



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES

We build dreams without limits | Transforming communities in the ASEAN and beyond

NEWSLETTER



FULLY GROWN EAGLES. (Left) Obrero campus graduates of the A.Y. 2021-2022 flock the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center (UGCC) to commemorate their commencement exercises. (Above) Snippets from Graduate exercises of Mintal and Tagum-Mabini campuses.

‘SEE YOU AT THE TOP, AGILAS!’ USEP CONDUCTS F2F COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AFTER 2-YEAR HIATUS

“Every one of us here is a witness of your courage. You are not only graduates, but you are also warriors. You are the very symbol of strength,” said University President, Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, during the 43rd Commencement Exercises of the

University of Southeastern Philippines (UseP) for its Mintal campus on July 24, 2022, being the first of the four-series graduation ceremonies of the University.

UseP Tagum-Mabini and Obrero campuses (undergraduate and graduate

programs) followed suit, which were held on July 28 and July 1, 2022, respectively.

This year's exercises carried the theme, “UseP: Igniting the ASEAN H.E.a.R.T. (Heal, Empower, and Rise Together), ... **FULL STORY ON PAGE 3**



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

UseP launches Malabog ext. campus, commits to inclusive education in GIDAs | PAGE 2



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

UseP remains FOI-compliant for four straight years | PAGE 3



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

UseP-led project ROSANNA bags Outstanding R&D Award | PAGE 9

Obrero Campus | Mintal Campus | Tagum-Mabini Campus



**University of
Southeastern
Philippines**

www.usep.edu.ph

QUALITY POLICY

The University of Southeastern Philippines positions itself as a premier research university in the ASEAN and beyond. To pursue this strategic direction, the University is committed to:

- ✓ Innovating its curricular programs to make these responsive to emerging trends;
- ✓ pursuing impactful research and empowering communities through responsive extension services;
- ✓ managing sustainably its human, financial, and physical resources;
- ✓ complying with all relevant statutory requirements and accreditation standards; and
- ✓ reviewing and continually improving the quality management system, policies, and governance mechanisms.

Lourdes C. Generalao
LOURDES C. GENERALAO, PhD
University President

Vision

Premier research university transforming communities in the ASEAN and beyond.

Mission

USEP shall contribute to inclusive growth and sustainable development through continual innovation in proactive academic programs, impactful research for utilization, economically empowering community services, and sustainable resource management.

Core Values

*Collaboration
Accountability
Resilience
Excellence
Service-Oriented*

The new vision, mission, core values, and quality policy of the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) for 2022-2027 is approved by Board Resolution No. 04 series of 2022 during the 188th Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting on April 27, 2022.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

USEP launches Malabog ext. campus, commits to inclusive education in GIDAs

Consistent with its new vision to transform lives in the ASEAN and beyond, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) officially launched, on June 22, 2022, the Malabog Extension Campus (MEC) with Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness and Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship as initial academic programs to be offered for the academic year 2022-2023. The Paquibato National High School (PNHS) in Brgy. Paquibato Proper, Paquibato District, Davao City serves as the temporary school site of the USEP MEC.

The launching of this extension campus intends to increase access to tertiary education by focusing on quality, being sensitive to conflicts, and recognizing the presence of indigenous peoples in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDAs). It was made possible through the University's collaboration with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, Barangay Malabog Local Government Unit,

the Ata Indigenous Cultural Communities of Paquibato District, Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Department of Education (DepEd), and the City Government of Davao which funded the feasibility study and initial budget for the construction of the academic building and other subsequent infrastructure projects at the school site.

Aside from the USEP Top Management and officials led by President Lourdes C. Generalao, the launching was already participated in by delegates from the City Government of Davao led by Mayor-elect Hon. Sebastian Z. Duterte; CHED-RO XI led by Chief Education Program Specialist, Dr. Luis D. Perez, representing Regional Director Dr. Maricar R. Casquejo; DepEd – ROXI led by Regional Director, Dr. Allan G. Farnazo, and Assistant Regional Director, Dr. Maria Ines C. Asuncion; Barangay officials from Brgy. Malabog and Brgy. Paquibato led by ... **MORE ON PAGE 4**



TERTIARY EDUCATION FOR ALL.
(from the top) Delegates from the University strike a pose to commemorate the launching of MEC. Malabog Brgy. Capt. Areja, University President Generalao, Davao City Mayor-elect Duterte, CHED RO-XI CEPS Perez, DepEd RO XI RD Farnazo, IKSP Head Anib, and DOST RO XI ARD Domingo deliver their message for MEC Launching.

USEP conducts F2F commencement

FROM PAGE 1

which emphasized the importance of upholding a 'spirit of community and togetherness' in recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"These achievements highlight our capability, as an academic institution, to create a significant impact on the community. And as a product of this very own University, you are also equipped with the ability to transform lives and inspire positive change in this world. And this is what we envision for you to do as you step out of the University grounds, fully grown Agilas, ready to face the real world.", said Dr. Generalao while also sharing in some way, the new vision of the University which is to transform lives in the ASEAN and beyond during the USEP-Tagum-Mabini Campus ceremonies.

A total of 1,453 degrees were conferred to graduates who successfully finished the requirements for the Academic Year 2021-2022. Of the graduates, 1,341 completed undergraduate degrees, and 112 completed master's degrees, doctoral degrees, and diploma degrees.

The messages of Dr. Generalao consistently ended with a challenge and a victory declaration; "this is not goodbye, so, see you at the top, Agilas!".

The commencement also highlighted Mr. Rene Aguilar, a Person Deprived of Liberty (PDL) and now a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Computer Technology (BSCT) under the College Education Behind Bars (CEBB) program of the Social Entrepreneurship Technology and Business Institute (SETBI), in partnership with the University and the Bureau Of Jail Management And Penology (BJMP)-Davao City.

"Karon sir, gitagaan jud mi og kahayag sa College Education Behind Bars. Dako kayo ni nga tabang, sir. Instead nga maabot na pud ko'g balik dadto, gibutang ko nila dili lang nga gitagaan ko nilag degree, gihimo pa jud kong disenteng tawo," Mr. Aguilar said during an interview with the People's Television (PTV)-Davao.

Dr. Arvin L. Carlom, an alumnus and an advocate for environmental preservation and protection, served as the commencement speaker for Mintal Campus. He emphasized in his speech that "there is more meaning and purpose of every profession outside of one's self". He also challenged the graduates to help the community by being agents that distribute opportunities to help those individuals who are trapped in the 'quagmire' of poverty.

Dr. Josephine L. Fadul, an alumna of the University and the current Schools Division Superintendent of the Tagum City Division, was invited to be the commencement speaker for Tagum-Mabini campus. She encouraged the graduates in her speech telling them to "never forget to say thank you to the people who are responsible in molding you to be what you are and can be".

CHED Commissioner Aldrin A. Darilag spoke for the graduate and undergraduate programs commencement exercises for Obrero Campus, via a recorded video. In his message, he said, "Successful people did not achieve their status instantly, they have faced countless failures and rejections- well, they never gave up."

Mr. Anntoine Prey M. Villares, who finished as Magna Cum Laude from the Bachelor of Elementary Education; Ms. Christine Mae Z. Andrade, Magna Cum Laude from Bachelor of Public Administration; and, Mr. Kirk Joshua P. Mediodia, Magna Cum Laude from Bachelor of Physical Education, were chosen to deliver the valedictory address to represent the graduating class of Tagum-Mabini, Mintal, and Obrero campuses, respectively.

MAINTAINING THE STANDARD

USEP maintains ISO 9001:2015 certification



The University has successfully maintained its ISO certification after receiving no non-conformities during the two-day ISO 9001:2015 Surveillance Audit conducted by SOCOTEC Certification Philippines, Inc. on May 30-31, 2022.

SOCOTEC Certification Philippines, Inc. a Certification company, conducted simultaneous remote audit sessions in USEP Obrero, Mintal, and Tagum-Mabini campuses to check the continued compliance of the University Quality Management System (QMS) with the ISO standard.

The positive result of the surveillance audit demonstrates USEP's consistent adherence to the requirements of the standard. As stressed in its Quality Policy, the University is dedicated to a process of continual improvement, satisfying applicable requirements of the standard, addressing risks, and maximizing opportunities.

The University owes this achievement to the collective efforts of the Top Management, faculty members, staff, students, and alumni.

USEP remains FOI-compliant

FROM PAGE 1

With the University's persistent efforts in practicing transparency as well as full disclosure of information and government records involving public interest and concern and consistent commitment towards good governance, accountability, and transparency, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) received another certification as 'fully-compliant' with the Freedom of Information (FOI) program of the national government.

The certificate of compliance was issued by the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) to USEP for its FOI efforts in 2021.

This is in accordance with the requirements set by the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Harmonization of National Government Performance Monitoring Information, and Reporting Systems, also known as Task Force Administrative Order 25, s. 2011. The

requirements included an updated FOI Agency Manual and reports for 2021.

The FOI manual details the Institute's internal guidelines and defines the roles and responsibilities of designated agency personnel. The FOI reports consist of the inventory, registry, and summary of the number of FOI requests and appeals received and processed by the agency.



USEP'S VISION TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES IN GIDAS. Officials and members of the University Board of Regents, together with the honored guest in the launching of MEC pose for a photo opportunity.

USEP launches Malabog ext. campus

FROM PAGE 2

Brgy. Capt. Jessielito C. Areja and Brgy. Capt. Meljoseph P. Escobidal; teaching and non-teaching staff of PNHS led by their Principal, Dr. Joberth A. Sabanal; Representatives from PEACE 911 of Davao City; Assistant Regional Director of Department of Science and Technology-Davao Region (DOST XI), Ms. Mirasol G. Domingo; Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) Head- Ata IPs, Mr. Tumanuron Boyson Anib, Jr.; and members of indigenous peoples.

Also present in the program were the members of the USEP Board of Regents (BOR), namely, USEP Faculty Federation (USEPFFed) Vice President, Mr. Gregorio S. Gelmo; University Student Government (USG) President and Student Regent, Hon. Joshua P. Ebo; USEP Alumni Federation President and Alumni Regent, Hon. Arman A. Capin; and the University and BOR Secretary, Dr. Joan D. Gervacio.

"Kabalo mi nga kaning eskwelahan, usa ni siya ka institusyon nga makapawagtang sa insurgency diri sa Mindanao. (We know that a school is an institution that can help solve the insurgency here in Mindanao.)," said Hon. Areja in his welcome message. "Gusto namo na ang mga sibilyan makabalik sa normal nila nga kinabuhi og kanang wala nay musuporta sa pikas. (We want the civilians to return to their normal lives and not to support the others [referring to the rebel groups].).

Dr. Generalao, in her speech, emphasized that the University is seeking to reach more communities, including far-flung areas, and transform them by providing inclusive and culturally sensitive higher education services. She also recalled the journey undertaken by the University in establishing the extension campus and the determination of the academic programs suited to the

needs of the communities in the USEP-MEC.

"The establishment of USEP MEC is a way for the University to express its commitment to contribute to the peacebuilding programs of the Government, especially in Region XI. This will serve the noble purpose of allowing the youth to develop themselves and become self-reliant and responsible citizens, hence, contributing to conflict transformation," she said.

Vice President-elect Sara Z. Duterte-Carpio, the keynote speaker of the event, also congratulated the University. In her video message, she commended the efforts of the University in being an 'active' agent of positive change in the highland community. "Education is a right; one that, regardless of the circumstances, is something that must be accessible to every Filipino," she emphasized.

Mayor-elect Sebastian Z. Duterte, in his congratulatory speech, lauded the top management of the University for opening the USEP-MEC as a significant development in the City's education sector. He also encouraged the community to continue pushing the City's and government's initiatives and development programs to sustain the growth of the district, the city, and the whole of Mindanao.



USEP hosts PSA RSSO XI Validation of TR for NC-II Data Collector/ Enumerator

The Philippine Statistics Authority Regional Statistical Services Office XI (PSA RSSO XI), in collaboration with the University, conducted a one-day live-out Mindanao-wide Validation of the Training Regulations (TR) for National Certification II (NC II) - Data Collector/Enumerator on April 26, 2022, at the University Social Hall, Obrero Campus.

Asec. Daniel A. Ariaso, Sr., CESO II, Deputy National Statistician and Head of the Project Management Office of the National Statistician, and Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr., USEP Vice President for Academic Affairs, representing the University President Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, attended the opening activities.

The TR served as the basis of the PSA for the following: (1) Competency assessment and certification; (2) Registration and delivery of training programs; and (3) Development of curriculum and assessment instruments.

Ruben D. Abaro, Jr., Regional Director of PSA RSSO XI, closed the training session with words of appreciation to the University for hosting the event and congratulated all trainees who successfully completed the workshop.



TRAIN NOW, CERTIFICATE LATER. Participants and trainees for the Training Regulation (TR) Validation for National Certification (NC) II - Data Collector/Enumerator for Mindanao and Region V Area attentively work on their devices. (Above) Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Vice President for Academic Affairs, pose for a photo with the officials from PSA and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).



ALL ABOARD TOWARDS BECOMING INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY. University officials from different colleges and offices together with the Top Management, led by Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, strike a pose on a short photo opportunity during the University Planning Workshop on Internationalization on April 11-12, 2022.

RETROSPECTING THE USEP INTERNATIONALIZATION EFFORTS

Onward to Internationalization: USEP revisits Int'l Student Mobility Program

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) renewed its commitment to endeavor for internationalization of its programs during the University Planning Workshop on Internationalization themed, 'A Retrospective View on USEP's Triumphs and Challenges' on April 11 - 12, 2022 at Waterfront Insular Hotel, Davao City.

Initiated by the International Affairs Division (IAD), in coordination with the Teacher Training and Research Center (TTRC), the implementing arm of the Philippine CJC Association for Friendship and Education Program (AFEP), the workshop revisited the USEP student mobility program and reviewed the successes and challenges encountered during the program implementation.

Discussion regarding the established and operational policies and programs for student mobility of the University, as well as planning for expanding these policies also transpired during the workshop.

"One way for the University to move forward is internationalization," said Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President, during her speech in the opening program of the event. She also lauded the efforts of IAD as the event was 'timely' and 'relevant' with the new Vision of the University for F.Y. 2022-2027, "Premier research university transforming communities in the ASEAN and beyond".

Ms. Richel F. Hernandez, IAD Director, revealed that the University's efforts for internationalization were hampered by the effects of the pandemic due to the limitations of international student mobility. She also said that the University leadership never failed to implement a wide range of response measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on student mobility and provided support for the program's continued implementation.

**“
One way for the
University to move
forward is
internationalization.
”**

"IAD has worked to promote the mobility of our students, both foreign and local, by providing support through the use of virtual modalities and by strengthening the internationalization at home," Ms. Hernandez added.

The event also invited resource speakers with intensive backgrounds in internationalization. Speakers included Atty. Hope Tancinco, Manager for International Recruitment of Technical and Further Education (TAFE) South Australia, talked about what is mainstream Student Mobility Program; Ms. Maysie Procionos, Manager for

International Admissions of Griffith University Australia for the topic on retrofitting services and policies for international student mobility; and Dr. Meenu Bhardwaj, Associate Dean of the Office of International Affairs at the Chandigarh University, India.

With the attendance of the University's top management, selected faculty, and unit/division directors related to the international program, as well as, the deans of respective colleges, the event also tackled the newly crafted USEP Strategic Plan for 2022-2027 specific on institution's Internationalization targets. Future conduct of student mobility activities in colleges' respective programs of expertise was also discussed.

The event ended with the review of the status of the existing student mobility program (including AFEP) and planning for strategic implementation of the international bound and outbound student mobility relative to the Internationalization targets of the University.



Explore more about the University International Affairs Division by scanning the QR code or by visiting this link.
www.usep.edu.ph/iad/

International Affairs Division
www.usep.edu.ph/iad
iad@usep.edu.ph

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES IZN ACTIVITIES

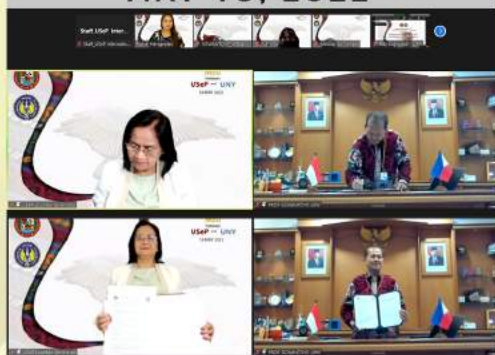
The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), with its vision of becoming a premier research university that transforms communities in the ASEAN and beyond, has continually stretched its wings to strengthen its international relations and presence.

USEP has been active in establishing connections and building communities with its neighboring ASEAN Universities and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The University, represented by its University President Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with several universities and educational institutions within ASEAN.

The five-year MoUs state to carry out activities such as faculty and staff exchange programs, graduate and undergraduate students exchange programs, joint degree programs, guest lecture programs, joint research by faculty and researcher exchange, cooperation in research and development meetings, symposia, and/or conference, and further collaborations for future and mutual benefits for USEP and the partnered SUCs/HEIs.

Below are some internationalization events of the University facilitated by the International Affairs Division (IAD):

MAY 18, 2022



The signing of the MoU with the Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta (UNY), a state university established in the Special Region of Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

MAY 23, 2022



The signing of the MoU with King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMUTL), a research and educational institution in Thailand.

JUNE 14, 2022



Mr. Toyoaki "Tony" Miwa, representative of the Mindanao Japan Science and Technology Program (MJSTeP), together with Mr. Ishikawa Yoshihisa, the Consul-General of Japan in Davao City, visited the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP)-Obrero Campus.

It can be recalled that the University had entered into an agreement with MJSTeP last February 16, 2022, to launch a scholarship program that will financially support Filipino students/researchers studying in Japan as part of the collaborative project between industry and academe in the region.

JUNE 29, 2022



The signing of the MoU with Tra Vinh University (TVU), a state university in Tra Vinh Province, Vietnam.

JUNE 30, 2022



USEP in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the British Council conducted a Grand Launching of the Access and Competitiveness through Internationalisation of Higher Education (ACT-IHE) Project: Cascade Training on English Medium Education at Farmers' Training Center (FTC) at USEP Tagum Unit, Tagum-Mabini campus.



USEP SUPPORTS OneDA REFORM AGENDA OF THE GOVERNMENT. Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President, signs a MOA with DA, LGUs of Davao del Norte, ATI, and other collaborating agencies to establish PAFES.

BRINGING SERVICES TO GRASSROOTS LEVEL

USEP signs MoA establishing PAFES

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), represented by Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, University President, signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Local Government Units (LGUs) of Davao del Norte, Agriculture Training Institute (ATI), and other collaborators in establishing a "Province-Led Agriculture and Fishery Extension System (PAFES) in Davao del Norte" at Insular Waterfront Hotel, Lanang Davao City on May 2, 2022.

PAFES is one of the key strategies of OneDA Reform Agenda which aims to strengthen the collaboration between DA, LGUs, academe, and private sectors; and to bring extension services to the

grassroots level amid the challenges of devolution under Executive Order 138 or the Mandanas-Garcia Ruling.

On the said project, USEP is responsible for organizing and deploying a dedicated core of subject matter specialists to the Provincial Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Center (PAFEC) on an on-call basis. The University is also responsible for testing, adapting, and packaging site-specific and climate-resilient technologies in strategic locations of the province; collaborating with partner agencies in setting up technology and demonstration farms; training farmers, agriculture extension workers, and other stakeholders; and

sharing information and technologies to farmers, fisherfolks through electronic media and web-based platforms.

Attending also at the ceremonial signing were the key officials of collaborating agencies like Dr. William D. Dar, DA Secretary; Mr. Abel James I. Monteagudo, DA XI Regional Executive Director; Mr. Raul C. Millana, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) XI Regional Director; Mr. Allan Macansantos, Regional Agricultural, and Fishery Council (RAFC) XI Chairman; and Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, USEP Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension.

OPDeL conducts USaPang RDE

In order to increase awareness and engagement in the University Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) programs or projects, the USEP Office of the Vice President for RDE (OVPRDE), through the Office of Project Development and Linkages (OPDeL), and in collaboration with the College of Development Management (CDM), conducted the USaPang RDE on May 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2022 via Zoom and streamed live in the Official Facebook Page of the University.

The first session discussed the High Priority Bus System Project (HPBSP)-Phase 2: Baseline Data Collection of Affected Drivers and Operators. Invited resource speakers were Mr. Richard K. Villanueva, Community Development Officer IV of the Department of Transportation (DoT) Region XI; Dr.

Silverio V. Magallon, Jr., Project Manager of USEP HPBS Team 1; and Dr. Rey A. Castillo, Data Manager of USEP HPBS Team 2.

The second session tackled the Amoma og Giya Alang sa Kahamugaway (AGAK) project of the University. Ms. Christine R. Varquez was invited to speak about the project.

The Design, Development, and Optimization of an automated Combined Mechanical Cacao Democriager-Fermenter-Dryer project were discussed during the penultimate session by Engr. Ryan M. Abenoja.

To wrap up the USaPang RDE series, the study on the Publication of Indigenous Knowledge System and Practices on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management of Selected Indigenous

People Groups in the Davao Region was discussed by the Study Leader, Mr. Francis N. Reginio.

Further, USaPang RDE offered a platform for USEP community researchers, faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students to present their research and study that align with the University RDE agenda.



Some of the participants of the first session of USaPang RDE.



Photo courtesy of Philippine News Agency

DOST-PCHRD green lights USeP-partnered study on Durian as 'natural preservative'

The Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHRD) has approved funding for the research on the use of durian rind as a natural preservative of the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP), in partnership with BIOTECH of the University of the Philippines- Los Baños (UPLB).

Prof. Judee N. Nogodula, head of the USeP College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Research, said that the study aims to use the fruit's rinds as natural bio-preservatives by isolating

bacteriocinogenic Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB) and extracting bacteriocin from fermenting durian rind.

The said research is funded through the Regional Research Fund (RRF) facilitated by the Regional Health Research and Development Consortium (RHRDC), the regional arm of DOST-PCHRD.

The research fund will cover expenses such as supplies, materials, technologies, transportation, maintenance, and laboratory technicians that will serve in the project.

CHAMPION FOR INNOVATION

USeP IPMU receives IP recognition

The University's Intellectual Property Management Unit (IPMU) received another remarkable recognition for its Intellectual Property (IP) applications from the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL).

The IPOPHL is a government agency mandated to administer and implement state policies on intellectual property (IP) to strengthen the country's IP rights. With the aim of a creative and innovative country, IPOPHL implemented a clustering and reward system for its academic partners' network to push to go beyond publishing and shift to creating new products.

Engr. Filmann T. Simpao, Knowledge and Technology Transfer Division (KTTD) Director and Deputy officer of IPMU together with Dr. Philip B. Despres, who is currently leading the University Technology Transfer Unit (TTU), represented the acceptance of certificates of six (6) utility models and one (1) patent at the IPOPHL office, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Such certification is vital for an invention or business as proof of ownership when pursuing commercialization, enforcing rights over a patent, utility model, or ID, and gaining a competitive edge.

RDE AGENDA THAT TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

Stakeholders attend one-day USeP RDE agenda consultation

As the University is crafting its ten (10)-year Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) Agenda for 2022-2031, the Office of the Vice President for RDE (OVPRDE) conducted a one-day stakeholder consultation on USeP RDE Agenda at Grand Men Seng Hotel on June 23, 2022.

"In the next six (6) years, this RDE agenda, of course, is crucial, especially since we envision- with our vision is quite grand- a premier research university transforming communities in the ASEAN and beyond," University President Lourdes C. Generalao said in her message.

Dr. Generalao also outlined the

approved strategic plan of the University, of which she revealed that colleges and schools in the University would develop their research centers that will cater to the 'unique' niche of research, project, and extension activities.

"It is our hope that thru the USeP RDE agenda, we can develop the young ones to establish a love for research- that they may be the bearers of change that will have a lasting effect on the nation- at large," she added.

The said consultation provided a platform for the University to present the indicative RDE agenda to the invited



internal and external stakeholders. The stakeholders include the university officials, students, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents, alumni, government organization representatives, private organization representatives, international universities representatives, and other partners of USeP.

USEP-led project ROSANNA bags Outstanding R&D Award

FROM PAGE 1

Another breakthrough has been seized by the team from the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) for the project ROSANNA, or Real-time Online Surveillance for Banana, as it was hailed as the Outstanding R&D Project-Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources for its remarkable contribution to advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in the country. The said award was given by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Secretary Fortunato T. De la Peña, during the DOST 64th Anniversary celebration on June 13, 2022, at the Sofitel Hotel, Pasay City.

ROSANNA is a mobile application developed to monitor banana plantations with its agricultural disease surveillance system, capable of gathering and disseminating disease-related information at the farm level. It is the first collaboration between the USEP and Hijo Resources Corporation (HRC), a big banana company in the region. The said project was conceptualized to mitigate the prevalence of diseases such as black Sigatoka, banana bunchy top diseases, Panama diseases, and moko, which have caused substantial threats to the region's banana industry.

The inception of the idea for Project ROSANNA can be traced back to the proposal titled "Synergize Academe Industry Research Undertakings to Improve Productivity through Development of a Banana Diseases Surveillance System" crafted by a team from USEP. The project was eventually funded by the DOST under its Science for

Change (S4C) Program—Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy (CRADLE). The S4C-CRADLE program emphasizes collaboration between academe and industry, which will readily utilize the technology generated out of the project.

The team developed one (1) disease forecasting model and two (2) software applications, namely the ROSANNA Mobile App and CRADLE Web App technologies. The mobile application system allows data collection of disease-related incidents and information dissemination with visualization of disease prevalence. The web-based application provides a means to manage the entire surveillance system.

Using the ROSANNA mobile app, the "spotter" shall retrieve data in the field where the selected banana tree has its respective QR code representing every parcel of the experimental area. Data will be sent to the supervisor and manager to be processed and analyzed to determine the extent of damage caused by the disease. ROSANNA, thus, provides an apt and timely decision-making basis for managers to reinforce interventions to prevent disease spread and further threats.

Project ROSANNA was conducted in a 10-hectare area of HRC, a 340-hectare banana plantation in Madaum Tagum, Davao del Norte. Concluded in November 2019, the USEP-led project was successfully realized through the expertise of Dr. Val A. Quimno, Dr. Cecirly G. Puig,



PARTNERS FOR SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT. SMAARRDEC Director Gilbert A. Importante displays the award plaque with the DOST Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña after the conclusion of the DOST 64th Anniversary Awarding Ceremony.

and SMAARRDEC Director Dr. Gilbert A. Importante.

Project ROSANNA, embodying the spirit of innovativeness in the AANR sector, proves that early detection is the best prevention. Captivating the interest and positive regard of various industry players in the region, this innovation may serve as an ideal precedent for further partnerships between the University and various key sectors to save the banana industry, one of the region's top commodities, from any potential threats of "sagging".

READY TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

DOST USec. Guevarra lauds USEP's S4CProjects

DOST Undersecretary Rowena Cristina L. Guevarra lauded the Science for Change projects (S4CPs) implemented by the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) under the DOST- Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy (CRADLE) program during her visit to USEP last May 28, 2022.

Usec. Guevarra and her team met with the project implementers and were welcomed warmly by University President Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao.

The said implemented projects under CRADLE program are the "PISOLAR: Payment Innovation for SHS Ownership by Lay Away Routine", implemented in a community in Sitio Igang Talaingod Davao del Norte; the "ChicIoT: An IoT-Based Smart Poultry Building Environment and Growth and Health Status Monitoring and Modelling" with Tetra Consulting Company as partner industry. These are



A PARTNERSHIP FORGED BY COMMON ASPIRATION. University President Lourdes C. Generalao welcomes DOST Usec. Guevarra and her team and discusses the progress of S4CPs implemented by the University.

implemented by Knowledge and Technology Transfer Division (KTTD) Director Engr. Filmann T. Simpao. Lastly, the "Development and Pilot Testing of Tree-Climbing-Harvesting and Mobile Dehusker for Coconut" is being implemented by the team of USEP-College of Agriculture and Related Sciences (CARS) led by Dean Roger C. Montepio with Cocolink and

Franklin Baker as partner industries.

The meeting was highlighted by presenting accomplishments and demonstrating technologies generated from the aforementioned three (3) projects.

The visit of Usec. Guevarra forms part of the Regional S4CP Summit for Mindanao Cluster held on May 27, 2022, at the Apo View Hotel, Davao City. In the same event, the CRADLE project "Development of ROSANNA Banana Disease Surveillance System" HRC as partner industry was awarded as number one (1) with the top Return of Investment (ROI) out of eighty-two (82) CRADLE projects in the country. Dr. Importante, SMAARRDEC Director and project leader; Dr. Cecirly G. Puig, project staff and HRC representative; and Dr. Generalao received the recognition trophies for USEP.

CHED- COMPLIANT

CIC now 100% compliant with CHED COPC requirement

With the University's efforts to ensure the quality and credibility of the offered undergraduate and graduate academic programs, the College of Information and Computing (CIC) now boasts as the first college in the University to fully comply with its programs with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC).

As defined by the CHED Memorandum Order no. 14 series of 2019, otherwise known as "Policies and Guidelines in the Issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to State Universities and College (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), COPC is a recognition that the specific degree programs being offered by SUCs/LUCs are fully compliant with the policies, standards, and guidelines of CHED.

At present, CIC offers three (3) undergraduate programs, namely: Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (BSIT) with specializations in Business Technology Management and Information Security; Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) with specialization in Data Science; and Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS), and three (3) graduate programs: Master in Information Technology (MIT); Master of Science in Library and Information Science (MLIS); and Doctor in Information Technology (DIT).



CHEERS TO MORE INDUSTRY-ACADEME COLLABORATIONS. USEP joins other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Region XI in the signing of MoU formalizing the partnership with various government agencies for ISTRIKE Davao RIIC.

USEP signs MoU with iSTRIKE Davao RIIC

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), represented by the University President, Dr. Lourdes C. Generalao, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Trade and Industry- Region XI (DTI- XI) and other agencies for the Industry-Academe collaboration on Innovation through Science, Technology, and Risk-Resilient Based Initiatives toward Knowledge Economy Davao Regional Inclusive Innovation Center (iSTRIKE Davao RIIC) during the USAID STRIDE Closeout Ceremony last 1 April 2022, at the Acacia Hotel, Bajada, Davao City.

The said MoU does not legally bind the signatories of collaborating agencies. However, it was served to formalize the partnership and collaboration of USEP with DTI-XI, Department of Science and Technology-XI (DOST-XI), Commission on Higher Education- XI (CHED -XI), Department of Information and Communications Technology - Mindanao Cluster 3 (DICT-MC3), Philippine Information Agency -XI

(PIA-XI), Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (DCCCII), Hydrology for Environment, Life and Policy (HELP) Davao Network, University of the Philippines-Mindanao, Ateneo de Davao University (ADDU), University of Immaculate Conception (UIC), University of Mindanao (UM), Holy Cross of Davao College (HCDC), Malayan Colleges Mindanao (MCM), Philippine Women's College (PWC), Lyceum of the Philippines (LPU)-Davao, Davao del Sur State College (DSSC), Davao del Norte State College (DNSC), Davao de Oro State College (DDOSC), Davao Oriental State University (DORSU), and Southern Philippines Agri-Business and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology (SPAMAST) to support R&D related programs under the iSTRIKE Davao RIIC.

Also present during the event were the presidents/heads of collaborating offices, including the USEP Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension, Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva.

ACTIVE ADVOCATE FOR SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC PLACES

OSAS spearheads Univ. advocacy for anti-smoking



USEP IS A SMOKE-FREE UNIVERSITY. Digital Poster of Mr. Bartolome is the champion of the Digital Poster Making Contest with the title, "Don't Kill Yourself and Us too. Let's Work Together to Make Our Campus Smoke-Free".

Pursuant to the Republic Act No. 9211, also known as the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 and the Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 17, series of 2009, which bans smoking on any government premises, the University, through the Office of Student Affairs and Services-Discipline Unit (OSAS-DU), conducted a month-long advocacy series titled, PAKIGHINABI: USEP Anti-Smoking Advocacy Seminar and Sustaining Campus Smoke-free in the New Normal, on May 31- June 30, 2022, via Zoom.

The said month-long advocacy series included talks revolving around the salient legal provisions of the R.A. 9211 and the detrimental effects of

secondhand smoke exposure, as well as a digital poster-making contest of which the results were posted on the official Facebook page of OSAS.

Also, OSAS-DU closely coordinated with the University Health Services Division (HSD), and partnered with the School of Law (SoL) student council during the conduct of the events.

This activity is a testament to the University's unwavering commitment to promoting a healthy learning and working environment for students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors by prohibiting the use of tobacco in any form within the university premises.

USEP now offers AACUP- accredited BSIndTech

The Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology (BSIndTech) under the College of Technology was formerly known as the Bachelor of Industrial Technology (BIT). It has been offered since 1986 through the adoption of the DO 17 series of 1986, amendment to Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports (MECS) Order No. 38, series of 1982. The offering of the program underscores the offering of six (6) different fields of specialization, i.e., Electronics Technology, Electrical Technology, Automotive Technology, Civil Construction Technology, Mechanical Technology, and Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technology.

In August 2017, the program was frozen as the University prioritized programs with CHED Memorandum Order (CMO). The BSIndTech Program, however, was re-offered in 2021 just months before the CHED issued the Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to four (4) different

fields, e.g., Electrical Technology, Electronics Technology, Automotive Technology, and Mechanical Technology.

For several years, BSIndTech has continually been making its name known to various industries in the Davao region and other places in the Philippines. Its forged partnership with the industries has strengthened the ties of the University-Industry relationship. This has impacted the quality of learning of the students through multidisciplinary knowledge and skills which are acquired through relevant training in the field of specialization.

To help the University attain its vision to become a premier research University in the ASEAN, the BSIndTech Program was designed to produce quality research. The unique type of research produced by the faculty, staff, and students under the Program has greatly impacted the research area. The Program was able to

produce numerous patents and utility models.

The BSIndTech Program underwent several accreditation and audits including the International Standards Organization (ISO) audit which is conducted twice a year, and the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP), Inc. accreditation. The said program passed the Level I AACUP Accreditation on September 1, 2005. Three (3) years after on the first day of August, it also passed the Level II Accreditation qualifying the program for Level III on September 1, 2012.

Level III Re-accredited status has been granted to the program in 2013 and Level IV Phase 1 in 2019. In 2021, the BSIndTech Program has been Certified Level IV by AACUP, Inc., the first Program in the University to attain the highest accreditation status.

NEWS BRIEFS



Public Affairs Division (PAD) personnel and College Coordinators

PAD capacitates personnel with live streaming tools

Consistent with its mandate to develop strategies for increasing the audience reach and social media engagement of the University, the Public Affairs Division (PAD) conducted a Capacity Development Training on the Management of Virtual and Hybrid Events and Use of Social Media Live Streaming Software and Tools on June 17-18, 2022 at The Blue Lotus Hotel, Davao City.

PAD and selected University personnel, including the College PAD coordinators and the Tagum Public Information Officer-counterpart, participated in the event.

Resource speakers with extensive experience and background in the topic of the training were invited which included Mr. Nino Immanuel L. Orteza of the ZenGen Events management; and Mr. Robert C. Satorre, Technical and Creative/Graphic Design Manager University Events Management Committee (EvMC).

PAD Director Rioliza B. Molina said during her opening message that the said capacity development training intends to upgrade the PAD personnel's skills to efficiently facilitate and manage future activities and events.



CARS faculty members during the Curricula Revision Workshop

CARS revisits CMOs, FIRE; conducts workshop on curricula revision

The College of Agriculture and Related Sciences (CARS), headed by Dr. Roger C. Montepio, College Dean, and Dr. Hyde D. Nadela, Associate Dean, conducted a workshop on the revision of the undergraduate and graduate curricula on April 25-26, 2022, at Cavanico II Mare Resort, Camudmud, Babak District, Island Garden City of Samal. This is to align the curricula of the offered undergraduate and graduate programs of the college with the CHED Memorandum Orders (CMOs), and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (FIRE).

During the workshop, CMO no. 14, series of 2019 also known as "Policies and Guidelines on the Issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to State Universities and Colleges and Local Universities and Colleges"

was revisited side-by-side with CMO no. 15, series of 2019 on the "Policies, Standards and Guidelines for Graduate Programs" for the revision of curricula of Graduate programs namely: Ph.D. in Horticulture, MS in Agriculture (MSA), MS in Engineering (MSE), MS in Forestry (MSF), MS in Environmental and Resource Management (MSERM), and Master of Extension Education (MEXEd); and CMO no. 23 series of 2021, also known as "Policies, Standards, and Guidelines for the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program" for the undergraduate program- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program with seven (7) major fields (Agronomy, Animal Science, Enterprise Management, Entomology, Horticulture, Plant Pathology, and Soil Science).



Executive members and the Technical Working Group (TWG) members of the USEP GAD Focal Point System

GAD Office spearheads workshop on Gender and Development Strategic Plan formulation

With the constant commitment of the University to attain Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE), the Gender and Development (GAD) Office held a two-day workshop on the formulation of the USEP six-year GAD Strategic Plan, which complete the GAD Agenda along with the University-aligned GAD Vision, Mission, and Goals on June 20-21, 2022 at Apo View Hotel, Davao City.

GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) Executive members and Technical Working Group (TWG) members attended the said workshop.

The development of the GAD Agenda is guided by the desired GEWE outcomes and

goals embodied in the Magna Carta of Women and other women or gender-related laws relevant to the agency's mandates; the Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development (PPGD) 1995-2025 and term plans on GEWE; and various international GAD-related commitments such as the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (UN CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It shall also be anchored on the priorities and thrusts of the government as expressed in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and various sectoral plans.

SUCs visit USeP for benchmarking activities

Taking inspiration and input from the best and exemplary practices and strategies implemented by the University in several areas of academic program implementation, administration, research, development, and extension, several State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in Region XI and beyond had conducted benchmarking activities on the University of Southeastern Philippines for the second quarter of 2022.

DDOSC on USeP Career and Alumni Center (CAC), Pamulaan Center for Indigenous People's Education, and USeP Research, Development, and Extension

The Davao de Oro State College (DDOSC) virtually benchmarked the USeP Career and Alumni Center (CAC) on April 11, 2022. The programs, processes, and practices of the CAC and the USeP Alumni Association and the USeP Alumni Tracer Study were shared during the activity. On April 22, 2022, DDOSC visited the Pamulaan Center to learn the process of crafting the dorm policy to establish their own IP Dorm on their campus.

On May 23, 2022, DDOSC Research and Development Division met with the USeP Publication Unit, a unit under the Research Division of the Office of the Vice President for RDE, to discuss the University process on the dissemination of R&D results, Research Manual, and the University Journal dubbed as Southeastern Philippines Journal of Research and Development (SPJRD).

DNSC on USeP College of Information and Computing

The Davao del Norte State College Institute of Computing (DNSC-IC) conducted a benchmarking visit on USeP CIC last April 19, 2022, for its Information Technology (IT) education programs curriculum, computer laboratories, quality assurance, international collaboration, Outcomes-Based Education (OBE) implementation, and best practices.

Delegates from DNSC were led by Dr. Reir Erlinda Cutad, Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Mr. Mark Van M. Buladaco, Dean of Institute of Computing; while Dr. Ivy Kim D. Machica, Dean of CIC, headed the USeP delegation.

DNSC-IC team expressed their satisfaction with the important tips and inputs that USeP officials shared, giving them ideas for their future plans in developing further their IT programs. A potential partnership between the two institutions was floated during the talks.

CBSUA on Pamulaan Center for Indigenous People's Education

On April 29, 2022, the Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSUA) in Pili, Camarines Sur, Bicol Region, visited the Pamulaan Center for Indigenous People's Education to learn about the best practices, and understand the process of managing a center for Indigenous Peoples.

MSU-Naawan on the USeP College of Education

The Mindanao State University - Naawan College of Education and Social Sciences visited the USeP College of Education on April 29, 2022, to benchmark the best practices and preparation and standards, policies, strategies, materials and sources, and assessment and evaluation instruments by the University prior to taking the Licensure Examinations for Teachers (LET).

USeP is known as one of the best schools in teacher education in the Region due to the exceptional performances of the education graduates in the recently conducted LET for both the secondary and elementary levels.

BukSU on the USeP Research, Development, and Extension

On May 4, 2022, the Bukidnon State University (BukSU) visited the USeP Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) through the Office of the Vice President for RDE to learn about the operating and well-established University research centers.

The University's best practices and processes on research, extension, intellectual property rights, ethics, and innovations were shared during the activity.

Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva, University Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension (VPRDE), welcomed five (5) delegates from BukSU.

CHAMPIONS' NEST



DR. ROBERTO S. DELUNA, JR.
Assistant Professor IV of CAEC received Ph. D. in Economics degree, Summa Cum Laude from University of Santo Tomas



POLICE LIEUTENANT GENERAL VICENTE DUPA DANA, JR.
College of Business Administration Alumni, designated as OIC of PNP on May 5, 2022



ENGR. JEYAN AYCO CALAQUIE AND ENGR. JERSON DONATO MACAGANDA
Clinched the 6th and 8th spot in the April 2022 Registered Master Electrician Licensure Examination



ENGR. KIM PAULINO RAVIDA AND MS. ELAIZA AGBON TAGA-AN
Clinched the 1st and 6th spot in the April 2022 Licensure Examination for Teachers- Secondary and Elementary Level, respectively.



PAD TEAM

RIOLIZA B. MOLINA
Director

JOHN MARK P. SUAL
Public Information Officer

ARMANDO S. ADLAWAN, JR.
Corporate Communications Staff

VIRGITHE ANGELIQUE C. ALFARO
Development Communication Staff

CONTRIBUTORS

MELANIE C. PAGKALIWAGAN
Executive Assistant to the President

ROBERT C. SATORRE
University Records Officer

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND EXTENSION

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND RELATED SCIENCES