

# PNU POST

JANUARY – APRIL 2020

## PNU reaches out to frontliners and vulnerable sector, heeds government call for bayanihan

Eric E. Lebeco

Cognizant of the government's call for cooperation and volunteerism in the spirit of bayanihan, the PNU system initiated a donation drive for the benefit of frontliners and vulnerable populations in the immediate communities of its campuses.

PNU Manila, through its Community Partnership and Extension Office (CPEO), began the Project DEAR (Disaster Emergency Assistance and Relief) on March 23, 2020.

A three-day donation drive collected cash donations from faculty members, administrative staff, and alumni amounting to two hundred sixteen thousand five hundred fifty pesos (Php 216,550.00). The fund directly went to PGH Medical Foundation, Inc., the province of Agusan Del Sur-DRRM, and the local government unit (LGU) of Alicia, Isabela.

PNU North Luzon, PNU Visayas, and PNU Mindanao campuses also extended help to healthcare frontliners by producing 1007 face shields/masks which were distributed to two towns in Isabela (Alicia and Bayugan City), four hospitals and clinics in Negros Occidental, and one hospital in Agusan del Sur. In addition, the four campuses distributed 759 packs of relief goods to almost 800 families in the service areas.

Project DEAR donation drive had its second wave on April 8, 2020 raising funds amounting to three hundred twenty-eight thousand two hundred fifty pesos (Php 328,250.00) to support vulnerable sectors of PNU's partner Barangays in the City of Manila. A total of 370 care packages with food and other necessities were distributed to Barangays 777, 778, and 779. Relief goods and other donations in kind were also given to Ignacio Villamor High School and Arnold Jenssen Kalinga Center. Ninety PPEs were also given to the workers in the Bureau of Quarantine and Ospital ng Sampaloc.

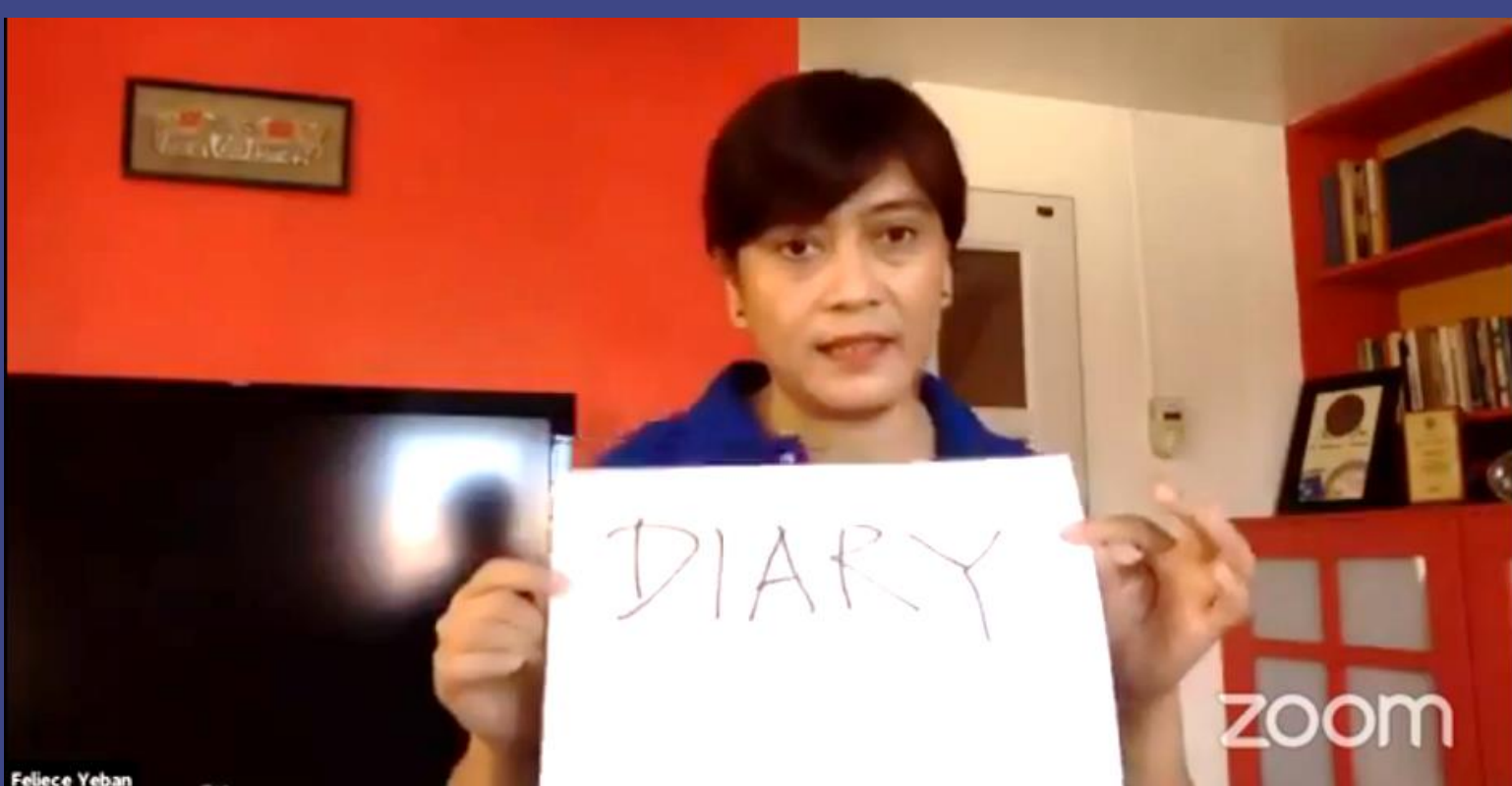
Since March 23, Project DEAR has collected a total amount of 1 million pesos and continues to gather funds and extend help to sectors that need assistance. Requests for help may be referred to the PNU Crisis Helpline through their official Facebook page <https://facebook.com/PNUCrisisHelpline>.



**ONE PNU FOR THE COMMUNITY.** PNU volunteers hand relief goods to senior citizens. Relief initiatives are organized through Project DEAR (Disaster Emergency Assistance and Relief).

## PNU TALKS delivers online

John Miko R. Ofalsa



**ONLINE SERIES NI INANG PAMANTASAN.** Dr. Felicia I. Yeban of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences in her PNU TALKS episode "Buhay Guro matapos ang COVID-19."

PNU launched an online series of informative and educational campaign through Teaching and Advocacy for Lifetime Knowledge and Skills (TALKS): Learning from Home Buddies.

The project uses PNU's Facebook Page and YouTube channel where short talks of selected faculty, staff, and alumni are featured. The first series began on March 30, 2020 and episodes have gained thousands of views since.

Various relevant topics are covered by the talks. Talks related to coping with the COVID-19 pandemic were delivered by Prof. Janir T. Datukan (Homemade Cleaners and Disinfectants), Prof. Erwin M. Blancaflor (Home Safety and First Aid), and Dr. Zhanina U. Custodio (A to E: Keeping the Mind Healthy).

Managing the Enhanced Community Quarantine through productive activities was featured in the talks of Dr. Marshal D. Defensor (Smart Way to Get Fit Amidst COVID-19) and Dr. Leah S. Cortez (Greening to Combat Stress).

Topics that relate to teaching have become popular among PNU Talks viewers. These include talks of Dr. Voltaire M. Villanueva (Planong Estrategiya sa Balik Eskwela Matapos ang Pandemya), Dr. Marie Paz E. Morales (Research at the Comfort of your Home), and Dr. Felicia I. Yeban (Buhay Guro Matapos ang COVID-19).

Relatable topics that concern parents were presented by Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin (Tips for Parents on Homeschooling), Dr. Josephine M. Calamlam (How to Keep Your Child Hooked on Assigned Tasks), Nurse Cindy L. Principe (Understanding COVID-19 for Kids), and Prof. Merimee T. Siena (Cyberbullying and Netiquette).

*more on page 2...*

## PNU Crisis Helpline responds to COVID-19 concerns

Red Honeylee G. Valencia

Responding to the pressing concerns brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, PNU launched the PNU Crisis Helpline to provide support to students, faculty, administrative staff and other stakeholders in the time of this health crisis.

The project is in coordination with the Office of Student Affairs and Student Services (OSASS), College of Teacher Development (CTD), College of Graduate Studies and Teacher Education Research (CGSTER), Community Partnership and Extension Office (CPEO), and University Health Services Unit (UHSU).

PNU Crisis Helpline offers crisis phone lines for information and referral services. It provides support on mental health, economic, medical, and academic concerns. Trained volunteers manage a network of call centers located across Metro Manila.

Mental health assistance through online counseling is offered by qualified responders composed of OSASS counselors, volunteer counselors, and psychologists. Tips for healthy coping and information on how to recognize distress and its effects on individuals and families are shared.

Responders from CPEO, through the Disaster Emergency Assistance and Relief (DEAR) Program address call for economic assistance. Financial assistance and care packages may be requested. Related concerns are also communicated to the proper local government units (LGU).

UHSU doctors and medical personnel respond to health queries and provide referrals to secondary or tertiary care if medical conditions require specialized treatment.

Academic concerns of students are addressed by forwarding them to the Deans, Associate Deans, and/or the faculty members concerned.



...*PNU TALKS (from front page)*

Equally engaging topics were covered in the talks delivered by faculty experts from the different PNU campuses. Prof. Anna Liza G. Santillana (PNU Visayas) shared about Vermi Composting while Engr. Maria Gracia R. Samson (PNU South Luzon) gave a talk on Urban Gardening. Dr. Fe S. Bermiso (PNU Mindanao) discussed Eko-Panitikang Manobo. Mr. Jandy S. Danzalan elaborated on indigenous rattan weaving.

PNU Talks recently began its Alumni Series where selected alumni were featured with talks on various topics on education. These talks were delivered by Marc Vener Del Carmen (Journey Towards Winning in DOST Innobox), Mary Grace Bumanlag (STAR-Lead Approach), and Jose Mari Calamlam (Re-imagining Teaching and Learning in the Context of VUCA Environment).

The Alumni Series also covered special topics on coping with COVID-19 pandemic. These talks include those of Russel Cruz (The Good Shepherd Amidst our Fear and Worries), Bethoven Filomeno (Photography at Home During Quarantine), Boris Joaquin (Managing Change During COVID-19 Crisis), and Darryl Correa (Coping with Crisis Through Mindfulness).

Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement, spearheads this project. He said that future episodes will feature topics suggested by the viewers. All episodes may be accessed in the PNU Facebook page and YouTube channel.

# PNU launches online bulletin, FB page on COVID-19

*Ernest Dave A. Tenorio*

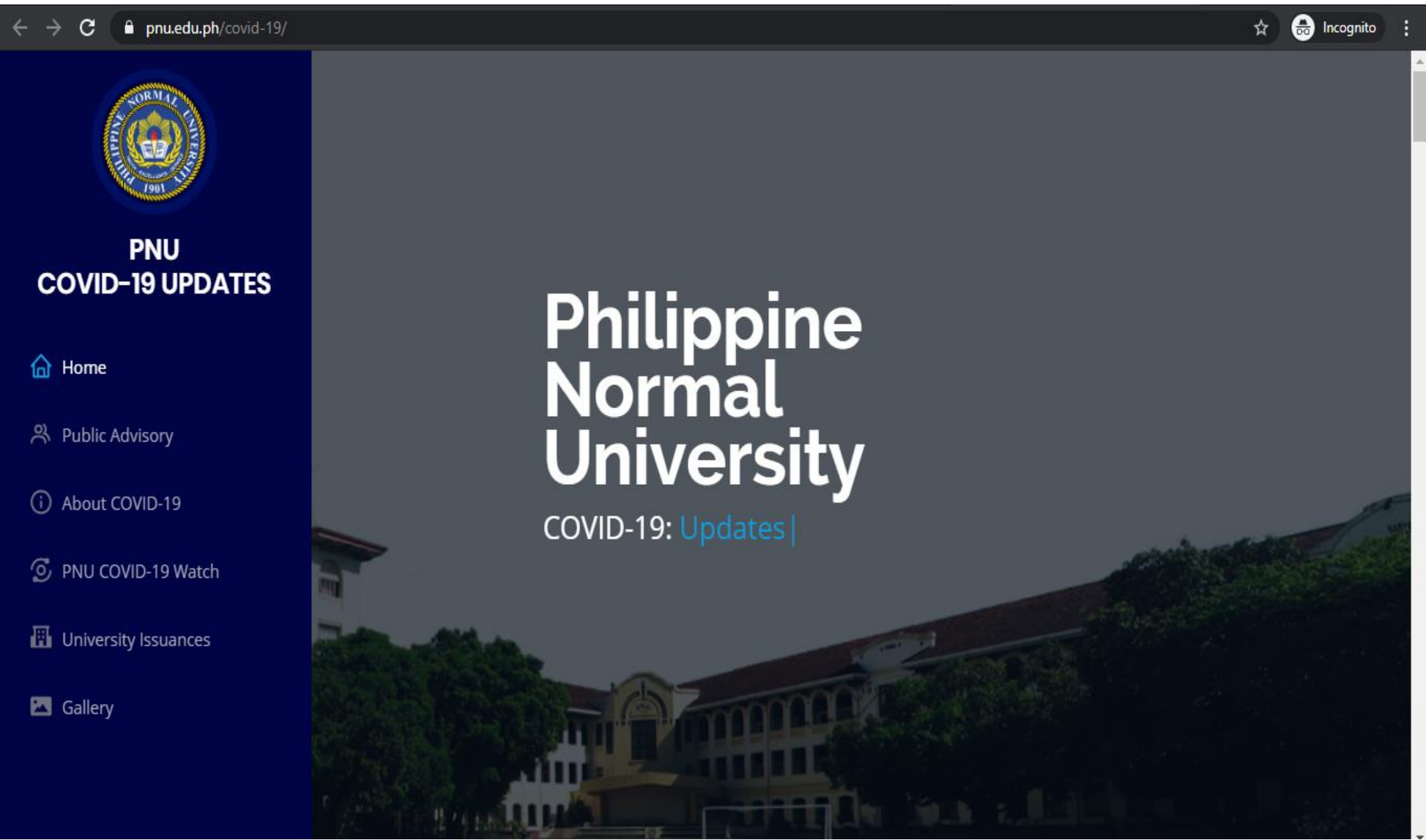
**PNU used online platforms to provide reliable information and reach out to its stakeholders amid the ongoing health crisis.**

The Management and Information System Office (MISO) created Philippine Normal University COVID-19 Updates. This ad-hoc website posts PNU's public advisories and factual information on preventing the spread of COVID-19. The website also informs the community of helplines and links to government agencies that provide important services and response to concerns on COVID-19 and the Enhanced Community Quarantine.

PNU also launched #PNUhope and #COVIDkalangPNUanskami on its Facebook page to encourage online interaction among students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The hashtags came with daily reflective questions to ponder on.

Timely interactions were started by questions like “PNUans, mayroon ba kayong nakakatuwa o nakaka-inspire na kuwento ngayong quarantine period? Pa-shout out naman!”

Various responses from the PNUans were shared in the platform. Janet Arellano stated, “Inspiring po kasi ito ang panahon kung saan nakapagninilay nilay ka sa mga bagay na nakaligtaan mo dahil sa pagiging busy sa work at naging routinary na po ang sistema.” Another PNUan, Genevie-Abi Calimbahin said, “I got to donate to people who are in need of help such as Angkas bikers, and others whom I know that are in need. It's always more blessed to give than to receive.”



**ONLINE RESPONSE.**PNU's dedicated webpage for all COVID-19 related announcements. You may visit the site through <https://pnu.edu.ph/covid-19/>



The PNU POST is the Philippine Normal University's official online newsletter. This quarterly publication documents news stories on university activities and features articles on relevant issues in education.

This issue covers PNU's relevant initiatives as response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also features the University President's article on leadership in these challenging times and a story on PNUans' lockdown diaries. Allow PNU POST to inform and inspire as we brace ourselves for the “new NORMAL.”

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| Ma. Elvira A. Asuan<br>Dominic Kean N. Calavia<br>Sienna Joy C. Galit<br>Eric E. Lebeco<br>Marie Paz E. Morales<br>John Miko R. Ofalsa<br>Red Honeylee G. Valencia<br>Ernest Dave A. Tenorio | Maria Teresa L. Manicio<br><br><b>ISSUE EDITOR</b><br><br><br><br>Jervick F. Causarin<br>John Miko R. Ofalsa | John Miko R. Ofalsa<br><br><b>ISSUE COORDINATOR</b><br><br>Ali G. Anudin<br>Ruth A. Alido<br>Lordinio A. Vergara<br>Bert J. Tuga |
| <b>CONTRIBUTORS</b>  | <b>LAYOUT ARTISTS</b>  | <b>CONSULTANTS</b>   |

## Mabunga, Vergara, Huliganga, and Jocson assume VP Posts

*John Miko R. Ofalsa*

**PNU President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, has designated executive posts in the university on January 31, 2020 through University Memorandum No. 8, series of 2020.**

Dr. Ronald Allan S. Mabunga, former Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Teacher Education Research, is designated as the Vice President for Research, Planning, and Quality Assurance (VPRPQA). Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, former Director of the Institute of Physical Education, Health, Recreation, Dance, and Sports, is now the Vice President for University Relations and Advancement.

University Memorandum No. 71, series of 2020 states the designation of Mr. Harry P. Huliganga as the Vice President for Finance and Administration (VPFA). Mr. Huliganga is the former OIC of VPFA office and also former Director of Financial Management System. The Vice President for Academics post is given to Dr. Jennie V. Jocson, former Deputy Director of Research Center for Teacher Quality.

These designations are co-terminus with the presidency of Dr. Bert J. Tuga and subject to approval of the Board of Regents.

## 28 PNU programs merit AACUP Level 4 accreditation

*Sienna Joy C. Galit and Marie Paz E. Morales*



**UNDER THOROUGH SCRUTINY.** AACUP accreditor evaluates documentary evidence for accreditation.

**PNU marked a notable achievement as the first university with the highest number of programs that earned Level 4 Phase 1 accreditation from the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines, Inc. (AACUP).**

Twenty-eight graduate and undergraduate programs were assessed within a five-week (July-August 2019) accreditation survey process.

The AACUP accreditors not only assessed documents but also conducted classroom observations, interviews, and site visits. Programs were evaluated in 10 areas: VMGO's (Vision, Mission, Goals, and Objectives), Faculty, Curriculum and Instruction, Support to Students, Research, Extension and Community

Involvement, Library, Physical Plant and Facilities, and Laboratories and Administration.

Faculty, staff, and students tirelessly worked on the accreditation preparation chaired by former Vice-President of Research, Planning and Quality Assurance Dr. Rosemarievic V. Diaz together with the University's Executive Committee headed by former Officer-in-Charge Dr. Maria Antoinette C. Montealegre.





# Reflections from the President

BERT J. TUGA, PH.D.

## Leading amidst the Pandemic

**When I started my new mission as President of the Philippine Normal University (PNU) in December 2019, I knew that it was going to be a challenging task leading the National Center for Teacher Education (NCTE). However, I would never have envisioned that managing PNU would be at the time of a pandemic especially in my first 100 days in office.**

### ***Pre-enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) days***

As early as February 2020, news about the spread of then novel coronavirus (now COVID-19) in China and other countries already infiltrated the free media and the Internet. I became worried and thought that Metro Manila, being the international gateway of the country and the most populous region, will suffer grossly from the outbreak of the virus. In response to the anticipated threat to the safety of the PNU community my office immediately conducted several coordination meetings with other University officials and, subsequently, issued corresponding advisories regarding the impending danger when COVID-19 reaches the country. We carefully laid out important precautionary measures to avoid the spread of the virus, especially in the campus. We then immediately initiated the following measures: (1) spearheaded information drive, both offline and online; (2) placed soaps, rubbing alcohols, and sanitizers in rest rooms, offices, and some strategic areas in the University; (3) required thermal scanning of all people upon entry to the University; (4) suspended classes and work to disinfect the campus; (5) encouraged physical/social distancing in offices; and (6) advised those who travelled abroad to subject themselves to self-quarantine. We likewise discouraged and cancelled pre-scheduled domestic and international travels of faculty members, administrative staff, and students, whether official or personal. All these things were implemented approximately three (3) weeks before the ECQ.

### ***During the ECQ days***

The day that President Rodrigo Duterte announced the implementation of ECQ in Metro Manila and eventually in the entire Luzon is still very vivid to me. The decision was quite abrupt. We did not anticipate the high restrictions imposed with respect to social mobility, physical distancing, and the suspension of both work and classes. The first thing that came to my mind was, "How will our faculty members and administrative staff survive the two-week ECQ without their salary?" By heaven's grace, we were fortunate to have a dedicated skeleton workforce who worked tirelessly in order to facilitate the release of the two-week salaries of all PNU employees by the evening of March 16. That was a big relief on my part. Then the second issue was, "What will happen to the remaining weeks of the term, submission of requirements, interview of PNUAT passers, graduation-related matters, enrolment, and other concerns?" These were eventually addressed, albeit temporarily, through the consensus of University officials, who met to discuss the direction that PNU would undertake from then on.

In the days that followed, we saw the number of cases increase and the word "positive" took on a whole different meaning which was the opposite. We knew ECQ will not be lifted on April 15, 2020 as it was too much of a risk to allow people to congregate, en masse, all over the country. Prudence dictated that we should prepare for the worst and create scenarios to anticipate the continued impact of the pandemic to the University. In effect, the top management conducted several meetings, face-to-face and online, to do risk-based planning and decision-making related to the impact of COVID-19 to the operations of the University, most especially to the Academics domain. Along with these plans, we thought we have to ensure the

economic security of our employees and the safety and well-being of our students, specifically those who were stranded in their dormitories and boarding houses around Metro Manila during the ECQ.

Recognizing the needs of our COVID-19 front liners and the vulnerable populations of our partner communities, PNU, including its campuses, consequently launched several donation drives to raise funds from its faculty members, administrative staff, alumni, and other stakeholders. Through the Disaster Emergency Assistance and Relief (DEAR) program, PNU was able to provide cash assistance, food packages, hygiene kits, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to various beneficiaries across the country. Furthermore, PNU launched the web series, PNU TALKS (Teaching and Advocacy for Lifelong Knowledge and Skills) for the continued learning among the students, faculty members, administrative staff, alumni, and other stakeholders. The series provides live and recorded lectures from selected faculty members, administrative staff, and alumni on different topics that keep everyone learning and engaged during the ECQ. More recently, the University also launched the PNU Crisis Helpline to provide crisis intervention services such as telepsychology, medical and economic referral, academic assistance, and online counseling.

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## COVID-19 has ushered us into the "new normal," especially in education.

## Decisions need to be data-based, inclusive, realistic or achievable, and effective...

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As of this writing, PNU has officially ended Term 3 AY 2019-2020. The Academic Council will now have to decide on the following: (1) grading system of undergraduate students for the recently concluded term; (2) approval of the official list of graduating students; and (3) planning for Term 1 AY 2020-2021 and the succeeding terms of the new academic year. Consultation and meetings among the members of the faculty have already begun in the respective Colleges, Faculties, and Institutes. Meanwhile, the salaries of all PNU employees as well as the stipends of all scholars have already been released in advance. Top management also continues to address government requirements related to the impact of the pandemic to the operations of the University.

***After the ECQ (and, hopefully, the "flattening of the curve")***

COVID-19 has ushered us into the "new normal," especially in education. Because of this pandemic, Education 4.0 has to happen soon in order for us to ensure that our education is free from any form of distraction. More grimly though, this pandemic has also exposed the perennial social inequalities in our society. In reality, poverty has restricted some students from accessing technology as a viable tool for learning further

revealing that many homes are not conducive places for learning outside the classroom.

Given these realities, PNU needs to address the continuity of teaching and learning without duly putting the poor students at a disadvantage. As a learning community, PNU needs to promote inclusivity in its policies as it endeavors to offer a more flexible and disruption-free education.

Online surveys, planning meetings, and brainstorming sessions involving PNU officials, members of the faculty, and students are now being done as we search for appropriate approaches to instructional delivery such as online learning, modular learning, flexible learning, homeschooling, blended learning, or other alternative modalities to address the different needs and contexts of students, including the capabilities of the faculty members to deliver alternative modalities of teaching. Decisions need to be data-based, inclusive, realistic or achievable, and effective in realizing the educational objectives set forth in the curriculum. Thus, PNU needs to revisit its Outcomes-Based Teacher Education Curriculum (OBTEC) to consider the lessons and insights from this pandemic and the emerging competencies that need to be developed among future teachers.

Equally significant is to ensure the continuity of operations in the University beyond the ECQ. Administrative and academic support services must continue to be delivered in order to respond to the needs of faculty members, administrative staff, students, alumni, and external clients, who seek to avail of these services in the new context where physical distancing has to be observed. Using the new innovations in ICT, PNU needs to level up other programs and automated services such as: (1) Digital Library; (2) online Enrolment System in the Graduate School; (3) Registrar Administration System; (4) Online Application and Admission System; and (5) implementing e-Student Services, among others.

As NCTE it is also imperative for PNU to offer solutions and provide assistance to DepEd, CHED and other TEIs on matters relevant to curriculum, instructional delivery, and teacher training as the education system adapts to the challenges of the "new normal."

### ***Lessons learned***

There is no constant formula for effective leadership especially during a crisis. Lest we forget, the COVID-19 pandemic is a novel problem among education leaders and managers. In PNU, I do not claim that my management choices and decisions are fool-proof and without impediments. I am certain, however, of the invaluable insights that I have gained to carry on in the future such as: (1) being proactive in difficult or unexpected situations, (2) employing risk-based thinking and foresight in crisis and non-crisis scenarios, (3) welcoming collaboration and dialogue from different sectors, (4) communicating information efficiently and effectively, and (5) leading with care and compassion.

Fast forward to the time when COVID-19 crisis is over, we will all remember that we have survived a pandemic, not because of one person, but because of our united spirits and actions. The crisis should have created better and renewed persons in us and more prepared to face new ones in the unforeseeable future. As Sam Cawthorn, an Australian life coach aptly puts it, "Crisis moments create opportunity. Problems and crisis ignite our greatest creativity and thought leadership as it forces us to focus on things outside the norm."



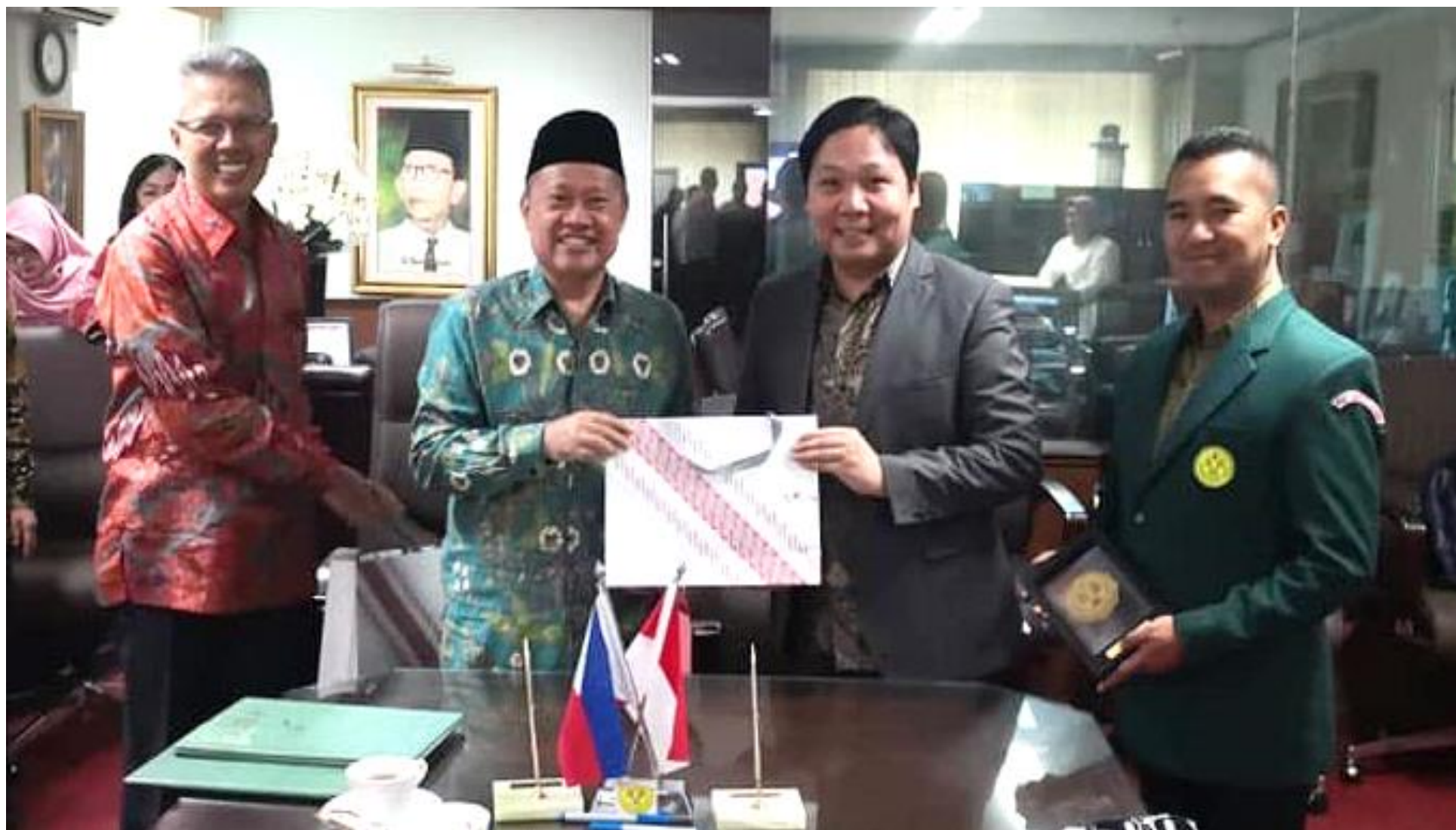
# PNU renews MoU with Universitas Negeri Jakarta

*Ma. Elvira A. Asuan*

The Philippine Normal University (PNU) and the Universitas Negeri Jakarta (UNJ) continue their academic partnership by renewing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on February 28, 2020.

PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga and UNJ Rector Prof. Dr. Komarudin signed the agreement with Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement, witnessing the ceremony together with other UNJ officials.

In March 2019, PNU faculty scholars earned their PhD Sports Education degrees at UNJ. The scholarship program was in partnership with UNJ and funded by PNU's faculty development program. The PNU-UNJ academic collaboration shall continue through faculty and student exchange programs.



**RENEWED UNDERSTANDING.** UNJ and PNU strengthen their mutual commitment towards academic excellence through the inking of a new MoU. Seen during the signing are (L to R) Vice Rector for Planning and Cooperation Affairs Dr. Totok Bintoro, Rector Komarudin, M.Si., PNU President Bert J. Tuga, and VPURA Lordinio A. Vergara.

## Faculty scholars conferred doctoral degrees

*Eric E. Lebeco and John Miko R. Ofalsa*

PNU takes pride in the accomplishment of several faculty members who have completed their Doctorate degrees from international affiliated universities and top local higher education institutions.

Seven faculty scholars successfully earned their PhD in Social Science degree at the Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (UPI) on February 26, 2020. Dr. Ma. Lorella Arabit-Zapatos, Dr. Zyalie L. Bedural, Dr. Ma. Arsenia C. Gomez, Dr. Wensley M. Reyes, Dr. Nikolee Marie A. Serafico-Reyes, and Dr. Minda C. Valencia of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences. They are also joined by Dr. Roel V. Avila of PNU South Luzon.

Dr. Bert J. Tuga, PNU President and Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement attended the commencement exercises of the faculty scholars. The partnership between PNU and UPI was approved under former President Ester B. Ogena in 2015 and gained the nod of the Board of Regents through BOR Resolution No. U-2477, s. 2016. This partnership continues to strengthen as PNU officials discussed future collaborations with UPI through its Rector Prof. Dr. H. R. Asep Kadarohman.

Faculty scholars who pursued their doctorate degrees at De La Salle University Manila have also graduated. These faculty members are Dr. Ruth A. Alido (PhD in Applied Linguistics), Dr. Ali G. Anudin (PhD in Applied Linguistics), Dr. Aurora B. Gonzales (PhD in Science Education with specialization in Mathematics Education), and Dr. Julievic D. Palting (PhD sa Araling Filipino –Wika, Kultura at Midya) were conferred with their degrees on February 29, 2020.

Dr. Alido and Dr. Anudin are from the Faculty of Arts and Languages while Dr. Gonzales is from the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics. Dr. Palting is a Filipino professor at PNU North Luzon. Dr. Rita B. Ruscoe, former Dean of College of Teacher Development, and Dr. Ma. Antoinette C. Montealegre, former Vice President for Academics attended the hooding ceremony in De La Salle University.

The success of the faculty scholars is also credited to PNU's faculty development program that aims to cultivate a culture of research and scholarship of teaching.



## Leading tech innovators share expertise in 5-day online workshop for PNU workforce

*John Miko R. Ofalsa*

The College of Flexible Learning and e-PNU together with the Management Information System Office and the Institute of Knowledge Management organized a five-day workshop on Digital Citizenship for 21st Century Learners which featured technology experts from AMICUS KOI Solutions and partners. The workshop was conducted on March 30 to April 3, 2020 through the PNU online LMS.

One hundred fifty (150) faculty, staff, and executives from the PNU system participated in the workshop which focused on necessary skills to maneuver technologies for and innovations in education.

Speakers discussed relevant topics. Ms. Ma. Rhodora Santos, Amicus KOI Solutions founder, covered tools for education. Mr. Paolo Balinas and Ms. Grace Co of Microsoft Philippines talked about digital citizenship and explored the Minecraft game. Mr. Prince Billy Datu of CloudSwyft Global System Inc. highlighted the importance of technological skills for education.

Competences required among graduates for higher education were the key takeaways in the talk of Mr. Francis Hernandez of Audentes Technologies Inc. Mr. Paulo Culateros of ACER introduced their products and programs while Ms. Santos of Amicus KOI Solutions detailed the use of Microsoft Forms and Sway. The workshop was capped off by Mr. Gabriel Eric Garcia through his talk on Cloud Solution-Azure.

In her message, former Vice President for Academics Ma. Antoinette C. Montealegre congratulated the participants and organizers of the workshop for its success despite the COVID-19 crisis. The workshop is a stepping stone towards a more efficient adoption of online-based technologies for various processes in the University.

## German Academic Exchange Service, PNU partner for Int'l Deans' Course

*Eric E. Lebeco*

The German Academic Exchange Service (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*) or Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DAAD) International Deans' Course for Southeast Asia (IDC – SEA) Philippine National Multiplication Training (NMT) was conducted with PNU as one of the host universities on February 17-20, 2020.

DAAD supports alumni of international training courses for Deans from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and South East Asia. The short courses are designed for higher education managers and academics.

The 2020 IDC NMT grant was awarded to four co-sponsoring higher education institutions: Philippine Normal University (lead university), Centro Escolar University, De La Salle University, and San Carlos University.

Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, former Associate Dean of the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics and alumna of the course led the organizing of this year's training.

The opening program was graced by H.E. Anke Reiffenstuel, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and IDC Directors, Dr. Peter Mayer (Academic Director) and Dr. Flordeliza Anastacio (SEA Regional Director).

Participants were also joined by academic officials of host universities: Dr. Ma. Cristina D. Padolina (CEU), Bro. Bernard S. Oca, FSC (DLSU), and Dr. Bert Jazmin Tuga (PNU President).

Twenty-five middle managers from different higher education institutions in the Philippines participated the eight-day course which covered topics on higher education system, leadership and project action plans, and strategic faculty, conflict, and financial management.

Dr. Celia U. Ilanan, Dr. Madonna C. Gonzales, and Dr. Ruth A. Alido of PNU were among the participants.

European Expert Dr. Peter Mayer led the training team with Regional Mentor Dr. Flordeliza Anastacio. Other trainers include IDC alumni Dr. Gladys Nivera, Dr. Jonathan Dungca, Dr. Evelyn Taboada, and Dr. Antriman Orleans.

Dr. Rochelle Lucas, Dr. Digna Alba, Dr. Felicia Yeban, and Dr. Adelaida Gines served as resource persons.



# PNUans Online: A Lockdown Diary

*Dominic Kean N. Calavia*

The current Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) has changed many aspects of our lives and many have turned to social media, PNUans included.

Amidst the ECQ, I decided to browse Facebook and see how PNUans explore this online platform. I saw a lot of sharing of information from must watch TED Talks to must read literature, but what I found inspiring was how some PNUans make use of technology and social media creatively.

Angelica D. Agunod, a Filipino major from Batch 2019 made the most of her quarantine free time by creating games using PowerPoint. She posted on Facebook games that she made. She said her goal was to share with students and teachers the possibility of showing both fun and learning using PowerPoint Presentation. You should check out her TALA Salitaan, a vocabulary game on El Filibusterismo and Hayag-Hula, an enjoyable game about the characters in Noli Me Tangere.



Test your Noli and Fili knowledge by playing these games.  
Check <https://bit.ly/2SsXhkU>

Patriluz C. Manongsong, an English Major from Batch 2015, proved that art heals as it also inspires with her artworks she titled “Faces of Quarantine: A Watercolor Series.” She spent her ECQ time expressing her love for painting and using it as a medium. In an interview with the PNU POST, she explained, “The purpose was to create an art journal to mirror how society was through those 30 days.”

Manongsong’s paintings were inspired by actual photos in the news. She said, “When this crisis is over, I also hope that this would allow us to look back at what we have conquered.” Her drawings depicted the everyday challenges of people during the ECQ—one showed commuters struggling to get on a bus to head home before cities get locked down, and another pictured frontliners in a checkpoint. Her other paintings also represented her personal emotions given her experiences during quarantine. “Hopefully, the series helped inform the people of what was happening, and when all of these were done, remind them of what we have,” she said.

“Lakad”  
03.17.20  
watercolor and pen  
PCM



Photo inspiration from CNN Philippines  
A 64-year-old man walked for 3 hours from Pasig to San Juan because his 86-year-old employer needed him to buy medicine. Public transportation has been suspended.  
Day 3  
(Also 1st day of enhanced community quarantine)

“Social Distance”  
03.16.20  
watercolor and pen  
PCM



Photo inspiration from Mark Demayo  
(ABS-CBN News)  
Commuters’ situation at Commonwealth ave.  
this morning  
Day 2

Be inspired by these artworks. Check <https://bit.ly/2KR9n30>

The student body also used social media as a platform for sharing public opinion and sustaining critical discussions on timely issues related to the pandemic. Facebook walls are filled with interactions on how the current health crisis impacts socio-political conditions. PNUans expressed various opinions and shared helpful facts in their posts. This is definitely a good exercise not only for honing our critical thinking skills but also for reflecting on our responsibility as proactive citizens.

This pandemic proves to be challenging in so many ways, but for us PNUans, this has also become an opportunity to engage in creative and worthwhile activities online while in the comfort of our homes.

## Academic events mark PNU’s 28th Universityhood

*Ernest Dave A. Tenorio*



**RCTQ’s FINEST.** Dr. Gina O. Gonong shares RCTQ’s achievements during the University Convocation.

Philippine Normal University celebrated its 28th Universityhood with the theme “Strengthening Teacher Education for Teacher Quality” on January 21 to February 19, 2020.

The week-long celebration kicked off with an opening parade and program participated by faculty, administrative employees, students, and university officials.

A series of academic activities were conducted. The University Convocation was held on January 24 with Dr. Gina O. Gonong, Director of the Research Center for Teacher Quality as the keynote speaker. Dr. Gonong shared the impact of PNU-led

research efforts through the Research Center for Teacher Quality.

University week is also the time to recognize outstanding employees, research awardees, and BLEPT topnotchers.

Research Forum for graduate students was held on February 8. Presentations were delivered by graduate students and faculty.

Gawad Sulo for Eminent Alumni concluded the celebration. Twenty-one awardees graced the occasion. The PNU Gawad Sulo is the highest award given to outstanding individuals, groups, or institutions that have notable contribution to the field of education in the country.





*The PNU Gawad Sulo 2020 Awardee, Shirley Halili-Cruz and the PNU Eminent Alumni.*

# Gawad SULO 2020 honors Halili-Cruz, eminent alumni

*Eric E. Lebeco*

The PNU Gawad Sulo 2020 awarded the Gawad Sulo for Media and the Arts to National Committee on Dance Chair, Shirley Halili-Cruz, a dance leader whose projects on dance education reflect PNU ideals.

The event also recognized PNU's Eminent Alumni who have excelled not only in their profession but also in their communities through their leadership and advocacies. Twenty recipients were honored in the event held on February 19, 2020.

Eminent alumni who were honored for their relevant advocacies in education are Elena Castaño Gabilo (Class 1956), Rodolfo S. Bernardo (Class 1962), Atlee T. Viray (Class 1968), Ma. Rhodora M. Santos (Class 1984), Jose Allan I. Arellano (Class 1990), and Boris F. Joaquin (PNU Laboratory School).

PNU alumni who continue to give notable contribution to the field of Teacher Education were also recognized. They are Angelita D. Romero (Class 1964), Lolita H. Nava (Class 1965), Emilia L. Banlaygas (Class 1969), Milagros Lim Borabo (Class 1976), Danilo B. Solayao (Class 1992), Crisanto E. Avila (Class 1994), Joselito D. Delos

Reyes (PNU Class 2002), Marivic Borcelo Tolitol (Class 2003), and Joy De la Peña-Talens (Class 2009).

Recognition was given to the alumni who made impact in Educational Leadership. Awardees are Oscar O. Bautista (Class 1967), Sheryll Tibayan Gayola (Class 1995), Carleen Saludes Sedilla (Class 1995), Freddie V. Avendaño (Class 1997), and Jofabelle Mae L. Jalalon (Class 2002).

The PNU Gawad Sulo Executive Committee is headed by Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement (VPURA) through the Alumni Relations and Services Office. Since Gawad Sulo's inception in 2013, it has recognized 114 outstanding recipients.

## PNU spearheads Teacher Quality and Quality Assurance Summit 2020

*Eric E. Lebeco*

PNU conducted its four-day Teacher Quality and Quality Assurance Summit on January 27-30, 2020 at the Teacher's Camp, Baguio City.

University officials, faculty, administrative employees and student leaders from all the PNU campuses participated in the summit with the theme "PNU as NCTE: Leading the Way to Teacher Quality."

The annual summit was an opportunity to develop a roadmap toward a PNU Internal Quality Assurance (QA) System as a response to the QA Standards such as the Philippine Quality Award (PQA) and the ASEAN-QA in Teacher Education.

Discussions were also on situating PNU vis-à-vis the expectations of the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers in terms of curriculum, teacher training, and practices.

Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles delivered the keynote speech and shared the plans of the government to uphold teacher quality and the quality of education in the Philippines.

Cong. Marquez "Mark" O. Go, Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education, Baguio City Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong, and Councilor Levy Lloyd B. Orcales also graced the summit.

Plenary sessions were led by DepEd Undersecretary Atty. Nepomuceno A. Malaluan, RCTQ Director Dr. Gina O. Gonong, and PQA Assessor Ms. Maria Renita C. Santo.

Panel discussions on the theme "Bridging the Gap: PNU's Role in Raising Teacher Quality in the Country" were participated by notable discussants: Dr. Jesus Lorenzo R. Mateo, DepEd Undersecretary for Regional Operations; Dr. Wilfredo E. Cabral, DepEd Region IV-A Director; Dr. Runvi V. Manguerra, Director of the TEC Secretariat; and Dr. Aldrin A. Darilag, CHED Commissioner.



**CAB SEC FOR EDUCATION.** Top Management headed by President Bert J. Tuga (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) presents an institutional gift to Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles (center) during the PNU Quality Summit.