



Shamag



BSU Class 2022 Attends F2F Graduation; 318 top

Benguet State University (BSU) has proclaimed a record high of graduates with Latin honors during the first face-to-face graduation ceremony after two years of holding virtual graduation ceremonies due to the COVID-19 situation on July 7-8, 2022 at the BSU gymnasium. Among the 1,502 confirmed graduates, the University produced 318 graduates with Latin honors. Thirty-one graduated magna cum laude, and 287 were cum laude.

Based on the data from the Office of the University Registrar, the University recorded over 3000% increase in the number of graduates with Latin honors compared to 2021 with a lone honor graduate. In 2020, BSU listed seven honor graduates, and 84 in 2019.

With the theme, “BSU C.A.R.E.S. 97! Celebrating Achievement that Ratifies and Enables Sustainability,” the University’s 97th Commencement

Continued on page 4

BSU Records Highest Number of Acad Achievers Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

More than 2,000 Benguet State University (BSU) academic achievers were recognized during the face-to-face Student Achievement and Recognition Program on July 4-5, 2022 at the university gymnasium. It is the highest number of academic achievers that the University has recorded since 2018. Data from the Office of the University Registrar showed that BSU

recorded a constant increase in the number of academic achievers, with 332 in 2018, 390 in 2019, 593 in 2020, and 1,496 in 2021.

Along with the academic achievers, the University also awarded the 2022 year’s best students and University Student Research Congress winners during the program.

Academic achievers are students who obtained an average of 1.75 or higher from the second semester of the school year 2020-2021 to the first semester of the school year 2021-2022 while the 2022 year’s best awardees are students who excelled in different fields of academics and extracurricular activities.

Continued on page 10

BSU Hosts 2022 ASCU-SN Summer Olympics

More than 3,000 delegates of the 21 State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) from regions 1, 2, 3, and the Cordillera Administrative Region participated in the Association of State Colleges and Universities -Solid North (ASCU-SN) Summer Olympics held at Benguet State University on July 20-23, 2022. BSU hosted the event for a record-breaking fourth time, which was re-opened after two years since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Continued on page 13

BSU Surpasses Two Board Exams' National Passing Rates

Benguet State University has surpassed the national ratings in the recently conducted Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LEPT) and the Guidance Counselor Licensure Examination conducted by the Philippine Regulation Commission.

In June 2022, BSU achieved a passing rate of 75% at the elementary level exceeding the national passing rate of 50.62%. It also garnered a 76.92% passing rate at the secondary level surpassing the national passing

Continued on page 11

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITORS

Adamson Nga-eo Labi
Alma D. Santiago

LAY-OUT

Onofre Jr. Galleo Dacocot

WRITERS

Elsie Maammo Bawayan
Prince Jheruel Dapuyen Gadang
Onofre Jr. Galleo Dacocot
James Palaci Aquino
Cherry Ann Benayong Napiloy

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Prince Jheruel Dapuyen Gadang
Elsie Maammo Bawayan
Onofre Galleo Dacocot Jr.
James Palaci Aquino
Cherry Ann Benayong Napiloy

CONTRIBUTORS

Janet C. Aluyen
Carmen C. Malabong
Valery B. Bugtong
Joshua Catiyan
Joanna Escote
Human Resource Development Office
College of Teacher Education

CIRCULATION STAFF

UPAO Staff
Records Office

CONSULTANTS

Felipe Salaing Comila
Samuel Salay Poliden
Norma Palaci Banania
Allan Casaldo Sacpa
Johnny Guzman Dati, Sr.

First published in 1996, *Shamag* is one of the official publications of Benguet State University. It was named after the Ibaloi word for news. It is a medium for employees, clients, students and partners to disseminate their programs, achievements and advocacies. *Shamag* aims to help the University goals in developing proactive programs for quality service by developing effective and efficient innovative platforms for cascading information and strengthening public-private partnerships.

Articles, pictures, comments, suggestions, reactions, and letters to the Editor may be submitted to the Editor or Associate Editor of *Shamag* at the Benguet State University Public Affairs Office through (074) 422-2127 loc. 69 or through email at publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph.

Submitted materials will be acknowledged but Editors will determine whether materials submitted for publication shall be printed based on the Filipino Journalist's Code of Ethics. The editors also reserve the right to edit submitted materials for mechanics. The *Shamag* is guided by the journalistic standards of the Associated Press. Any opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the *Shamag* staff.

VISION

BSU as an International Smart University engendering graduates to walk the intergenerational highways.

MISSION

BSU CARES to: Challenge innovation, Advance technology and facility, Revitalize administration, Engender partnership, and Serve intergenerational role.

DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Goal I. Challenge Innovation in the four fold functions of the University

Objectives:

1. **(Instruction)** To provide quality education responsive to the needs of time;
2. **(Research)** To enhance research productivity contributing to sustainable development;
3. **(Extension)** To disseminate relevant research outputs and other scholarly activities consistent with BSU's mandated programs;
4. **(Production)** To promote sustainable and appropriate resource generation strategies for the implementation of development plans; and
5. **(Administration)** To advocate for resource management and effective energy efficiency in addressing the demands of climate change.

Goal II. Advance Technology and Facility by shaping the University become responsive to modern needs.

Objectives:

1. **(Instruction)** To use information and communication technology learning resources to sustain and enhance quality of alternative teaching - learning continuity endeavors;
2. **(Research and Extension)** To upgrade facilities and enable researchers/extensionists to conduct activities using specialized facilities;
3. **(Production)** To acquire and upgrade state-of-the-art facilities in the projects innovation; and
4. **(Administration)** To upgrade facilities and establish modern physical infrastructures.

Goal III. Revitalize Administration by harmonizing performance monitoring, information, and reporting systems.

Objectives:

1. To elevate the BSU PRIME-HRM to a level of excellence for good governance and efficient public service;
2. To reinforce transparency, integrity, and objectivity in the delivery of service;
3. To regenerate instruction, research, extension, production, linkages, governance, management, and policies; and
4. To streamline operations to be efficient, effective, and responsive to challenges and changes.

Goal IV. Engender Partnership by proactively strengthening linkages

Objectives:

1. **(Instruction)** To establish academic partnerships with local, regional, national, and international institutions providing educational opportunities for faculty, staff, and students;
2. **(Research)** To increase and sustain university relations with academe, industries, GOs, NGOs, and LGUs for research funding;
3. **(Extension)** To increase and sustain partnership with academe, LGUs, NGOs, Industries, and others; and
4. **(Production)** To comply with existing laws, policies and other requirements.

Goal V. Serve Intergenerational Role by revitalizing the Spiritual, Physical, Economical, Cultural, Intellectual, Emotional, and Social (S.P.E.C.I.E.S.) state.

Objectives:

1. To offer programs that embody social, cultural, economic and developmental needs both for local and global markets;
2. To champion local culture and languages in the University context through research, extension, and academic programs;
3. To document best practices of the University.

AdCo Action No. 03, s.2021

Quality Policy

Benguet State University is continuously committed to improve its Quality Management System, satisfy requirements of relevant interested parties and provide excellent service for quality education and innovative research aligned with sustainable development and client satisfaction.

Board Resolution # 2847 S.2016

BSU is the 1st SUC to Ink MOU with the PNVSCA



Management Conducts Data Privacy Awareness Seminars

Photo by Human Resource Development Office

As part of the University's compliance with the National Privacy Commission, the Benguet State University through the Human Resource Development Office (HRDO) and University Data Protection Office (UDPO) conducted the annual awareness seminar on Data Privacy titled "SAFEguarding PRivacy And building CuLTure of respect In the CommunitiEs (SAFE PRACTICE): Data Privacy Updates" in the three campuses of the University. The first leg of the caravan was in Bokod Campus on July 26, 2022, followed by La Trinidad Campus on August 2-3, 2022, and finally, at Buguias Campus on August 16, 2022. The participants were the teaching and non-teaching employees of the University. The University collects personal

data from employees, students, clients, and suppliers, hence, Data Protection Officer (DPO) Atty. Matias C. Angiwan Jr. gave an update on the requirements of the Data Privacy Law.

The seminar aims to increase awareness of Republic Act No. 10173, also known as the Data Privacy Act, a law that seeks to protect all forms of information, be it private, personal, or sensitive. It is meant to cover both natural and juridical persons involved in the processing of personal information while ensuring the free flow of information to promote innovation and growth.

Atty. Angiwan Jr., highlighted the Dos and Don'ts in processing personal

Continued on page 4

3-storey Building Turned Over to CIS

The College of Information Sciences (CIS) family was welcomed to its new home during the Turnover Ceremony of the newly constructed CIS building on August 25, 2022, at the BSU La Trinidad Campus.

Witnessed by the CIS Executive Committee, M.S. Castillo Construction Representative Mhel S. Castillo and CIS Dean Dr. Russell Dolendo signed the formal turnover of the Php 50-million infrastructure project which will be utilized

Continued on page 5



The Benguet State University, headed by University President Felipe Salaing Comila and the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency, led by PNVSCA Executive Director Donald James D. Gawe, accompanied by Volunteer Service Officer II Kamille May H. Atienza, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the aim to build a partnership between BSU and PNVSCA in mainstreaming and advocating volunteerism in the academe.

BSU is the first State University in the Philippines to sign MOU with the PNVSCA in which BSU shall assist PNVSCA in promoting its advocacy and goal by designating a volunteerism office, engaging student organizations and alumni associations on volunteerism, collaborating with PNVSCA in building volunteerism statistics, and providing technical assistance in promoting volunteerism in local governance.

Meanwhile, PNVSCA will be responsible for providing technical assistance on volunteerism-related initiatives to further capacitate the BSUs' volunteer unit, providing relevant information and materials for the promotion and advocacy of volunteerism, and collaborating with BSU in the implementation of volunteerism-related activities.

President Comila designated NSTP Director Dr. Bryant O. Botengan as the Volunteerism Focal Person (VFP) for the said MOU.// PJGadang



BSU Holds Thanksgiving Prayer in the Aftermath of 7.0 July 27 Earthquake

Benguet State University (BSU) officials, employees, students, and parents gathered for a Thanksgiving Prayer Ceremony in front of the BSU Administration Building at 8:00 AM.

President Felipe Salaing Comila initiated the program after the 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit the Northern Philippines on Wednesday, July 27, 2022.

Chief Admin Officer Atty. Matias C. Angiwan, Jr., Dr. Ederson Bawang, Dr. Richard H. Kinnud, Dr. Jingle Cuevas, and Student Regent Shanerisse Tamondong led the prayers for the different sectors of the university.

UPAO Director Dr. Adamson N. Labi served as the master of ceremonies.

In his brief inspirational message, President Comila thanked the "prayer warriors" and everyone for attending the prayer ceremony. The president urged everyone "to continue to live the life of victory."

Based on reports from different sectors, only minor cracks and some broken glass windows have been noted, but no injury among personnel was recorded.//OGDacocot

Management Conducts... from page 3

that must be subject to adherence to the the data privacy principles of transparency, legitimate purpose, and proportionality. Also, highlighted in the implementation of a reasonable and appropriate organizational, physical and technical measure intended for the protection of personal data. He presented the corresponding penalties and sanctions composed of fines ranging from PhP100,000 to P5,000,000

or imprisonment ranging from 6 months up to 7 years for every violation committed. He also reiterated the strict observance of safeguarding privacy and building a culture of respect and confidentiality for every data subject as the University continues to achieve a data breach-free environment.// JCAlyuen

BSU Class 2022... from page 1

was held in four clusters in the two-day event. Each cluster started with the procession of the graduates with their parents, followed by inspirational messages from notable speakers.

Commission on Higher Education Commissioner Hon. Marita Rana Canapi, through her virtual message, congratulated both graduates and parents for enduring all the hardships and challenges they encountered before reaching their goals in life.

"These challenges and hardships have put your character to the test. All of us today have remained robust and resilient. You, graduates, have remained resilient and persevered to finish your studies," expressed Canapi.

Benguet Congressman Eric Go Yap also sent his message through a representative from his office. *"I believe that with all your brilliant minds and bold spirits inflamed with the courage to tackle real societal problems and fueled by their inherited love for the province and kailans, will help us reach development, one that is not only feasible but also inevitable,"* he said.

Moreover, Former Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Dr. William Dollente Dar shared his life experiences and achievements as an official of the DA and advised the graduates to remain steadfast when facing crises in life and not to be afraid of failures and criticisms along the way.

"Be academically excellent; stay principled and be tough. You will need all the toughness of character in facing the biggest challenges of your career. I trust your youthful energy and willpower through induced moments. Reserve and build the last of your strengths for the twilight," advised Dar.

Meanwhile, BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila highlighted three significant words: Dream, Name, and Destiny in his message. He congratulated the graduates for managing themselves wisely and being able to graduate despite the challenges they encountered during these trying times. He also acknowledged the parents for their support of their children's dreams.

"Continue to dream; add value to your name, so that tomorrow, you are making the reality of your dream, that's the destiny that you are destined to be," concluded Comila.

The graduates individually marched to the stage to receive their diplomas and awards. They also offered the song, MAPA, as a tribute to their parents for their undying sacrifices physically and financially and for guidance throughout until they finished their degrees.

The graduation concluded with the pledges of loyalty and the induction of graduates to the University Alumni Association, Inc. by BSU Alumni President Mr. Ben David S. Luis.//MJEscote, CTMalabong & EMBawayan

3-storey Building... from page 3

by the Department of Development Communication, Institute of Information Technology (IIT), and the Department of Library and Information Science. The merging of the departments into a college has driven the construction of its home, the CIS building, which was supposedly the IIT building. It also led to the prioritization of its budget proposal until last December 15, 2021, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to inaugurate the start of the CIS building construction. This milestone was one of the highlights of the International Relations Director Dr. Ma. Luz Fang-asan's brief designation as the CIS dean. The building construction was initiated by then BSU President Dr. Feliciano Galvez Calora, Jr. and continued by incumbent President Felipe Salaing Comila. After more than eight months, the CIS building was eventually completed.

Meanwhile, Dolendo welcomed the three CIS departments to their new home. In her message, she expressed appreciation to everyone for the event's success and acknowledged the BSU officials and personnel for their effort and support that led to the completion of the CIS building. She hoped that the three departments, as one CIS family, share the passion for achieving the CIS goals and the BSU vision. She further encouraged them to be globally-productive, innovative, and smart.

Administrative Services Division Chief Rev. Matias C. Angiwan, Jr. and Rev. Ramil Dew-alan officiated the prayer and blessing of the three-storey building.

The three departments will soon occupy the building instead of borrowing spaces from other colleges.//EMBawayan



BSU Bokod Campus Blooms with Newly Appointed Executive Dean

Outgoing Benguet State University (BSU) Bokod Campus Executive Dean Dr. Samuel Salay Poliden, now BSU's Vice-President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) expressed his gratitude and full support towards Dr. Shakira Basatan Herman after she took an Oath of Office to assume the position as the incoming BSU Bokod Campus Executive Dean during the Turn-over and Installation held last August 9, 2022, at the BSU Bokod Campus Covered Court.

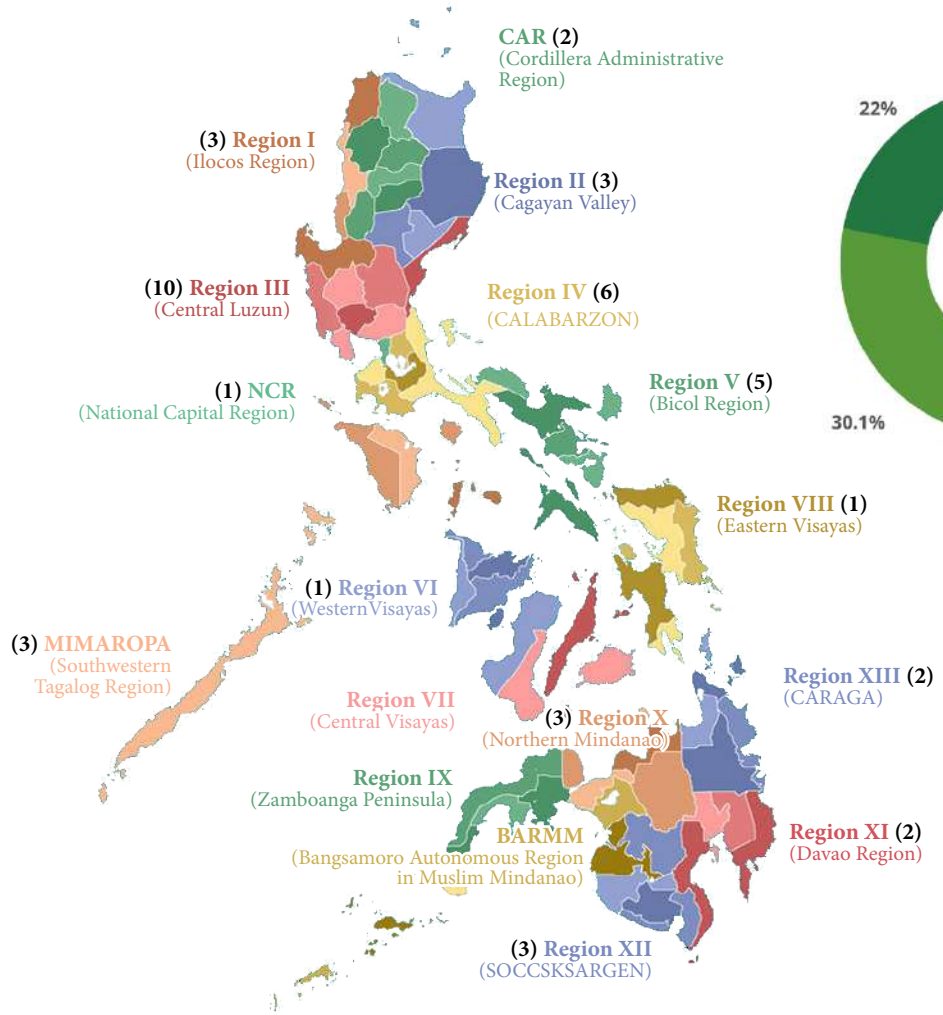
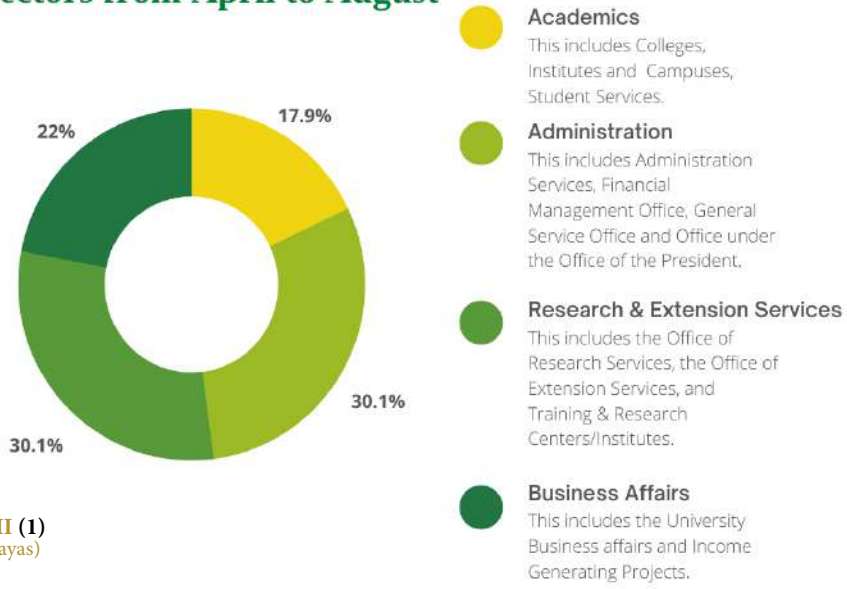
In the opening program, Mayor's Office Representative Emiliano Augusto warmly welcomed BSU officials, faculty and staff members, students, the Philippine National Police (PNP) - Bokod, and other visitors by giving an inspirational message to believe in themselves, stay strong, take care of their health, never give up, and be grateful while congratulating Herman and Poliden on their designations.

Continued on page 9



More than 40 HEIs visited Benguet State University for benchmarking activities

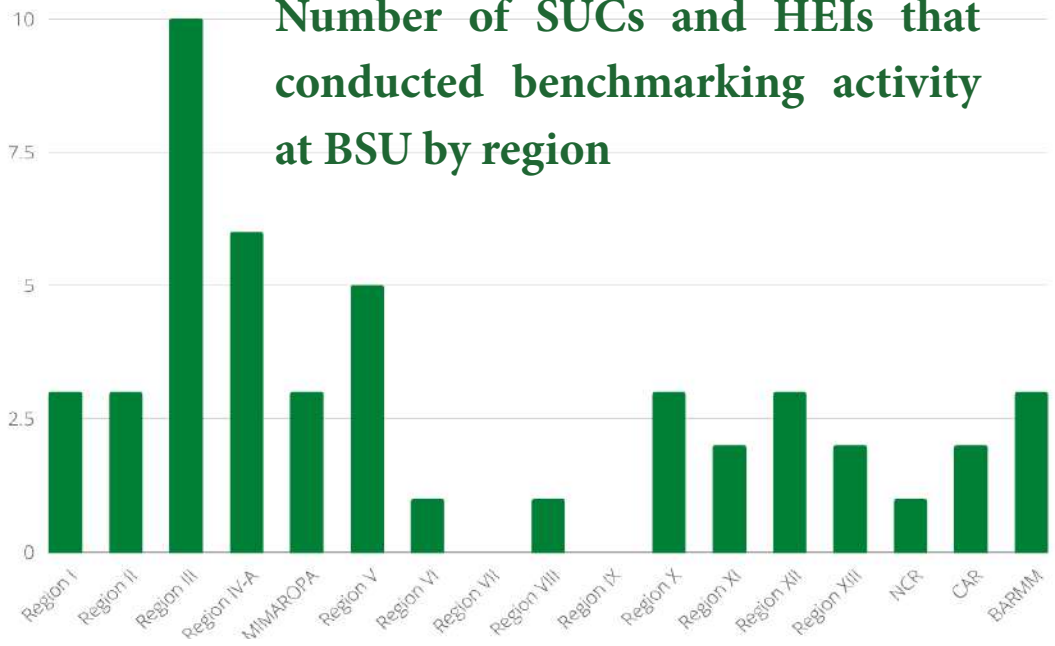
% of benchmarking activities from the different sectors from April to August



The graph shows that the most visited sector is the university's Research and Extension Services and Administration with 30.1%. Business Affairs comes in next with 22% and Academics with 17.9%.

The most frequented are the university's Training & Research Centers/Institutes under Research and Extension with 17 SUCs and HEIs visitors. Income-Generating Projects under Business Affairs has the second highest visitors with 12 SUCs and HEIs, Gender and Development under Administration with six SUCs and HEIs visitors.

Number of SUCs and HEIs that conducted benchmarking activity at BSU by region



The graph shows that Region III, with ten, has the highest number of SUCs and HEIs that visited Benguet State University for benchmarking activity since the month of April to August 2022. Region 3 has 13 SUCs concentrated in the region as of 2020, which is the highest number of SUCs in a region in the country.

Region IV-A with six has the second highest number of SUCs that conducted benchmarking activity at BSU and Region V comes in third with five SUCs. Region VII and Region IX has recorded no visits, by far.



Benguet State University

- SUC Level IV (Awarded by the Commission on Higher Education)
- QS Star Rating System = 3 Star (Awarded by Quacquarelli Symonds 2020)
- ISO 9001:2015 Certified
 - Recertified last December 2021
 - Awarded by TUV Rheinland (Certifying Body)
- Top 4 Performing SUC with the Highest Number of Level IV Accredited Programs in 2019; Awarded by AACUP (March 2021)

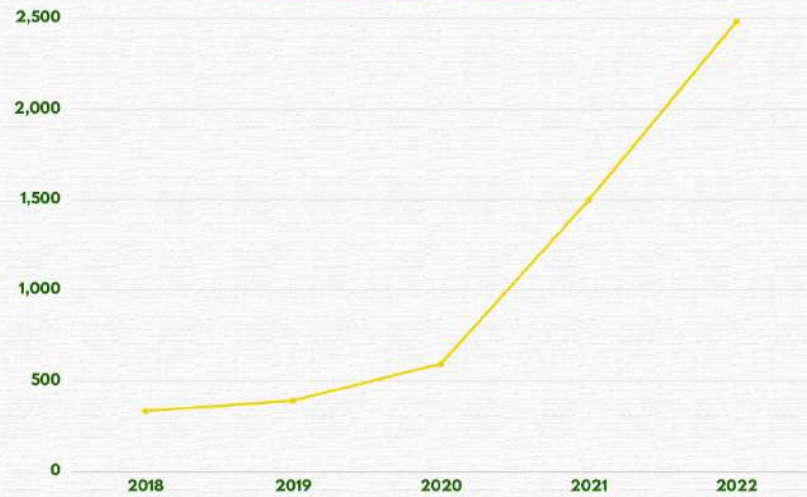
11 HEIs visited BSU for benchmarking activity from July to August 2022



BSU Acad Achievers Skyrockets in 2022

BSU Records... from page 1

of Academic Achievers from 2018 to 2022



The graph shows that the year 2022 produced 2481 academic achievers. 2021 produced 1496 academic achievers. 2020 produced 593 academic achievers, while 2019 produced 390 academic achievers and 2018 produced 332 academic achievers.

BSU Class 2022... from page 1

of Honor Graduates from 2018 to 2022



The graph shows that the year 2022 produced 318 honor graduates. 2021 produced one honor graduate. 2020 produced seven honor graduates, while 2019 produced 84 honor graduates and 2018 produced 101 honor graduates.



Scan to read our story at Benguet State University Official Facebook Page

Nakikiisa ang BSU sa pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika 2022



Pinangunahan ng Kolehiyo ng Sining at Humanidades at Sentro ng Wika at Kultura ng Benguet State University ang pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa ngayong Agosto 2022 na may temang, Wikang Filipino at mga Katutubong Wika: Kasangkapan sa Pagtuklas at Paglikha.

Sa ginanap na flag-raising ceremony ng unibersidad noong Agosto 8, hinikayat ng kolehiyo ang pakikiisa ng mga empleyado na suportahan ang mga gawain na idadaos sa unibersidad para sa selebrasyon ng Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa. Sa pamamagitan ng isang katutubong awitin, kanila din ipinaalala ang patuloy na paggamit ng mga wikang Filipino at katutubo sa ating pamumuhay. Sa mensahe ni Dr. Dominga S. Tomas, direktor ng Sentro ng Wika at Kultura, sinabi niya na mahalaga ang mga wikang Filipino at katutubo sa larangan ng pagtuklas at paglikha.

“Ang wikang gamit natin sa pagtuklas ay wikang Filipino o wikang katutubo. Ang mga datos na kailangan natin sa pagtuklas ng panibagong kaalaman ay mula sa ating unang wika at isinasalin lang natin ito sa wikang Inglis,” aniya.

HORTI Launches Coffee Table Books for Beans and Strawberries

The Benguet State University (BSU) Horticulture Research and Training Institute (HORTI) launched coffee table books showcasing beans and strawberries on July 12, 2022, at the Research and Extension Everlasting Hall.

After eight to 10 years in the making, the 60-page book *“Legume R&D: HORTI and Beanstalk Tried and Tested Bean Varieties in the Philippines”* authored by Leoncia L. Tandang, Amelia M. Kimeu, and Margie S. Epie was finally introduced. The book highlights the different bean varieties developed and approved by the National Seed Industry Council. The book offers five varieties of bush snap beans and eight pole snap bean varieties. It also presents how beans are grown and managed.

Another coffee table book, *“Duting Shi Kabenguetan”: HORTI Strawberry R&D,*” was written by Milagros R. Dumaslan and Leila Mary A. Ayban. According to HORTI, Duting Shi Kabenguetan is an

Idinagdag din ni Tomas sa kanyang talumpati ang mensahe ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. na hinihikayat ang lahat na panatilihing matatag ang lingwistikong pundasyon sa Filipino dahil ang sariling wika ang magiging batayang lakas sa paglinang sa kulturang Pilipino. Dagdag pa ni Marcos na tiyak sasagana, sisigla at liliwanag ang kinabukasan ng bawat isa kung itataguyod nang buong dangal at pagmamahal ang wikang pambansa.

Matatandaang si Tomas ay ginawaran bilang isa sa mga Outstanding Global Educators-HUMSS-Language Category noong Marso 20, 2022. Nakamit din niya ang pang-apat na pwesto sa patimpalak bilang Huwarang Guro sa Larangan ng Pananaliksik noong Hunyo 25, 2022 dahil sa kanyang husay sa larangan ng pagtuturo at pananaliksik.//EMBawayan

ibaloj phrase that means strawberry in Benguet. The book presents research outputs generated by the researchers that would benefit more farmers and clients about strawberries. It also aims to reach a broader audience and disseminate research outputs on strawberries in a unique platform.

According to Dumaslan, the book will illuminate farmers on how tissue-cultured strawberries were produced. The developed book also responds to the Department of Agriculture’s request on planting materials for strawberries that will be distributed to farmers.

Representative of Vice-President for Research and Extension and Higher Education

Continued on page 10

BSU Bokod Campus... from page 5

"This is not about me, but it is about the collaborative effort that we always practice in helping this institution soar higher," Herman said as she thanked BSU Felipe Salaing Comila in her speech for giving her the courage, faith, and inspiration to lead and take responsibility to help the campus reach new heights.

Meanwhile, Poliden also thanked Comila for trusting him while recalling his experience in August of last year when he was designated as BSU Bokod's Executive Dean of which he is still hopeful that the plans made for the improvement and development of the campus during his term of office will still push through and continue.

A mix of new and familiar faces from the BSU Family also took an Oath of Office for their appointed positions in their respective offices during the BSU Bokod Campus turn-over and installation.

Taking this momentous event close to one of his dreams of foreseeing the next BSU President to be a lady, Comila continues to encourage and inspire women of the university to keep applying for the respective position. // JAquino

CHED-CAR Spearheads 2022 ASEAN Month Celebration with BSU as Host

An explosion of colors paints the campus grounds of Benguet State University (BSU) as participating schools showcased their cultural attire, and dance performances while representing the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) during the Parade of Nations of the 55th ASEAN Month Celebration with the theme, "Addressing Challenges Together," organized by the Commission on Higher Education-Cordillera Administrative Region (CHED-CAR) held last August 8 at the BSU Gymnasium.

Faculty, staff members, students, and heads of colleges and universities participated in the event including the Philippine Nazarene College, Apayao State College, Kings College of the Philippines, BSU, and other school participants online.

The parade of nations and poster-making were the two contested events on that day, while other events are yet to be scheduled up until November 2022.

CHED-CAR Local Government Scholarship Office (LGSO) Focal Person Dr. Mariano Marchan Jr., in his welcome remarks, said ASEAN fosters the integration of international exchange and cooperation in order to enrich the academic experience of both students and academics in the region.

He reminded participating school heads and faculty members to have sheer commitment to the goals of ASEAN, particularly in the advancement of learning using the best practices in the region through the cause of education.

Meanwhile, CHED-CAR Regional Director Dr. Demetrio P.



CHED-CAR Director Demetrio P. Anduyan Jr., together with staff members, students, and other participating schools radiate the stage with smiles on their faces during the 2022 ASEAN Month Celebration held last August 8 at the BSU Gymnasium.

Anduyan Jr. also took part in the event by introducing the keynote speaker BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila whom he described as an A.S.E.A.N. (a person who takes ACTION, one who is SKILLED and ENDEARING, an AWARDEE, and NOBLE).

"I would like to continue to encourage SUCs in the Cordillera, and other SUCs in the country to continue dreaming for a higher level of their state or university status because the more we do it, this will help elevate the progress of our country," Comila said while mentioning one of his dreams in his speech of molding

BSU and having it recognized as a National College of Highland Agriculture and Environment (NCHAE) in time while envisioning the university reaching SUC Level V.

With the year 2022 coming to an end, CHED-CAR encourages students and schools to keep an eye out to participate in upcoming activities and events. BSU continues to expand its reach for global connections and operations with the recent opening of the office of the Vice President for International Relations granted by Comila. //JAquino



BSU Records... from page 1

The awardees were from the University's different colleges, including the College of Agriculture, College of Arts and Humanities, College of Engineering, College of Forestry, College of Home Economics and Technology, College of Human Kinetics, College of Information Sciences, College of Natural Sciences, College of Numeracy and Applied Sciences, College of Nursing, College of Public Administration and Governance, College of Social Sciences, College of Teacher Education, College of Veterinary Medicine, Open University, and the Center for Culture and the Arts.

Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Imelda O. Degay congratulated the students who excelled in academics and co-curricular and extracurricular activities for making the university, parents, guardians, and their respective communities proud.

BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila stressed in his inspirational message the importance of continuous dreams as dreams happen every time, to always honor the ones behind the names, especially the parents, as they were the ones who have brought and guided the students until today. He also challenged the achievers to excel beyond and have the courage to keep moving towards their destiny and dreams with patience, perseverance, prayer, and belief.

Guest speakers for various clusters included BSU Alumnus and National Dairy Authority Administrator Dr. Farrell Benjelix C. Magtoto, Local Risk Reduction Management Officer of LGU-Bakun Atty. Alvin Guimpayan Comila, English Department Head of University of Baguio Science High School Dr. Veronica Mocsoy Bito, and Cooperative Development Authority Board of Director Assistant Secretary Virgilio R. Lazaga who extended their greetings for achieving such milestones.

In his written message, Dr. Magtoto congratulated the awardees and stressed that academic excellence is the ability to score high marks and to cope with the changing world.

Atty. Comila mentioned that being an achiever is an inspiration. He also reminded the awardees not to pressure themselves to be the best and take time to relax and help and guide others so that they will not give up on their dreams.

Dr. Bito also encouraged everyone that success today is the product of sweat, tears, and dedication and that we need to be grateful for knowing that we had faced many challenges when we went into blended learning.

Meanwhile, Asec. Lazaga shared the secret of success. He mentioned the three steps to becoming successful: dream, work hard, and try and try until you succeed.

The event is a yearly practice of the University that serves as a way to connect with students and provide them a platform of acknowledgment for their exemplary performance in the many dimensions of knowledge, skills, and responsibility. //CMalabong, EMBawayan

HORTI Launches... from page 8

Regional Research Center Director Dr. Nordalyn Pedroche and Office for Research Services Director Dr. Gretchen Gaye C. Ablaza appreciated the hard work, dedication, and commitment of the authors and everyone behind the production of the books. Pedroche said that the books were produced to be read by everyone, not just by technical people.

"To the readers, you can be ensured and assured that these books are backed by science and we, in the R&E sector, are proud in showcasing the relevant technologies of Benguet State University," expressed Pedroche.

pedroche further stated that readers would acquire knowledge and practical know-how in strawberry and legume production. She added that readers will learn about the different varieties of beans and the applicable techniques in growing beans and strawberries. She hoped the readers would apply the farming techniques in their farms and will benefit from the technologies profoundly conceptualized and created. //EMBawayan

BSU Surpasses Two... from page 1

passing rate of 50.50%. The University consistently exceeded the LEPT's national ratings this year.

College of Teacher Education Dean Dr. Divina M. Yango expressed optimism about the LEPT result as it continues to attest to its Center of Excellence (COE) in Teacher Education. "We are expecting that they (graduates) will pass because they are well-trained and we also extended our review for our takers," she said.

"We are happy that we have surpassed the national passing rate despite the fact that this was the time during COVID-19," said Department of Technology and Livelihood Education Chairperson Dr. Emelda E. Villa.

Department of Elementary Education Chairperson Dr. Alexandra Sad-ang said that the CTE faculty members are competent, dedicated, and committed to training their students. She also shared that the college's best practices in preparation for licensure examinations include sending review materials and constant updates on their students' old group chats as well as arranging various programs like seminars, content, and teaching demonstrations, and sharing other necessary teaching skills and methods by invited distinct speakers.

On the part of students, Dr. Villa emphasized that their preparation starts the moment they decide to enroll in their respective degree programs. "I always tell my students to be serious because their subjects during their first year are also part of the LET. In other words, it's very important to start well and end well. I can say it should be about consistency," she explained.

Further, they advised new board passers, as professional teachers, to become models and impart knowledge and insights gained to students and the community. Dr. Villa further challenged them to practice their pledge and show students their "tatak BSU."

Dr. Yango shares her expectation for the next LEPT result saying, "For the next batch, we expect their performance to be even higher because of the trend we are providing like giving reviews to the students, enhancing the curriculum and provision of the admission policy by the university, along with the continuous initiatives for faculty development."

On the other hand, the University achieved a 100% passing rate higher than the national passing rate of 61.27% in the Guidance Counselor Licensure Examination conducted in August 2022. Since 2014, BSU has constantly surpassed the national ratings in the said exam.

Chita Bao-il Habon, the lone examinee of the Guidance Counselor Licensure Examination, was proud and happy when she passed the exam.

Habon graduated Master of Arts in Guidance (MAG) from the University in July 2022. She said that even before she graduated, she started enrolling in online reviews and went to the BSU library to have readings in preparation for the licensure examination. Despite her workload as a program manager at the Child and Family Service Philippines in Baguio City, her sacrifices, commitment, and perseverance are testimonies that paved the way to earn her license as a guidance counselor. CFSPi is a non-stock, non-profit, private Philippine organization

that caters to abused children and women.

She also credited her success to BSU as her training ground when she was a student. She said that BSU's MAG is a comprehensive and quality degree program that promotes professional development. "Isu ngay siguro nga maibagak nga efficient ak and effective doing my current job because I was trained at BSU (Maybe, I can say that I am efficient and effective doing my current job because I was trained at BSU)," she explained.

She further encouraged other students planning or taking Master of Arts and Guidance to continue and finish their course.

After passing the exam, Habon shared that she will continue to become a servant, learner, and warrior. "Continue latta a mangtulog kadagitoy uububing (in CFSPi). Hangga't may bata sa Cordillera nga kasjay ti situation da (victim of abuse), hangga't may funds (for the organization), I will stay. If I leave, will I be sure that the next (official) will defend them? Adda nga adda ti good dita nga ubing. Kitaen yu lang (Continue to help these children (in CFSPi)... as long as there is a child in Cordillera with that situation (victim of abuse), as long as there are funds (for the organization), I will stay. If I leave, will I be sure that the next (official) will defend them? There is goodness in them, just look at it," she expressed.

Meanwhile, Dr. Yango congratulated and extended her encouragement to all licensed guidance counselors. "To our passers sa Guidance Counselor licensure exam, congratulations, you did well in your exam. And I hope that you will not stop there but continue to do well even in the field of work and to others. And they can also share their experiences with the non-passers and the next takers and that would be a very big help," Dr. Yango said. //CBNapiyoy, EMBawayan

Congratulations!

BEE & BSE Graduates for passing the Licensure Examination for Teachers 2022

JUNE	BSU PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
BEE	75 %	50.54 %
BSE	76.92 %	50.48 %

Guidance Counseling for passing the Guidance Counselor Examination 2022

AUGUST	BSU PASSING RATE	NATIONAL PASSING RATE
MAG	100 %	61.27 %

ERRATUM: The article titled, BSU-QC-PESO Partnership Moves Forward published in Shamag May-June, was inadvertently credited to Gretchen Gaye C. Ablaza instead of Ms. Amy Kimeu of Horticultural Research and Training Institute (HORTI).

When she saw her name on the list, she cried.

Chita Boa-il Habon, a graduate of Master of Arts in Guidance at BSU, had no expectations when she took the Guidance Counselor Licensure Examination last August.

Keeping it a secret from everybody else aside from her family members, her mentor, and one of her colleagues, she fought, won, and grew in silence.

But success always has a way to show itself to the world. And this time, it will be fuller and sweeter.

It's Once or Never: The Struggle is Real

"Before I took the exam, my mind is already set. Ace or fail, I have to take it this year only or I won't take the examination again. I have no intention of a retake. It's once or never," she said with a determined voice.

She strongly held to the belief that if this is for her, then nothing would stop her from taking the examination.

Looking back, she shared the trail of trials she underwent before tasting the fruit of her labor. Upon knowing that she was a candidate for graduation, she immediately applied for an online review conducted every Saturday.

"The struggle is real for me while I was having my online review. Sometimes, because of exhaustion, I find myself dozing off during lectures. To make time to read, I even filed for a one-week leave prior to the exam just to concentrate but I still enter the office because there's a lot of things that need to be done," she said.

Behind the Scene: More Struggles Before Victory

"On the first day of the exam, as I have no appetite for breakfast, I just ate some bread and drank lots of coffee," she recalls. The examination took place inside a cinema at the Ayala Mall, Parañaque, Manila

As someone who is not new to taking licensure exams, she was certain that there would be at least a one to two-hour break for the examiners. How wrong she was.

The examination went on and feeling her stomach grumble as the hours go by, she had nothing but a bottle of water with her.

I knew someone inside who asked me if I have any food. When she learned that I bought nothing to eat, she was generous enough to give me a packet of sky flakes. Recalling that moment, I realized how that one Sky Flakes helped me get through my hunger until the exam was over," she said.

After the exam, she went to a food store and devoured as much food as she can as if there was no tomorrow.

On the second day, with her body now unable to cope with the stress, anxiety, and exhaustion, she took the exam with a slight cold, a teary eye, and a runny nose.

"The proctors must have thought I was crying over the exam as my envelope was full of used tissue," she jokingly said. At that time, she had just one prayer: *"Lord, at least let me finish this exam."*

She also expressed her gratitude for Ma'am Irene Alcantara, a former Guidance Counselor of BSU and her mentor as well as to her husband who never gave up supporting her until the day of the examination.

Remembering all her sleepless nights and her experience seemingly straight out of a movie, *"that is why I really cried when the result came out,"* she explained.

Vocation, Not Profession: Heed the Call to Serve

"I wanted to become a clinical social worker or a registered counselor so I took the exam," she said.

As someone who works with abused clients, especially children, she drew her strength into always remembering that it is the young lives she's dealing with.

As someone who works with abused clients, especially children, she drew her strength into always remembering that it is the young lives she's dealing with.

"I want to be confident in what I am doing since our goal should be to mend hearts, not break them. We are not just talking here about a child's life now but what life they would have until they grow up. What if you intentionally or accidentally took part in destroying a child's future just because of what you might have said?"

For her, although salary, promotion, or professional growth are very much important, social work is more than all of these. Instead, it's a question of what you can invest, commit, and give with no thought of reciprocation.

This, for her, is a vocation requiring commitment, compassion, and courage.

She adds, *"My constant prayer is something that Reinhold Niebuhr, an American theologian once said: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference,"* she added.

She also shared her hope for those who are currently taking or planning to take their MAG to not quit as the country is experiencing a scarcity of guidance counselors. Also, she said that it is a timely profession given the increasing mental health issues and problems, especially for children and teenagers.

When asked about her future plans, she broke a smile and said with a resolute voice, *"I will continue what I have been doing for the past 10 years. While there is a child in Cordillera left who needs my help, and while funds continue to pour in, I will stay. If I leave, then who will stand for them?"* // CANapiloy





BSU Hosts 2022... from page 5

According to ASCU-SN and Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) President Dr. Shirley Castañeda Agrupis, this year's sports event listed the most significant number of delegates in the history of ASCU-SN. *"Indeed, Solid North is back; stronger, more resilient, and ready to conquer the new challenges of the new normal. Ready to conquer not only the whole Philippines but the world. We are here to strengthen our friendship and camaraderie,"* expressed Dr. Agrupis during the opening program on July 20.

BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila also said that the event shows unity among the SUCs to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

La Trinidad Mayor Representative and Vice Mayor Roderick Awingan also stressed that the sports event celebrates the SUCs' successes in fighting against the pandemic. He also emphasized the importance of collaboration with the local government units and urged cooperation among SUCs toward recovery from the pandemic.

Benguet Governor Representative Atty. Mario Baucas, Jr. delivered the message of Benguet Governor Melchor M. Diclas. In his written message, Diclas emphasized that the event will empower and improve one another's well-being through healthy and socially-inclusive physical activities.

Meanwhile, Benguet Congressman Representative Jayralyn Y. Siddayao extended the message of Congressman Eric Go Yap who noted that the event shows off physical agility and talent and displays the spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship among the participants.

During the opening program, the unfurling of institutional banners by SUC Presidents and Sports and Cultural Directors, the lighting of the friendship urn by BSU Professor and Vovinam Philippine Team for SEA Games Coach Ryan Bendalan Batinay, and the oath of sportsmanship led by BSU Faculty Member Calvin Jake Polking Awas, were highlighted.

The SUCs that participated in the event were the Abra State Institute of Sciences and Technology, Apayao State

College, Batanes State College, Bulacan State University, Cagayan State University, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University, Ifugao State University, Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College, Isabela State University, Kalinga State University, Mariano Marcos State University, Mountain Province State Polytechnic College, North Luzon Philippines State College, Nueva Vizcaya State University, Pampanga State Agricultural University, Pangasinan State University, Quirino State University, Tarlac Agricultural University, Tarlac State University, the University of Northern Philippines, including the Benguet State University.

MMSU President Dr. Agrupis will continue to lead the Association of State Colleges and Universities-Solid North as the ASCU-SN President for the third time. She was reelected by the ASCU-SN Executive Board during the Presidents' meeting at the BSU RDC Hall on July 20.

In her message during the President's Night held at the BSU gymnasium, she thanked her fellow academic leaders in the Solid North for reelecting her as ASCU-SN President. *"I do not know what were their criteria, maybe because they were mesmerized by the activities that we have implemented during the pandemic. I must say that these activities, these milestones that we have accomplished during the pandemic were not all mine. It is the concerted effort of the solid north. Because I strongly believed po that no matter how good the programs are, no matter how ambitious the plans are if there is no support from your sphere, wala pong mangyayari. And that was showcased by the Solid North. Amid the anxieties that we have been through, we never gave up and we support each one. That's the reason why kahit sa pandemic we implemented so many activities. Indeed, Solid North is back!"* said Agrupis.

Further, Isabela State University President Dr. Ricmar P. Aquino was elected as the Vice-President of ASCU-SN. He is expected to take over Dr. Agrupis' position after her term as the president.//EMBawayan



BSU Tops in ASCU-SN Summer Olympics

ASCU-SN SUMMER OLYMPICS 2022

OFFICIAL TALLY RESULT - TOP 3

BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY (BSU)

CHAMPION: 15 | 1ST RUNNER UP: 22 | 2ND RUNNER UP: 15 | 3RD RUNNER UP: 6 **TOTAL: 58**

DON MARIANO MARCOS MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY (DMMMSU)

CHAMPION: 17 | 1ST RUNNER UP: 10 | 2ND RUNNER UP: 9 | 3RD RUNNER UP: 10 **TOTAL: 46**

MARIANO MARCOS STATE UNIVERSITY (MMSU)

CHAMPION: 9 | 1ST RUNNER UP: 2 | 2ND RUNNER UP: 9 | 3RD RUNNER UP: 6 **TOTAL: 26**



More than 200 BSU delegates competed in the three-day ASCU-SN Summer Olympics held at Benguet State University. The university grabbed 15 championships in various competitions, ranked 1st runners-up in 22 games, achieved 2nd runners-up in 15 events, and garnered 3rd runners-up in six games.

According to the Center for Sports, Recreation, and Wellness Development Director Frael Ubaldo Aquino, the University has accomplished these achievements during ASCU-SN because the University allotted time for the BSU athletes to practice and make other necessary preparations for the event. He said that the two months of preparation prior to the event has equipped the BSU athletes to prepare physically and mentally and further, honed their skills.

Aquino further said that BSU should sustain its great performances during ASCU-SN, noting that the University always lands in the top three during these events. For future

ASCU-SN events, he also advised BSU athletes to prepare well to maintain their endurance, skills, and mindset. *“We have to sustain it, if we like to sustain it, it starts with the President, the President should continue to be supportive of the sporting activities of the University,”* said Aquino.

He also emphasized that BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila strongly supports sports events at the University, hence Comila initiated the establishment of the Center for Sports, Recreation, and Wellness Development headed by Director Aquino. The Board of Regents approved the establishment of the CSRWDev on November 8, 2018.

On the other hand, the ASCU-SN 2023 will be held at Tarlac Agricultural University in Camiling, Tarlac, as announced during the Closing Program on July 23.// EMBawayan



ASCU-SN SUMMER OLYMPICS 2022 OFFICAL RESULTS

ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES - SOLID NORTH 2022



Events Category	Champion	1st Runner Up	2nd Runner Up	3rd Runner Up
Basketball 3x3				
Basketball (M) 45 below	BSU	DMMMSU		
Basketball (M) 46 above	BuISU/CSU			
Basketball (W) open	DMMMSU	PSU		
Basketball Regular				
Basketball (M) 45 below	CSU	BSU		
Basketball (M) 46 above	UNP/DMMMSU			
Basketball (W) open	DMMMSU	TAU		
Volleyball				
Volleyball (M)	BuISU	TSU	IFSU	PSAU
Volleyball (W)	MPSPC	TSU	PSU	IFSU
Futsal				
Futsal (M)	PSU	BSU	MMSU	IFSU
Futsal (W)	BSU	ISU	MMSU	DMMMSU
Table Tennis (Singles A)				
Table Tennis (M) 45 below	CSU	PSU	UNP/ISU	
Table Tennis (W) 45 below	ISU	KSU	TSU/CSU	
Table Tennis (M) 46 above	ISU	DMMMSU	ASIST/BSU	
Table Tennis (W) 46 above	TAU	DMMMSU		
Table Tennis (Singles B)				
Table Tennis (M) 45 below	MMSU	CSU	DMMMSU/ISU	
Table Tennis (W) 45 below	TSU	TAU	KSU/CSU	
Table Tennis (M) 46 above	PSAU	BSU	KSU	
Table Tennis (W) 46 above	NVSU	DMMMSU		
Table Tennis (Doubles)				
Table Tennis (M) 45 below	DMMMSU	NVSU	MMSU	
Table Tennis (W) 45 below	BSU	CSU		
Table Tennis (M) 46 above	DMMMSU	BSU	ISU	
Table Tennis (W) 46 above	TAU	IFSU		
Lawn Tennis (Singles)				
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket A 45 below	PSAU	CSU	CSU	
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket B 45 below	TAU	BSU	DMMMSU	
Lawn Tennis (M) 46 above	MMSU	TAU	ISU	
Lawn Tennis (W)	CSU	BSU	DMMMSU	
Lawn Tennis (Doubles)				
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket A	DMMMSU	ASIST	UNP/DMMMSU	
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket B	TAU	ASIST	DMMMSU/ DMMMSU	
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket C	DMMMSU	UNP	ASIST/PSAU	
Lawn Tennis (M) Bracket D	DMMMSU	UNP	CSU/PSAU	
Lawn Tennis (W)	TAU	DMMMSU	CSU	
Badminton (Singles A)				
Badminton (M) 45 below	BuISU	BSU	CSU	NVSU
Badminton (W) 45 below	BuISU	PSU	ISPSC	TAU
Badminton (M) 46 above	DMMMSU	KSU	BSU	NVSU
Badminton (W) 46 above	TSU	UNP	MPSPC	ISPSC
Badminton (Singles B)				
Badminton (M) 45 below	BSU	CSU	DMMMSU	TAU
Badminton (W) 45 below	ISPSC	KSU	MPSPC	IFSU
Badminton (M) 46 above	MMSU	DMMMSU	QSU	BSU
Badminton (W) 46 above	DMMMSU	IFSU	MPSPC	DMMMSU
Badminton (Doubles)				
Badminton (M) 45 below	BuISU	ISU	MPSPC	TAU
Badminton (W) 45 below	DMMMSU	NVSU	PSU	UNP
Badminton (M) 46 above	PSU	NVSU	BSU	DMMMSU
Badminton (W) 46 above	UNP	IFSU	MPSPC	DMMMSU
Badminton (Mixed Doubles)	DMMMSU	PSU	NVSU	BSU
Fun run (M)				
Fun run 3k	BSU	BSU	NVSU	
Fun run 5k	MMSU	NVSU	MPSPC	
Fun run 6k	TSU	MMSU	MPSPC	
Fun run 12k	QSU	TAU	MMSU	
Fun run 21k	BSU	BSU	BSU	



Fun run (W)				
Fun run 3k	BSU	BSU	UNP	
Fun run 5k	DMMMSU	MMSU	DMMMSU	
Fun run 6k	DMMMSU	DMMMSU	MPSPC	
Fun run 12k	BSU	BSU	ASC	
Fun run 21k	BSU	BSU	BSU	
Cycling				
35 below	MMSU	BSU	UNP	MMSU
36-45	MMSU	NVSU	MPSPC	DMMMSU
46-55	DMMMSU	BSU	NVSU	MMSU
56 above	NVSU	NVSU	MMSU	BSU
Women's Category	BSC	BSU	UNP	MPSPC
Relay				
4x100m (M) 45 below	BSU	NVSU	DMMMSU	MMSU
4x100m (W) 45 below	ISU	IFSU	MPSPC	DMMMSU
4x100m (M) 46 above	QSU	BSU	ISPSC	MMSU
4x100m (W) 46 above	CSU	IFSU	BSU	DMMMSU
Dash				
100m (M) 35 below	BuSu	DMMMSU	BSU	KSU
100m (W) 35 below	ISU	IFSU	IFSU	DMMMSU
100m (M) 36-49 above	TSU	NVSU	BSU	BSU
100m (W) 36-49 above	BSU	CSU	BSU	QSU
100m (M) 50 above	QSU	BSU	QSU	IFSU
100m (W) 50 above	CSU	ISU	BSU	KSU
Shotput				
Shotput (M) 45 below	MMSU	IFSU	CSU	TAU
Shotput (W) 45 below	MMSU	BSU	MPSPC	IFSU
Shotput (M) 46 above	KSU	QSU	BSU	BSU
Shotput (W) 46 above	BSU	ISU	QSU	KSU
Discuss				
Discuss (M) 45 below	ISU	ISU	MMSU	TAU
Discuss (W) 45 below	MMSU	MPSPC	BSU	MPSPC
Discuss (M) 46 above	KSU	IFSU	BSU	BSU
Discuss (W) 46 above	ISU	BSU	KSU	DMMMSU
Darts Singles				
Darts (M) singles	BSU	BSU	ISPSC/MPSPC	
Darts (W) singles	BSU	DMMMSU	IFSU/PSAU	
Darts Doubles				
Darts (W) doubles	DMMMSU	MPSPC	BSU/MMSU	
Darts (M) doubles	DMMMSU	BSU	BSU/MMSU	
Chess (M)				
Chess (W)				
Slo - pitch				
Mobile Legends				
Socio-Cultural Events				
Laro ng Lahi				
Tiyakad	IFSU	ASC	MPSPC	
Kadang Kadang	MPSPC	BSU	KSU	DMMMSU
Sack race	ISU	MPSPC	DMMMSU	MMSU
Maria Went to Town	NVSU	DMMMSU	KSU	MMSU
Pop Dance				
Show Choir				
Mr. ASCU-SN 2022				
Ms. ASCU-SN 2022				
Best in Production Number (W)				
Best in Production Number (M)				
Best in Sports Wear (W)				
Best in Sports Wear (M)				
Best in Casual Wear (W)				
Best in Casual Wear (M)				
Ballroom Dance				
King of the Night				
Queen of the Night				

ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES - SOLID NORTH 2022