



TODAY @ PNU

NAP INAUGURATES EXHIBIT ON SPANISH-ERA MANILA AT PNU

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The National Archives of the Philippines (NAP) launched its exhibit *Manila: Nexus of Empire* on December 6, 2024. The exhibit, located in the lobby of the Maceda Building at the Philippine Normal University (PNU), showcases artifacts, artworks, and narratives that highlight Manila's historical significance as a cultural and political hub during the Spanish colonial period.

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PNU COMMUNITY CAPS OFF 2024 THROUGH YEAR-END ASSEMBLY AND RESONANCE PROGRAM

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To celebrate accomplishments and reflect on the year that was, members of the PNU Community gathered yesterday, December 19, 2024, at the Quadrangle for a simple yet joyous activity dubbed the Year-End Assembly and Resonance 2024. With the theme "Pamilya at Pamantasan para sa Paskong Pilipino," university officials, faculty members, and administrative personnel participated in fun-filled activities while reflecting on the lessons of 2024.

In his welcome remarks, Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara commended the PNU Community for their excellent work throughout the past year. He also acknowledged the leadership of PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, which steered the university's efforts in the right direction.

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PNU RECEIVES CHED ICONS AWARD FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION

In recognition of its exemplary performance in notable global university rankings this year, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) has once again been bestowed with the Commission on Higher Education Internationalization Champions of Nation-Building and Sustainability (CHED-ICONS) Award for Internationalization. The prestigious recognition was conferred during the awards ceremony held today, December 16, 2024, at the Philippine International Convention Center.

PNU was lauded for the success of its campaigns in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, where it was ranked 1001–1500, and the World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI), where it secured the 265th spot among over 1,000 institutions.

Representing the University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, the Director of the Linkages and International Office, Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta, received the award on behalf of the university. The honor was presented by no less than the Chairperson of CHED, Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, accompanied by CHED Commissioners Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela and Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis, along with CHED Regional Office – NCR Regional Director, Dr. Julieta M. Paras.

PNU expressed its immense gratitude to the Commission, particularly to the focal unit of the award, the International Affairs Service, headed by the Director-in-Charge, Atty. Lily Freida C. Macabangun-Milla.

This recognition underscores PNU’s steadfast commitment to advancing global excellence in education and fostering partnerships that transcend borders. As the National Center for Teacher Education, PNU remains resolute in its dedication to shaping globally competitive educators and contributing to the nation’s sustainable development.



PASSING RATE OF FIRST TIME TAKERS

Aside from PNU Manila’s feat of being a Top Performing School, other PNU campuses – North Luzon, South Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao – also contributed to the prestige garnered by Inang Pamantasan in the September 2024 Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LEPT). In the said examination, the results of which were released on December 13, 2024, PNU campuses posted passing rates for first-time takers in both the Elementary and Secondary Levels that were perfect or significantly above the national averages.



This achievement highlights that excellence is a core value exemplified by PNUans, whether they are from Alicia, Lopez, Cadiz, Prosperidad, or Manila.

Mabuhay ka, Inang Pamantasan!

CONGRATULATORY PUBMAT FOR MR. ESPAÑOL



PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY
The National Center for Teacher Education



Congratulations!

MR. JUDE GABRIEL I. ESPAÑOL

Bachelor in English Education

**for being selected as PRINCIPAL CANDIDATE for the
2024 GLOBAL UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE
PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES
(GLOBAL UGRAD),
a program of the Philippine-American Educational
Foundation Board (Fulbright Philippines)**

PNU is proud of you!

 @pnusystem

www.pnu.edu.ph

The Philippine Normal University community proudly extends its heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Jude Gabriel I. Español, a Bachelor of English Education student, on being selected as a Principal Candidate for the 2024 Global Undergraduate Exchange Program under the Philippine-American Educational Foundation Board (Fulbright Commission in the Philippines).

Mr. Español is one of only four successful nominees from a pool of 1,099 applicants nationwide. He is set to spend one academic term at a university in Washington, D.C., USA.

We wish him great success as he represents the university and the nation on this prestigious international platform.



CHEDRO-NCR RECOGNIZES PNU FOR EXEMPLARY IZN EFFORTS

The awards were presented during the Meet the hIROs: CHED Year-End Kumustahan with NCR International Relations Officers program held on December 6, 2024, in Quezon City. Representing PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga at the event was the Director of the Linkages and International Office, Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta, who accepted the certificates of recognition from CHEDRO-NCR Regional Director Dr. Julieta M. Paras.

The Commission on Higher Education Regional Office – National Capital Region (CHEDRO-NCR) has recognized the Philippine Normal University (PNU) as an internationalization champion for its “exemplary leadership, dedication, and initiative” in conducting internationalization activities among state universities and colleges in NCR. Additionally, PNU has received the “SUC Idol in Internationalization” award for its outstanding performance in international university rankings.

This recognition affirms PNU’s commitment to fostering global partnerships, promoting cross-cultural exchange, and advancing its vision of becoming a globally recognized center of excellence in teacher education.



PNU FORMALIZES PARTNERSHIP WITH TEC ON RESEARCH INITIATIVES IN TEACHER EDUCATION

As part of its goal to transform teacher education programs nationwide and align them with the diverse educational needs of the 21st century, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) has formalized an agreement with the Teacher Education Council (TEC) to execute the Research Initiatives in Teacher Education (RITE).

The agreement, which allocates Php 74,719,000.00 for the project's implementation, was signed by Department of Education Secretary and TEC Chairperson Sonny Angara and PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga during a ceremony held on November 27, 2024, at the DepEd Central Office in Pasig City. Witnessing the event were TEC Secretariat Executive Director V, Dr. Jennie V. Jocson, and PNU's Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance, Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin.

RITE comprises a series of research initiatives aimed at revolutionizing teacher education by developing new curricula, enhancing experiential learning, fostering professional development, and integrating global best practices. The combined expertise and resources of participating institutions will be harnessed to generate actionable insights and frameworks that will shape the future of education in the Philippines.



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PNU leads this collaborative effort, working alongside the University of the Philippines, Pangasinan State University, Mariano Marcos State University,

PNU CELEBRATES WORLD TEACHERS' DAY; RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBERS

As part of an advance commemoration of World Teachers' Day, the Philippine Normal University conducted a simple program on October 2, 2024, at the Geronima T. Pecson Main Auditorium to honor teachers, especially members of its faculty. It was during this "celebration of teaching effectiveness" that faculty members who had attained the highest ratings in student evaluations were recognized.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, the Vice President for Academics, paid tribute to her fellow educators and urged them to continue inspiring future generations of learners. University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, in his message, candidly discussed the enduring

Isabela State University, Leyte Normal University, University of Santo Tomas, and Central Luzon State University. Partner institutions such as St. Paul University Tuguegarao, Saint Louis University, West Visayas State University, Cebu Normal University, Western Mindanao State University, and the University of Eastern Philippines will contribute to specific outputs within the project's various research areas.



The scope of the research priorities will address critical aspects of teacher education. The second phase of the Scoping and Scanning of Teacher Education in the Country will continue to assess the current state of teacher education while advancing innovative experiential learning models, crafting inclusive curricula, improving learning outcomes, establishing a robust research framework, and adopting global best practices in school leadership. Meanwhile, another focus will be on Admission and Retention Policies in Teacher Education, which will concentrate on establishing quality admission standards, tracking graduate outcomes, enhancing the professional competencies of in-service teachers and educators, aligning senior high school programs with teacher education, and disseminating best practices across the education sector.



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OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBERS

significance of the profession and how it plays a pivotal role in creating learning experiences and developing critical thinkers, compassionate citizens, and future leaders.

In a special tribute, award-winning student performer Ms. Trisha M. Piñon serenaded the audience with her rendition of the song Shine, a fitting choice for recognizing the top-performing faculty members.

Following this, a simple recognition program for outstanding faculty commenced. The top three educators from each faculty and institute, as well as from each campus, were recognized for their impressive teaching approaches, which had not gone unnoticed by their students. The top 10 performers across the PNU system were also acknowledged, with Dr. Clemente M. Aguinaldo Jr. of PNU North Luzon securing the top spot.

After the brief recognition ceremony, the student-led part of the program began with tribute performances from various performing groups. The highlight of this portion of the celebration was the speech delivered by Hon. France Castro, Representative of the ACT Partylist. Cong. Castro focused on the current state of teachers and employees in relation to the education sector in the country.

World Teachers' Day is an annual celebration held on October 5, with the goal of recognizing the invaluable contributions of teachers to education and society, promoting the teaching profession, and addressing issues surrounding teacher development, rights, and working conditions.

PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, in a speech delivered by Vice President Rungduin, commended the BRMV program as a bold step toward innovation in academic research. Dr. Tuga praised the event for bridging the gap between academe and the community, exploring new methods like music videos to express research in a way that resonates with wider audiences.

Ms. Nicole Angela Cruz from the PNU Publication Office presented the judges, who evaluated the submissions based on their relation to research and innovative execution.



PNU LAUNCHES BEST RESEARCH MUSIC VIDEO CONTEST

The Philippine Normal University (PNU), through the Publication Office, launched the first-ever Best Research Music Video (BRMV) competition during a program held on October 9, 2024, at the HRD Auditorium. This first-of-its-kind contest highlights the fusion of academic research and creative expression, setting a new standard for disseminating research. The competition was organized in collaboration with the Events Management Office, the Institute of Creative Expressions and Human Movement Education, the PNU Chorale, and the Center for Sports, Culture, and Arts Development.

In her opening remarks, the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance, Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin, underscored the BRMV's role as a trailblazing initiative. She emphasized how the competition allows researchers to explore innovative formats for sharing their work by merging scholarship with creative arts, highlighting the event's pioneering approach to engaging broader audiences.

The BRMV Program was creatively introduced with a cultural performance by the PNU Kislap Sining Dance Troupe, accompanied by a preliminary video on the BRMV proceedings. A key highlight was the ceremonial hoisting of the BRMV trophy by Dr. Marie Paz Morales, Director of the Publication Office, symbolizing a commitment to celebrating innovative research through creative expression.

Dr. Marie Paz E. Morales, Director of the Publication Office, introduced the finalists and commended their contributions, demonstrating the innovative potential of combining research with music video. Each finalist received a cash prize of 15,000 pesos along with plaques of appreciation as recognition for their creative efforts. The finalists were Ms. Shirley D. Frigillano of Iloilo Science and Technology University, featuring the study Humorous Linguistic Memes as Coping Relief Against COVID-19 Anxiety; Dr. Marie Grace S. Cabansag and Ms. Gizel R. Santiago of PNU North Luzon with the study Key Elements of Relevant

Pre-service Training from the Perspectives of Science Education Graduates; and Ms. Everlou E. Maquiling of Carlos Hilado Memorial State University - Negros Occidental, featuring Problem-Based Learning Approach in Preservice Teachers: Untold Stories.

Although no single winner was declared, all finalists were recognized for their groundbreaking contributions to both academic and creative landscapes. In his closing remarks, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services, expressed his admiration for

the participants, noting the BRMV event's significance in setting a precedent for blending creativity and research. He emphasized how this innovative initiative fosters intellectual and artistic collaboration, encouraging future efforts to communicate research more engagingly and creatively.

The BRMV event is a pioneering effort that promises to reshape how research is shared, making it more accessible, engaging, and creatively inspiring. By enhancing the dissemination of research findings and fostering a culture of innovation, this initiative sets the stage for future events that will merge creativity and scholarship within the PNU community.



PNU BULLETIN

PNU TAKES PART IN GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH EXCHANGE FORUM IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

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The Thailand-Philippines Bilateral Graduate Student Research Exchange Forum, held from November 22 to 26, 2024, at Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand, gathered over 150 participants, including 63 delegates from the Philippines. The forum aimed to foster collaboration in educational leadership with a focus on innovation, equity, and addressing global challenges.

Representing Philippine Normal University (PNU) were its faculty members from PNU Manila: Dr. Arlyne C. Marasigan, Dr. Jayson L. De Vera, and Prof. Ma. Laarni D. Buenaventura; and officials from PNU South Luzon: Executive Director and Provost Dr. Leah Amor S. Cortez, Director for Research, Extension, Quality Assurance, and Development Dr. Reynald M. Cacho, and Head of the Extension, Alumni, Linkages, and Internationalization Unit Ms. Cyren C. Oseña. Selected graduate students from PNU Manila also formed part of the institution's contingent.

On November 24, delegates toured Kasetsart University, learning about its history and academic programs. The following day featured visits to cultural landmarks, including the Grand Palace and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. This was followed by a knowledge exchange session focusing on education policies, internationalization, and sustainability in higher education, led by Dr. Pred Evans and a team from the Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University.



The event commenced with institutional visits to UNESCO, SEAMEO, and Thailand's Ministry of Education, where participants explored the educational landscape of Thailand and other ASEAN member countries, as well as their alignment with global sustainability goals. The official opening on November 23 featured keynote addresses by academic leaders, including Assistant Professor Dr. Tongta Somjaipeng and Dr. Rangsun Wiboonapatum, who emphasized post-pandemic reforms and equitable access. A lecture on 21st-century instructional leadership by Professor Philip Hallinger further highlighted the importance of teacher empowerment. Delegates also presented university profiles and shared research findings in parallel sessions, followed by a cultural night celebrating Thai and Filipino traditions.

The final day included a visit to Bangkok University, where participants attended a lecture on knowledge management by Dr. Vincent Ribiere, emphasizing strategies for effective knowledge sharing. The forum concluded with commitments to future collaborations in teaching, research, and leadership development, further strengthening partnerships between Thai and Philippine educational institutions.



PNU-FSTEM CONVENES STEM EDUCATORS AT NATCON 2024

The Philippine Normal University, through the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics (FSTeM), in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology - Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI), successfully hosted the 4th National Conference on Science, Technology, and Mathematics Education themed "Future-ready STEM Education: Co-creating our Futures," on December 7 and 8, 2024, at the Geronima Pecson Hall Auditorium of the university.

The event gathered about 200 STEM educators, professionals, and enthusiasts from various educational institutions and industry partners across the Philippines. The aim was to foster knowledge exchange, strengthen collaboration, and establish communities of practice in STEM education. The conference was made possible through partnerships with esteemed organizations, including Rex Education, the First Eduspec, Inc., the Philippine Space Agency, Casio Calculators Philippines, Khan Academy, ScienceStar Corporation, and Project Cipher. These partners hosted several workshops and exhibits for the participants.

Dr. Bert J. Tuga, president of PNU, welcomed the participants to the conference as he emphasized the role of STEM and STEM education, as well as of PNU as a leading teacher education institution, in developing people's critical and creative thinking for a brighter future. Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, Dean of the College of Teacher Development, also gave her message as she reminisced about the previous conferences on STEM education at PNU. The focus of the opening messages highlighted how, amid the challenges, institutions can work together for sustainable progress.

The highlight of the conference was the five keynote speeches delivered by experts in the field of STEM and STEM education. Dr. Ester B. Ogena, former President of the Philippine Normal University and current member of EDCOM 2 Standing Committee for teacher education, delivered a compelling keynote address on "Developing Future Literacy Among STEM Learners." Her speech underscored the role of data-driven decision-making processes to solve the perennial problems of society.

Mr. Kevin Anthony Sison, MSc., President and CEO of SCTSC Review Corporation, delivered a talk on "AI in STEM Education." He encouraged STEM teachers and STEM enthusiasts to view AI tools not as a detriment but as a supplement in the teaching-learning setup. The third keynote address was delivered by Dir. Bernadeth Daran, whose talk was on "Numeracy as Foundation for the Future." She is the Director for Curriculum/Learning Design and Strategic Engagement of Khan Academy. She discussed what it means to be numerate in 2030 and beyond, including the integration of health statistics and social media algorithms in daily life. Mr. Mark Ivan Roblas, Supervising Science Research Specialist of DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD), presented a talk on "Communicating STEM for Nation-Building and the Future." He emphasized the importance of public forums such as this conference to exchange ideas and solutions about the pressing needs of science and beyond. The last keynote address of the conference was delivered by Dr. Ivy P. Mejia from the UP National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development (NISMED). With the title "Creative Thinking in STEM Education," she discussed the recent PISA Creative Thinking assessment and its implications for scientific literacy.

The NatCon partners such as DOST-SEI, First Eduspec, Inc., the Philippine Space Agency, Casio Calculators Philippines, Khan Academy, ScienceStar Corporation, and Project Cipher also conducted engaging workshops, enriching the learning experience for participants. The participants not only listened to the workshop presenters but also conducted experiments and activities that they can use in actual teaching, learning, and even STEM research.

Participants also presented their research findings through 25 posters and 22 paper presentations on the following topics: Assessment in STEM Education; Teaching and Learning in STEM; STEM Learners' Success; STEM Teacher Development; STEM Approaches and Resources; Inclusive STEM Teaching and Learning; and Investigations in STEM and other Allied Fields. Three participants were selected for the best poster award, and three participants received the best paper presentation award.

The conference concluded by recognizing the partners and the winners for the best poster and paper presentations. Dr. Alfons Jayson Pelgone, the conference chair, expressed the unit's gratitude to the partners, participants, and the conference committee members for their interest and efforts to leverage STEM education in co-creating our futures.

As part of its commitment to quality and organizational excellence, PNU has once again submitted to the recertification process for ISO 9001:2015. The two-day audit, running from November 14 to 15, 2024, is facilitated by W3 Solutionz PH. The audit plan is expected to cover all university offices and units, providing a thorough appraisal of adherence to institutional processes.

During the opening program, the audit team was introduced, consisting of Ms. Arlene A. Castillo and Audit Team Leader Dr. Catherine T. Sigua. In her remarks, Dr. Sigua shared her initial impressions of PNU, noting several positive observations. Adding to these, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga provided a comprehensive report on the university's accomplishments, including its Philippine Quality Award for Proficiency in Quality Management.



PNU UNDERGOES ISO 9001:2015 RECERTIFICATION

The top management review followed shortly after the opening program, during which Dr. Sigua probed into the operational context and its relevant clauses.

PNU has been an ISO-certified organization since 2018 and has maintained compliance with the 9001:2015 clauses ever since.

The opening program began with an opening address by PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, who emphasized the value of preserving our heritage as a means of fostering national identity and creating a more inclusive and sustainable future for all. Executive Director Victorino Mapa Manalo of the National Archives of the Philippines expressed gratitude to the stakeholders and collaborators who made the exhibit possible. He also provided an overview of the exhibit's highlights, such as rare archival materials, detailed maps, and iconic representations of Manila's role as the bustling economic center and cultural melting pot.



Architect Gio Abcede, President of the Heritage Conservation Society of the Philippines, addressed the crowd, underscoring the importance of tangible heritage for future generations. His Excellency Miguel Utray Delgado, Ambassador of Spain to the Philippines, delivered the concluding remarks, reflecting on the enduring cultural ties between Spain and the Philippines and the shared responsibility to protect this rich legacy.

Following the speeches, the ceremonial unveiling or ribbon-pulling formally opened the exhibit, inviting guests to explore the curated displays. Among the attendees were representatives from the academe, government agencies, cultural organizations, and foreign embassies.

The exhibit Manila: Nexus of Empire will run until January 31, 2025, and is open to the public. Visitors are required to present a valid ID at the PNU gate to gain access to the campus and the exhibit. This initiative highlights the ongoing commitment of the NAP and PNU to promoting historical awareness and appreciation among Filipinos.



PNU COMMUNITY CAPS OFF 2024 THROUGH YEAR-END ASSEMBLY AND RESONANCE PROGRAM

Dr. Tuga also delivered a message to the PNU Community, reiterating his earlier announcement regarding the Board of Regents' prompt approval of financial matters, including the release of certain incentives for PNU employees. President Tuga expressed his gratitude for the contributions and hard work of everyone in the community and shared his optimism for a more productive 2025 for the university.

Entries for various Christmas-themed competitions—including Best Headdress, Best Christmas Costume, Best TikTok Video, Best Christmas Production, and Best Human Belen—were presented, followed by the recognition of the top three winners in each category



RESULTS OF TEIS AND TEACHER EDUCATOR STUDY PRESENTED TO NEDA

The findings and recommendations of a study conducted by the Philippine Normal University-Research Institute for Teacher Quality (PNU-RITQ), in partnership with the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2), have reached more key decision-makers in the country.

At the Social Development Committee (SDC) National-Regional Consultative Meeting held on November 18–19, 2024, in Pasig City, RITQ Director Dr. Brando C. Palomar presented the key findings of the Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) and Teacher Educators' Profiling Study on behalf of PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga.

The SDC, a standing committee under the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), reviews and recommends policies, programs, and projects that promote social development.

A Christmas Videoke Challenge showcased some of the university's most distinct voices, as participants performed classic Christmas songs.

The program concluded with messages from PNU Manila's Administrative Employees Association, represented by Ms. Leonora P. Narag, and the Faculty Union, represented by Prof. Maria Fatima D. Nolasco.

The PNU Year-End Assembly and Resonance 2024 and other related activities are organized by the Events Management Office under Prof. James V. Bailon

"Presenting the results of this study to policymakers, such as those constituting the SDC, helps bridge gaps in teacher education and align it with national education goals. The findings provide empirical bases for improving teacher quality and addressing systemic challenges in pre-service teacher education," said Dr. Tuga.

The presentation sparked discussions about the future of teacher education among the attendees, particularly participants from various regions. Attending the meeting were members of the SDC Technical Board, regional SDCs, and representatives from NEDA Regional Offices.

The study's findings and recommendations offer valuable insights that can shape future policies and programs, aiming to strengthen the quality of teacher education across the country.

Dr. Ali G. Anudin, RITQ Senior Program Manager, supported Dr. Palomar in delivering the presentation and facilitating the open forum. Their active participation underscores PNU's commitment to contributing to national discussions on improving teacher education in the Philippines.

PNU PARTICIPATES IN GUPLS 2024 IN HONG KONG; PRES. TUGA SHARES INSIGHTS ON EDUCATION FUTURE

The Philippine Normal University took part in the Global University Presidents and Leaders Summit 2024 held on December 2 to 3, 2024, in Hong Kong. Out of 55 invited entities from across the globe, PNU is the only higher education institution in the Philippines that was invited to take part in the prestigious academic gathering. The institution's contingent consisted of its University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, and two students, namely, Mr. Mark Joar T. Calag and Mr. Roberto L. Rodriguez Jr., who are taking up the Bachelor of English Education and Doctor of Philosophy in Science Education programs, respectively.

Aside from representing PNU, Dr. Tuga also served as a panelist in the plenary session on Demographic Change and Education in Future, which focused on how educational institutions can adapt to challenges brought about by the evolving population, considering the demand for diverse learning environments. Dr. Tuga was joined by leaders from universities based in Hong Kong, USA, Brunei, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan. Meanwhile, Mr. Calag and Mr. Rodriguez were given the opportunity to attend parallel learning sessions and engage in dialogue with the world's top university executives.

GUPLS 2024 is a response to the call for Hong Kong to serve as a hub of exchange in higher education through the hosting of international conferences that tackle issues pressing on the landscape of the academe. The gathering also recognizes the capacity of university presidents and top students to become opinion leaders and shape the direction to be taken by the next generation of learners.

The two-day conference was organized by the Hong Kong Association for External Friendship and supported by the Education University of Hong Kong, a long-time partner of PNU in many academic endeavors.





PNU, EDUHK HOST CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON TEACHING AND RESEARCH FOR HEI ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

PNU, EDUHK HOST CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON TEACHING AND RESEARCH FOR HEI ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

Two leading teacher education institutions in the region have joined forces to advance the advocacy of fostering teacher education excellence and research rigor. The Philippine Normal University (PNU) and the Education University of Hong Kong (EduHK) spearheaded the Capacity Strengthening Program for Higher Education Institution Academic Personnel on October 28–29, 2024, at PNU’s AV Theater.

With approximately 70 participants, the program catered to a range of stakeholders, including faculty members, pre-service teachers from PNU, and academic and research personnel from member institutions of the South Manila Educational Consortium (SMEC) and the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges – National Capital Region (PASUC-NCR). PNU is a member of both consortia.



The seminar-workshop opened with a physical activity featuring popular songs from TikTok, led by Dr. Joel G. Tubera, Director of the Institute of Creative Expressions and Human Movement Education. Dr. Tubera also facilitated brief stretching exercises between sessions. Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, PNU's Vice President for Academics, officially welcomed participants with a meaningful address, encouraging them to excel in research. Shortly after, Prof. Sing Kai Lo, Associate Vice President of EduHK, delivered greetings on behalf of the EduHK contingent, provided an overview of EduHK, and highlighted the importance of world rankings and internationalization. He concluded by introducing speakers from various departments of the renowned institution.



Following a short break, Dr. Qiaoping Zhang, Associate Professor from EduHK's Department of Mathematics and Information Technology, discussed effective teaching and learning approaches, focusing on student values and teacher noticing. In the afternoon, Dr. Pramond Kumar Sah, an Assistant Professor from EduHK's Department of English Language Education, provided valuable insights for early-career researchers on publishing in international journals. Both Dr. Zhang and Dr. Sah engaged participants with question-and-answer sessions. Later, Dr. Heidi B. Macahilig, Director of PNU's Education Policy Research and Development Office (EPRDO), facilitated focus group discussions as a consultative session on the Teacher Education Research Agenda.

The two-day seminar-workshop aimed to enhance content knowledge in specific disciplines, document teacher education practices, identify research topics aligned with the teacher education research agenda, and explore publication opportunities for further research.

Preparations for the event were led by the College of Alternative and Lifelong Learning, under the leadership of its Dean, Dr. Celia M. Ilanan.

Day two commenced with a presentation by Dr. Marie Paz E. Morales, Director of PNU's Publication Office, on strategies for publishing research. She expanded on Dr. Sah's discussion, outlining the stages to achieve publication. Later in the morning, Dr. Qing Ma, Associate Dean of EduHK's Faculty of Humanities, elaborated on collaborative case studies for developing teachers' Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK). Dr. Macahilig returned for the final lecture, focusing on translating research findings into policy outputs.



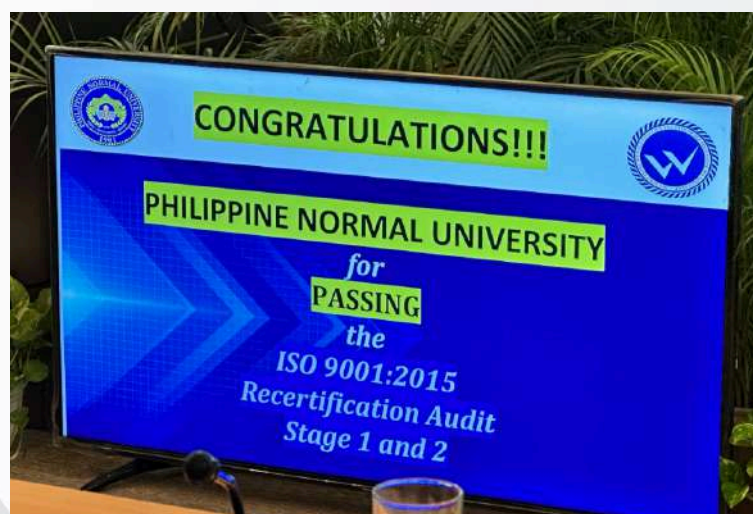


After a two-day audit process that delved into the institution's continuous compliance with global standards, the Philippine Normal University has once again received a nod for an ISO 9001:2015 certification for its quality management system. The result of this quality assurance activity was made known to the PNU Manila Community during the closing program of the stage 1 and 2 audit held on November 15, 2024.

In the said activity facilitated by W3 Solutionz PH, auditors Ms. Arlene A. Castillo and Dr. Catherine T. Sigua underscored several positive points and best practices being implemented by PNU, some of which are unique to the university. Some of the recognized facets involved modernized management, particularly in the library, a comprehensive security plan, and digitized inventory and monitoring of supplies. PNU's recent achievement as a recipient of the Philippine Quality Award for Proficiency in Quality Management also strengthened the bid of PNU for the recertification. PNU's role in developing and implementing the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers also received a thumbs up from the auditors.

Although some minor areas for improvement and compliance were flagged, the auditors recognized the tangible outcomes of PNU's trailblazing initiatives as compelling evidence of its quality management system. As a result, they declared that PNU successfully passed the two-stage audit for ISO recertification.

PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, in his message, affirmed PNU's commitment to improving its systems and maintaining its best practices. He said that the community is dedicated to evolving its QMS considering the valuable insights from the lens of external partners like those of the ISO auditors. He further pledged to work on the immediate resolution of the minor deficiency to formalize the bestowing of the recertification to PNU.





PNU RECOGNIZES STAKEHOLDERS IN PRESIDENT'S DAY 2024; PRES. TUGA DELIVERS FIFTH SUA

PNU RECOGNIZES STAKEHOLDERS IN PRESIDENT'S DAY 2024; PRES. TUGA DELIVERS FIFTH SUA

To mark his fifth year as President of the Philippine Normal University (PNU), Dr. Bert J. Tuga led President's Day celebration on December 10, 2024, at the PNU Manila campus. The event recognized PNU's valued partners, celebrated the achievements of its community, and highlighted the institution's progress under his leadership over the past year.

Unlike previous renditions of the President's Day, this year's installment, themed "Pasasalamat at Pagpapatuloy," was intentionally simpler in response to Malacañang's call to scale down celebrations in government institutions as a gesture of solidarity with the victims of recent calamities. Despite the streamlined format, the President's Day 2024 highlighted key programs and activities that honored the institution's traditions and accomplishments.

The festivities began with a Thanksgiving Mass at the PNU Worship Center, followed by the blessing of the newly renovated President's Office on the second floor of the Maceda Building.



In the afternoon, the Partners Appreciation Program recognized scholarship donors, government and non-government institutions, national and international partners, and community collaborators. In his speech, President Tuga expressed heartfelt gratitude to PNU's partners for their invaluable support in advancing the university's mission as the National Center for Teacher Education. He emphasized their vital contributions to empowering communities, supporting aspiring educators, and enhancing academic programs. Their partnership, he noted, reflects PNU's enduring commitment to truth, excellence, and service in shaping transformative education.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to partners during the program. Mr. Ron Ranier Reyes, Executive Director of PHINMA Foundation, reaffirmed the scholarship donors' commitment to supporting future educators, citing their belief in the transformative power of teaching. Ms. Andrea Luisa C. Anolin, Director IV of the National Reintegration Center for OFWs, expressed gratitude for PNU's expertise in serving OFWs, while Ms. Marife Morcilla of the National Educators Academy of the Philippines lauded the university's crucial role in transforming institutional practices into national educational policies. International and national partners, such as Dr. Ied Veda Sitepu of Universitas Kristen Indonesia and Mr. Manolo Peña of Esteban Abada High School, expressed renewed enthusiasm for continuing their partnerships with PNU.

Later in the afternoon, President Tuga delivered the State of the University Address, reflecting on PNU's accomplishments over the past year. "I hope you find inspiration in every milestone, as each represents our collective effort and persistence," he said. The address highlighted PNU's achievements and underscored the resilience, collaboration, and dedication of the entire community in advancing the university's mission.

The celebration concluded with the Natata nging Pipol Awards, honoring seven retirees, 41 loyalty awardees, 10 research and publication honorees, and six outstanding teachers. Among them, Dr. Randyll V. Villones from PNU Visayas was named the Most Outstanding Teacher 2024. In his acceptance speech,

Dr. Villones expressed heartfelt gratitude to his family, students, and colleagues, vowing to continue inspiring future generations of educators.

One of the retirees, Dr. Ermininda C. Fortes, delivered an emotional response, reminiscing about her years at PNU and the lasting bond she had built with the institution. She reflected on the challenges and triumphs that defined her journey, expressing gratitude for the opportunities to serve the university and its mission.



The day ended with a vibrant grand fellowship night, where university officials, faculty, staff, and students gathered to celebrate with food and music, fostering camaraderie and unity within the PNU community.

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PNU PRESIDENT INVITED AS SPEAKER IN UE'S TRUE ICON AND AACCUP BAYANIHAN CONFERENCE

In recognition of his experience and expertise as higher education leader and educator, PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga was invited as speaker in two academic gatherings this week.



PNU PRESIDENT INVITED AS SPEAKER IN UE'S TRUE ICON AND AACCUP BAYANIHAN CONFERENCE

Dr. Tuga served as the keynote speaker at the University of the East's TrUE ICon 2024: Talks, Research, Understanding, and Exchange International Conference, held on November 6-8, 2024. This conference provided a prominent platform for educational thought leaders to discuss innovations and challenges in a rapidly evolving education landscape. Speaking on the topic, "Education Futures: Challenges and Opportunities for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)," Dr. Tuga addressed an audience of 360 participants. His presentation offered a forward-looking perspective on the future of education and emphasized the critical need for adaptability and resilience in HEIs amid the dynamic shifts in global education. Under the theme, "Adapting to the Changing Landscape toward the Post-Pandemic Era," Dr. Tuga explored the transformative potential of teacher education, underscoring both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. He concluded by proposing strategies to future-proof education, ensuring that academic institutions remain responsive to emerging demands and equipped for sustainable growth.

Following his engagement in UE Caloocan, Dr. Tuga also graced the Accreditors' Bayanihan 2024 event, hosted by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) on November 7, 2024, at Cavite State University. In this gathering wherein he served as plenary speaker, he emphasized the significance of collaboration, global benchmarking, and quality assurance to elevate the standards of Philippine HEIs. Dr. Tuga highlighted exemplary quality assurance bodies worldwide that serve as benchmarks for institutions striving to achieve excellence. He also introduced an upcoming collaboration between AACCUP and the AsTEN Quality Assurance Agency (ATQA), aimed at launching initiatives to strengthen teacher education quality assurance across the region.

Dr. Tuga's contributions to both events reaffirmed PNU's position in championing high standards in teacher education and fostering international partnerships to enhance the quality of education.



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