



Shamag

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Research Impact Highlighted in 3rd IC FEC

Benguet State University (BSU) hosted the 3rd International Conference on Food, Environment, and Culture (ICFEC) on November 5-7, 2025 at the Hotel Supreme, Baguio City. The 134 delegates from nine nations came together to discuss science, technology, innovation, and culture for sustainable communities.

Under the theme “Global Conversations and Cooperations on Science, Technology, Innovations, and Culture Towards Sustainable Communities,” global leaders and researchers urged shifting scientific focus from academic metrics to tangible impacts addressing climate change, food security, and cultural preservation.

BSU President Kenneth A. Laruan emphasized the need for dialogue and

partnerships. “It is imperative that we make the most of this opportunity to gain knowledge from one another, form new partnerships, and transform our collective vision into concrete actions in order to create a world that is more sustainable and equitable,” Laruan said.

Benguet Gov. Melchor Diclas, represented by Executive Assistant David Cabuten, congratulated the organizers and highlighted the conference's role in promoting collaboration among experts for a resilient world.

Day 1 of the conference focused on turning research into action. Keynote speaker Mercedita A. Sombilla, Center Director of the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), advocated the Science-Policy-Practice Interface Framework and Food-Environment-Nutrition Triple Nexus to bridge knowledge gaps in the Philippines' food system.

The plenary speakers included Nelson M. Pampolina (University of the Philippines-Los Baños), Atsushi Yoshimoto (Institute of Statistical Mathematics, Japan), Peter Surovy (Czech University of Life Sciences), Lisa Linda S. Natividad (University of Guam), Heny Sidanti (Universitas PGRI Madiun, Indonesia), and Ruth M. Tinda-an (University of the Philippines Baguio). ...continued on page 6

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Times Higher Education
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The WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS for INNOVATION



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Shamag, first published in 1996, is the official newsletter of Benguet State University. It was named after the Ibaloi word for news. It is one of the platforms for BSU to disseminate the programs, achievements and advocacies to its stakeholders. *Shamag* aims to help the University advance its goals by championing effective communication and partnerships.

Articles, pictures, comments, suggestions, reactions, and letters to the Editor may be submitted to the BSU-Public Affairs Office at publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph. However, the *Shamag* staff reserves the right to edit submitted materials for mechanics and ethics. The *Shamag* is guided by the Associated Press (AP) style and journalistic standards.

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Benguet State University

VISION

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

MISSION

BSU CARES to: **C**hallenge innovation, **A**dvance technology and facility, **R**evitalize administration, **E**ngender partnership, and **S**erve intergenerational role.

DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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

Objectives:

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

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

Objectives:

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

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

Objectives:

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

Goal IV. Engender Partnership by proactively strengthening linkages

Objectives:

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

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

Objectives:

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

AdCo Action No. 03, s.2021

Quality Policy

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

Board Resolution # 2847 S.2016



CERI holds fourth Educator's Forum

Benguet State University's Center for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI) successfully organized the fourth Educators' Forum or "Tongtongan" on November 13-14, 2025. The event was held to bridge the gap between research and policy implementation, with the theme, "Redefining Education: Bridging Innovation, Research, and Policy for Impact."

The forum was held in partnership with the College of Teacher Education (CTE), Office of Extension Services (OES), Department of Education (DepEd)-Benguet Division, Philippine Association for Teacher Education (PAFTE)-CAR, and State Universities and Colleges Teacher Education Association (SUCTEA)-CAR.

The forum addresses issue on research outputs in not reaching policymakers and those who need the information. This also promotes knowledge sharing, inclusivity, and partnerships to enhance educational practices and achieve learning outcomes.

The presentations were organized into four strands to address key areas of development and innovation in learning. CERI Director Janet Lynn M. Balagtey opened the forum, describing "tongtongan" as a space for meaningful dialogue and urging sustained engagement. BSU President Kenneth A. Laruan called for innovation to transform research into policies that resonate in communities. VP for Research and Extension Roscinto Ian C. Lumbres stressed collaboration with local government units for societal impact.

The Day 1 plenary talk by Odicar Joice F. Chavez of DepEd-Bagui City was on digital transformation where technology as an amplifier for teachers was emphasized.

The First Strand presentations, which revolved around digital transformation and emerging technologies in education, featured Jezyl Mae C. Cambato's "Darting Towards Numerical Confidence," Aaron T. Bayangan's "Development and Validation of FRACTION-Matiles," and Rhea S. Contada's "Smartphone Digital-Image Colorimetry."

The theme for Strand Two was the emerging practices in curriculum assessment and instructional support. Under this, Imelda G. Parcasio presented "Teaching Readiness of College of Teacher Education Teacher Interns" followed by Wilfred B. Bambico's "Catch-Up Fridays," and Martes D. Dionisio Jr.'s "Modeling Cryptocurrency as an Educational Tool."

The presenters later engaged in a discussion with the participants facilitated by Divina M. Yango, Regional President of the SUCTEA and Dean of the CTE- BSU La Trinidad; Shakira B. Herman, Dean of the College of Teacher Education- BSU Bokod; and Dina Teresita P. Balaan, Regional Chairperson of the PAFTE and Dean of the College of Education-King's College of the Philippines.

Another plenary talk followed with BVS Colleges' Schools of Arts and Sciences Dean Percyveranda A. Lubrica. She shared insights into the role of institutional research. Lubrica highlighted that researches support the status and quality assurance of the institution and the community. She also identified the existing problem of functional literacy among students that requires improvement. She said that addressing this gap is helpful for enhancing the overall performance of students and learners.

In Strand Three, the theme was about the 21st century learner in a dynamic learning environment. Kara S. Panolong presented their research "CAH-DOE Re Mi: College of Arts and Humanities-Department of English Reading Milestone with Department of Education: Benguet Schools" followed by Roselle Kristine D. Waguis who presented her research "Prevalence

of Bullying Behaviors Among Elementary Learners in the Schools Division of Benguet." The third presenter was Leonora B. Wanawan with her research "Attitude of 15-year-Old Students Toward Mathematics: An Exploratory Factor Analysis as a Foundation for Teacher Strategies to Enhance PISA Mathematics Achievement." Vanderlee M. Batalier also presented her findings on "Language Retention of Foreign Language by Filipino Learners."

Strand Four looked at leadership for educational transformation and innovation. J-lyn C. Espiritu presented her study "Successional Plan: A Bridge to Leadership Pipeline for Private School Heads in Baguio City and La Trinidad, Benguet." She was followed by Steve Solano who presented "Driving Transformation Through Digital Leadership," and Nancy Costina who presented "Teachers' Participation, Effect, Barriers, and Needs Toward Learning and Professional Development Activities." Finally, Corazon C. Quipot presented her study "Perception of Stakeholders on the Implementation of School Program Implementation Review (SPIR) in the Schools Division of Benguet."

The sharing of experiences, challenges, and impact continued facilitated by the discussants. The discussants for Strands Three and Four were Jardon S. Onio from the DepEd Schools Division Office of Benguet; Cesar S. Martin from DepEd Benguet; and representing the DepEd-CAR Regional Office are Crisanta P. Pantaleon and Elvernice Salda-Fanged.

The event also included a workshop focused on formulating evidence-based policy recommendations and implementation strategies. The outputs were presented by the participants.

In her closing remarks, Office of Extension Services Director Cheryl C. Launio thanked everyone who participated in the forum. She also emphasized that the knowledge gained should not simply end with the forum, but must be translated into policy or practice.//

November to Remember



[read full story here](#)

CF and GIS Host International Seminar on Forest Mng't

An international Seminar on Forest Resources Management and Assessment was hosted by BSU on November 6, 2025 at the Everlasting Hall, Research and Extension Building.

The College of Forestry (CF) and Center of Geoinformatics, with BSU partner Institute of Statistical Mathematics based in Japan, organized the event for CF and Natural Sciences students, faculty, staff, and community members. CF Dean Nova D. Doyog opened with remarks on the partnership; President Kenneth Alip Laruan urged applying lessons to protect forests for survival amid environmental changes.

Speakers included Peter Surovy on remote sensing, AI/ML in assessment, Patrick Asante on forest economics/valuation, and Atsushi Yoshimoto on Japanese forest management.

BSU Bokod receives CoPC for Educ and Crim Programs

The CHED-CAR issued the Certificates of Program Compliance (COPC) to the BSU Bokod College of Education for its Bachelor of Secondary Education program majors in English, Filipino, Mathematics, and Social Studies. This makes the college 100% program compliant.

Likewise, BSU Bokod's Bachelor of Science in Criminology program was also issued its COPC, bolstering the campus's academic portfolio.

CHED-CAR Regional Director, Serafin L. Ngohayon handed the certificates to BSU Bokod faculty members led by BSU Bokod-CE Dean, Shakira Herman at the CHED-CAR Office in La Trinidad on November 17, 2025.



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Binnadang Showcased During Environment Month

BSU students from BS Environmental Science, Criminology, and Forestry programs, along with ROTC and General Services Office, joined the the fourth quarter Balili River Clean-Up in La Trinidad for National Environment Awareness Month.

The activity, facilitated by the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office and supervised by Mayor Roderick C. Awingan, aimed to improve water quality, protect ecosystems, promote waste management.

MENRO Officer For. Arthur A. Pedro oriented around 300 participants on safety and goals before groups cleared assigned zones, collecting 13 sacks of waste, including plastics, textiles, bottles, wires, and batteries, at Central Balili Bridge.

ISRD hosts 2025 Tawid Festival in Partnership with PIKP

BSU's Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) and Center for Culture and the Arts (CCA) in cooperation with Partners for Indigenous Knowledge Philippines (PIKP), hosted the three-day Tawid Indigenous Knowledge and Learning Festival 2025 on November 20-22.

The Festival featured keynote speeches by National Commission on Indigenous Peoples' (NCIP) Michael Umaming (resources) and DepEd's Maria Victor (IPed).



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BSU Christmas Lights Switched On

BSU officially ushered in the Christmas season with its beloved annual Christmas Lighting tradition on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025. The ceremony held a dual significance this year, coinciding with the culmination of President Kenneth A. Laruan's first year at the helm of the university.

La Trinidad Mayor Roderick C. Awingan and CHED-CAR Education Supervisor Christopher Depnag representing Regional Director Serafin L. Ngohayon, joined the event. Retired BSU professor Maria Luz D. Fangasan recounted the tradition's origins during the program.

The evening featured Christmas performances by the BSU Glee Club, BSU Marching Band and The Young Ones, with speakers highlighting the lights as a symbol of hope through Jesus Christ.

BSU, IFSU, and EHL explores future collaboration



BSU joined Germany's EHL delegates at IFSU on Nov. 7 to explore collaborations in indigenous education, culture, and research.

IFSU VP for Academic Affairs Jennifer Madonna G. Dait welcomed and

hosted a meeting focusing on community-based education, gender-responsive teaching, student exchanges, and sustainability research.

In the afternoon, the delegation toured the Ifugao Indigenous Peoples Education Center and Community Heritage Galleries, hosted by Save the Ifugao Terraces Movement COO Marlon M. Martin.



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VAMK Finland visits Benguet State University



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BSU-International Relations Office welcomed visitors from Finland's Vaasan Ammattikorkeakoulu University of Applied Sciences (VAMK) on November 20, 2025. International Communication Assistant Jun Nakamura and Health Care/Social Services representative Karina Björninen, was received by IRO Director Rex John G. Bawang, Racquel M. Fatog, and college reps Greg B. Landocan, Jake L. Galian and Frey T. Orenca.

BSU welcomes Alana Kaye College



Alana Kaye College representatives led by CEO Alana Anderson and Philippines Country Manager Arvin Alcantara, visited BSU on November 17, 2025, through the Office of the Presidential Assistant for Cordillera led by Assistant Secretary

Antonio R. Tabora Jr., together with Socrates Abella Jr. They met with BSU President Kenneth A. Laruan and International Relations Office Director Rex John G. Bawang to explore academic partnerships. Alana Kaye proposed Transnational Education in Baguio/Cordillera for Australian qualifications in building/construction, individual/ageing support, via phased local trainer development for global skills and regional jobs.



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BSU joins 2025 Adivay Grand Parade

BSU led by President Kenneth A. Laruan, participated in the Adivay Grand Parade from the Benguet Capitol to the Wangal Sports Complex. The parade is one of the highlights of the Adivay Festival 2025, themed "HEALTHIER Benguet: A Treasure to Relish, A Culture to Cherish."



The BSU delegation included administrative council members, staff, and students from the College of Public Administration and Governance, College of Home Economics and Technology, College of Arts and Humanities, and the NSTP/ROTC.

IRO Welcomes UP Korea Research Center



BSU-International Relations Office welcomed UP Korea Research Center (UP KRC) delegation on November 21, 2025 led by Director Kyungmin Bae, alongside Pamela Jacar, research assistant Venus Samonte, and De La Salle University's Bubbles Beverly Asor.

The visit aimed to explore academic partnership. IRO Director Rex John G. Bawang and Raquel M. Fatog, highlighted BSU's program offerings, internationalization efforts, and mutual interests in research, culture, and linkages.



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CHET Human Nutrition department honors RND Passers



The College of Home Economics and Technology (CHET) – Department of Human Nutrition of Benguet State University (BSU), held a testimonial dinner for 47 licensure exam passers and 4th-year students on

November 28, 2025, themed "Dream. Strive. Achieve" at Gladiola Hall A.

CHET Secretary Dalifer A. Gano congratulated the passers. Afterwards, the passers shared their testimonies urging the 4th years to follow suit. VP for Academic Affairs Janet P. Pablo lauded the RNDs for reaching another milestone after graduation.



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Employees attend Capacity Building for Pollution Control



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BSU through its Pollution Control Office hosted a two-day "Capacity-Building Training on Pollution Control and Compliance Management." The training was held at the Strawberry Hall, from November 27 to 28, 2025.

Facilitated by the Human Resource Development Office, the event was attended by BSU employees involved in pollution control efforts. The training aimed to equip personnel with knowledge of current environmental laws to enhance BSU's capacity to mitigate pollution contributors and ensure regulatory compliance.

CHED Commissioners visit BSU



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Commission on Higher Education Commissioners Myrna Q. Mallari and Ricmar P. Aquino conducted a monitoring visit to BSU. They were welcomed by BSU officials led by President Kenneth A. Laruan. VP for Administration and Finance Richard H. Kinnud reported on the university employees' well-being while VP for Business Affairs Josel M. Florentin reported on BSU's Income Generating Projects (IGP). Additionally, VP for Academic Affairs Janet P. Pablo reported on sector's performance. Further discussions about BSU and its operations were done over lunch at the Strawberry Hall.



DAP-GSPDM holds SDG & Futures Thinking Regional Caravan at BSU

BSU hosted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and Futures Thinking Regional Caravan at the College of Human Kinetics Function Hall on November 21, 2025.

BSU President Kenneth A. Laruan personally welcomed representatives from the Development Academy of the Philippines – Graduate School of Public and Development Management (DAP-GSPDM).

In his message, President Laruan thanked the GAP-GSPDM for the collaboration and the participants for joining. He mentioned that the knowledge gained through the caravan would be able to provide more knowledge in the field of futures thinking.

“To the participants, thank you



for joining us. We will be promoting sustainable development and building a better community. I hope the presentations coming from the GAP-GSPDM will give us more insights on futures thinking,” he said.

After President Laruan’s message, DAP-GSPDM Dean Lizan E. Perante, through their Program Manager Mark Rex Jayson T. Atole, shared the rationale of the activity.

Atole then presented the programs that their institution offers. This was followed by a ceremonial turnover of knowledge products between BSU and GAP-GSPDM.

Next, GAP-GSPDM Supervising Fellow Maria Olivia Z. Domingo gave an introduction to strategic foresight and futures thinking.

After Domingo’s lecture, DAP-GSPDM Research Fellow Madlyn D. Tingco discussed their research findings titled “InSALTfficiency: The specter of Philippine Salt Production Industry Decline and

Ways Forward” and was followed by an open forum.

Human Resources Management Office (HRMO) Supervising Administrative Officer Raymundo H. Pawid Jr. closed the activity with a message. He thanked the participants and hoped for more collaborative programs as part of BSU’s future possibilities in order to maintain the institution’s responsiveness and relevance in society.

“It was very worthwhile listening and we do hope that your sentiments, intellect, and emotions have been a call to act by this new construct that we have learned today. Definitely, there are a lot of challenges posed by current issues we face, but more than the challenges, I think it is inspiring us indeed to be more future thinking or thinking strategically of our future,” Pawid said.//EBawang

Research Impact ...continued from page 1

A total of 121 research presentations were conducted in four parallel sessions across the themes of food, environment, and culture. This reflects the diverse scholarly engagement in both competing (72 papers), noncompeting (33 papers), and poster (16 papers) categories. The culmination of the conference was highlighted with the Adivayan: Mayor’s Night and Solidarity Dinner on November 6.

La Trinidad Mayor Roderick Awingan, in his message delivered by his Executive Assistant, Delmar

Cariño inspired everyone to reconnect with their roots and embrace the rich diversity that unites us. His call for partnerships and shared cultural visions set the tone for a night dedicated to strengthening collective identity.

The evening was alive with energy as the community came together to dance the indigenous dances of Benguet, the Tayaw and Bindiyan, welcoming all participants to join in the festivities. The BSU Dramatics Club performed a powerful play about protecting indigenous culture and stopping its exploitation. Their show combined important social messages with strong cultural roots.

Also, Ifugao State University proudly led the Ifugao’s Dinuyya indigenous dance, warmly inviting delegates to experience the beauty of indigenous movement and storytelling, creating a true spirit of solidarity. The serenades by Liezl Villagracia and Rezalyn Boado, blending Filipino Pop and Igorot Country melodies, perfectly captured the night’s joyful harmony and cultural pride, leaving lasting memories for all involved.

Closing the event, Ruth Batani expressed heartfelt gratitude to everyone whose dedication made IC FEC 2025 a remarkable success.

NOVEMBER 2025 LICENSURE EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE



TOP 1 Performing School

100%
FIRST-TIME
TAKERS

100%
BSU
PASSING RATE

90.04%
NATIONAL
PASSING RATE

TOP 7 Performing School

81.52%
FIRST TIME TAKERS

LA TRINIDAD CAMPUS
80.36%
BSU PASSING RATE

68.55%
BSU PASSING RATE

80.00%
FIRST TIME TAKERS

BUGUIAS CAMPUS
85.71%
BSU PASSING RATE

68.55%
BSU PASSING RATE



NUTRITIONIST DIETITIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION

71.21%
FIRST-TIME
TAKERS

65.28%
BSU
PASSING RATE

69.49%
NATIONAL
PASSING RATE



CVM holds 11th White Coat and Pinning Ceremony

The College of Veterinary Medicine marked its 11th White Coat and Pinning Ceremony, themed "Anchored in Compassion," transitioning 45 junior clinicians to clinical practice.

Guest speaker Col. Peter Tom T. Alangu, AFP Veterinary Service Center chief and CVM alumnus, called the white coat a symbol of professionalism, empathy, and commitment, urging students to live the veterinary oath with passion. Loretta C. Romero emphasized its responsibilities; senior clinician Ismael D. Bas-ilan Jr. promoted mutual support; parent Enrique Esguerra stressed attitude and passion; and junior clinician Franz Lyndon A. Paligpig shared lessons in humility.

The event included an oath, songs, prayer, and toast, with Dr. Karen Gaerlan closing on resilience and excellence.



[read full story here](#)

CTE 2nd Pinning Ceremony honors pre-service teachers

The College of Teacher Education held its second Pinning Ceremony, themed "Lighting the Torch of Learning, Guiding the Future of the Nation," for pre-service teachers at the Hotel Supreme, Baguio City.

CTE Department Chair Evelyn S. Angiwan explained that the event is a formal send-off for teaching internships, symbolizing the transition from students to educators and the passage of knowledge.

BSU President Kenneth A. Laruan, represented by Special Assistant Imelda G. Parcasio, delivered the key message. Parcasio called the pins a torch of knowledge, service, and responsibility. She emphasized that teaching is an art of patience and hope embodying integrity, empathy, excellence, and service.



[read full story here](#)





BSU programs undergo further AACUP Accreditation

BSU submitted one undergraduate program and eight graduate programs for evaluation by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP). The three-day survey from November 25-27, 2025 involved degree programs from the College of Information Sciences, College of Teacher Education, College of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Humanities, and the College of Agriculture.

VP for Academic Affairs Janet P. Pablo welcomed the accreditation team and the participants during the opening meeting.

"We are grateful to our distinguished evaluators whose expertise and insights will help us further strengthen our programs and services. Your presence affirms our shared dedication to advancing the standards and ensuring that our learners receive the highest quality education" Pablo said.

Pablo also thanked the program holders, faculty, and support staff for their hard work, diligence, and unwavering commitment in preparing for the evaluation.

"We are confident that our evaluators will appreciate the meaningful work we are collectively doing for our students and stakeholders" Pablo added.

University President Kenneth A. Laruan also welcomed the accreditation team, reiterating Pablo's message while congratulating the participants.

"While it is an evaluation, we should also be celebrating because as you are preparing, you are actually looking at hard work, the effort, and the excellence that you have poured as faculty members toward your respective degree programs. Each of the documents you have prepared, the practices and the improvements that you have seen there is actually a shared

reflection of our dedication to quality education," Laruan said.

AACUP Accreditation Team 1, led by AACUP Coordinator I Carlo F. Vadil is composed of Team Leaders Elsa P. Manarpaac, Hedeliza A. Pineda, Mary Joy A. Castillo, Jellian T. Ricafrente, and Loreta Vivian R. Galima. Their members are Cecile O. Legaspi, Lanie M. Pacadaljen, Perla S. Carpio, Imelda S. Ocampo, and Ronnie N. Parica.

Team 2, led by Coordinator II Filemon A. Pamittan is composed of Team Leaders Laureana M. Lingan, Adolfo C. Manuel Jr., Helen F. Delos Santos, and April M. Bagon-Faeldan. Their members are Marietta B. Arinto, Angelita J. Prado, Divina Gracia M. De Guzman, and Alvin R. De Mesa.// EBawang



GAD Conducts DRRM Training for Employees

The Gender and Development Office in coordination with the Security Services Office, National Service Training Program, BSU DRRM Committee, and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) - La Trinidad conducted a two-day training on disaster risk reduction and management on November 4-5, 2025.

The first day focused on water rescue safety and drowning prevention facilitated by BFP Fire Officer (FO) 2 Brix A. Copsiyan, FO2 Erick Janseen L. Coy-om, and FO1 Wylene Q. Smith. This was held at the Palm Grove Hot Springs and Mountain Resort in Tuba, Benguet.

The trainers demonstrated swimming skills, such as bubbles, proper breathing, proper entry and exit from the water, and basic swimming strokes. They also demonstrated water rescue and drowning prevention techniques using water rescue equipment, including rope and flotation devices. After the lecture and demonstration, the participants executed these skills with the guidance of the trainers.

The second day focused on Fire Suppression and Emergency Management, held at the BSU-CTE-Secondary Laboratory School covered court. Key activities included four hands-on sessions on Fire Fighting Techniques, LPG Cylinder and Fire Extinguisher Management, Basic Life Support, and High Angle Rescue Technique. SFO1 Wildredo L. Franco Jr., FO2 Kevin Jean L. Pulacan, FO1 Neil N. Cariño, FO1 Honey Gail B. Pacas, FO2 Kevin W. Bangkiko, FO1 Kesler B. Gabriel, FO1 Junie Mark B. Buyayo, FO1 Michael John W. Balangitan, and Cordillera Career Development College interns facilitated the sessions.

The participants of the two-day training thanked the organizers, trainers, and co-participants in the training that aimed to equip participants with proper skills and techniques to minimize incidents, injuries, and related emergencies effectively.