

# Convergence is at work in SEA teachers program

"Convergence as defined by many authors is actually coming into one or togetherness for quality practices. With the sharing of our mentors, with all your lessons learned and your reflections, we could say that you have shared your best and you have gained the best from Benguet State University."

This was according to Alexandra S. Sadang who addressed the second batch of interns for the South East Asia (SEA) Teachers Project or Pre-Service Teacher Exchange in South East Asia. The SEA Teachers were accommodated in the University from January 9 to February 1, 2019. Sad-ang is the College of Teacher Education faculty-in-charge of this year's SEA Teachers. The SEA-Teachers project refers to the Pre-Service Teachers Exchange in Southeast Asia by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization

(SEAMEO). The project generally aims to provide opportunity for pre-service student teachers from universities in Southeast Asia to have teaching experiences or practicum in other Southeast Asian countries and gain a broader regional and world view of education.

BSU accommodated nine pre-service interns. The interns from Indonesia are: Khairun Nisa of the University of Lampung; Agnevianty Vida Palupi and Yunika Cahya of the Islamic University of Indonesia; Imam Taufiq and Nadia Ayu Refani Putri of the

## BSU signs MOUs with Taiwanese universities

To establish cooperative programs with Asian universities, Benguet State University partnered with two universities and a company in Taiwan namely, Chung Shan Medical University, National Chiayi University and Agrigaia Social Enterprise, a company engaged in organic farming.

The Memorandum of Understanding with Chung San Medical University (CSMU) was signed on February 19, 2019 at the CSMU Campus. The MOU was signed by: BSU President, Dr. Feliciano G. Calora; BSU VP for Business Affairs, Dr. Silvestre K. Aben; CSMU president, Dr. Ko-Huang Lue; and

## **BSU** installs state-of-the-art lab equipment – soon enhance services to community

Benguet State University installs its state-of-the-art equipment for Soil, Plant and Water Laboratory, Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory, Biotechnology Laboratory, Natural Products Laboratory, and Geo-Informatic Laboratory in the new Research and Extension Building.

The newly-equiped laboratories will enhance research and help in the capability building of researches not only in the University but in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)

This will also enhance BSU services to the community.

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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.

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### **Benguet State University**

#### **VISION\***

A PREMIER UNIVERSITY delivering world-class education that promotes sustainable development amidst climate change

#### **MISSION**

To provide quality education to enhance food security, sustainable communities, industry innovation, climate resilience, gender equality, institutional development and partnerships

#### **CORE VALUES (SLIDES)**

Student-centered Leadership Integrity Diversity Efficiency Service

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Goal I. To develop proactive programs to ensure relevant quality education

Objectives:

 $1.\!$  To benchmark curricular and co-curricular programs with national and international standards

2.To develop alternative learning experiences to enhance skills

that match industry needs

3.To develop innovative and relevant curricular and co-curricular programs

4.To enhance proactive student welfare and development programs

Goal II. To develop proactive programs for quality service

Objectives:

1.To enhance relevant human resource development programs

2.To develop effective and efficient innovative platforms for cascading information

3.To enhance and develop employee welfare programs

Goal III. To enhance responsive systems and procedures for transparent institutional development

Objectives:

1.To enhance and develop innovative financial management systems

2.To ensure transparency in all transactions in the university

3.To ensure inclusive and consultative decision making

Goal IV. To develop relevant and gender sensitive research and extension programs for institutional development, sustainable communities, climate resilience, industry innovation, and partnerships

Objectives:

1. To develop relevant multimedia tools in disseminating technology, knowledge and information generated from RDE programs

2. To develop relevant RDE activities that will address current problems and support cultural advocacy

3. To partner with strategic local, regional, national and international entities

Goal V. To strengthen and expand public-private partnership

Objectives:

1. Sustain and pursue functional University-relation with the alumni and other organizations both in the government and non-government entities2. To strengthen the linkage among academe, industries, LGUs and community

\*Board of Regents Approved Resolution # 2494, s. 2016.

#### **Revised 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 #2736, s. 2018

Talk to us!



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## College of Forestry team is National Forestry Olympiad 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up



The Benguet State University-College of Forestry team ranked overall 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up in the 13<sup>th</sup> National Forestry Olympiad (NFO) held on February 18-22, 2019 at the University of the Philippines Los Baños-College of Forestry and Natural Resources (UPLB-CFNR). This is the highest rank attained by BSU since 2004.

The BSU team is composed of three 4<sup>th</sup> year students, namely: Willier L. Bacuso, Nathaniel

P. Langbis and Annabelle B. Tulic. Renchel Kaye L. Lopez, a  $2^{\rm nd}$  year student also attended

PROUD SHOWS.

Their trophy and medal as 2nd Runner Up during the awarding ceremony. //CBao-idang

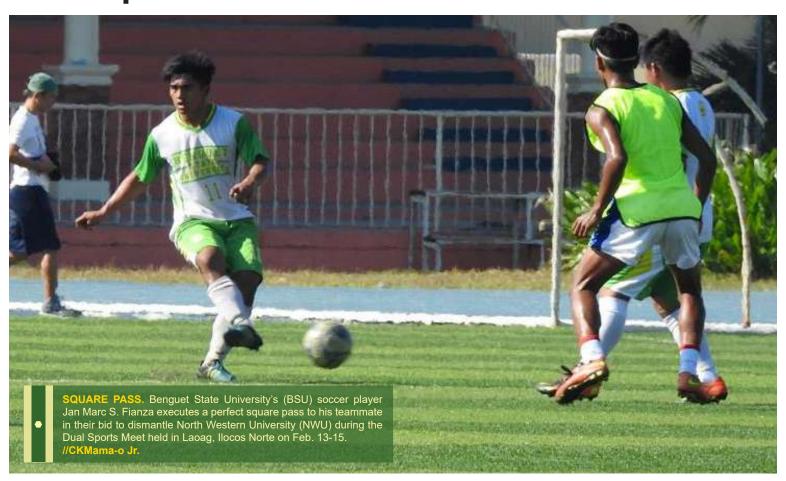
the olympiad as an observer in preparation for the next NFO 2021. The BSU team is headed by their coach, Forester Peter Bernard Daipan, CF faculty member. The team ranked 2nd in Diseases Identification, 3rd in Seed Identification, 3rd in Wood Identification and 3rd in the Quiz Bee.

A certificate was awarded to the participants in each of the events they won. As 2nd runner up, they received a trophy, medals for each member of the team and Php 10,000. Out of 17 participating Forestry schools nationwide, BSU joined Southern Luzon State University (SLSU) located in Lucban, Quezon (overall 1st runner up), and the UPLB-CFNR (overall champion) in the top ranks.

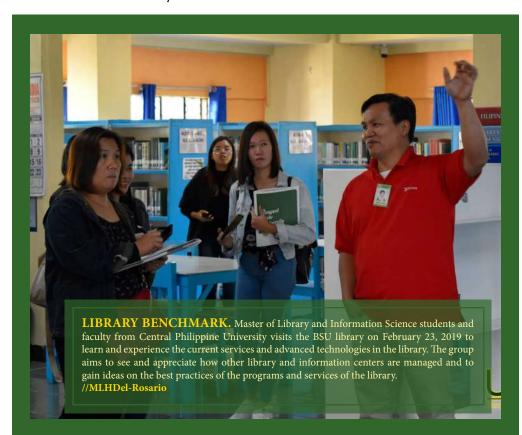
The NFO is a scholastic competition among students from different forestry schools in the Philippines which is being held every two years at the UPLB College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Los Baños, Laguna. The best students from each participating college or university showcased their skills in tree measurement, identification of forest diseases, leaf identification, forest surveying, seed identification, and wood identification. A quiz bee, with the highest percent score, capped off the event. NFO also promotes linkages among forestry students and the institutions they represent, as well as develops higher sense of environmentalism and commitment for the conservation and sustainable management of the country's forest and natural resources.

//CCBao-idang

## BSU strengthens partnership with NWU thru Dual Sports Meet



Benguet State University (BSU) and North Western University (NWU) embarked on their second edition of Dual Sports Meet hosted by NWU at Laoag, Ilocos Norte on February 13 to 15, 2019.



The three-day event was packed with sports events like baseball, football, volleyball, and sepak takraw. BSU athletes dominated all the events after displaying their prowess that dismantled the athletes of the host campus.

Clark Sotero, BSU volleyball player, stressed that the said dual sports meet became an avenue for them to see improvements in their skills and strenghten partnerships.

According to Kalvin Jake P. Awas, chairman of Sports and Wellness Program of the University, "The dual meet is an important event because it provides varsity athletes additional exposure in high competition aside from the annual Cordillera Administrative Region Association of State Universities and Colleges (CARASUC) meet and Baguio Benguet Educational Athletic League (BBEAL) meet where BSU is a consistent competitor."

Ceasar L. Balacwid, Chairman of Fitness and Sports Coaching and also a Football Coach, added that the two universities should encourage other schools and universities to join in the competition.

BSU and NWU Dual Meet started in 2017. The first edition was hosted by BSU where sport events such as Taekwondo, Basketball, Sepak Takraw and Table Tennis were competed. //CKMama-o Jr.

### Humanities faculty train in foreign languages

To address the demand of offering 3-unit foreign language courses to undergraduate students in the University, faculty members of the Department of Humanities were introduced to the basics of French and Spanish in an In-service training on February 26-27, 2019 at the Gladiola Cenet.

Dr. Maria Gladys Galinato – Tomas, Executive Director of the MGGT Language Center in Manila facilitated the said training. The topics included basic expressions, greetings and statements with individual and group exercises.

"This activity is an initial step of capacitating the faculty, at least, the faculty has a feel of the different foreign languages where if given the chance, each one would specialize and master a foreign language", commented Ronda B. Tullay, Director of BSU International Language Center after the training.

According to Dr. Cynthia T. Lubiton, Chairperson of the Humanities Department, a 40-hour intensive training course for certification will be pursued. In the next months, Department of Humanities faculty members will also be trained in Korean language.

At present, the University offers Mandarin and Nihonggo as foreign languages in the undergraduate and graduate degree level with Prof. Lourdes A. Bela-o and Prof. Elvira G. Dines as course facilitators. //KSPanolong





**DUCK, COVER & HOLD.** Benguet State University continues to instill in the mind of pupils and students the duck, cover and hold practice in times of earthquake. The Office of Security and National Services Training Program (NSTP) facilitated the participation of the University in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter National Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) 2019.

Pupils from Early Childhood Development Center, Elementary Laboratory School and students of Secondary laboratory school joined the drill.

"Disasters know no boundaries...we have to precondition the mindset of the young so that they should know how to protect themselves during earthquake," said Odelon C. Dulay, Chief Security Officer of Benguet State University.

//DSEmok



BSU installs state-of-the-art lab equipment. . . from page 1

The new laboratory equipment includes Spectro Photometer, Gas chromatography, Flame Photometer, Kjeldahl, Biolog System, and more. Along with the equipment are laboratory glassware and reagents.

VP for Research and Extension Carlito P. Laurean stated that the equipment are crucial in the conduct of research. He added that the students, faculty and researchers within CAR who are in need of such equipment are welcome in the Research and Development laboratories.

#### For the Farmers

Laurean stated that the newly-equipped laboratories will address the needs of farmers since their main function would be for the conduct of soil analysis, plant analysis, water analysis, and microbiological analysis. This will also deliver a prompt technical assistance.

"The plant pest and disease diagnostic lab will be able to determine the pests and diseases that are attacking the plants of our farmers" Laurean added.

Further, the facilities would also be utilized for the packaging of high impact research and development projects on soil, plant and water resources in the Cordillera Region which will also be beneficial to farmers of the region.

#### For Student Utilization

The new laboratories will be available for the utilization of students. Laurean stated that the laboratories can be used by students of BSU and other public or even private schools once they are fully operational.

Though the laboratories will be open for students and community use, Laurean stated that there will be a minimal fee to be charged later on for the operation and maintenance of the equipment.

#### For Researchers

For research purposes, the laboratories will provide precise information on soil degradation, nutrient deficiency and toxicity, pesticide residues, heavy metals, water contamination, and inefficient water use.

Laurean also emphasized that the laboratories are the core of BSU research activities. He added that BSU researchers can now conduct basic research with the use of the equipment. "We could now do the basic research that some researchers were not able to conduct in the past", Laurean detailed.

The grant for the purchase of the laboratory equipment from DOST-PCAARRD was made possible due to the various research and development projects that the university have implemented and is currently implementing.

These includes Pilot Testing and Utilization of Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues (RBPR) System in the Philippines; Use of Carrageenan Plant Food Supplement (PFS) for Selected Coal-Season Crops (Lettuce, Broccoli, cabbage, and strawberry) in Protected Production System; and Disaster Risk Reduction of Climate Change Impacts on Vulnerable Terrace Farms in Benguet; and more.

Members of the Cordillera Consortium for Agriculture, Aquatic and Resources Research and Development (CorCAARRD), and other stakeholders may likewise benefit through the enhancement of capability for soil, plant and water analysis through the new laboratory services.

The Department of Science and Technology

Philippine Council for Agriculture,
Aquatic and Natural Resources Research
and Development (DOST-PCAARRD)
contributed around 43 million pesos for the
purchase and installation of the soil, plant and
water laboratories and equipment.

BSU also allotted 20 million for the purchase and installation of the Biotech and Geo-informatic Laboratory and fixtures of the building. //KJDPagada



#### **SEA Teachers Program... from front page**

Universitas Negeri Padang; and Fitri Kurnia Dewi and Siti Aminah of the Universitas Ahmad Dahlan while the interns from Thailand are Intira Seethi and Piyaphon Pinthong of Chiang Rai Ratjaphat University. While these interns are the second batch of SEA Teachers accommodated by BSU, they belong to the 7th Batch deployed by SEAMEO.

The nine pre-service interns taught Physics, Economics, English and Biology. They were mentored by Rachel K. Maguen and Yvonne B. Tabdi of the Elementary Laboratory School and Ariston B. Canayon, Imee C. Cuadra, Agustin R. Nang-is and Cecilia B. Samonte of the Secondary Laboratory School. Selected CTE students were assigned to the interns

as "buddies" while the Supreme Student Government officers came up with activities that exposed the interns to Filipino culture.

"BSU students really respect us, they know we are still learning (studying) but they treat us like real teachers," Siti Aminah, one of the interns said in an interview recalling how surprised she was when students would stand up and greet her.

The interns described BSU students as polite, participative, open-minded, kind, friendly and excellent. They shared how the BSU students would try to reach out to them despite their not-so-fluent English. Piyaphon Pinthong shared how students made him learn a few more English words while Intira Seethe found them very helpful like when they assist in setting up the LCD projector.

A send-off program for the interns was held on February 1, 2019 at the Strawberry Hall. During the send-off program, one of their mentors, Imee C. Cuadra lauded the interns' heart and passion in teaching.

"I was really impressed with your batch for preparing so much. We only gave instructions and what surprised us is you do not even depend on your buddies. Our pupils wanted to come and see you, meaning the attachment is there--they love you already," she said.

Cecilia Samonte, CTE-SLS mentor praised their efforts to overcome the language barrier with smiles and gestures.

"They observed the class then acquainted and familiarized themselves with the students at once. They maximized the use of powerpoint presentations; they are respectful, humble, generous and patient," Samonte added.

The interns said that they will bring home the teaching methods that their mentors shared with them such as the volcano activity, presentations and role-playing. They also spoke of sharing bits of Philippine literature to their students back in their countries.

"I hope that you were able to develop your teaching skills and pedagogy and we really hope that your buddies or counterparts also have learned from you as far as teaching skills are concerned," said CTE Dean, Imelda G. Parcasio. //JSTabangcura

#### BSU signs MOUs with Taiwanese universities. . . from front page



CSMU Academic Affairs Dean, Dr. Huiling Chiou.

On the following day, February 20, 2019, Dr. Calora and Dr. Aben signed another MOU between BSU, National Chiayi University (NCYU) and Agrigaia Social Enterprise. NCYU was represented by its President, Dr. Chyung Ay and its VP for International Affairs, Dr. Chishih Chu while Agrigaia was represented by its Director of Brand Development Centre, Ms. Vanessa Ying Lin.

Both MOUs are effective for five years and signified the agreement of all parties to encourage the development of mutually beneficial academic and training programs, exchange of students for internship and studies, exchange of faculty and staff for teaching, research and extension, reciprocal assistance for visiting academic faculty, staff and students, coordination of such activities as joint research and transfer of technology, exchange of documentation

and research materials in the field of mutual interests and development of dual degree programs.

The signing ceremonies were witnessed by College of Home Economics and Technology dean, Dr. Pelin B. Belino and College of Forestry faculty, Ms. Nova Doyog.

BSU officials also visited the National Dong Hwa University (NDHU), National Chung Hsing University (NCHU) and National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST) as part of the Benchmarking Towards Global Competitiveness initiatives of the University. To note, BSU have existing MOUs with NCHU and NPUST.

The current MOUs are follow-up activities to reciprocal benchmarking of the universities involved on August 25-26, 2017 and November 28-29, 2017.

//KSPanolong





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### CAR schools and agencies join hands celebrating International Year of IP languages



Private and public schools in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) will host various activities including camps, conferences, seminars and festivals to celebrate the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL). Along with partner agencies, the participating schools are Benguet State University (BSU), Cordillera Career Development College, Saint Louis University, Mountain Province State Polytechnic College, Kalinga State University, Apayao State College and King's College of the Philippines.

"In a nutshell, gusto ng IYIL na pataasin ang kaalaman ng mga mamamayan ukol sa sarili nilang wika. Year-long po itong mga activities and we want to target steps that will improve the quality of life, to enhance international cooperation, to strengthen intercultural dialogue, and re-affirm cultural and linguistic continuity," said Dr. Ricardo Ma. Nolasco, one of the convenors of IYIL Philippines.

The said IYIL activities were launched on February 28, 2019 at the Benguet State University (BSU), Strawberry Hall. The launching was attended by personalities from the Commission on Higher Education, UNESCO, National Commission Indigenous People, Department of Education and Summer Institute of Linguistics to signify their support.

Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, Special Rapporteur of UN and a member of the IYIL steering committee shared that articles 13, 14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples became the basis of lobbying by IPs that led to the adoption of Resolution 71-178 by the UN General Assembly proclaiming 2019 as the IYIL.

"Indigenous Peoples have always fought for their right to use their own languages. The

UN declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) has three articles that talk about the rights of IPs to languages. One is Article 13 which says that IPs have the right to revitalize, to use and develop and transmit their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures and to retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

The second part of this article says that states shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that Indigenous People can understand and be understood in political, legal and administrative procedures if necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate measures.

Then Article 14 says that IPs have the right to establish and control their own educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.

Finally, Article 16 says IPs have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of nonindigenous media without discrimination. These are the articles upon which IPs pushed strongly for the declaration of an International Year on Indigenous languages," explained Tauli-Corpuz.

Meanwhile, Guest Speaker, Commissioner Ronald L. Adamat of CHED described the launching as a historic event and shared his own experience about the preservation of IP Language specifically the Tiruray language.

"Since college, embedded na sa aking mind iyong pag-pro-protect ng aming kultura dahil pinag-uumpugan kami ng mga malalaking kultura sa Mindanao, and these are the Muslims and the Christians. Ngayon kung hindi namin protektahan ang aming kultura at ang aming language, unti-unti na lang mawawala," he said.

To do his part in the preservation of his language, Adamat participated in SIL's efforts in translating the Bible and the history of the Philippines to Tiruray. He went on taking translation jobs in college.

"Even the national anthem, I translated to Tiruray and it has been sung by students and school officials in our hometown in Upi, Maguindanao," he added.

Adamat also announced that through his initiative, an upcoming CHED Memorandum Order will integrate Indigenous Education to the Tertiary Curriculum. He mentioned that one basis of his proposal for the CMO is RA 10908, an Act Mandating the Integration of Filipino-Muslim and Indigenous Peoples History, Culture and Identity in the Study of Philippine History in Both Basic and Higher Education promulgated in 2016.

"Language is a vital component of our culture, alisin mo iyong language o hindi ka makapagsalita ng sarili mong linguahe o dialect, in effect, you are losing your culture and your identity. That is the most unfortunate consequence," Adamat lamented.

He added that there is no other way forward but to be proud of our tribe and culture and to promote it.

In the University, the College of Arts and Sciences, Bokod and Buguias Campus will focus on organizing an Indigenous Language Enthusiasts Society, MultiLingual Education Training, student congress, participation to the first Ba'diw Festival, Creative Interpretation of Indigenous Songs, Literary, Musical and Visual Arts competitions and an international conference to culminate the year-long activities. //JSTabangcura