



PNU POST

PNU-POST 14TH EDITION

JANUARY TO MARCH 2024



PNU HOLDS STUDENT SUMMIT 2024

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PNUans conclude Teaching Assistantship, Cultural Exchange Program in Cebu

On February 2, a group of students from each Philippine Normal University (PNU) campus completed their teaching assistantship at the American Language Village Camp (ALV) in Cebu City. Selected for their dedication and skills, these students took on the dual roles of educators and cultural ambassadors, guiding young learners from Taiwan through a mix of educational and cultural experiences.

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PASUC-NCR kickstarts the 11th Regional Culture and the Arts Festival

To signify cultural fervor and artistic passion, the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges – National Capital Region (PASUC-NCR) held this year's 11th Culture and the Arts Festival opening ceremony at Rizal Technological University, on February 27 with Hon. Mary Mitzi L. Cajayon-Uy, Vice Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriation and District Representative of Caloocan City as the guest speaker, represented by her Chief of Staff Atty. Jessica R. Vitug-Jurado.

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PNU, REAP signs memorandum of agreement

The Philippine Normal University (PNU), represented by Dr. Bert J. Tuga, University President, and Resource for Educators and Academic Professionals (REAP), the training arm of REX Education, represented by Ms. Danda Crimelda I. Buhain, Managing Editor, signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) yesterday, February 19, at the Executive Lounge and Board Room of Maceda Building to signify their continued partnership.

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PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY *Holds Pinning Ceremony for 2024*



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PNU HOLDS STUDENT SUMMIT 2024

Student groups and organizations flock to the grounds of Philippine Normal University on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, for the Student Summit 2024. This year's installment of the annual student convergence focused on the theme High Impact Leadership and Sustainable Advocacies, Future-ready PNUans.



During the opening program, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services, affirmed in his message the essence of the summit. Dr. Yonson said that the event supports PNU's goal of facilitating holistic development of pre-service teachers. Likewise, in her brief message, Dr. Merimee T. Siena, Director of Student Affairs and Services Office, enjoined the PNU Community to support the student activities and visit the 50-plus booths prepared by various organizations.

In his message for the occasion, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, University President, reflected on the theme of this year's summit. Dr. Tuga emphasized the importance of constantly increasing participation of PNU students in planning and decision-making activities of the University. He also acknowledged the firm capacity of PNUans in supporting and leading various advocacies that have lasting impact to the partner communities of the University. Dr. Tuga concluded his message by affirming the administration's commitment to keeping lines of dialogue open for students' concerns.

Highlighting the opening program is the first-ever State of the Council Address (SOCA) which provided a platform for various student sectors to share their accomplishments about their respective advocacies and mandates.



Shortly after the SOCA, the ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to formally open the students' booths. VP Yonson, Director Siena, SASO counselors, and student leaders led the opening of booths.



The rest of the day was allotted for the operation of student booths as well as pop-up events that catered to the interests of students. To complement the goal of the summit, workshops on various topics such as self-positivity, creativity, resilience, and fostering academic excellence were also conducted.

The University Student Council - Central Student Council (USC-CSC) and attached commissions delivered their respective reports to the studentry in the afternoon. Hon. Radj Dylan P. San Miguel, PNU USC-CSC Chairperson, elaborated on the accomplishments of the highest governing student body.



The Student Summit concluded with the Students' Night which gave the spotlight to PNU's own student performing groups as well as local bands. PNUans were also treated to performances by local drag artists which provided a different energy to the annual student gathering. The best student booths were also recognized during the program.

The Student Summit 2024 was organized by the SASO together with student organizations headed by the USC-CSC.

On February 12, Philippine Normal University (PNU) represented by President Bert Jazmin Tuga joined other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), officials from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), as well as guests and media personnel, at the CHED Auditorium in Diliman, Quezon City for a National Conference on Program Quality Assurance in the Context of Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF). It aimed to discuss and collaborate on strategies for enhancing program quality assurance aligned with the principles of PQF.

The event consisted of three segments. First, there was a symposium on Program Quality Assurance in the Context of the PQF, followed by CHED's Launching Event of Paglaum kag Pagdaug: Access and Success for Quality and Inclusive Higher Education, and finally, the Gawad Oblation 2024 Awarding Ceremony.

During the symposium, esteemed speakers discussed the various aspects of Quality Assurance within the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF). Dr. Jose Y. Cueto, Jr., a Commissioner of the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC), underscored the significance of the PQF, its origins, and its development throughout the years while hinting at plans to incorporate PQF Levels into future IDs of licensed professionals.

Dr. Reynaldo B. Veal, the Philippine Representative for Higher Education in the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQR), tackled the relevance of AQR's referencing process to gauge the alignment of an education program to the level indicators of the PQF. He also emphasized the significance of referencing quality assurance to the AQR to ensure that courses and programs offered in the Philippines keep up with the standards of its neighboring countries.



SUC Presidents from various regions together with CHED Chairperson J. Prospero E. De Vera III.



PNU Kalibnusan Chorale performed at the conference.



Prof. Luzviminda B. Modelo (center) received the certificate of appreciation with Pres. Bert J. Tuga (right).

Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela, Chairperson of CHED's Technical Working Group for Lifelong Learning, discussed emerging trends like Microcredentials in higher education, emphasizing their role in skill acquisition and career advancement. However, she noted that this is not an alternative to a bachelor's degree since it is only taken for a shorter time.

A significant highlight of the conference was the launch of Paglaum kag Pagdaug: Access and Success for Quality and Inclusive Higher Education, symbolizing a commitment to promoting equity and inclusivity in higher education. SUC Presidents from across the country affirmed their support by signing the commitment wall. The phrase Paglaum kag Pagdaug is borrowed from the Hiligaynon dialect which translates to Hope and Victory, a fitting title for this initiative.

The event concluded with the conferral of the Gawad Oblation upon CHED Chairman J. Prospero E. De Vera III by the University of the Philippines (UP), recognizing his invaluable contributions to UP and the entirety of the higher education system in the Philippines.

PNU's Kalibnusan Chorale was also invited to perform at the event. They were awarded a certificate of appreciation for their excellent performance.

PASUC-NCR kickstarts the 11th Regional Culture and the Arts Festival

In her message, Hon. Cajayon-Uy highlighted the significance of culture and the arts in today's society. She further added that by championing culture and arts education, we not only nurture the talents of our students but also contribute to the enrichment of our collective cultural heritage.

The theme of this year's festival is "PAGHILOM, PAGBANGON, AT PAGESULONG" which exemplifies the role of this event to provide healing, a platform to rise, and the opportunity to advance. It also serves as an avenue for the participants to exhibit their talents and skills in the spirit of friendly competition in various categories such as music, dance, visual arts, and dramatic arts.

On behalf of the Executive Board of PASUC-NCR, Chairperson and Philippine Normal University (PNU) President Dr. Bert J. Tuga declared the formal opening of the 11th PASUC-NCR Culture and the Arts Festival and expressed his gratitude to the PASUC-NCR Cultural Board of Directors and Competition Managers for their tireless efforts in making this year's festival a success.

The PASUC-NCR Cultural Board of Directors and Competition Managers is composed of Mr. Romeo R. Rioflorido of PNU, Prof. Julian B. Santos of RTU (Rizal Technological University), Mr. Nur Khan D. Umpa of PHLSCA (Philippine State College of Aeronautics), Prof. Bely R. Ygot of PUP (Polytechnic University of the Philippines), Prof. Bernadette L. Alava3o of TUP (Technological University of the Philippines), Mr. Evan John S. Magno of EARIST (Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology), and Prof. Jomar A. Mamauag of MPC (Marikina Polytechnic College).

Furthermore, the Presidents of the other participating SUCs were all present in the ceremony; President Ma. Eugenia M. Yangco of RTU, President Manuel M. Muhi of PUP, President Reynaldo P. Ramos of TUP, President Marwin M. Dela Cruz of PHLSCA, President Rene M. Colocar of MPC, and President Rogelio T. Mamaradlo of EARIST.

Meanwhile, PNU clinched the championship in the musical category with Ms. Trisha M. Pinon winning the Pop Solo while Ms. Mary Anne P. Manlaguit and Ms. Hannah Bethel G. Reyes secured the victory with their performance for the Vocal Duet.

The remaining categories, including visual arts, dance, dramatic arts, and the special category, are scheduled to take place on February 28 and 29 at various venues.

PNU, REAP signs memorandum of agreement

To formalize the partnership of the two institutions that will pave avenues for collaboration on professional development, the MOA was signed in the presence of Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Academics, and witnessed by Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, Dean of the College of Teacher Development, and Dr. Joel G. Tubera, Director of the Institute of Creative Expressions and Human Movement Education from PNU, and Mr. Cris Norca, and Ms. Cristal Monjardin from REAP.

As stipulated in the MOA, the proposed output includes training modules based on REAP's training design and program, aimed at providing support to teachers and enhancing their teaching capabilities in line with the proposed MATATAG curriculum of the Department of Education.

In her message, Ms. Buhain expressed her gratitude to PNU for being a loyal partner of REX Education and for accepting the offer for this new venture.

PNUans conclude Teaching Assistantship, Cultural Exchange Program in Cebu

Evette Jewel P. Beaches, Trisha Joy Cortes, Berx Fleir Sanchez, and Joshua J. Suanco from PNU Manila, Via Praise F. Balmores from PNU North Luzon, Kristine M. Valencia from PNU South Luzon, Maria Carmela Ablero from PNU Visayas, and Jovic Campus from PNU Mindanao assumed the role of Teacher Assistants (TAs).

They taught eleven Taiwanese students, aged 8 to 16, at First Choice Academy in Mandave, Cebu City. Led by Camp Director Liu Shihong, also known as Director Leo Liu, the group delved into activities blending education, cultural exchange, and personal growth.

Under the leadership of Joshua J. Suanco and Jovic Campus, the PNU TAs underwent thorough training before diving into their roles. For nine days, they led English language lessons and organized cultural outings to local landmarks and heritage sites like Leah's Temple, Heritage of Cebu Monument, Yap San Diego's ancestral house, and Magellan's Cross, enriching the Taiwanese students' learning experience.

Beyond teaching, the TAs formed strong bonds with their students, fostering a familial atmosphere throughout the camp. Emotional speeches were exchanged during the closing ceremony, highlighting the deep connections forged during their time together.

The awarding of certificates to the TAs was also held, where Director Leo delivered his message, emphasizing the profound impact of their dedication and love for children. He said, "Keep your love for children always... This is why you chose to study at PNU." His words resonated deeply with the TAs, reminding them of the importance of their role in shaping young minds.

As the TAs received their scholarship grants, they marked not only the end of a successful camp but also the beginning of a new chapter in their academic and professional journeys.

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

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PNU, UM INKS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ACADEMIC COLLABORATION



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) and Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) held a Benchmarking Activity on May 21, 2024, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and establish academic collaboration. In his welcome message, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, PNU President, highlighted the University's recent designation as a National Cultural Treasure and its status as the premier teacher education institution in the Philippines. He also expressed his gratitude to UM for accommodating PNU's fourth-year students for their teaching internship.

Universitas Negeri Malang's Rector, Prof. Dr. Hariyono, presented an overview of their university and emphasized the importance of the partnership between PNU and UM in South East Asia's teacher education landscape. He also discussed the differences in teaching philosophies between the two countries. The event featured cultural performances by PNU's Kislap Sining Dance Troupe and concluded with the formal signing of the MOU by Dr. Tuga and Prof. Dr. Hariyono, followed by an exchange of tokens and a photo opportunity to mark the collaboration.

PNU RECEIVES APPRECIATION FOR BEING A DEDICATED PARTNER OF DEPED

To acknowledge the Philippine Normal University's (PNU) unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions to support the Department of Education's (DepEd) mission to improve the quality of basic education across the country, DepEd Secretary VP Sara Z. Duterte, and Undersecretary Atty. Michael Wesley T. Poa awarded two Plaques of Appreciation to PNU, represented by Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta, Director of Linkages and International Office (LIO) at the Partners' Appreciation and Recognition Program held on February 20, 2024, at the GSIS Complex, Pasay City.

This event is DepEd's way of showing gratitude to its stakeholders for the valuable contributions of various organizations, including private companies, government agencies, and community stakeholders that played a crucial role in advancing quality education and continuously supporting DepEd's MATATAG Agenda.

Moreover, PNU received a plaque of appreciation for its outstanding benevolence and exemplary generosity during the grand celebration of the 2023 National Teacher's Day with the theme: "Together for Teachers".

PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Holds Pinning Ceremony for 2024

In a heartwarming display of tradition and academic camaraderie, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) hosted its annual Pinning Ceremony on February 2, 2024, at 4:00 PM. The ceremony, attended by a distinguished gathering, marked the commencement of the academic year 2024 and the official send-off of pre-service teachers to partner schools.

Nearly 520 practice teachers were pinned during the ceremony.



Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas (left), President Bert J. Tuga (center), and Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin (right).

The event was participated by about 520 pre-service teachers from various faculties, university officials, faculty members, and proud parents, all coming together to witness and celebrate this significant milestone.

Among the university officials were President Bert J. Tuga, Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas (Vice President for Academics), Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin (Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance), Dr. Denmark L. Yonson (Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services), Dr. Gladys Nivera (Dean of College of Teacher Development), and Dr. Joel Tubera (Director of the Institute of Creative Expressions and Human Movement Education). Additionally, Associate Deans from various faculties graced the occasion with their presence.



University Officials and faculty members attended the event.

The Pinning Ceremony at PNU is a cherished tradition, symbolizing the official commencement of the practice teaching journey for pre-service teachers. This tradition holds great significance as it marks the beginning of a transformative period, preparing future educators for their roles in partner schools that encompass public, private, and international institutions.

Bert J. Tuga underscored the importance of the teaching profession and the pivotal role of PNU in shaping future educators. He also expressed his gratitude to faculty members and parents for their support.

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Select pre-service teachers received their pins from faculty members.



President Bert J. Tuga pinned one of the practice teachers.



President Bert J. Tuga delivered his message of encouragement and challenged the practice teachers to be future-ready.

The event was organized by the Faculty of General Education and Experiential Learning, led by Assistant Dean Dr. Darryl Roy T. Montebon and practice teaching coordinator Dr. Victoria J. Delos Santos.

As each pre-service teacher received their symbolic pin, the atmosphere was imbued with pride, responsibility, and anticipation, reflecting the strong sense of community within PNU.

With the Pinning Ceremony concluded, pre-service teachers are now prepared to embark on their practice teaching journey, equipped with the knowledge, passion, and values instilled by PNU, poised to make a positive impact in the field of education.



Practice teachers recited their creed to show commitment to finishing their practicum.

UNIVERSITAS NEGERI MALANG BENCHMARKING ACTIVITY

by Christine Rivera

Philippine Normal University (PNU) conducted a Benchmarking Activity with Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) on May 21, 2024 for the signing of MOU and Academic collaboration.

The activity commenced with the introduction of PNU's Mission, Vision and Quality Assurance Policy followed with welcome remarks of Dr. Bert J. Tuga, President of PNU.

Dr. Tuga stated the recent achievement of the university being a National Cultural Treasure. He also highlighted PNU as the premier public teacher institution in the Philippines.

Furthermore, he thanked UM for accommodating the fourth year students for their practicum in Indonesia. He ensured that by this, there will be more students encouraged to take their practicum in UM.

Following President Tuga's message, UM also showcased their University through an audio-visual presentation.

Prof. Dr. Hariyono, Rector, Professor in Indonesian History, highlighted the partnerships of UN with PNU and their impact in South East Asia as Teacher Education Universities. He also shared the differences of teaching philosophy in both countries.

PNU Kislap Sining Dance Troupe performed traditional dances to showcase Filipino culture and tradition. They performed Binasuan and Maglalatik.

Dr. Darryl Roy. T. Motebon, Associate Dean of Faculty of General Education and Experiential Learning discussed the contents of the Memorandum of Understanding between UM and PNU.

Afterward, Dr. Bert Tuga and Prof. Dr. Hariyono, Signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

The activity concluded with exchange of tokens and photo opportunity.



PNU EXPERTS PROVIDE INSIGHTS ON K TO 12 REFORMS, PISA RESULTS



Last February 5 and 7, 2024, experts from the Philippine Normal University (PNU) presented in two separate meetings the outputs of studies that acknowledged issues on the K to 12 program and the recently released Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results.

Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Academics, attended the 4th National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) – Congress Policy Research Forum for Public Policy Development last February 5, 2024, to present the results of her team's study on the Policy Analysis of the K to 12 Assessment for Quality Reform Efforts.

With the Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department as the requesting party for the said research, the study aimed to analyze facets of the assessment policies of the Department of Education's K to 12 programs namely on alignment to standards, responsiveness to quality, equality, and equity, and its relevance to higher education particularly on teacher education.

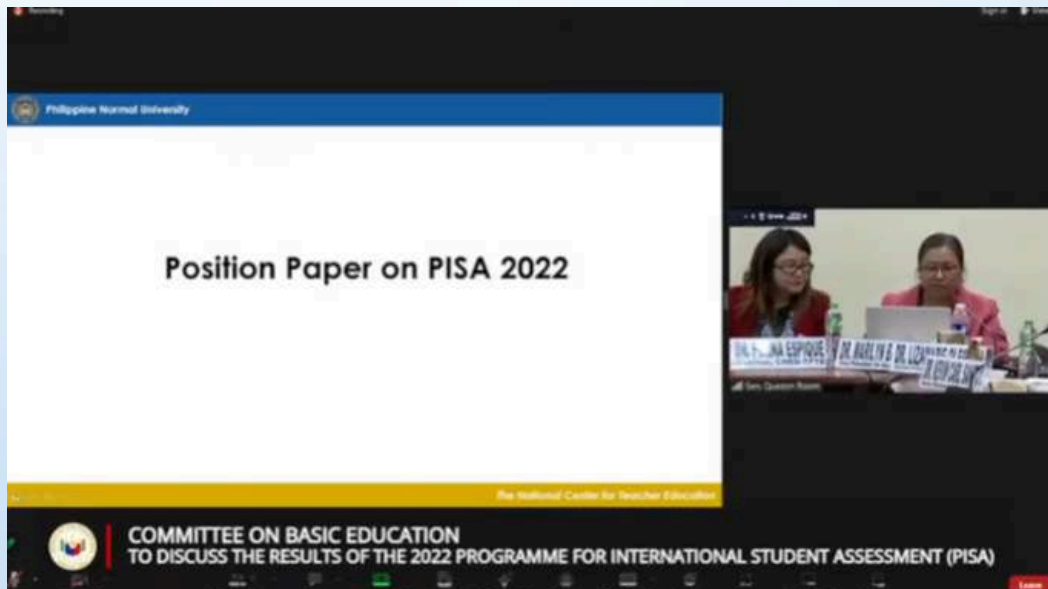
The study of Dr. Balagtas' team yielded significant results which underscored areas to be improved. The study emphasized the importance of clear articulation of Sustainable Development Goals indicators in classroom assessment. Furthermore, it was suggested that inconsistencies in assessment policies must be acknowledged and, in the process, align these policies with national and international standards.

These results were deemed as useful inputs to the ongoing review of the Philippine education system. Hon. Francisco B. Benitez, Representative of the Third District of Negros Occidental and the Commissioner of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) even requested that the EDCOM secretariat be furnished with all of the studies produced by Dr. Balagtas' team to maximize the results' influence on legislation.



Last February 7, 2024, Dr. Balagtas and Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, Dean of the College of Teacher Development, represented PNU at the motu proprio meeting of the Senate Committee on Basic Education which tackled the results of the 2022 PISA results.

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Together with prominent personalities from the education sector, Dr. Balagtas and Dr. Nivera helped in providing context to the PISA results which are considered to be statistically the same compared to the previous results. These PNU experts highlighted the multidimensionality of PISA that is not usually tapped into the local curriculum.

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They shared with the committee the position of PNU on the 2022 PISA which focuses on the call to address concerns on limited early literacy and inadequate home literacy, poor learning environment, and incongruence between and among the medium of instruction, the language of the test, and the language spoken by the students at home. It was also emphasized in the shared position paper that the solution to the conundrum posed by the PISA results involves a whole-society and systematic approach. As the National Center for Teacher Education, one of PNU's mandates is to conduct research that will aid in the legislative processes concerning education in the country.

PNU undergraduate and graduate students excel in ALV winter camp

From January 22 to February 2, 2024, students from the Philippine Normal University (PNU) displayed their determination and excellence during a 10-day winter camp organized by the American Language Village (ALV) in Taiwan.

Guided by Mr. Karl Joseph Tañedo, from PNU's Linkages and International Office, nine students from PNU-Manila were assigned to three camps across Taiwan.

Jessie Angeline Cañal (MA-ELE), Elle Samantha Ong (MA-EDLM), and Bianca Joyce Solis (BECED) were stationed at the Beiku Camp at the National Taipei University of Technology. Meanwhile, Jericho Ashley David (BEE), Hannah Abundo (BSMA), and Sophia Bahan (BEE) camped at Chihlee University of Technology in Banqiao, New Taipei. In the southern part of Taipei, Erlene Daelo (MAEd-CIN), Julia Sevilla (BECED), and Charleen Mae Paul (BECED) contributed their expertise at The Affiliated Senior High School of National Kaohsiung Normal University, Kaohsiung Camp.

Throughout the camp, PNU students took on various roles such as foreign teachers, teaching assistants, and cultural ambassadors, working alongside peers from Peru, Mexico, Russia, and other countries.

Teaching classes with varying sizes and students aged three to 13, PNU participants taught English as a Second Language (ESL) learners of different skill levels to improve their language abilities.

On February 3, 2024, Director Leo Liu of the ALV Camp honored the PNUans for their significant contributions, presenting them with certificates and expressing gratitude for their crucial roles in the camp's success.

The PNU scholars demonstrated exceptional expertise, resilience, and dedication during their stay in Taiwan, mastering Taipei's MRT system and enhancing their teaching skills. Their journey was marked by teamwork and commitment, leaving a lasting impression on the camps and the communities they served.

FSTem members and alumni attend training on renewable energy

On February 17, 2024, a total of 18 in-service science teachers, graduate school students, and faculty members from the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics (FSTem) underwent a one-day training program on renewable energy at Microtel by Wyndham UP Technohub, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City.

This initiative stemmed from the ongoing partnership between the Laboratory of Electrochemical Engineering of the University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD) and the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics of the Philippine Normal University (PNU) through Project CIPHER (Clean and Vertically-Integrated Pure/Applied Hydrogen Energy Research).

The training aimed to deepen the understanding of the in-service teacher participants regarding the science concepts and engineering processes involved in renewable energy production within the country. The objective was for these teachers to broaden their students' perspectives on the current state of renewable energy in the Philippines and to motivate them to actively support it, whether through engaging in social discussions or by pursuing careers related to electrochemical engineering.

During the workshop, Engr. Arizeo C. Salac (SRS I, ElectrIPTI) provided participants with a comprehensive overview of the current energy landscape in the country, focusing specifically on areas currently underserved by energy supply. Following this, Dr. DJ Donn C. Matienzo (Research Fellow V, CIPHER) delivered a lecture on basic hydrogen production, illustrating to teachers how energy engineering can be integrated into chemistry and physics topics. To cap off the lectures, Prof. Alfons Jayson O. Pelgone of FSTem lectured on Design Thinking and Innovation, equipping participants with strategies for effectively conveying their newfound knowledge in their respective classrooms.

After the lectures, the participants engaged in two hands-on laboratory activities with the assistance of graduate students from the Laboratory of Electrochemical Engineering.

This training was made possible through the coordination of Prof. Jayson L. De Vera with the participants.

PNU initiates CMIMO Conversations 1: Curriculum Governance

As part of the review and revision process of its Outcomes-based Teacher Education Curriculum in preparation for the implementation of the new Teacher Education Pathways, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) through the Curriculum Management and Instructional Materials Office (CMIMO) spearheaded a virtual colloquium entitled CMIMO Conversations 1: Curriculum Governance, the first in a series of consultations with experts and specialists on curriculum development, on February 21, 2024, via Zoom.

Professor Low Ee Ling, Dean of Academic and Faculty Affairs at the National Institute of Education, Singapore, served as the keynote speaker. In her sharing, she emphasized the importance of various aspects of curriculum development such as conducting local and global environmental scans, realigning curriculum to meet stakeholder demands, and ensuring alignment with institutional vision, mission, and goals. Moreover, she stressed the significance of contextualizing system-wide frameworks for education and conducting periodic reviews to uphold curriculum relevance.

Following Professor Ling's insightful presentation, participants engaged in a lively exchange of questions and answers, delving into topics such as processes that will ensure a well-crafted curriculum in teacher education, best practices at the National Institute of Education in Singapore, and the viability of straight BS-MA curricular programs, among others.

PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga also delivered a video message highlighting the significance of this event as a unique opportunity to further the institution's academic knowledge as well as engage in meaningful dialogues to critically assess PNU's existing curricular frameworks.

The meeting was moderated by Dr. Ruth A. Alido, CMIMO Director, and attended by Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Academics, and Deans, Associate Deans, Directors, and Faculty Members across campuses.

The next CMIMO Conversation is set to take place in the second week of March.