

SALOM of PNU-Mindanao students, ASEAN regional Marine Hackathon winner

Adelyne M. Costelo-Abrea



Alexis Sebote, Clint Lagrimas, and Michelle Monoy, students from PNU Mindanao triumphed in the Regional Marine Hackathon 2.0 for their project SALOM: Diving into the water during the proclamation of winners last July 7 via Zoom cloud meeting.

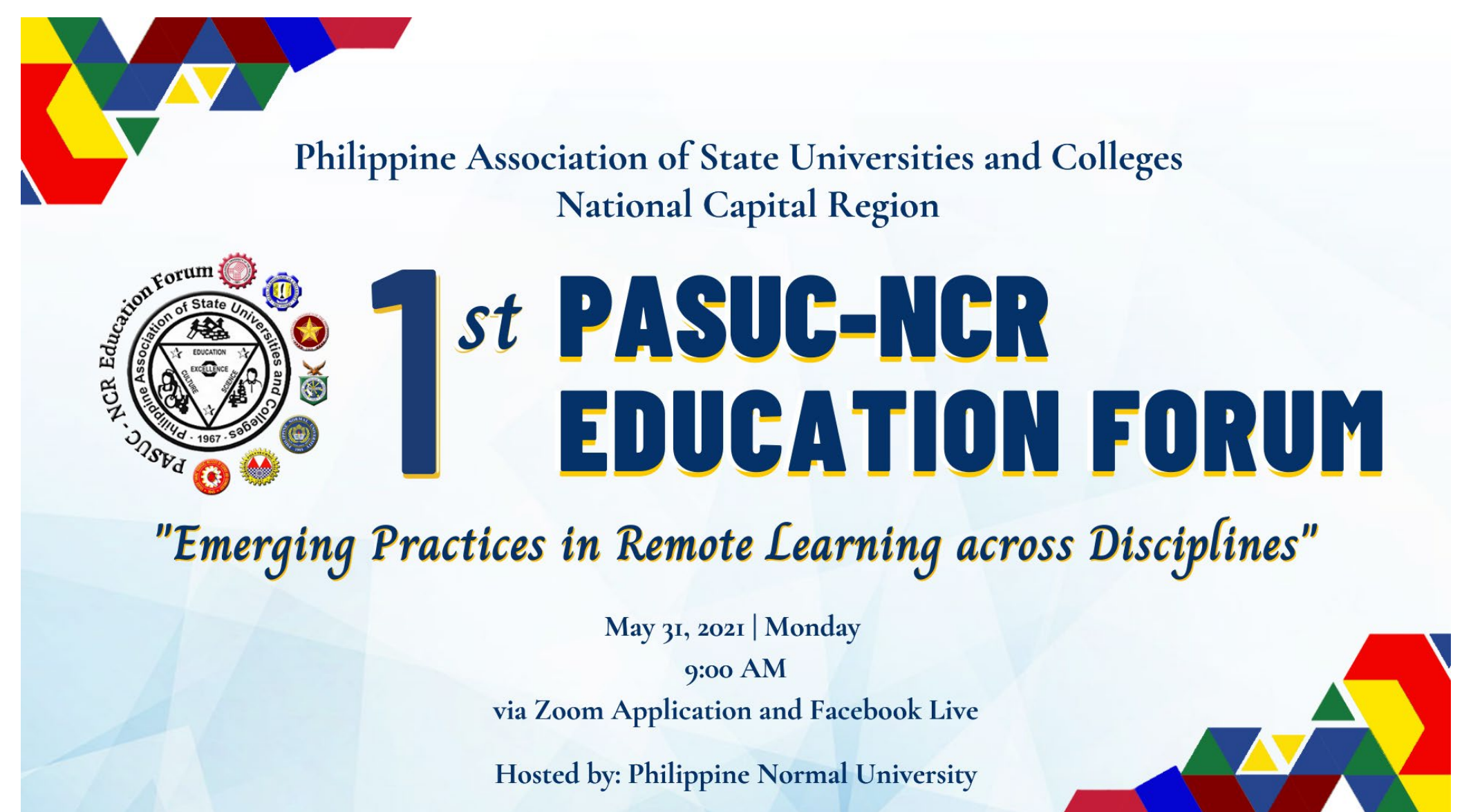
Haquathon 2.0 is a regional hackathon for tech-based solutions to save our seas organized by Save Philippine Seas (SPS) and the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines participated in by the sea advocates from Southeast Asia. This hackathon seeks individuals, groups or organizations to create and pilot solutions that address coastal-and marine-related sustainability issues.

Team SALOM from the Philippines topped the competition among the 15 participating projects: six from the Philippines and another six innovating teams from Indonesia ; two from Malaysia, and one team from Vietnam. The participating teams designed technological responses which aimed to save the sea from illegal and unregulated fishing, strengthen sustainable consumption and production and promote climate and citizen engagement.

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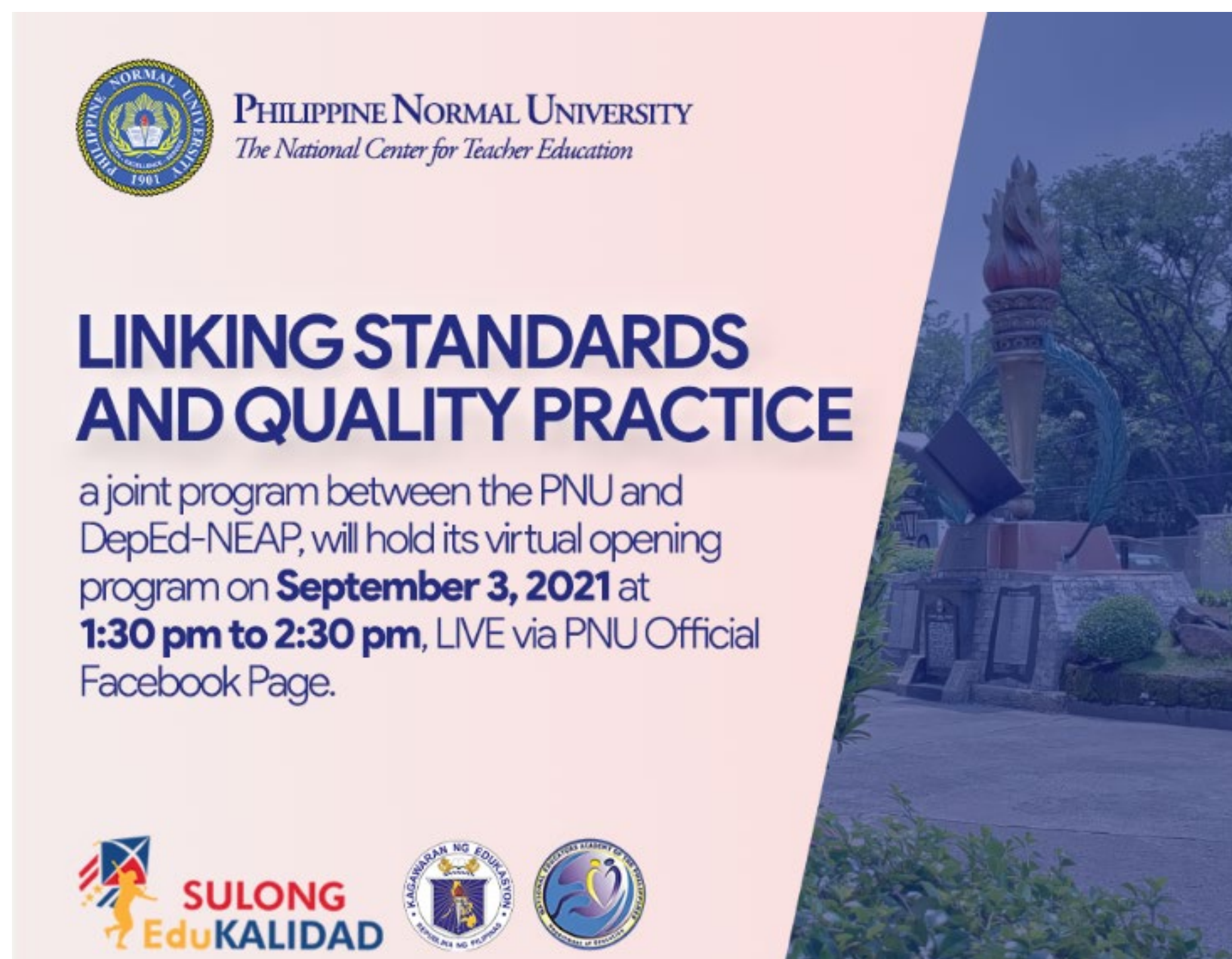
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PNU LiSQuP Opening Program 2021

Ehrwin Clarin and Florence M. Rosini



PNU officially welcomed 2,800 teachers and school leaders to the LiSQuP program during its virtual opening ceremony last September 3. They are the first batch of scholars selected in this joint project by the Department of Education (DepEd) and PNU to provide professional development for Filipino educators.

PNU President Bert J. Tuga led the event which was also graced by DepEd Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones who described the program as a significant aspect of the DepEd's long-time partnership with the university.

"This partnership between PNU and DepEd provides an indefinite framework for areas of work and organization which can be institutionalized and which will strengthen our collaboration and better fulfill our respective legal mandates," said Secretary Briones.

In like manner, DepEd Undersecretary and Chief of Staff Atty. Nepomuceno A. Malaluan emphasized the role of PNU and LiSQuP in the transformation of the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP) of the DepEd.

"This is a major reform that seeks to revitalize NEAP as an institution and to integrate our professional development programs while elevating its quality according to the professional standards for teachers and school leaders," said Undersecretary Malaluan.

President Tuga also stressed that "The university continues to be of service in achieving the aims of LiSQuP: to deliver standard-based, coherent, and integrative professional development programs in making quality practice a common practice among educational personnel in the country."

Meanwhile, Vice President for Academics and PNU LiSQuP Program Director Dr. Jennie V. Jocson emphasized that LiSQuP is "a response to the rapidly changing learning environment and would like to inculcate among the scholars the PNU brand of education."

LiSQuP's framework consists of three main drivers for quality practice: DepEd's *Sulong Edukalidad*, which focuses on teacher upskilling and reskilling through the NEAP transformation; the adopted DepEd professional standards; and PNU's mission of nurturing innovative teachers and education leaders.

NEAP Director John Arnold S. Siena then urged the scholars to give LiSQuP their utmost attention and dedication. "The success of this program will depend on your individual success. We want to see you empowering yourselves. We want to see you showing the right example for the next batches of LiSQuP recipients," Director Siena pointed out.

LiSQuP's official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/lisqup> was also formally launched in the event by Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for University Relations and Advancement and LiSQuP Co-Lead for Partnership. The cohorts were informed that they can now access important announcements through the page as they prepare for the start of Term 1 SY 2021-22 on September 27, 2021. This online community also urges the cohorts to engage with their fellow scholars. It also serves as a platform to share their inspiring stories and testimonies.

With this beginning, Dr. Jocson said that the LiSQuP program hopes for a ripple effect from the first batch of scholars to other Filipino educators towards "improved education outcomes in the country."

For more updates, follow the LiSQuP official Facebook page.



IMBAng GURO ng PNU, kinilalang Ulirang Guro sa Filipino KWF

Voltaire M. Villanueva



Hindi kataka-taka na mapapabilang si Dr. Voltaire M. Villanueva ng Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas sa isa sa mga Ulirang Guro sa Filipino ngayong taong 2021 ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino sapagkat hindi rin matatawaran ang kanyang naging malaking ambag sa pagpapakilala at pagpapataas ng antas ng pagtuturo sa Filipino gamit ang kanyang mga inobatibong estratehiya.

Isang kilala at kagalang-galang na dalubguro si Dr. Voltaire M. Villanueva na kasalukuyang Katuwang na Dekano sa ilalim ng Fakulti ng mga Sining at Wika sa Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas-Maynila. Subalit, bago nagsilbing dekan, kanya munang hinasa ang mga mag-aaral na nagpapakadalubhasa sa Filipino sa iba't ibang kaalamang pedagohikal upang matupad ang kanyang hangaring makalidad na pagtuturo at pagkatuto ng Filipino sa hinaharap.

Nakilala si Dr. Villanueva bilang isang Inobatibo, Mapanuri, Bago at Aktibong (IMBA) guro sa loob ng maraming taon sa larangan ng Filipino. Nakalikha siya ng iba't ibang estratehiya sa pagtuturo ng Filipino sa iba't ibang antas ng pagkatuto. Kalakip din ng kanyang mga inobasyon sa pedagohiya ng Filipino ay ang tunguhing pataasin ang kalidad ng pagtuturo nito na isa sa pinapangarap ng guro para sa kanyang larangan.

Sino nga ba ang IMBAng guro?

Nagtapos si Dr. Voltaire M. Villanueva sa Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas sa kursong Batsilyer ng Pang-sekondaryang Edukasyon sa Agham Panlipunan na may espesyalisasyon sa Filipino bilang isang Cum laude. Natapos niya ang akademikong pangangailangan sa M.A Filipino-Wika sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas-Diliman.

Tinapos niya ang Degring Masterado sa Pamantasang Manuel Luis Quezon at kalauna'y nagtapos ng Doktor sa Pilosopiya sa Araling Filipino, Wika, Midya at Kultura sa De La Salle-Maynila.

Nakapagturo sa St. Paul College-Makati, Unibersidad ng Santo Tomas, at De La Salle University-Maynila. Sa kasalukuyan siya ay nagpapanday ng mga mag-aaral na nagpapakadalubhasa sa pagtuturo ng/sa Filipino sa Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas-Maynila mula 2015 hanggang kasalukuyan.

Bakit siya tinaguriang IMBAng guro?

Tinagurian siyang gurong bibo't imba dahil dala-dala niya ang boltahe ng kahusayan sa estratehiya. Bukod sa pagtuturo ay nililibot niya rin ang buong Pilipinas upang ihasik ang binhi ng kahusayan at kaimbahan sa pagtuturo ng Filipino. Kasama sa kanyang biyahe, ang isinulat na aklat ng estratehiya na ABKD (Ako Bibo Kase Dapat), kung saan libo-libo na rin ang tumangkilik at gumagamit na mga guro sa Filipino, Agham Panlipunan, at Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao. Umani naman ng maraming patunay ang kanyang aklat na ABKD na ito ay inobatibo at epektibo sa pagtuturo at pagkatuto mula sa mga guro ng iba't ibang pamantasan at paaralan sa buong Pilipinas.

Isa rin sa tiyak, tumpak, at tatatak na kontribusyon ng guro sa larangan ay ang Binhi na isang Pambansang Seminar para sa mga nagpapakadalubhasa sa pagtuturo ng/sa Filipino. Taunan itong idinaraos sa loob ng Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas na dinadaluhan ng iba't ibang pamantasan at mga guro sa buong bansa.

Sa kabila ng maraming paghahasik hindi maitatangi ng guro ang naging limitasyon ng pagpapalaganap nito lalo na noong dumating ang pandemya. Naging hamon ito sa guro upang tayahin ang kanyang pagiging inobatibo sa bagong modalidad ng edukasyon sa bansa. Gayunman, patuloy ang alab at pagmamahal ni Dr. Villanueva sa Filipino kung kaya niyakap niya ang hamon ng teknolohiya, midya, at pandemya.

Nang magsimula ang birtwal na klase umarangkada na agad-agad ang guro sa pagpapalaganap ng mga bagong likhang estratehiya na umaayon sa panahon at sitwasyon. Ginamit din ng guro ang pagkakataon upang makapagbigay ng maraming libreng webinars na kanyang pinangunahan kasama ang mga medyor sa Filipino. Higit na mas naging malawak ang puwersa ni Dr. Villanueva sa midya at teknolohiya dahil sa sunod-sunod na tagumpay ng kanyang mga inilunsad na webinars at isa na ryan ang kanyang taunang Binhi, isang pambansang seminar.

Lagpas din sa silid-aralan, naging masikhay ang guro sa paggamit ng mga iba't ibang lunsaran gaya ng youtube upang lumikha ng isang channel na mapapakinabangan ng mga mag-aaral at mga guro sa Filipino. Dahil sa alab ng pagtuturo nabuo ang Antipara Blues na isang youtube channel na punong-puno ng mga kaalamang instruksiyonal at pedagohikal sa Filipino.

Tunay ang kahusayan ng dalubguro sa anomang larangan at hamon ng pagtuturo. Marami na siyang nahasa at tunay na naging matagumpay sa kani-kanilang pinagsisilbihang paaralan. Sa kabila ng maraming tagumpay hindi nagpapatnag ang guro sa panahon at sitwasyon dahil para sa kanya ang pagtuturo ay hindi niya lang trabaho, ito ay siya.

Ang mga napiling Ulirang Guro sa Filipino ay gagawaran sa Araw ng Parangal sa ika-4 ng Oktubre, 2021 na mapapanood sa Facebook page ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino.

SALOM of PNU-Mindanao students, ASEAN regional Marine Hackathon winner

Adelyne M. Costelo-Abrea

According to the Haquathon organizers, the workshop series run from the months of March to June this year where the said 15 advocating teams spoke with experts from the ASEAN region who explained innovative approaches to sustainable development and fostered regional cooperation in environmental protection.

The Haquathon 2.0 winners and runners up (a total of five teams) will receive funding grants of up to Php 100,000 as a seed money to finance the implementation of their notable projects for protecting the environment specifically the marine resources

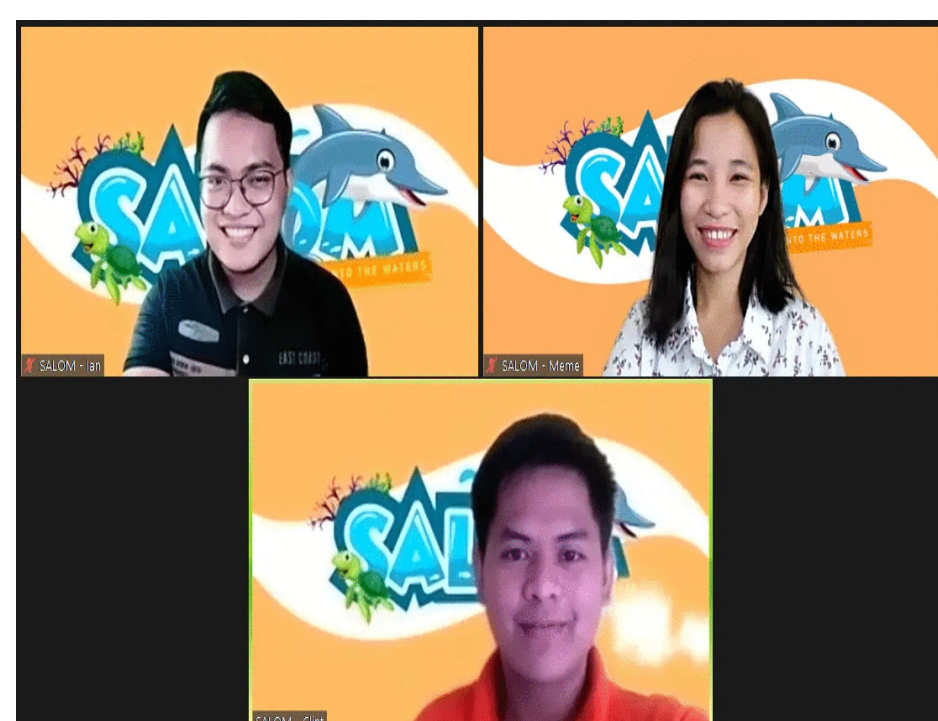
SALOM (A Visayan term means 'to dive'): Diving into the waters, as introduced by Mr. Lagrimas of the mentioned winning team is a website or an educational mobile application which aims to educate kids on marine conservation without seeing them physically.

"Our inspiration for the SALOM is to raise awareness about the importance of our environment especially the marine life that is now in critical condition. We establish SALOM to educate kids about marine life and conservation through animation stories, fun games and art activities." Mr. Sebote, SALOM team member said.

Team SALOM is now focusing on the execution of what was invoked - enhance the content of the website, establish partnerships with the Department of Education and other institutions, test prototype to scale up and reach more areas. Haquathon 2.0 teams will converge in 2022 for the updates on the implementation of their projects.

Indeed, molding our students with environment education and civic awareness nurtures them to be advocates of making a difference.

For more information about the Haquathon 2.0 teams and their projects, visit <https://www.savephilippineseas.org/haquathon2>.



International Graduate Teacher Education Summit 2021

**Theme: Teacher Education: Future Goals,
Challenges, and Response to Better Normal**

Jason L. De Vera

The Philippine Normal University College of Graduate Studies and Teacher Education Research (CGSTER) and the Graduate Student Council (GSC), in collaboration with the International Organization of Educators and Researchers, Inc. (IOER), conducted the International Graduate Teacher Education Summit (IGTES) 2021 on March 13 and 14, 2021.

A total of 144 presenters and 7 plenary speakers from various Teacher Education Institutions (TEI), organizations, and individual researchers participated in the research summit. The papers presented revolved around the following themes: Instructional Design and Technology in Education, Outcomes-Based Teaching and Learning, Professional Development and Lifelong Learning, Educational Policy Planning and Management, Curriculum Development, and Gender Development. The goal of the research conference is to provide a platform for graduate students, school administrators, policy-makers, and other education specialists from around the globe to share their theoretical insights, research findings, and pedagogical approaches during the pandemic. The conference also served as a means to examine the implications and effects of the pandemic to Teacher Education and identify the emerging perspectives and future trends in Teacher Education and Research. It is hoped that during the said conference, Teacher Education Institutions will be able to explore the challenges of the pandemic and create opportunities to innovate in the post-Covid-19 world.

Dr. Antriman V. Orleans, Dean of CGSTER, welcomed all the participants and guest speakers, encouraging them to continue with and further strengthen academic partnerships and collaborations amongst graduate students.

PNU President Bert J. Tuga added that we are currently in a state of transition, "the shift in teaching modalities and learning opened our eyes to the different possibilities and means of delivering instruction to our students. It made us flexible and adaptable. It emphasized the role of technology and innovative teaching strategies in producing engaging and effective learning activities inside the atypical classroom setup. It exposed the inequalities and conditions that we have overlooked. And it gave us enough time to reflect on the state of education and how we can transform with it in such a way that we and our students can meet the demands of the 21st century."

The plenary speakers were Dr. Navdeep Kaur Rajput of San Carlos High School, Arizona, USA; Dr. Jennifer E. Lopez, Director of the Bureau of Human Resources and Organizational Development (BHRD), Department of Education (DepEd); Dr. Yanki Hartijasti of Universitas Indonesia; and Prof. Leonie Nahhas of University of Wollongong, Sydney, Australia; Dr. Diosdado M. San Antonio, Undersecretary for Curriculum and Instruction, DepEd; Dr. Beatriz Lucia Salvador Bizotto of Centro Universitário Unifacvest, Lages, Santa Catarina, Brazil; and Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, University Professor, PNU.

The research summit concluded with the awarding of Best Research Abstract per category. The Abstract Review Committee was chaired by Assoc. Prof. Lexter R. Natividad of Central Luzon State University, who is also an officer of the PNU GSC. The abstracts were evaluated on the quality standards substantiated by Khan (2013) and Nadipelly (2019) and were reviewed based on novelty, advancement, and impact on the field as well as quality and relevance to the theme.

The summit ended with a heartfelt message given by Dr. Jennie V. Jocson, Vice President for Academics, where she thanked and congratulated the PNU GSC, with special mention to its president, Mr. Jayson L. De Vera, for a successful international conference despite the limitations and circumstances brought about by the pandemic.

This is the first run of IGTES and it is expected to ensue in the coming years.

PNU, LGU Pasig, and SDO Pasig seal a MOA on a customized diploma course for DepEd reading teachers

Janina Rae A. Raymundo



The Philippine Normal University (PNU), the City Government of Pasig, and Schools Division Office of Pasig City (SDO Pasig) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding the strengthening and improvement of reading and writing in elementary and secondary education. The ceremonial signing was done via Zoom on August 6, 2021. Through this memorandum, a total of 252 teacher-scholars from SDO Pasig will be taking Diploma in Teaching Reading (DTR) at the Faculty of Education Sciences (FES), PNU.

Dr. Bert J. Tuga, PNU President; Victor Ma. Regis N. Sotto, Mayor of Pasig City; , and Evalou Concepcion A. Agustin, official executive of the Schools Division Office of Pasig City signed the

MOA. Several officials from PNU; teachers and officials from SDO Pasig; District Representative of Pasig, Cong. Roman Ramulo; and the Committee Head for Education in Pasig City, Corazon M. Raymundo attended the event.

According to the MOA, the Faculty of Education Sciences, handled by the College of Teacher Development will administer the customized Diploma for Teaching Reading. Furthermore, the teacher-scholars who will be taking the said diploma were purposively chosen by the SDO Pasig.

PNU wins CHED-UPOU 1st Internationalization Award

Ma Stephanie E Ramos

The Philippine Normal University (PNU) was awarded 1st prize during the 1st Philippine Higher Education Internationalization Award organized by the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) during a virtual awarding ceremony held on May 19, 2021, via Zoom and Facebook Live.

The award was conceived by UPOU and CHED to recognize institutions of higher learning who implemented internationalization initiatives that benefited Filipino learners. It also highlights the importance of higher education within and beyond national borders by providing faculty and students with tools to adapt and compete on regional and global stage.

The recognition is a significant achievement for PNU because there were 44 HEIs eyeing for the award under internationalization programs. PNU's strong internationalization strategies through its faculty development program, student services, joint collaborative research, as well as extension programs prepare the PNUans to be active educators and leaders in education in the local, regional, and global environments. This active leadership is manifested through PNU's role as a founding member and permanent secretariat of the Association of Southeast Asian Teacher Network, which was recently recognized by the ASEAN.

According to the CHED Commissioner Dr. J. Prospero De Vera, the award hopes to inspire the administrators of our schools, colleges and universities and our fellow educators to continue improving and innovating in their internationalization programs. Chaired by Prof. Merlinda dela Peña Bandalaria, the board of judges evaluated various universities based on their innovativeness and creativity, impact, responsiveness, inclusivity, and sustainability of internationalization programs.

This contest was opened to 14 HEIs for this CHED-UPOU 1st Internationalization Award.



PNU joins SECRA Project

Edward Shiener Landoy

The Philippine Normal University (PNU) has been selected as one of the partners for the project Strengthening University-Enterprise Collaboration for Resilient Communities in Asia (SECRA) which was officially launched in the Philippines on May 19, 2021, via Zoom.

SECRA aims to contribute to more resilient communities in Asia through institutionalized, systematic, monitored, innovative, and inclusive university-enterprise collaboration (UEC) in climate change action and disaster resilience by improving disaster risk reduction through stronger collaborations among universities, public authorities, non-government organizations (NGOs), and industries.

PNU President Bert J. Tuga said in his message that he is hopeful that “through SECRA, we will be able to conceptualize research projects and activities that will influence the local government to provide necessary policy infrastructure and support to stimulate the development of university-enterprise collaboration and effective community practices in climate change action and disaster resilience in the Philippines.”



Aside from focusing on climate change and community resilience, SECRA also aims to produce inputs and contribute to policies governing collaborative activities in partner countries; a relation framework to understand UEC; an online platform for a Community of Practice (CoP) to be comprised of HEIs, public sector and enterprise actors; a corporate start-up lab and networking activities in partner HEIs; and a monitoring tool to assess the quality of UEC that can be broadly contextualized for use in HEIs worldwide.

The SECRA PNU project team is comprised of Dr. Arlyne C. Marasigan, Dr. Leah Amor S. Cortez, Dr. Mike Renon, Dr. Victoria Delos Santos, Dr. Meah Gonzaga, and Prof. Jovenal Dela Cruz with Dr. Darryl Roy T. Montebon serving as the project leader. PNU is joined by the Ateneo de Manila University and Malayan Colleges Laguna, a Mapua School. The European partners also include the University of Huddersfield in Great Britain and Tallinn University in Estonia. SECRA is funded by the European Union’s Erasmus+.

PNU hosts 1st PASUC-NCR Education Forum

John Michael C. Garbo

With the theme “Emerging Practices in Remote Learning across Disciplines,” the Philippine Normal University (PNU) hosted the first ever *Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges - National Capital Region (PASUC-NCR) Education Forum* on May 31, 2021 via Zoom and simultaneously broadcasted on the official Facebook pages of PNU, Eulogio “Amang” Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST), Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), and Technological University of the Philippines (TUP).

In attendance are various SUCs in the National Capital Region, education leaders, stake holders and the presidents from the following member institutions namely: Dr. Editha V. Pillo from EARIST, Atty. Lili Freida M. Milla, CESO IV of Marikina Polytechnic College (MPC), Dr. Bert J. Tuga of PNU, Dr. Marwin M. Dela Cruz of the Philippine State College of Aeronautics (PhilSCA), Dr. Manuel M. Muhi of PUP, Dr. Ma. Eugenia M. Yangco of Rizal Technological University (RTU), and Dr. Jesus Rodrigo Torres of TUP.

The forum paved a way to discuss the key issues and practices of HEIs in implementing their remote learning in response to the new normal setup. According to Dr. Bert J. Tuga, president of PNU, through this forum, many SUCs have discovered many gains, good practices, and learned important lessons that are beneficial in the continuity of education in the country.

In the first session of the forum, Dr. Ruth Alido, Dean of PNU’s College of Teacher Development, delivered her talk on remote learning practices of PNU through its *Kaway-Aralan sa Bagong Kadawyan*. She highlighted how PNU prepared and responded to the challenges of the remote learning. Alongside her are Dr. Willy O. Gaspin, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration from EARIST and Engr. Jeq Zyrius A. Sudweste, Dean of PhilSCA, who also talked about the remote learning practices in the contexts of Business Administration and Aeronautical Science, respectively.

Other discussions were held on the second session of the forum where Prof. Jerome P. Dumlaog, Head of Instructional Materials Development Office of PUP Open University System, delivered their university’s Flexible Technology Learning (FlexTEL) and its distance education delivery initiatives. This was followed by Engr. Armando P. Matias, Director of the Cooperative Education Center of RTU, who delivered their remote learning practices in Cooperative Education. Dr. Ralph Sherwin A. Corpuz, Director of Quality Assurance and University Research and Development Services of TUP, share their university’s remote learning practices in Engineering Education, while Atty. Lily Freida M. Milla, OIC-President of MPC talked about their Hybrid Curriculum.

Overall, the presenters underscored the importance of ensuring that the quality of education will not be compromised despite the limitation of the flexible learning environment and that the HEIs play a vital role in securing the delivery of quality education amidst the new normal.

113th Commencement Exercises goes virtual

PNU sends off graduates in hybrid program

John Miko Ofalsa

As part of its long-standing tradition of commemorating academic achievement and excellence, the Philippine Normal University honored the graduates of Class 2021 with a series of activities capped off by the virtual commencement rites. In light of the global pandemic and restrictions imposed by the national and local governments, however, the 113th installment of the graduation ceremonies and related events were held virtually for the first time, marking the leap from the traditional face-to-face event to a more inclusive, online platform. This is also the first time that a system-wide commencement exercises was conducted with graduates from the PNU Campuses also in attendance. Bannering the theme “Nurturing Teachers and Education Leaders of the Future,” the PNU Management and event organizers ensured that the traditions observed for this annual event were tailored-fit to suit an online environment.

The historic Torch Ceremony, also known as *Pagdiriwang ng Sulo*, was conducted on July 14, 2021. An event truly unique to PNU, the symbolic passing of the torch from the graduating students to the junior class once again took place, marking the continuation of a century-old tradition that was hindered by the pandemic. The graduating students who portrayed the iconic characters from this ceremony are the following: Ms. Jessica G. Ramos and Mr. Reymart N. Forcado donned *Inang Pilipinas* and *Juan Dela Cruz*, respectively; *Inang Pamantasan* was personified by Ms. Wyeth P. Palmero, and the *Lakambini* was portrayed by Ms. Dayanisa H. Panganda. Likewise, the graduating class was represented by Mr. Stephen Allen M. Dy. The third year students, who received the challenged from their senior cohorts, were represented by Ms. Claire Anne L. Notorio during the solemn event.

On July 16, 2021, the much-awaited series of virtual commencement activities transpired. The Baccalaureate program was aired at 9:00 in the morning with Bro. Roberto “Obet” Cabrillas serving as Guest of Honor and Speaker. He provided the graduating class with an inspirational talk to instill spiritual enlightenment as the graduates venture on a new journey in their professional lives.

The undergraduate commencement program kicked off later in the afternoon with Senator Emmanuel “Joel” Villanueva as the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

Sen. Villanueva is the Senate Committee Chair on Higher Education, Technical, and Vocational Education and Member of the PNU Board of Regents. In his keynote speech, Senator Villanueva emphasized the important role the PNU graduates play in revolutionizing education in the country. The candidates from undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and diploma programs were recognized during this part of the commencement rites.

The commencement ceremony for the graduate level was held shortly after with Dr. Graham Parr as the Guest of Honor and Speaker. Dr. Parr is an Associate Professor of English Education and the Associate Dean (International) of the Faculty of Education, Monash University, Australia. His remarks focused on how education serves as a key in shaping a better world. This virtual affair honored the candidates for graduation from various graduate degrees such as Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Education, and Master of Arts in Science Education.

In his message to the graduating batch, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, University President, recounted the tale of perseverance of the graduates and congratulated them for overcoming hindrances that were in the way of their academic success. Dr. Tuga also highlighted the importance of being resilient while thriving to embody the core values of the university.

All the activities leading to the commencement exercises were aired live via the PNU Facebook Page. The graduates and their family members joined via Zoom in which they were given the spotlight as they were called during the ceremonies.

113th Commencement Exercises
Nurturing Teachers and Education Leaders of the Future

Guests of Honor and Speakers

 Bro. Obet Cabrillas Guest Celebrant Baccalaureate Program July 16, 2021 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	 Sen. Emmanuel Joel J. Villanueva 113 th Commencement Exercises Speaker Undergraduate Level July 16, 2021 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	 Associate Professor Graham Parr, Ph.D. 113 th Commencement Exercises Speaker Graduate Level July 16, 2021 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
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120th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

Faculty and employees of PNU receive tech and health support

John Miko Ofalsa

In a simple turn-over ceremony on July 19, 2021, the PNU Administration headed by the University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga distributed brand new computer tablets and multivitamins to the faculty and staff that are represented by their respective unions.

The availability of the said gadget support was made possible through the Flexible Learning and Teaching Support (FLATS) Program of the University which aims to facilitate the more efficient delivery of outputs demanded from employees under flexible and alternate working arrangements. More than 500 tablets are expected to be received by faculty members and administrative personnel across the PNU System.

The University also ventured in strengthening the defense of its workforce against the devastating effects of lingering corona virus pandemic. PNU allotted more than Php 970,000.00 for the purchase of multivitamins for employees and faculty members alike. Each employee is expected to receive five months' worth of the said health supplement.

In his message, Dr. Tuga emphasized the importance of being sensitive to the needs of the members of the community. He also mentioned that there will be more provisions coming from government institutions particularly from CHED to complement the University's effort of thriving in the pandemic-driven scheme of the workplace.

As a response, Ms. Leonora P. Narag, incoming vice president of the PNU Administrative Employees Association, thanked the administration for the provision of much needed support especially the tablets which is seen to facilitate the improved productivity of administrative employees thrust in the new normal of the workplace. Dr. Felicia I. Yeban, outgoing Faculty regent and President of the PNU Faculty Union, also reaffirmed the support and commitment of the workforce of PNU towards the achievement of mutual goals.



NORMAL CARES. The PNU Manila Faculty Union and Administrative Employees Association receives the 5-month supply of multivitamins and the stylus-equipped computer tablets from the university administration headed by the University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga (center).

PNU Faculty leads NRCP-funded research on remote teaching in the basic education

Celina Sarmiento

Dr. Celina P. Sarmiento, a faculty member of the College of Flexible Learning and ePNU (CFlex), led an NRCP-funded research project entitled **Bridging the Gap in Remote Teaching and Learning**. The project is part of NRCP's *Kapakanan ng Tao sa Oras ng Pandemya* (KTOP)-COVID program, which aims to provide the public with evidenced-based information related to the global pandemic. Through a cross-sectional research design, the team was able to seek the voices of 28,859 teachers of the Department of Education (DepEd) in a nationwide survey.

Members of the NRCP supported the KTOP-COVID campaign by taking part in the research project, specifically those under NRCP Division I (Governmental, Educational and International Policies), headed by Dr. Marie Paz E. Morales, Director of the Publications Office, and to which Dr. Sarmiento is also an Associated Member. Joining the research team were the following PNU faculty members: Prof. Ruel A. Avilla, Director of the Center for Planning and Quality Assurance; Dr. Celia M. Ilanan, Dean of CFlex; Prof. Lovely Airein M. Albania, Deputy Dean of CFlex; and Prof. Maria Ruth M. Regalado, faculty member at CFlex.

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Division I: Governmental,
Educational and
International Policies

**Bridging the
Gap in
Remote
Teaching
and
Learning**

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES

"Kapakanan ng Tao sa Oras ng Pandemya-COVID" (KTOP-COVID)

EMERGENCY REMOTE TEACHING EXPERIENCES BROUGHT BY COVID-19

THE 9TH KTOP-COVID WEBINAR SERIES
21 JULY 2021, WEDNESDAY | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Opening Remarks
DR. MARIE PAZ E. MORALES
Chair, Division of Governmental, Educational and International Policies
DOST-NRCP

Speaker
DR. CELINA P. SARMIENTO
NRCP Associate Member
Division of Governmental, Educational and International Policies
Faculty Member, College of Flexible Learning and ePNU
Philippine Normal University

Message
PROF. FORTUNATO T. DE LA PEÑA
Secretary, DOST

Closing Remarks
DR. MARIETA BAÑEZ SUMAGAYSAY
Executive Director, DOST-NRCP

Emcee/ Moderator
DR. RODNEY T. CAJIMAT
NRCP Associate Member
Governmental, Educational and International Policies Division
Instructor, Nueva Vizcaya State University

In an NRCP-sponsored webinar entitled **Emergency Remote Teaching Experiences brought by COVID-19** held on July 21, 2021, Dr. Sarmiento shared the major findings of the research project to hundreds of education stakeholder-participants. The major highlights of her presentation were the following: (1) teachers' experiences and coping mechanisms in the learning environment brought about by the new normal; and (2) assessment and feedback mechanisms implemented by teachers and their instructional delivery. Dr. Sarmiento's talk shed light on the challenges that DepEd teachers encounter and how they thrive to meet the demands of a remote teaching and learning environment. She further emphasized the importance of empowering teachers and the necessity to brace for the impact of emergency remote teaching to the learning of students. Dr. Sarmiento issued this concluding message: "educate towards a better normal, where all is resilient and prepared to face any new normal."

The recording of the webinar is available at NRCP Research Pod's Facebook page https://fb.watch/6VyNxM_b8U/.

DepEd-PNU MOU supports teachers and school leaders' professional development

John Michael C. Garbo



DepEd Secretary Leonor Magtolis-Briones (left, above) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with PNU President Bert J. Tuga (right, above). Witnessing the event are DepEd Undersecretary Nepumuceno Malaluan (right, below) and PNU Vice President for Academics Jennie Jocson (left, below).

With the aim to make quality practice and common practice among educational personnel, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Philippine Normal University (PNU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support teachers, school heads, and school supervisors in advancing their professional growth. The virtual ceremonial signing of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between DepEd and PNU was held on April 14, 2021.

Under the MOU, PNU and DepEd commit to work on five areas of cooperation: (1) pre-service teacher education, (2) teacher education and teaching standards, (3) researches and case studies, (4) in-service continuing professional education of teachers, school leaders and academic supervisors, and (5) database of select educational resources.

Through the MOU, PNU is tasked to offer customized programs called the Linking Standards and Quality Practice (LiSQuP). The LiSQuP program will have 12 MA degree programs and eight PhD programs in various specializations, as well as two executive programs for school heads and supervisors. All programs are customized, differentiated, and based on Philippine Professional Standards, *particularly the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers (PPST), the Philippine Professional Standards for School Heads (PPSSH), and the Philippine Professional Standards for Supervisors (PPSS).*

During the ceremonial signing of MOU, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, President of PNU, emphasized that, being the National Center for Teacher Education (NCTE), PNU has a very important role which is to “wholeheartedly uphold its mission to nurturing innovative teachers and education leaders in our schools and safeguarding the quality of education in the country.”

DepEd Secretary Briones added, “Through this agreement, our teachers and school leaders will be able to pursue higher education in a very respected and well-established institution which is also an NCTE. This is supported by the Human Resource Development Fund of DepEd.”

PNU has more than 2800 scholars across the country. President Tuga was very grateful for the partnership with DepEd and for being given the opportunity to help teachers and educational leaders in the country. He promised that all the scholars will receive quality education and achieve professional growth.

“Your future scholars are in good hands with PNU,” Dr. Tuga said.

AsTEN receives official recognition as an entity associated with ASEAN

John Carlo M. Ramos



On March 29, 2021, His Excellency Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, issued a communication to the Association of Southeast Asian Teacher Education Network (AsTEN), formally recognizing it as an official entity associated with ASEAN. This was upon the consensus of all ASEAN member-states.

AsTEN's inclusion to the roster of entities associated with ASEAN is a milestone for the Network and PNU, which serves as the Founding Chair and Permanent Secretariat. This accreditation is given to organizations representing different sectors that initiate programs and projects to benefit ASEAN peoples. AsTEN represents the teacher education sector in ASEAN under the category of “Think Tanks.” As an official entity, AsTEN will play a significant role in promoting ASEAN's agenda, contribute towards the realization of ASEAN vision, recommend policies, and express views on significant events of regional and international concerns. There will be more opportunities to forge projects in the region with support from the ASEAN Secretariat and participation in related ASEAN Sectoral Bodies activities.

AsTEN was established in 2014 through PNU's initiative led by former president Dr. Ester B. Ogena. This initiative was supported by the Office of the President of the Republic of the Philippines, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Foreign Affairs, and Ministries of Education of ASEAN member-states. The other founding members are Kolej Universiti Perguruan Ugama Seri Begawan (Brunei Darussalam), National Institute of Education (Cambodia), Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (Indonesia), National University of Laos (Lao PDR), Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (Malaysia), Yangon University of Education (Myanmar), National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), Kasetsart University (Thailand), and University of Social Sciences and Humanities (Vietnam). The Chairmanship of AsTEN is transferred among the member institutions every three years. PNU served as AsTEN Chair from 2014 to 2018. The leadership succession in the network follows an alphabetical sequence of member-states. The current AsTEN Chair is Singapore, headed by Prof. Christine Goh, NIE-NTU Director.

Congratulations to AsTEN! We will be seeing more of their projects and activities in the near future.

From page 8

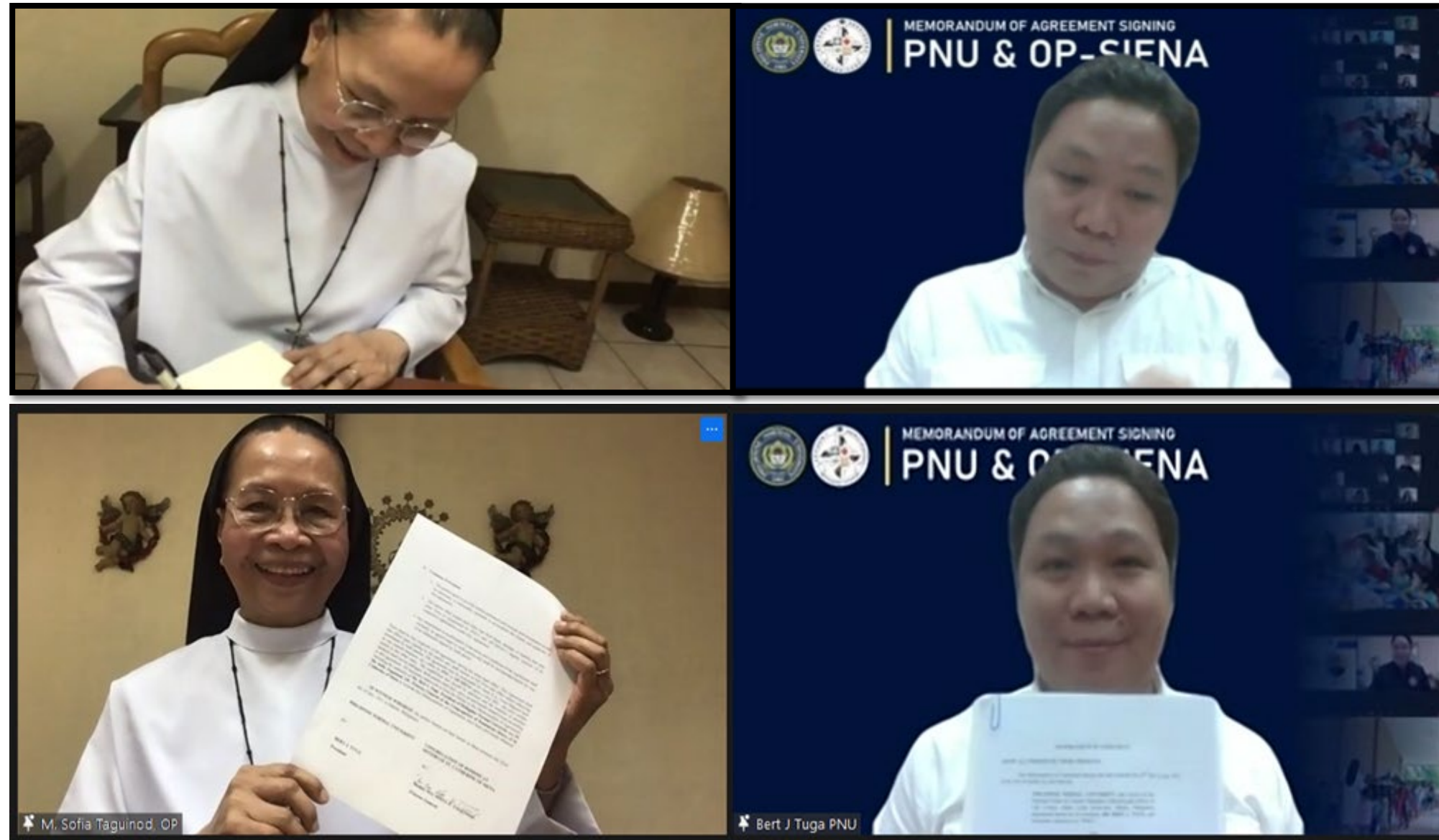


In an interview with Dr. Sarmiento in *Liwanagin Natin* section of the *Mata ng Agila* program of NET 25 on the same day, she emphasized that the study may be triangulated with the intended learning outcomes and the envisioned outcomes to identify teaching and learning gaps to initiate plans of actions and recommend policies to bridge the gaps. You can watch her interview at <https://youtu.be/ETmA9VAEl48>.

OP Siena collaborates with PNU on values education training for catechists

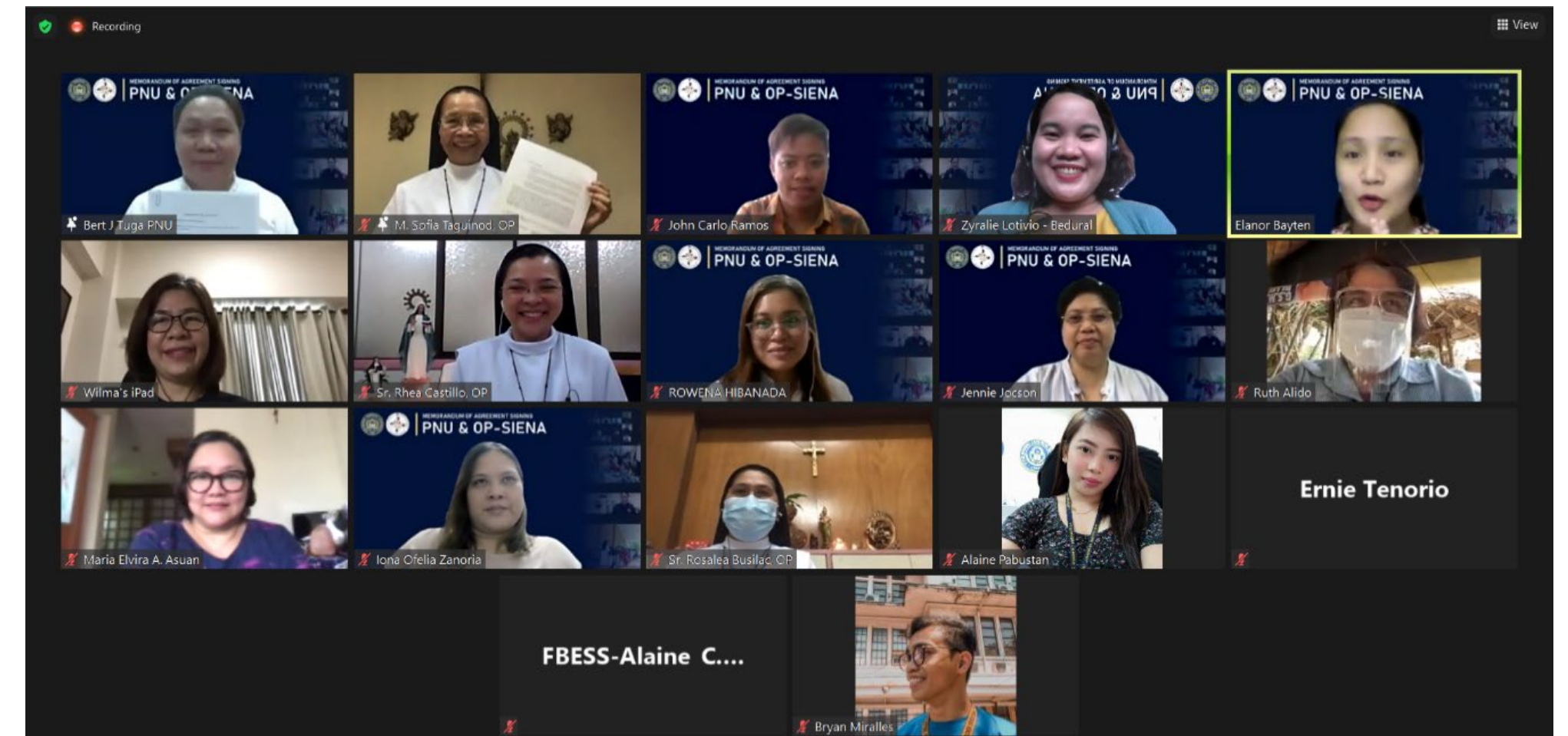
Zyralie A. Lotivio-Bedural

The Philippine Normal University and the Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena (OP Siena) officially sealed an accord for the training of catechists on Values Education. The ceremony took place virtually on July 22, 2021 and witnessed by key officials of PNU and OP Siena.



(Left to right: Presenting the signed Memorandum of Agreement is Mother Ma. Sofia D. Taguinod, Prioress General, OP Siena & Dr. Bert J. Tuga, PNU President)

OP Siena's need to train catechists on Values Education responds to the institutionalization of the GMRC and Values Education in the K to 12 curriculum by virtue of R.A. No. 11476 and the subsequent move of DepEd to integrate Values Education in Christian Living. Upon completion of the three-day training program, each catechist receives a Certificate of Training equivalent to 24 hours.



Present during the event were Dr. Jennie V. Jocson, Vice President for Academics; Dr. Ruth A. Alido, Dean of College of Teacher Development and project consultant; and Dr. Zyralie L. Bedural, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences and the Project Leader. Also present were the Values Education Training Team headed by Dr. Wilma S. Reyes with Prof. Nonita C. Marte, Prof. Elanor O. Bayten, Dr. Maria Elvira A. Asuan, Dr. Rowena R. Hibanada, Ms. Iona Ofelia B. Zanoria, and Mr. John Carlo M. Ramos with support staff, Ms. Alaine Pabustan and Mr. Bryan Miralles. Attendees from OP Siena were Sr. Rhea Castillo, the Congregational Religion Coordinator, Sr. Rosalea Busilac, OP Siena School System Superintendent, and Sr. Genevieve Lazaro, the Congregational Research and Development in-Charge.

The signing of this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between PNU and OP Siena is a testament of the strong commitment of both institutions to promote Values Education in basic education.

APCEIU and PNU sign partnership agreements on GCED

Ma. Stephanie E. Ramos

The Philippine Normal University (PNU) and the UNESCO-Asia Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) formalized their partnership during the ceremonial signing of Letters of Agreement (LOA) held on May 4, 2021 via Zoom. The goal of this partnership is to promote Global Citizenship Education (GCED) in the country.

The PNU attendees were President Bert J. Tuga, the Vice Presidents and other top officials. Director Lim Hyun Mook, Ms. Jihong Lee and Ms. Jeongnim Eom attended for APCEIU. Department of Education (DepEd) officials, Director Jocelyn Andaya and Director Isabel Victorino were also present to witness the ceremony.

The GCED Curriculum Development and Integration and Development, which aims to mainstream GCED in the national basic education curriculum, is a three-year project led by the DepEd. For the second and third phases of the project, DepEd tapped PNU as its implementing partner, with Dr. Serafin Arviola as the project leader. Now in its 3rd and final year of implementation, the project is focusing on the development of GCED lesson exemplars in various content areas.



CHED approves PNU's Php25M Smart University Project

John Michael C. Garbo

The Philippine Normal University was granted on June 24, 2021 a 25-million peso budget by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for the establishment of Smart University.

Out of 112 State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) who submitted proposals, PNU is one of the 89 selected recipients of P25-million financial assistance from the CHED. The grant was given during the Virtual Press Conference on Smart Campus Projects and Updates on Limited Face-to-Face Classes spearheaded by the CHED Chairperson, Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera III.

The 25 million peso budget granted to PNU will be primarily used to transform it into a smart university through its 4.0: Teacher Education for the Future project. Further, it will be utilized for the enhancement of the ICT infrastructure and connectivity, not only in the main campus but also across the PNU System.

Dr. Bert J. Tuga, the president of PNU, emphasized that CHED's support will be a significant help in strengthening the capacities of the PNU campuses as they implement flexible learning delivery. Through this budget, PNU will be able to enhance the learning experience of its students by providing more reliable access to the PNU Learning Management System that is also known as ePNU.

"It will also equip all regional campuses with the facilities and resources to manage and fully utilize ePNU as the primary platform of the flexible learning modality currently adopted by the University," he said.

The CHED's Smart Campus project is under the Financial Assistance for SUCs for the Development of Smart Campuses program in line with RA 11494, otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Recover as One Act." The act provided three billion pesos (Php 3,000,000,000.00) to assist SUCs in the development of smart campuses through investments in ICT infrastructure, acquisition of learning management systems, and other appropriate equipment to fully implement flexible learning modalities.



With PNU's expertise and accumulated experiences on teacher training, APCEIU also partnered with PNU for a joint development of an online training course entitled (GCED Pedagogy and Practice). This project targets 60 in-service Filipino teachers who will enroll via the GCED Online Campus to take four modules of the said course over a five-week period this year. Dr. Wensley Reyes leads this project. Both projects are expected to be accomplished in the last quarter of 2021.



The *PNU POST* is the official publication of the Philippine Normal University. This quarterly publication documents news stories on the university's activities. It also features relevant developments and issues in education.

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