development, discussed with the project team the accomplishment

report and ways forward of the Ivatan Houses Project and conducted on-site monitoring in the Electromobility Research and Development Center in Cagayan State University Carig Campus on March 13.

The EMRDC focuses on electric transportation, such

as electric tricycles and buses, to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable solutions to environmental concerns. Further, Ivatan Houses Projects aims to protect the unique architectural heritage of Ivatan in Batanes from natural disasters while also preserving

its cultural value.

During the discussion, Dr. Paringit emphasized the importance of these initiatives and reaffirmed DOST-PCIERRD's commitment to supporting sustainable projects. 🌱



# ETRIKE ON THE RISE: CSU-EMRDC CONDUCTS BACK-TO-BACK ONBOARDING SESSIONS FOR ITS TWO TECHNOLOGY ADAPTERS FROM CEBU AND ISABELA



In line with Cagayan State University's (CSU) movement towards sustainable transportation, the Electromobility Research and Development Center (EMRDC) conducted onboarding sessions for its two (2) technology adopters of eTrike and CTrike Technology last January 10 and 21, 2025—the technology adopters namely Suki Trading Corporation from Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu represented by its president, Engr.

Victoriano B. Ocon, and ACT Machineries and Metal Craft Corporation from Cauayan City, Isabela represented by their president, Mr. Ronie R. Marcos, have been laid out with the technical know-how of the eTrike and CTrike technology.

Plans for the technology transfer training and setting of nationwide commercialization targets were also discussed during the onboarding sessions conducted. 🏆

## CSU INKS MOA WITH PUGAD LAWIN, CBC, RIC, PIA RO2, AND PCCI



In a significant move towards fostering collaboration and strengthening partnerships, Cagayan State University signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Pugad Lawin Cagayan, Cooperative Bank of Cagayan (CBC), Rural Improvement Club (RIC)-Tuguegarao City Chapter, Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Region 2, and Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI).

This event took place at CSU-Carig Campus on March 5, 2025 and was attended by key representatives from all parties, highlighting the shared commitment to mutual goals and objectives.

CEO Engr. Roger P. Rumpon, stated that as a government employee, we can do simple impactful things that will help the community. Ms. Marilyn L. Sagala- Chief Operating Officer of CBC, Ms. Margarita M. Micua- RIC President, and PIA RO 2 Regional Head Angely Lubo-Mercado, expressed their eagerness to support the extension project

of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, "Digitalinong Cagayano: Empowering Netizens for the Digital Future", at different communities in Tuguegarao City and nearby areas in Cagayan.

Pugad Lawin, represented by PRO Ms. Carolyn Mallillin, and PCCI, represented by Chapter President Ms. Evelyn Velasco, also committed to providing technical assistance to various programs that will promote the general welfare of students and faculty.

The signing of this MOA marks the beginning of a promising partnership with a shared vision for progress. Both parties are excited to collaborate, overcome challenges, and work together toward lasting success that will benefit CSU and the wider community.

With this collaboration, CSU and its partners are set to make a meaningful and lasting impact in the lives of students, faculty, and the greater Cagayan Region. 🏆

## 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) this afternoon, 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. 🏆



# CHEDRO II COORDINATES WITH CSU TO STRENGTHEN GLOBAL RANKINGS



**T**he Commission on Higher Education Regional Office II (CHEDRO II) visits Cagayan State University-Carig Campus to conduct Collaborative Meeting on Internalization Convergence on February 24, 2025. This meeting aims

to engage CSU's pool of experts on the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, the World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI), and the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University rankings, to help capacitate Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

in Region II in the areas of Improving University Rankings, Integrating Internalization in the Curriculum, Partnerships and Collaboration, and Research and Development.

This collaborative effort by CHED aims to strengthen the international standing

of Filipino universities and empower them with the tools needed to excel globally.

It also emphasized the importance of international partnerships to drive innovation and knowledge exchange. 🌐

## PIA RO2 HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON WEST PHILIPPINE SEA AT CSU-CARIG



**T**he Philippine Information Agency (PIA) Regional Office 02 hosted a symposium on the West Philippine Sea at Cagayan State University - Carig Campus on March 7, 2025.

This event brought together students from different universities, regional government agencies, and other stakeholders to engage in discussions on the geopolitical and security issues surrounding the area.

Engr. Emer T. Quezon, Campus Director for Research, Development, and Extension at CSU-Carig, emphasized the critical need to educate students on national sovereignty and their

responsibility in safeguarding the country's territorial integrity. He also highlighted the growing issue of misinformation circulating on social media and its potential impact on public perception and national interests.

PIA Director General Usec. Katherine Chloe S. De Castro emphasized the agency's commitment to providing accurate and truthful information, stressing the importance of countering misinformation and fake news regarding the West Philippine Sea.

PIA Assistant Regional Head Oliver T. Baccay led a session on Media Information Literacy, where he discussed the difference of mal-

information, misinformation, and disinformation including its effect on public opinion and national interests. He highlighted the need for critical thinking, verifying sources, and fact-checking news.

The symposium's highlight was the interactive lecture led by Philippine Coast Guard Spokesperson Commodore Jay T. Tarriela, who provided an in-depth analysis of the Philippines' legal and historical claims over the West Philippine Sea and he stressed the importance of understanding the country's sovereign rights.

Before the conclusion of the symposium, the students were invited to

take part in an open forum, which provided them with a valuable opportunity to seek clarification on various points discussed throughout the event.

During this session, they were able to engage in thoughtful and constructive discourse, addressing any lingering questions or uncertainties. This open exchange allowed for a deeper understanding of the topics presented and fostered a collaborative atmosphere where students could express their perspectives and gain insights from their peers and speakers alike. 🌐



# CSU EMPLOYEES UPSKILL WITH GOOGLE WORKSPACE AND MS TOOLS TRAINING



To optimize employees' daily workflow by providing valuable skills and practical knowledge, the College of Information and Computing Sciences, in collaboration with the Human Resource, Training, and Scholarships

Office, organized a Training Workshop on Google Workspace and Microsoft Productivity Tools on January 18, 2025, at the CICS Conference Hall.

In his speech, CEO Rumpon stated that since most of the services offered

on the campus are digitalized, the employees must be familiar with the operations of various applications and productivity tools, highlighting the importance of continued growth and professional development of CSU employees for overall

institutional efficiency.

The hands-on activity trained the participants in utilizing Google Workspace and MS Office applications, such as Google Drive, Google Sites, Google Forms, and MS Excel. 🇵🇭

# CSU CARIG HOSTS RTSEC 2025: REIMAGINING URBAN MOBILITY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



Cagayan State University (CSU) Carig Campus hosted the Regional Transportation Science and Engineering Conference (RTSEC) 2025 on February 27-28, 2025, at the Red Eagle Gymnasium. With the theme "Mobility for All: Re-Engineering Urban Spaces for More Inclusive and Sustainable Transportation in the New Normal," the event gathered experts and future

urban planners to explore innovative solutions for the transportation sector.

Organized by the Transportation Science Society of the Philippines (TSSP-CSU) in collaboration with the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers – Cagayan Chapter, United Architects of the Philippines – CSU Chapter, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), and AltMobility. ph, the conference aimed to inspire

and educate future urban and transportation planners, especially Civil Engineering students from CSU Carig and St. Paul University, on developing inclusive and sustainable transportation solutions.

Throughout the conference, discussions focused on the importance of creating accessible, eco-friendly transportation systems to meet the diverse needs of communities.

Experts and practitioners shared insights on sustainable urban mobility, climate-conscious design, and the importance of inclusive transportation networks.

The event emphasized the need for collaboration in re-engineering cities to be more equitable and adaptable. mobility, equipping students with the knowledge to design cities that are both sustainable and inclusive. 🇵🇭



# A WALK-THROUGH TIME AND TRANSFORMATION: OFFICIALS' SITE VISIT TO CAMPUS DEVELOPMENTS



For the university's long-serving officials, OIC President Dr. Ibañez, and CEO Engr. Rumpon, their recent site visit to the ongoing campus infrastructure developments was not just a day of a site inspection but a recollection of time, progress, and personal memories.

Emotions ran high as they stood on the grounds where these facilities were being constructed. As for those who have dedicated almost forty

long years to the institution's transformation, it was not just a professional experience, but a genuinely emotional one.

These officials have seen it all—the humble beginnings, the periods of struggle, the dreams of innovation that once seemed unattainable.

Through it all, they have poured their time, energy, and passion into nurturing the university. So, to see the campus expanding, and to see buildings rise was a reminder of how far the institution has

come—and how much they, too, have grown along with it. Each step on the construction site was filled with reflection.

"I remember when this area was just an open field," Dr. Ibañez said. CEO Engr. Rumpon belikely remarks, "This building will house the next generation of professionals, just as we dreamed it would."

The site visit was a gentle reminder that the journey of this institution is never truly complete. It is an evolving

story—one that is written by the hands of everyone who believes in its mission and vision.

For these officials, it was an emotional walk through the pages of that story, seeing the fruits of their labor take shape in real time. As the new buildings rise, so too does their hope for the future—a future filled with opportunity, progress, and an enduring commitment to excellence. 🏛️







## PICE-CSUC OPENS SDG-THEMED 9TH RCESS

**A**imed at answering Sierra Madre's call to strengthen community connections through SDG 9, "Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure", the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers - Cagayan State University Chapter (PICE-CSUC) successfully opened the 9th Regional Civil Engineering Student Summit (RCESS) at the Red Eagle Gymnasium, April 7.

With 406 attendees from nine campuses, universities and colleges in Cagayan Valley and Cordillera Administrative Region, the opening program fired off in a festive vibe as the working

committee brought off a lighthearted opening salvo of songs and dances, followed by College of Engineering and Architecture (COEA) Dean Engr. John Michael Casibang's formal opening of the flagship event.

Among the participants from various campuses, universities and colleges, 145 were from the host Cagayan State University - Carig Campus. Meanwhile, 90 were from University of Saint Louis - Tuguegarao, 53 from Aldersgate College, 41 from Isabela State University - Echague Campus, 31 from Lyceum of Aparri, 26 from Nueva Vizcaya State University, 8 from St. Mary's

University, and 6 each for Apayao State College and Abra State Institute of Sciences and Technology. Campus Executive Officer Engr. Roger Rumpon, represented by Mr. Romar Palattao, encouraged the participants to transform the summit into a meaningful and actionable experience focused on building a sustainable future for future generations.

"The Earth is a gift to our children in the future. It is not ours; it is not our inheritance from our ancestors. We only borrowed them from the future generations... Let us make this summit a transformative experience for us to enjoy and let us start

building a sustainable future," Mr. Palattao conveyed.

The 9th RCESS, arranged by PICE-CSUC through its president, Kenneth Bacud, proceeded with exciting lectures, thrilling competitions and an unforgettable socialization night on the remaining parts on the first day.

Regional Civil Engineering Student Summit is an annual event in Cagayan Valley initiated by the PICE-CSUC every March or April, aimed at enhancing camaraderie and knowledge network among aspiring civil engineers within the region. 🌱

## CSU GONZAGA TEAM REPORTS PROGRESS OF TISSUE CULTURE PROJECT TO DA-BAR ACEF

**G**onzaga, Cagayan - Dr. Froilan A. Pacris Jr., Campus Executive Officer of Cagayan State University (CSU) Gonzaga, together with study leaders Ms. Myrally L. Marcos and Dr. Jayrome S. Butay, presented the progress of their ongoing tissue culture project to officials of the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) under the Agricultural Competitiveness

Enhancement Fund (ACEF) on March 19, 2025, via Google Meet.

The project, titled Increasing Availability of Quality Planting Materials of Selected Horticultural Crops through Tissue Culture Propagation in Cagayan Valley, aims to improve the supply of quality planting materials through advanced propagation techniques. It runs from July 2024 to January 2026.

The CSU team reported significant accomplishments achieved as of February 26, 2025, and presented plans to ensure the project's continued success.

A panel of evaluators assessed the project's progress, including Dr. Dinah Pura T. Depositario and Dr. Normito R. Zapata Jr. from the University of the Philippines Los Baños, Dr. Ruth C. Diego from Benguet State University, and

representatives from DA-BAR's Program Development Division and Technology Management Section.

Key highlights included securing BPI accreditation for FCAs and nurseries, expanding meriplant propagation, assisting FCAs in marketing, strengthening partnerships with LGUs and private sectors, and launching an income-generating project to support operations. 🌱





# CSU-GONZAGA RDE TEAM LEADS TRAINING FOR BNAS'S PROJECT UPLIFT



**G**onzaga, Cagayan — A team from Cagayan State University-Gonzaga's Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) offices led a training session for the Baggao National Agricultural School (BNAS) on March 20, 2025, as part of Project UPLIFT (Upgrading Agriculture Through Latest Innovation in Farming Technology).

The training, conducted

in collaboration with other academic institutions, aimed to enhance educators' knowledge and skills in modern farming practices, with a focus on bamboo and dragon fruit production.

Twenty-five BNAS teachers participated in the session, which combined lectures with hands-on propagation activities. Leading the training were CSU-Gonzaga faculty

members: Campus Extension Coordinator Myrally L. Marcos, who discussed CSU-Gonzaga's RDE programs and the economic value of bamboo; Research Coordinator Mylene R. Ermitanio, who tackled bamboo species, research, and best practices; MARBRIC Coordinator Marvin Baloloy, who presented bamboo production and management; and Dr. Jayrome S. Butay, Dean of the College of

Agriculture, who gave a lecture on dragon fruit production.

Participants commended the training for its practical and relevant content. The event highlighted CSU-Gonzaga's commitment to advancing agricultural innovation and supporting local farming communities through education and extension initiatives. 🌱



# CTESC LEADS SEMINAR ON ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SELF-DEFENSE FOR WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION

**T**he College of Teacher Education Student Council (CTESC), in collaboration with CICSSC and the Campus Gender and Development (GAD) Office, organized a seminar on Anti-Sexual Harassment and Self-defense on March 14, 2025, at the Campus Learning Resource Center Lobby.

The seminar, featuring key speakers and practical demonstrations, aimed to increase awareness of

women's rights and equip attendees with essential self-defense skills. The event was supported by the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) Region II and the Philippine National Police (PNP) Lal-lo. Mr. Jimmy Baliga, Regional Director of CHR, highlighted the agency's role in protecting individual rights, sharing impactful real-life cases from the region where CHR's intervention had made a positive difference.

Mrs. Louella A. Tomas,

Chief of CHR's Promotion and Advocacy Division, discussed the core principles of human rights and their significance in daily life while Atty. Mary Grace Marcos, CHR's Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Person, elaborated on the Safe Spaces Act and the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act, providing valuable information on legal protections and rights.

The seminar also featured a practical self-defense session led by PSMS Reanie

Timosa of the PNP Lal-lo. Timosa demonstrated effective techniques that can be applied in real-life situations, offering participants valuable skills to enhance their personal safety.

Moreover, Dr. Policarpio L. Mabborang Jr., Campus Executive Officer, reminded the university community that the advocacy for women's rights and empowerment should extend beyond March and be upheld throughout the year. 🌸





## DA-PHILRICE, CSU INK DECADE-LONG PARTNERSHIP ON CROP BIOTECHNOLOGY

**C**agayan — The Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rice Research Institute (DA-PhilRice) and Cagayan State University (CSU) formalized a ten-year partnership to boost crop biotechnology and plant breeding innovations through a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) signed on January 15, 2025.

The agreement, effective from June 2024 to May 2034, was signed by CSU OIC University President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez and DA-PhilRice Executive Director John C. De Leon. Also present were Dr. Hitler C. Dangatan, CEO of CSU Piat, and Dr.

Junel B. Guzman, CSU Vice President for Research and Development.

The collaboration aims to address agricultural challenges through biotechnology, focusing on crop improvement using advanced techniques aligned with the Department of Agriculture's Research for

Development (R4D) plan. The partnership builds on previous joint initiatives, with CSU Piat researchers Neil Nemesio A. Baliuag and Jehna Marie Cordero leading upcoming projects in rice and crop breeding. 🌾

## TESDA APPROVES CSU-PIAT AS ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR KEY AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS

**P**, Cagayan — The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) has approved the Cagayan State University-Piat Campus as an official assessment center for Agricultural Crop Production NC I, Agroentrepreneurship NC II, and Animal Production (Swine) NC II, following a successful inspection on January 31, 2025.

The inspection was led by TESDA Cagayan CAC Focal Jhez Christian Rivera, Regional CAC Focal Julius Hortiliano, and industry expert Katherine Lemi. With the approval, CSU-Piat is now authorized to accommodate walk-in clients seeking national certifications in the identified qualifications. 🌾



## CSU RECEIVES CHED CERTIFICATION FOR NUTRITION AND DIETETICS PROGRAM

Tuguegarao City, Cagayan — The Commission on Higher Education Regional Office (CHEDRO) II has granted Cagayan State University - Andrews Campus a Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) for its Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics (BSND) program.

Issued on March 13, 2025, the certification confirms that the program complies with the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines (PSGs) set by CHED under Memorandum Order No.

14, series of 2017. The COPC allows CSU to officially offer the BSND program starting Academic Year 2024–2025.

CHED emphasized that the certificate remains valid as long as the university adheres to the laws of the Republic of the Philippines and maintains the prescribed minimum standards. The issuance took place at the CHEDRO II in Carig Sur, Tuguegarao City, and was signed by Director Dr. Julieta M. Paras. 🌾







THE  
TOUCH  
STONE

## CSU-SM HONORS STARS OF RADIANCE IN GALAD AWARDS 2025

**C**agayan State University - Sanchez Mira concluded the Women's Month celebration with its first-ever "GALAD" (Ginintuang Alagad ng Lipunan tungo sa Adhikaing Dalisay) Awards on March 31, recognizing outstanding women leaders who have made significant contributions to both the campus and the community.

The ceremony, held at the Campus Conference Hall, honored nine distinguished women from both the academic institution and local community who serve as role models and embody excellence in their respective fields.

The inaugural GALAD

Awards recognized Ms. Ruth G. Villaluz, Executive Judge Gemma P. Bucayu-Madrid, Dr. Vivienne Suzette G. Cachapero, Ms. Gina Juliet C. Acosta, Ms. Charito B. Tabuena, Ms. Uranis A. Aguda, Ms. Laureen F. Sandoval, Ms. Myrna I. Gamentore, and Prof. Dr. Janelyn I. Agbayani.

The awardees are the partner agencies of the campus where the internees are stationed.

In his inspirational message, Prof. Dr. Rodel Francisco T. Alegado, campus executive officer, likened women to stars, describing them as radiant, unwavering, and full of light.

"No matter how vast the darkness, they shine with

brilliance and illuminate light for others... Their resilience withstands the storms of time, their wisdom guides generations, and their compassion nurtures the world. Undeniably, women are stars of radiance," he said.

In response on behalf of the honorees, Ms. Ruth G. Villaluz, a retired Master Teacher II of Sanchez Mira Central Elementary School and former School Directress of the Sanchez Mira Institute for Lifelong Education (SMILE), shared her nostalgic feelings about her journey and profound gratitude for the recognition.

"If I am anything or anybody as a teacher now, it is because of the quality

education this institution has molded in me," she said. Ms. Villaluz also emphasized the Olympic motto 'Citius, Altius, Fortius', encouraging everyone, to continually strive for excellence and do things faster, higher, stronger, and together.

The GALAD Awards was attended by the college deans, heads of offices, female campus officials and CSC officers. In addition, the event was expected to become an annual tradition at CSU-SM, continuing to recognize the achievements of women who exemplify excellence and service in their fields while inspiring the next generation of professionals. 🌟

## CSU SANCHEZ MIRA HONORED FOR 8TH SPOT IN CRIMINOLOGISTS LICENSURE EXAMINATION



**C**agayan State University Sanchez Mira continues to prove its excellence in the field of criminology as it secured the 8th spot in the recently concluded Criminologists Licensure Examination.

The achievement was celebrated with the awarding of a Plaque of Recognition at the SMX Convention Center, Manila.

Receiving the award on behalf of the campus were CEO Dr. Rodel Francisco T. Alegado and College of Criminal Justice Education (CCJE) Dean, Dr. Jose Sheriff O. Panelo. Their leadership and dedication to providing quality education have been pivotal to the university's success.

The remarkable achievement of CSU Sanchez

Mira, boasting an impressive 86.84% passing rate, demonstrates its unwavering commitment to excellence and quality education.

This recognition also highlights the institution's dedication to preparing its graduates to become competent and ethical professionals in the field of criminology.

Dr. Panelo emphasized the importance of continuously enhancing the university's criminology program to maintain its competitive edge. "We will remain committed to providing our students with the best training and education possible.

This recognition inspires us to aim higher and accomplish even more," he said. 🌟





## CSU SOLANA-LARA CAMPUS UNDERGOES RQAT AND OPSD EVALUATION

**C**agayan State University Solana-Lara Campus welcomed the Regional Quality Assessment Team (RQAT) and the Office of Program Standards and Development (OPSD) for an evaluation visit on January 30, 2024.

The assessment included a thorough review of documents and an ocular inspection of the campus facilities, focusing on the three existing academic

programs: Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Bachelor of Science in Criminology, and Bachelor of Science in Information Technology.

In her opening remarks, Campus Executive Officer, Dr. Ma. Haidee A. Mabborang highlighted the significance of the visit in the campus's continuous pursuit of excellence. She stated, "The RQAT and OPSD visit today is a crucial step in our journey for excellence." She

further emphasized that the evaluation not only allows the campus to showcase its progress over the past two years but also serves as a valuable opportunity for growth and learning.

This initiative reaffirms the campus's unwavering commitment to academic excellence and institutional development. The evaluation serves as a platform for both validation of achievements and identification of areas

for further growth and enhancement.

To our esteemed evaluators, we extend our deepest gratitude for your invaluable insights and recommendations. To our faculty members and staff, congratulations on your dedication and hard work. May we all continue striving for excellence in providing quality education and service to our students and the community. 🙏



## CSU-LASAM STAGES SEMINAR-WORKSHOP ON UNIVERSITY RANKINGS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

**C**agayan State University (CSU) - Lasam Campus held a Seminar-Workshop, February 11, 2025 at the DARP Hall, focusing on key university ranking systems and quality assurance measures, including WURI, THE, QS, PQA, and UI Greenmetric.

The event, led by university officials and spearheaded by Campus Executive Officer Florante Victor M. Balatico, PhD brought together faculty and staff of the campus.

Said event was welcomed by CEO Balatico highlighting the shared efforts and

commitment of every member of the faculty and staff of the campus. "Small steps toward perfection, through the journey of perfection we attain excellence", the CEO stated.

Dr. Marie Claudette M. Calanoga, University Quality Assurance Director, shared an inspirational message, recalling her experiences and emphasizing the vital role of quality assurance initiatives in higher education.

Moreover, Dr. Gided T. Battung, CPA, University Focal Person for Times Higher Education (THE), provided an insightful overview of THE

World Rankings.

Dr. Battung also highlighted the interconnectedness of globalization and world peace, she also emphasized THE's alignment with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the University's ongoing efforts in this field.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ronnie E. Pasigui, University Focal Person for WURI and QS, discussed the University's notable achievements and potential research entries for WURI recognition and delved into the QS Ranking manual.

University Philippine

Quality Award (PQA) Focal Person Associate Professor Rio Averil C. Pamittan, shared her insights on PQA and UI Green Metric World Ranking System emphasizing its significance in promoting sustainability and institutional excellence.

Campus Academic Coordinator Judelyn U. Cantor concluded the program expressing her gratitude to the resource speakers for their valuable efforts and conveying the campus' commitment to WURI to improve the quality education of the university. 🙏





# CSU LASAM FACILITATES CACAO PRODUCTION TRAINING, BASIC COMPUTER LITERACY

To further the “Cacaoan sa Bawat Tahanan”, a program that aims to empower cacao growers and cacao production in the Municipality of Lasam, the Campus Extension Office at CSU Lasam led training on Basic Cacao Production and Digital Literacy at Barangay Magsaysay, Lasam, Cagayan, April 5, 2025.

The program began with welcoming remarks from Barangay Captain Antonio Genobebe, who expressed his appreciation for the said program, followed by a program overview delivered by Campus Extension Coordinator Assoc. Prof.

Bernard Madarang. The morning session featured simultaneous discussions, including cybersecurity facilitated by CICS Dean Assoc. Prof. Jake Maggay and a hands-on tutorial on spreadsheets and Microsoft Excel led by Assoc. Prof. Josephine Maggay.

In the afternoon, Asst. Prof. Gary Joseph Bautista delivered an introductory lecture on the Government Procurement Reform Act (R.A. 9184) and the New Government Procurement Act (R.A. 12009), tailored for Barangay Officials, while Prof. Madarang presented to Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Members the Cacao

Nursery Establishment and Management.

Furthermore, the participants engaged in sharing their insights and reflections with notable contributions from Barangay Captain Genobebe and Ms. Madelyn Ragutero, followed by the awarding of certificates of participation to both the attendees and the facilitators.

The program officially concluded with closing remarks from SK Chairperson Jan Pascua, who conveyed his gratitude and offered encouragement for ongoing community development initiatives.



**Editorial Board**  
Office of the University President  
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**Publication Director:**  
Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez  
OIC - Office of the University President

**Editor-in-chief:**  
Karen Claire D. Sucuano  
OIC - University Information Officer

**Layout & Design:**  
John Lewie J. Reyes  
Karen Claire D. Sucuano

**Graphic Artist:**  
John Lewie J. Reyes

**Contributors:**  
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