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COED summa cum laude grad notches 10th place in LEPT



TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS!

SEPTEMBER 2023 LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS

	ELEMENTARY LEVEL	SECONDARY LEVEL
FIRST TIME TAKERS	86.49%	75.21%
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	57.14%	57.21%
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	47.01%	56.27%

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



TOP 10 (92.60%)
MIKAELA P. MILLO

A College of Education graduate from batch 2022 landed among the top ten passers in the elementary level of the

September 2023 Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers.

Mikaela P. Millo, a summa cum

laude graduate of Bachelor of Elementary Education in July 2022, is one of the 30

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Sen. Imee, DSWD maximize cash assistance for TSU students

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag, Mary Joy B. Manalo



Sen. Imee Marcos visited Tarlac State University for the first batch of DSWD's Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) payout on December 11, 2023 at the TSU Gymnasium.

A total of 10 million pesos is allotted for the first and second batches of

AICS recipients of the university, where 1,000 students received 5,000 pesos cash assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Sen. Marcos in the payout event.

“Kinakailangan na tulungan ang

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TSU students to benefit from alumni-sponsored solar charging station

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo



Tarlac State University's first alumni-sponsored solar charging station is set to be built at the Lucinda Campus following a ceremonial groundbreaking on December 18, 2023.

Funded by the TSU Alumni Association Inc. (TSUAAI) headed by Hon. Reynaldo Catacutan, the solar charging station will be erected at the Alumni Park and Mini-Forest, which the students could use.

Students would no longer worry about running out of batteries for their gadgets whenever they prepare for their projects and homework with the help of the charging station equipped with solar panels.

Set to launch in March 2024, the project will offer seating for six individuals and an LED TV for university announcements.

The solar charging station is part of an extension project titled Solar Sparks: Igniting Devices with Clean Energy in partnership with the university's Office of Alumni Affairs and Center for Solar and Emerging Technologies.

TSUAAI President Catacutan thanked the OAA, TSUAAI executive board, and college alumni coordinators for supporting the project.

"Masasabi natin na nasa tamang pangangalaga ang pera ng TSUAAI. Binabalik natin sa mga scholars through financial assistance at binabalik din natin sa mga estudyante sa pamamagitan ng

proyektong ito," Hon. Catacutan said. The alumni president envisions building more solar charging stations on every TSU campus with the support of international and local chapters, according to OAA Director Dr. Winston F. Abalos.

Meanwhile, the university administration, represented by Presidential Assistant Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz and Office of Facilities Development and Management Director Ar. Arlen Guieb, committed its full support to the project and plans that will benefit the university's stakeholders, noting that TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco extends the same support to this endeavor.

TSUAAI and TSU formally sealed the partnership through a memorandum of agreement signed on the same day.

The OAA also organized a year-end thanksgiving party for the TSU AAI and alumni chapter scholars to celebrate the milestones and blessings received this year.

"Mahalin niyo ang mga magulang niyo dahil kung wala kayong magulang,

walang magpapaaral sa inyo. Mahalin ninyo ang mga taga-TSU dahil sila ang mga kumakalinga sa inyo habang nasa TSU kayo. Mahalin niyo ang mga taga-Alumni dahil kahit sa papaanong paraan, nakakapag-abot kami sa inyo," Hon. Catacutan said.

Angelica Lalu, a batch 2023 graduate and TSU USA Alumni Chapter scholar who recently passed the nursing board examinations, attended the gathering.

23-year-old Lalu expressed her gratitude to the OAA and TSUAAI for the financial assistance and support from her college years to the board examination.

"Si mama po isang fish vendor. Naapektuhan po talaga kami noong pandemic. Talagang walang-wala po. Minsan sa isang araw hindi kami kumakain tapos nursing student pa ako...Nang dahil sa alumni scholarship, napagaan po 'yung pagiging nursing student ko. Ngayon, registered nurse na po ako," Lalu said.

More than 20 full scholars and grantees received Noche Buena packages and meals.



University administration dives into Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight workshop

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat



Tarlac State University's executives and Administrative Council members, composed of deans and directors, gathered at the Alumni Center in Lucinda Campus to attend the two-day workshop on Futures Thinking.

Titled "Framing the Futures: Cultivating Foresight in Administrative Leadership," the sessions held from December 13-14, 2023 at the Lucinda Campus Alumni Center featured lectures and activities dedicated to identifying TSU's focal concern in the coming years that the government would potentially fund.

"TSU will be one of the SUCs to be at the forefront in addressing the SDGs (UN Sustainable Development Goals) and will be one of the vessels of salvation for the country," Mr. Noel De Guia, Resident Futurist of the Senate Committee on Sustainable Development Goals, Innovations, and Futures Thinking (SDGIFT), said in his provocation.

Mr. De Guia emphasized that the Futures Thinking initiatives of TSU, similar to what other state universities and colleges had started, could help address the country's problems.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco welcomed the idea of Futures Thinking in providing solutions to pressing issues while making a niche for TSU, resonating with the statements from Mr. De Guia.

"Through this workshop, magkakaroon tayo ng foresight... we will not just be thinking about the future but also about disparities and how we can counter them. We really have to counter this VUCA (vulnerable, uncertain, complex, ambiguous) world," he said.

Pres. Velasco also mentioned that the workshop is part of SDGIFT Chairperson Sen. Pia Cayetano's appropriated funds for Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight capacity-building activities from 2022 to present.

Resource speaker Prof. Jalaine Joyce Malabanan from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines delivered lectures on megatrends, trends, and drivers of change, where she established Futures Thinking and Foresight as a systematic way of thinking about the future with a long-term and mid-term timeline.

She also underscored that Futures Thinking is not fortune-telling and that sound analysis must be employed.

"Walang mawawala sa'yo kung gagawin mo ang Futures Thinking," Prof. Malabanan said when she likened the topic to disaster preparedness.

She also discussed the Compassionate-Anticipatory Diagram, which responds to intergenerational fairness, equity and access, and quality of life.

"Compassion provides a good

foundation for rational deliberation and appropriate action in public as well as in private life. It requires responsibility and blame. It is not always [about] kindness. We do not tolerate the wrong action," she added.

Meanwhile, Dr. Michville Rivera further laid the groundwork for Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight through lectures and activities on Causal Layered Analysis (CLA).

He emphasized the importance of creating alternative scenarios, considering emerging issues among stakeholders, and defining the university's focal concern that addresses a specific SDG.

Moreover, he introduced the new VUCA that could guide the university in Futures Thinking – vision, understanding, clarity, and agility.

He looks forward to having another Futures Thinking workshop with TSU in 2024 to guide the university in crafting its proposal.

Dr. Rivera is the president of the Association of Schools of Public Administration in the Philippines Inc. (ASPAP) and the dean of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Valenzuela's College of Public Administration and Governance. He also completed a postgraduate certificate course in Futures Thinking and Foundations of Knowledge Management at the Development Academy of the Philippines, among others.

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eskwela at tulungan din ang estudyante kasi nakikita rin natin na nagta-topnotcher (sila). Ayaw kong tumulong 'pag mahina-hina 'yung estudyante, sa totoo lang, pero kung nagsusumikap at talaga namang gumagaling, karapatdapat lamang, deserve na deserve," Sen. Marcos said in a press conference.

Sen. Marcos said she allotted the university 44.5 million pesos of educational cash assistance.

A portion of the cash assistance is intended for 500 fresh graduates from DSWD's Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) cash-for-work program. They will enjoy a 90-day provincial rate salary totaling 22.5 million while awaiting employment.

Moreover, 200 students will receive 7,500 pesos of cash aid under the Commission on Higher Education's Tulong Dunong Program, amounting to 12 million pesos.

"Ang ibibigay natin ngayon ay 44.5 million lahat-lahat sa Tarlac State University bilang pagkilala sa inyong pagiging kalidad na pamantasan," Sen. Marcos said in her speech.

In his welcome remarks, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco thanked

Sen. Imee, DSWD maximize cash assistance for TSU students



Sen. Marcos for supporting the university, especially the students.

"Noong panahon ko po, noong nag-aaral ako dito sa TSU, hindi pa po libre ang tuition. Higit sa lahat, wala pong ganitong scholarship na kalaki na tulad ng ibinigay ng ating mahal na senador... Huwag po nating sayangin ang ibibigay po ni Senator Imee sa atin. Huwag po nating sayangin ang pinakamahalagang pamana na ibibigay sa atin - ang makatapos sa edukasyon at magkaroon ng magandang trabaho," Pres. Velasco said.

21-year-old Junadel C. Ganitnit, a third-year College of Education student,

received her scholarship with her mother as she recently underwent an operation.

Junadel is the daughter of a tricycle driver and a midwife. According to the future educator, her scholarship will be a big help since she is still recovering and in need of medication.

"Nagpapasalamat po ako kay Sen. Marcos dahil binigyan niya po kami ng financial assistance. Sakto po nagpapagaling po ako, gagamitin ko po 'yung perang makukuha ko sa pagpapagaling ko at pati na rin po sa pag-aaral ko," she said.

The event was attended by several provincial leaders, namely Vice Governor Carlito David, Tarlac City Mayor Cristy Angeles, Tarlac City Councilor Henry De Leon, Second District Board Members Christopher "Topey" Delos Reyes, Danilo C. Asiaten, Joji David, former Concepcion mayor Andy Lacson, former barangay captain of Matatalaib Winston Torres, Tarlac City legislative consultant Mr. Glenn Caritativo; businessman Mr. Victor Angeles, and PNP Regional Director PBgen. Jose Hidalgo Jr., to name some.

Meanwhile, TSU Board of Regents Hon. Reynaldo Catacutan, Hon. Dennis Norman Go, and Hon. Douglas Ferrer and Vice President for Research Development and Extension Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed also graced the activity as university representatives.



Pres. Velasco formally joins DC-SUC III CIRPS

■ Brendalyn A. Manzano, Ph.D.



Photo Credit: Brendalyn A. Manzano, Ph.D.

Tarlac State University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco took part in the turnover ceremony of the Center for Interrelated Research and Policy Studies (CIRPS) of the Development Council of State Universities and Colleges (DC-SUC) in Region III.

The event, held at the Amphitheater of Central Luzon State University in Muñoz, Nueva Ecija on December 11, 2023, marked a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts of SUCs in the region.

SUC presidents and their technical staff, along with participants from the Central Luzon Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Consortium (CLAARDEC) seminar, witnessed the formal transfer of the CIRPS from Don Honorio Ventura State University (DHSVU) to Central Luzon State University (CLSU).

Former DC-SUC III CIRPS Chair and DHSVU President Dr. Enrique G. Baking and Executive Director Dr. Eddiebal P. Layco entrusted the stewardship of the center to the outgoing CLSU President and newly appointed chair, Dr. Edgar A. Orden, and Executive Director Dr. Emil T. Ubaldo. The leaders emphasized the pivotal role of the center as a beacon for the development of SUCs in the region.

Accompanying Pres. Velasco were Presidential Assistant Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz and the newly appointed University Technical Staff of DC-SUC III CIRPS, Dr. Brendalyn A. Manzano.

Both Pres. Velasco and Dr.

Manzano took their oath for a two-year term (January 2024-December 2025) with other SUC presidents and technical staff to formalize their commitment.

Meanwhile, Ms. Lora L. Yusi, CHEDRO III OIC - Regional Director, commended the SUC presidents and technical staff for their commitment to initiatives and projects at research conferences and seminars. She underscored the importance of focusing on research ethics, dedication to research productivity, and efficient research management.

Ms. Yusi challenged everyone to uphold the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goals, explore disciplinary areas, expand international experiences, and address issues on Certificate of Program Compliance, Centers of Development (CODs) and Centers of Excellence (COEs), and faculty position reclassification.

Among those present during the ceremonial turnover were TSU Research Director Dr. Robert Marcos and his support staff, who participated in the seminar for young researchers organized by CLAARDEC.



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TSU EED boosts students' economic and financial literacy through BRIDGES

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo



In its second year, Tarlac State University's Economic Enterprise Development (EED) Unit conducted the annual Economic and Financial Literacy (EFL) Week from November 28 to December 2 in partnership with the College of Business and Accountancy Student Council.

The event titled "BRIDGES: Better Road in Developing Good Entrepreneurial Spirit" featured various entrepreneurial activities to equip students with practical skills for economic well-being.

In a video message, Tarlac Province Governor Susan A. Yap expressed her support for the TSU community, emphasizing the significance of cultivating the youth's economic and financial literacy.

"As we work in making Tarlac an investment hub in Central Luzon through our projects, initiatives, and partnerships here and abroad, I want you to know that we are waiting for you to be a part of this endeavor of making our province a place for business growth and economic prosperity... Let this week be a stepping stone towards a brighter future for

yourselves in our community," Gov. Yap said.

In preparation for the EFL Week, selected CBA faculty members led an entrepreneurial skills workshop series on November 25, covering the topics of entrepreneurial mind-setting, marketing-centeredness, forecasting, basic income statements, and negotiating skills

The EFL activities kicked off on November 28, with eight exhibitors from recognized student organizations opening booths such as food stalls, coffee kiosks, and arts and accessories stalls and engaging in business operations until December 1 for the EFL entrepreneurial skills competition.

The week-long activity concluded on December 2, continuing the seminar-workshop series and awarding the competition winners.

Speakers from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippine Chamber of Commerce Industry (PCCI), Maya Philippines Inc., as well as from the university's Office of Technology Development, Transfer, and

Commercialization (OTDTC) covered topics such as product development skills, intellectual property rights, the future of online shopping, and online payment solutions.

Meanwhile, Hiraya, the booth of the Young Entrepreneurs' Society under the College of Business and Accountancy, was awarded first place in the competition, marking their second consecutive year of winning.

"Since our goal from the beginning was to achieve a back-to-back victory, we are hopeful for a third consecutive win next year. Our representatives will be the current third-year students, and we hope they will surpass their predecessors in innovating products for successful business implementation," BJ Crishia E. Vinzon, a 4th-year BS Entrepreneurship student from Hiraya CBA-YES, said.

Hiraya showcased innovative food products that underwent thorough product development and business plan preparation crafted by entrepreneurship practitioners.

The winning group received a

plaque and cash prize of 10,000 pesos, while the second and third placers also brought home plaques with 7,000 pesos and 5,000 pesos, respectively.

Apart from the three, exhibitors with minor awards received 3,000 pesos, and consolation prizes of 1,000 pesos were

handed to other groups.

Following the second year of holding the EFL Week, EED Unit Head Assoc. Prof. Sheila Jane L. Gonzales sought the continued support and assistance of the participants to enhance the unit's service and project implementation in the

coming years.

The EFL week is celebrated per Republic Act 10922, known as the Economic and Financial Literacy Act, designating the last week of November as EFL week to promote economic and financial literacy among students.



Below is the list of the entrepreneurial skills competition winners:

MAJOR PRIZES		
1ST	2ND	3RD
Hiraya • CBA - YES	Hiraya ng Manlilikha • College of Architecture and Fine Arts (CAFA) - Sikhayo	Halina't Tikman Mo • CBA - Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM)
MINOR PRIZES		
Most Profitable Team	Halina't Tikman Mo: CBA - HTM	
Most Creative Booth	Hiraya: CBA - YES	
Outstanding Sales Team	Hiraya: CBA - YES	
Business Compliance Award	Halina't Tikman Mo: CAFA - Sikhayo	
Most Promising Product	Hiraya ng Manlilikha: CAFA - Sikhayo	
GAD Award	Hiraya: CBA - YES	
Smartpreneurship Award	Mini bIEtes: College of Engineering - Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineers	



TSU, LGU La Paz to implement extension campus expansion

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University and the local government of La Paz inked an agreement intended to transfer funds to implement the construction of the TSU La Paz Extension Campus two-story building through a ceremonial signing ceremony on December 5, 2023, at the university's Main AVR.

The funding for this project with six classrooms is from a congressional insertion of 20 million pesos specifically for the TSU La Paz Campus, courtesy of Sen. Sonny Angara. The agreement was made in reference to the earlier agreements of the two institutions signed in 2022 and 2023.

La Paz Councilor Robert Mananquil, who represented Mayor Venustiano Jordan, paved the way for the funding. He said Sen. Angara will allocate another 20 million pesos in 2024

for another building.

Councilor Mananquil added that the municipal council had already approved the 3.5-million-peso budget to build a 1,800-square-meter fence at the La Paz Campus to ensure the safety of the students.

This action from the LGU is in response to the request of Dr. Edwin T. Caoleng, College of Public Administration and Governance Dean and officer-in-charge of the La Paz Campus.

He further requested the LGU to assign maintenance and security personnel to look after the cleanliness and overall welfare of the TSUians who are studying in the lone building of the said campus.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg and Vice

President for Administration Dr. Grace N. Rosete represented TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco in the ceremonial signing ceremony.

Other officials from both institutions who witnessed the event are Ms. Sarah Louie Timbang, La Paz LGU Legislative Liaison Secretary; Mr. Fernando Flaminiano, La Paz LGU financial consultant; Mr. Jasper Yauder, TSU Budget Officer; and Ar. Arlen Guieb, TSU Office of Facilities Development and Management Director.

The TSU La Paz Extension Campus in Barangay San Isidro was inaugurated on August 8, 2022. It is only a few kilometers away from the municipal hall.

The campus offers Bachelor of Public Administration and Bachelor of Elementary Education programs.



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top ten passers in the September 2023 LEPT elementary level after reaching a rating of 92.60%.

24-year-old Millo stated that teaching was not her first choice. She initially aspired to become a singer or a journalist, having been a freelance events singer since college.

However, as she participated in various singing and journalism competitions in elementary and high school, she realized that all her passions could be applied if she pursued teaching.

"I can share my talents in singing and writing and inspire other people, especially the kids, kapag educator ako," Millo told the Office of Public Affairs in an interview.

Upon graduating in 2022, Millo applied as an elementary teacher at Marian School of Gerona Inc., where she teaches English, Math, and MAPEH subjects.

Millo mentioned that her love for teaching stems from her parents, who are both public school principals. Her family, especially her mother, served as her support system throughout her college and board exam journey.

"My mom always gives me lessons or heads up about the world of teaching. She [has been] my mentor ever since. During her free time, she never hesitated to give feedback or suggestions, especially on my projects when I was in college. Thankful ako kay mommy dahil hindi ko naramdaman ang pressure noong college ako. She graduated cum laude noon, so I was motivated to be like her and ayun, nag-succeed naman," Millo said.

"I'm sure my Papa, too. Kung nabubuhay pa siya, he will also give his utmost support sa 'kin," she added.

Despite graduating last year, Millo did not take the March 2023 LEPT. According to her, she was not yet prepared and was busy with work.

Millo shared that her family and friends were the ones who pushed her to take the September LEPT.

"Nung nalaman nilang hindi ko tinuloy nung March, parang sabi nila, 'If not now, when?' Kaya ayon, feel ko na rin naman na maire-ready ko na rin self ko sa

COED summa cum laude grad notches 10th place in LEPT

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo



next exam, so nilaban ko na," she said.

While preparing for the exam, Millo faced challenges juggling reviewing and teaching.

"Sa school, I have to give my full energy sa mga bata, and pag-uwi naman dapat focus sa review, so I had to put extra efforts talaga para maging okay. Kahit pagod, kailangan talagang matutong mag-manage ng time. And on weekends, nasa review center ako, so wala akong free time for months, but it was all worth it," Millo said.

During the review, her mom would join her and listen to the online mentorship she had every night.

"Kapag freetime namin [ni mama], nagdi-drill din kami ng LET questions sa bahay. Iyon na rin bonding namin," she said.

Millo said her only wish was to get a 90% rating and that she did not really aim to become a topnotcher.

"The people around me, sila talaga ang hoping na mag-topnotcher ako, sila nag-ignite ng fire na, 'Oo nga 'no? Why not?' So ayon, sabi ko gagawin ko na lang best ko and que sera sera (what will be, will be)," she said.

During the LEPT, Millo had a hard time in the General Education area, as time was running out. When rushing to finish, she mistakenly shaded the wrong answers. She was a bit discouraged, but she prayed for the success of her exam.

The TSUian topnotcher also attributed her success to TSU, serving "as a valuable foundation, offering us comprehensive curriculum."

"I am especially grateful to the high-caliber mentors and professors at our college – the College of Education headed by Dean Mendoza– for they all provided solid academic framework and globally competitive pedagogies that helped us grow and become better individuals," she said.

Millo said she and her batchmates felt they were part of a supportive learning community through COED, which guided them in college and the board exams.

"I am extremely grateful to my professors and mentors dahil everyday talaga no'n, they kept us inspired and motivated... Kahit graduate na kami, hindi kami pinapabayaan, nangungumusta pa rin sila sa amin and they do not hesitate to extend help noon. We have in-house review sa college so ang laking help din no'n," she added.

Apart from her family, Millo also thanked her friends, who served as her motivators despite self-doubts.

She is considering pursuing a master's degree at TSU.

Millo is one of the 56 newly licensed TSUian professional teachers in the elementary level, together with 262 in the secondary level.

TSUian Bar passers gain SOL faculty's full support

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University's School of Law honored its 2023 Bar Examination passers in a testimonial dinner held on December 21, 2023 at the Kaisa Convention Hall, Tarlac City.

Atty. Ray John Dorig, who ranked first among the 22 passers with a 84.63% average, received a 50 sq.m. land from Atty. Karen Cayetano-Tinoyan as his incentive. He also excelled in Public International Law during the Bar exam.

Similarly, the 22 passers each received 30,000 pesos cash incentives from the university and some awards from SOL.

Aside from the university's incentive, the top ten passers of TSU were also granted a 10,000-peso cash gift from the Tenorio Law Office, wherein Atty. Dorig was followed by Atty. Danielle Mangune, one of the first cum laude graduates of SOL in July 2023, who recorded an average of 82.83%

SOL Dean Dr. Jose I. de la Rama Jr. shared that he was in New York when the Bar results came out.

"I was so afraid; I was trembling in fear. I was crying alone inside my room. I asked myself, 'Will I be able to make it this time? Will I make TSU proud of our performance? Or are we going to humiliate the TSU to the community? But when I read (the results) and when they started scrolling the names one by one, I was jumping for joy because 22 TSU law students made it to the Bar exam," Dean de la Rama said in his speech.

TSU attained an overall performance of 40.74%, with 19 passers among its first-time takers, per the statistical data from the Supreme Court of the Philippines. This is the second-highest number of TSU Bar passers following the 2020/21 Bar examinations, with 26 passers and one exemplary passer.

To further strive for excellence and strengthen its foundation, Atty. Tinoyan pledged to donate 100,000 pesos for the following Bar operations.

"Nag-pledge din si Atty. Karen ng 100,000 pesos na madagdagan taon-taon at sino man ang mapalad na

mag-top sa Philippine Bar exams ang siyang makakakuha ng gantimpala. Iminungkahi rin ni Pres. Velasco na sana ay magkaroon ng bagong kotse ang unang makakasungkit sa top 10 sa taunang pagsusulit," Dean de la Rama said in a Facebook post.

Atty. Salvador Moya II, SOL faculty member and founding dean of Tomas Claudio Colleges' College of Law, also donated a set of books to selected top ten TSUian passers, together with the books authored by Dean de la Rama.

Meanwhile, Atty. Carisa Marie Balilia tearfully recounted her journey in law school as a full scholar and her struggles with time management. She passed the Bar exam this year, which was her second take.

Atty. Balilia also shared that she only needed 0.5 to pass the 2022 Bar exam. She told the SOL students present during the dinner to exert extra effort in studying because there is no rounding off of grades in the Bar examinations.

The event was also attended by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, former university president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, Presidential Assistant Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, Regent Hon. Dennis Norman T. Go, and SOL faculty members.

The new lawyers took the Bar last September 17, 20, and 24, 2023, chaired by SC Associate Justice Ramon Paul L. Hernando. The passers took their oath and signed the roll on December 22, 2023 at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City.



School of Law faculty members bring TSU to international, local venues

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo

School of Law Dean Dr. Jose I. de la Rama Jr., Atty. Jewel Dela Cruz, and other faculty members made strides in bringing the Tarlac State University brand of legal education to the local and international levels.

Funded by the European Commission Grant, Atty. Dela Cruz was selected as a visiting professional in the Judicial Chamber of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague, Netherlands.

She assumed a role in the Appeals Chamber of the ICC on November 7, presiding over a hearing on the appeal filed by the Bolivian Republic of Venezuela. The appeal challenges the decision of Pre-Trial-Chamber I, which authorized the resumption of the investigation.

Beyond her role as an ICC visiting professional, Atty. Dela Cruz holds multiple responsibilities, currently serving as the country program manager of the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and as a visiting lecturer in several law universities in the Philippines, including TSU SOL, teaching Public International Law, Human Rights Law, Statutory Construction, and Legal Techniques.

Meanwhile, on November 27,



five SOL faculty members participated in the World Federation of United Nations Association Leadership Training Program 2023 in New York City.

Among the 35 professionals from the Asia Pacific region are Dean de la Rama, Dr. Salvador N. Moya II, Dr. Glenn R. Luansing, Atty. Angel Chona Grace I. Valero-Nunez, and Atty. Irene De Torres Alogoc.

The said training aimed to enrich participants' comprehension of leadership within the context of multifaceted and

interconnected global challenges.

In addition, SOL faculty members Atty. Socrates A. Padua, Atty. Catherine C. Mesuelo, and Atty. Shalane T. Gopalomar also participated in the Clinical Legal Education (CLE) Supervision Workshop, a part of the Access to Justice Exchange event, held in Cebu City on November 30.

The conference, organized by the Asia Foundation and BABSEACLE, featured a series of workshops, forums, and roundtable discussions attended by CLE supervisors from the Philippines, USA, Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Nepal.

Moreover, in a separate event, Dean de la Rama shared his insights via Zoom on the topic "The Inclusion of Forensic Evidence in the Philippines Rules of Court: A Foresight" for the 4th International Forensic Science Conference held in Vallabhshai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi, Delhi, India on December 1-3, 2023.

SOL faculty members Dr. Mariemeir Marcos-Rivera, Judge Cynthia M. Florendo, Dr. Mykedox Knoel T. Cuchapin, and Atty. Alois Renz P. Santos also served as in-person keynote speakers for the said event.



NHCP readies historical marker at TSU for 2024

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Representatives from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) conducted their final onsite inspection at Tarlac State University on December 7, 2023 for the historical marker pedestal to commemorate the Philippines' 125th independence and nationhood.

According to NHCP's Ar. Donking Roque, they adorned the pedestal with embellishments made of bronze in preparation for the unveiling.

The 1.8-meter marker pedestal stands in front of the TSU Administration Building on the Main Campus. It is inspired by the map pin symbol (indicating the location) and the Philippine flag.

The marker bears significance to the university since the Aguinaldo Hall (College of Engineering building) once served as the Casa Real de Tarlac during President Emilio Aguinaldo's administration.

Tarlac was the Philippines' last revolutionary capital, and the marker that will be unveiled on June 21, 2024 indicates



the province as one of the seven capitals in the first Philippine Republic that helped the country gain independence.

The NHCP inspection team is

composed of Engr. Leonidas Ongkingco, Mr. Jim Franklin Kalaw, Engr. Rachelle Loreto, Ms. Osmelia Mangaoil, and Ar. Roque.



TSUAAI, alumni office give back to community through extension project

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo



The Tarlac State University Office of Alumni Affairs (OAA) and the TSU Alumni Association Inc. (TSUAAI) organized their first "TSU Alumni: Giving Back to the Community" program at Balete Elementary School in Balete, Tarlac on December 15, 2023.

To celebrate the month of sharing and thanksgiving, TSUAAI and OAA provided meals and Christmas food packages to 39 indigent students, their parents, and 22 teachers.

Moreover, OAA Director Dr. Winston Abalos and college alumni coordinators Prof. Laarni Capinding from the College of Education, also the TSUAAI Business Manager, and Prof. Maria Tiara Fatima Galang from the College of Public Administration and Governance led mini

seminars for teachers and parents. The sessions covered parenting, protecting women and children against violence, and starting a business.

These activities jumpstarted the one-year extension program of OAA and TSUAAI with the Balete Elementary School, which was formalized through a memorandum of agreement signed on the same day.

In his message of commitment, school principal Dr. Jose V. Suarez III thanked the OAA and TSUAAI for their assistance and support.

amin sa Alumni, ang gusto lang namin ay makatulong," Dr. Abalos said.

In a separate interview, Dr. Abalos mentioned that the program will now become an annual event, and the OAA is actively seeking partnerships with other schools, particularly those offering secondary education with technical vocational courses.

Also present during the program were college alumni coordinator Mr. Larsen B. Dignos and TSUAAI Public Relations Officer Mr. Christian Aaron T. Bondoc.



Dr. Abalos also thanked the elementary school for their prompt response and willingness to work with TSU to deliver needed services.

"Kung nangangailangan po kayo ng expert tools, we are here to help... Sa



TSU inks partnership with SEAIETI for professional development training programs

■ Mary Joy B. Manalo

In its commitment to continuously provide advanced education and professional instruction and training, Tarlac State University sealed a memorandum of agreement with the Southeast Asian Institute of Educational Training Inc. (SEAIETI) on December 22, 2023 at the Office of the University President.

SEAIETI is an accredited Learning Service Provider (LSP) by the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

This first partnership with SEAIETI aims to prepare the College of Education, the program's lead college, to open a "new dimension" of its services to create its training center that would cater to the further development of the teachers the institution has already produced.

Through this partnership, teachers, school leaders, and other TSU professionals will have access to professional development training programs and non-degree courses that DepEd will fund. These initiatives aim to equip them with the essential skills and knowledge needed to train professionals in the future.



"I acknowledge the fact that TSU has capable faculty members from COED; the only one thing that we want to further strengthen is for them to gain additional skills to be able to train. We know that you are excellent at handling students, but this time, we're handling professionals – the approaches, degree of knowledge, and skills that they should learn are different. Those are the things that we want the COED to develop," SEAIETI Managing Director Mr.

Eduardo M. Soliman said.

Mr. Soliman, who used to serve as a faculty member in the College of Arts and Social Sciences, said the most significant years of his professional life happened at this university.

"I would say it's payback time. This MOA is done for a win-win commitment," Mr. Soliman said.

Moreover, university president Dr. Arnold E. Velasco thanked SEAIETI and committed to upholding all the stated responsibilities in the MOA for its successful implementation.

"We believe that our partnership will be a very big help in realizing our vision... We will do our very best to give our service to SEAIETI, as this will not be for us only. With the help of God, we pray that this will have an impactful result for both our institutions," Pres. Velasco said.

Also present during the event were Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg and COEd Dean Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza.



EDITORIAL

Changes to advance PH cinema

Movies are an immense part of Filipino culture, especially during Christmas, as evidenced by the Metro Manila Film Festival or MMFF, where families, groups of friends, or couples queue in long lines to buy tickets and bond over their movie choices. Watching MMFF movies has been a tradition wherein some Filipinos wait for their favorite title or celebrity to appear on the big screen. However, this year, the absence of some personalities and movie titles leveled up the quality of movies. Change, as tricky as it seems to accept, may still bring positivity.

In 1975, the MMFF was born under the name "Metropolitan Film Festival." Although its launching back then was in September (considered a lean month), which was later on moved to December, the festival's primary goals are to stimulate the Filipino film industry and provide an avenue for Filipinos' leisure time during the holidays.

Since then, there have been


staple celebrities and sequels of films that moviegoers usually patronize, thereby becoming the "top-grossing films." These movies typically have the same theme, plot, storyline, and some characters, and Philippine cinema somehow became stagnant. They do not pose any challenges to the public, especially on social issues. It has only created a profitable industry and left behind a less educated populace. Even famous writer Jessica Zafra had nothing good to say about the MMFF entries 12 years ago.

Ultimately, movies are made not just to satisfy people's need for entertainment but also to satiate the appetite for knowledge and learning. There could be a precise formula to create box office hits due to ticket sales. However, our country's cinema has been declining because of the need to generate more money. Festivals are created to level up the movie producers' game, yet the opposite is happening.

The Cinemalaya emerged in 2005

because people clamored for change in the movie formula. And in the 49th MMFF, finally, there were alterations in the system: the archaic movie sequels and familiar faces were replaced by fresh stories and a big break for some artists. Queer films are no longer dominated by Vice Ganda, Vic Sotto is not a cast of any fantasy films, and historical and creative non-fiction titles have been welcomed to the roster. The titles and names the mainstream cinema feeds to its audience are never eternal. Change is not always bad.

Change is inevitable, and the same people will not stay in the limelight for long—the things we get used to must be shaken up occasionally to allow the better elements to flow. There are times when change takes a different turn, which is not how we envisioned it. Should we trust the process? Or should we resist? It is never wrong to cherish the hits and pillars of the festival. Still, it is also not equally bad to embrace the new entrants and the promising future of the Philippine cinema.



TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN CHEMISTS AND CHEMICAL TECHNICIANS

DECEMBER 2023 CHEMISTS AND CHEMICAL TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION

	CHEMIST	CHEM. TECHNICIAN
FIRST TIME TAKERS	76.47%	82.93%
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	63.64%	79.59%
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	51.79%	82.86%

THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!



LEB Assessment and Benchmarking

The Legal Education Board visited Tarlac State University for its Clinical Legal Education Program (CLEP) Implementation Benchmarking and Assessment and Law School Outreach on December 12, 2023 at the university's VIP lounge, Main Campus.

Chief EPS Rodrigo Sagum, LEB's Standards Development and Regulatory Office Head, led the discussion and consultation along with TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, and School of Law Dean Dr. Jose I. de la Rama Jr.

Also in attendance at the visit are Atty. Mykedox Cuchapin, Marc Andrei Marcos Legal Aid Center director; Prof. Mary Jane Rigor, College of Science dean; Dr. Jhonel Panlilio, College of Business and Accountancy dean; Mr. Mathias Hallerbach, C&C Human Resource Development GmbH representative; and Ms. Kristine Brisenio, EPI Staff.



Thanksgiving 2023

The TSU community capped off the year with a Thanksgiving Party last December 19, 2023 at the TSU Hotel, Lucinda Campus. With the theme "Frozen," prizes were given to the best office performances and employees with best costumes.


 TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY
 SCHOOL OF LAW

CONGRATULATIONS, TSUIAN BAR PASSERS!
2023 BAR EXAMINATIONS
FIRST-TIME TAKERS
65.52%
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE
40.74%
NATIONAL PASSING RATE
36.77%
THE TSU COMMUNITY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU!

TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY

Vision

A globally competitive university recognized for excellence in sciences and emerging technologies.

Mission

TSU shall develop highly competitive and empowered human resources fostering responsive global education, future-proof research culture, inclusive and relevant extension programs, and sustainable production projects.

Core Values

T-ruth in words, action and character
 S-ervice with excellence and compassion
 U-nity in diversity

Quality Policy

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.