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Tarlac State University's "Belen ng Karunungan" won second place in the 15th Belenismo sa Tarlac under the community category last December 3, 2022.

The award was personally handed out by the Tarlac Heritage Foundation's co-founder Dr. Isa Cojuangco Suntay at the site of TSU's Belen display.

"Belen ng Karunungan," TSU's

first official entry in the said competition, is inspired by the university logo.

It was carefully crafted by woodworkers, electricians, and painters of the university – the same people who create Belens for TSU every year.

TSU painter Mr. Oscar Ubusan Jr. conceptualized the Belen. He has been

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TSU hosts testimonial banquet for nursing boards topnotchers, passers

David Ande Gene P. Pabon



In celebration of the 95.86% passing rate in the November 2022 Philippine Nurse Licensure Examination (PNLE), Tarlac State University held a testimonial banquet for the new registered nurses of the Department of Nursing under the College of Science on December 15, 2022, at the TSU Alumni Center.

The celebration is also a tribute to the two board exam topnotchers, Michelle Joy L. Lim and Haryl Lyn C. Dela Vega, who ranked third and eighth, respectively.

Both topnotchers shared their testimonies regarding the recent board exam during the program.

De Vera said she had difficulties managing her time. But because of her dedication, she learned some strategies that helped her pass the exam.

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TSU hosts 2nd National Research Conference

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon

To foster collaboration with other educational institutions and national government agencies in creating meaningful research outputs, Tarlac State University conducted its two-day National Research Conference (NRC) last December 1-2, 2022, at Subic Grand Harbour Hotel, Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Zambales.

This is the university's second national-level research conference organized by the University Research Office (URO), bearing the theme "Fostering Resiliency, Innovation, and Collaboration Through Meaningful Research."

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco graced the conference's first day as a keynote speaker, along with Dr. Marie Paz E. Morales, National Research Council of the Philippines Division Chair.

Pres. Velasco encouraged the presenters to continue generating meaningful research, while Dr. Morales discussed the importance of collaboration in research outputs intended to develop quality education.

This hybrid research conference welcomed 46 in-person presentations and 25 online presentations from state universities and colleges and some government agencies across the country, namely: Bohol Island State University, Cebu Technological University, North Eastern Mindanao State University, Catanduanes State University, University of Northern Philippines, Northern Bukidnon State College, Mindoro State University, Sorsogon State University,



Don Honorio Ventura State University, Batangas State University, Zamboanga Peninsula Polytechnic State University, Surigao Del Sur State University, Office of the Chief Minister-BARMM and Cotabato State University, Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education – Division of Cotabato City and Cotabato State University, and TESDA Provincial Training Center - Abra.

"We want to have active partnerships with other institutions. Importante ang active partnership kasi

hindi lang tayo yung magbebenefit from them, they will also benefit from us," said URO OIC Director Dr. Robert Marcos in an interview.

As part of the university's effort to meet the needs of its students and communities, Dr. Marcos also said that the results of research should directly influence community development programs.

"Research will give an idea of how this could be made relevant and beneficial to the people around us. While we are in the academe, dapat maging responsive tayo sa mga kailangan ng tao. That's how we make ourselves relevant," Dr. Marcos added.

The NRC serves as a strong support to URO as the office envisions having a "Future Proof Research Environment" that goes beyond the concept of sustainability. Through this, academic programs will be enhanced and become relevant to the needs of the stakeholders through research-based outputs.

Pres. Velasco, Executive Assistant Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, and Vice President for Research & Extension Services Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed have shown their support to the conference.

In October 2019, TSU launched its very first national research conference held at the TSU Alumni Center of the Lucinda Campus.



2 SOL students bag awards in LEAP literary anthology

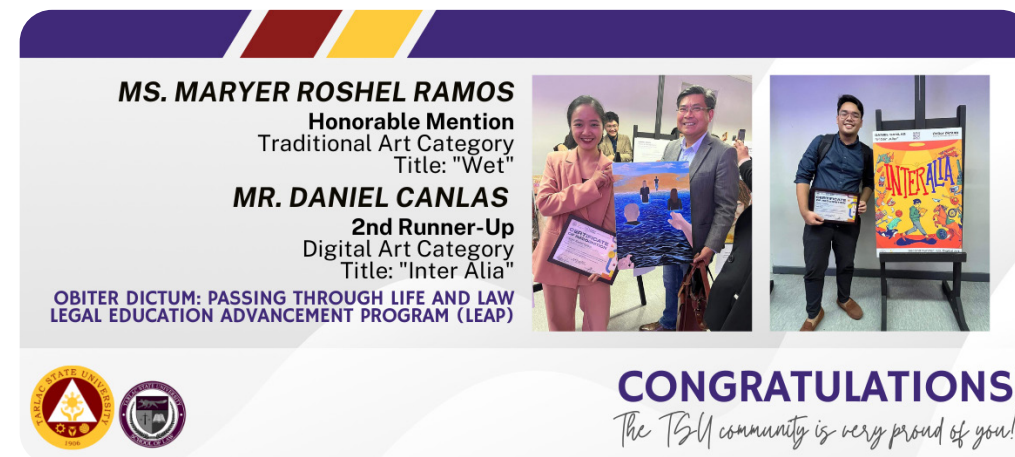
■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

Two students from the Tarlac State University School of Law won in the literary folio competition of the Legal Education Advancement Program (LEAP) titled "Obiter Dictum: Passing through Life and Law."

Ms. Maryer Roshel Ramos was named "honorable mention" in the traditional art category with her piece, "Wet." Meanwhile, Mr. Daniel Canlas placed 2nd runner-up in the digital art category with his piece called "Inter Alia."

The awarding ceremony was held last December 8, 2022 at the University of the Philippines-BGC Auditorium.

The Obiter Dictum is a project led by the LEAP Student Fellows of the, a collaboration between the Legal Education



Board and UP Law Center. This is part of LEAP's efforts to create new generations of lawyers who will be healers, peacemakers, and agents of societal transformation.

EDITORIAL

At the onset of 2022, some said this year is a remake of 2020. The public's "premonition" revolves around the COVID-19 outbreak that sprung in 2020, lockdowns here and there, and the hardships people had to battle. True enough, a portion of this Nostradamus-like prediction is valid because of the sustained impact of the pandemic. However, blessings are still abundant at Tarlac State University despite the topsy-turvy of hurdles and challenges.

TSU was fortunate enough to be led by two sets of administrations this year. Witnessing both the Mallari and Velasco leadership has given the university community a broader perspective on unity, camaraderie, love of work, and acceptance. Some bridges were burned, others rebuilt, while some have been steady-going in the transition. Yet these experiences are to be cherished as lessons to be kept close.

Such is similar to the national political landscape of 2022. People's varying opinions and choices were thrown against each other due to differing political flavors. But here we are, still thriving as Filipinos, because they say that is how we are built, like how we shine as TSUians.

Efforts and hardships of the previous year were reaped this 2022 allowing TSU to shine as we traverse the final road towards becoming a premier university in the Asia-Pacific. The year started favorably for the university as it received the results of the Philippine Quality Award 24th cycle. TSU welcomed the year with a proficiency recognition in quality management, amplifying its culture of quality.

Next to the PQA recognition is Ar. Rendell Sotto's achievement as Top 6

Is 2022 another 2020?

in the January 2022 Architect Licensure Examination. This was a good sign for TSU as it was followed by more top board exams passers: Engr. Kervin Melchor, Master Plumber Licensure Exam Top 10; Atty. Michael John Dimarucut, 2020/21 Philippine Bar Exam Exemplary Passer; Engr. Benigno P. Yebe, Electrical Engineer Licensure Exam Top 6; Master Plumber Licensure Exam Top 6 and 10, Engr. Erwin Mabuti and Engr. Maria Vida Ora'a; Nurse Licensure Examination Top 3 and 8, Michelle Joy Lim and Haryl Lyn Dela Vega; and Licensure Examination for Teachers Top 6, Paula Gaza.

These individual feats are collective accomplishments of TSU, and these will immensely supplement the university's success in future accreditations and assessments. Like the topnotchers of previous years, high board exam passing rate, and graduates' employability, among others, these are major components in TSU's Three Stars from the QS Stars Ratings.

Having top caliber graduates is, of course, a byproduct of quality education. This year, faculty members received their reclassification through the NBC 461 Cycle 8, Ar. Marco Bildan was named by the Professional Regulation Commission as the 2022 Outstanding Master Plumber, and Dr. Marie Wendy Frany took the helm of engineering as the first civil engineering Ph.D. holder in TSU. Year after year, the teaching staff level up the game in their respective professions just so quality education is provided to the students.

Also this year, the university sustained its partnership with the local government of Capas for the TSU Capas Campus and opened

two more LGU-funded satellite campuses in the third district of Tarlac: the TSU Concepcion Campus and the TSU La Paz Campus. It is undeniable that education is now within the reach of more Tarlaqueño youth.

Lending a helping hand to the community has always been a thrust of state-run educational institutions. Contributing to the success of the UN Sustainable Development Goals is now at the core of the university's operations. A testament to this is the qualification of TSU in THE Impact Rankings last April 28, 2022.

Adding to the success is the sustained ISO 9001:2015 certification of the university from the virtual audit of October 2022 and the immediate recovery from the Typhoon Karding aftermath with the united actions of the TSU community.

To ensure a well-rounded academe, TSU also prioritizes sports, culture, and arts manifested through the groundbreaking of the Tarlac Community Sports and Wellness Center with the Commission on Higher Education and the Provincial Government of Tarlac, numerous international awards and local recognitions courtesy of the TSU Performing Arts Dance Troupe and Chorale, and winning second place in the 15th Belenismo sa Tarlac.

The list of blessings for TSU in 2022 could go on and on, showing that, despite the hardships, there are still plenty of reasons to nurture a grateful heart. The TSU community started and ended the year on a pedestal and has proven that 2022 is not just another 2020. Indeed, our game face is on to embark on the 2023 journey as a top sustainable university globally.

TSU completes 11 solar-powered electric utility vehicles under DOST-GIA, turns over units to DOST

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

Tarlac State University and Department of Science and Technology Regional Office III turned over two continuous solar power-charging system electric utility vehicles or solar-powered vehicles to the DOST Central Office on December 12, 2022.

The project was funded by the DOST III Grants-in-Aid amounting to 2.3 million pesos with a TSU counterpart of 1.3 million pesos.

Eleven electric utility vehicles were produced by the team spearheaded by project leader Prof. Rodel T. Botio and Vice President for Research Extension Services Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed as the co-project leader.

The remaining nine units will be turned over soon to the DOST Tarlac and DOST Nueva Ecija.

According to Prof. Botio, the project commenced in February 2021 and the carts were completed in November 2022.

Before the turnover to the Central Office, DOST III Regional Director and TSU Board of Regents member Dr. Julius Caesar V. Sicat and TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco met with DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho A. Maborang to discuss the advancement of solar-powered technologies in the DOST, according to



Photos from DOST Regional Operations

the DOST Regional Operations official Facebook page.

Usec. Maborang is planning to visit TSU in 2023 as he was elated with the outcome of the electric utility vehicles made by the university.

The TSU delegation that also joined the said meeting is composed of VP Mohammed, Executive Assistant to the TSU President Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz,



and solar specialist Prof. Botio.

In an interview, Prof. Botio affirmed that TSU's breakthroughs in solar technology have always been commended by the DOST, particularly Director Sicat.

"Tayo po ang nag lead sa solar technology innovation sa Region 3 and recognized po ni Director Sicat ng DOST III. Entering po tayo sa next level which is national level na po. Ito 'yung magiging niche natin as SUC, [as a] technological university," he said.

In a 2017 DOST news, Director Sicat expressed satisfaction with the results of the TSU-developed solar-powered generator pilot test.

Prof. Botio also said he is grateful for Pres. Velasco's support in the university's solar projects.

Pres. Velasco serves as the project manager for the solar-powered vehicles. Other members of the working committee are College of Business and Accountancy Dean Dr. Jhonel C. Panlilio, Dr. Leo P. Piao, and research assistant Mr. Rico Teodoro.

6 CAFA students claim victory in Shell's National Students Art Competition

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Six College of Architecture and Fine Arts (CAFA) students bagged several awards, including the first prize winner under the watercolor painting category, in the Shell 55th National Students Art Competition held at the Ayala Museum in Makati City last December 6, 2022.

Themed "Sulong Sining," the 55th NSAC aims to empower youth in actively shaping the future through their art.

John Michael Ramos won the 1st prize with his watercolor painting (30x22 inches) titled "Pag-asa, Dalangin at Pangarap."

Ramos received a 60,000 cash prize, a limited edition Shell NSAC shirt and jacket, a gold medal, and a plaque.

Since Ramos won the first prize, the college will receive a 20,000 peso grant to support its faculty development plan.

His other entry in the same category landed 6th place.

Meanwhile, in the sculpture category, John Romer Pavilando's work titled "Hanggang Pampang" ranked 3rd.

Pavilando also joined the digital art category and was included among the top 30 finalists, along with Pamela Mari Zabala and Gizelle Mikaela Lagahi.

Other student artists included in the top 30 finalists are Mica Ann Morte in the watercolor category and Yuri Romero Gutierrez in the sculpture category.



Mr. Jessie Tadeo Jr., CAFA instructor and the student artists' mentor, beamed with pride as they claimed victory in their respective categories.

"As their instructor and mentor, I cannot express how happy I am that we won an award because of their artistic talent. I usually tell them that joining the competition is not about money or fame. The most important thing is that they arrive pleased and confident in themselves. I am



Photos from Mr. Jessie Tadeo Jr.

also glad because it reminds me of when I was a student at TSU and participated in competitions like the Shell NSAC," Tadeo Jr. said in an interview.

The university frequents this prestigious competition, exposing students to national level contests, to enhance their skills and gain wisdom from various experiences from artists, competitors, and coaches.

The said contest is open to all college students currently enrolled with at least nine units for the academic year 2022-2023 in a duly recognized Philippine



college or university.

Tadeo said the students were given four months to prepare their piece since the Shell NSAC began collecting entries in June.

"As a mentor, I led a meeting to discuss how they should begin their work – beginning with conceptualization and progressing until they can incorporate their chosen image into their works. Students will be more inspired and driven

to enhance their work this way," he said. "I am now one of those that guide them in these art competitions. It is not the first time that TSU has won an award in the field of [an] art competition. Every year, TSU receives an award, and this year, our students bagged these awards in different categories as 1st, 2nd, and 6th placers with five national finalists," Tadeo added.

According to Tadeo, CAFA students aced this year's competition compared to last year's event where students only landed as finalists.

The Shell NSAC caters to four categories such as watercolor painting, sculpture, digital art, and oil/acrylic. All participants received a certificate of participation.



TSU dance troupe bags 10 awards in Dubai performing arts competition

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



All 10 entries of the Tarlac State University Performing Arts Dance Troupe won in the Golden Palm 2022, World Association of Performing Arts (WAPA) World Event held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates last December 16 to 22, 2022.

The university's world-class dance troupe reaped first place in two Grand Prix-Large Team competitions where they danced their iconic Tinikling and Bumayah.

They also secured first place in the Grand Prix-Small Team with the folk dance Ragragsakan.

Moreover, the group also won first place in the Trio Dance Category and Duo Folk Dance Category.

The three winning entries in the Trio Dance are Man Manok, Binasuan, and Amaemeytok, while the Duo Folk Dance winning entries are Aray, La Jota Moncadeña, La Jota Gumaqueña, and La Jota Tarlaqueña.

These dances were performed last December 20, 2022.

Meanwhile, last December 19, the TSU PADT was also awarded by the WAPA as the Best International Folk Dance Ensemble in Southeast Asia.

The international association also bestowed the Best International Folk Dance Director of 2022 award to Prof. Marcelino P. Balanquit, the head of TSU's Culture and Arts Section.

In a message, Prof. Balanquit

mentioned that the European judges were "fascinated" with the Philippine team's dances and were dubbed as the "crowd favorite."

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco joined the university delegation in receiving the awards last December 19.

In an interview, Pres. Velasco nearly broke down in tears as he expressed his pride in the dance troupe's achievement.

"I only asked them for two major prizes, but eventually I was amazed because we received not only two but ten," he said.

He also shared that the competition with the folk dance groups of other countries is tight, yet he remained confident that TSU will bring home awards.

"Brazil ang intimidating kasi 'pag meron kaming tour, nakikita ko na ang pagsayaw-sayaw nila. Nakita ko na may potential ang Brazil bagamat okay din 'yung iba... Kaya when I asked Sir Mar, 'Padala mo sa'kin 'yung performance ng Brazil,' noong nakita ko sabi ko, 'May panalo tayo sir kung ganyan ang performance nila sa mga major events,'" he added.

However, the performers faced challenges in managing their rehearsal schedules. According to one of the members, Celene Balanquit, they only had a short time to prepare for the international competition.

"We were really busy accomplishing the pending tasks from our rigid training last month sa CAASUC, then ang dami ring

invitations na mag-perform in different events outside TSU, and then final exams pa. We really needed to put effort each day na gabi na kami umuuwi para lang mapag-aralan din 'yung ibang sayaw,' Balanquit said in a phone interview.

As student artists, they hurdled this obstacle with proper self-management and mastery of their craft.

"Siguro for a week nag-practice lang kami [for] 1 hour or 2 hours then 2 days lang halos kami nag-practice. Since one of our winning pieces is Tinikling, nasasayaw na namin palagi. We did some proper training lang with the execution of steps," she added.

Furthermore, the performers thanked the university administration who showed their support by providing their travel expenses and daily allowance.

"We are super thankful because they provided our budget to travel all the way to Dubai. Also, to Dr. Arnold Velasco, our president, for showing his moral support by joining us and receiving our award personally," Balanquit said.

Pres. Velasco is beyond grateful as he considers the awards as Christmas gifts to TSU.

"It's really a very special Christmas gift of God for TSU, and for me as the president, to really have this award. First time akong makasama and sobrang saya na nakuha natin 'yung 10 out of 10,' Pres. Velasco stated.

TSU MPC welcomes newly elected Board of Directors

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



The newly elected board of directors and committee members of the Tarlac State University Multipurpose Cooperative (TSUMPC) took oath last December 22, 2022, at the VIP Lounge of the Main Campus.

Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, Executive Assistant to the University President, and Dr. Jonathan A. Gabriel, Internal Audit Services Director, will join re-elected BOD Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, Vice President for Academic Affairs, among the TSUMPC BODs.

Moreover, the members of the board are Mr. Rico B. Tomas (Cashiering



Unit Head), Dr. Grace N. Rosete (VPAF), Dr. Erwin P. Lacanlale, and Mr. Marlon C. Dela Cruz (HRDMO Director).

The newly elected Physical Development Committee members are Ar. Cherry L. Fabianes and Prof. Federico M. Estrada Jr. They will serve alongside Prof. Bryan Christopher C. Sico, a re-elected committee member.

Meanwhile, all members of the Audit and Inventory Committee, Mr. John Erwin C. Panilio, Dr. Derick S. Figueroa, Dr. Maria Teresa C. Agustin, and the Election Committee, Mr. Elmer D. Granil, Mr. Narciso E. Macapinlac, Ms. Menchie D. Abellar, have been re-elected.

During the ceremony, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco led the induction of the newly elected board.

"I really believe that you're chosen

by the members katulad ko because we look into your background, your leadership and management, and that served as our basis in choosing you as the next officers of the TSU Multipurpose Cooperative," he said in his message.

The TSUMPC aims to educate its members and officers on the value of "cooperativism." It also contributes to the members' entrepreneurial activities to reasonably share benefits with the larger community.



According to Pres. Velasco, the administration will give its full support to the cooperative's prospective programs that will benefit its members.

"We are expecting much from you. I believe you'll be having plans - Ma'am Agnes with the group. Happy na kami, but maybe you will be thinking of more programs that will make the members happier in the coming years," he added.

The TSUMPC is a model cooperative in the excellent delivery of services to uplift the socio-economic conditions of the members and the community in general.



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TSU's 'Belen ng Karunungan' lands 2nd place in Belenismo sa Tarlac

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

From page 1

the lead designer of TSU Belens for almost ten years. Supporting him in the fruition of his ideas for this year, particularly in the digital perspective, is Ar. John Raven Victoria of the Facilities Development and Management Office (FDMO).

These men eagerly finished the structure within two weeks. They used discarded plywood, old curtains, bamboo, steel bars, old tarpaulins, egg trays, rubber mats, used steel bars, and coconut mesh. The metal platform used as the base of the Belen is an old stage usually set up during outdoor university events, while the lights and decors were recycled from past Belen displays.

Ubusan said he wants to create a larger one next year, noting that their group is challenged and even thrilled to get the title.

In an interview after the awarding, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco thanked the offices and personnel involved in the creation of the award-winning Belen.



"Nagpapasalamat ako sa chance na ito. It's our first time participating in this Belenismo and first-time pa lang pero second [place] na agad. Of course, I want to thank lahat ng mga tao na tumulong. Hindi naman magiging possible ito kung walang pagkakaisa," Pres. Velasco said.

"At magpapatuloy lang tayo magkakaisa and I am very sure sa next na Belenismo makukuha na natin 'yung first. Walang imposible sa nagkakaisang TSU," he added.

Vice presidents Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg and Dr. Grace N. Rosete also graced the awarding ceremony.

Office of Public Affairs Director



Prof. Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat received the award on behalf of the TSU community.



TSU's Belen ng Karunungan Design

The TSU Belen features the Holy Family made from cloth, steel, and wood. It is carried by two open human hands, a key symbol of the TSU logo, wrapped in coconut mesh, which symbolizes protection and love.

The coconut mesh also manifests the university's inclusivity for indigenous peoples, international students, the LGBTQIA+ community, and other stakeholders. Inside the mesh are geode stones made from cellophane and metallic foil.



Moreover, the two open human hands signify a person ready to uphold and protect not only the state but also the

nativity.

The bamboo wall that serves as the Belen's background is shaped like the sun's rays, another key feature of the TSU logo representing the Philippines. The design of the bamboo wall serves as the V-shaped exhausts/pipes in the TSU logo that stand for the university's resources.

In addition, the bamboo wall is lit in red/maroon and yellow – the colors of the university, the province, and some colors found in the Philippine flag. This also embodies TSU as a state-run institution.

On both sides of the Belen are gears showing one of TSU's mandates of providing technological education and technology development.

Meanwhile, the owls in the foreground symbolize knowledge and education, as TSU is envisioned to be a top sustainable university through transparency, service, and unity. The university is known for offering quality tertiary education in the province, with three campuses in Tarlac City and extension campuses in the municipalities of Capas, Concepcion, and La Paz.



TSU hosts testimonial banquet to nursing boards topnotchers, passers

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon

From page 1

"During my review, nag-aaral lang ako kapag feel ko to make sure na mapaprocess talaga 'yung information. Hindi ako nag-aral to the point na whole day or whole night nagbabasa ako. I studied at my own pace and kapag nakapag-rest ako, doon ko tinodo 'yung pagaaral ko.



Nakatulong din 'yung pag nag-group study kami ng friends ko, parang mas nakakatulong siya sa retention namin kasi natututo ako sa kanila at nakapag-share kami ng information sa isa't isa," she said.



On the other hand, Lim inspired aspiring registered nurses through her best practices to ace the examination.

"Ang pinaka sinasabi ko po sa lahat ng mga nagtatanong is 'do your best because God will surely do the rest.' Ang maa-advise ko rin ay mag-enroll sila sa review center. With that, may mga schedule. Talagang bugbugan. Every day may pasok po. Then every night, nagbabasa ako ng libro. Every subject sa NLE, may ina-aral ako. Ipinasa-Diyos ko na lang ang lahat. Syempre kasama ng gawa, kailangan magdasal ka para sa pumasa" she shared.

On behalf of the passers, they also expressed their wholehearted gratitude for the department's effort and hard work in honing the nursing students' skills and preparing them to work in the medical field.



The department produced 137 registered nurses in the recent examination.

College of Science Dean Prof. Mary Jane N. Rigor, also a registered nurse, reminded the board passers in her opening remarks to practice what they learned at the university and embody excellence in their future endeavors.



Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco congratulated the passers and motivated them to keep pursuing their goals.

"You should be proud na taga TSU kayo. Keep on dreaming. Walang imposible sa taong may pangarap" he said.

Meanwhile, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes Macaraeg opened the university's doors to Lim and De Vera as they were encouraged to be part of the department's teaching workforce.

"As much as possible, we are

inviting the top students to be in the academe. Paano pa tayo makakadagdag sa history ng nursing kung hindi niyo kami sasamahan," she said.

To acknowledge the topnotchers' achievements, Lim and De Vera received cash gifts from the university and the TSU Alumni Association Inc.

As the banquet concluded, all board passers received certificates of recognition.

Along with the university officials and the COS faculty, the event was graced by TSU Board of Regents member Hon. Dennis Norman T. Go, 2nd district board member Hon. Harmes Sembrano, and Tarlac City mayor representative Dr. Mina Tañedo.

Said event took place following a motorcade and the Thanksgiving Mass.



6 faculty members climb up to professorial ranks

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

Six faculty members of Tarlac State University took their oath to formally receive their re-classification into the professorial rank last December 6, 2022 at the TSU Hotel in Lucinda Campus.

Dr. Cynthia Quiambao, newly promoted Professor IV from the College of Teacher Education, tearfully said that she had long waited for this promotion.

“Now, we will be mature enough to embrace it (professorial rank), to serve TSU, and also to help others na makarating kung saan ‘yung kinalalagyan namin ngayon,” she said.

Aside from Dr. Quiambao, other faculty members who reached the professorial rank for the NBC (National Budget Circular) 461 Cycle 8 are Dr. Marie Paz Angeles (Professor IV), Dr. Jhonel Panlilio (Professor IV), Dr. Rowena Ramos (Professor V), Dr. Lea Milan (Professor III), and Dr. Leo Piao (Professor I).

University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco presided over the ceremony.

According to Pres. Velasco, this is a “well-deserved promotion” for the faculty members, but it is not an easy job.

“There will be many challenges. You really have to do many researches and [have] sleepless nights,” he said.

He also hoped that they will continue to show humility as well as help other faculty members, especially those in the lower rank.

In a statement from the Human Resource Development and Management Office, the faculty members promoted to the professorial rank had a separate oath-taking ceremony due to a delay in results from the PASUC (Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges)



Accreditation Committee.

The majority of faculty members re-classified through NBC 461 Cycle 8 had their oath-taking last November 15 at the TSU Alumni Center.

According to the NBC 461 guidelines released by the Department of Budget and Management, those applying for the position of professor are subjected to accreditation by PASUC where committee members or panelists are recognized experts in the faculty member’s area of specialization.

Vice President for Planning and

Quality Assurance (VPPQA) and CCE Chairperson (Common Criteria for Evaluation) Dr. Niño B. Corpuz said this accreditation is a rigorous and tedious process.

“Talagang hinigpitan na ni CHED (Commission on Higher Education) ang process. Kasi kapag full professor, sila dapat ‘yung nagke-create ng new knowledge through research. Research is not just about gathering data. It’s about creating new knowledge. Kaya this is a responsibility, and those who passed really deserved it,” he said.

TSU joins the 18-day national campaign to end VAWC

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

Tarlac State University joined the nationwide observation of the Philippine Commission on Women’s (PCW) 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) through a series of activities from November 25, 2022 to December 12, 2022.

The Gender and Development Office (GAD), led by Dr. Rita E. Pulmano, took charge of the kick-off ceremony last November 22, 2022 in a brief program during the TSU Main Campus flag-raising ceremony.



At the kick-off, GAD staff and coordinators handed out IEC (information, education, and communication) materials to students and personnel to spread awareness towards ending impunity, discrimination, and violence against women within the university.

The activities within the 18-day campaign were held in collaboration with TSU student organizations and offices.

GAD, together with the Supreme Student Council (SSC), launched its video-making competition titled “Istorya ng Pagbangon,” where participants showcased awareness against VAWC. Moreover, the contest hopes to galvanize the community to demand change and enlightenment.

Meanwhile, the College of Business and Accountancy Student Council (CBA-SC) organized three major and three minor activities for the campaign on November 26. The major activities include traditional poster-making, slogan-making, and infomercial-making contests; while the minor ones include digital poster-making, infographics-making, and photo manipulation contests.

The winners from the student-organized events brought home cash prizes and certificates.

Meanwhile, the GAD and Human Resource Development and Management Office (HRDMO) hosted a two-day webinar and film viewing for the university’s teaching and non-teaching personnel on December 16 and 20, 2022.



The educational activities are about R.A. 9692 (Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004) and R.A. 11313 (Safe Spaces Act) with invited resource speakers from the TSU School of Law (SOL), Atty. Catherine Rose Diaz-Cunanan and Atty. Jewel O. Dela Cruz.

In her closing remarks during the webinar series, Dr. Pulmano disclosed the plans of the office to establish a partnership with SOL and the Guidance and Counseling Unit to create the “Anti-VAWC Desk” in 2023.

“This is what the GAD office needs kasi hindi naman po natin nakikita lahat, even with the GAD coordinators. We are

in a community where we need to respect each other, where we need to protect each other, where we need to establish a community kung saan ito ay VAW-Free. We need to know our rights para maging maalam sa kung ano ang narapat para sa atin at para sa ibang tao,” she said.

She also thanked the participants of the 18-day campaign and asked for the TSU community’s continued support.

Moreover, online events were also organized like the Safe Spaces Pledge, #VAWFreePH, and the “Orange Your Icon” advocacy initiative which ran throughout the campaign period.

2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the Philippines’ first time showing its support for the global campaign against gender-based violence.



This year also marks the beginning of the campaign’s new six-year (2022-2027) recurring theme, “UNiTed for a VAW-Free Philippines,” which aims to highlight our country’s accomplishments and milestones made to prevent and address VAW. This also supports the United Nations’ “UNiTE by 2030 to End Vaw Campaign.”

TSU graduate is top 6 in LET elementary level

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

A graduate of Tarlac State University landed top six in the elementary level of the October 2022 Licensure Examination for Teachers per the results released by the Professional Regulation Commission last December 16, 2022.

Paula M. Gaza, a cum laude of Bachelor in Elementary Education last June 2020, garnered an average of 93.40%.

The university posted an 83.17% passing rate for first-time takers and a 58.44% institutional passing rate in the elementary level against the

54.45 national passing percentage.

Meanwhile, TSU recorded 64.34% passing among its first-time takers in the secondary level. The institutional passing rate is 48.93%.

A total of 135 TSUians passed the LET elementary level and 297 in the secondary level.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW TSUIAN EDUCATORS!
OCTOBER 2022 LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS

	ELEMENTARY	SECONDARY	TOP 6 (93.40%) ELEMENTARY LEVEL PAULA M. GAZA
FIRST TIME TAKERS	83.17%	64.34%	
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	58.44%	48.93%	
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	54.45%	50.94%	

The TSU community is very proud of you!



PAFCPIC awards stipend to 71 TSUian scholars

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Seventy-one TSUian scholars of the Philippine Army Finance Center Producers Integrated Cooperative (PAFCPIC) received their stipend for the first semester of the academic year 2022-2023 at the Student Center in Lucinda Campus on December 22, 2022.

This scholarship caters to indigents, Indigenous Peoples (IPs), and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

The PAFCPIC Scholars Day comprised a meet and greet activity, stipend awarding, and orientation led by Dr. Elsie M. Canlas, Scholarship and Financial Assistance head under the Office of Student Affairs and Services.

Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg graced the event to meet the scholars.

In his special message, Pres. Velasco shared his hardships and trials back in college, where he experienced juggling odd jobs and his studies to support his family's needs.

The University President's message brought the scholars' parents to tears when he said that he only ate the



same meal for five years – rice wrapped in banana leaves, a pinch of salt, and tomato.

"Mabibilang niyo po sa mga daliri ko kung ilang beses lang ako kumain ng may ulam. Palaging asin, kanin, at kamatis lang po araw-araw. Kaya ang ginagawa ko po kapag lunch time na, nagkukulong na ako sa Engineering Room 7 dahil ayaw kong makita ng mga kakalse ko na ang ulam ko ay asin lang. Pero nagpatuloy po akong mangarap bilang engineer po," he said.

To support their studies and help both parents and students, the PAFCPIC scholars received a 6,000-peso monthly allowance, 5,000-peso book allowance, and 3,000-peso uniform allowance.

IP scholars are also provided with a transportation allowance amounting to 7,000 pesos since most live in remote areas.

In addition, all scholars are entitled to a cash gift of 5,000 pesos if they will graduate on time.

Meanwhile, in the amended memorandum of agreement signed last



September 2022, scholars who will finish their degrees as honor graduates will be awarded monetary incentives amounting to 5,000 pesos for cum laude, 10,000 pesos for magna cum laude, and 15,000 pesos for summa cum laude.

With the allowances and incentives available to the scholars, VP Macaraeg challenged the students to do well in their studies and give back to their families.

"Yung mga nagbabayad ng taxes, sila ang mga nagpapaaral sa inyo. So, ano pa ang dahilan para 'di kayo matapos, 'di po ba? Kaya ulit, ang challenge ko, nasa inyo na mga minamahal naming anak. Ano man ang hirap, kailangan lang nating



magtiyaga. Dahil kung tunay kang may pangarap sa buhay at mahal mo ang iyong mga magulang, babalik at babalikan mo sila kasi gusto mong tumulong kahit na papaano. Lalo na sa kulturang Pilipino, maiaabot mo sa kanila 'yung unang sweldo o kahit pakainin mo man lang paminsan-minsan 'yung magulang mo sa lugar na hindi pa nya napagkainan," VP Macaraeg said in her message.

She encouraged the scholars to pay it forward and send other students

to school when they graduate and start working. She stressed that scholars can still help others by teaching them.

"Ang may maturuan ka kahit na isang tao ay napakalaking bagay na po no'n," VP Macaraeg said.

One of the PAFCPIC scholars is 21-year-old Diana Carlos, a third-year student from the College of Teacher Education, who received a tablet last year.

Carlos said she was lucky to have a learning device from PAFCPIC because her phone is no longer functional, and she cannot afford to buy a new one. She added that the money for a new phone could be used instead for other daily expenses.

Furthermore, Carlos shared that the stipend she received will be of great help since her parents are no longer with her and she only depends on the financial support of her elder siblings.

She also expressed gratitude to PAFCPIC's assistance, especially now that the university will go back to the full face-to-face classroom setup next semester.

The PAFCPIC is a multi-awarded cooperative organized by the retired military personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.



TSU employees' basketball team brings home Mentors Cup championship trophy

■ Jazzel Llanelli Manabat

After 11 years, the Tarlac State University Firefox basketball team, composed of teaching and non-teaching employees, regained the championship title in the Educators Division of the Mentors Cup last December 19, 2022.

With a down-to-the-wire finish, the final score was 54-53. The TSU Firefox triumphed against the Gwapong Maestro from the Department of Education Tarlac City Schools Division.

The third and final match in the "best of three" games was held at the TSU Gymnasium, the home court of the TSU Firefox.

Team captain Mr. Bryan Jan Dizon, unit head from the International Affairs and Linkages Office, served as the playing coach. In a brief interview, he shared that the team's motivation to win is to bring home the championship title again to TSU after 11 years.

"The team committed to stay focused sa game. Composure ang pinakakalaban ng team. Kaya before game 3, nag-huddle muna [kami] to remind what our goal is: to bring the championship back to TSU since 2011," Dizon said.

Like any other team, Dizon said they also had to hurdle obstacles to attain the coveted championship trophy.

"The team fought numerous hardships, injuries, [and] limited team practice. Pero ang kagandahan ay nagamit namin 'yun as our strength and opportunity to grow as a group," he said.

The team players are also the basketball delegates in the Association of State Colleges and Universities-Solid North (ASCU-SN) Summer Olympics 2022 last July 2022.

Aside from bringing home the championship, the team also earned other awards and recognitions in the tournament. Mr. Jan Mathieu Yumul from



Photos from Mr. Jan Mathieu Yumul

the Supply and Property Management Unit was named the most valuable player (MVP) for the finals.

"Yung pagiging finals MVP ko po, credit ko din po sa teammates ko dahil sa hardwork and determination nila. Kung hindi dahil sa kanila, wala din po sa akin 'yung award na 'yan,' he said.

Moreover, he considers everyone on the team as the MVP since they gave him their trust as the leader on the court.

"Ang pagiging MVP, hindi lang scoring the most points. But it is how we can be able to affect a game and have our team as one," he added.

Yumul is also part of the "Mythical Five" along with Mr. Dexter Dela Rosa (Internal Audit Services) and Mr. Enrico Mc Anton Martin (Quality Assurance Office).

In an interview, he said this is his first time joining the Mentors Cup, like most of his teammates.

"Sobrang dami po naming learnings as a team dahil every game, mas nagiging comfortable kami sa isa't isa para mas ma-work out and teamwork, camaraderie, at composure. Natutunan din namin 'yung mga adjustments na kailangan i-apply sa mga susunod na games para mag maging ready ang team," Yumul said.

Meanwhile, Dizon is eyeing to join other leagues and tournaments to hone the team's skills and dynamics.

"For the next season, we will just continue the bond and practice. As much as possible, magkaroon [sana] ng mas maraming chance ang lahat ng employees ng TSU na makasali sa mga invitational leagues, not only sa basketball pero sa ibang interests na din," he said.

To keep the momentum, as the team is preparing for the upcoming SCUFAR-III (State Colleges and Universities Faculty Association of Region III) Sports and Cultural Festival, the university also launched the first TSU Solidarity Cup.



TSU celebrates 32nd Library and Information Services Month

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

Tarlac State University celebrated the 32nd Library and Information Services Month with a series of activities led by the Library Management Services (LMS) from November 15 to December 9, 2022.

With the theme “Mga Aklatan bilang mga Kanlungan ng Karunungan: Tagapagpangalaga ng Kultura at Pamanang Lokal,” the event is meant to encourage the love of reading and reinforce the role of libraries in promoting and preserving Filipino heritage and culture.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg congratulated and lauded the university librarians for their hard work and contribution in her remarks during the opening ceremony last November 15, 2022 via Zoom and Facebook Live.

“Actually, my being part of TSU is because of the influence of the librarians. When I enrolled for my master’s degree here at the university, I am always at the library. With the information given to me by our librarians, I am who I am, and I am where I am right now because of them... It’s not because I’m a traditional person, but I do recognize the role of our library and our librarians in helping students to improve their quality of life,” she said.

As part of the celebration, the LMS organized three major activities led by its director Ms. Cynthia M. Bognot, RL. These include creative storytelling via video presentation,



poster-making, and a vlogging contest titled “My Experience in the Library,” portraying how the participants spend a day at the TSU libraries.

The contests were opened to the whole TSU community. Both student and employee category winners took home certificates and cash prizes – 3,000 pesos for the 1st prize, 2000 pesos for the 2nd prize, and 1000 pesos for the 3rd prize.

Consolation prizes and special awards were also given, such as the recognition of the top borrowers for each TSU campus.

Moreover, the LMS office held an orientation on the use of library e-resources via Zoom last November 23, 2022. The invited resource speakers are from different e-learning solutions providers in the country, such as CE-

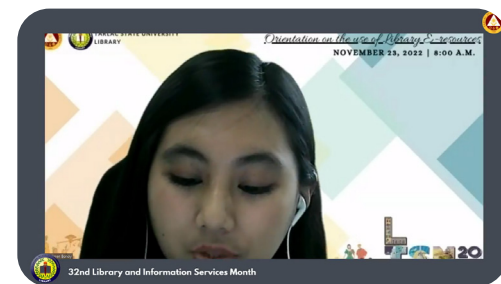
Logic, Inc., Libtech, and Bibliotex.

In an interview, Dir. Bognot said she is grateful for the TSU community’s support to their event.

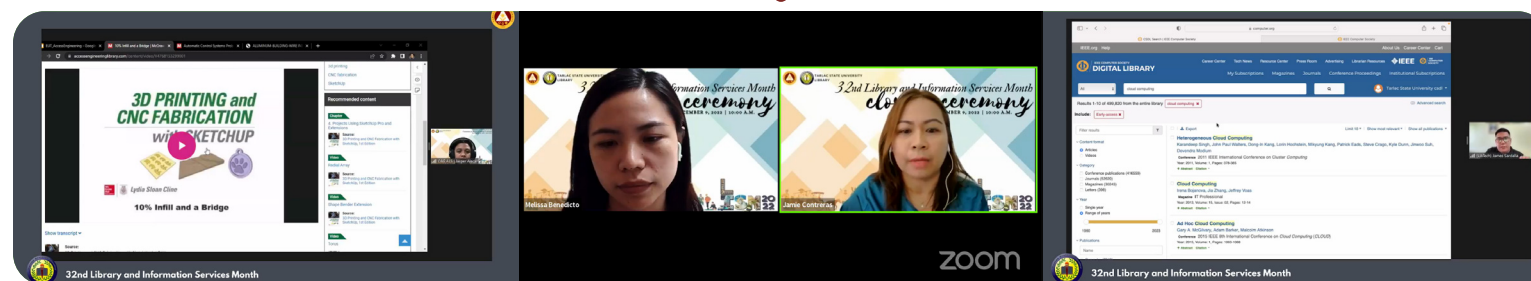
“Siyempre nagpapasalamat ako sa ating administration led by Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and sa ating mga personnel and students for joining our activities and making the 32nd Library and Information Services Month a huge success,” she said.

Under the 1991 Presidential Proclamation No. 837, this annual event is held every November to raise public awareness of the invaluable service that libraries and information centers render.

This celebration is under the direction of the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts-National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS).



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UNIVERSITY THANKSGIVING



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UNIVERSITY THANKSGIVING



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 Policy

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.