

# Pres. Mallari visits local farmer's market in Brgy. Balanti



As a way of supporting Tarlac farmers and local goods, Tarlac State University president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari visited the Balanti Farmer's Market located along the Balanti bridge in Tarlac City on December 5, 2020.

It is organized by the Riverside Organic Farmers Association of Balanti (ROFAB), a partner of TSU in a solar-powered irrigation project along with the



Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office III.

The idea of this market is to empower local farmers, help increase their agricultural productivity, and ensure fair trade and quality products since consumers buy directly from farmers and small business owners — all of which are reflected on the global goal of the United Nations to end hunger and promote sustainable agriculture.



Fresh and organic vegetables, white corn, ornamental plants, lemongrass and citronella products, dried fish, and goat meat are some of the goods found in the Balanti Farmer's Market.

The market is open from 6:00 AM until 12:00 noon on a schedule set by the ROFAB. Market schedule and other updates are available on the Balanti Farmers Market Facebook group.

[Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat]

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## TSU, Rep. Yap push for TSU charter amendment



House Bill No. 7797, which amends the present Tarlac State University Charter (Republic Act No. 6764), underwent its first reading and presentation to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of Representatives 18th Congress chaired by Hon. Mark O. Go on December 11, 2020.

The bill, sponsored by Tarlac 2nd district representative Hon. Victor A. Yap, features an empowered Board of Regents, alignment and harmonization of provisions with Republic Act No. 8292 (Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997), and strengthened programs to meet industry needs.

The revision of the present charter seeks to adapt to the future by improving education services and aligning its programs to industries' needs, particularly the New Clark City, thereby making the university more globally competitive.

"The university is now preparing to be more empowered in science and technology courses and materialize medicine and allied health disciplines and establish a College of Medicine and have pre-medicine programs," said Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, executive assistant to the Office of the University President and member of the Committee on the New University Charter.

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## TSU strengthens internationalization programs, conducts webinar series

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) of Tarlac State University held a three-day webinar series titled "Strengthening and Expanding TSU's Internationalization Competitiveness in the New Normal" via Zoom from December 2-4, 2020.

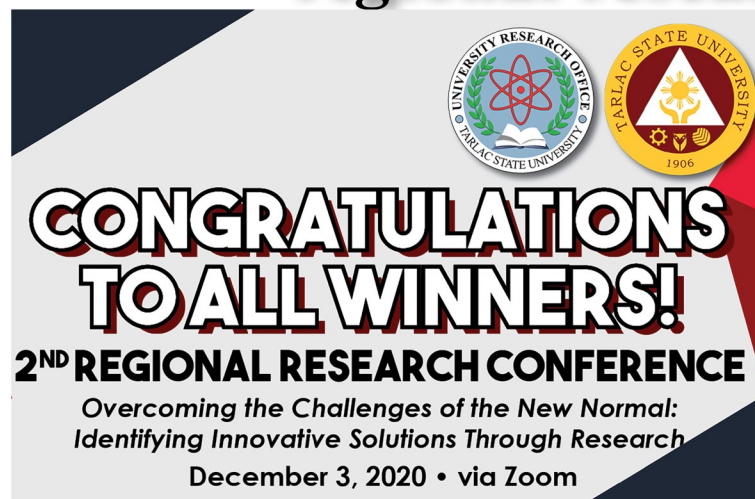
The webinars aim to collectively reflect and discern the direction of the university's internationalization and the challenges and

opportunities brought upon the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first day featured discussions from the Commission on Higher Education's International Affairs Staff Atty. Lily Freida Macabangun-Milla and OIC-Director of CHED Regional Office III Dr. Maria Teresita Semana about the Transnational Higher Education Act (RA 11448)

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# TSU holds “new normal” regional research conference



Themed “Overcoming the Challenges of the New Normal: Identifying Innovative Solutions through Research,” the Regional Research Conference (RRC) of Tarlac State University held on December 3 provided a scholarly virtual platform amid pandemic for the sharing of research data and outputs relevant to regional and national agenda.

The RRC is the second regional research undertaking of TSU anchored on its vision to become a premier university in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Although virtually held, the RRC was still graced by the Tarlac province governor Hon. Susan Yap, represented by Ms. Kristine Legaspi, president of the Philippine Councilors League – Tarlac Chapter; chief executives of Tarlac; and TSU officials led by president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

The high caliber plenary speakers for the 2nd RRC are from the University of the Philippines Diliman. Dr. Maria Socorro

Bautista, a professor of economics, talked about the effects of the pandemic to the Philippine economy with a comparison to other countries, while Dr. Erniel Barrios, a professor of statistics, presented tips on writing STEM research papers.

Research presentations, divided into two breakout sessions, immediately followed the plenary speeches which were evaluated by an esteemed panel.

The evaluators for group A are Dr. Ernesto Abaya, assistant professor of UP Diliman, and Dr. Marie Paz Morales, Research and Publication director of Philippines Normal University. For group B, Mr. Wilfredo Sibal, assistant regional director of the Department of Science and Technology-Region III, and Dr. Angelina Borican, Publications Office and Communication Management Office director of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, served as panelists.

Winners of the 2nd RRC are the following:

	Group A	Group B	Gender and Development
1st place	Mr. Jeremiah Paul C. Silvestre “Sense of Quality of Life from Perspectives of Indigenous Peoples: A Narrative Analysis”	Engrs. Leo Piao & Raul Canlas “Performance Evaluation of Electric Vehicle with Back-up Solar Charger”	Dr. Alfred V. Rigor and Prof. Mary Jane N. Rigor “As Assessment of the Indigenous Systems and Practices on Self-Governance Among Aeta Communities in Brgy. Sta. Juliana, Capas, Tarlac: Towards a Proposed Development Plan”
2nd place	Engrs. Enalyn T. Domingo, Ferdinand Marcos, Crispin Flora, Cid Lapuz “Electrical Load Audit of the Building of the College of Engineering and Technology”	Ms. Maria Fermina Joyce C. Nucum “Relevance of AB Communication Curriculum and Job Preparedness of Graduates of Tarlac State University”	Ms. Lian Carla Luzong “The Conflict Resolution Process: Aeta Aberlin Tribe”
3rd place	Ms. Hazel Mabborang “Quality of Work Life as Related to Organizational Commitment of Employees in the Business Processing Outsourcing (BPO) Companies”	Ms. Patricia Estrada & Ms. Izelle Francisco “The Implementation of Women and Children Protection Desk Program and Services Among 1st Class Municipalities in the Province of Tarlac”	Ms. Patricia Estrada & Ms. Izelle Francisco “The Implementation of Women and Children Protection Desk Program and Services Among 1st Class Municipalities in the Province of Tarlac”

This research conference is also targeted to widen the networks and establish partnerships with professionals from other HEIs and government agencies. [Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat & Jaidriel Meg Cabanding, URO]

# 2020 Year-End Thanksgiving Online Program

Tarlac State University opted to hold the usual holiday festivities even through a virtual celebration as it launched its 2020 Year-End Thanksgiving Online Program with a webinar on December 17 via Zoom.

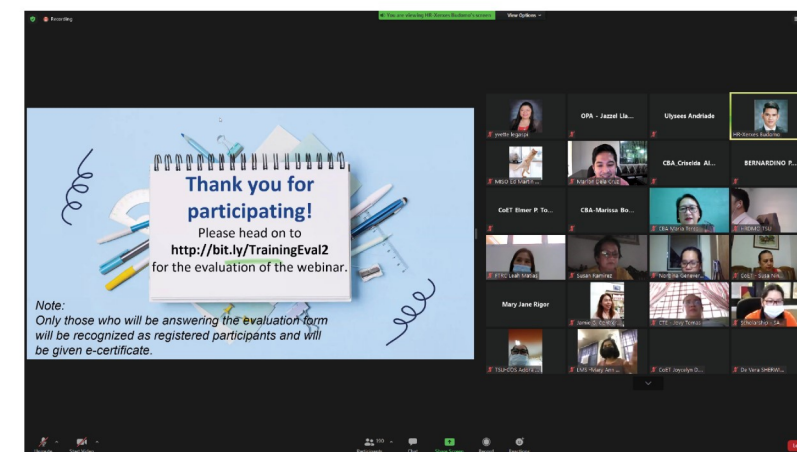
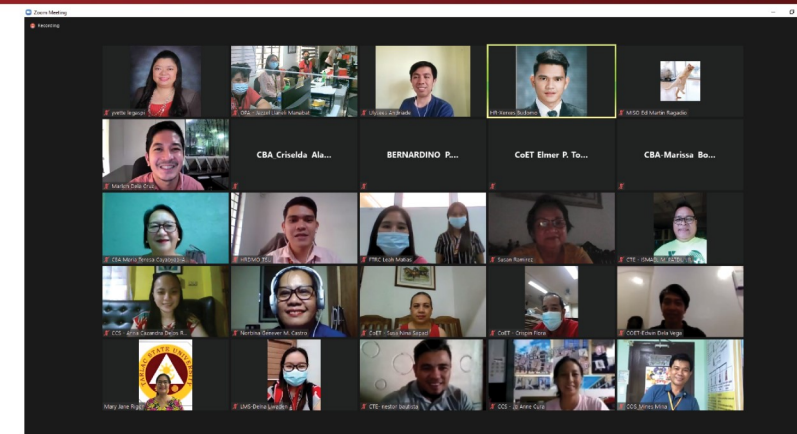
The Human Resource Development and Management Office held a timely webinar titled “Work Resiliency in the New Normal” with its director, Mr. Marlon C. Dela Cruz, as resource speaker.

Around 300 teaching and non-teaching employees attended the webinar which is the first part of the virtual year-end thanksgiving program of the university.

The online festivities were continued the following day, December 18, with a Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00 AM and an online video presentation contest and raffle at 2:00 PM.

The Holy Mass was streamed live via the Office of Public Affairs Facebook page with Most Rev. Enrique Macaraeg, Bishop of Tarlac, as celebrant.

Meanwhile, the Motorpool Unit won the first place in the video presentation contest held via Zoom. Runners up of the contest are the Civil Security Unit and the Research and Extension Services office staff or the “RES TikTokers.”



## EDITORIAL

## Ending 2020 with a grateful heart

2020 has been a landmark year for tragedies and losses. It has been known as a year where we were limited in terms of mobility, celebrations, gestures, and even potentials as individuals. But 2020 has also opened our eyes to what is essential or not; it has taught us many things most notably how we can still be grateful amid a global crisis.

The university is not a stranger when it comes to being grateful. So much has happened for this year, good or bad, but TSU still managed to attain wondrous feats because of the bayanihan spirit that ensues within and among us. This is not just about the help the university has extended during the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ); this includes all accomplishments TSU has never thought to be possible in these uncertain times.

At the onset of 2020, TSU was named as the 2nd top performing school in the Criminologist Licensure Examination. Also in January, the construction of the TSU Concepcion Extension Campus has begun ceremonially through a groundbreaking.

Before the ECQ, a good number of memoranda with international institutions were also signed. TSU has

successfully hosted the activity of the Philippine Consortium for Science, Mathematics, and Technology, Inc. (PCSMT) and the State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) Olympics for Region III at the New Clark City (NCC) in Capas, Tarlac. The university had even pursued its annual planning in February to set its direction for the year.

Student representatives to local, regional, and national competitions brought home the coveted championships like The Work for the Regional Higher Education Press Conference in January, civil engineering champions of the 2019 TSU SALIKSIKLABAN for the 2020 National Invention Contest and Exhibits (NICE) in March, and hospitality and tourism management students for the Inter-School Search for New Product during the 4th Kanlahi Festival also in March.

These were the normal successes of TSU which were momentarily replaced by the noble actions of repacking goods, mixing alcohol-based sanitizers, sewing face masks, and producing face shields from March to May because of the COVID-19 outbreak. During this period, we all had fears and worries how life would go

on – but the successes of TSU continued.

In May, three School of Law graduates were admitted to the Bar. This was followed by countless webinars to better the delivery of the university's services, particularly in education; humane policies and protocols to ensure the safety and wellbeing of its employees; and persistent dialogues with the provincial and local governments for the flexible learning needs of students, not just in TSU but also for all Tarlaqueño youth. TSU's Automated Faculty Evaluation System (AFES) even became a finalist for the 2020 Government Best Practice Recognition of the Development Academy of the Philippines for the first time.

As the university followed the paradigm shift to online platforms along with the rest of the world, its resilience and brilliance still shone. The strong leadership, good governance, and hard work, cooperation, and some criticisms of the TSU community and all its stakeholders collectively steered our direction to what we regard as the best path. This is how we are leaving 2020 — grateful with learnings and experiences and hopeful for the upcoming year.

## Mainstreaming GAD, the TSU way

## FEATURE



As part of the CHEDRO III's (Commission on Higher Education Regional Office III) adherence to the national advocacy campaign to end violence against women and to promote the mainstreaming of Gender and Development (GAD), Tarlac State University was invited to share its GAD best practices last December 3, 2020 via Zoom.

The commission believes that the university has been one of the institutions in the region with a strong advocacy and support for gender equality. Hence, it is noteworthy that other higher education institutions (HEIs) may take inspiration from TSU in mainstreaming GAD in their respective universities.

Dr. Rita E. Pulmano, director of GAD Office, presented the university's best practices on GAD mainstreaming. In her presentation, Dr. Pulmano highlighted the major activities and programs provided by TSU-GAD to its stakeholders from its inception until present. She pointed out that the office ensures the mainstreaming of GAD perspective in the quadruple functions of the university, namely instruction, research, extension, and production.

The GAD perspective has been

incorporated in the following projects, activities, and engagements of the university: constitution of the TSUGAD Focal Point System (GFPS); localizing the use of Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG) checklist to effectively mainstream GAD within the university; inclusion of gender and development studies in one of the research agenda of the university; establishment of linkages/partnerships with the Provincial Government of Tarlac and different LGUs in the Province which resulted to formulation of the GAD Code in the Province of Tarlac and its membership with the RGADC; the constitution of the International, Differently-Abled, Indigenous, Marginalized Student Services (IDIMS) Unit; and the first ever university-wide pageant for the LGBT-community called Mx. Warriors

The office also ensures the continuous publication of different GAD IEC materials such as Spectrum and Sex-Disaggregation Data of the university; the sustained operations of the childcare center – the first center for children in Region III that provides child caring support and services to all its employees; and the institutionalization of the different

seminars such as gender sensitivity orientation" with the newly hired employees of the university, work ethics and anti-sexual harassment seminar with students undergoing OJT, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS seminar, gender and sexuality seminars, and others.

Aside from TSU, Ms. Janet Saturno of Central Luzon State University and Sr. Marissa Figueroa of University of the Assumption were also invited to share their institutions' best practices.

The university's presentation culminated with a commendation from CHEDRO III stating that the presentation title of TSU-GAD was, indeed, true – that each university has its own way of mainstreaming GAD and the sharing is not a battle of accomplishments and best practices. The online activity was a way to augment the GAD practices of other HEIs through the insights gathered from the three invited universities.

In the end, all HEIs have the same to goal and advocacy to achieve – to promote gender equality and to end violence against women and children within and outside the university.

[Manuel Alejandro Bulos, GAD]

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**TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY****Vision**

Tarlac State University is envisioned to be a premier University in the Asia Pacific Region.

**Mission**

Tarlac State University commits to promote and sustain the offering of quality and relevant programs in higher and advanced education ensuring equitable access to education for people empowerment, professional development, and global competitiveness.

**Towards this end, TSU shall:**

- 1.) Provide high quality instruction through qualified, competent and adequately trained faculty members and support staff.
- 2.) Be a premier research institution by enhancing research undertakings in the fields of technology and sciences and strengthening collaboration with local and international institutions.
- 3.) Be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals

**Quality, Environment, and Health and Safety (QEHS)**

Tarlac State University is committed to improve continually for:

- Global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of education, research, extension, training and consultancy services, hotel operation and administrative support services;
- safe and healthy working conditions to prevent injury and ill health of its employees, students, guests, visitors, suppliers and contractors;
- management of environmental aspects towards the prevention of pollution;
- compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers.

**CEJPS, GAD collaborate for Internship Fair**

The Career Education and Job Placement Services (CEJPS), in partnership with the Gender and Development (GAD) Office, organized a webinar on work ethics and anti-sexual harassment on December 3, 2020.

Resource speakers for the webinar are Mr. Marlon C. Dela Cruz, director of the TSU Human Resource Development and Management Office, who talked about work ethics and competencies in the new normal; and Prof. Gherold C. Benitez, head of the

Student Development Unit and Student Discipline, whose topic is on anti-sexual harassment.

Said webinar is in compliance with CHED Memorandum Order No. 104 s. 2017 or the “Revised Guidelines for Students Internship Program in the Philippines (SIPP)” which requires the attendance of students to a pre-internship seminar as a pre-requisite to their internship deployment.

It is one of the preparations intended for TSU students who will undergo

internship or On-the-Job Training for the second semester.

“I hope that the webinar has provided the attendees the opportunity to be prepared on what to expect in the workplace,” said Ms. Niña C. Garcia, CEJPS section head.

The three-hour webinar attended by 192 prospective interns is part of the “Internship Fair” of the CEJPS which was streamed via the TSU Office of Public Affairs Facebook page. [Crisly Hannah Gueco, CEJPS]

**TSU, Rep. Yap push for TSU charter amendment**

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Post-graduates and executive courses as well as a sports program are also included in the charter as prospective offerings alongside the university’s existing programs.

The TSU Laboratory School was also embedded in the amended charter which will be re-established by the College of Teacher Education to be used as training ground for practice teachers.

In empowering the Board of Regents,

H.B. 7797 added a new regent representing the Non-Academic Staff Association and increased the powers and duties of the governing board from nine to 26.

In addition, the revised charter strengthens existing research centers and aims to establish additional research and extension centers.

TSU received its university status on October 13, 1989 through R.A. 6764 sponsored by the late 2nd congressional district representative Hon. Jose V. Yap, Sr.

Last October 2020, the university celebrated its 31st charter anniversary with several milestones such as attaining SUC Level III and Level II Institutional Accreditation, having 100% program accreditation, being the first IMS certified state university, being awarded with Center of Development in Teacher Education, producing topnotchers and notable professionals, and being recognized as a top performing school in several board examinations. [Maria Adelaida Calayag]

**TSU strengthens internationalization programs, conducts webinar series**

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and the Internationalization Program for the higher education institutions, respectively.

“But a law [RA 1148] is a national imprimatur. See? The national government – the state recognizes now the value of internationalization and the sector on transnational education as a major strategy towards bringing about development and improving human resource in the Philippines,” said Atty. Macabangun-Milla in her talk.

Afterwards, representatives from Daffodil International University, Holy Angel University, and Tarlac Agricultural University were also invited to share and present their institutions’ best practices

On the second day, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Erwin P. Lacanlale talked about TSU’s Internationalization

Agenda. Afterwards, an orientation about the QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World Ranking was given by Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance Dr. Niño B. Corpuz.

The afternoon session was spent on a workshop on crafting of internationalization programs of colleges and offices. This carried over onto the third and final day where the colleges of Teacher Education, Business and Accountancy, Public Administration and Governance, Arts and Social Sciences, and Computer Studies presented their workshop outputs.

Several TSU key officials served as reactors including University President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Lacanlale, VP for Research and Extension Services Dr. Armee N. Rosel, VP for Planning and Quality Assurance Dr.

Niño Corpuz, and VP for Administration and Finance Dr. Marlon V. Gamido.

University directors Dr. Jay Pabustan (OPPME) and Prof. Edjie Delos Reyes (URO) also shared their inputs and comments.

The event was spearheaded by OIA in collaboration with the Human Resource Development and Management Office and the Office of Public Affairs – notably through the efforts of Prof. Myrel M. Santiago, head of the International Academic Agreements and Faculty and Student Mobility Programs Unit; Dr. Ninez B. Tulo, head of the International Short-Term Special Programs Unit; and Mr. Bryan Jan S. Dizon, head of International Protocol Affairs Unit led by Dr. Lacanlale who is the concurrent director of OIA.

[Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan]