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CDAE TASK FORCE CRITIQUE CURRICULUM AND SYLLABUS OF MSC IN AGROECOLOGY



BSU is Top 4 among SUCs with highest number of Level IV programs

Benguet State University was recognized by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCCUP) for its number of Level IV accredited programs. BSU is Top 4 among ten SUCs that had the highest number of Level IV accredited programs in 2019 out of

President Felipe Salaing Comila on March 12, 2021.

BSU underwent a series of rigorous accreditation to reach Level IV and as a result, ten areas that are in the instruments of

Assurance and Accreditation Director Dr.

mandatory areas to reach Level IV which include research, planning, quality assurance, and curriculum. These are needed to be included for Level IV-Phase 2.

“We are Top 4 because we have several programs that were able to make it to Level IV. This is also a result of the University’s good practices,” she said.

In an interview, Dr. Sandoval encouraged colleagues to continue striving for more Level IV programs and to sustain BSU’s best practices. She reminded that accreditation is a way to improve so BSU should also focus on the weak areas of its programs.

“We were able to see how we have

been faring compared to other SUCs in the Philippines. So, we know where we stand and from there we can improve on the other weaknesses that we have in terms of the ten areas that AACCCUP require us to deliver with excellence,” she said.

“All should be geared towards satisfying and giving quality education for our students. Iyon naman ang mahalaga doon, that’s the very thing that we do,” she added implying that BSU’s efforts are for its main clients the students.

Dr. Sandoval also shared that there are more programs submitted to AACCCUP for accreditation in 2020 and the results are on the way. With the increase in accredited programs

institutional accreditation.

acts can push BSU to reach greater heights,” she ended. //AKCariño

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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*

BSU as an International 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.

CORE VALUES (CARING TEAM PRINCIPLES)

Competence	Transparency	Participatory Management /Phronetic Organizational Research
Altruism	Effectiveness	Result-oriented/Re-engineering and Innovative
Resilience	and Efficiency	Indigenous Knowledge Management
Inclusivity	Accountability	Nurturing
Network	Mentoring	Convergence/Contingency
Godliness		Integrative Leadership
		Path-Goal
		Life-Coaching
		Entrepreneurial Leadership
		Student-First Policy/Spiritual Leadership

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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

Objectives:

1. To provide quality education responsive to the needs of time;
2. To enhance research productivity contributing to sustainable development;
3. To disseminate relevant research outputs and other scholarly activities consistent with BSU's mandated programs;
4. To promote sustainable and appropriate resource generation strategies for the implementation of development plans; and
5. 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. To use information and communication technology learning resources to sustain and enhance quality of alternative teaching - learning continuity endeavors;
2. To upgrade facilities and enable researchers/extensionists to conduct activities using specialized facilities;
3. To acquire and upgrade state-of-the-art facilities in the projects innovation; and
4. 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. 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 establish academic partnerships with local, regional, national, and international institutions providing educational opportunities for faculty, staff, and students;
2. To increase and sustain university relations with academe, industries, GOs, NGOs, and LGUs for research funding;
3. To increase and sustain partnership with academe, LGUs, NGOs, Industries, and others; and
4. To comply with existing laws, policies and other requirements key indicators.

Goal V. To strengthen and expand public-private partnership

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 and sustain Best Practices.

*Note: for BOR approval

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!



74-422-2009 (Telefax, University and Board Secretary)

074-422-2402 (Trunkline connecting all offices)

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ISRD and GAD office celebrates Women's Month with free international webinar

The Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) with the Gender and Development (GAD) Office hosted a free international webinar titled, "Mainstreaming Gender Perspective in Research and Development" in celebration of the life and contribution of women in R&D.

Participants during the international webinar included: various public and private schools based in Algeria, India, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, and U.S.A.; Local Government Units (LGU); public and private hospitals; National Line Agencies; companies; and businesses.

According to Mr. Mark U. Gay-as, head of the ISRD Food Health and Nutrition Division, the webinar affirms women's value in health emergency response and an inspiration to every gender to continuously support women empowerment. He added that the webinar is a testament to how women and gender roles can propel communities towards sustainable, multinational, and multicultural development.

During the webinar, Dr. Darlyn D. Tagarino, one of the resource speakers, emphasized the need to mainstream GAD in research programs or activities specified in the fields of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, and Natural Resources. She further discussed that the research ecosystem remains substantial if it is influenced by gender and development perspectives.

Dr. Ruth S. Batani affirmed the power of the women's voice in ensuring the significance and value of Qualitative Research. She explained that women should be visible through qualitative research by ways of doing gender-aware researches. She shared assuring and convincing sample cases from the women researchers of BSU. "Simply, quality research is a research that echoes women's thoughts, perceptions, characters, and values," she added.

Dr. Lisa Linda A. Natividad highlighted the traditional roles of women in addressing community needs in normal and even abnormal times. In her discussion, she made sure to stress that the communities



The ISRD led webinar is a tribute to the roles of *Juana* in the society as innovators of positive change. It served as a venue to discuss the mainstreaming of gender perspectives in search and development. //ISRD

are healthier, cultures are enriched, and families are stronger when women perform their traditional roles and when men execute their complementary roles.

The international webinar was spearheaded by Dr. Gigy G. Banes, ISRD director; Dr. Estrellita M. Daclan, GAD director; and Ms. Freda Kate D. Samuel, ISRD Division and GAD Chief.

//AKCariño



ISRD and GAD personnel with the resource speakers pose in celebration of the successful Gender and Development webinar. //AKCariño

MARCH Highlights



March 2-4, 2021- An orientation for the upcoming ISO 9001:2015 Internal Quality and Recertification Audit on October 2021 was facilitated by BSU-OQAA and Quality Plus Management Consulting Company.//AKCariño



04 March 2021- The four Acting Vice-Presidents with the task force assigned on the working paper preparation of the 7th BSU president's Vision, Mission, and Development Goals met at the AdCoR to review the final draft of the Strategic Plan 2021-2024 in line with the new VMDG to be approved by the Board of Regents.//MHDelRosario



Sabangan LGU and BSU officials met on March 5, 2021 at the new R&E building as they commenced a partnership by signing a Memorandum of Agreement for the Adopt-a-Community Program. //AKCariño



10 March 2021- The final deliberation for the BSU Records Disposition Schedule took place at the BSU ADCOR conference room. This was attended by BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila and members of the Records Management Improvement Committee (RMIC). The RMIC was assisted by Ms. Christine E. Licopit of the National Archives of the Philippines who discussed the Mechanics of the Deliberation through Zoom.//AKCariño



8 March 2021- Aside from being the National Women's Month, March is also declared as Fire Prevention month because of the noted increase of fire incidents happening across the country during this particular period. //MHDeRosario



12 March 2021- The College of Teacher Education conducted a Mental Health Seminar for parents of Elementary and High School students. //PJDGadang



11 March 2021- The MOA between BSU College of Teacher Education (CTE) and LGU of Kapangan was renewed. CTE, upon the request of LGU Kapangan, will provide training, workshops, and other activities for the community's parents, youth, and workers based on needs assessment. //MHDeRosario

10-12 March 2021- A three-day skills training on Edible Landscaping and Containerized Gardening was spearheaded by the Gender and Development Office (BSU-GAD) with the Horticulture Research and Training Institute (HORTI). This was still in celebration of the National Women's Month. The participants landscaped the BSU Alumni Park as part of the hands-on activity. //PJDGadang



12 March 2021- University President Felipe Salaing Comila together with VP for Administration and Finance Atty. Allan Sacpa and Engr. Feliciano Delos Santos met with officials from Commission on Human Rights-CAR regarding future plans and programs in partnership with the University. //PJDGadang



The two-day activity "Retooling of BSU Researchers on Research Proposal Preparation" was held on March 17-18, 2021. This consisted of simultaneous workshops facilitated by the ISRD, HERRC, and ORS staff. The participants were mentored by Dr. Leah E. Abayao for Social Research, Dr. Felix M. Mercado for Education Research, and Dr. Emma K. Sales for Technical Research. //AKCariño

BSU and US embassy launch free online instruction webinar

The Virtual English Language Fellow Webinar Series with the theme, “Enhancing the Way We Connect: Tips, Strategies, and Best Practice Methodologies for Effective Online Instruction” was launched through a virtual opening program on March 19, 2021. This was attended by Ms. Carla Bailey of the Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, Ohio; Ms. Conchita A. Chico of the Public Affairs Section, Embassy of the USA; President Felipe Salaing Comila; Dr. Imelda O. Degay, Acting VP for Academic Affairs; and CAS-Department of Humanities Chairperson Dr. Penelope F. Tica-a.

In her remarks, Dr. Degay acknowledged the need to improve online instruction knowledge and skills.

“One way by which challenges, educational at that, are addressed while similarly meeting the changing demands of the time is through the conduct of collaborative activities as this webinar series. While this may have been anchored on language perspectives, I would like to believe that the teaching principles contained cut across different content areas and fields,” said Dr. Degay.

Ms. Chico, who introduced Ms. Bailey, congratulated the University for being one of the six universities to host an English Fellow. Earlier, President Comila remarked that without Ms. Chico and Ms. Bailey, the webinar would not have been possible.

“This new hybrid reality that we are all in right now is really not going to go away, so my hope is whether you are teaching face-to-



The free webinar “Enhancing the Way We Connect: Tips, Strategies, and Best Practice Methodologies for Effective Online Instruction” with the U.S. Department of State’s 2021 English Language Fellow, Ms. Carla Bailey was launched on March 19, 2021. //JSTabangcura

face or online, that you are more involved with your students, more engaged, and to help them and you as a teacher to transform,” said Ms. Bailey.

The first session of the webinar was followed right after the opening program with the topic, “Using Technology/Apps in Language Teaching during the New Normal.” This was participated by public and private schools from all over the Philippines and also from India, South Korea, Malaysia,

Thailand, and Pakistan. There were also companies and National Line Agencies that joined.

Ms. Bailey shared with the participants how she is also learning from them in terms of culture. After the session, she honestly and patiently answered questions sent through Zoom and Facebook. The next sessions would be on March 26 and 31; April 7, 16, 23, and 30; and on May 7, 14, and 21. The topics include: Student Engagement in an Online Teaching-Learning Mode; Language Testing in an Online Teaching-Learning Mode; Instructional Materials/ Module Development for Online Language Teaching; and Language Proficiency Exam Preparation. All the sessions will be live-streamed on Facebook.

The webinar was made possible through the partnership of the BSU- International Language Center, CAS-Department of Humanities, and the Regional English Language Office, Public Affairs, Embassy of the USA.

//JSTabangcura



Ms. Bailey shared with the participants how she is also learning from them in terms of culture. She honestly and patiently answered questions from participants as well. //JSTabangcura

CDAE Consortium tackles updates on the Project

A virtual meeting with Asian and European partners on February 26, 2021, for the Erasmus+ funded Curriculum Development in Agroecology (CDAE) project was conducted to update the deliverables and the progress of each partner's work packages.

Hue University, overall project coordinator, presented the three agenda of the meeting; first of which was, the presentation of the work packages (update for complete tasks and plan for the upcoming tasks) by the representatives of Polytechnic of Coimbra; Mendel University; Novel Group; Benguet State University (BSU); and Hue University. The second agenda focused on the election of the overall project quality leader. The final agenda focused on the discussion on some matters on: results of the uncomplete and overdue tasks in the work packages presented; upcoming virtual study tour of Mendel University; and enforcing a new deadline for the deliverables as well as uploading in the Google drive the contingency plan along with the project road map.

The first agenda shows that some of the deliverables in each work packages were behind schedule thus, Hue University emphasized that the project cannot afford further delay.

A suggestion was given by an external evaluator that to address synergy, coordination, and preparation for the "new normal", a map of

processes or activities must be designed to show interrelations and or identify "critical paths" and other encompassing matters. The evaluator emphasized that to improve the collection and processing of information, the use of Google documents and forms for collecting data is recommended since most of the CDAE project materials were uploaded in Google Drive; and for collaborative work, there should be contingencies for technical aspects of virtual meetings like detailed procedures to address emergencies.

In line with this, Hue University asked the consortium to vote for an overall quality leader that will help in the project, as a result, Ms. Manuela Abelho from Polytechnic of Coimbra was voted by the majority.

The final agenda is the virtual study tour of the Mendel University, the enforcement of the new deadline for the deliverables, and the contingency plan.

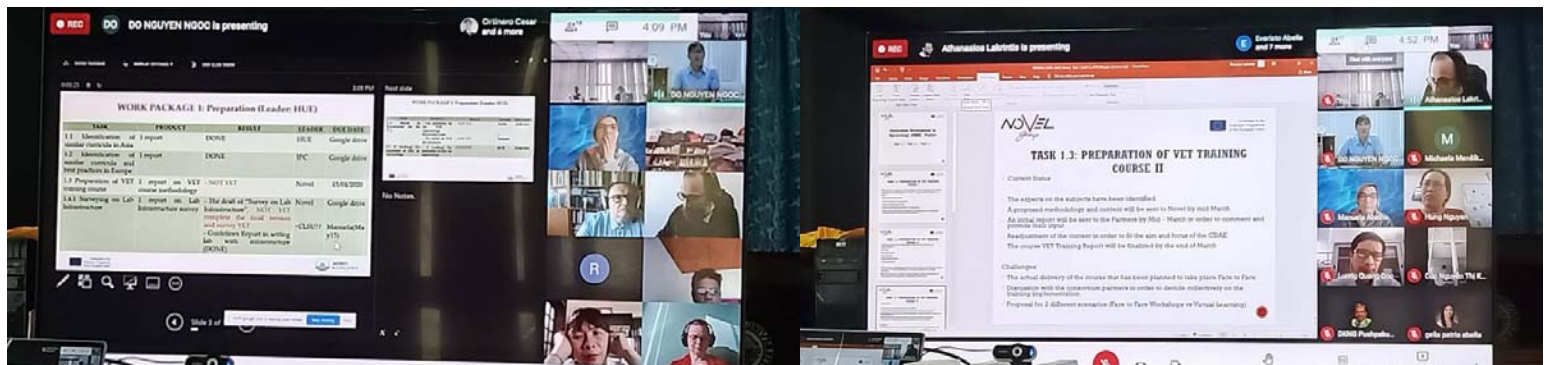
Mendel University highly encouraged everyone to participate in the study tour, a four-day event in Brno, Czech Republic. Based on the invitation sent to the consortium, each day has different topics and discussions. On the first day, it will focus on a general discussion about the institutional structure and differences among institutions in partner countries. The second day will be the introduction of the faculty of agriculture including its study programs; and practical

teaching of Agroecology at their university farm, university forest, and gardens. The third day centers on the teaching of Agroecology and the journey to their laboratories. The final day will be a discussion about curriculum specifics for individual country groups and universities.

Also, the coordinator gave a new schedule for the virtual tours of the project partners in BSU, Hue University, and the University of Peradeniya. Meanwhile, the project contingency plan is promised to be developed and uploaded in Google drive since this has not been carried out yet.

In this meeting are Benguet State University (Philippines), Central Luzon State University (Philippines), Hue University (Vietnam), Vietnam National University of Agriculture (Vietnam), Rajarata University (Sri Lanka), University of Peradeniya (Sri Lanka), Mendel University (Czech Republic), Polytechnic of Coimbra (Portugal), and Novel Group Sarl (Luxembourg).

For BSU, Project Leader is Janet P. Pablo. Project Team Members are Maria Luz D. Fang-asan, Richard H. Kinnud, and Mike L. Payangdo. Subject Matter Specialists are Maricel A. Guron, Kenneth A. Laruan, Conrado C. Bao-idang, Marrisara R. Parao, Romeo A. Gomez Jr, Joanna I. Alafag, Jason M. Leung, Esther D. Josephine D. Sagalla, Madeline S. Kingan, and Gennie B. Soyon. //MPayangdo



A screen capture of the virtual meeting of BSU with Asian and European partners for the Erasmus+ funded project on Curriculum Development of MSc AgroEcology on February 26, 2021. //BSUIRO

To structure the curriculum and syllabus of the proposed Master of Science in Agroecology, the Benguet State University- Curriculum Development in Agroecology (BSU-CDAE) Academic task force convened for a meeting workshop on March 3, 2021, at the College of Agriculture.

The meeting workshop aims to: have a more interactive and collaborative discussion; scrutinize the proposed study subjects, and verify if these subjects are offered in their colleges and field of instruction or have an equivalent subject.

The meeting workshop commences with a reminder to the task force about the project aims and objectives and the role of BSU as the leader of the Work Package 6 (Dissemination and Exploitation).

During the workshop, the task force had a focus group discussion, they were divided into two groups: the first group consists College of Agriculture and Graduate School; the second group is College of Arts and Sciences and College of Forestry.

Dr. Janet P. Pablo, Project Manager and Dean of the College of Agriculture emphasized that the curriculum should be harmonized and aligned with Europe and the university.

“We cluster into two groups and provide critique to the proposed curriculum and syllabus from the Mendel University then we highlight our existing courses and determine which descriptive title of subjects can be adapted in proposed MSc program in the university,” instructed Pablo.

The draft study plan must be reviewed by the partner Asian countries particularly Philippine representatives, BSU, and Central Luzon State University (CLSU) to modify the proposed curriculum and syllabus specifically the titles of study subjects and suggested number of credits. The review must be grounded from the policies, standards, and guidelines for graduate programs of the Commission on Higher Education. The study plan is developed by the Mendel

Benguet State University and CHED-CAR officials expressed their gratitude and appreciation to outgoing CHED-CAR OIC, Dir. Danilo B. Bose also served as OIC of BSU for five months.

Dir. Bose became the BSU OIC during the height of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in July of 2020. Board Secretary Grace T. Bengwayan thanked him for having the “spirit of calmness” and “spirit of peace” through that period.

Dr. Bengwayan described how he blended well with the people and with the Cordillera culture while Atty. Matias C. Angiwan described Dir. Bose as an amiable fellow.



University, consortium partner of the CDAE project, leader of the Work Package 2 (Curricula Development).

Meanwhile, each group has pointed out similarities on study subjects in their field of instruction based on the provided study plan for the Agroecology program while concerns on the subject differences were appropriately deliberated and had a consensus that it will be modified.

“We will submit our review to the Mendel University based on the outcome of this workshop and while expecting for their response, we will assess and go through over the proposed study plan again,” ended Pablo.

The workshop was attended by the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Forestry, College of Agriculture, and Graduate School, the group is considering joining other colleges and for holistic collaboration. This is the third workshop of the task force for the curricula development since the creation of the curricula on September 25, 2020, and project inception and orientation held on October 14, 2020. //MPayangdo



“A lot was accomplished during his time, no matter how brief it was and I found working with him fun and very fruitful,” he said adding that Dir. Bose is the only CHED-CAR director who visited BSU Bokod and Buguias.

The program was attended by BSU top officials. All shared their memorable experiences working with the director.

In response, Dir. Bose appreciated how he was welcomed in the University.

“With the assistance and cooperation of all of you, we were able to accomplish a lot of things during my short stay. I am so happy and proud to be part of the history of Benguet State University. I can say that I am a true member of the family, and I can feel that I belong,” said Dir. Bose. //JSTabangcura