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Again, TSU Chorale proves its world-class talent in Tokyo choir competition



Tarlac State University Chorale garnered gold prize diplomas and special awards during the 5th Tokyo International Choir Competition in Harumi, Tokyo, Japan, last July 28-30, 2023.

Under the youth category, the TSU Chorale received a gold prize and the "category third placer" with their

performance titled "Daluyong," a tribute song to the Yolanda victims and survivors that devastated Tacloban, Leyte in 2013.

Another entry, "Leron Leron Sinta," performed under the folklore category, won the gold prize, and was given the audience choice award.

"Daluyong" or "Surge" is a song of

the Philippine Madrigal Singers composed by Joey Vargas and arranged by Ily Matthew Maniano.

"Sir Ily gave [an] insight on how the story of the song will be projected/ presented, like the three parts of the song –

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DOST-PCIEERD, TSU officially launch 'DOST-TSU Aslagan TBI'

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



The DOST-TSU Aslagan, the technology business incubator (TBI) of the Department of Science and Technology and Tarlac State University, was officially launched on July 24, 2023 with a memorandum of agreement signing and marker unveiling at the Alumni

Center, Lucinda Campus.

Funded by the DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD), the DOST-TSU Aslagan TBI, managed by the Office

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TSU is the first state university to sign a MOA with UNHCR, DOJ

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Department of Justice Philippines Office Atty. Maria Ermina (DOJ) through a tripartite memorandum of agreement for the Complementary Pathways (CPath) program on July 21, 2023 at the Engineering AVR.

TSU is the first state university to be part of the CPath program aimed at providing a home for refugees. The CPath program is a safe way for refugees to be welcomed for a lawful stay in a third country and meet their international protection needs.

The MOA signing and capacity building among the three institutions/ agencies will give opportunities to better the refugees' lives, such as studying as scholars and having access to proper health care and other essential services to live a "normal life" in an inclusive space within the university.

According to State Counsel Atty. Paulito "Lito" de Jesus, Assistant Head of DOJ Refugees and Stateless Persons

activities through CPath.

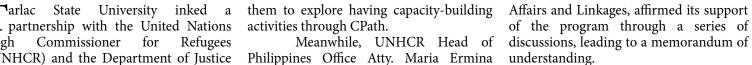
"Iya" Valdeavilla-Gallardo said the program draws inspiration from the bible, arrive at TSU this year to study engineering particularly Leviticus 19:34.

"The scripture is saying that we should be opening our doors to the people who are not like us – the refugees; refugees who do not have any choice but to leave the country of residence because of persecution. They did not have a choice, and the gesture afternoon. being offered by the TSU of opening your doors to the refugees [is a] testament that you are complying with the scripture," Atty. Valdeavilla-Gallardo said in her speech.

She also mentioned the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals tagline, "No one should be left behind," as it is instrumental in the CPath program.

Atty. Valdeavilla-Gallardo added that the commitment does not end in the ceremonial signing, stating that everyone has a role in welcoming the refugees.

In 2021, TSU, through the School Protection Unit, the UNHCR approached of Law and the Office of International



CPath scholars are expected to or IT-related programs.

"After three to four years, maybe we can build a 'hope away from home' for the students [refugees]," said Iris Joy Suministrado-Tayag, UNHCR Protection Associate, during the CPath training in the



TSU, DOST concludes CEST project for IPs

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tndigenous Peoples displayed their I products as outputs of their partnership with Tarlac State University and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) during the culminating activity of the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) project on July 26, 2023 held at the TSU Hotel Function Room in Lucinda Campus.

CEST is a DOST-funded project that started in 2018, where Sen. Joel Villanueva played an essential role in pushing for its budget allocation. It has assisted over 83 municipalities nationwide, of which 13 are from Tarlac Province, and has also reached 39 barangays, where 29 are occupied by IPs.



The "Value Chain Commodity Development through CEST Program for Indigenous People in Tarlac" project is a two-year long-term extension initiative with the San Clemente, Mayantoc, Bamban, and San Jose municipalities that started last July 1, 2021.

"Nung hinandle ko yung CEST noong 2018, this is not a job; this is something you find in your heart, the inyo," Ms. Martinez added. passion to help. Because if you do not have that passion, hindi ka tatagal sa



Community Empowerment through Science and Technology. 'Yung mga pinupuntahang community, uplands, islands - it is part of our jobs. 'Yung ngiti ng mga benepisyaryo, that's the greatest consolation that we get dito sa aming propesyon," CEST Head Ms. Janice Martinez, who represented DOST III Regional Director Dr. Julius Caesar Sicat, said in her speech.

As the CEST aims to build a sustainable and resilient community by reinforcing efforts to alleviate poverty and improve the standard of living of the IPs in selected Tarlac municipalities, Ms. Martinez hopes that the beneficiaries can now stand alone in terms of the livelihood they have started through the project.

"This is a ceremony that we are passing the torch. Ipinapasa na namin 'yung responsibilidad after ng ginawa ng TSU at DOST na ibigay 'yung mga kaalaman at mga trainings, skills, ibigay ang mga kagamitan sa inyo. Ito na po ang pagkakataon upang gamitin natin, pagyamanin natin lahat ng natutunan natin na ibinigay ng DOST at TSU sa

According to DOST PSTC-Tarlac Provincial Director Ms. Karen Dañez,

the beneficiaries were given a business operation guide, a recipe process, a food hygiene guide, and other instructions they might need to review occasionally.

Meanwhile, Remy Tolentino, barangay councilor of San Vicente, Bamban, shared that IPs in their place learned how to process their produce into banana chips and turmeric powder and make empanadas with sweet potatoes. The beneficiaries were also taught how to come up with more artistic bamboo handicrafts like coin banks, tissue holders,



and pencil holders.

According to Office of Extension Services Director Dr. Lea Milan, also the assistant project leader, CEST is the third DOST-funded project implemented in TSU with the help of Dr. Brendalyn Manzano, its project leader, who presented the project outputs of the beneficiaries and municipalities.

San Clemente town mayor Elma Macadamia lauded the DOST project that will become a source of livelihood for the Aetas in their community in Dueg.

"Alam niyo po, napakahirap po ng buhay nila doon. At bilang fifth class

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Again, TSU Chorale proves its world-class talent in Tokyo choir competition

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■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



the calm before the storm, the storm, and the aftermath. Sir [Ily] grew up in Catanduanes, near the sea. He tried to give us a big picture and taught us to imagine the scenario and how to project facial expressions," Joe Gabriel Lagaso, TSU Chorale's section leader and bass, said.

Lagaso said his favorite part was the Sicut Cervus, and Joy. aftermath, where the victims felt devastated, and move forward.

"Kasi 'yung umpisa, bago dumating 'yung storm, ipapakita niya kung paano 'yung emotion o nangyayari. 'Dugo ang kulay ng langit, so nakita raw ng mga fishermen na bago pa dumating 'yung bagyo ay red na 'yung langit, so it means daw may paparating na bagyo," Lagaso said.

"Then 'yung storm mismo na nagkagulo na 'yung mga tao at kung ano ba

'yung nararamdaman ng mga tao that time, paano naging tulala 'yung mga tao at first at paano sila nag-move on at nagpatuloy para doon sa mga naiwan," he added.

Aside from the songs Daluyong and Leron Leron Sinta, the group also performed Atin Cu Pung Singsing, Padayon,

According to Joshua Ysmael yet, they still needed to face the situation Fontanilla, TSU Chorale choir master, they prepared for five months and struggled with the members' schedules. However, this did not hinder them from achieving their goals

"Kasi ayaw ko rin as conductor nila na mapabayaan ang kanilang pag-aaral. Pero one thing na ikinagalak namin ay [ang] naguumapaw ang suporta na ibinigay sa amin ng ating University Administration," Fontanilla said in an interview.

The TSU Chorale underwent

training and mentorship under the renowned Philippine Madrigal Singers their Empowerment and Development of University Choirs (EDUC) program. Madz partnered with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts for their new program on choral arts education.

Fontanilla said Madz' mentorship was a great help in honing their talents since most of their members are beginners with little background in chorale singing.

"Ang isang singer, it takes years talaga bago ma-develop ang boses and wala pa akong isang taon na na-handle ang mga bata since galing lahat sa pandemic. Pero 'yung mentorship ang isa sa nagpadali ng trabaho ko," Fontanilla said.

The youngest TSU Chorale member who competed in Japan is Yves Mecka Lagonilla, Soprano 1, a grade 12 student from the Laboratory School.

"Ito po 'yung pinakauna kong competition tapos international pa po kaya sobrang swerte ko po to be part of them. Kabado po kaming lahat; pero sabi po ni sir Fons 'wag raw kaming kakabahan kasi kapag kinabahan kami, 'di namin mapeperform ng maayos," Lagonilla said in an

The university's chorale dedicated their awards to the TSU community, who supported them from preparation to the competition. They plan to compete with other state universities and colleges in regional and national competitions.

interview.

TSU alumna sits as new university external auditor

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



Tarlac State University's executives and ▲ Administrative Council members welcomed the new state auditor from the Commission on Audit (COA) on July 6, 2023 at the Engineering AVR.

Atty. Meliza Joy P. Manalo, a certified public accountant, finished her bachelor's degree in accountancy in 2010 and her juris doctor in 2019 at TSU.



"TSU is really close to my heart. So, I will do my very best po to help you. Gaya po ng ulit-ulit kong sinasabi that we (COA) are not 'that' agency anymore. Of course, we should pinpoint any mistakes na makikita namin along the audit. Pero po ngayon po kasi, COA po is an enabler of change. So nandito po kami (COA) ngayon, offering a collaborative work with the help of the management, so magtulungan po tayo," she said.

In his welcome message, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco felt proud and hopeful about the new auditor's deployment at TSU.

"As the representative of Tarlac State University being the university president, I am so proud that we'll be working with a person who will play a vital role in ensuring transparency, [re]liability, and the highest standards of financial integrity within our dear institution, Tarlac State University," Pres. Velasco said.

As the new external auditor, Atty. Manalo looks forward to maintaining the university's streak of excellence through the joint efforts of the TSU community.

"TSU feels like home... ang nasa isip ko kasi (is) I want to give back to the school kung saan ako galing. Nakakaproud in a way na makakagawa ako ng something na maganda para sa university natin. Hindi as a lecturer but as an external auditor," she said in an interview with the Office of Public Affairs.

According to Atty. Manalo, getting to her current position has never been easy for her. She hopes to serve as an example for the TSU community as she returns to her alma mater.

"I hope through my life, makita nila sa akin na kapag ikaw nag-strive hard in life, maa-achieve mo 'yung goals mo," she added.

Aside from TSU, Atty. Manalo is also the state auditor of Tarlac Agricultural University. She assumed the position after Ms. Judy Cayabyab retired from government service last May 2023.





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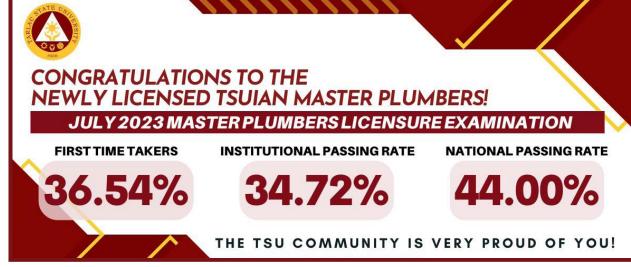
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DOST-PCIEERD, TSU officially launch 'DOST-TSU Aslagan TBI'

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



of Technology Development, Transfer, and Commercialization Office, hopes to create a sustainable community of startups and nano- and micro-entrepreneurs that will help build a more livable society.

The unveiled marker symbolizes the DOST-TSU Aslagan TBI's commitment to fostering innovative solutions for food technology and manufacturing startups, also known as incubatees, highlighting food technology as its niche.

Moreover, the TBI's first batch of incubatees, composed of 15 business startups who passed the application process, signed a MOA with TSU and DOST for a nine-month business incubation program from July 24, 2023 until April 24, 2024.

The startups are expected to progress or "graduate" after nine months as full-fledged businesses or be incorporated TBI's mentorship and sharing of facilities.

DOST-PCIEERD Executive Director Dr. Enrico C. Paringit, the event's keynote speaker, shared the importance and impact of technology business incubators in the community, which would help the business and employment landscape of the Tarlac Province and Region III.

He also discussed the five measures of success for TBIs, namely the number of startups incubated, graduation of startups, level of income, number of investors, and number of jobs generated as its multiplicative effect.

Dr. Paringit congratulated and thanked the university for its commitment to starting and sustaining its TBI.

"It's not easy to put up a technology business incubator. Once you decide to go through it, there must be a sense of dedication; there must be some commitment required. Again, I'd like to thank Dr. Arnold Velasco for committing to this sort of an investment in the future of

innovation in this part of the country," he

He also said TSU has one of the most significant potentials to make innovation happen in this part of the

"You are also a regional hub, kasi nasa gitna kayo ng lahat. You are at the crossroads of those coming from northwestern Luzon, southern Luzon, a corridor going through and from Metro Manila to the northernmost parts. What are the opportunities? What are the possible [technologies] that could help support it? Malaki ang agricultural production sa mga northern part ng Luzon, but they need an area where these products could be processed. They need an area where these products could be handled well," he added.

DOST III Director Dr. Julius sentiments as Dr. Paringit, noting that Tarlac Province has been known as the "melting pot" of Central Luzon.

This (TBI) is really strategic for Tarlac State University to play a pivotal role in the development of this region and this province," he said.

He also shared that TSU has been a "very strong" and longtime partner in food technology initiatives, citing how Office of Extension Services Director Dr. Lea Milan and Center for Food Technology and Research Director Dr. Leah Matias have been the backbone of the Regional Food Safety Team.

"I'm very, very happy that today, ga-graduate na tayo from technical consultancy. Heto na 'yung ating business incubation facility, which we are really looking forward to," he added.

Furthermore, he expressed his commitment to allot funding for the equipment needed by the CFTR aligned with the incubatees' needs.

On behalf of the incubatees, Ms. Marie Tessibeth Cordova of Cordova Farm Products Manufacturing thanked the university, DOST, and DOST-PCIEERD, as she felt hopeful that the government is one in helping small businesses.

"Before I thought it was just government propaganda na ang gobyerno ay may malasakit sa bansa. But with this strategic initiative of DOST [and] TSU, we can feel it. Damang-dama po namin," she

She also expressed that the 15 incubatees have pledged not to look at each other as competitors but as partners who will help each other.

In a message, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco vowed to support the TBI and its future programs.

"I'm very hopeful that with into established companies through the Caesar V. Sicat also shared the same the help of DOST, along with the other stakeholders, partners, and collaborators, and along with the help of God, this will be the start, and there will be more fruitful, impactful, purposeful, and significant programs that will be undertaken with the help of everybody," he said.

> TSÚ started its TBI journey in 2021 through the effort of former University President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari and former Vice President for Research and Extension Services Dr. Armee N. Rosel.

> With the leadership of OTDTC Director Dr. Wilmark J. Ramos and TBI Manager Mr. Aldrex G. Laxamana, the university's TBI underwent two proposal defense stages leading to MOA signing last November 16, 2022, during the 6th TBI Summit.

> Also, TSU's TBI placed seventh out of 43 Philippine universities and colleges in the Higher Education Institution Readiness for Innovation and Technopreneurship-TBI (HEIRIT-TBI) Preparatory Program in June 2022.

TSU holds week-long graduation ceremonies; Ione summa cum laude grad hails from CASS

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Out of 3,318 graduates during the 34th Commencement Exercises, Tarlac State University produced its lone summa cum laude graduate from the College of Arts and Social Sciences.

Trisha Kaye Jimenez from the English Language Studies Department topped the graduating class of TSU this July 2023.

Jimenez addressed the graduating students from CASS and the College of Criminal Justice Education in a valedictory speech, encouraging them to make a difference in society.



"My fellow graduates, today we stand on the threshold of infinite possibilities. But the difference is that we are now armed with knowledge and skills. So, let's make an indelible mark on the world each (sic) in our unique way. The future that awaits us will be full of twists and turns. But let's read it as a captivating voyage," Jimenez said.

Apart from graduating with honors, CASS recognized Jimenez as the Outstanding AB ELS student and the top one academic awardee of the fourth-year AB ELS class. She also belongs to the group that garnered the Best Thesis award.

The graduates received their diplomas from July 17-21, 2023, at the TFBC Worship Center, Tarlac City Government's Kaisa Hall, TSU Alumni Center, and the TSU Gymnasium.

The largest number of graduates is from the College of Education, 988, followed by the College of Business and Accountancy,

Three hundred and thirty-three graduates are from the College of Arts and Social Sciences, 318 from the College of Science, 209 from the College of Engineering and Technology, 193 from the College of Computer Studies, 167 from the College of Public Administration and Governance, 90 from the College of Criminal Justice Education, and 85 from the College of Architecture and Fine Arts.

graced by esteemed speakers, namely Sen. Francis Joseph "Chiz" Escudero; Tarlac City Jason Aguilar as the Holy Mass celebrant.

Mayor Maria Cristina Angeles; Tarlac Third District Representative Noel Rivera; Tarlac Second District Representative Christian Tell Yap; Higher and Technical Education House Committee Chairperson and TSU Regent Hon. Mark Go, represented by Board Member Dennis Norman Go; Kabayan Partylist Representative Hon. Ron Salo, represented by his special assistant, Concepcion town Councilor Calvin Sardia; and DepEd Tarlac City School Governance and Operation Division Chief Dr. Ruth

Meanwhile, Sen. Lorna Regina "Loren" Legarda and Secretary of National Defense Gilberto Teodoro Jr. delivered their commencement speeches via recorded videos.

The baccalaureate service for the The graduation ceremonies were 34th Commencement Exercises was held on July 13 at the TSU Gymnasium with Rev. Fr.





"Quotes from the commencement speakers"



HON. LORNA REGINA "LOREN" LEGARDA

e teachers, the path ahead will never be presented to you in neat hological order. It is filled with challenges and uncertainties; you always stay relevant and ahead of the curve. Remember that a



representative of Hon. Mark Go

House Committee Chairperson on Higher and Technical Education

y. I would like you to take a moment to think of a challen



Hon. Maria Cristina "Cristy" Angeles





Graduating students' highlights

Angeli Cabiltres, BSBA Financial Management

Financial Management graduate Angeli Cabiltres received her diploma in a wheelchair due to her orthopedic disability, which she has struggled with since she

22-year-old Cabiltres said her classmates would ask the professors to hold classes on the ground floor of the CBA building. Since half of her body is paralyzed, it has been difficult for her to go up the stairs to attend classes.

She dedicates her diploma to her parents, who sacrificed a lot to send her to school. She also wishes to establish a business where she can apply her skills and learning.

"Laban lang. 'Wag iisipin ang sasabihin ng ibang tao. Laban lang; 'wag mong pakikinggan 'yung sasabihin nila na hindi ka makaka-graduate dahil ganyan ang kalagayan mo," Cabiltres said in an interview.

Steven Eyecenth Jasmin Quiballo, cum laude, **BS Hospitality Management**

Steven Eyecenth Jasmin Quiballo holds a frame with a photo of his deceased father as he goes up the stage to be awarded his diploma and medal.

Quiballo, a BS Hospitality Management cum laude graduate, considers himself his family's breadwinner who studies in the daytime and works as a barista at night. He is the eldest in a brood of four.

The 23-year-old embraced much responsibility when his father, a tricycle driver, dealt with complications in kidney, lungs, and other body parts. So, he served as a crew in an international restaurant for a year instead of immediately entering college.

Although struggling financially, Quiballo never doubted his ability to extend his generosity by sharing his skills and talents as a Youth of Hope and Charity Organization volunteer.

He also served as a representative of the TSU Hospitality and Tourism Management Society.

His father often asked why he always accompanied him on stage during recognition programs instead of his mother. He then asked Steven to take his mother the next time he receives an award, which he promised to do. Little did he know that his father would no longer make it to his college graduation.

Lauren Jascha Tolentino, cum laude, Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Visual Communication

CAFA class valedictorian Lauren Jascha Tolentino earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Visual Communication degree as cum laude. He represented the university in several prestigious national and international painting contests.

Tolentino is also active in expressing his love for the Kapampangan culture. He offered students free Kulitan or the old Kapampangan script in some university-wide and college-based activities. He also promotes the use and love of the Amanung Sisuan or the Kapampangan mother tongue.

He is the youngest artist to be part of the book "Matenakan Kapampangan: The Art and the Artists of Pampanga" and often displays his works in some art exhibits in Pampanga and Tarlac. Tolentino said he was honed by his professors, who served as his mentors and critics.

This Kapampangan student travels from Porac, Pampanga to Tarlac City just to attend classes, noting that he enjoys and expresses his art while learning at Tarlac State University.

Graduating students' highlights

Efraim Simon, cum laude, BSEd Filipino

TSU driver Edgar Simon, or Kuya Edgar to the TSU employees, who recently battled with cancer in 2022, beamed with joy when his son, Efraim Simon, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Filipino degree.

Efraim is the youngest child of Kuya Edgar. His firstborn is in the military, while his second child is a Psychology graduate and is now working in a BPO company in Tarlac City.

"Tay, pagaling ka ah. Aakyat ka pa sa stage sa graduation ko," Efraim promised to his father back when he started his cancer treatment. Efraim held on to his faith and strived hard to achieve what he promised his father – to become a professional teacher someday.

Kuya Edgar suffered stage 3 nasopharyngeal cancer in 2021, testing their faith and challenging their family. He returned strong after seven months of treatment and recuperation and continued to fight for his family.

Bea Bianca Mangila, cum laude, **BSBA Financial Management**

Bea Bianca Mangila, who graduated Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Financial Management, cum laude, received her diploma with her father, Benigno Mangila.

Manong Benny is one of the maintenance personnel assigned to the College of Public Administration and Governance's building. He prays and works hard for his children to get a degree and land good job opportunities. He described his daughter as a kind and helpful person.



"Quotes from the commencement speakers"



HON. NOEL "BONG" RIVERA



Hon. Francis Joseph "Chiz" Escudero

ate Committee Chairperson on Higher, Techn





2 SOL graduates finish Juris Doctor as cum laude; LEB chairperson graces graduation ceremonies as guest speaker

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



The Tarlac State University School of Law (TSU SOL) produced its first cum laude graduates who completed their Juris Doctor during the 34th Commencement Exercises held on July 13, 2023, at the TSU Alumni Center in Lucinda Campus.

Legal Education Chairperson Hon. Anna Marie Melanie Trinidad was the guest of honor and speaker, who shared some advice on preparing for the upcoming Bar Examination in September 2023 and inspired future lawyers with her experiences in legal services.

Danielle Mangune, valedictorian, and Vivien Claire Coleen Yalung, salutatorian, are the honor graduates of the Juris Doctor Class of 2023 Batch Magbalaue.

Aside from topping the class, Mangune also received special awards, namely the Justice Jose C. Dela Rama Law Foundation Inc. Scholarship Award, Brenda Sabenit Scholarship, and Academic Excellence Award.



In an interview, the batch valedictorian emphasized that entering law school is not a walk in the park, and it was her determination that carried her throughout the journey.

"My only mindset was only to Board survive because that's the only way to go through law school. It's grit. It's always been grit, and as I embark on my Bar review season, it's still the same — grit, survival, fake it till you make it," she said.

> Like Mangune, Yalung also reaped several recognitions, including the MAMLAO Medal Award, Leadership



Award, AGAPE Brotherhood Scholarship Award, Legal Aid Service Award Service), (Community Academic Excellence Award, and the Law Debaters Special Award.

She expressed her joy and gratitude as one of the first graduates in SOL who achieved Latin honors.

"It's very overwhelming. Finally, we're here. Lahat naman kami deserve

namin ng Latin honors, pero it's a privilege to be one of the very first cum laudes in the School of Law. And we will strive our best to make the school and the university proud," Yalung said.

Moreover, Office Technology Transfer, Development, and Commercialization (OTDTC) director Dr. Wilmark J. Ramos was also one of the graduates, finishing the degree as top 4 of their batch. Dr. Ramos also received the Law Debaters Special Award.

Former SOL dean Atty. Leslie N. Taruc-Orencia gave the Dean Leslie N. Taruc-Orencia Scholarship Award to Daniel Canlas, the Magbalaue Batch top 3.



Other awardees are Alexander Garcia, the Best Litigators Award recipient, and Ruby Rose Vinluan, Brenda Virtudazo, Caezar Cachero, Ricardo Mariano, and Andrey Bjon Castaneda, Legal Aid Service awardees.



TSU Lab School holds 1st graduation ceremonies; all 67 graduates awarded with honors

David Ande Gene P. Pabon



ll 67 grade 12 students of the Tarlac A State University Laboratory School (TSU LS) under the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) strand graduated with honors on July 14, 2023 at the TSU Gymnasium, Main Campus.

This is the pioneering LS batch after the secondary school's reinstitution in 2021.

Fifteen graduates were awarded "with high honors," while the remaining received their SHS diplomas "with

James Karl Lagman, a "with high honors" recipient with the highest general weighted average, delivered his words of gratitude and shared the changes he help you reach your dreams," he said. applied that helped him become a topperforming student.

"I wanted to make my parents proud by being an achiever in academics.



[So] I started to change my lifestyle. I (father) po lagi 'yung nagsasabit sa akin. created a schedule by spending time Kaya dinala ko po siya (picture) sa special reviewing, and most of all, I gave up my passion, which is gaming, so [that] I can said. focus on my studies," Lagman said.

Bildan, the guest of honor and speaker, shared his academic journey as a TSU LS alumnus from batch 2012 and some pointers on setting goals toward excellence and resiliency.

"When you have a personal goal, you have that internal motivation to achieve it. Meron kang accountability sa sarili mo na may gusto kang ma-achieve. Therefore, this internal motivation will translate into actions that will eventually

Dr. Bildan currently works as a general physician here in Tarlac. He ranked tenth in the 2022 Physician Licensure Exam and second in the February 2017 Medical Technologist Licensure Exam.

Meanwhile, a graduate tearfully received her diploma and medal while holding the picture of her deceased father, who passed away in 2019 due to asthma.

In an interview, Pauline Salak mentioned this is the first time she will receive an academic distinction without her father.

"Noong elementary po ako, siya

na araw po na 'to lalo na graduation," she

She also shared that being a Similarly, Dr. David Marco A. tricycle driver has never been a hurdle for his father in sending his children to school.

> "Siya (father) po 'yung inspirasyon namin, kasi tatlo po kaming magkakapatid tapos napatapos na po nila



(parents) si ate ng college kahit po ang trabaho niya ay tricycle driver and super proud ko po doon," she added.

In 2022, Republic Act No. 11695, or the new TSU charter, lapsed into a law governing the university's operations.

Among the amended provisions is the establishment of the TSU LS under the College of Education.

The TSU LS aims to continue the tradition of excellence in Central Luzon.

TSU JFINEX proves outstanding performance in a national competition

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat



After being named the College of Business and Accountancy's outstanding student organization, Tarlac State University's Junior Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (TSU-JFINEX) was hailed as the Best Local Finance Organization by the Junior Confederation of Finance Associations-Philippines last July 8, 2023, in Pasig City.

The TSU-JFINEX bested around 200 JCFAP-recognized local finance organizations in the Philippines for exhibiting "organizational excellence, leadership, and eagerness to impart educational events to the finance community," as stated in the plaque they received.

financial management (FM) students also brought home the Top 2 Helping Hand Award in line with its completed Student Extension Experience (SEE) projects centered on feeding programs and financial and numerical literacy lectures with elementary students in the province.

Meanwhile, TSU-JFINEX president Ingrid S. Pabona, a graduating BSBA FM student, won the Top 1 Outstanding Finance Student Leader Award as she steered the organization in contributing to the JCFAP's vision and mission.

Pabona was also awarded as the university's Outstanding Student Leader under The college-based organization of the Student Organization category in the 2023

Araw ng Parangal organized by the Office of Student Affairs and Services.

In a Facebook post, TSU-JFINEX adviser Prof. Christine Janelle M. Santiago congratulated the organization for bagging group awards and individual recognition.

"Congratulations, Junior Financial Executives TSU Chapter, on your incredible, exceptional milestone. Your success is an inspiration, and I am [honored] to be a part of your successful journey. I'm in awe of your dedication, humility, determination, hard work, passion to serve, and love for the community. I always knew you could do it. I am incredibly proud of you," she said.

TSU, DOST concludes CEST project

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



municipality, hindi po namin kayang i-sustain ang kanilang hanapbuhay. Pero dahil sa mga trainings na ibinibigay ng DOST kasama po ng TSU team, talagang ma-alleviate po ang kanilang pamumuhay. Sana, mga kaibigang mga IPs, sana ipagpatuloy natin. Hindi ngayon lang magpupursige, sana forever niyo na itong gagamitin," Mayor Macadamia said.

In a statement of commitment to sustaining CEST, Mayantoc town councilor Dario Jose also commended and thanked DOST and TSU, who taught them how to pulverize turmeric, which

they could sell in the market.

"Dati pinapabayaan lang po namin 'yung turmeric dahil hindi po namin itinatanim 'yan. Kusa po 'yang tumutubo sa kabundukan. 'Di po namin pinapasnin. Pero ngayon, ang mga katutubo po ng Mayantoc, pinag-aagawan po nilang bunutin dahil nakita po nila 'yung kahalagahan at teknolohiya na aming gagawin po sa aming pamumuhay araw-araw," Jose said.

Representing Vice President for Research Development and Extension Dr. Murphy Mohammed, Dr. Cynthia

Quiambao, Center for Community and Local Governance Studies and Policy Development Director, also extended her gratitude for the opportunity to help uplift a part of the IPs' lives.

"Hindi po suporta lang ang ibinibigay namin sa inyo kundi maging ang aming taos pusong pasasalamat kasi po naging bahagi po kayo ng aming pagkahinog bilang isang mamamayang Pilipino... Tarlac State University will continue to commit, to engage, and to sustain as your team partner," Dr. Quiambao said as a message of support.

EDITORIAL

Making #HERstory



Why does the Philippines celebrate women even if it is not yet time for the Women's Month celebration? Why do the hashtags #AbanteBabae and #HERstory surface all over the web when, in fact, March has already passed? After several decades of the feminist movement, is this one of the manifestations of the country's genuine acceptance of women's roles and contributions in society? U ltimately, the recent World Cup victory of the national women's football and softball teams laid the ground for this collective achievement highlighting "girl power."

It has always been a long shot for the "Azkals" or the men's national football team to go past the ASEAN football landscape and cross over to the prestigious FIFA World Cup. With a wide range of excellent groups worldwide and within Asia, bringing the Philippine flag to the global landscape is like looking for a needle in a haystack. Hence, when the "Filipinas," or the women's national football team, qualified for the Women's World Cup after its penalty shootout win over Taiwan, the Philippines felt immense pride over the ladies' victory and recognized the triumph as a ticket for women for a national celebration.

when the Filipinas debuted in the 2023 World Cup. And when Filipinas' striker Sarina Bolden clinched the country's first goal, ushering the Philippines to snatch the elusive three-point win against host country New Zealand, the Filipinos were all the more triumphant as if the World Cup trophy was on its way home to the Philippine archipelago. It was never in the Filipinos' wildest dreams that the country's football team, let alone a women's team. The 1-0 score was enough to plant the country's flag in football team. history; in a country dominated by basketball fans.

Hours after the Filipinas' win, the news broke about the RP Blu Girls, or the Philippines' softball team, as it bested New Zealand and Italy at the 17th Women's Softball World Cup in Italy. Again, the country celebrated another set of wins in an international league for an underrated Filipino sport. This outpour of women's achievements fueled the use of the #AbanteBabae and #HERstory hashtags all over the web, with most news outlets and Facebook pages composing their pieces to seal the attained successes.

The trending hashtags outside The country was over the moon Women's Month posed a moment of done.

reflection if the feminist movement is still in the works - do women really need to go all this way to prove their worth and show that they could contribute to the Philippines' stature? The Filipinas succumbed to Norway in its final game under Group A, leaving some disappointed supporters and some grateful lovers of the game. Meanwhile, the Filipinas' homecoming on August Philippine team would outwit a strong 2, dubbed as one fit for heroes, did not make so much noise. The lady athletes even wished for more support for the

> After decades and decades of the feminist movement, it is apparent that women's clamor for equal footing has leveled up. Still, more work must be done by men and women who believe in gender equity. Celebrating women's accomplishments need not be labeled "HERstory" anymore the next time a female attains a milestone. Women need not be celebrated anymore on a specific month but for a whole year. Soon, it is hoped that women's contributions will be seen as a Filipino's input to a long list of historic feats of other fellow Filipinos, all without a pressing need to emphasize that a woman has done what must be

TSU connects with MSMEs in BizConEx 2023

■ Jhayvi C. Dizon [OUES]



Tarlac State University, through the Transfer, **▲** Office of the Vice President for Research Development and Extension, exhibitors and partners. participated in the Tarlac Business which aims to provide technical and and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

Conceptualized by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Tarlac (PCCI) to boost business resilience among Tarlac MSMEs, the BizConEx 2023 featured thriving local businesses



and products and capacitated them through mentoring, networking, and consultancy sessions.

Given TSU's participation, Vice President for Research Development and Extension Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed endorsed the university's various programs and services under the Office of University approval, among others. Extension Services (OUES), Center for Food Technology and Research (CFTR), and Office of Technology Development,

and (OTDTC) during the plenary session for

"The Tarlac State University Conference and Expo (BizConEx) 2023, is open to assist, in all its capabilities, various MSMEs in improving their the Philippine Chamber of Commerce MSMEs. and Industry-Tarlac Chapter for your been invited to such a highly esteemed conference," Dr. Mohammed mentioned in his plenary talk.

> During the three-day event, TSU offered MSMEs professional consultancy on financial management, business operations, food and drug safety, and research development, among others.

> Citing TSU's role in the conference's success, OUES director Dr. Lea B. Milan was a mentor during the Go Negosyo's Mentorship, Money and Market On Wheels. The said undertaking aimed to connect budding entrepreneurs to seasoned business leaders.

Meanwhile, CFTR director Dr. Leah T. Matias catered to various food entrepreneurs regarding concerns and queries, such as assessment of Good Manufacturing Practices, research and development on food shelf life, and FDA

The OTDTC and the College of Business and Accountancy took the opportunity to connect and discuss a prospective partnership with Reneliz

Commercialization Enterprises, a Tarlac-based MSME, through seminars and training or knowledge transfer.

Mr. Maiko Pascual, PCCI-Tarlac Chapter Vice President for External Affairs, shared that TSU's role in the professional assistance to micro-, small, business ventures. We would like to thank conference was pivotal, especially for the

> "I believe I speak on behalf of trust [in] our humble institution, having PCCI Tarlac when I say TSU continues to cement itself as an ever-so-valuable pillar in the SME development ecosystem of the province. With their participation in Tarlac BizConEx 2023 and other SMEDC activities, TSU tirelessly commodifies and makes available to the community the fruits of the academe's labor," Pascual said.

"This is largely beneficial for the many enterprises and cooperatives in Tarlac and takes these economic players a step further towards growth and stability. More than grateful, PCCI Tarlac is proud to work alongside TSU in achieving a business-strong province," he added.



148 permanent and contractual non-teaching **TSU personnel promoted**

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



ne hundred and forty-eight (148) Opermanent and contractual nonteaching personnel took oath on July 5, 2023, at the Alumni Center in Lucinda by the Personnel Selection Board (PSB) Campus.

Of the 148 positions, 114 are renewed contractual employees, two newly appointed contractual personnel, and one reemployment of appointment.

higher salary grades, and 11 were given new appointments under the Revised Organizational Structure and Staffing Standards for SUCs (ROSSS).

TSU President Dr. Arnold Velasco presided over the TSU employees' oathtaking and delivered an inspirational message.

"Magtulungan po tayo. Let's work as one. Hindi po 'yan kanya-kanya. Together, we will rise. Walang mahirap sa TSU na nagkakaisa. We are not perfect. Ang kahinaan po natin, sa tulong ng iba, ay magiging malakas. Magiging maayos po

ang pagtakbo ng [Tarlac State University]," Pres. Velasco said.

Among the employees selected for a permanent plantilla under ROSSS is Ms. Maria Adelaida Calayag, a news writer and technical staff from the Office of Public Affairs since 2018.

In an interview, Calayag's journey Meanwhile, 20 were promoted to in getting a plantilla position was not a "walk in the park."

> "The application for this prestigious position is very challenging since most of the applicants we encountered are skilled and versatile. It was quite a long wait for me, who waited for five years to get promoted even after I passed the Civil Service Exam in 2019 and started my graduate school in 2021," she

"It's a good thing that the OPA Director taught us how to compile our certificates from seminars and training that we can use as our credentials like in

this application," Calayag added.

Moreover, she shared that the promotion with a salary increase would help her pay for her graduate school expenses. The added confidence of having a permanent and contractual position would also mean more opportunities for her and her fellow promoted colleagues to serve the university in the future.

"This plantilla position can help me save money in preparation for my tuition and dissertation expenses. Not only that, but this will make us more disciplined and favor our desire to enhance our capabilities and enroll in various trainings that the university will fund. These permanent non-teaching positions can make employees stay; this will enable us to mentor incoming staff and better serve the university through our outputs,"

The ROSSS was approved by the Congress in 2018 and ratified by former President Rodrigo Duterte in 2019.



TSU holds annual career fair for July 2023 graduates

■ David Ande Gene P. Pabon



To prepare the new graduates of Tarlac State University in their field of profession, the Career Education and Job Placement Services (CEJPS) Unit under the Office of Student Affairs and Services conducted the Career Fair 2023on July Tarlac City.

graduates ensures that they will have an opportunity to start their professional university.

With the help of the university's 42 partner companies, the graduates employment.

The CEJPS advised the fresh grads documents beforehand for their seamless submission of requirements to the attending

HR personnel of participating companies.

CEJPS Section Head Dr. Nina Valentin said that career fairs allow students to experience actual job interviews and pay attention to essential details that the participating companies and endorsed the HR personnel might notice, like body 27, 2023 at the Kaisa Conventional Hall in posture and gestures, manner of dressing, The annual career fair for fresh graduates will have a higher chance of getting hired by their desired companies.

TSU President Dr. Arnold careers as soon as they step out of the E. Velasco extended his support by encouraging the graduates to prioritize Social Security System (SSS), PhilHealth, job opportunities that are connected to their degrees. He also reminded them to experienced being interviewed for possible be confident during the job application (DTI), Philippine Statistics Authority

"You are trained with specialization to prepare their credentials and supporting aligned to your different courses. You should be applying sa mga trabaho na you were trained for by your professors. Sabi

ni Ernie Baron, 'Knowledge is power,' pero dadagdagan natin this morning; gawin nating 'self-confidence is power," he said.

Moreover, Pres. Velasco thanked the TSU graduates.

"Personally, sinasabi ko na ang and communication skills. By doing so, mga graduates ng Tarlac State University ay magagaling, marurunong, at masisipag na magiging asset po sa inyong mga company," he added.

> Government agencies, namely the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (PSA), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) were also present to process applicants' requests and pertinent documents for future employment.

Participating Companies		
Fmeal Inc.	Fibre Sort ing Inc.	Charoen Pokphand Foods Philippines Corporation
SM Supermalls	Waltermart Supermarket	Jelfarm Fresh Produce Enterprise
Tarlac Mac Enterprise Inc. (1st Megasaver)	International Wiring Systems (Phils) Corp.	AC Sacred Heart Medical Center
Pines International Academy	Iqor	ASA Philippines
Fifth Discipline Packaging Paper Inc.	Dbag Facilities Management, Inc.	Fiesta Communities Inc.
San Miguel Brewery Inc.	Multi Ply Paper Ventures, Inc.	Holy Trinity Medical Center Inc.
Hann Resorts	Yokohama Tire Philippines Inc.	Interconnected Business Proper
Alorica Philippines Inc.	Tarlac A+ Lending Co., Inc.	Ace Hardware
Leslie Corp	Julius K. Quiambao Medical & Welness Center	Onsemi
Prasad Seeds Philippines Inc.	RCS Eastern Intertrade Corp	Sanyo Denki Philippines Inc.
Cloudstaff Philippines Inc.	Tulay Sa Pag Unlad Inc. (TSPI)	Cindys Bakery
Lausgroup of Companies	Advance Credit Card Bank	Foundever – Tarlac (Formerly Known as Sitel)
Brookside Group of Companies	Manmovers Specialists	Manmover
Sutherland	Support Ninja	

TSU lands 2nd, 3rd place in all-Tarlac futsal tourney

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

Two teams from Tarlac State University ■ unleashed the TSUian grit and passion for sports as they snatched the second and third-place trophies in the 1st All-Tarlac Futsal Tournament organized by the Capi FC and Tarlac Unified Football and Futsal Club elast July 9, 2023 at the Brgy. San Roque covered court.

Players and trainees of the TSU Men's Football Team were divided into two groups, which topped the tournament's two brackets.

Both teams from TSU met during the crossover as TSU Team A ranked first in Bracket B, while TSU Team B landed top two in Bracket A.

Advancing to the finals after an intricate shootout round, Team A fought for the championship trophy against Capi FC, ending with a score of 4-2.

Despite the loss, Team A captain Federic Guerrero was still pleased with the performance of the two TSU teams, highlighting the "connection and chemistry" of the athletes as their strengths.

"Nagbunga po 'yung ilang araw na pagte-training namin. Pinush po kami ng mga coaches namin para mas maging maganda performance namin... Nag-enjoy naman po kami and nakapag-laro po lahat, and proud po ako sa nakuha namin na second and third place," he said.

Meanwhile, Team B grabbed third place after besting the Muskada FC from Moncada town of Tarlac, 3-1.

Aside from the group trophies, Team B captain Vien Joefry Gonzales clinched the Best Defender award with 33 defensive stops.

"First of all, thank you po kay God sa award (Best Defender) na binigay niya dahil unexpected po talaga. 'Di ko akalain na isa po ako sa mapipili. Basta ang sa



100% ko to perform better and isapuso po 'yung laro," Gonzales said in an interview, referring to his individual award.

"And thank you po sa mga teammates ko sa tiwala na binigay nila sa akin. especially po to Sir Franc [Juanatas] and Coach/Ma'am Jazzel [Manabat] sa support and tiwala na binigay nyo po sa akin at sa amin," he added.

Both Guerrero and Gonzales vowed to improve their perceived weaknesses in preparation for the SCUAA III Olympics.

Mr. Franc Lewis Juanatas, TSU Men's Football Team assistant coach, was also impressed with how the groups played from the eliminations to the championship since he also played as the first goalkeeper of Team B.

"Puso sa paglalaro ang ipinakita ng dalawang grupo. Pinakita at pinatunayan nila kung gaano nila kamahal ang larong

Juanatas also thanked Coach Gell Villanueva, the team's trainer, and Dr. Ligaya Gina Salangsang, TSU Sports Head, for always supporting the team.

"Gusto rin naming pasalamatan ni Ma'am Jazzel si Coach Gell sa pagguide sa amin during the training and sa pagbibigay ng drills na gagawin namin, pati sa walang sawang suporta at pagmamahal ni Ma'am Gina sa football team, "he added.

According to Mr. Angelo Simbol, one of the organizers, the 1st All-Tarlac Futsal Tournament is an avenue to hone and unleash the skills of futsal players here in Tarlac before competing against teams outside of the province.

He added that the tournament's proceeds from the registration fees will be used to purchase new balls, training equipment, and bibs for a grassroots futsal program for Tarlaqueño youth.

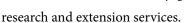






USM benchmarks CET, CCS

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag





Tarlac State University welcomed the ■ University of Southern Mindanao (USM) for a benchmarking activity concerning the operations and best practices of the College of Engineering and Technology and College of Computer Studies on June 20, 2023 at the Engineering AVR.

USM officials, led by Dr. Francisco Gil Garcia, learned about TSU's infrastructure, quality assurance, flexible learning, student and faculty mobility, and A. Dungo read TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco's message to USM. He thanked the delegates for considering TSU in its benchmarking activities.

Tarlac State University in your team's list of places to visit. I hope you'll be familiar with our best practices and noteworthy performance in the CET and the CCS programs. Your confidence in our abilities and dedication to ongoing growth will motivate us to advance and enhance our procedures," the message read.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg was also present to welcome the guests.

The USM delegation is composed of Vice President for Administration and Finance Dr. Eimer M. Estilloso, Kidapawan City Campus Chancellor Dr. Ronielyn F. Pinsoy, College of Arts and Social Sciences

Dean Prof. Marcos F. Monderin, and Chief Executive Secretary Dr. Ronnie Administrative Officer Ms. Quenielyn L. Durendes.

Meanwhile, the TSU officials who answered the queries during the open forum are CCS Dean Dr. Alvincent E. Danganan, "We appreciate you for including CET Dean Dr. Marie Wendy J. Frany, CET Associate Dean Engr. Susan Nina A. Sapad, Mechanical Engineering Chairperson Engr. Adam Rombaoa, and International Affairs and Linkages Office OIC Head for Academic Programs Dr. Marlon V. Gamido.





ARLAC 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.