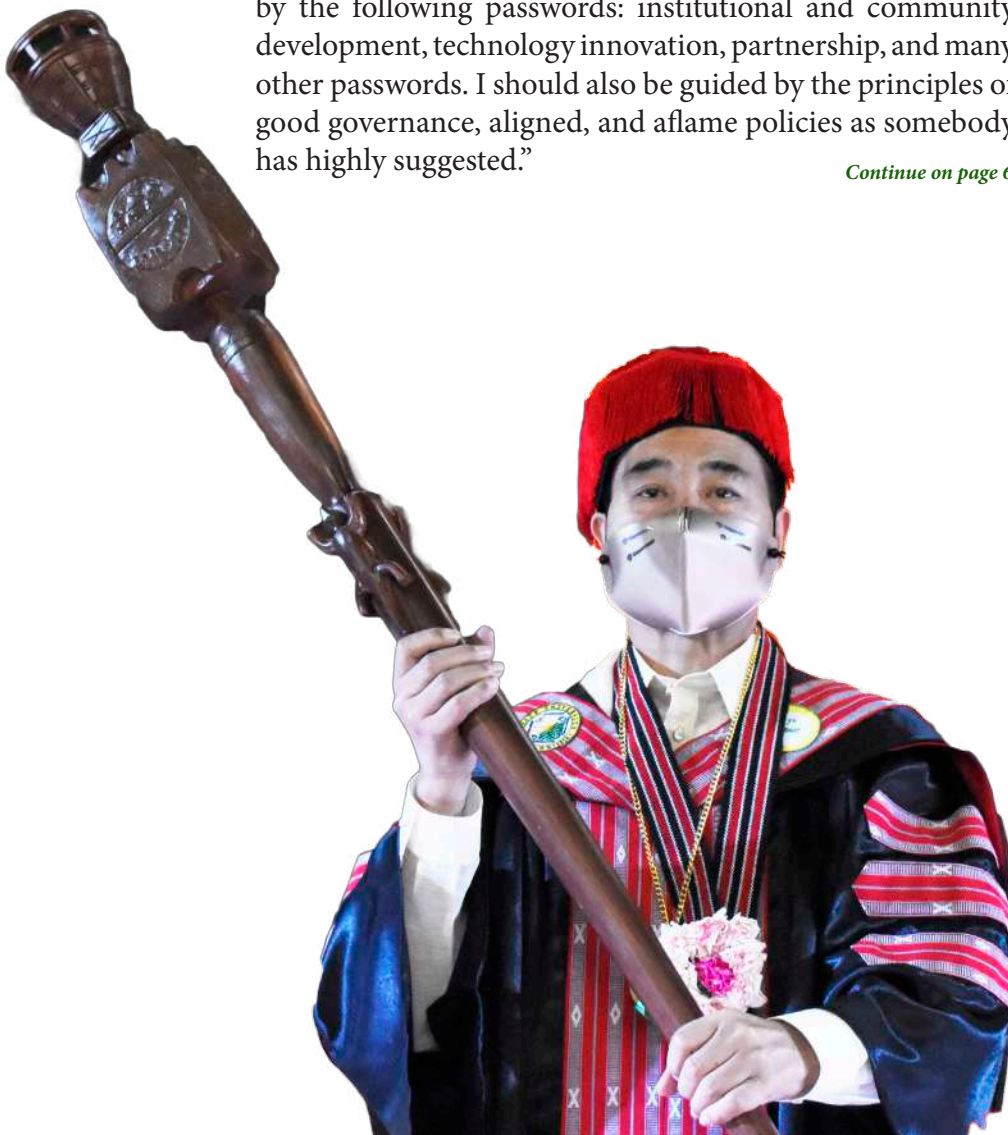




Comila vows quality education through institutional and community development

“I will continue to achieve quality education enhanced by the following passwords: institutional and community development, technology innovation, partnership, and many other passwords. I should also be guided by the principles of good governance, aligned, and aflame policies as somebody has highly suggested.”

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BSU celebrates 35 years as a University



Benguet State University celebrated its 35th Charter Anniversary on January 7-15, 2021 with a line-up of activities that aimed to showcase its accomplishments and build rapport with the community.

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DA funds BSU research on farmers' databases and technology utilization



Benguet State University was among 32 state universities that signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Agriculture (DA) on January 26, 2021 for the conduct of researches that will generate field-level data to better understand the needs of the agricultural sector.

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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.

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*

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 entities
2. 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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Guests and BSU officials plant 35 trees to mark 35th Charter Anniversary

One highlight of the BSU Charter Anniversary celebration was the tree-planting activity of guests and University officials at the proposed tree park near the museum on January 12, 2021. The 35 trees planted symbolize the 35 years of BSU as a University.

Among the tree species planted are Obdas, Talisai, Raintree, Avocado, Cypress, Salisi, Ipil, Santol, Deguai, Dungon-late, Mangga, Kilog, Big-leaf Mahogany, Tigdog, Bignai, and Yellow Bottle Brush.

“Deguai is a wild fruit bearing tree in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). Raintree, commonly known as Acacia, is a shade and avenue tree. Talisai, also called ‘umbrella tree’ is a multi-purpose shade tree that provides edible seeds, and medicines,” said College of Forestry (CF) Dean, Dr. Bao-idang.

The CF, with the assistance of the Landscaping and Land Reservation Units, did all measures to ensure that the trees would survive.

“Planting trees will be a total waste of efforts and resources without maintenance. So a water pipeline was installed seven days after the activity for the regular watering, tree guards were established, and weeding will be done two to three times a year until the tree seedlings will outcompete weeds,” Dr. Bao-idang added.

Among the guests who participated in the tree planting activity are Benguet Congressman, Hon. Eric Go Yap; CHED-CAR OIC Director, Dir. Danilo B. Bose; BSU Resident Auditor, Ms. Noemi C. Tagudar; and Kapangan Mayor, Hon. Manny E. Fermin. More trees were planted by CF faculty and staff



//photo by JS Tabangcura

on January 13-14, 2021 at the remaining space of the proposed tree park.

The seedlings planted were propagated at the CF tree nursery. The nursery also supplies organizations and individuals with seedlings for their tree planting activities.

“Nu organizations, basta ada ti request ken nu available jay seedlings, ited mi. Ngem nu walk-in individuals, dagijay ti ilako mi for a

minimal fee (We donate to organizations who request for seedlings that are available while we sell to walk-in individuals),” said Mr. Bernard Pablito also known as the ‘Nursery Man.’

Mr. Pablito reported that 1,533 tree seedlings were donated to organizations and government agencies and 1,175 were sold by the nursery in 2020. The trees donated and sold includes Benguet Pine, Gmelina, mahogany, Ipil-ipil, Caliandra, Anchoan-dilau, Benguet Coffee, Bayabas, Papaya, Banaba, Red Bottle Brush, African Tulip, Malatibig, Hauili, Salisi, and Alnus. As of December 2020, the nursery keeps a collection of around 7,000 seedlings of various kinds of trees, bamboo and tea seedlings.

According to Mr. Pablito, the main purpose of the nursery is to serve as laboratory for Forestry students where they will learn to establish a nursery and to propagate seedlings until they are ready for planting.

“Ti i-propagate mi ditoy Forestry nursery, kaaduan na ket dagijay indigenous, jay nalaka nga makita ditoy ayan tayo kas kuma dagijay Benguet pine, Arabica coffee, Deguaia, Alnus, Caliandra, Ipil-ipil, Malatibig ken daduma pay,” Mr. Pablito said. //JSTabangcura



//photos by Conrado Bao-idang

OUR Personnel undergoes training on Data Privacy and Online Service



The University President, Dr. Felipe Salaing Comila graced the activity by awarding the Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Ruth Lalio and the Certificates of Participation to the participants, he was assisted by O.U.R. Director, Ms. Bernadette C. Bagto.

Personnel of the Office of the University Registrar (OUR) went through a series of capability building activities on: the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and its Implementing Rules (IR); online processes for students' request or academic records; and self care in the time of pandemic. This was held on: November 25, 2020; December 4 and 15, 2020; and on February 6, 2021 at the BSU Gladiola Center and Adcor.

The highlight of the training-workshop on November 25, 2020, is the discussion on RA 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and its IRR. The Resource Speaker is BSU Chief Administrative Office (CAO) for Administration and Finance, Atty. Matias C. Angiwan, Jr., likewise, the Data Privacy Officer (DPO) of Benguet State University. As the O.U.R. embarks on an online platform to respond to its client's needs, there is a mandatory need to incorporate the provisions of RA 10173 in order to be compliant to laws governing personal information of its clients. Among the pertinent discussions of Atty. Angiwan, Jr. is the processing of personal

information that shall be permitted only if not otherwise prohibited by law. Of relevance, Atty. Angiwan, Jr. delve on the provisions of the law under Sensitive Personal Information and Privileged Information. He discussed that the processing of sensitive personal information and privileged information shall be prohibited, except if among others, the data subject has given his or her consent, specific to the purpose prior to the processing, or in the case of privileged information, all parties to the exchange have given their consent prior to processing.

Considering that one of the functions of the OUR is to secure and protect personal



information, Atty. Angiwan pointed out the need to protect students' personal and sensitive information.

Under the law unauthorized disclosure of personal and sensitive information shall be punished with one to six years imprisonment and a fine not less than PHP500,000.00 to PHP 4M. These are the reasons OUR is bent on observing the provisions of data privacy in complementation with the rules on freedom of information.

Meanwhile, the seminar "Self-care in the Time of Pandemic cum Online Process for Students' Request for Academic Records" was conducted on December 15, 2020 at the BSU Gladiola Center. The essence of the seminar is the reality that in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, like the OUR. personnel who are in a frontline service office are also physically, psychologically, and psychosocially challenged in the workplace. According to the Mayo Clinic Health System, the COVID-19 pandemic can feel overwhelming due to new information, long work hours while caring for



Workshop in the preparation and creation of google form was conducted on December 4, 2020. Ms. Ruth D. Lalio served as the Resource Speaker. Each Processor (Degree-in-charge) was made to prepare and customized their respective google forms.

one's family and self. It is important to pause for a moment and collect one's thoughts, as worldwide pandemics can be taxing.

OUR retirees, Ms. Bienvenida Caguioa and Ms. Victoria Dona were also invited to attend the seminar in support for their mental health protection during this pandemic.

Further, establishment of support

mechanisms where "the agency head shall ensure that all workers are afforded with the following adequate support mechanisms: a. Health/psychosocial interventions like stress debriefing" is provided for under the Civil Service Commission (CSC) MC 10, S. 2020.

BSU HRMO Supervising Administrative Officer Mr. Raymundo H. Pawid, Jr. served

as the resource person who gave insights relative to self-care in the time of pandemic. Among others he discussed on self-help skills in maintaining life balance and managing stress. Mr. Pawid elucidated on the concept of flourishing life, he shared that the conception of flourishing defines the nature of human strengths and well-being and prosperity to thrive despite challenges. Knowledge imparted by the Resource Speaker are relevant points of consideration in the multifarious tasks at the OUR.

In the same seminar, the OUR Google Form was launched. The OUR Google Form is the office's response to the growing requests for student records done online.

During the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) implemented in March of 2020, the OUR addressed requests for student through Email.

However, due to the difficulties encountered in managing a large volume of requests by a limited number of personnel, the OUR started using Google Forms.

//Bernadette Bao-idang



BSU Library & Information Services was awarded the Outstanding Academic/Research Library of the Year by the Philippine Association of Academic/Research Librarians, Inc. during the 48th General Assembly and Awarding Ceremony on January 29, 2021.



A symbolic photo by CAS faculty member, Tecah Sagandoy, showing one of the University's front liners-- a security guard on his 'new-normal' post in front of the Administration Building where he ensures that everyone entering is complying with the basic health protocols.

//photo by TSagandoy



ISA Workshop on January 20-21, 2021 of the Ad Hoc Committee for the preparation of documents for the Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) led by Dr. Jimmy G. Catanes- CHED-CAR Education Supervisor, who served as the Resource Speaker for the Activity.

BSU celebrates 35 years... from page 1

The celebration kicked off with the first day of the 35-day virtual run on January 1, 2021. The event was organized by the BSU Non-Teaching Association (BSUNTA) and BSU Government Employees Association (BSUGEA). This was followed by the Kapihan sa BSU held on January 7 in partnership with the Philippine Information Agency-Cordillera Administrative Region (PIA-CAR). The event was hosted by PIA-CAR Regional Director, Dir. Helen R. Tibaldo and co-hosted by UPAO Director, Dr. Gretchen Gaye C. Ablaza.

The major activities were held on January 12, 2021, the exact date when Mountain State Agricultural College (MSAC) was elevated to Benguet State University 35 years ago in 1986. The symbolic day began with an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service officiated by the La Trinidad Ecumenical Council of Churches (LTECC) with Rt. Rev. Nestor D. Poltic of the Episcopal Diocese of North Central Philippines as the main celebrant and preacher.

Loyalty awardees, retirees, Dir. Danilo B. Bose as a former member of the Board of Regents, and former presidents of the BSU Alumni Association, Inc. were honored during the Charter Anniversary that was held after the Investiture Program. There were 15 employees who received their loyalty awards for ten years in service, eight for 15 years in service, five for 20 years in service, six for 25 years in service, ten for 30 years in service, seven for 35 years in service, and four for 40 years in service.

There were eight Salamat-Mabuhay honorees from BSU La Trinidad and two from BSU Bokod. The Salamat-Mabuhay program is a simple but meaningful ceremony in honor of retiring employees in the civil service.

In her response, Dr. Asuncion L. Nagpala



who served for 39 years, expressed her gratitude for the recognition on behalf of her fellow awardees.

“This is an honor we share not only with our families but everyone whom we have worked with and we worked for. We are grateful to the Lord for letting us reach our retirement age so that we may be able to serve the needs of our kailanyans in the region and even outside Cordillera. BSU has been more than an employer, this institution provided a venue for learning and growth, for building and creating solutions, and also evoked potentials we barely knew we had,” said Dr. Nagpala.

The Federated Supreme Student Government involved their constituents in the celebration by launching virtual contests on prayer writing, e-poster making, and photography. The student organization also launched the search for the most student-friendly teacher. Based on student nominations and the teachers’ good practices in the new normal, the ten student-friendly teachers are Apler Bansiong of CTE, Imelda Degay of CHET, Jovi Jane Denis of CAS, Jandy Gay-as of IHK, Joahna Goyagoy of CA, Joel Lubrica

of CAS, Jennifer Paltayan of CAS, Imelda Parcasio of CTE, Joseph Quinto of CAS, and Ann Marie Rulla of CHET.

Other activities held in commemoration of the 35th Charter Anniversary includes the Social Cultural Night and Tree Planting Activity held on January 12, the exhibit of BSU products and Benguet One Town One Product (OTOP) from January 13-15, 2021; the Faculty Fora held on January 14-15, 2021 by the Faculty Club; and the Blood Letting activity held on January 15, 2021. //JSTabangcura

7th University President... from page 1

This was according to Dr. Felipe Salaing Comila in response to the commitments from various Local Government Unit (LGU) officials and guests during his investiture held on January 12, 2021, at the BSU gymnasium. The activity highlighted the beginning of Dr. Comila’s presidency in which CHED Commissioner and Chair of the BSU Board of Regents, Hon. Lilian A. De Las Llagas installed him as the 7th BSU President.

Dr. Comila’s investiture guests include Benguet Province Representative, Hon. Eric Go Yap; CHED-CAR OIC Regional Director, Dir. Danilo B. Bose; and former BSU Presidents Dr. Cipriano C. Consolation and Dr. Ben D. Ladilad.

The LGU officials who personally came to express their commitments and support are Benguet Governor, Hon. Melchor D. Diclas; La Trinidad Mayor, Hon. Romeo K. Salda; Atok Mayor, Hon. Raymundo S. Sarac Jr.; Bokod Mayor, Hon. Thomas K. Wales, Jr.; Itogon Mayor, Hon. Victorio T. Palangdan; Kabayan Mayor, Hon. Faustino M. Aquisan; Kapangan Mayor, Hon. Manny E. Fermin; Kibungan Mayor, Hon. Cesar M. Molitas; and Tublay Mayor, Hon. Armando I. Lauro.

Department of Agriculture Secretary, Hon. William D. Dar; CHED Chairperson, Hon. J. Prospero E. De Vera III; and Baguio Mayor, Hon. Benjamin B. Magalong also sent their video messages. //JSTabangcura

DA funds BSU Research... from page 1

DA downloaded PHP 1.5 Million for the said research to be implemented by the College of Agriculture and Cordillera Consortium for Agriculture, Aquatic and Resources Research and Development (CorCAARRD). The research will initially focus on: the continuing review and validation of Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) and other farmers and fishers databases; impact assessment of DA’s program on target communities and beneficiaries; analysis of technology utilization by farmers and fishers in the region; and survey on current sources of funding for production activities of farmers and fishers.

The MOA is under the DA’s



Agriculture Dialogue and Information Network Groups (ADING) program which seeks to further strengthen and improve the public’s trust and confidence in the department. //JSTabangcura

ELS and SLS faculty lectures on parenting and livelihood skills at Kapangan

The BSU-Elementary Laboratory School (ELS) responded to the invitation by the Kapangan LGU to serve as resource speakers in a livelihood training for solo parents. This was held at the Barangay Hall of Poblacion Central on January 16, 2021.

The BSU-ELS team composed of Dr. Marcelina L. Bolona, Ms. Leonora Javonillo, Dr. Minda Los-ok, and Ms. Leticia Cabutaje -Tul-ing of the BSU-Secondary Laboratory School (SLS). Dr. Bolona spoke about 'Parenting in The New Normal' while Ms. Cabutaje -Tul-ing taught soap-making. The 20 solo parents were given the chance to do hands-on activities. Ms. Nora also taught lei, wrist corsage and boutonniere making.

The invitation came from Mr. Marlon B. Baso, director of the Kapangan Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD) Office. The training was grounded on RA 88972 or Solo Parents' Welfare Act which inclines to provide benefits and privileges to solo parents and their children. BSU-ELS and SLS team was warmly welcomed by Kagawad Janet Carbonel, Social Welfare Officer III, Ms. Cleofe Guzman-Hadsan, and the Barangay Officials of Barangay Poblacion Central.

According to Ms. Cabutaje Tul-ing, the skills taught to the solo parents are recommended for additional income generation. She also noted that the parenting lecture by Dr. Bolona is relevant for the participants to better manage their children. During the said livelihood training, the parents positively responded by showing their interest and willingness to learn. They requested for more livelihood training programs so the BSU-ELS thus made a decision to make Kapangan as their extension venue for the next years.

//FAGabito



Ma'am Leticia Cabutaje -Tul-ing meticulously demonstrated how to make soap to the solo parents in Central Kapangan, Benguet //Minda Los-ok



Dr. Marcelina L. Bolona, BSU-ELS Chair, devotedly shared inspiring insights about 'Parenting in The New Normal' to the solo parents in Central Kapangan, Benguet

//Minda Los-ok



A Blessing and ribbon-cutting of the newly transferred International Relations Office (IRO) located at the 2nd floor of Landbank was held on January 26, 2021. The blessing was officiated by Father Sang Won Lee. Part of the celebration was the unveiling of the World Map led by Pres. Felipe Salaing Comila and the newly installed IRO Director, Dr. Maria Luz D. Fang-asan. The occasion was also attended by Atty. Lily Freida Macabangun- Milla- CHED OIC Deputy Executive Director IV, and former IRO Director Dr. Darlene D. Tagarino. //MHDel Rosario

BPI Accredits BSU-NPRCRTC Plant Tissue Culture Facility, First in Luzon

The Benguet State University - Northern Philippine Root Crops Research and Training Center (BSU-NPRCRTC) celebrates another milestone after the Bureau of Plant Industry- National Seed Quality Control Services (BPI-NSQCS) awarded the certificate of accreditation for the Center's plant tissue culture facility on January 27, 2021.

According to Catherine Balaoing, Chief of the BPI-NSQCS, the NPRCRTC plant tissue culture facility of BSU is the first government-owned facility to be accredited in Luzon.

She said that the accreditation of BSU is timely in response to the Department Circular issued by Department of Agriculture Secretary William Dar that seed multiplication, production, and maintenance shall be provided by institutions accredited by BPI-NSQCS.

Earlier, the NPRCRTC also received its certificate of accreditation as a potato seed producer from BPI-NSQCS along with Leonardo Antonio, a potato producer in Bakun and a farmer partner of the Center.



NPRCRTC Director Cynthia Kiswa said that the Center's tissue culture laboratory would ensure farmers access to affordable and disease-free potato planting materials. She said that NPRCRTC could produce 35% of rooted apical cuttings of the estimated 1,150,000 pieces' total requirement in the Cordillera Administrative Region. She explained that rooted apical cuttings are the cuttings from tissue cultured plants grown in the greenhouse.

At present, NPRCRTC is assisting three potato growers in Benguet to be accredited

by BPI. Kiswa said that they aim to help potato growers in the province so that each municipality will have an accredited potato producer to provide the potato seed requirement in the region.

BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila congratulated the NPRCRTC of their achievement and vowed to give the best support to the Center. He also encouraged the Center to continue to aim by providing services not just locally but also in the international community. //ADSantiago

BSU Showcases R & E outputs and OTOP Products

As part of the BSU 35th charter anniversary celebration, the different research and extension (R & E) outputs and the one-town-one-product (OTOP) of the 13 municipalities of Benguet were showcased in a 2-day exhibit held in the afternoon of January 13 until the morning of January 15 at the university gymnasium.

Among the R & E outputs highlighted are the veggie noodles of the Food Science Research and Innovation Center (FSRIC), the strawberry and vegetable produce of the incubatees under the Agri-based Technology Business Incubator/Innovation Center (ATBI/IC), the Arabica coffee produced by the Institute of Highland Farming Systems and Agroforestry (IHFS), as well as the knowledge products in the form of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials produced by the different R & E centers/institutes.

Strawberry jams and other processed products produced by the Food Processing Center were also showcased during the activity.

Along with the featured BSU products during the exhibit are the one-town-one-product of the 13 municipalities of Benguet. The OTOP products displayed includes the potatoes from Atok, carrot from Buguias, coffee from Kibungan, Strawberries from La Trinidad, Ubi from Sablan and Tuba and chayote from Tublay. Aside from the OTOP,

other products produced in the respective municipalities were also displayed.

Dr. Ruth Diego, Director of ATBI/IC and the coordinator of the OTOP exhibit, the inclusion of the OTOP products in the BSU activity is in support to the promotion of the local industry of the province.

BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila commended the R and E sector for implementing the activity. He further encouraged the BSU community to contribute their talents and skills and continue to make BSU a great University. //ADSantiago



//photo by PJGadang