



# USEP E-Newsletter

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WE BUILD DREAMS WITHOUT LIMITS

## USEP School of Law launches Legal Aid Center commits to helping increase access to justice for the poor

People belonging to the marginalized and vulnerable sectors often have legal problems and are usually denied access to justice. The COVID-19 pandemic has made their situation much worse. The ramifications of the health crisis often affect their human rights, including their ability to access justice in a timely, fair, and effective manner.

Committed to helping increase access to justice, the University, through its School of Law (SoL), opened its Legal Aid Center (LAC) on July 27, 2021.

The establishment of the LAC is pursuant to Section 9 of Rule 138-A on Law Student Practice, also known as the Revised Law Student Practice Rule, which mandates all law schools to develop and adopt a Clinical Legal Education Program (CLEP), and establish at least one law clinic.

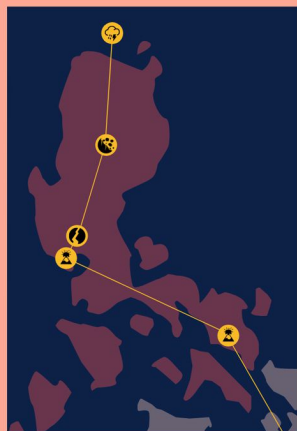


**USEP COMMITMENT TO HELP INCREASE ACCESS TO JUSTICE.** From left to right: Atty. Rogelio G. Largo, former SoL Acting Dean; Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President; Fr. Emmanuel M. Gonzaga, the administering priest; and Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabaes Jr., Vice President for Academic Affairs, pose for a photo after the LAC blessing.

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### NDRM 2021: USEP celebrates women's role on disaster preparedness

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### USEP KTTD unveils markers, awards IP certificates

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### 'Stories for a Better Normal' features a USEP-joint research on the Davao Region IKSP

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FROM PAGE 1

## USEP School of Law launches Legal Aid Center commits to help increase access to justice for the poor



**SoL LAC as USEP BROADENED NOBLE UNDERTAKING.** From left to right: Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President; Hon. Josefe Sorrrera-Ty, Commissioner of Legal Education Board; Atty. Rogelio G. Largo, former SoL Acting Dean; Atty. Ray Paolo J. Santiago, Executive Director of the Ateneo Human Rights Center of the Ateneo de Manila University; and Mr. Ethan Geary, Deputy Country representative for The Asia Foundation in the Philippines.

The CLEP offers law students the opportunity to fine-tune their lawyering skills, in a live-client setting, by representing indigent or low-income clients under the careful guidance and thoughtful mentoring of supervising lawyers, while at the same time imbuing in them ethical values and a high sense of social responsibility.

The LAC also serves as the extension arm of SoL as it commits to take on the cases of the poor, the disadvantaged, and the marginalized.

### Legal Aid Center Ceremonial Launching

The ceremonial launching of the LAC started with a blessing ceremony of the physical facility administered by Fr. Emmanuel M. Gonzaga, and was attended by the University officials led by the University President Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao. It was followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by Dr. Generalao which marked the official opening of the Center.

The activity continued in the afternoon with various inspirational and congratulatory messages from Dr. Generalao; Hon. Josefe Sorrrera-Ty, Commissioner of Legal Education Board; Hon. Sara Z. Duterte-Carpio, Davao City Mayor; Hon. Leo Tolentino Madrazo, Deputy Court Administrator for Mindanao of the Supreme Court; Atty. Maceste W. Uy, President of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Davao City Chapter; Atty. Ray Paolo J. Santiago, Executive Director of the Ateneo Human Rights Center of the Ateneo de Manila University; and, Mr. Ethan Geary, Deputy Country representative for The Asia Foundation in the Philippines.

Dr. Generalao, in her opening remarks, said that opening the LAC is an expression of 'broadened noble undertaking' and commitment of the University in addressing the economic and social issues of the region. Atty. Santiago said that LAC is important in increasing access to

justice. Mr. Geary agreed by stating that opening LAC in the pandemic is 'timely' and expressed his hope in the perpetuity of USEP-LAC.

**“Opening the LAC is an expression of broadened noble undertaking.”**

Plaques of Recognition were awarded by Dr. Generalao to Ateneo Human Rights Center represented by Atty. Santiago, and to The Asia Foundation represented by Mr. Geary.

The program ended with closing remarks by Atty. Rogelio G. Largo, the Acting Dean of the USEP- SoL.

It can be recalled that the USEP-SoL, the first state-run School of Law in the Davao Region, opened its doors on August 17, 2019. It hopes to produce lawyers who are not only competent, ethical, research-oriented but also with altruistic hearts for service.

## NDRM 2021: USEP celebrates women's role on disaster preparedness

In accordance with the Executive Order no. 29 series of 2017- declaring the month of July as the National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM), the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) conducted a series of activities that promote disaster resilience and preparedness.

Spearheaded by the College of Engineering (CoE), in collaboration with the Gender and Development (GAD) Office, Human Resource Management Division (HRMD), and Administrative Services Division (ASD), the month-long celebration themed "Tamang Pamamahala't Kahandaan, Kaalaman at Pagtutulungan sa Sakuna at Pandemya'y Kalasag ng Bayan" was centered on covering four (4) thematic areas: prevention and mitigation,

preparedness, response, and rehabilitation and recovery.

Events for the NDRM 2021 includes contests on short-film making, photography, and public service announcement; and webinar series discussing disaster management, prevention and mitigation.

The month-long celebration also highlighted the importance of Gender Mainstreaming on disaster resilience- as it strengthens the resilience of individuals, cuts recovery time, and leads to more efficient recovery and reconstruction. Also, the vital role of women on disaster preparedness was recognized.

NDRM activities were attended by USEP faculty, staff, students and even alumni.



**HOPE INJECTED** by Japhet C. Paypa, a student from College of Agriculture and Related Sciences (CARS) - First Place in NDRM 2021 Photography Contest

Women health workers, along with the support of the Department of Health, are exerting the utmost effort to make every Filipino citizen vaccinated through the program "Resbakuna". The vaccination program is replicated in every local community, including Brgy. Maniki, Kapalong, Davao del Norte. With the worsening number of cases, the only hope we have right now is the vaccine.



## UNIVERSITY NEWSBITS

# USEP KTTD unveils markers, awards IP certificates

## University releases UVE mobile app

September 19, 2021, the University announced that USEP Virtual Environment (UVE), the official Learning Management System of the University, was available for mobile application version, both applicable for android and apple users.

The mobile app allows user to:

- Access course content,
- Connect with course participants,
- Receive instant notifications of messages and other events,
- Upload images, audio, videos, and other files from mobile device,
- Track progress; and
- Complete activities anywhere, anytime (attempt quizzes, post in forums, play SCORM packages, edit wiki pages and more - both on and off-line).

The UVE mobile app can be downloaded via Google Play (android) and App Store (iOS) using the keyword: USEP Virtual Environment.

## Uni faculty trains for engaging educational approaches

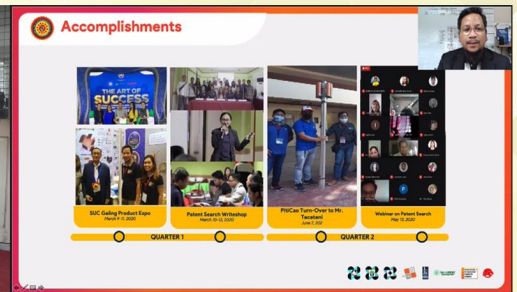
USEP, through the Mindanao eLearning Space (MiSpace) conducted a webinar Series on "Designing Interactive and Engaging Strategies in Managing Synchronous and Asynchronous Classes for Remote Learning" on August 17-19, 2021 via Zoom.

The webinar capacitated and equipped the faculty members of the University with the principles, strategies, and educational approaches in managing classes via synchronous and asynchronous learning modes in response to the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic to educational delivery.

## USEP ensures quality of instruction

USEP, through Office of Advance Studies (OAS), in collaboration with the Curriculum and Instruction Office (CIO), conducted two-day webinar on Curriculum Development/Revision Process Orientation and Writeshop on the OBE-Aligned Graduate Programs on September 2-3, 2021.

The webinar was inline with the University's method of ensuring the quality of program offerings and delivery of instruction across all colleges, schools, and campuses in the University.



**THE UNVEILING OF MARKERS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.** University officials led by the University President herself, Lourdes C. Generalao, unveils KTTD's markers.

To demonstrate the determination and commitment of the University towards innovation and in line with its vision as a research university, the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Division (KTTD) held a Markers Unveiling and Intellectual Property (IP) Awarding of Certificates on August 13, 2021, via Zoom meeting streamed live through the official Facebook page of the University.

During the unveiling, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) with its two (2) sectoral councils, the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) and Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), as well as the the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP HL) were recognized for the significant contributions they have extended to the University to support its long-term vision as a Research University in the ASEAN region.

Three (3) KTTD-anticipated markers were unveiled namely: the Project AGILab: USEP Technology Business Incubation (TBI) Facility and Services for Internet of Things (IoT) based Industrial Technology with Systems Application Development, the USEP Intellectual Property and Technology Business Management (IP-TBM) in Consortia Member Institution (CMI) of Southern Mindanao Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Consortium (SMAARRDEC) in Davao City; and the Innovation and Technology Support Office.

The activity was graced with the opening remarks of Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, the University Vice President for Research and Development and Extension, followed by the words of challenge from the University President, Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao.

Atty. Mary Grace Cruz-Yap, Director of DITTB-IPOPHL; Dr. Anthony C. Sales, DOST XI Regional Director; Dr. Reynaldo V. Eborra, DOST-PCAARRD Executive Director; and Dr. Enrico C. Paringit, DOST-PCIEERD Executive Director, were invited to deliver words of congratulations. Dr. Gilbert A. Importante, SMAARRDEC Director, formally closed the program.

As Dr. Generalao stated, USEP is bound to cover greater milestones as the University is 'growing' and 'still has a long way to go' in terms of its determination for innovation.

## Recognition of IP Certificate Holder

Several researchers, inventors, makers, authors, and designers who were awarded/granted by the IPOPHL with their Letters Patent, Utility Models (UM) Certificates, Copyrights Recordation and Deposit, Copyrights Registration and Industrial Design Certificates were also recognized in the event.

For Certificate of Copyright Recordation and Deposit, the following were recognized: Christopher Y. Domaub and Ronelo M. Cempron were recognized for their work on 'Situating Critical Emergencies Pre-Assessment and Tracking Application (SCEPTA)'; Sarrah Mae B. Villoria on her study/research on the 'Effectiveness of Pre-Braille Instruction Using Modified Braille Instrument in Improving Reading Proficiency of Learners With Visual Impairment'; Marlyn D. Biton and Teodoro N. Plaza on their study/research on 'Development of Senior High School Readiness Evaluation Tool (SHRET): An Exploratory Factor Analysis'; Marlyn D. Biton and Corazon M. Umbrero on their study/research on 'Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program: Experiences of Mindanao Beneficiaries of the Adopted ...

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**RESEARCH FOR THE PRESERVATION OF IKSP.** Ms. Risonar enthusiastically shares the findings of their book to the audience during her talk in the show.

## ‘Stories for a Better Normal’ features a USeP-joint research on the Davao Region IKSP

Various books and researches about Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) were featured, including a joint research undertaking of the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) on the 54th episode of Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda’s virtual show “Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Change Pathways”, with the topic “Traditional Knowledge is Power!” on July 22, 2021. The said activity was streamed live via the Climate Change Commission Ph Facebook page.

Ms. Joy R. Risonar, a resident faculty of the USeP College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), presented the research on “Disasters Preparedness and Climate Change: The Indigenous Knowledge of Selected IP Groups in the Davao Region” which explored the integral role of IKSP in the disaster preparedness and mitigation in specific tribal groups in Mindanao, particularly in the Davao Region.

The said research was a joint undertaking of USeP, Davao Oriental State College of Science, Technology (DOSCT), and the Office of Senator then Deputy Speaker Legarda in 2017.

Ms. Risonar specifically discussed how Indigenous People (IP) groups in Davao Region practiced disaster preparedness and mitigation based on the ‘signs’ displayed by nature, examples of which are the out-of-place behaviors of animals and insects, the difference of river’s water level, the odd intensity of sunlight, even the sudden progress illness and unusual dream of elders and *datus*, and many more.

Furthermore, Ms. Risonar underscored the need to understand the existing IKSP to better implement programs on Disaster Preparedness and Climate Change Resilience. Deputy Speaker Legarda agreed and added that preparedness and familiarity in the ‘differing rhythm’ of nature are important. Preparedness and familiarity in ‘differing rhythm’ of nature is important.

The Project Leader of the said research was Gladys Florangel I. Ortiz with Study Leaders, namely: Sajed I. Ingilan (USeP), Mary Grace Z. Agbas (USeP), Lilibeth A. Cenojas (USeP), Joy R. Risonar (USeP), and Lilibeth S. Galvez (DOSCT). Marvin Lagmay served as Layout Editor while Sheila Grace B. Europa served as Editor. Meanwhile, Dr. Rodney C. Jubilado from the University of Hawaii served as External Reviewer.

Ms. Risonar was joined with Dr. Serafin Ngohayon from Ifugao State University, Ms. Anna Razel Ramirez from the University of the Philippines – Visayas, and Dr. Pablo Crespo, President of the University of Antique – all representing the participating State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the documentation of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) in the country.

Other books that feature IKSP of the country were also discussed, namely: the “Ifugao Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices,” and “From the Seas to the Mountain – Panay – Guimaras Traditional Knowledge Systems.”

The aim of the said show was to virtually raise awareness on the Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) on sustainable development and environment conservation, as well as to promote the documentation and safeguarding of traditional knowledge systems, as IKSP are developed over centuries and are passed from generation to generation.

‘Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Pathways’ is a weekly online discussion series that tackles different topics on how individuals, households, and communities can adopt healthier, and more environment and climate-friendly lifestyles in relevance to the COVID-19 pandemic and climate emergency.

## USeP holds orientation on SETI for SDGs Scorecard, GAD checklist

The University, through its Research Division, conducted a virtual orientation on the preparation of Science, Engineering, Technology, and Innovation (SETI) for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) scorecard and Gender and Development (GAD) Assessment Checklist on July 19, 2021, via Zoom.

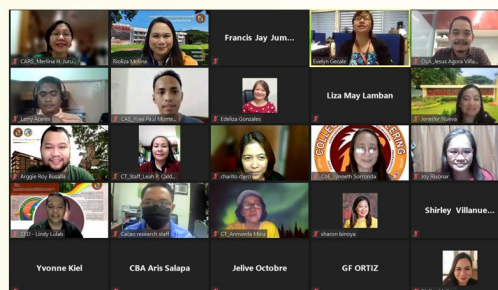
The aim of the said event is to capacitate the implementers and monitoring teams of Research and Development and Extension (RDE) initiatives on the preparation of SETI for SDG Scorecards and GAD Assessment Checklist.

SETI for SDG Scorecard is a tool used to assess, monitor, and review SETI related project contributions to SDGs, targets, and indicators. On the other hand, the GAD Assessment Checklist is used to evaluate researches in the aspect of gender and development.

Dr. Della Grace Galope-Bacaltos, a researcher that advocates for SETI from Southern Philippines Agri-Business and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology (SPAMAST), together with Ms. Rioliza B. Molina, University Director for Gender and Development (GAD) Office, were invited as resource speakers for the orientation.

Attendees of the said event were the respective research and development heads of the colleges, RDE implementers with on-going and or/recently completed researches and personnel, and concerned faculty researchers.

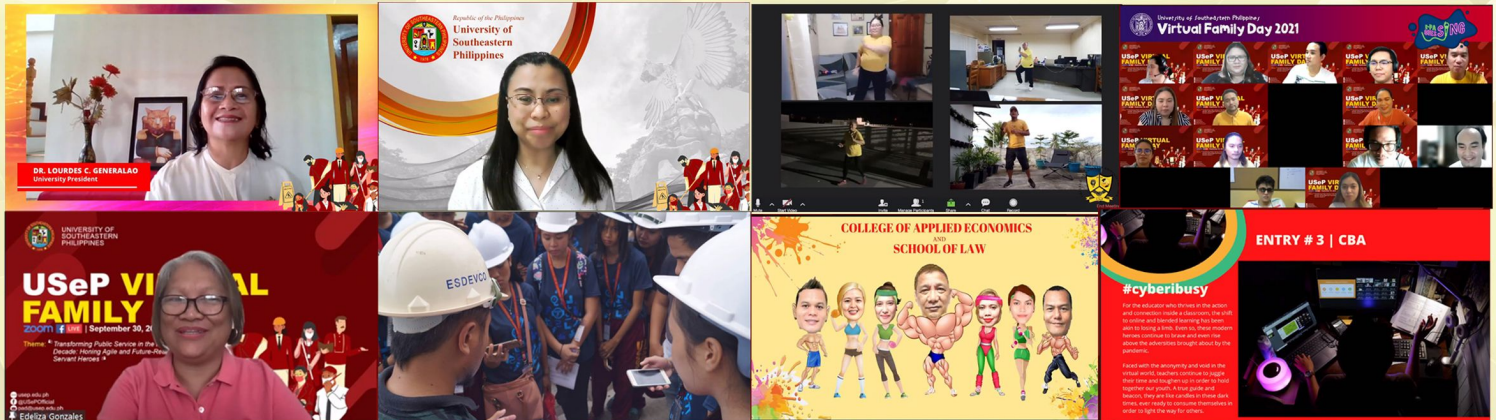
The said orientation is a testament to the University’s unwavering commitment on developing its research initiatives.



**SMILE.** Participants of the Orientation demonstrate their readiness for SETI-SDG score cards.



## USEPyanong Pamilya honors hard work and loyalty on Virtual Family Day



**THE USEPIAN FAMILY.** Members of the USEP family and community virtually meet to enjoy and unwind with each other's presence.

The University, in pursuant to Presidential Proclamation 60 series of 1992 which declares every last week of September as Family Week, and as mandated by the Civil Service Commission, conducted its University Virtual Family Day on September 30, 2021 streamed live via University's official Facebook page.

Aligned with the theme of the 121st Anniversary of the Philippine Civil Service (PCSA), "Transforming Public Service in the Next Decade: Honing Agile and Future-Ready Servant-Heroes", USEP celebrated Family Day in the new normal through conducting several virtual events, namely: the Infomercial Contest, Instahero Contest, PandemExercise Video Contest, and e-PaGuesSing Contest.

University teaching and non-teaching personnel were divided into eleven (11) clusters, namely: College of Teacher Education and Technology (CTET) and School of Medicine (SoM), College of Applied Economics (CAEc) and School of Law (SoL), College of Education (CEd), College of Business Administration (CBA), College of Information and Computing (CIC), College of Agriculture and Related Sciences (CARS), College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), College of Technology (CT), College of Engineering (CoE), College of Business Administration (CBA), College of Information and Computing (CIC), College of Information and Computing, and the Non-teaching Staff Association (NTSA).

Dr. Edeliza S. Gonzales, Director of the University Human Resource Management Division (HRMD), stated in her welcome message that the University Family Day is the highlight

of the Philippine Civil Service Anniversary. The celebration's goal, according to her, is to foster camaraderie and strengthen ties among USEP staff. She also added in her remarks that one of the most valuable traits an employee should have in a real-world workplace is teamwork. one of the most valuable traits an employee should have in a real-world workplace is teamwork.

"Despite all the paperwork and processes that we are now dealing with, we must take a break. A pause. A diversion to stay sanely beautiful people. Let us all take this opportunity to unwind for a day. Today is the day to chill and to cheer," she continued.

In her address to all university personnel, Dr. Generalao noted that taking a break from all work is a good thing. She also reminded everyone that getting some rest is beneficial to both the mind and the body.

Dr. Generalao also lauded the sense of family that USEP exudes. "I want to stress that it is a rare gift to find a workplace where you can thrive and maintain warm relationships with your workmates. Though many of us really do not physically see each other, but the technology that we have allows us to constantly be in touch. We are all fortunate to belong in this community where friendship, and loyalty are among the values that we promote in addition to unity, stewardship, excellence and professionalism," she added.

### Virtual Events Results, Awarding

CoE bagged the first place in the Infomercial Contest, while CIC and the CDM came in second and third, respectively. In addition, the entry from CEd won the Social Media Favorite Award for garnering the most reactions.

CBA won first place in the Instahero Contest, while CIC and the cluster of CTET and SoM took second and third

place, respectively.

In the PandemExercise Contest, the entry from CBA danced their way to first place followed by the cluster of CAEc and SoL, and CEd for the second and third place, respectively.

Ms. Fe Monique Musni-Tagaytay of CAS bagged first place in the e-PaGuesSing Contest, followed by Mr. Marvin S. Lagmay of CIC and Ms. Anne Doreen M. Sevilles from the cluster of CAEc and SoL, for second and third, respectively.

The winners of the contests were awarded cash prizes.

The program was officially closed by Ms. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan, University Vice President for Administration. Ms. Faunillan expressed gratitude to those who contributed to the event's success, particularly HRMD and EvMC personnel.

"There is no doubt that having the support of an excellent family, friends and colleagues, makes life's journey so much simpler. We are all known for our strong tradition of family and friendship which we are honoring today. With our activities despite being done virtually because of this pandemic, we are hopeful that we are able to empower every personnel in the University to continuously provide efficient public service delivery in the public," she said.

The physical gathering restrictions brought about by COVID-19 did not stop USEP to celebrate Family Day and to be virtually connected once more.



**FROM PAGE 3**

*continuation on USEP KTTD unveils markers*

Marlyn D. Biton and Corazon M. Umbrero on their study/research titled ‘Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program: Experiences of Mindanao Beneficiaries of the Adopted Schools of the University of Immaculate Conception’; Velma S. Labad on her books titled ‘Exploring Research in Education’ and ‘Magbasa Ta ug Magsulat’; Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr. and Reynald A. Sapay on their study/research on ‘Factors Affecting Students’ Performance in the ASEAN Context: A Meta-Analysis’; Velma S. Labad and Chito R. Napitan on their study/research on ‘Leadership Practices of School Heads on Health and Nutrition Program: A Confirmatory Factor Analysis’; and Juse Lyn P. Hiponia and Allen T. Guillaran on their study/research on ‘Modeling of Clinical Supervision Practices of School Heads in Region XI: A Multinomial Logistics Regression Analysis’.

For Certificate of Copyright Registration, the following were recognized: Paul Adriel C. Loquias and Marnie Grace I. Sonico on their study/research on ‘Antibacterial

Properties of Cutaneous Bacterial Isolates from Philippine Endemic Frog Species (*Philautus acutirostris*) in Datu Salunay, Marilog District, Calinan, Davao City’; Jennifer M. Arbiol on her work titled ‘Student Peer Facilitators’ Training Module’; and Blenn B. Nimer on his works titled ‘Nimer Execution Quotient Scale (NEQS), Nimer Human Security Multidimensional Scale (NHSMS) and Nimmer Human Security Principle Scale’.

For Industrial Design Award, the following were recognized: Sarah Mae B. Villoria on her Modified Braille Teaching Apparatus; Norman Blancia and Rosielyn C. Roxas on their ‘Crumb Pen’; and Ronilo D. Juevesa, Jr. and Michael V. Machica on their Column Masonry Unit.

For Utility Model Award, the following were recognized: Charles Bryan L. Abella, Carlo C. Lagura, Bernard E. Rañola, and Randy S. Gamboa on their Communication Device for Crime Scene Fingerprint Matching; Virgilio T. Ombao, Jr. for his Universal Oil Filter Wrench; Kevin C.

Joseph, Roger C. Montepio, Ben-Hur C. Rafosala, Fulton U. Yap and Ritchelle B. Dombasi on their Mechanical Cacao Fruit Bagger; Eileen Joan L. Villacampa and Amiel B. Marata on their Nail Artist’s Utility Chair; Tamara Cher R. Mercado, Mary Jean Camos, and Jelmar Degoro on their Computer-Implemented Method of Collecting Garbage; Raedavy T. Opisan, Ronald R. Bayron, Joie D. Cataytay, Ruben V. Cantones, Roger C. Montepio, and Ben-Hur C. Rafosala for their Mechanical Coconut Splitter; Michael A. Parojinog, Glenn D. Bagasbas, Ivy Kim D. Machica, Michael G. Calago, Joel G. Ayon, and Romel V. Gador for their Attachable Lighting Device; Roger C. Montepio, Joie D. Cataytay, Randy M. Tongson, Ritchelle B. Dombasi, Ryan U. Abenoja, and Ruel F. Tuyogon on their Mechanical Pomelo Fruit Picker; and Filmann T. Simpao for his Payment System for Using Utility.

For recognition of Inventions, Judy Ann D. Luyao and Heber Shechem B. Racaza were recognized on their Icing Smoother Machine.

## USEP Pub launches SPJRD Talks

The Research Division- Publication Unit organized its first-ever Southeastern Philippines Journal of Research and Development (SPJRD) Talks on August 27, 2021, via Zoom.

SPJRD Talks is a monthly scholars’ forum for research dissemination, interaction, and convergence aiming at bridging gaps by providing a platform where the researchers can freely discuss their studies and answer questions from the participants.

Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, University Vice President for Research and Development, and Extension opened the said event with congratulatory remarks. According to Dr. Villanueva, the SPJRD Talks is a manifestation of the USEP’s commitment to strengthening the research culture of the University and of the region.

**“I hope that our conversation here will not only facilitate and enlarge our consciousness of our region’s uniquely rich resources.”**

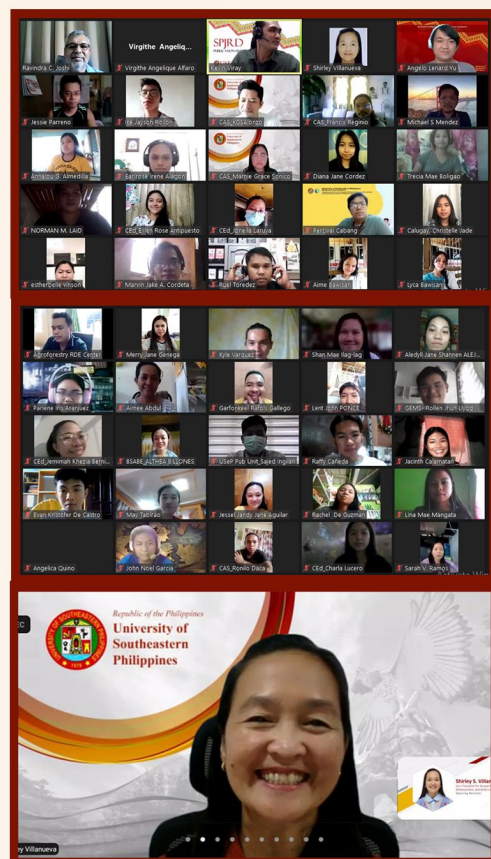
USEP Publication Unit invited Dr. Ravindra Joshi, a senior consultant of the

Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rice Research Institute (DA-PhilRice), together with Dr. Samuel Herbert T. Mamora, an associate professor of Biology from the University, as the inaugural resource speakers to talk about their respective research.

Dr. Joshi presented his research study on “Selected invasive species of rice and corn in the changing climate: Impacts on Philippine food and nutrition security”, while Dr. Mamora presented “Floristic composition and diversity of weeds in organic rice fields in Langkong, M’lang, Cotabato”.

“I hope that our conversation here will not only facilitate and enlarge our consciousness of our region’s uniquely rich resources,” said Associate Professor Sajed Ingilan, SPJRD Editor-in-Chief, in his closing remarks. Mr. Ingilan also hoped that this type of platform for research will contribute to the creation of projects geared towards the ‘socio-economic’ development of Mindanao and of the country as well.

The SPJRD Talks is in line with the University’s effort on becoming a premier Research University in the ASEAN.



**FOR THE LOVE OF RESEARCH.** Participants of the first SPJRD talks pose for a photo opportunity with Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, University Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension.



## USEP welcomes young agilas to new nest

Agilas, young and experienced, flocked virtually to witness the opening of their nest at the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) during the General Convocation and Freshies Orientation on August 23, 2021, streamed live via the University's official Facebook page.

Organized by the Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS), in collaboration with the Public Affairs Division (PAD), the said activity was conducted to officially welcome the first year, continuing students, and transferees to the University, and to orient them with the services (both academic and non-academic) delivered by the offices, divisions, and units of the University. This activity also introduced the students to the key personnel of the University.

Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President, thanked the incoming first-year students for choosing the University to help mold them into becoming the best version of themselves in the field of study they have chosen.

Dr. Generalao also stressed that the 'freshies' for the academic year 2021-2022 had undergone a stricter admission process than usual due to the absence of the USEP Admission Test

(USEPAT), and the successful are the best of the best who met the standards and qualifications of the University.

"I hope you will realize the value of being united. Yes, competition is inevitable since you are brilliant students who want to show the world what you are capable of. But I want you to remember that this journey is more than just reaching the top — it is also about making memories that will hold a significant effect on your characters," said Dr. Generalao on the importance of character alongside intelligence in making the college journey a remarkable and memorable personal experience.

The convocation also featured some USEPyano talents such as the intermission of Allaine Joy Atabelo, an alumna who won first (1st) place in the song solo competition as part of the University's celebration of the National Women's Month led by the Gender and Development Office, with her song cover of the "Ako Naman Muna" and JL Spike Divinagracia Cuestas, a winner of the USEP National Arts Month Indigay sa Musica, with her co-written song "Kawala".

Dr. Generalao assured the students that they will be truthfully provided with quality education, and their stay in the University will be fun and exciting. Welcome to USEP, young agilas!



**WARMING THE NEST.** University key officials cordially welcomed the new and old USEP students for the A.Y. 2021-2022.

## Pagsibol: propagating USEPian talents amid pandemic



**USEPIAN TALENT.** Cover bands of different campuses and units sing their heart out- calling for Pagsibol.

"Like any other things, something that is taken for granted tends to lose its value over time. Metals become rusty. Wood becomes brittle and even jewelry loses its shine, same with our talents. So it is necessary to foster them as much as we can," said Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President, in her message during the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) Cover Band Recital on September 24, 2021.

Themed with *pagsibol*- a Filipino word that means germination, pubescence, or growth- the recital endeavored to reflect the tenacity of USEPyano's talents to sprout and bud despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The recital is pursuant to CHED Memorandum Order 9, series of 2013, Article IX, Section 33 which mandates all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) like USEP shall design activities that provide students with opportunities to develop and enhance talents, abilities, and values for appreciation, promotion, and conservation of national culture and multi-cultural heritage.

"Afterall, the University is committed to adhere to its core values and one of which is Stewardship- as stewards, we are not only expected to take care of our environment and community, but more importantly, we

are responsible for the holistic development of the youth- our future leaders. Our talents, whenever they are already discovered or not yet, significantly contribute to our development as human beings and citizens of the society," emphasized Dr. Generalao on the importance of effective stewardship on developing talents and integrating into the society.

The program showcased official USEP cover bands - from Obrero Campus, Mintal Campus, and Mabini Unit - performing covers of famous songs from the Philippines and international scenes such as Yellow by Coldplay, and Same Ground by Kitchie Nadal.

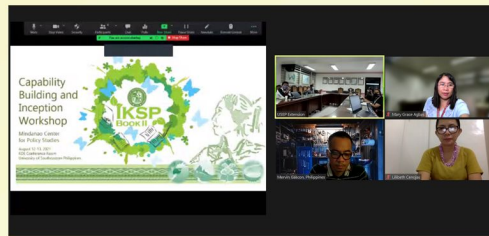


## MCPS conducts capability building and inception workshop for IKSP Book 2

Forging on in its efforts to conserve and promote indigenous knowledge, the Mindanao Center for Policy Studies (MCPS) conducted a Capability Building and Inception Workshop for the project “Disaster Preparedness: The Indigenous Knowledge of Selected IP Groups in Davao Region (Book 2)” on August 12-13, 2021 via Zoom.

The research is led by a project team composed of Sajed S. Ingilan, Publication Unit Deputy Director; Gladys Florangel I. Ortiz, MCPS Director; Mary Grace Z. Agbas, Pamulaan Center for IP Education Director; Joy R. Risonar, Language and Literature Department Chair; Mervin G. Gascon, MPA Program Head; Lilibeth A. Cenojas, CED faculty; Francis N. Reginio and Virgel S. Torremocha, CAS faculty members; Marvin S. Lagmay, CIC faculty; and, Ingrid Y. Gallogo, MCPS staff. This research primarily aims to document the indigenous knowledge system on climate change and disaster risk reduction, as well as to raise awareness on the use of indigenous knowledge and practices to complement mainstream knowledge on climate change and disaster risk reduction and management.

Ms. Ortiz opened the event, noting how the publication of IKSP Book 1 contributed to building a disaster and climate-resilient community. She lauded the dedication and determination of the research team in promoting and strengthening local knowledge in addressing the country’s problem on climate change. She also welcomed the new members of the team who will be involved in documenting the knowledge systems and practices of the eight selected IP groups: Matigsalug, Mansaka, Ata, Bagobo-Tagabawa, Bagobo-Klata, Sama, Kalagan, and Manobo.



Participants of the MCPS’ Capability Building

The roster of speakers delivered their presentations via Zoom. In the morning session, Dr. Gascon talked about the IKSM Program. The second speaker, Ms. Lyn Balanza, discussed the Policies on Conducting Research with

IPs. In the afternoon session, Dr. Michael Louie L. Cruz, from the National Commission on Indigenous People, reviewed the Safety and Health Protocols in doing IKSP Research in this time of the pandemic. The last speaker, Mr. Errol Merquita, imparted his knowledge and experience with the mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction Management efforts and other initiatives.

During the group discussion and in the writeshop that followed, the researchers exchanged their unforgettable experiences on the process of data collection, conducting interviews, and evaluation of data results. After a thorough skull session, the team was able to finalize the overall research design and interview questions.

Mr. Ingilan closed the event by acknowledging the collective efforts of the project team in making the capacity-building training possible. He noted that the goal of IKSP Book 2 is not only to collect ancestral knowledge of the indigenous people on natural disaster management, but also to continuously provide solutions to the natural hazards caused by the changing environment.

## USEP UAGC readies parents for the pandemic

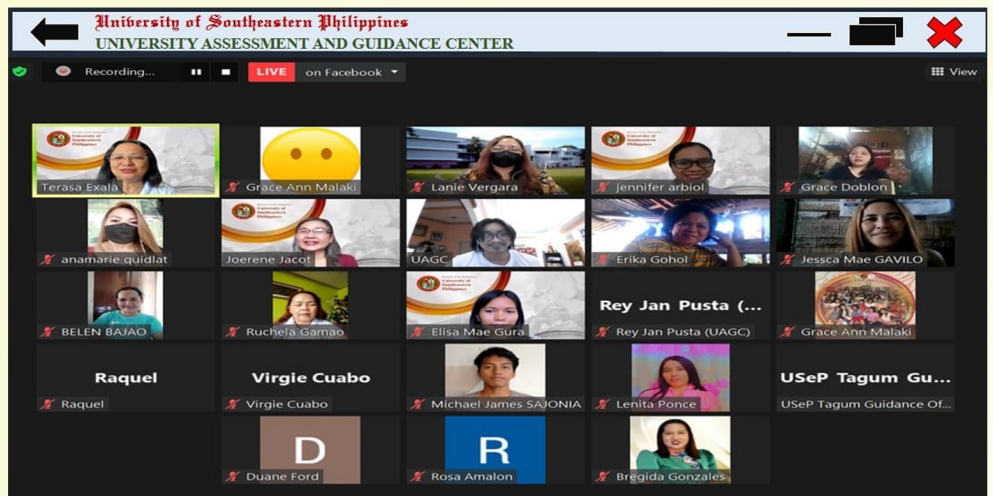
The University, through its University Assessment and Guidance Center (UAGC), organized a webinar on “Capacitating Parents in this Challenging Time” last September 24, 2021, via Zoom and streamed live on UAGC’s official Facebook page.

Joerene L. Jacot, RGC; Teresa L. Exala, RGC, Rpm; and Ruchela P. Gamao, RGC, guidance counselors from the University were invited as resource speakers for the webinar.

Parents of the University students were the target audience of the said webinar.

Various topics were discussed such as understanding the effect of the pandemic on mental health in the case of students and parents, identification of the different roles of parents, provision of support that parents can holistically provide to their children, methods of dealing with stress, and the University’s services.

“Our role is to provide



**VALUING EDUCATION, VALUING PARENTHOOD.** Several Zoom attending parents of University students pose for a photo opportunity with UAGC speakers

psychological support to our children, to become a learning facilitator and a role model,” said Ms. Gamao on discussing the role of parents. She said that a parent should show concern and care physically and emotionally and respond to the needs of their children.

Ms. Jacot, in her talk, emphasized that parents also need self-care. “Parents also need to learn the specific steps to keep calm and manage stress with positive reframing,” she stated. University programs concerning assessment and

guidance were introduced by Ms. Exala. She also talked about the program on “Tele-counseling” which is a process of providing consultation from a distance using technology, often through video conferencing. “Counseling is the heart of the University’s Guidance program,” she said.

This webinar showed the continual effort of the University in reaching out not just to the students, but also to their parents on providing an effective cushion in dealing with stress and uncertainty brought by the pandemic.





Participants of the TTRC webinar demonstrate enthusiasm in learning amid New Normal

## TTRC organizes webinar on handling students, parents

The University of Southeastern Philippines - Teacher Training and Research Center (USEP-TTRC) conducted 'Handling Students in the New Normal: A Webinar Series on Interpersonal Communication Skills in Dealing with Behavioral Problems and Parental Support' last August 9, 11, and 13, 2021 via Zoom and streamed live via College of Education's official Facebook page.

The webinar series is centered on the discussion of various challenges and changes brought about by the pandemic to the educational delivery and to the behavior of students, educators, as well as the parents.

Awareness for mental health, healthy coping mechanisms, workplace support system, and promotion of

effective interpersonal communication strategies were some of the topics presented in the three sessions of the webinar. The webinar also forwarded the need for motivation of parental/guardian to play an active role and involvement in their children's education and well-being holistically.

The activity also highlighted the importance of motivation and support in challenged areas that include the teaching force to promote proactive and transformative education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participants of the webinar series include the University Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs and Administration, TTRC Director and staff, some University faculty members, Project FORTH team, and delegates from the Department of Education (DepEd) Region XI.

## USEP champions wellness, athleticism on UVWSP Leg 3

The University held the awarding ceremony for the USEP Virtual Wellness and Sports Program (UVWSP) Leg 3 last September 3, 2021.

UVWSP, which included several events such as virtual walk, jog, run, and bike, was conducted from the months of June to August as part of the University's effort in upholding Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memo Circular No. 6 s 1995 requiring agencies to adopt "The Great Filipino Workout" as an integral part of the National Physical Fitness and Sports Development Program for Government Personnel.

The UVWSP is launched by OSAS together with the University Sports Unit.

### Event Winners

For the Virtual jog/walk/run under the 30 km Men category, Mr. Carlou J. Ferniz, a USEP undergraduate student was awarded first place and followed by Mr. Allan D. Antiga, a graduate school student. While

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## USEP partners USTP-CiTL, conducts CDIO faculty development course

To attune the University's new approach to education that aims to teach theoretical, non and technical fundamentals to its students, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) through its CDIO Committee and in partnership with the University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines thru its Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (USTP-CiTL), conducted USEP CDIO Faculty Development Course on July 5-8, and 12-16, 2021.

The aim of the said event was to holistically implement the CDIO approach in engineering and technology programs of the University through capacitating and enhancing the understanding of CDIO implementation of the faculty-participants involved with the innovative framework.

CDIO Faculty Development Course was divided into two (2) levels:

Basic which was attended by faculty members from the College of Engineering (CoE), College of Technology (CT), College of Information and Computing (CIC), and College of Agriculture and Related Sciences – Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering Program (CARS-ABE); and the Advancing by the faculty members from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), College of Education (CEd), College of Development Management (CDM), College of Applied Economics (CAEc), College of Teacher Education and Technology (CTET), and College of Business Administration (CBA).

Topics for Basic level centers on the CDIO's context, its integrated curriculum, building and designing active and experiential learning, and the evaluation of programs, while Advancing level focuses on mapping, enhancing, innovating, and sustaining the CDIO.

enhancing, innovating, and sustaining the CDIO.

The University of Southeastern Philippines intends to capacitate the faculty-participants with the innovation framework and relevant program design that will ultimately implement the Teaching and Learning Reform, and eventually for the University to be certified as CDIO Collaborator.



**UNIVERSITY AIMING FOR CDIO COLLABORATOR.** University capacitates faculty of concerned colleges regarding the CDIO implementation.



## UseP GAD trains GFPS, coordinators on gender audit

In pursuit of the office's commitment to advancing gender and development agenda in the University, the University Gender and Development (GAD) Office organized a training workshop on "Gender Audit with Orientation on Magna Carta of Women (MCW) and CHED Memorandum Order 2015-01" on August 2-3 and 9-10, 2021 via Zoom.

The training-workshop was attended by the Gender and Development Focal Point System (GFPS) members composed of the Executive Committee headed by the University President, Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, together with the Vice Presidents, Chancellor, and Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of the Directors of various offices, Deans, Faculty Federation and Non-Teaching Staff Association Presidents, College GAD Coordinators, pool of experts of the university, and student representative; and the secretariat.

Frederick P. Publico, Training Program Coordinator of GAD Consultants/Trainers/ Facilitators of St. Scholastica's Institute of Women's Studies (IWS), and a certified member of the National GAD Resource Pool of the Philippine Commission on Women,



**A UNIVERSITY THAT VALUES GENDER EQUALITY.** Members of the UseP community actively participate in the webinar related in Gender and Development.

served as resource speaker and facilitator of the said workshop.

The aim of the activity is to understand concepts on GAD, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Expression and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC), Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710), CHED Memorandum Order 2015-01, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Analysis, Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines, and Gender Mainstreaming Evaluation Framework necessary in the Gender Audit and the formulation of the M&E for the GAD Agenda of the University.

### On Gender Audit, RA 9710, and CHED MO 2015-01

One of the University's Strategic Areas of Concern (SACs) is ensuring that processes and operations are systematically designed and implemented to maximize productivity and efficiency. The institutional strategy to make gender sensitivity an integral part of the University's processes and operations is specific to this SAC.

In support to this strategy, the University conducted a

training workshop on Gender Audit which centered on assessing the institutionalization of gender equality in organizations which includes the policies, programs, projects, and/or provision of services, structures, proceedings, and budgets (Sheila Quinn, 2009).

Gender Audit is also a method for gender mainstreaming – a strategy to improve the quality of public policies, programs, and projects, ensuring a more efficient allocation of resources (Council of Europe, 2021).

Just recently, the UseP GAD Agenda – Vision, Mission, and Goals was approved by the Board of Regents.

The University of Southeastern Philippines continually aims to develop policies to mainstream gender equality and principles of women's empowerment in the University's programs, as well as to adhere and demonstrate support on the existing laws and guidelines for the furtherance of Gender and Development.

## UseP campaigns against sexual harassment, implements R.A. 11313

The University, through the Gender and Development (GAD) Office and in collaboration with various University colleges, campaigned on ending gender-based sexual harassment by organizing a webinar series on "Anti-Sexual Harassment and Safe Spaces Act Orientation".

Atty. Jesus Agora Villardo III, Director of Office of Legal Affairs of the University and an advocate on ending Violence against women and children (VAWC), served as resource speaker for the whole series.

The webinar series was centered on raising awareness on R.A. 11313 also known as "Safe Spaces Act", among the undergraduate and graduate students of the University.

Furthermore, the discussion also expanded on tackling gender-based sexual harassment in streets, public spaces, online, workplaces, and

educational or training institutions.

Atty. Villardo shared the statistics from the Philippine National Police (PNP) highlighting the reported cases of sexual harassment from the year 2012 to 2016. According to the data, the acts of lasciviousness or the acts of making a physical contact with the body of another person for the purpose of obtaining sexual gratification other than, or without intention of, sexual intercourse- topped the list, and followed by cases of rape- whether attempted or incestuous.

Furthermore, Atty. Villardo stressed that sexual harassment can also be done virtually- through online and social media sites. Even giving remarks that are deemed unwanted sexual misogynistic, transphobic, homophobic, and sexist can be considered a harassment. Sharing unauthorized recordings- photos and videos, and information online, also count as one.

Atty. Villardo ended his discussion on calling for a response on this campaign- to finally end the violence and gender-based sexual harassment on streets, homes, and even in the workplace.

The University, through the GAD Office, continues to reiterate the need to appreciate the various policies, laws, and facts concerning sexual harassment by conducting regular campaigns related to matters such as this.



**UseP IS A SAFE WORKPLACE.** Atty. Villardo reiterates the importance of GAD.



## TCLIS steered remote evaluation for MLIS program

Pursuant to CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 14, series of 2019 on Policies and Guidelines in the Issuance of Certificates of Programs Compliance (CoPC) to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), the University, through its Technical Committee for Library and Information Science (TCLIS), conducted a remote evaluation and validation for the offering of the Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) at the College of Information and Computing (CIC) on August 18, 2019.

Two of the country's seasoned librarians were invited as technical committee members, namely: Hon. Yolanda C. Granda, current Chairperson of the Board for Librarians; and Corazon M. Nera, Director of Academic Resource Center of the Lyceum of the Philippines University, and member of Board of Librarians.

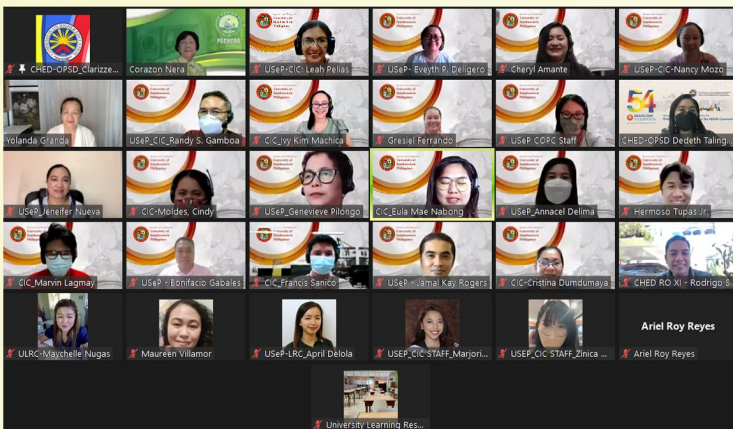
Delegates from the Commission on Higher Education Region XI (CHED XI) headed by Engr. Rodrigo S. Pangantohan, Jr., Education Supervisor; and Remedios S. Talingdan, Education Program Specialist II, Standards Development Division- Office of Programs and Standards Development (SDD-OPSD), provided technical assistance during the remote visit.

The revision of the Master of Science in Library Information Science (MSLIS) curriculum responds to the new demands of time, and follows the policies and guidelines for graduate program stipulated in the CMO 15, series of 2019 and Republic Act 9246- an act modernizing the practice of librarianship in the Philippines.

According to the processing and evaluation report of the TCLIS, USEP, specifically the MLIS program, met all the requirements on the areas for review. TCLIS also recommended and endorsed the MLIS program with strong suggestions on enhancing the syllabus on Archives and Records Management, and making the library the laboratory for conservation and preservation.

Hon. Granda, in her assessment, lauded the efforts made by the University in including the Library and Information Science (LIS) in the program offerings. This is a good indication that LIS will continue to spread, and provide value on the importance of preserving, conserving, retrieving, accessing, and valuing information. The University's top management led by the president, Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, showed support for the endeavors of the CIC during the said remote evaluation.

The offering of the program will address the shortage of qualified librarians in the country. MLIS will be offered in the first semester of the school year 2022-2023.



## Champions' Nest

The University of Southeastern Philippines continues to soar high on its endeavors despite the challenge of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Here are some of notable victories of the University for the third quarter of 2021:

USEP ranked 2nd in Davao Region and 20th in uniRank's 2021 Top Universities in the Philippines  
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USEP ranked 63rd, 46th, and 61st among 106 Philippine universities in IRIS research productivity in Science, Engineering and Health  
\*\*\*

USEP Mining Engineering graduates bagged 5th, and 6th in August 2021 Mining Engineering Licensure Exam



\*\*\*

USEP Electrical Engineering graduates ranked 7th, and 9th in September 2021 Registered Master Electrician (RME) and Registered Electrical Engineer (REE) Licensure Exams



USEP Agriculture Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (ABE) graduates placed 1st, 4th, and 10th in September 2021 ABE Licensure Exam



\*\*\*

USEP graduate placed 7th in September 2021 Librarian Licensure Exam







**VICTORY THROUGH FITNESS IN THE NEW NORMAL.** Winners of various events ( virtual walk, run, jog, and bike) of the USeP Virtual Wellness and Sports Program (UVWSP) Leg 3. UVWSP is attended by University employees, undergraduate and graduate students, and alumni.

## FROM PAGE 9

continuation on USeP champions wellness

### Event Winners

For the Virtual jog/walk/run under the 30 km Men category, Mr. Carlou J. Ferniz, a USeP undergraduate student was awarded first place, followed by Mr. Allan D. Antiga, a graduate school student. While Dr. Pearl Ann M. Mancao and Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, the University president herself, placed first and second place in the Women category, respectively.

Under the 60 km Men category, Mr. Ariel B. Samorin, a USeP undergraduate student was awarded first place while Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, University

Vice President for Research Development and Extension (VPRDE), and Ms. Mirasol Pepito placed first and second place in the Women category, respectively.

For the 80 km Men category, Dr. Jose Alther M. Rivera, Director for Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS) won first place while Dr. Daisy T. Besing and Ms. Janice B. Clarion bagged first and second place in the Women category, respectively.

For the Virtual bike under the 250 km category, Mr. Roger Bergado, a USeP alumnus, bagged first place and

followed by Alvin A. Ruiz, Christopher R. Blanco, and Dr. Christopher C. Gonzales, respectively.

Under the 500 km category, Mr. Aldren R. Chavez won first place and was followed by Mr. Lynmark B. Altres, and Mr. Ariel G. Pabilona, respectively.

USeP Virtual Wellness and Sports Program (UVWSP) is a monthly wellness activity of the University championing athleticism and an active lifestyle despite the pandemic.



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### GENERAL NOTE:

The USeP Newsletter Volume XVII documents significant virtual activities of the University for the third quarter of 2021.

With a number of virtual activities from July to September 2021, this newsletter exhibits the University's continued efforts in providing quality education to its stakeholders under the new normal.



Check our E-newsletters on USeP website or by scanning the QR code.  
www.usep.edu.ph

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