



PNU POST

THE OFFICIAL ONLINE NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY



TODAY @ PNU

NEW BATCH OF EMINENT ALUMNI RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL GAWAD SULO CEREMONY

As one of the highlights of the 33rd Universityhood Anniversary celebration of the Philippine Normal University, a new batch of alumni was recognized for their stellar contributions to their respective fields while embodying the values upheld by their alma mater.

On the afternoon of January 31, 2025, the Gawad Sulo for Eminent Alumni 2025 shone the spotlight on 25 distinguished PNU graduates who have left an indelible mark on society through their trailblazing achievements.

This year's awardees come from various sectors and advocacies, including culture and the arts, educational leadership, education science, specialized areas in education, public service, and science and technology for education.

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Gracing the event was the Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education, Chairperson-designate of the PNU Board of Regents, and an Eminent Alumna herself, Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela. Dr. Valenzuela reflected on how the awardees can contribute to shaping the future of education and becoming catalysts for change. She acknowledged the role PNU has played in molding the awardees and other graduates into transformational leaders and innovators who help learners navigate the pathways of education.

Representing this year's awardees were Ms. Jocelyn "Bubbles" Villegas, Director IV of the Presidential Engagements Office at the Office of the President, Malacañan, and Dr. Jonathan A. Bayogan, Retired Professor and Immediate Past President of Davao del Norte State College. Both shared fond memories of their time at PNU and imparted inspiring words to their fellow awardees and the PNU community.

In his message for the occasion, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga emphasized the essence of Gawad Sulo as a testament to the enduring legacy of alumni who exemplify academic excellence, ethical leadership, and service to the nation. Dr. Tuga also highlighted the diversity of the awardees and reaffirmed the prestige of this recognition, which is the highest honor bestowed by the university upon its alumni. He urged the awardees to continue innovating, strengthening their resolve, and serving as torchbearers in addressing the challenges in education and society.



The Gawad Sulo for Eminent Alumni is a flagship program of the Alumni Relations Office, led by its Director, Dr. Ma. Glenda O. De Lara. Since its establishment in 2013, the program has honored more than 200 outstanding alumni.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) has sent a group of ten pre-service teachers to Kasetsart University (KU) in Bangkok, Thailand, as part of its 2025 International Exchange Program. This initiative, which began on January 28, 2025, offers students a unique opportunity to enhance their teaching skills through an international practicum.

The ten students come from the Faculty of Languages and Literature (FLL) and the Faculty of Science, Technology, and



Mathematics (FSTeM). Among them, five are from the Bachelor of English Education (BEE) program: Jasmine Rose De Leon, Diane Isabel Visen, Elizabelle De Leon, Jerron Anthony Yogyog, and Julie Ann Lique. The remaining five are enrolled in various science-related programs under FSTeM, specializing in Physics, Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics. These students will gain practical teaching experience at Nakornnawittaya School 1 & 5 in Thailand, where they will spend nearly a month—from January 28 to February 21, 2025—immersing themselves in classroom environments and applying the knowledge they have acquired in their studies.

This collaboration between PNU and KU highlights the strong academic ties between the two institutions, which share a commitment to cultivating highly skilled educators. By partnering with KU, PNU provides its students with a valuable opportunity to adapt to diverse educational settings and refine their teaching methods, particularly in an international context. The program also fosters cultural exchange, allowing future teachers to gain insights into different teaching practices, classroom management strategies, and student engagement techniques while contributing to the educational landscape in Thailand.

The presence of Associate Dean Alfons Jayson O. Pelgone of FSTeM further underscores PNU's commitment to ensuring a well-rounded and well-supported experience for its students. As the pioneer batch of this exchange program, the group will not only gain hands-on

experience but also represent PNU's standards of teacher education abroad.



Through initiatives like this, PNU continues to reinforce its mission of developing globally competitive educators while fostering educational innovation and cross-border collaboration. The success of this exchange program is expected to pave the way for more international partnerships and teaching opportunities for PNU students in the future.



The PNU community gathered for the University Convocation on February 5, 2025, held at the Geronima T. Pecson Main Auditorium and live-streamed via PNU's social media platforms. This year's convocation featured two highly distinguished leaders in the field of teacher education: Dr. Evelyn C. Cruzada, former President of Leyte Normal University and Consultant at the Research Institute for Teacher Quality (RITQ), and Dr. Ester B. Ogena, former President of the Philippine Normal University and Member of the Standing Committee on Teacher Education of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II). They delivered insightful talks on PNU's evolving role as a highly specialized tertiary education institution (TEI) within the Philippine education ecosystem.



policy reforms. With the recent findings of EDCOM II made public, Dr. Tuga urged the PNU community to take on the challenges posed by these findings and work collectively to address the evolving needs of Filipino learners. He also acknowledged the two guest speakers, whom he deemed highly credible in delivering an insightful discourse on PNU's role within the broader education landscape.

Dr. Cruzada, in her address, reflected on PNU's mandate as the National Center for Teacher Education and its role in guiding other normal institutions, particularly through the Network of Normal Schools (3NS). She commended PNU for serving as an exemplary model in developing programs responsive to contemporary needs and encouraged the university to continue leading and innovating.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ogena's discussion began with a summary of the challenges outlined in the EDCOM II reports, which she categorized under people, things, and ideas. She elaborated that for PNU to effectively contribute to



solutions, it must define its purpose with the end goal in mind, provide leadership capable of managing change, and act as a catalyst for transformation by pioneering new educational models.



An open forum followed the convocation addresses. One of the questions centered on PNU's readiness to become the National University for Teacher Education. Both Dr. Cruzada and Dr. Ogena expressed support for the idea, encouraging the PNU community to seek guidance from key stakeholders and engage in careful strategic planning.



In her opening remarks, Vice President for Academics Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas emphasized that PNU stands at the crossroads of tradition and innovation. She underscored that to sustain academic excellence, PNU must not rest on its laurels but should continuously strive for improvement by pushing boundaries and nurturing critical thinking, among other initiatives.

University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga highlighted PNU's leadership in education and



During the program, PNU also formally received its certificate of compliance with ISO 9001:2015 quality standards from W3 Solutionz Ph. Presenting the certificates were Ms. Princess G. Ramos and Mr. Rahfael V. Singit of W3 Solutionz Ph, while university officials, along with Quality Assurance Management Office Director Prof. Ruel A. Avilla and IQA Lead Auditor Prof. Elanor O. Bayten, received them on behalf of PNU.

Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson delivered the concluding remarks, summarizing the key points presented by the convocation speakers.

The University Convocation served as the culminating activity of PNU's 33rd Universityhood Anniversary, celebrated under the theme "Producing Future-Ready Educators: Sustaining Excellence, Transforming the Future of Education."



The Philippine Normal University, represented by its President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, and ASTEN Secretariat Executive Director, Asst. Prof. John Carlo Ramos, participated in the Co-Creation Capacity Strengthening Plan Workshop of the Association of Teacher Education Network (ASTEN) held on January 22-23, 2025, at the Pullman King Power Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop was organized and funded by the ASEAN-USAID Partnership Program and was attended by presidents/rectors and high-ranking officials from ASTEN member institutions.

The main objective of the workshop was to support ASTEN in achieving its goals as a recognized entity of ASEAN by providing capacity development in various priority areas, including Strategic Planning, Communication and Public Relations, Knowledge Management, Operational Policies, Procedures, and Systems, as well as Project Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation. PNU is the lead founding institution and permanent secretariat of ASTEN.

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the German Rectors' Conference (HRK), Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, and the Centre for Higher Education (CHE) jointly organize the International Deans' Course (IDC) in Southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This intensive training program for middle managers in higher education is part of the DIES program (Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies), coordinated by DAAD and HRK.



The key objective of IDC Southeast Asia is to bring together 30 newly elected deans, vice-deans, and department heads from universities in the Southeast Asian region and to prepare them for the challenges of holding a dean's position in a rapidly evolving higher education landscape. Key topics covered in the course include strategic faculty management, financial management, quality assurance, and leadership. Additionally, the program includes soft skills training and an exchange with German university leaders on higher education reforms.

IDC Southeast Asia 2024/2025 was implemented in cooperation with three regional experts: Prof. Dr. Duu Sheng Ong of Multimedia University, Malaysia; Prof. Dr. Leenawaty Limantara of Petra University, Indonesia; and Prof. Dr. Gladys



Nivera, Dean of the College of Teacher Development at the Philippine Normal University. These regional experts served as mentors for participants between contact phases, guiding them in the implementation of their individual reform projects.



Meanwhile, PNU South Luzon's Executive Director and Provost, Dr. Leah Amor S. Cortez, also represented the country. She presented her Program Action Plan (PAP) for PNU SL's Sustainability Program, highlighting her commitment to integrating sustainable initiatives within the institution. Her presentation underscored the importance of sustainability in higher education and demonstrated her leadership in advancing institutional development.

The IDC Southeast Asia 2024/2025 was conducted in three parts. The first part took place from June 24 to July 5, 2024, in Osnabrück and Berlin, Germany, while the second part was held online from November 4 to 8, 2024.

The final segment of the international course, held in Hanoi, featured sessions on Human Resource Management, Research Management, Entrepreneurial Universities, and Sustainability. To enhance participants' understanding of higher education management, the program also included visits to VNU University of Natural Sciences and VinUniversity.

Philippine Normal University (PNU) President Dr. Bert J. Tuga conducted a three-day campus visit to PNU Visayas in Cadiz City, Negros Occidental, from February 12 to 14, 2025. This visit marks the beginning of his series of trips across the campuses, aiming to engage in dialogues with various stakeholders, address urgent campus concerns, and provide updates on institutional initiatives and activities.



Accompanying Dr. Tuga on his visit to the university's Environmental and Green Technology Education Hub were Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson and Visiting Professor Dr. Mekasha Kassaye Gobaw.



The visit commenced with Dr. Tuga's meeting with Cadiz City Mayor Hon. Salvador G. Escalante Jr. and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) district engineers to discuss the implementation of new infrastructure projects, particularly the construction of the PNU



Visayas Gymnasium and Education Building, which is expected to be completed in 2026. Following this, Dr. Tuga met with campus officials led by Executive Director and Provost Dr. Ralger D. Jocson Jr

which were noted by Dr. Tuga and the university management.

Dr. Tuga is set to continue this initiative with a visit to PNU North Luzon in Alicia, Isabela, at the end of the month.



The second and third days of the visit featured individual meet-and-greet and dialogue sessions with the Faculty Association, Administrative Employees Association, and the study body. These engagements provided a platform for stakeholders to express their concerns and suggestions,



The Second Congressional Commission on Education, or EDCOM II, has released today, January 28, 2025, their Year II report during a ceremony held at the Senate of the Philippines. Dubbed as Fixing the Foundations: A Matter of National Survival, this report is said to be the result of numerous hearings, consultations, research studies, and school visits conducted by the commission with education stakeholders, which ultimately provided a comprehensive understanding of our country's current education landscape. The event also marks the formal turnover of the report to the Senate, which will then be used as the basis for relevant legislation.

EDCOM II Executive Director Dr. Karol Mark Yee, in his message, underscored the gist of the report as a call to prioritize the foundational years of education—early childhood education, nutrition, and primary education—and to fill the basic gaps in the education system: classrooms, appropriately trained teachers, principals, and administrative staff for schools. With the committee's diagnosis nearing its completion, Dr. Yee said that stakeholders became more aware of the problems being faced by the education sector.

In his message, EDCOM II Co-chairperson and the

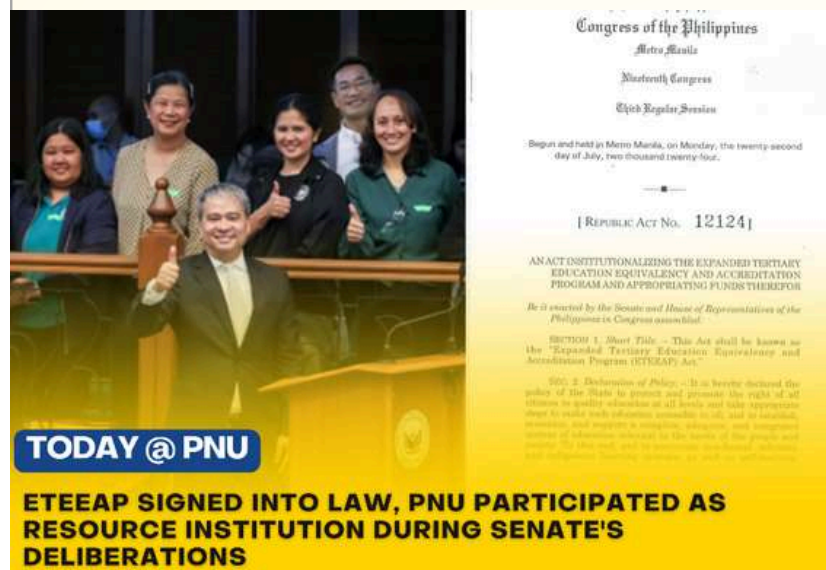
Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Higher, Technical, and Vocational Education, Sen. Alan Peter S. Cayetano, urged everyone to adopt a common vision for the future of education. Also gracing the event were EDCOM II Commissioners Sen. Joel J. Villanueva and Sen. Loren B. Legarda, as well as Senate President Francis Joseph Escudero.



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Department of Education Secretary Sonny Angara thanked EDCOM II and the Senate for their work and contributions to uplifting and empowering the country's education system.

Also during the program, partners and stakeholders of EDCOM II were recognized. Two of these recognized institutions were the Philippine Normal University and the Research Institute for Teacher Quality for their studies on teacher education institution profiling, current pre-service teacher education programs, pathways to the LET, and the career progression framework. PNU was likewise given the nod for leading EDCOM II's initiative Sulong EDCOM II—a series of trainings for primary school teachers. Presenting the award to PNU and RITQ were EDCOM II Executive Director Yee and DepEd Secretary Angara, while it was received by PNU's President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga. Aside from PNU, EDCOM II also acknowledged other higher learning institutions like the University of the Philippines, UPLB, De La Salle University, and Ateneo de Manila University.



On March 3, 2025, His Excellency Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos, Jr. signed into law Republic Act 12124, or “An Act Institutionalizing the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP) and Providing Funds Therefor.” The law is expected to provide alternative avenues for more learners to earn their respective degrees without following the traditional schooling route.

During the law’s inception, PNU played a pivotal role in providing valuable insights that served as the framework for related policies. Dr. Celia M. Ilanan, Dean of the College of Alternative and Lifelong Learning (CALL), was one of the invited resource persons alongside the Commission on Higher Education’s (CHED) team during the Senate hearing on the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP) on September 4, 2024. She provided insights on issues and concerns raised by some senators, drawing from Philippine Normal University’s experience as a deputized Higher Education Institution (HEI) for teacher education under ETEEAP.

Senator Joel Villanueva, a former member of the PNU Board of Regents, is the principal sponsor and author of the said law.

The Kasetsart University Faculty of Education recently conducted an academic visit to the Philippines, highlighted by a seminar on Sustainable Education for Local Development. Held at Philippine Normal University on January 20, 2025, the event underscored cross-border collaboration in advancing sustainable education. It was organized by the College of Advanced Studies, AsTEN Secretariat, and Linkages and International Office.



The seminar opened with remarks from Dr. Antriman V. Orleans, Dean of the College of Advanced Studies, followed by an introduction by Asst. Prof. John Carlo M. Ramos, Executive Director of AsTEN.

Thai graduate students from Kasetsart University led key discussions on topics such as Empowering Communities Through Local Curriculum, Sustainable



Education: From Policy to Practice, and Innovative Practices in Area-Based Education.

Each session concluded with an open forum, encouraging discussions on education’s role in sustainability and equity. Dr. Udomluk Koolsriroj, Dean of Kasetsart University’s Faculty of Education, delivered the closing remarks, emphasizing the importance of global collaboration in addressing educational challenges.

The visit also included a knowledge-sharing activity at De La Salle Santiago Zobel School, where participants exchanged best practices in integrating sustainable education with their local counterparts.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) held a Knowledge Management Workshop from January 15 to 17, 2025, at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Tagaytay City. The event aimed to finalize the PNU Knowledge Management (KM) Program, which is envisioned to enhance the university's capacity to effectively capture, share, and utilize knowledge across its various units. The workshop marked a pivotal step in institutionalizing KM practices at PNU and aligning them with the university's broader strategic goals.



Present at the three-day workshop were PNU officials, led by University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, along with Vice President for Academics Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Finance and



Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, and Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin.

President Tuga warmly welcomed the participants and emphasized the significance of the event in fostering institutional growth and collaboration. Dr. Serafin Talisayon, PNU's Knowledge Management (KM) consultant, shared his expertise by delivering a keynote address



titled "Anticipating Tomorrow, Empowering Today through Knowledge." Following his address, Dr. Marivilla Lydia B. Aggarao presented the KM Framework, which was subsequently evaluated and enriched through feedback from participants, including top-level officials, representatives from the faculty union, administrative employees, and students.

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The second day of the workshop began with the Technical Working Group (TWG) presenting consolidated comments and suggestions based on critiques of the KM Framework from the previous day. This session highlighted key areas for improvement and set the direction for further refinements. Dr. Aggarao followed with a comprehensive presentation of the KM Program, including a detailed update on the status of the Student Life Cycle as part of the Data Architecture, which will be incorporated into the business process. Participants were then divided into their respective domains, where

each group was tasked with identifying Key Result Areas (KRAs) and drafting policies to support the institution's KM initiatives.

On the final day, the TWG presented the refined inputs gathered on Day 2, along with the finalized KM Framework. The presentation showcased the progress made during the three-day workshop and underscored the importance of collective efforts in achieving a cohesive framework.

Participants expressed their unified commitment to implementing the KM Framework and integrating it into PNU's operational and academic processes. By fostering a culture of knowledge sharing and continuous improvement, the PNU Knowledge Management Program is poised to play a crucial role in advancing the university's mission of innovation and excellence.



The activity was spearheaded by the Knowledge Management and Strategic Foresight Office, headed by its director, Dr. Marivilla Lydia B. Aggarao.

The PNU Community extends its warmest congratulations to Mr. Michael Angelo B. De La Cruz, an alumnus of the Bachelor of Science in Biology for Teachers (BSBT) program, Batch 2017, for being hailed as one of the recipients of the National Science Teaching Association's (NSTA) 2024 Shell Urban Science Educator Development Award.



The award aims to support professional development undertakings of notable STEM educators across the USA and to increase the talent pool of science educators to meet workforce and education challenges in the future.

Still part of PNU's 33rd Universityhood celebration, the annual University Research Forum (URF) was held on January 22, 2025, at the Geronima T. Pecson Hall. Centered on the research and creative outputs of Sabbatical Leave Program grantees, the URF featured three faculty members from different academic units.



The first presenter, Dr. Nina Christina L. Zamora of the Faculty of Languages and Literature, showcased *Digmaan ng Utak, Puso*, at Salita, her book of flash essays, short fiction, and rhymes. Written during a time when she was grappling with health challenges, the book chronicles her journey to reclaim wellness and document her experiences through creative writing.

The second presenter, Dr. Tito Baclagan of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences, discussed one

aspect of his research on the Effectiveness of Psychotherapeutic Interventions, focusing on students experiencing mental health challenges. In his study, he analyzed the effectiveness of psychotherapeutic interventions for students, as narrated in 23 studies conducted across twelve countries. His research revealed that academic issues such as burnout, stress, and test anxiety were the most common reasons for seeking psychotherapeutic help. Among the students who





sought intervention, cognitive behavioral therapy with contextual adjustments emerged as the most widely used therapeutic approach. Dr. Baclagan, a well-known Guidance Counselor at PNU, also identified other techniques that could be contextualized for the Philippine setting. These included systemic family therapy, attachment and biobehavioral catch-up, and arts therapy.

The third and final presenter, Dr. Merry Ruth M. Gutierrez, a reading specialist at the College of Advanced Studies, introduced a reading instruction model designed for teachers. In her study, Development of a Reading Instruction Model for Emergent Readers, Dr. Gutierrez assessed the Pedagogical Content Knowledge (PCK) of Key Stage 1 teachers and examined the instructional approaches and strategies they employed. She found that early-grade teachers who participated in the study faced challenges with PCK in teaching informational texts, composing and text creation, and narrative poems. Despite the integration of technology, the majority of these teachers still relied on the phonics approach. Dr. Gutierrez also highlighted areas that need improvement to enhance reading literacy instruction.

The well-attended event was spearheaded by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance, led by Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin, in collaboration with the Office of Student Success and Stakeholders Services, headed by Dr. Denmark L. Yonson.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) community proudly congratulates its esteemed University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, for successfully completing the Leadership and Management Certificate Program from the Wharton School ONLINE, University of Pennsylvania.

This prestigious three-month program is designed to equip institutional leaders with innovative perspectives and advanced strategies in leadership and management. The certificate covered

four intensive courses: Leadership in the 21st Century, Managing and Motivating Talent, Managing the Global Firm, and Strategic Management: Competitive and Corporate Strategy. These courses focus on developing key competencies essential for navigating complex organizational challenges and driving institutional excellence.

Dr. Tuga's participation in this globally recognized professional development program was made possible through the Higher Education Upskilling and Study for Advancement of Staff and Faculty (HUSAY) Grant, generously provided by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).



Earlier today, January 20, 2025, the PNU community gathered to kickstart the activities in celebration of the institution's 33rd Universityhood Anniversary. This year's installment of the annual commemoration banners the theme "Producing Future-Ready Educators: Sustaining Excellence, Transforming the Future of Education." The opening program, which coincided with the first day of classes for Term 1 of Academic Year 2024–2025, featured various activities participated in by students, faculty members, and administrative employees of the university.



A parade around the campus, joined by students from various institutes and year levels, as well as faculty members and administrative employees in their respective team-building groups, initiated the festivities. It was followed by the weekly flag ceremony hosted by the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration. In his reflection, VPFA Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara elaborated on the value of integrity, which he underscored as a conscious choice to remain pure and clean amidst filth and corruption. He then encouraged the PNU community to always live and work with integrity intact.

A special message for the occasion was delivered by none other than the University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga. Dr. Tuga first welcomed back PNUans for the second term of the current academic year. He shared that the celebration is anchored on achieving excellence, resilience, and innovation toward shaping the future of education. He affirmed the university's commitment to continue equipping educators with the necessary tools and skills to face the challenges of the ever-evolving landscape of education. Dr. Tuga then enjoined everyone to contribute to the efforts to sustain standards and forge new paths toward reforming education. He concluded his remarks by declaring the official opening of the 33rd Universityhood Anniversary Celebration, emphasizing camaraderie and cooperation in achieving a shared vision.



Dr. Jennifer Taylan-De Jesus, Director of the Institute of Sports, Physical Education, and Leisure Studies (ISPELS) at Central Luzon State University and a certified Zumba instructor, led the dance exercise. Shortly after, the candidates for Ginoo at Binibining Pamantasan were formally introduced and donned their official pageant sashes.



A special highlight of the opening ceremony was the Sportsfest. Four teams composed of faculty and administrative employees competed in a series of competitive team-building activities. The White Team, headed by the Vice President for Academics, Dr. Marilyn U. Balagatas, emerged victorious after garnering the highest number of points.

The Universityhood Celebration commemorates PNU's elevation from a college to a full-fledged university. On January 12, 1992, Republic Act 7168, signed into law by then-President Corazon C. Aquino, took effect, solidifying the institution's role as the premier center for teacher education and training.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) and the Chinese Filipino Business Club, Inc. (CFBCI) officially sealed their partnership during a ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) held earlier today, January 17, 2025, at the Office of the University President's Conference Room. This collaboration aims to support education and community development through the "Pagharap sa Pangarap College Scholarship Program."

The event opened with the PNU Institutional Video, highlighting the university's mission to lead in teacher education. PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga welcomed the attendees with an inspiring message, emphasizing the significance of partnerships in creating opportunities for students and advancing educational goals. This was followed by an audiovisual presentation from CFBCI, which showcased the organization's dedication to education and community service.



The MOA signing formalized the partnership, which will run from November 2024 to November 2026, with an option to renew. The program provides financial assistance to academically deserving yet economically disadvantaged PNU students, covering essential needs such as transportation, meals, textbooks, uniforms, field trips, and graduation fees. Scholars must meet specific criteria, including maintaining a general average of at least 85%. CFBCI will oversee scholar selection, conduct background checks, and provide life skills seminars, while PNU will handle applicant screening, academic monitoring, and coordination.



During his remarks, CFBCI President Samuel Lee Uy expressed enthusiasm for the shared vision of empowering future educators and leaders, underscoring the transformative impact of education. The event concluded with the exchange of tokens of appreciation and a photo opportunity, symbolizing the optimism and commitment of both institutions to making a lasting difference in the lives of students and the community.

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The International Conference on Applied Research in Education (ICARE) 2025, held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, from January 9 to 10, 2025, brought together educators, researchers, and policymakers to explore innovative solutions in education, science, and technology. Among the participants were officials from the Philippine Normal University (PNU), namely Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, ASEAN Teacher Education Network (AsTEN) Executive Director Prof. John Carlo M. Ramos, and Linkages and International Office Director Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta.

The ICARE 2025 conference addressed critical areas, including teacher education, the arts and sciences, ocean and earth sciences, and innovations in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP). Another key focus was the promotion of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). By facilitating cross-sector partnerships and discussions, ICARE 2025 contributed to advancing the region's sustainable development and economic growth.

The conference provided a platform for participants to present their research, receive feedback from an international panel, and have their papers reviewed for publication in globally recognized proceedings. It also aimed to establish partnerships between the educational, scientific, and business sectors, promote

As part of the series of activities celebrating the 33rd Universityhood Anniversary of the Philippine Normal University (PNU), 36 faculty and administrative personnel took their oaths of office in their respective positions yesterday, January 20, 2024, at the Geronima T. Pecson Main Auditorium.



University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga addressed the attendees, particularly the newly hired and promoted faculty and staff, acknowledging their significant contributions to the realization of the institution's lofty goals and ideals. Dr. Tuga reiterated his commitment to prioritizing the development of a sustainable and efficient human resource program that ensures a consistent hiring and promotion system. He emphasized that as government employees, particularly at the National Center for Teacher Education, individuals must be ready to go beyond expectations and courageously answer the call of duty in all capacities possible. He also highlighted the importance of cultivating loyalty to the university, which gives a deeper sense of meaning even to the most routine tasks.



vocational training, and integrate AI and NLP into education systems.



A highlight of PNU's participation in the international conference was Prof. Ramos's presentation during the Teacher Education parallel session. His paper, which examined the behavior of pre-service teachers when using ChatGPT, highlighted the moral issues and conflicts that arose from their interactions with the AI tool. In addition to presenting his research, Prof. Ramos also chaired a parallel session under the same subtheme, introducing presenters and moderating the open forum. Meanwhile, Dr. Balagtas and Prof. Dayuta played pivotal roles in representing PNU, further strengthening the university's presence in the international academic community.



The ICARE 2025 conference provided an invaluable platform for PNU to strengthen its ties with regional and international educational institutions. It also offered significant opportunities for networking and collaboration, reinforcing the university's role in shaping the future of education in the ASEAN+5 region.



Following his message, Dr. Tuga led the oath-taking ceremony, which was witnessed by Vice President for Academics Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin, and Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, one of the promoted faculty members.

Since the start of Dr. Tuga's presidency in 2019, his administration has actively implemented initiatives for hiring and promoting PNU employees. Some of the most recent efforts were aligned with the PNU Merit System, CHED-DBM Joint Circular No. 3, s. 2022, and the Revised Organizational Structure and Staffing Standards for SUCs.



how that teacher stood out from the rest, demonstrating exceptional skills, diligence, and dedication—qualities that define a true PNUan. Dr. Tuga credited that teacher for inspiring him not only to become a teacher but also to pursue his education at PNU. He then urged the practice teachers to embody the same excellence as they inspire their students to dream big and strive for greater achievements.

A total of 637 pre-service teachers from PNU were formally sent off for their Practice Teaching during the Pinning Ceremony held earlier today, January 30, 2025, at the PNU Quadrangle. In this highly anticipated event, incoming practice teachers received their pins, marking their transition to a new phase in their journey as budding educators—their teaching internship in various schools across the country.

In her message, Vice President for Academics Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas emphasized that the ceremony marks the beginning of the practice teachers' impactful and purposeful journey.

Meanwhile, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga shared a personal narrative about his first encounter with a teacher who was educated and trained at PNU. He recalled





The event was graced by Ms. Roxanne S. Villanueva, a graduate of Batch 2002 and currently the Education Program Supervisor for Science at SDO Mandaluyong. In her inspirational message, she highlighted the importance of resilience, commitment, and the potential for transformation among young practice teachers.

Following this, Dr. Victoria J. Delos Santos presented the roster of practice teachers from various academic programs. They later donned their symbolic bar pins, signifying their readiness to take on the challenges of the teaching profession.

The ceremony concluded with the closing remarks of College of Teacher Development Dean Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, delivered on her behalf by Faculty of General Education and Experiential Learning Associate Dean Dr. Rafael V. Panganiban. In her message, Dr. Nivera



encouraged the practice teachers to embark on their internship journey with courage and an unwavering belief in their ability to transform lives for the better.

The Philippine Normal University community formally welcomed Dr. Mekasha Kassaye Gobaw from Ethiopia to the university on January 10, 2025. In a simple program held at the Office of the President Conference Room, Dr. Gobaw received an orientation and an overview of the academic culture at PNU.

Present during this initial engagement with Dr. Gobaw were members of the PNU Management team, headed by University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, along with Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, College of Advanced Studies Dean Dr. Antriman V. Orleans, and College of Alternative and Lifelong Learning Dean Dr. Celia M. Ilanan. Also in attendance were GCC Philippines Director Dr. Rowena R. Hibanada, CAS Deputy Dean Dr. Levi E. Elipane, Human Resource Management and Development Office Director Ms. Maribel G. Gerundio, and Auxiliary Services and Business Development Office Director Mr. Joseph G. Luceño.



Dr. Gobaw is a faculty member at the Center for Comparative Education and Policy Studies of Addis Ababa University. His expertise focuses on Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies. He also previously served as an English as a Second Language (ESL) professor at Ohio State University and a research fellow at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Given Dr. Gobaw's expertise, he will serve as a visiting professor in CAS from January to July 2025 during Terms 2 and 3 of Academic Year 2024-2025. During this period, he is

expected to engage in various academic, research, and extension activities in PNU Manila and campuses, and work collaboratively with PNU faculty and graduate students.

This engagement with Dr. Gobaw is a testament to PNU's commitment to expanding its connections with more global experts as the university solidifies its position as an internationalization champion among state universities and colleges in the country. This visit also serves as a cornerstone for future collaborations with partners in the African region.



PNU BULLETIN

Photos from the Facebook Livestream of the Senate of the Philippines

SENATE HOLDS HEARING ON TEACHER PROFESSIONALIZATION REFORMS; PNU AND RITQ SHARE POSITION AND INSIGHTS

In the pivotal Senate hearing held on January 14, 2025, hosted by the Senate Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization, and Professional Regulation, proposed amendments to the Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act (Republic Act No. 7836, as amended by RA 9293) were tackled. To address critical challenges in teacher licensure and professionalization, representatives from various government institutions, educational organizations, and teacher associations were invited as resource persons to share insights on the topic during the hearing. Headlining these institutions were officials from the Philippine Normal University (PNU), the country's National Center for Teacher Education, and its Research Institute for Teacher Quality (RITQ).

Sherwin Gatchalian. In one of his statements, Senator Gatchalian underscored the importance of future-proofing the law to continuously respond to the evolving situation in the teaching profession.



Vice President for Academics, Dr. Marilyn Balagtas, presented the university's position paper, expressing support for reforms to strengthen teacher professionalization in the Philippines. PNU emphasized the importance of broadening the composition of the Board for Professional Teachers by including representatives from diverse educational sectors and addressing regional disparities by engaging stakeholders from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. The university also

recommended requiring board members seconded to the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to have advanced qualifications, including a doctorate in educational evaluation and extensive teaching experience. On licensure examination reforms, PNU supported releasing component-specific results to provide actionable feedback for teacher education institutions and advocated for establishing an annual testing board with representatives from accredited institutions to ensure rigorous examination processes. PNU also welcomed alternative licensure pathways, such as portfolio assessments, but emphasized the need for a standardized framework for evaluating teaching portfolios aligned with professional teaching standards. Finally, PNU highlighted the importance of transparency in the coverage and results of licensure performance data to foster accountability and improve teacher education programs nationwide.



The RITQ's position statement, presented by its Director, Dr. Brando Palomar, and Deputy

Director, Dr. Maria Teresa Tembrevilla, reinforced PNU's recommendations. The institute agreed with the provisions in the draft bills, particularly those emphasizing the qualifications of Board members to ensure responsiveness to current and emerging demands in teacher professionalization. RITQ supported the inclusion of alternatives to written examinations, such as portfolio assessments, provided that guidelines are framed according to professional standards and developed by policy-making agencies like the Teacher Education Council (TEC), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). Additionally, RITQ supported integrating a practical component as a supplement to the written exam, which would evaluate not only content mastery but also the ability to apply pedagogy effectively.

Adding to PNU's presence and active engagement was its Vice President for Finance and Administration, Dr. Lordinio Vergara, who also represented the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as part of the Technical Panel for Teacher Education. Dr. Vergara noted that these reforms will benefit the teaching profession and, in the long term, the Philippine education system as a whole

Through its firm position and practical recommendations for the amendment of the Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act, the university emphasizes its commitment to shaping the future of teachers and their pathways to professionalization in the Philippines. This also conveys the university's role in driving educational reforms that align with national goals and the evolving needs of the teaching profession.



On January 21, 2025, the Philippine Normal University (PNU), through the Student Affairs and Services Office and the University Student Council-Central Student Council, conducted the annual PNU Student Summit. As one of the highlights of the 33rd Universityhood Anniversary Celebration of PNU, the Student Summit 2025 brought together students, faculty, alumni, and other stakeholders for a day filled with learning, camaraderie, and celebration centered on the theme: "ALAB: Mula sa Masa, Tungo sa Matatag na Pamumuno, Dekalidad na Edukasyon, at Pagsulong ng mga Adbokasyang Mula sa Pusong Nag-aalab."

The day kicked off with the opening program, setting the tone for the festivities. Warm words of support were imparted by university officials. Vice President for Student Success



and Stakeholders Services, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, delivered the opening remarks to formally begin the celebration, while Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance, Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin, delivered a message on behalf of PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, highlighting the value of community and advocacy.



The event continued with the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of various booths, marking the start of the Booth Fair. From interactive displays showcasing the advocacies of student organizations to booth activities and food stalls that for everyone. Ultimately, the

added flavor to the celebration, the Booth Fair offered something memorable booths of the PNU USC Freshmen Assembly, PNU DOST Scholars' Association, and Gabriela Youth PNU earned the Best Booth honors.

The Palarong Pinoy segment, facilitated by the Physical Education Majors Society, promoted the culture of sportsmanship and camaraderie among the members and representatives of the faculties and institute through traditional and team-building games.

A Mental Health Seminar was also held, offering insights on utilizing strengths to maximize coping mechanisms and achieve personal success. With Ms. Gabby Llamzon of Positive Workplaces as the resource speaker, engaging discussions and activities provided a space that encouraged students to prioritize their well-being and foster a supportive community.

The summit culminated in the much-anticipated Student's Night, where more than 30 performers showcased their talents through performances that had the audience on their feet. This portion of the summit became a testament to the diversity of talents possessed by PNUans.

The PNU Student Summit 2025 served as an avenue for students to reflect on PNU's rich heritage while celebrating student engagement, mental health advocacy, and school pride. It truly embodied the university's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals who excel academically, socially, and emotionally.



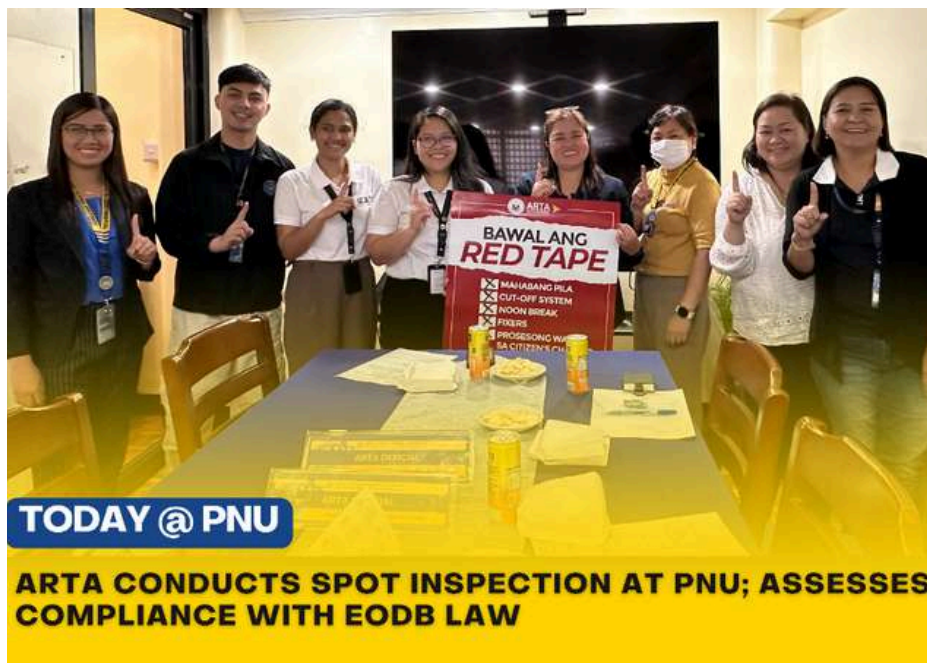
The Philippine Normal University (PNU) has been commended by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) for its notable compliance with the regulations of the Contact Center ng Bayan (CCB). The CSC also expressed its gratitude for PNU's commitment to combating red tape and corruption.

In a letter received by the Office of the University President on February 7, 2025, it was reported that all citizen concerns referred to PNU from January to December 2024 were addressed and resolved within the prescribed three-working-day period. This practice and timeframe are mandated by Republic Act No. 11032, also known as the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018.

The CCB plays a vital role in monitoring and addressing citizen feedback. As a strategic initiative, it strengthens public feedback mechanisms at the national level, fostering social accountability and enhancing citizens' trust and confidence in the government.

Aside from its compliance with the CCB, PNU applies the same diligence in addressing concerns and complaints submitted through the 8888 hotline. According to PNU's 8888 Agency Statistics, all tickets submitted from January 1 to December 31, 2024, were promptly acted upon and resolved.

These accomplishments reflect PNU's commitment to public service, prioritizing the welfare of its stakeholders above all.



Officials from the Compliance Monitoring and Evaluation Office of the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) visited the Philippine Normal University (PNU) on February 27, 2025, to conduct a spot inspection and assess the institution's compliance with Republic Act 9485, as amended by R.A. 11032, also known as the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act" (EODB Law).



The ARTA team was welcomed by Director Maribel G. Gerundio of the Human Resources Management and Development Office (HRMDO), along with the university's ART Secretariat.

Following a brief overview of the inspection, the team visited two frontline offices and their interfacing units. At the University Registrar's Office, ARTA officials closely examined the process of requesting official student records, while at the University Health Services Unit, they focused on the procedures for availing of medical services. In both offices, frontline employees were interviewed regarding their respective processes. The team also checked the Citizen's Charter Information Billboards and other relevant documents to ensure compliance with existing regulations.

In addition to the frontline offices, the ARTA team also visited the Public Assistance and Complaints Desk (PACD). They took note of the improved setup, which now includes a dedicated personnel with a plantilla position, ensuring efficient handling of customer feedback and inquiries.



After consolidating their findings, the ARTA team elaborated on key areas for improvement, particularly on the crafting and updating of the Citizen's Charter. Likewise, they have commended the university for its efforts of instituting an innovative Customer Satisfaction Survey, Ngiting Normal, which provides stakeholders with a flexible platform to share their feedback on the services they receive.





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During the half-day examination, various venues across PNU's five constituent campuses accommodated prospective students as they took the test. Out of the 1,569 applicants scheduled for this batch, 1,371 dedicated candidates—representing a solid 87%—showed up on test day, taking a crucial step toward their teaching careers.



Attendance rates varied across campuses. At PNU South Luzon in Lopez, Quezon, 412 out of 711 applicants (58%) took the test, while PNU North Luzon in Alicia, Isabela, recorded 402 out of 770 registered applicants (52%). PNU Visayas in Cadiz City had 975 test-takers from 1,881 applicants, accounting for 52%, while PNU Mindanao in Prosperidad achieved the highest attendance rate at 85%, with 466 examinees out of 547 applicants.

As part of its commitment to inclusivity, PNU, through its Admissions Office and Units, provided tailored accommodations for examinees with special needs.



Dr. Henelsie B. Mendoza, Director of the Admissions Office, noted a slight decline in this year's applicant numbers. "We've observed about a 5% decrease in applications across most campuses compared to last year," she explained. "One contributing factor appears to be scheduling conflicts with other state universities that conducted their entrance exams on the same date." This competition underscores the increasingly competitive landscape of college admissions in the Philippines, particularly among state universities offering education programs. Despite this challenge, PNU continues to attract dedicated aspiring teachers from across the country.

The PNUAT is just the first step in PNU's comprehensive admission process. Successful examinees will advance to subsequent phases, including interviews and other assessments designed to evaluate not only academic aptitude but also the qualities essential for future educators.

Results for the first batch of PNUAT are expected to be released within two weeks. Meanwhile, preparations are underway for the second batch of testing, scheduled for early May.



As part of the festivities in connection with National Arts Month 2025, bannered under the theme Ani ng Sining: Diwa at Damdamin, the Philippine Normal University, headed by its University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, hosted the Sayaw Pinoy: Sayaw ng Diwa at Damdamin on February 21, 2025, at the University Gymnasium. This series of touring performances from various dance groups across the country is the flagship program of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts – National Committee on Dance (NCCA-NCD) and has already been held in Bulacan, Batangas, and Quezon. For the Manila installment of the showcase, dance groups from various higher education institutions (HEIs) graced the Sayaw Pinoy stage.



In his opening remarks, PNU's Institute of Creative Expression and Human Movement Education Director, Dr. Joel G. Tubera, commended the various performing groups for being active vessels of arts promulgation in the country. Meanwhile, in his message, the host institution's Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, highlighted the importance of understanding how dance shapes our collective identity as an art that is alive, evolving, and deeply rooted in who we are as Filipinos.



The performances were kicked off by two of PNU's homegrown groups—the PNU Balingsasayaw and the PNU Kislap Sining Dance Troupe. These performing groups are under the guidance of the Center for Sports, Culture, and Arts Development Head, Prof. Romeo R. Rioflorida.

Following the opening performance, a stellar lineup of dance ensembles from different HEIs took to the stage, including the Technological University of the Philippines Kalinangan Dance Troupe, Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology Red Fox Dance Company, Centro Escolar University Folk Dance Troupe, University of Santo Tomas Salingawi Dance Troupe, Marikina Polytechnic College Dance Troupe, Philippine State College of Aeronautics Hataw Himpapawid Dance Crew, Rizal Technological University Dancesports Team, Halili-Cruz Dance Company, and the University of the East Silangan Dance Troupe.

Capping off the event were the closing remarks of the Head of the National Committee on Dance and the Vice President for Finance and Administration of PNU, Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, which centered on championing the art of dance by bringing it to the grassroots level. He also thanked all the participants for putting on an incredible exhibition.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU), through the Faculty of General Education and Experiential Learning - Center for Teaching and Learning (FGEEL - CTL), welcomed students from Soka Senior High School for an educational cultural study tour on February 19, 2025. The program aimed to provide students with valuable insights into cultural diversity and sustainability, fostering an atmosphere of learning and collaboration.

During the orientation at the Main Auditorium, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services, formally welcomed the students, followed by a message from Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Academics. Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta, Director of the Linkages and International Office, then presented the statement of purpose and introduced the visiting Japanese students. The welcome program featured special performances that highlighted the deep cultural ties between the Philippines and Japan, setting an engaging tone for the day's activities.

Following the opening program, Dr. Rowena R. Hibanada, Director of the GCED Cooperation Centre Philippines, provided an overview of the day's events, emphasizing the educational objectives and the significance of cultural exchange. Dr. Rafael V. Panganiban, Associate Dean of FGEEL, concluded the session by setting the stage for the immersive activities ahead.



The first academic session centered on the theme "Sustainability Practices Across Cultures," where students from both Soka Senior High School and CTL engaged in a dynamic classroom discussion. Prof. Steve A. Anapi (Mathematics) and Dr. Victoria J. Delos Santos (Technology and Livelihood Education) led the discussions, demonstrating how sustainability is embedded in different cultures through practical applications in various fields. The session introduced students to innovative approaches to environmental preservation and sustainable living, reinforcing the global significance of these practices.



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The visiting students also participated in a Cultural Exchange Session, where each student delivered a five-minute presentation on their cultural traditions, covering topics such as traditional attire, cuisine, and local celebrations. The session encouraged mutual respect and understanding as students compared their traditions and learned from one another. A faculty-led discussion complemented the presentations, further deepening cross-cultural appreciation. Filipino culture was also showcased through engaging presentations on traditional games, literature, and fashion.



In the afternoon, students took part in hands-on workshops on sustainable development. Divided into groups, they attended specialized sessions led by the GCC Philippines Team and supported by the CTL GCED Team. These workshops focused on practical methods of promoting sustainability in daily life, fostering collaboration and problem-solving as students developed innovative ideas for environmental conservation.

The day concluded with a Reflection and Feedback Session, where students gathered in small groups to discuss their key takeaways and creatively express their insights. Prof. Rosarie Anne S. Borja, CTL GCED Focal Person, facilitated the session, ensuring that every student had the opportunity to share their reflections on the day's experiences.

To cap off the event, students enjoyed refreshments and a guided campus tour led by student volunteers from the Linkages and International Office (LIO), who ensured that the cultural exchange ended on a memorable note.

The Cultural Study Tour proved to be an enriching experience for all participants, strengthening global learning, cross-cultural understanding, and sustainability awareness. Through interactive discussions, collaborative activities, and meaningful exchanges, students from PNU and Soka Senior High School deepened their appreciation of each other's cultures while exploring sustainable practices that transcend borders.



The Philippine Normal University welcomed the delegation from the University of South Africa (UNISA) to its main campus on January 31, 2025, for an insightful exchange of ideas and discussions on strengthening academic collaboration. The meeting underscored the importance of cultural exchange and highlighted the rich educational heritage of the Philippines.

The delegates were received by university officials, led by the college deans: Dr. Gladys C. Nivera of the College of Teacher Development, Dr. Antriman V.

Orleans of the College of Advanced Studies, and Dr. Celia M. Ilanan of the College of Alternative and Lifelong Learning. Also present were the associate deans: Dr. Alfons Jayson O. Pelgone of the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics; Dr. Ma. Jhona Acuña of the Faculty of Languages and Literature; Dr. Niño Naldoza of the Faculty of Education and Information Science; and Dr. Rafael V. Panganiban of the Faculty of General Education and Experiential Learning, all of whom actively contributed to the discussions. Director Bryan C. Dayuta of the Linkages and International Office also attended the meeting.

In his opening remarks, Director Dayuta emphasized the significance of international engagements, highlighting PNU's role in fostering global ties and promoting cross-cultural learning. Professor Thinandavha Derrick Mashau, Deputy Executive Dean of the College of Human Sciences at UNISA, followed with an overview of his university's educational approach. He shared valuable insights into UNISA's unique programs in language, social sciences, and humanities, which form the core of the institution's academic identity and international reach.

Following the presentations, the meeting transitioned into a dynamic open forum where UNISA delegates posed a series of pertinent questions to PNU's academic representatives. Among the main topics discussed were the duration of undergraduate and graduate programs at PNU, as well as the structure and evolution of Information Science Studies. UNISA sought clarification on PNU's transition from a four-year to a three-year program, expressing interest in understanding academic flexibility and adaptability in different contexts. Further inquiries focused on general education at PNU, particularly how the university integrates inter/intrapersonal and transnational learning into its curriculum.



The discussion also covered microcredentialing and lifelong learning. The UNISA delegates were particularly interested in PNU's approach to continuing teacher development and its system for awarding credit points through microcredentialing programs. This conversation expanded to broader themes of professional development, including assessment practices for graduate students and the availability of professional tracks for those pursuing advanced studies. Additionally, the forum explored PNU's Research Track, a program designed to prepare graduate students to become full-time researchers rather than traditional educators, aligning with global trends in academic specialization.



Another key topic was indigenous knowledge and cultural preservation. UNISA representatives expressed interest in the commonalities between their institution and PNU, particularly how both universities incorporate these themes into their curricula. PNU responded by highlighting its commitment to these issues, noting that departments such as the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences engage deeply with topics related to social change and cultural advocacy. While UNISA does not formally offer Catalytic Studies programs, PNU explained how its courses in fields such as sociology and anthropology reflect similar objectives by promoting social change and preserving cultural heritage.

Both universities reaffirmed their commitment to expanding their collaborative efforts, fostering deeper academic and cultural exchanges in the years to come.

The Philippine Normal University (PNU) joins the nation in celebrating National Arts Month 2025 by spearheading initiatives that highlight the richness of Filipino artistry and cultural heritage. Throughout February, students, faculty, and renowned artists will come together for a vibrant showcase of creativity and expression, bannered under the theme *Ani ng Sining: Diwa at Damdamin*.

The festivities at PNU formally commenced on February 11, 2025, with the re-launch of the *Manila: Nexus of Empire* exhibit. In partnership with the National Archives of the Philippines (NAP), the exhibit—set up at the Maceda Building Lobby—features artifacts, artworks, and narratives that underscore Manila's historical significance as a cultural and political hub during the Spanish colonial period. Initially opened to the public late last year, the exhibit was relaunched in time for the Arts Month celebration to further amplify its reach and engagement.

During the opening program, PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga emphasized how the exhibit takes its audience on a creative and intellectual journey, conveying the enduring spirit of the Filipino people. He underscored that the ideas presented in *Nexus of Empire* serve as significant historical markers that provide valuable lessons for the present. He also expressed gratitude to NAP for allowing the exhibit to remain at PNU for an extended period, enriching the academic community's appreciation of history and culture.



NAP Executive Director and National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Chairperson Hon. Victorino Mapa Manalo, in his message, urged everyone to embrace a shared commitment to preserving history. He highlighted the exhibit's role in showcasing Manila's transformation and its continued cultural influence. Additionally, he encouraged the appreciation of the artifacts and facsimiles displayed, as they serve as testaments to the city's enduring legacy.



A key moment of the event was the message from Senator Loren Legarda, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Culture and the Arts, delivered by her Chief of Staff, Ms. Sheree Mangunay. In her speech, Senator Legarda emphasized the importance of revisiting colonial history, asserting that our identity is shaped by the convergence of diverse cultures, languages, faiths, and histories.



Adding to the significance of the exhibit relaunch, Chairperson Manalo announced that, through an agreement with the PNU administration, NAP is officially donating the Manila: Nexus of Empire exhibit to PNU. This announcement was met with delight from the academic community, as it secures a valuable cultural resource for future scholars and students.



In the afternoon, the opening program for National Arts Month at PNU took place, featuring a range of artistic activities designed to immerse students in creative expression. Highlights included a collective floor mural drawing and a hip-hop dance workshop, both of which provided interactive and dynamic avenues for artistic engagement. PNU Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholders Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson reiterated the importance of culture and the arts as essential lenses for understanding the world.



The activities for National Arts Month at PNU are led by the Institute of Creative Expression and Human Movement Education, under the direction of Dr. Joel G. Tubera, and the Center for Sports, Culture, and Arts Development, headed by Prof. Romeo R. Rioflorido.





The Philippine Normal University participated in the ASEAN Student Mobility Programme, held in conjunction with the ASEAN Universities Exhibition and Forum 2025 (AEF2025) from February 19 to 25, 2025, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The event served as a platform for academic exchange and cross-cultural collaboration, aiming to foster regional integration through higher education. The regional academic and cultural exchange gathered over 500 students from more than 100 institutions across ASEAN member states.



PNU's delegation included Von Andrei P. Orlina, a Bachelor in Filipino Education student, along with Ciarra Patria G. Pascual and Janno G. Tinao, both Bachelor in Social Science Education students. They were assigned to different universities as part of the immersion program.

Mr. Orlina was assigned to Universiti Utara Malaysia under the student mobility initiative. He demonstrated outstanding performance by participating in the Young Speaker Contest and winning first place in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Project Presentation Competition. His presentation highlighted the vital role of the regional community in reducing inequalities through cross-cultural dialogue, inclusive education, and benchmarking policies that foster mutual understanding and respect among diverse communities.



As part of its commitment to adhere to statutory and regulatory requirements, the Philippine Normal University has successfully attained Certificates of Program Compliance (COPC) for all of its undergraduate programs across five campuses.

Of the 38 undergraduate programs given the required certification, 13 are being offered by PNU's main campus in Manila. PNU Mindanao has 8 programs, while PNU North Luzon and Visayas both have 7 programs that are deemed compliant. After submitting additional requirements, the 3 undergraduate programs of PNU South Luzon were likewise given their respective COPCs.

Meanwhile, for the graduate level, PNU Manila has secured its compliance certificate for 28 of its programs, while 2 programs are still under evaluation. For the campuses, majority have undergone site visits and are already under validation by the CHED Regional Office or the Office of Programs and Standards Development.

In 2023, CHED released Memorandum Order No. 9, which stipulates revised policies and guidelines in the release of COPCs. Headlining the changes from the previous issuance is the procedure for the application of the COPC. Section 2 of the latest CMO states that all applications and requests are now submitted to concerned CHED Regional Offices for processing under existing guidelines. Meanwhile, it has also been reiterated in this updated memo that only graduates of programs with COPC can take licensure examinations.

These specifications have been observed by PNU as it remained ardent in complying with minimum requirements for the release of COPC while adhering to global best practices and innovations in teacher education.

Ms. Pascual and Mr. Tinao were recognized as finalists in the ASEAN Future Innovators Challenge, showcasing their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Ms. Pascual was assigned to University College Sedaya International, while Mr. Tinao participated in the program at Sunway University.



As a core component of AEF2025, the ASEAN Student Mobility Programme aims to cultivate future ASEAN leaders through academic exchange, cultural immersion, and collaborative projects. Participants were encouraged to develop solutions to regional issues, particularly those aligned with the SDGs. The program facilitated university exchanges, academic forums, and experiential learning activities, providing participants with comprehensive insights into diverse educational paradigms, cultural contexts, and perspectives.

Furthermore, the initiative promotes institutional partnerships among ASEAN universities, fostering long-term academic collaborations and research endeavors. It serves as a conduit for disseminating best practices, strengthening regional networks, and advancing the internationalization of higher education.

The participation of PNU delegates in this program broadened their academic and cultural horizons while fostering enduring professional networks. Their achievements at AEF2025 reflect PNU's commitment to academic excellence, leadership development, and global engagement, contributing to the cultivation of an interconnected and sustainable ASEAN community.



The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) has formally recognized Philippine Normal University Manila as the Top 1 Performing School in the recently conducted September 2024 Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LEPT) for the secondary level. PNU Manila led Category B—institutions with 100 to 299 examinees and at least a 90% passing rate—by tallying a 97.75% passing percentage.

In addition to securing the top spot for the secondary level, PNU Manila was also recognized as the Top 4 institution among those with 50 to 99 examinees that achieved at least a 90% passing rate for the elementary level with a passing percentage of 96.63%.



Rounding up the list of achievements for the main campus in this iteration of the examination are its topnotchers. For the elementary level, Ms. Nicole Lindsay Lumacad Ramos secured the highest spot among PNUan takers at Top 2, while Mr. Jaime Valeriano Querimit Roldan placed at Top 9. For the secondary level, Ms. Ichie Josol Golosino was the sole topnotcher from PNU, securing the Top 4 spot.



PNU received the recognition for its exemplary performance during the Oath-taking Ceremony for New Professional Teachers held earlier today, February 1, 2025, at the Philippine International Convention Center. Receiving the award on behalf of PNU were its University President, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, and Vice President for Academics, Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas.



To further promote international collaboration, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) welcomed 21 pre-service teachers from Soka University in an opening program held on February 24, 2025, at the PNU Main Auditorium, Geronima Pecson Hall. PNU is hosting a three-week English Language Proficiency Program (ELPP) for Soka University's pre-service teachers under the supervision of the Faculty of Languages and Literature (FLL). The ELPP is a customized proficiency program designed to enhance Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills (BICS), focusing on real-world language use, particularly in practical conversations about daily life and personal experiences. Through meaningful interactions, participants develop essential vocabulary and basic grammatical structures to improve their communication competence.



During the brief opening ceremony, Dr. Denmark L. Yonson, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services (VPSSSS), welcomed the Japanese pre-service teachers and encouraged them to enjoy learning English while immersing themselves in Filipino culture. Meanwhile, PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga emphasized the importance of integrating culture and language, highlighting that language learning is more effective when paired with an understanding of culture.

To conclude the event, Director Bryan C. Dayuta of the Linkages and International Office (LIO) provided an orientation about the Japanese students' three-week stay at PNU. Student volunteers from the International Volunteers and Leaders' Body (InVolB) then led a campus tour.

This marks another year of collaboration between PNU and Soka University. In 2020, Soka University previously sent students for the same program, and they have now returned after five years. Mr. Masahide Tsuda, a lecturer from Soka University's Faculty of Education, expressed enthusiasm for the program, noting that they are pleased to hold the language training again and are eager to see the students' progress over the next three weeks.

Beyond language training, the Japanese pre-service teachers will also visit historical sites and participate in immersion activities at UNESCO schools in Cavite and Laguna, further enriching their cultural and educational experience.

As part of a series of campus visits, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, along with Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara, traveled to PNU North Luzon in Alicia, Isabela, from February 26 to 28, 2025. The three-day visit aimed to facilitate important activities, including dialogues and project launches, with stakeholders at PNU's Indigenous Peoples Education Hub. Joining them was Visiting Professor Dr. Mekasha Kassaye Gobaw.

Amid a festive atmosphere on campus, students, administrative officials, and faculty members warmly welcomed Dr. Tuga's contingent to PNU NL. Following brief pleasantries, Dr. Tuga met with campus officials, led by Executive Director and Provost Dr. Agnes S. Reyes, to discuss urgent campus concerns. Later that evening, Dr. Tuga and the PNU NL leadership engaged with partners from the University of Zurich to discuss the IP Research Project and Parateachers Training in Palanan, Isabela.



On the second day, Dr. Tuga convened separate meetings with faculty members and administrative employees to gather input on campus improvement plans. Meanwhile, Dr. Gobaw delivered a lecture for select PNU NL constituents. In the afternoon, Dr. Tuga and Dr. Vergara led the inauguration of the IP classroom and multipurpose hall, a donation from the Philippine Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry through the Board of Trustees of NANSING School of Cauayan. Shortly after, PNU officials attended the National Arts Month Celebration program.

The visit concluded with a meet-and-greet and dialogue between Dr. Tuga and the student body, facilitated by the PNU NL University Student Council. Students had the opportunity to voice their concerns and suggestions, which were noted by university management.

Dr. Tuga's next visit is scheduled for PNU South Luzon in Lopez, Quezon, from March 12 to 14, 2025.





PNU students from different campuses completed their Cultural Immersion Program and Teaching Assistantship as part of the American Language Village Winter Camp at Taipei International Bilingual School in Shilin, Taiwan, from February 3 to 9, 2025.



For this program, PNU student participants served as teacher assistants, helping Taiwanese students improve their English proficiency. This year, students came from PNU Manila and the campuses, namely: Cindy P. Molina, a Master of Arts in Counseling student from PNU Manila; Areta Mae P. Tinaza, a Bachelor in English Education (BEE) student from PNU North Luzon; Noela Aiah Jane C. Campos, a BEE student from PNU Mindanao; and Rudz A. Santiago and Reynaldo B. Merabe Jr., both BEE students from PNU Visayas. They were accompanied by the Director of the Linkages and International Office, Mr. Bryan C. Dayuta.

The camp was conducted in one of the international bilingual schools in Taiwan, Taipei International Bilingual School in Shilin District. PNU student interns participated in various immersive

activities designed for their assigned learners. Through this camp, student interns from PNU were able to immerse themselves in diverse cultural backgrounds while building strong camaraderie in their mission to teach students the importance of English proficiency and language. In addition, the program also emphasizes the importance of inclusivity and intercultural understanding.

The ALV Camp, the only English immersion initiative based in Taiwan, was established in 1992, helping students develop their English skills in a conducive and friendly learning environment. The Cultural Immersion and Teaching Assistantship Program has been a result of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PNU and the ALV Camp since 2023. Through the partnership, the teacher assistants benefited from an all-expenses-paid arrangement. Apart from the camp necessities, the PNU students received an allowance for transportation, meals, and accommodation during the five-day camp.



The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Institute for Higher Education Development (SEAMEO RIHED) and the British Council have announced that the Philippine Normal University, in collaboration with Heriot-Watt University, has been selected for the prestigious SEA-UK GEDI Challenge Grant.

This grant, which aims to advance Gender Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (GEDI), fosters stronger educational and research partnerships between Southeast Asia and the United Kingdom. The project proposal submitted by the selected institutions was



To further promote inclusive education and make relevant information more accessible, the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (SEAMEO INNOTECH) launched the Filipino version of the 2023 UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report earlier today, February 20, 2025, at its headquarters in Quezon City.

Originally presented in English in 2023, the report provides a comprehensive analysis of Southeast Asia's educational landscape, offering insights into the role of technology in education—including its potential and the challenges associated with integrating technology into the learning process. Furthermore, the GEM Report emphasizes policy-based decision-making to maximize technological investments in education.



A key component of the report is a case study on the use of technology in education in the Philippines, initiated by a team from

Philippine Normal University (PNU) led by Dr. Allen A. Espinosa. During the launch, PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga presented the study's salient points and findings. Dr. Tuga was accompanied by Dr. Ma. Arsenia C. Gomez, a member of the research team, and Dr. Rowena R. Hibanada. The study identified challenges related to access, ICT infrastructure, digital literacy, quality assurance, and adaptation. It also outlined recommendations focusing on policy reforms, infrastructure investment, and collaboration.

recognized for its exceptional potential to drive meaningful change in the field of GEDI.

The SEA-UK GEDI Challenge Grant marks a significant step in promoting global collaboration on gender equality, diversity, and inclusion. By supporting innovative projects in these areas, the grant helps build more inclusive academic frameworks across regions. The partnership between Philippine Normal University and Heriot-Watt University is expected to produce groundbreaking research and initiatives that will advance GEDI efforts in both Southeast Asia and the UK.

As part of this initiative, Asst. Prof. Iona Ofelia Zanoria from Philippine Normal University and Dr. Claudine Salgado from Heriot-Watt University will play a central role in the coming months. They will lead knowledge exchange and research efforts, working alongside international experts to shape the future of GEDI education and initiatives. Their contributions are expected to significantly enhance the development of new educational models that promote inclusivity, equality, and diversity in the academe.

In 2024, PNU was a beneficiary of the SEAMEO RIHED-British Council GEDI Leadership Program in Southeast Asia participated in by President Bert J. Tuga. The 2025 grant was opened to all successful grantees of previous year's implementation of the project.





remain the top priority. Furthermore, Secretary Angara described the report as a roadmap that should be carefully examined and acted upon with urgency.

Deputy Director for Programme and Development at the SEAMEO Secretariat, Mr. John Arnold Sienna, provided an overview of the report's contents, underscoring key recommendations.

A highlight of the event was the launch and ceremonial handover of the GEM Report 2023 Philippine Version. Joining key education stakeholders in this milestone were Dr. Tuga and Hon. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela, Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education and Chairperson-designate of the PNU Board of Regents.

In his message, Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Hon. Sonny Angara posed the question, "On whose terms is technology being implemented in education?" He reminded the various education stakeholders present that, despite the push for digitization, the realities of learners and educators must

PNU POST 18TH EDITION JANUARY TO MARCH 2025

PNU POST

THE OFFICIAL ONLINE NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

EQUATE

Excellence in Quality Assurance in Teacher Education

PNU North Luzon
Indigenous Peoples Education Hub
Alicia, Isabela

PNU South Luzon
Technology and Livelihood Education Hub
Lopez, Quezon

PNU Manila
Main Campus
Taft Avenue, Manila

PNU Mindanao
Multicultural Education Hub
Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur

PNU Visayas
Environment and Green Technology Education Hub
Cadiz, Negros Occidental

CHED recognizes PNU Manila and its Campuses for Excellence in Teacher Education

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Hail, Alma Mater, Hail!

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has recognized the Philippine Normal University Manila and its Campuses, namely: PNU North Luzon, PNU South Luzon, PNU Visayas, and PNU Mindanao for their unwavering commitment to quality teacher education through the Excellence in Quality Assurance in Teacher Education (EQUATE) Awards.

This prestigious award highlights PNU's dedication to maintaining the highest standards in pre-service teacher education, as demonstrated by its compliance with CHED's quality assurance requirements, program accreditation, and outstanding performance in the Board Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (BLEPT).

PNU will formally receive the award in a ceremony on April 2, 2025, at the Manila Hotel.

This achievement reaffirms PNU's leadership in producing future-ready teachers and education leaders.



TODAY @ PNU

PNU'S MIDDLE MANAGERS CONVENE FOR TWO-DAY ONBOARDING PROGRAM



With the aim of equipping its new and current middle managers with essential knowledge, skills, and tools to strengthen university operations, the Philippine Normal University conducted the Middle Managers Onboarding Program (MMOB) 2025 on March 13–14, 2025. Bannering the theme "Middle Managers as Drivers of Innovation, Efficiency, and Accountability," this year's MMOB marks the second offering of the program, following its successful debut last year. Delivered in a hybrid modality, the event brought together PNU Manila participants at the HRD Auditorium, while those from other campuses joined via Zoom.

Administrative Services Management Office Director Ms. Jenny C. Malitao delivered the opening remarks, urging middle managers to use the program as a platform for reflecting on their respective offices' and units' current performance. She emphasized the importance of identifying gaps in the system to implement appropriate approaches for improvement.

MMOB 2025

2025 Middle Managers' On-Boarding Workshop

"Middle Managers as Drivers of Innovation, Efficiency, and Accountability"

Planning Office Director Prof. Maria Ruth M. Regalado provided an overview of this year's MMOB installment, highlighting that the program was designed based on the actual needs of middle managers, which were gathered through a pre-event survey. She expressed confidence that the various sessions would be engaging and contribute to resolving persistent challenges and ambiguities.

Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson delivered a message on behalf of University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga. In his speech, VP Yonson emphasized the role of organizational culture and leadership, advocating for middle managers to embody commitment and competence in their service to the university.

Participants from last year's MMOB were then given the opportunity to share their experiences. In the first workshop session, facilitated by Mr. Danilo S. Cortez Jr., participants asked questions and shared insights on the topic. This was followed by a discussion on the Mentoring and Coaching Process at PNU, led by Mr. Michael V. Cleofe, Head of the Personnel Management Services Unit of the Human Resources Management and Development Office.



Asst. Prof. Sheila Marie O. Dela Peña, Lead Coordinator of the AKAP Program, delivered a talk on mental health and navigating personal challenges. In the afternoon, Director Regalado introduced the PACER Framework, a strategic management tool for overseeing programs, activities, and projects.



On the second day, Ms. Lyka L. Tulalian from the Department of Budget and Management – National Capital Region provided a comprehensive discussion on the government budget process, cycle, and tiers. Complementing this session, Mr. Ronnie B. Pagal, Officer-in-Charge of the Financial Management Office, facilitated a workshop on developing a Budget Negotiation Framework.

A key highlight of this year's MMOB was the launch of the Ngiting Normal Program (NNP), an initiative that institutionalizes PNU's approach to gathering insights from university clients and stakeholders. This client satisfaction survey is designed to align with various statutory requirements and quality assurance efforts.



Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara outlined the program's next steps, emphasizing that the discussions in MMOB would be instrumental in shaping the University Planning Workshop, scheduled for March 18–19, 2025.

The Middle Managers Onboarding Program (MMOB) 2025 is a collaborative effort and innovation of the offices and units under the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration.



As part of the 2025 National Women's Month celebration, the Philippine Normal University (PNU), in partnership with the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM), co-hosted the Geronima T. Pecson Forum on March 25, 2025. Centered on the theme of women's leadership in education, the forum featured insights from three accomplished women leaders in the education sector: Commission on Higher Education Commissioner Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela, Department of Education Assistant Secretary Jocelyn D.R. Andaya, and Centro Escolar University – Malolos Vice President and Dean of Studies Dr. Maria Flordeliza L. Anastacio. The event held special significance as it took place at PNU's main auditorium, which is named after Senator Geronima T. Pecson, a distinguished PNU alumna and the first woman elected to the Philippine Senate.



In his opening remarks, Vice President for Student Success and Stakeholder Services Dr. Denmark L. Yonson emphasized that the forum aimed to spark meaningful conversations that advocate for equal leadership opportunities and the full realization of women's potential. Meanwhile, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga highlighted the theme of the month-long National Women's Month celebration, "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas." He described it as a pivotal reminder of women's role in shaping the country's future. Dr. Tuga further noted that the forum served as a platform to recognize the profound influence of women in advancing educational leadership and driving societal progress. He also honored the legacy of PNU alumnae who have paved the way for future generations of teachers and education leaders.

Following a special intermission number by an all-female group from PNU's Kislap Sining Dance Troupe, Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara introduced the panelists for the discussion on women's leadership in education.

In her presentation, Commissioner Valenzuela focused on how women leaders can shape the future. She shared global statistics, current trends, and personal experiences to support the argument that women are not only capable of succeeding in any field but are also well-equipped to lead. Meanwhile, Assistant Secretary Andaya tackled the challenges that hinder gender equality in society. She emphasized issues such as male dominance, workplace discrimination, and self-doubt, stressing the need for conscious efforts in policymaking and institutional practices to address these barriers. Lastly, Dr. Anastacio reflected on the illustrious career of Senator Geronima T. Pecson, highlighting her trailblazing achievements as a leader. She urged attendees to draw inspiration from Pecson's contributions in breaking barriers and advocating for a just society.



A panel discussion followed, moderated by Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin. The discussion revolved around the importance of mentoring and networking in developing women leaders in education and the impact of women in decision-making processes that drive meaningful change in the education sector. The panelists also answered questions from attendees representing various higher education institutions.

A significant highlight of the event was the ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PNU and UNACOM. The agreement formalized a partnership to promote international cooperation, understanding, and goodwill through various programs. Dr. Tuga signed on behalf of PNU, while UNACOM Secretary-General Dr. Ivan Anthony S. Henares signed on behalf of UNACOM Philippines. The signing was witnessed by VPSSSS Dr. Yonson and UNACOM Deputy Executive Director II Ms. Lindsay A. Barrientos.



To conclude the event, Dr. Henares expressed gratitude to all individuals and institutions supporting the advancement of a just society. He also underscored the role of schools in addressing societal gaps and reaffirmed the responsibility of future educators in shaping learners' minds toward respect and inclusivity.

The Geronima T. Pecson Forum was jointly organized by PNU's Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Office and the Events Management Office, under the leadership of Prof. Iona Ofelia Zanoria and Prof. James V. Bailon, respectively.





The Philippine Normal University (PNU) has once again added another feather to its cap after being recognized by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP) as one of the top performing institutions for securing the highest number of accredited programs in 2024.

PNU was ranked second among institutions with the most Level IV accredited programs and placed fourth among institutions with the highest number of Level I accredited programs. Contributing to this achievement, PNU's Visayas and Mindanao campuses played a crucial role in securing the second spot in the Level IV category by submitting a combined total of 14 programs for accreditation. Meanwhile, PNU Manila's ten graduate programs, which were granted Level I Accreditation last year, helped the university attain the fourth position in this category.

The prestigious recognition was conferred during the awarding ceremony held on March 7, 2025, as part of the 38th AACUP National Conference and General Assembly. The awards were presented by AACUP Chairperson and President Dr. Anthony M. Penaso and Executive Director Dr. Milabel E. Ho, with the presence of Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Commissioner Hon. Shirley C. Agrupis. Representing PNU in receiving the award were University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga and Quality Assurance Management Office Director Prof. Ruel A. Avilla.

This latest distinction reaffirms PNU's unwavering commitment to quality assurance and academic excellence. AACUP has consistently recognized the university's

dedication to accreditation, with the most recent prior acknowledgment in 2019, when PNU was named the top performing state university and college (SUC) for having the highest number of Level III accredited programs.



With the goal of inculcating safety and preparedness among members of the PNU community, experts from the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) conducted a Fire Safety Seminar on March 27, 2025. The seminar primarily involved members of the university's Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Committee. A fire drill was also conducted, with participation from various stakeholders in the PNU community.

Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara underscored the importance of having pivotal knowledge on disaster mitigation and risk reduction. VP Vergara urged the participants to absorb as much information as possible to better prepare them to respond efficiently to emergencies.



The BFP Station 4 Team, led by Station Commander F/INSP Leslie Ann C. Ramos, then delivered lectures on related topics, including the nature of fire and approaches to emergency response in fire incidents. They also elaborated on the functions of the BFP as an institution. After the series of lectures, the PNU DRRM Team carried out a simulated fire response scenario, which included evacuation and rescue procedures. This exercise was observed by the BFP guests.



Following the simulation, the BFP engaged various stakeholders in fire drills, which included hands-on training in using a fire extinguisher and operating a fire hose to extinguish potential fires.

A post-conference was held afterward to evaluate the DRRM team's performance during the drill and simulation. The BFP experts provided insights on improving the university's DRRM system, which the team welcomed.



In her closing remarks, Administrative Services Management Office (ASMO) Director Jenny C. Malitao expressed her gratitude to the guests for sharing their expertise with the PNU community. She also looked forward to more partnerships with the BFP to further strengthen emergency response capabilities.

This activity is part of PNU's commitment and support for the celebration of Fire Prevention Month 2025. The event was made possible through the efforts of the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration under VP Vergara, along with its connected offices: ASMO under Director Malitao, the Facilities Management and Sustainability Office under its Director, Prof. John P. Natividad, the University Health Services Unit under Dr. Rowena B. Escoto, and the Security and Safety Management Unit under Ms. Regine G. Balicha.



The Commission on Audit (COA) conducted the Audit Exit Conference for Philippine Normal University (PNU) for Calendar Year 2024 today, March 25, 2025, at the Executive Lounge and Board Room. The exit conference aimed to present the results of the financial audit to PNU's management. It also served as a platform for the university to provide comments and clarifications on the audit findings, which will be considered in the finalization of the audit report.

The COA-PNU Manila team, composed of Supervising Auditor Cecilia E. Bernales, Audit Team Leader Precious Joy E. Borrromeo, Audit Team Member Lester C. Arnesto, and Administrative Staff Annaliza V. Alon, reported that the management had acknowledged most of the audit observations through written explanations and justifications. They added that these responses are subject to further evaluation. Ms. Bernales emphasized that the Audit Observation Memoranda (AOMs) are issued to strengthen the institution's operations and financial transactions.

The audit team then proceeded with a discussion of their findings and recommendations. Concerned PNU officials provided explanations and updates on compliance with several items. The management also committed to issuing relevant guidelines to address some of the observations raised by the audit team.

PNU was also found compliant with key laws and regulations, including Tax Laws, GSIS Laws, the National Health Insurance Act of 2013, the Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF), and the Property Insurance Law.

The findings will be formalized after the exit conference for the entire PNU system, scheduled for April, which is expected to produce a consolidated exit report from all campuses.

Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara credited the finance and administration team for improving the university's compliance with statutory requirements, which serve as the basis for this audit.

In his message, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga expressed his appreciation for the audit team's engagement and support for the management. He also reiterated the importance of these activities in bringing out the best in an institution and enhancing its service to the Filipino people.



PNU President Dr. Bert J. Tuga visited PNU South Luzon in Lopez, Quezon, from March 13 to 14, 2025, as part of his series of campus visits aimed at engaging in dialogue with various stakeholders and addressing urgent matters on campus. For this visit, Dr. Tuga was accompanied by College of Alternative and Lifelong Learning Dean Dr. Celia M. Ilanan and Visiting Professor Dr. Mekasha Kassaye Gobaw.

Dr. Tuga and his delegation were warmly received by the PNU South Luzon community, led by its Executive Director and Provost, Dr. Leah Amor S. Cortez. Following a brief welcome ceremony, Dr. Tuga inspected the status of the Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) Innovation Building, which is expected to provide additional learning and workspaces for PNU South Luzon constituents once completed. PNU South Luzon officials then convened with the President to discuss key topics, including innovation plans, academic initiatives, and administrative concerns. In the afternoon, President Tuga engaged in a dialogue with faculty members and administrative staff, focusing on workplace improvements.

The first day of the visit concluded with a trip to Brgy. Lalaguna, an extension site and community partner of PNU South Luzon. There, Dr. Tuga interacted with extension beneficiaries, particularly pamaypay weavers.

On the second day, Dr. Tuga met with the student body of PNU South Luzon, where he discussed University plans and addressed students' questions and concerns. Meanwhile, Dr. Gobaw conducted a professional sharing session with faculty members and administrative personnel.



The two-day visit concluded with a courtesy call and meeting with Lopez, Quezon's Municipal Mayor, Rachel Ubana. Mayor Ubana reaffirmed the local government's support for PNU South Luzon's initiatives, which Dr. Tuga deeply appreciated.

The PNU South Luzon visit marks Dr. Tuga's third stop in his ongoing campus visit series. The initiative will culminate in the last week of March when he visits PNU Mindanao.



Philippine Normal University (PNU), represented by College of Teacher Development (CTD) Dean Dr. Gladys C. Nivera, Faculty of Science, Technology, and Mathematics (FSTeM) Associate Dean Dr. Alfons Jayson O. Pelgone, Faculty of Education and Information Sciences (FEIS) Associate Dean Dr. Niño Naldoza, and Research Institute for Teacher Quality (RITQ) Senior Program Manager Dr. Allan S. Reyes, attended a consultative meeting on the current Senior High School (SHS) program and the proposed House Bill 11213 on March 12, 2025, at the University of the Philippines Bonifacio Global City (UP BGC). The meeting was convened by the office of Senator Win Gatchalian, chair of the Senate Committee on Education.

The resource persons in the meeting discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for improving the current two-year SHS program, which is part of the basic education system under the Department of Education (DepEd). The discussions centered on curricular concerns, challenges in implementation, and expected outcomes for students and graduates.



Participants also examined the effectiveness of SHS tracks, particularly the Technical-Vocational track. The current SHS program aims to equip learners with the skills necessary for employment, entrepreneurship, or higher education. The resource persons elaborated on how these goals are reflected in the competencies of SHS graduates and college entrants.



The PNU representatives raised concerns regarding the program's implementation, particularly in ensuring equitable access among various SHS implementers. They also shared insights on how the SHS program has impacted PNU's teacher education programs, particularly in terms of students' academic readiness, maturity, and the skills and competencies required for higher education.

Regarding the proposed bill on SHS program reform, discussions focused on the expansion of the technical-vocational pathway, the removal of tracks and strands, the extension of internship duration, the introduction of an honors examination allowing successful candidates to proceed directly to college, and the transition mechanisms, including pilot implementation, teacher training, and necessary support in terms of infrastructure and facilities.

As the National Center for Teacher Education (NCTE), PNU actively participates in various consultations on education policies and programs that impact the country's education system.



the discussions, Dr. Tuga shared major projects that PNU has undertaken in collaboration with government agencies and institutions such as the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, the National Educators' Academy of the Philippines, and the Teacher Education Council. He also discussed laws and executive orders in which PNU played a role during the legislative process.

Dr. Tuga then underscored the 2026 priority of "Think TELs," emphasizing



As part of a series of key initiatives in developing a well-structured set of programs, activities, and projects that will serve as the basis for preparing the University's budget for 2026, university officials, select administrative employees, and students traveled to Tanay, Rizal, for the University Planning Workshop from March 18 to 20, 2025.



With the theme "Bridging Vision and Action: Strengthening Operational Efficiency for 2026," the University Planning Workshop not only laid the foundation for the institution's targets for the

upcoming year but also provided an avenue for key university leaders to review performance management systems and further strengthen institutional accountability.



The three-day event commenced with opening remarks from Vice President for Finance and Administration Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara. In his message, VP Vergara emphasized that every financial decision and program should reflect not only fiscal prudence but also the unwavering commitment of the PNU community to the advancement of education.

Shortly afterward, University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga delivered his keynote address, elaborating on his administration's key priorities for 2026. To provide context for

PNU's leadership in extending its expertise to other teacher education institutions. He elaborated on his specific priorities, which include academics and quality assurance, research and publication, extension and community partnership, internationalization, student development and alumni relations, facilities and infrastructure development, human resource development and management, social development and advocacy, finance and administrative services (including frontline services and income-generating projects), and the expansion of campuses and hubs.

Following the President's comprehensive discussion, the participants immediately got to work on their respective programs, activities, and projects. To guide them in their planning, Planning Office Director Prof. Maria Ruth M. Regalado presented the University's targets for 2023 in relation to SDP 2027 and organizational outcomes. Financial Management Office

Director Mr. Harry P. Huliganga also outlined the proposed budget for 2026.

Key university offices shared updates on various projects, with Facilities Management and Sustainability Office Director Prof. John P. Natividad elaborating on infrastructure projects and Management Information System Office Director Prof. Erwin R. Callo discussing the Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP). During the open forum, participants had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the status of current and future requests from these offices.

During the open forum, participants had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the status of current and future requests from these offices.

On the second day, Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin led a discussion on the National University for Teacher Education (NUTE) Bill, a legislative initiative aimed at expanding PNU's influence in teacher education. VP Rungduin first presented the existing framework of the bill before facilitating a workshop where participants contributed insights on improving the draft legislation.



The final day of the workshop was dedicated to the presentation of the prepared PAPs from the various domains and campuses. While these plans are still subject to revisions, participants expressed satisfaction with their progress and looked forward to their implementation in 2026.



Key university offices shared updates on various projects, with Facilities Management and Sustainability Office Director Prof. John P. Natividad elaborating on infrastructure projects and Management Information System Office Director Prof. Erwin R. Callo discussing the Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP).

In the afternoon, participants proceeded to their respective domains to refine their programs, activities, and projects based on the inputs provided earlier. Members of the Finance Team were also on hand to address concerns that arose during the small group discussions.

During the closing program, Planning Officer III Mr. Danilo S. Cortez, Jr. synthesized the discussions and outputs of the workshop, while Dr. Madonna C. Gonzales, Director for Administration, Finance, and Planning of PNU North Luzon, shared key insights from the three-day activity. In his closing remarks, VP Vergara reiterated the call to work hard, work strategically, and work collaboratively, emphasizing the collective effort required to achieve the University's goals.

The University Planning Workshop for Fiscal Year 2026 was organized by the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration and the Planning Office.

To conclude this year's first series of campus visits, PNU President Bert J. Tuga, along with Vice President for Research, Extension, and Quality Assurance Dr. Teresita T. Rungduin and Visiting Professor Dr. Mekasha Kassaye Gobaw, flew to PNU Mindanao. Known as PNU's Multicultural Education Hub, the campus hosted the university officials on March 26 to 28, 2025, for a series of engagements with various stakeholders.

The visit kicked off with a brief welcome ceremony attended by students, faculty members, and administrative employees. Shortly after, President Tuga convened the campus officials, led by Executive Director and Provost Dr. Adelyne C. Abrea. A separate meeting was also held with the campus auditor from the Commission on Audit to discuss plans for the upcoming system-wide exit audit conference.

On the second day, President Tuga met separately with faculty members and administrative employees to address key matters and urgent concerns. Meanwhile, Dr. Gobaw conducted a professional sharing session with faculty members. A fellowship dinner later that day brought together members of the PNU Mindanao community, providing a meaningful opportunity for interaction with university executives.

The final day began with a breakfast meeting with the new Commission on Higher Education - CARAGA Regional Director, Dr. Nelia A. Alibin. President Tuga then wrapped up the series of sectoral dialogues with a discussion with the student body, where he shared updates on student-related concerns and addressed inquiries from PNU Mindanao students.

With the completion of the campus visits, insights gathered from each campus will be used to formulate strategic courses of action to better meet the needs of the entire PNU community.





The Ateneo-EDCOM 2 Research Fellowship conducted its second batch of research presentations on March 12, 2025, at Ateneo de Manila University. This event focused on the initial research findings of the engaged research fellows, marking another milestone in the continuous effort to address the different challenges in the Philippine education sector. This initiative, a collaboration between the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2) and Ateneo de Manila University, brought together distinguished scholars nationwide to contribute insights aimed at shaping future education policies.

Among the research fellows, two faculty researchers from the Philippine Normal University (PNU) took the lead in discussions on the priority areas of Teacher Education. Dr. Marilyn U. Balagtas, Vice President for Academics of PNU, presented her study titled "Teacher Education and Development: Alignment of CHED, PRC, and DepEd (Including Teacher Education Council)," which examined the coherence in policy development and implementation between education-related agencies. Meanwhile, Dr. Brando C. Palomar, Director of the Research Institute for Teacher Quality (RITQ) at PNU, shared his research titled "Review of Pre-Service Teacher Education Curriculum," which assessed existing teacher education programs and curricula for aspiring educators. He was joined by Dr. Maria Teresa Manicio-Tembrevilla, Deputy Director of the RITQ.



The Philippine Normal University (PNU) Manila community participated in the First Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) conducted today, March 13, 2025. This initiative reflects PNU's commitment to establishing a safe environment and instilling preparedness and alertness among its stakeholders.

The drill commenced exactly at 3:00 PM, signaling the execution of the "duck, cover, and hold" safety procedure to simulate the immediate response to an earthquake. Building marshals then led occupants from various buildings to designated evacuation areas, followed by the implementation of clearing protocols. The Security and Safety Management Unit reported that a total of 827 individuals, including employees, faculty members, and students, participated in the drill. Furthermore, the entire drill was completed in an impressive 3 minutes and 4 seconds.

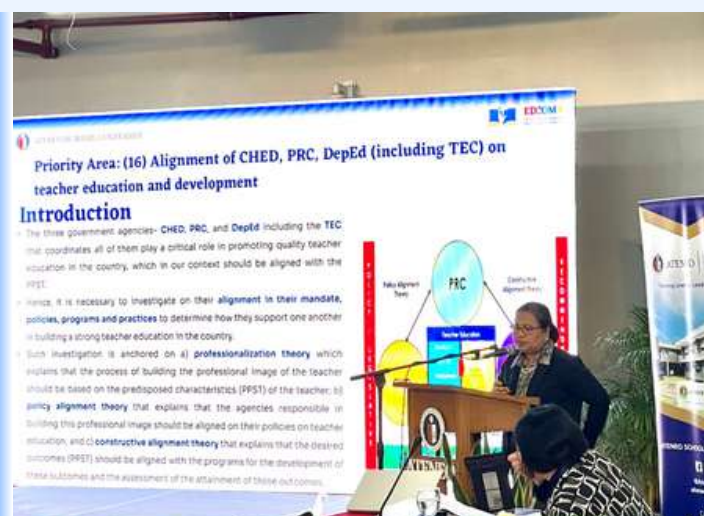


The quarterly NSED is an initiative of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) through the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).

Meanwhile, Dr. Bert J. Tuga, President of PNU, represented Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo, President of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC), as one of the panelists for the Higher Education studies. He was joined by Commissioner Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela of the Commission on Higher Education, Atty. Cinderella Filipina S. Benitez-Jaro, CHED Executive Director IV, Dr. Ester B. Ogena, EDCOM 2 Standing Committee Member and former President of PNU, and Prof. John Paul C. Vergara of Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU). Furthermore, the panelists for the Teacher Education studies included notable experts in the field, among them Dr. Jennie V. Jocson, Executive Director V of the Teacher Education Council (TEC), Dr. Edizon Angeles Fermin, Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) – Technical Panel for Teacher Education, and Dr. Carmela C. Oracion, Assistant Secretary of DepEd's Human Resource and Organizational Development at the National Educators' Academy of the Philippines (NEAP).

The Ateneo-EDCOM 2 Research Fellowship, launched in partnership with the Ateneo School of Government and the Gokongwei Brothers School of Education and Learning, brought together 16 distinguished research fellows from various higher education institutions across the country. These fellows conducted in-depth studies on critical areas such as early childhood education, basic education, higher education, teacher education, and industry involvement in skills training. The selected scholars are from institutions including Batangas State University (BatState), Cavite State University (CavSU), De La Salle University (DLSU), Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT), Philippine Normal University (PNU), University of Santo Tomas (UST), University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD), and University of the Philippines Manila (UPM). The research fellows' scholarly pursuits are dedicated to crafting insightful policy recommendations that seek to transform and elevate the landscape of education in the Philippines.

The panel members' insights offered significant contributions to the profound discourse on higher education reforms, weaving together perspectives that revealed how the initial research findings could serve as a compass for meaningful policy reforms in the country. The fellows' presentations reaffirmed this research fellowship's critical role in drafting evidence-based policy recommendations, which are poised to guide transformative shifts within the Philippine education system.





The University College Leuven-Limburg (UCLL) in Belgium and Philippine Normal University Mindanao (PNU Mindanao) held a three-day exchange cultural discussion from March 14 to 16, 2025. The discussion focused on topics such as student mobility, faculty collaboration, global citizenship, and multicultural education.

The engagement began with a formal welcome ceremony at PNU Mindanao, featuring cultural performances by the Kaliyagan Dance Troupe and Tud-Um Chorale. In her message, Executive Director and Provost Dr. Adelyne M. Costelo-Abrea emphasized the significance of diversity in global academic partnerships.



Prof. Bryan C. Dayuta, Director of the Linkages and International Office, introduced the UCLL delegates, composed of esteemed leaders in teacher education and international academic collaboration, including Kathleen Vanderstraeten, Head of Primary Teacher Education – Campus Diepenbeek; Hilde De Wever, Head of Primary Teacher Education – Campus Heverlee;

Nele Vandamme, Head of Secondary Teacher Education – Campus Heverlee; Ben Nowé, International Officer and Lecturer; Leen Alaerts, International Officer, Lecturer, and Researcher; and Dima Bou Mosleh, International Relations Adviser, Exchange Program Coordinator, Lecturer, and Researcher.

Beyond institutional dialogues, the visit extended to cultural and community engagements. The UCLL delegation, along with PNU Mindanao faculty and student leaders, visited Subwak Tu Agusan, the Provincial Museum of Agusan del Sur, where they explored indigenous heritage and historical artifacts,



PNU Mindanao's commitment to inclusive and globally relevant education was showcased through a series of insightful presentations by its esteemed faculty. Dr. Rennie C. Saranza, Dean for Academics and the Hub, introduced the university's multicultural education initiatives, emphasizing the importance of diversity in learning environments. Dr. Aileen C. Park, Coordinator of the Multicultural Education Resource Center, highlighted classroom-community engagement strategies, underscoring the role of interactive and culturally responsive teaching. Meanwhile, Prof. Lallen B. Quismundo, Head of the Gender Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Unit, presented Project AMUMA, an initiative advocating for gender inclusivity and equitable education. Rounding out the discussions, Prof. Elvie Charie L. Ortua, Focal Person for GCED Caraga, provided valuable insights on Global Citizenship Education within the PNU Mindanao context, reinforcing the university's vision of fostering socially responsible and globally competent educators.

including the Golden Tara. Further strengthening academic outreach, the delegation visited West Prosperidad Central Elementary School (WPCES) in Las Navas, a partner institution under PNU Mindanao's Community-Based Multicultural Education Hub Extension Project. The program included discussions on educational initiatives, classroom visits, and a special presentation by elementary student leaders.

This academic partnership aims to enrich global learning experiences by fostering student and faculty exchanges, research collaborations, and cross-cultural education programs.





To kick off the month of March, the Philippine Normal University (PNU) convened its three university councils for their first meetings of the year. The Administrative Council, Academic Council, and Research and Extension Council gathered separately to review institutional priorities, discuss new university initiatives, and deliberate on policy improvements and future strategic plans.

On March 4, 2025, members of the Administrative Council met in a hybrid setup to discuss and approve administrative and financial matters. The meeting focused on reviewing proposed processes, policy guidelines, and management systems. Presiding over the session from the Executive Lounge and Board Room was University President Dr. Bert J. Tuga, joined by the vice presidents and members of the Administrative Council.

The following day, March 5, 2025, the Academic Council convened to deliberate on key curricular matters. During the online meeting, President Tuga led discussions on guidelines for various admission processes. Another major highlight was the presentation of proposed academic calendars for the next three academic years.

Closing the busy week was the first meeting of the year for the Research and Extension Council (REC). As presiding officer, President Tuga led discussions on the university's proposed extension and research projects. The meeting agenda also included the Research and Development Plan of the Educational Policy Research and Development Center (EPRD) and the PNU Gender and Development (GAD) Research Thrust for 2025 to 2027.

Under Section 10 of Republic Act 8292, also known as the Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997, the Academic Council is tasked with reviewing and recommending curricular offerings and disciplinary rules for the university, subject to the approval of the Board of Regents. Meanwhile, the Administrative Council is responsible for reviewing and recommending policies related to the administration, management, and development planning of the university.

The REC, considered the newest council at PNU, is composed of the university's top executives along with directors of university-level research, extension, and gender and development offices. Faculty representatives from various ranks also take part in the council. While not explicitly mentioned in RA 8292, the REC plays a crucial role in reviewing and recommending research and extension policies to the Board of Regents. It is also responsible for overseeing the approval system for proposed projects, further strengthening PNU's commitment to research and community engagement.



The Philippine Normal University, the country's National Center for Teacher Education, has once again been recognized for its commitment to excellence as it moves two spots higher in the recent ranking of Philippine higher education institutions (HEIs) released by EduRank.org. From being 25th last year, PNU now occupies the 23rd spot among 229 institutions in the country, both public and private.

PNU also saw an improved position in one important subfield: Education Majors. From being 3rd overall in 2024, PNU climbed a notch higher and now sits at the second spot, just behind De La Salle University, a private institution. This also translated to PNU retaining its rank as the best state university or college offering programs related to education majors. It also skyrocketed in the ranks among Asian universities in the said subfield. From rank 469, PNU is now at the 336th spot. This improved ranking could be attributed to a more dynamic research culture within the university.

PNU also made it to the Top 10 for the field of Psychology among 66 universities in the country. It has also secured Ranks 2 and 7 for the psychology subfields of education majors and child psychology, respectively.

Meanwhile, the University remains in the Top 10 of related Liberal Arts and Social Science subfields such as Anthropology, Sociology, Theology, Law, Political Science, and Philosophy. It also retained a spot in the Top 10 universities for Math Teachers.

An added feat for PNU in this rendition of the global ranking is its performance in the Arts and Design rankings. PNU placed 1st in the country in the subfield of Music. It also placed 7th and 9th in the subfields of Literature and Fashion Design, respectively.

EduRank.org is an independent, metric-based ranking system that evaluates 14,131 universities across 183 countries. It leverages the world's largest database of scholarly papers, which includes 115,295,786 scientific publications and 2,964,008,315 citations, to assess universities across 246 research topics. In addition to academic performance, the overall rankings incorporate non-academic prominence, alumni popularity indicators, and the latest enrollment information.

A delegation of teacher educators from the University of Applied Sciences (UCLL) in Belgium, led by Mrs. Dima Bou Mosleh, International Relations Adviser, is currently in the Philippines for a two-week visit to explore collaborative opportunities with the Philippine Normal University (PNU). The visit focuses on global citizenship education, transformative education, multicultural and peace education, and partnerships.



The Belgian delegation comprises several highly regarded educators and researchers, each bringing expertise in diverse areas of education. The delegation includes Mrs. Kathleen Vanderstraeten, Head of Primary Teacher Education at Campus Diepenbeek; Mrs. Hilde De Wever, Head of Primary Teacher Education at Campus Heverlee; Mrs. Nele Vandamme, Head of Secondary Teacher Education at Campus Heverlee; Mr. Ben Nowé, International Officer and Lecturer; Mrs. Leen Alaerts, International Officer, Lecturer, and Researcher; and Mrs. Dima Bou Mosleh, International Relations Adviser, Exchange Program Coordinator, Lecturer, and Researcher. Their collective expertise spans primary and secondary education, international partnerships, and research-driven initiatives.

Throughout their visit, the delegation will engage with PNU's academic community to strengthen collaboration in key areas and examine the integration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in primary and secondary education. They will also look at approaches to community-based learning and innovative pedagogy, as well as how students address local and global challenges effectively. The Belgian visitors will also venture into dialogues on fostering inclusivity, cultural understanding, and peaceful coexistence through education. PNU Mindanao is set to host the delegation from March 13 to 16, 2025, for further engagement on these themes.

In collaboration with UNESCO Clubs, the delegation will visit schools that integrate global education and sustainability goals into their programs. On March 12, 2025, they are scheduled to visit Barangka Integrated School in Marikina and hold a courtesy meeting with Dr. Ivan Anthony Henares, Secretary-General of the

UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines. These interactions aim to identify potential partnerships that align with UNESCO's vision for peace, education, and sustainability.



This endeavor marks a significant step in strengthening educational cooperation between Belgium and the Philippines. It serves as a platform for knowledge exchange, innovative teaching practices, and discussions on future collaborations in global citizenship, transformative education, and sustainable development. With this collaboration, PNU remains true to its vital role of shaping global learning environments that contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable future.

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.

CONTRIBUTORS

PROF. JOHN CARLO M. RAMOS
MR. JOHN MIKO R. OFALSA
MR. DWYGH T. QORBAN B. INFANTE
LINKAGES AND INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

LAYOUT ARTIST

MARK KEVIN M. MALAPAD

ISSUE COORDINATOR AND EDITOR

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC
RELATIONS UNIT

CONSULTANTS

DR. BERT J. TUGA, PhD
DR. MARILYN U. BALAGTAS, PhD
DR. LORDINIO A. VERGARA, DPd
DR. DENMARK L. YONSON, PhD
DR. TERESITA T. RUNGDUIN, PhD



PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

The National Center for Teacher Education

Taft Avenue, Manila

www.pnu.edu.ph