



28th University Charter Anniversary commemorated

The 28th year of BSU as a University was commemorated through a solemn Eucharistic Celebration on January 24 at the University Gym. Rev. Fr. Rolly Buyagan, the parish priest of Tomay in his homily likened BSU to a greenhouse that helps young people bloom and shine.

Fr. Buyagan further said that BSU is helping people to be great by providing education and by forming moral and intellectual principles.

The mass was attended by University students, faculty, and staff led by President Ben D. Ladilad. The vice-presidents, deans, and directors of the different offices led the readings and prayers imploring the Almighty to guide and bless the University in its pursuit of its vision to be a premier state university in Asia.

Specifically, the prayers are: for the College of Agriculture to be able to support the country's goal for a steadier food supply; for the College of Home Economics and Technology to be an instrument towards better and healthier world; for the College of Arts and Sciences to give importance to God's creation while not forgetting science and technological advancement; for the College of Engineering and Applied Technology to enhance the work of others through the latest agricultural engineering technology; for the College of Forestry to help man value the forest resources that provide safe and clean water; for the College of Veterinary Medicine to make sure that poultry, livestock, and other sources of meat are safe for human consumption; for the College of Nursing to come up with nurses who will be responsive to health care needs of the world; for the College of Teacher Education to strive to catapult students to greater heights; for the Graduate School to save the world

from the attractions of consumerism, bad politics, and the ravages of an abusive society; and for the school administrators to be guided by the true tenets of service.

Adding credence to the celebration were the songs assiduously selected by the choir led by its leader, Prof. Greg Taag from the CAS-Department of Social Sciences.

After the mass, the Supreme Student Government (SSG) led members and fellow students in celebrating merrily the Charter anniversary. //



BSU President, Dr. Ben D. Ladilad and wife, Dr. Araceli G. Ladilad during the 28th Charter Anniversary Thanksgiving mass on January 24, 2014 at the BSU Gym. (Below) BSU students, faculty and staff attending the mass. // Photos by Jaja M. Obidos



Rev. Fr. Rolly Buyagan.



BSU VISION

A Premier State University in Asia

MISSION

Development of people imbued with academic excellence, social conscience and productivity; and actively generating and promoting environment-friendly, useful technologies to improve the quality of life.

GOALS

1. Strengthen and sustain a working environment conducive for excellence;
2. Provide quality education that will produce globally competitive and well-rounded graduates;
3. Provide quality and client-responsive research and extension services;
4. Strengthen, and enhance institutional capability in generating revenues towards self-reliance;
5. Develop and strengthen quality management systems towards economy; and
6. Strengthen and expand public-private partnerships.

-Board Res. No. 2222, s.2013



Shamag, an Ibaloi term that means news, is the official publication of Benguet State University. It functions as the University's mouthpiece for its accomplishments and is likewise a communication tool among BSU constituents. It started as the MSAC Newsletter in the 1970s to meet one of the requirements of then, the Department of Education, for a college to be elevated into a university. Hence, Shamag came out as the University newsletter in 1996.

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Ben D. Ladilad

Articles, pictures, comments, suggestions, reactions, and letters to the Editor may be submitted to: the Editor/Associate Editor, Shamag, BSU-Public Affairs Office, La Trinidad, 2601 Benguet.

Contributions will be acknowledged but the editors reserve the right to determine articles to be published based on adherence to topic guideline, time, and space limitations. Anonymous contributions will not be considered.

Phone Numbers:

(6374) 422-2127, 422-2402 loc. 69

E-mails may be sent to:

gvjacalan@yahoo.com.ph
jstabangcura@gmail.com
publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph

BSU's The Mountain Collegian is champ in reg'l press confab

After being the first runner-up for three consecutive years, The Mountain Collegian (MC), the official student publication of Benguet State University, is hailed this year's the over-all champion after besting 12 other schools in the Cordillera Administrative Region. The feat was realized earlier this year (Jan. 23-24) during 15th Regional Higher Education Tertiary Schools Press Conference at Baguio- Benguet Community Credit Cooperative Inc.

Dominating the over-all group category contest and emerging 1st runner-up in the over-all individual contest, MC took the competition by storm after its magazine, broadsheet, newsletter, and tabloid issues including its literary folio, Kalaleng were in for the top five rankings. Also, all its 13 delegates in all individual categories were able to make it to the first five places.

In the Magazine Category, MC championed the Layout, Opinion/Editorial, News, and Development Communication (Dev.com) Pages and 1st runner-up in Literary, Sports, and Features Pages.

Along Broadsheet Paper, the following individual championships were bagged: Layout, Opinion/Editorial, News, Literary, Features, and Dev.com Pages. The Sports Page landed as 1st Runner-Up.

For the Newsletter Category, MC took home the championship titles in News, Literary, Features, and Devcom Pages; 1st Runner-Up in Sports Page and Lay-out; and 2nd Runner-Up in Opinion/Editorial Page.

Moreover, MC performed well in the tabloid category championing the Opinion/Editorial, Dev.com, and Literary Pages; 1st Runner-Up in the Features Page and Lay-out; 2nd Runner-Up in News Page; and 3rd Runner-Up in Sports Page.

Completing the titles, Kalaleng 9 garnered awards in the Literary Folio Category: 1st Runner-Up in Lay-out; 2nd Runner-Up in Literary Content; and 4th Runner-Up in Cover Page.

Meanwhile, the MC staffers were able to place in the top five of their respective events in the individual On-The-Spot contests: Janice Agrifino, BSDC-IV, championed both Photojournalism (Filipino) and Poetry Writing (Filipino); Harmon Nicer, DVM-V, championed the Literary Graphics Illustration (English) and was 1st Runner-Up in Editorial Cartooning (English); Juman Kevin Tindo, BSES-IV, championed Feature Writing (English) and was the 2nd Runner-Up in Copy Reading

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Int'l organic fertilizer company now in the Philippines

For Benguet organic farmers, commercially produced organic fertilizers are not yet very accessible. So as BSU continues to advocate organic agriculture, an international organic fertilizer manufacturer was invited for this year's first RDE Seminar Series.

Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, VP of Prathista Industries LTD. was at the University on January 17, 2014 to introduce his company through his lecture titled, "3G Organic Products for a Sustainable and Food Secure Future."

Dr. Sharma emphasized that to improve farm productivity in an eco-friendly way, plants should only be provided with what they actually require no more no less and at the right time. Basically, plants need light, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water. He said that sometimes plants are fed with more than what they require. This means a good farmer should understand what plants require and when exactly it is required.

Prathista Industries LTD has opened its Philippines branch in Greenhills (Metro Manila) just six months ago. Cooperating with Philippine organizations in agriculture, the company has already conducted trials for rice, corn, and other major crops in different parts of the country. One trial site has been for strawberries in Cada, Mt. Province.

Dr. Sharma clarified that Prathista products are not only bio fertilizers but also pharmaceutical-formulations based on Eco-Friendly Fermentation (Biotechnology) process facilitating soil activity so that plants can absorb nutrients and minerals that are already available in the soil.

Drip irrigation for organic agriculture

With Dr. Sharma during the same activity was Mr. Arsenio C. Barcelona, president of Harbest Agribusiness Corporation. Mr. Barcelona presented Harbest products for drip irrigation systems. According to organicgardening.com, a drip irrigation system delivers water directly to the plant's root zone where it seeps slowly into the soil one drop at a time. A drip

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Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma



The MOU signing ceremonies between BSU and Prathista on January 17 at the Office of BSU President; in photo are (L-R, seated) Gayatri Sharma, Manager of Prathista Industries Limited, Dr. Ben D. Ladilad, BSU President, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Vice President of Prathista Industries Limited, and Mr. Arsenio C. Barcelona, President of Harbest Agribusiness Corporation. The signing was witnessed by Mr. Barcelona and (left to right, standing) Dr. Carlito P. Laurean of BSU-CSAC, Dr. Eulogio Cardona of the Office of Research Services, Dr. Gilda Victoria B. Jacalan of the UPAO, Dr. Araceli G. Ladilad of CA, Dr. Danilo P. Padua of CA, and two staff from Prathista's and Harbest.//Marie Fe Wance

Organic farmers voice out concerns

During the January 17 RDE Seminar Series at the NPRCRTC, farmers voiced out their concerns in practicing organic agriculture. These include difficult marketing, expensive seminars, and the rigors of organizing themselves in order to deal with different government agencies.

Each concern from the farmers was addressed by BSU experts. Dr. Silvestre L. Kudan advised the more than 100 farmers present that the only solution for them to be able to dictate market prices for their products is to form their own organizations.

Dr. Joe Balaoing informed the body that with the full implementation of the R.A. 10068 or the Organic Agriculture Act of 2011, all organic products from 2016 and beyond must be certified

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ILC to expect more students

The International Language Center is expecting more students this year as a result of various partnerships recently established with South Korean Schools.

This July, the students from Kyungwoon University are expected to arrive. Currently, there are 27 students enrolled at the ILC.

There are 20 students from the Sungkonghoe University taking up the SPELL or Special Program for English Language and Literature, six students from the Chungbuk Provincial College (CPC) taking up the IFELP or the Intensive Functional English Language Program, and one Japanese student already in the Advanced English Language Proficiency Course.

According to ILC staff, there was supposed to be more students who enlisted early this year but cancelled due to certain factors such as how the current situation in the Philippines is portrayed by the international media.

During the welcome dinner for the students from CPC held on January 21, 2014, Dr. Araceli G. Ladilad representing BSU President, Dr. Ben D. Ladilad stressed the benefits of knowing the English language in seeking employment, tourism, and cross border education.

Dr. Kim, Hee Dai of CBC likewise challenged the students that if their only purpose in coming to the Philippines is to learn English, they better return to Korea.

“Know the Philippine culture, know mountains, lakes and the people. Keep in touch with them even if you already returned to Korea. This is the purpose of your course and I hope you will have good opportunities,” he said.

Thai ambassador visits BSU

Ambassador Prasas Prasasvinitchai of the Kingdom of Thailand along with his wife, Madame Sandra, and 20 members of the Philippine-Thailand Cultural Organization (PTCO) were in the University last January 25 to visit the Organic Farm, pick organically-grown strawberries, and meet BSU President, Dr. Ben D. Ladilad.

BSU was chosen as one destination for the group's 4-day cultural tour. According to PTCO President, Mrs. Luzviminda Pama, the University visit has provided a positive impact to the tour and was momentous to the group. She added that they specifically wanted to visit BSU facilities on strawberry farm operation as many of her colleagues have never seen a strawberry patch.

PTCO is an organization composed of former Filipino residents of Thailand, a majority of who have retired or have come home to continue their profession. The group's activities are mostly cultural and in close contact and supported by the Royal Thai Embassy in the Philippines.



BSU staff and PTCO delegation led by President Ben D. Ladilad and Amb. Prasas Prasasvinitchai posed for posterity after a meet-and-greet session at the BSU AdCor on January 25. //Photo by Alma Santiago

VP for Academic Affairs, Dr. Percyveranda A. Lubrica recalled how ILC has grown from a language training program under the CAS-Department of Humanities in the late 1990s until it offered TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of

Other Languages) in partnership with the Australian International Language Academy in 2008.

ILC now envisions being a leading international language center responsive to diverse community of learners.//

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by a third party. With this, he offered the farmers that they could market their products at the BSU Organic Market as long as they enroll to BSU's CPOA (Certificate in Practical Organic Agriculture) course and adhere to the BIGS (BSU Internal Guarantee System) for Organic Agriculture.

However, the farmers asked if there are free seminars on organic agriculture since BSU's CPOA course is not free. Dr. Balaoing reiterated that as long as they form their groups, they could easily request for free trainings from the DA-Agricultural Training Institute as one provision of the R.A. 10068.

He added that for a start, they could approach the Municipal Agriculturist's Office in their areas and request assistance.

IHK opens new curricular programs

The Institute of Human Kinetics, formerly the Institute of Physical Education and Sports is set to offer new curricular programs starting first semester of the academic year 2014-2015.

The new curricular programs include the Bachelor of Physical Education major in School Physical Education another major in Sport Wellness Management Program.

Students interested to enroll to the said curricular programs must pass the BSU College Qualifying Exam, have an average grade of 85% or higher in high school, physically fit and healthy and pass the motor achievement test.

A certification of achievement as athlete during regional, national and international competitions is an advantage.

This was approved by the Board of Regents during their 163rd meeting. (Resolution No. 2221s.2011)

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and Headline Writing (English); Juliet Esther Cindy Guerrero, BSN-IV, championed Feature Writing (Filipino) and was 3rd runner-up in Opinion Writing (English); and Giselle Ocyaden, BSE-III, championed Literary Graphics Illustration (Filipino) and 4th Runner-Up Editorial Cartooning (Filipino).

Further, Rhe-Ann Ngayaan (BEE-III) and Arniel Dumigsi (BSE-III) championed the Editorial Writing (Filipino) and Opinion Writing (Filipino), respectively while Richard Giye was the best poet in Poetry Writing (English). Mark Samuel De Guzman and Bobby Mc Gee Lee, both BSE-III, landed 1st Runners-Up in Comics Strip Drawing (Filipino) and Editorial Writing (English), respectively. Faith Belington, BSDC-IV, 3rd Runner-Up in DevCom Writing (English); Mariel Laoana, BSN-IV, 3rd Runner-Up in Photojournalism (English); and Gilbert Barro, BSHRM-II, 4th Runner-Up in Comics Strip Drawing (English).

The MCians and other top five winners will be representing the region to the 13th Luzon-wide Higher Education Press Conference this coming February 12-14 in Lucban, Quezon.

“Hopefully, the Mountain Collegian staff together with the rest of the other school paper writers competing for CAR will raise the level of the region’s standing in the Luzon-wide event,” said Dr. Grace T. Bengwayan, the MC adviser.

The White and Blue of Saint Louis University and last year’s title holder, The Alternative of the University of the Cordilleras, came out the over-all 1st Runner-Up and 2nd Runner-Up, respectively followed by the Baguio College of Technology’s The Atom and Kalinga Apayao State College’s Earthline.//
Rhe-Ann B. Ngayaan, BEE ‘15

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irrigation system saves time, effort, water, and nutrients.

Moreover, Mr. Barcelona said that water is the medium of nutrients so that they could be absorbed by the plants efficiently. In his explanation, he likened a drip irrigation system to a mother who cooks very well and a farmer who feeds his /her plants properly. Aside from materials for Drip Irrigation System, Harbest also conducts/offers seminars and consultation services to farmers.

Prathista and BSU sign MOU

After the RDE seminar series, Prathista Industries LTD. and the University sealed their engagement in a Memorandum of Understanding for academic and research exchanges. The MOU binds both parties to join forces along the following areas of mutual benefits: scholars and scientists exchange program; Industry-Academia Interaction; submission of RDE proposal for international funding; participation in conferences, symposia, and instruction; and scientific and technical literature exchange services.



MC staff with VP for Academic Affairs, Dr. Percyveranda A. Lubrica and Office of Student Services Director, Dr. Jean Jeannete Sibayan presenting the MC trophy and various certificates during the January 27 flag ceremony at the Administration Bldg.//SIFernando

President Aquino leads prayer for nation

President Benigno S. Aquino III on Monday led Filipinos in prayer to honor the memory of those who died in natural and manmade calamities last year, and to seek Divine Guidance in rebuilding affected communities.

The President also led Filipinos at the “One Nation in Prayer: Isang Bansa Isang Panalangin” at the Malacañan Palace grounds in thanking God for the strength to withstand their loss and rebuild.

“Hindi po namin alam ang laman ng kinabukasan. Gayumpaman, buong tiwala at pag-asa namin itong haharapin, dahil alam naming anuman ang mangyari, ay naaayon sa Inyong mabuting plano. Alam naming nagbubukal ito sa Inyong walang hanggang pagmamahal sa sangkatauhan. Alam naming sa bawat unos, bibigkisin Mo kami, sa bawat pagkadapa, ibabangon Mo kami, sa bawat pagkabigo, hahandugan Mo kami ng lakas at tatag ng loob. Hindi man alam ang pangalan, hindi man kaano-ano, turuan Mo kaming magmahal nang walang kondisyon o hinihinging kapalit. Tulungan Mo kaming patuloy na ibigin maging ang mga nakalimot sa Inyong mga dakilang Kautusan (We may not know what the future holds. But we will face the future with trust in You. We know You will help us recover from every setback. Help us to love without condition and follow your will),” he said.

The President also said no less than the preamble of the 1987 Constitution had Filipinos implore the aid of Almighty God to “build a just and humane society.”

Also, he thanked God for guiding Filipinos and helping them get through these successive tragedies.

“(M)apaluhod man ng trahedya, hindi natitinag ang Pilipino. Hinangaan ng buong mundo ang pambihirang tatag ng loob, tibay ng pagkakaisa, at lalim ng aming pananampalataya. Humugot kami ng lakas sa pananalig sa Iyong pag-ibig at kalooban.

Panatag naming hinaharap ang anumang pagsubok, hindi kailanman sumusuko at nawawalan ng pag-asa, dahil alam naming nariyan Kayo’t hindi nawawala sa aming tabi: gumagabay, nagbabantay; at kasamang pumapasan sa mga suliranin (Tragedies may bring us to our knees but they will not faze us. The world has admired the strength of Filipinos and their faithfulness. We will face all challenges, we will not surrender and we will not lose hope because we know You are there to guide and protect us),” he said.

Monday’s prayer was for Filipinos affected by the failed siege of Zamboanga City by followers of Moro National Liberation Front founding chairman Nur Misuari last September; a magnitude-7.2 quake that devastated Central Visayas in October; and super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan), which left more than 6,100 dead last November.

Survivors of last year’s tragedies who attended the event offered prayers in their respective tongues. They included:

Idris Lim,
Zamboanga City siege;
Dioscoro Robles, Bohol
quake; Rowena Borines,
Typhoon Yolanda

Religious and
President ...page 7



BSU joins “One Nation in Prayer”. The Benguet State University, spearheaded by the Office of the University Board Secretary, joined the rest of the nation in one national interfaith prayer on January 20, 2014. Faculty and staff assembled at the lobby of the old Administrative building. The Nation in Prayer was held at the Malacañan grounds to remember and pray for the victims in particular of recent calamities brought by super typhoon Yolanda, among others. It was broadcasted live through PTV 4./JST

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civil leaders at the event included:

Datu Cosme Lambayon, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples; Bishop Jonel Milan, Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches (PCEC)-Hope of Glory Christian Church; Isaias Samson, Jr., Iglesia ni Cristo; Imam Ebra Moxsir, Muslims Manila, and Archbishop Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle.

Lambayon asked God to bless the nation and its leaders, and asked for freedom from upcoming calamities.

Milan prayed for forgiveness for destroying Mother Earth and for the protection of the Philippines.

Samson thanked God for giving the victims inspiration with help from fellow Filipinos and the international community, and sought protection from calamities.

Moxsir sought divine guidance for the country's leaders.

Tagle asked God to help Filipinos face the future and rebuild with hope.

Present at the event were Cabinet members, survivors of last year's tragedies and members of business communities. PND (JI) (PIA)

Strawberries thrive on highland chill

by Maria Elena Catajan of Sunstar Baguio

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet -- People might be complaining about the cold, but for strawberry growers, it is a welcome chill.

Norman Manangwe, External Affairs officer of the Benguet State University Agri-Based Technology Business Incubator/Innovation Center (the BSU – ATIBI – IC), said cold weather is ideal for the berries.

“Ideal for strawberries ang ganitong lamig,” he said.

Today, the area is thriving with tourists welcoming the peak season for picking and touring. An average of 1,000 visitors is welcomed each weekend, while on weekdays there is an average of 500 guests arriving.

The Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) recorded the coldest temperature so far was at 9.6 degrees Celsius on January 12 as compared to 9.8 degrees Celsius a year ago. The city's lowest temperature was recorded at 6.3 degrees on January 18, 1961.

The Pagasa said high pressure brought about by the northeast monsoon, which blows cold air from mainland China and higher latitude countries, will continue until February.

Strawberries prices now range from P150 for small to medium sizes while large and extra large berries cost P180 per kilo.

Mangawe said there is an 80 percent increase in production during these peak months with an average of 1,000 kilos produced a week.

The BSU-ATIBI-IC group hold 3.7 hectares in the vast 38 hectare strawberry field at kilometer 6 owned by the state university which was called a swamp in the olden days specifically because it gets flooded during the rainy months and literally covering the fields with water.

It is here, however, where the biggest yield in berries is seen, reason why farmers fight tooth and nail to have a spot in the coveted fields.

There are over 500 farmers in the fields divided into two associations.//



BSU signs MOA with CPC. The University through President Dr. ben D. Ladilad has signed a Memorandum of Agreement on faculty with the Chungbuk Provincial College represented by Dr. Kim, Hee Dai. The signing was done on January 22, 2014 at Dr. Ladilad's office duly witnessed by BSU and CPC officials.//JST

A page of goodies brought to you by the first batch of
BS IN HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT students



CUPCAKES



WILD TUNA PEPPERS IN
 SWAMP SALAD



TROPICAL CHICKEN
 MEDITERRANEAN IN THE
 WILDERNESS



MADAGASCAR NUTTY STRAW-
 BERRY SWEETS



LEMON GINGER MOUSSE



PARROT PEPPERS AND TIGER
 TOMATO SOUP



7 LAYER VEGETABLE SALAD



DEVILED EGGS



SQUASH SOUP



CHICKEN ROULADE OVER
 PASTA IN MUSHROOM SAUCE

Editor's note: BSU started offering BS in Hotel and Restaurant Management in 2010. The first batch, now on its third year is currently holding fine dining functions as partial requirements of the course.