



# Shamag

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## BSU library is Iyaman awards recipient

Director of Benguet State University-Library and Information Services (BSU-ULIS), Lauren P. Kipaam with Gretchen Gaye C. Ablaza, representing President Felipe Salaing Comila, received the Iyaman Awards at the New Plaza Hotel in Baguio City on February 23, 2024.

The Iyaman Awards is given by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in honor of their 73rd Founding Anniversary. It provides a forum for expressing appreciation to people and institutions whose commitment has improved underprivileged communities around the country. This is to acknowledge that intermediaries and stakeholders have been instrumental in putting social welfare policies into action improving the lives of the most disadvantaged members of society through their steadfast efforts.

Kipaam chairs the Social Welfare and Development Learning Network (SWADLnet), a collaboration between DSWD Field Office Cordillera Administrative Region and BSU researchers. The involvement of BSU with the SWADLnet stems from a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BSU and DSWD-FOCAR signed in 2020.

Continued on page 7



Lauren P. Kipaam and Gretchen Gaye C. Ablaza receiving the Iyaman Award for BSU on February 23, 2024 at the New Plaza Hotel.//FCLabad-dan



### BSU-R&E under new leadership; VP Lumbres shares vision

The BSU Research and Extension sector is under new leadership after the Board of Regents approved the appointment of Roscinto Ian C. Lumbres as its 11<sup>th</sup> Vice President effective February 27, 2024.

Concurrent with his new role, he is also the director of the Center for Geoinformatics, a post that he occupied since 2019.

In an interview, Lumbres shared his ultimate vision to make BSU Research and Extension a nationally and globally

Continued on page 8



### Consultation meeting on Kapangan extn. classes held

In partnership with the local government unit (LGU) of Kapangan, Benguet State University (BSU), led by Pres. Felipe Salaing Comila, organized a parent and student consultation with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). This meeting was conducted on February 29, 2024 at the Kapangan Municipal Gym. The meeting aimed to inform students taking up Bachelor of Science in Criminology (BSCrim) and their parents about various issues. The students are first and second years.

Continued on page 4



### BSU ups advocacy vs gender-based violence via seminar

To create a healthy and safe working environment for its stakeholders, the university held a seminar on combating gender-based violence in the workplace on February 26, 2024. BSU Gender and Development Office (GAD) in partnership with the Office for Legal Affairs organized the said seminar. Attendees consisted of employees from BSU La Trinidad, Bokod, and Buguias.

In their discussions, Legal Office Chief Reynante B. Basco, Legal Assistant III Jeanne B. Harder-Balacay, and Legal

Continued on page 3

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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 Benguet State University Public Affairs Office at [publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph](mailto:publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph)

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## VISION

BSU as an International Smart 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.

## 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



# NPRCRTC holds purple yam production training

To respond to the increasing marketability of the Philippine-grown root crop *Dioscorea alata* commonly known as 'ube' or yam, the Northern Philippines Root Crops Research and Training Center (NPRCRTC) conducted a Purple Yam Production Training at the Ganza Hall, NPRCRTC Bldg. on January 30-31, 2024.

According to NPRCRTC Director Cynthia G. Kiswa, purple yam is an emerging international trend in the food industry with its distinctive purple color and starchy flavor.

Further, it plays a pivotal role in ensuring food security, serving as a cash crop, and generating employment opportunities in areas where it is cultivated and processed.

"Upon completion of the training, participants will gain insights into improved technology for propagating high-quality planting materials of preferred ube varieties," she said.

In his message, CHED-CAR Director Demetrio P. Anduyan Jr. expressed his commendable approval of the event, promising CHED-CAR's steadfast commitment to Benguet State University in the advancement of knowledge and skills in agricultural and production practices.

Apart from the growing demand for purple yam in both domestic and international markets, Anduyan also

Continued on page 7

# BSU hosts autonomy forum

BSU hosted the Cordillera Autonomy Summit and Youth Fora at the University Gym on February 16, 2024. The event, participated by BSU students, is in line with the Cordillera Regional Development Council's (RDC) Information, Education and Communications Campaign in the pursuit of Cordillera autonomy.



Participants and guests of the autonomy forum on February 16, 2024 pose for posterity after the activity//EMBawayan

The event was attended by Victor Eugene S. Caccam, Supervising Economic Development Specialist of NEDA-CAR; Yuri Weygan, team leader of Social Preparation of CAR; Menzi Cuengan, representative of CHED-CAR; Mario M. Baucas Jr., representative of Benguet Gov. Melchor D. Diclas; Hon. Edwin Nitron, Vice Mayor of Kibungan; Satur Paciteng, executive assistant of LGU Mankayan; and Felipe Salaing Comila, BSU President.

Senator Robin Padilla, Apayao Governor Hon. Elias K. Bulut, and Benguet Municipal Mayors, including Hon. Cesar Molitas of Kibungan, Hon. Romeo K. Salda of La Trinidad, Hon. Bernard S. Waclin of Itogon and Hon. Dario S. Banario of Mankayan, also delivered their messages and expressed support to the quest for Cordillera autonomy through video messages.

The IEC campaign continued in the afternoon with the presentation of the IEC module elaborated by Francis Likigan. The 2023 Cordillera Autonomy Youth Ambassador, Jan Marveeno Palispis also discussed the topic "Regional Autonomy: What's in it for the Youth?" Both speakers defined autonomy and its advantages, including education, and others. The participants, as youth, were also asked how to participate in the Cordillera autonomy advocacy.

This was followed by an open forum where students' seeking clarifications regarding the Cordillera autonomy campaign, its relevance and implications were entertained. The activity was highlighted with the signing of the manifesto in support of the Cordillera autonomy and a mock plebiscite.//EBawayan



Participants and speakers of the seminar organized by the BSU-GAD Office on February 26, 2024 as part of their advocacy against gender-based violence//PGadang

BSU ups advocacy...from page 1

Assistant II Sheinly B. Balacay-Amcay, took turns expounding on Republic Act No. 7877 known as "Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995," Republic Act No. 11313 known as "Safe Spaces Act," and the Republic Act No. 9262 known as "Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004." Specifically, provisions, penalties, and prescription dates

on each case classification were tackled by the speakers.

According to Basco, while the number of charges on gender-based violence cases is on the rise, this can also be a good indicator that more people are becoming aware and well-versed in their legal rights and privileges, thus giving them courage to pursue legal actions against such cases.

In their remarks, GAD-TWG members Marlon S. Tabdi and Amelia M. Kimeu thanked the speakers for enthusiastically sharing their knowledge. To end, Kimeu further said that such advocacy can be maintained successfully through "strong support, sustained efforts, collaboration, and ongoing evaluation to adopt strategies based on evolving needs and challenges in the workplace." //CANapiloy&BTayaban

# BSU and La Trinidad LGU collaborate for Passport on Wheels initiative



Personnel and officials of BSU and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) with La Trinidad Mayor, Hon. Romeo K. Salda during the Opening Program of the Passport-on-Wheels data collection activity on February 1, 2024//J.Licangan (BSIT Intern)

Benguet State University through the International Relations Office (IRO) spearheaded the Passport on Wheels activity on February 1 and 2, 2024 at the BSU Gymnasium. This event, in collaboration with the La Trinidad Local Government Unit (LGU) and Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) ASEANA, was part of the activities in celebration of the University's 38th Charter Anniversary. A total of 803 university staff, faculty, students, and residents of La Trinidad availed of the passport services.

A pre-registration phase was conducted from January 12 to 26, 2024, managed by the IRO. On the first day of pre-registration, La Trinidad Municipal Mayor Romeo K. Salda and BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila personally visited the site. IRO Director Maria Luz D. Fang-asan hosted the distinguished guests, providing a detailed briefing on the process. Concluding the first day with 240 applicants from the BSU community. In the following days, the service was extended to cater to La Trinidad residents.

After the pre-registration phase, a data collection activity facilitated by the DFA was held on February 1-2, 2024. An opening program was conducted attended by La Trinidad Mayor, Hon. Romeo K. Salda, the University President and the applicants. In her address, IRO Director Maria Luz Fang-asan shed light on the underlying motivations behind the initiative. Over the past three years, the IRO noted numerous employees and students that faced

challenges in obtaining passports for international travel due to time constraints. To address this, the office envisioned bringing the service closer to the BSU community. A survey conducted in September 2023 revealed that 1,873 students and 170 employees are interested to avail of the Passport on Wheels service.

Despite initial challenges with the DFA, which implied that the service were limited to LGUs and not universities, the IRO collaborated with the La Trinidad LGU. The effort resulted to the approval of the request, turning the Passport on Wheels initiative into a reality.

The Passport on Wheels, which catered to applicants for new passports and renewal of passports, saved valuable time for employees, students and La Trinidad residents. With 346 applicants on the first day and 457 on the second, the two-day event culminated with a total of 803 successful applications. // GBPalberas-IRO



BSU and CHED officials with Kapangan Mayor, Hon. Manny Fermin during the community consultation regarding the extension classes of BS Criminology students held on February 29, 2024 at the Kapangan Municipal Gym//SS.Salvacio (BAComm Intern)

## Kapangan extension classes...from page 1

Before the event, Kapangan Mayor Manny Fermin led the officials of CHED, BSU-Buguias and BSU-La Trinidad to the rooms and facilities used by their BSCrim students at the Gov. Bado Dangwa Agri-Industrial School (GBDAIS). Later on, they discussed important matters and procedures for allowing Kapangan to be an extension program of the CCJE under the BSU Buguias campus.

After the consultation was the orientation, which commenced with a inspirational message from Pres. Comila expressing how BSU-Buguias, Kapangan, Bokod, and La Trinidad worked hard to push through and make the degree program available on these campuses. He also acknowledged the invaluable support of the LGU-Kapangan for their dedication to addressing and prioritizing this plea from the students and parents.//SSSalvacio (BAComm intern)



# Compensation, Benefits, and Other Obligations Office holds seminar to orient employees

The Compensation, Benefits and Other Obligations Office (CBOO) conducted a two-day seminar titled "Sweldo, Benepisyo, at Obligasyon mo: Alamin mo." The event was held at the College of Teacher Education Dominador S. Garin (DSG) hall on February 28 and 29, 2024.

The first day of the seminar was attended by the University President, Felipe Salaing Comila who welcomed the guests and speakers namely: Gefabel Cariño, Joe Ann DG Ceñidoza, Maria Corazon Esteban, and Janette Bauding of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS). The GSIS speakers shared their insights on GSIS programs and services, mainly about Insurance, Loans, Retirement, and Benefits. There were a total of 130 face-to-face participants and 70 participants online.

The speakers also shared updates on using the GSIS Touch Mobile Application in the afternoon session. The GSIS representatives assisted the participants with the mobile app. A consultation session was also held.



Speakers from GSIS during the seminar on salary, benefits and obligations organized by the CBOO on February 28-29, 2024//EBawang



Leah Bernadette M. Dulay, the speaker from PagIBIG, with BSU officials and participants during the seminar on salary, benefits and obligations organized by the CBOO on February 28-29, 2024//B.Tayaban

The second day of the seminar started with a game. It was followed by a recap of what was discussed on the first day. Matias C. Angiwan, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer of the Administrative Services Division, shared the common issues encountered by employees regarding PAG-IBIG. Angiwan told the participants to take the seminar as a learning process.

Leah Bernadette M. Dulay, Members Services Officer III of the PAG-IBIG, discussed the PAG-IBIG Fund Programs and Services: HDMF I and II Premium, HDMF Loans (MPL/Housing Loan), and Virtual PAG-IBIG. The requirements for their services were presented. Susan P. Buasen-Ocasen, Chief of the BSU-CBOO and a GSIS Agency Authorized Officer (AAO), discussed the Compensation, Benefits, and Deductions.

Marjorie G. Alsaen, Alternate GSIS Liaison Officer of BSU, presented the Salary Payroll/DV preparation flowchart, Loan Application requirements for Chinabank, HDMF, Landbank, and BSUCMPC Loans, and Online requests (e-payslips).

Clarifications and questions on the loans, savings, requirements and salaries were answered. Amelia M. Kimeu of the BSU-GAD office concluded the seminar by extending her gratitude to the participants and speakers.//B.Tayaban&E.Bawang

## BSU GAD conducts seminar-workshop on HGDG



BSU-GAD TWG members and heads of offices during the seminar-workshop on the use of Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines with their speaker, Ferdinand P. Gonzales//P.Gadang

The Benguet State University (BSU) Gender and Development Office (GAD) conducted a seminar-workshop titled, "Beyond Attribution: Use of Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines (HGDG) to Mainstream Gender and Development Elements in the Project Development Cycle" on February 5-6, 2024 at Santiago Cove, Sabangan, Ilocos Sur.

GAD Technical Working Group (TWG) members and other heads of offices attended the activity. Ferdinand P. Gonzales, a member of the Philippine Commission on Women resource pool, served as the resource speaker for the three-day activity. He

tackled the topics of Integrating Gender Lenses in Programs and Gender Analysis using the HGDG tool.

After the discussion, the participants created and presented a proposal for their respective offices and campuses to mainstream gender and development in 2024. Mr. Gonzales reviewed and gave feedback for each presentation.

To wrap up, the participants shared their response and takeaways from the activity followed by the closing remarks from GAD Director Estrellita M. Daclan. She acknowledged the efforts of the participants, the speaker and the facilitators that led to the success of the activity.//P.Gadang

## CIS professor delivers retirement lecture

Maria Luz D. Fang-asan, Professor VI, capped 40 years of service to BSU with her retirement lecture at the College of Information Sciences (CIS) on February 20, 2024.



*Fang-asan with the panel members and participants of her retirement lecture held on February 20, 2024 at the CIS//P.Gadang*

Her lecture titled, "Igorot Culture Conservation Riding on Digital Connection" was attended by CIS faculty members, BS in Development Communication students, alumni and guests. The lecture was delivered before a panel composed of Leah E. Abayao, dean of the College of Social Sciences, University of the Philippines-Baguio; former La Trinidad Mayor, Edna C. Tabanda of the Igorot Global Organization; Richard H. Kinnud and Lily Ann D. Lando, culture champions; Stanley F. Anongos, dean of the BSU- College of Social Sciences; Myrna B. Sison-Kuiper, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, BSU; Rocky C. Ngalob of the National

Commission on Indigenous Peoples-Benguet; and Ann Heather B. Kiwang, director of the BSU- Institute of Social Research and Development.

In her lecture, Fang-asan shared her journey as a researcher before and after the availability of Internet in the locality. She presented the advantages and benefits that the Internet has contributed in the preservation of Igorot culture but she also cited the disadvantages and possible threats it could bring. The lecture ended with the participants doing the Uwawi of Kalinga led by Fang-asan's past DevCom 17 students.

The panelists each gave their honest and candid insights on the lecture. They also shared their experiences with Fang-asan and how they bore witness to how she championed Indigenous Knowledge research.//JSTabangcura

## College of Arts and Humanities students and faculty members present papers in international language conference

College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) students and faculty members participated in the Joint International Decade of Indigenous Languages and International Mother Language Day Conference (IDIL-IMLD) held on February 23-25, 2024 at the Caraga State University (CSU) in Butuan City. The conference, with the theme: "Reshaping language, literacy, and lifelong learning" was organized by CSU, Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT), Tebtebba Foundation, and 170+ Talaytayan MLE Inc.

The conference was held to celebrate the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL 2022-2032) as declared by the United Nations General Assembly. It also aimed to gather different stakeholders from the general public, SUCs, and government and non-government agencies to share their research, knowledge, experiences, opportunities, and challenges in indigenous languages.

Sen. Loren Legarda stated in her written message that the event serves as a perfect avenue to continuously promote, empower, and preserve the indigenous and mother tongue languages in the Philippines. In this conference, plenary sessions were held in the morning while parallel paper presentations were conducted in the afternoon.

Nine delegates from BSU were invited to attend as presenters for the parallel paper presentations. The studies presented include "Processes, Motivations, and Challenges of

Kankana-ey Media Production in Benguet" by Sendee S. Salvacio (BACOMM 4th year) and Peter P. Dalocdoc Jr. (DAC chairperson); "Indigenous Codes Used by the Kankana-eyes of Benguet in Maintaining Peace" by Karen O. Laking (DAC faculty member); "Language Retention of Foreign Language Learners" by Vanderlee B. Dalocdoc (DOE faculty member); "Paggamit ng Wikang Filipino sa Pagkatuto ng mga Mag-aaral ng Inhinyerya" by Jessa Volfango (CAH intern staff); "Ang Wika ng Adivay Festival Bilang Daluyan ng Kultura at Identidad" by Emielou Castillo (BAFiL 4th year); "Mga Teknik at Hamon ng mga Guro sa Pagkontekstuwalisa ng Aralin sa Filipino 7" by Penelope Tica-a (DOF chairperson); "Pagtataya sa Implementasyon ng MTB-MLE sa Lalawigan ng Benguet" by Dominga Tomas (CAH Advance Studies Coordinator); and "Katutubong Kaalaman: Pananaw at Integrasyon sa Akademikong Filipino" by Faustina Dio-as (DOF faculty member).//SSSalvacio (BAComm Intern)



*Participants of the Joint International Decade of Indigenous Languages and International Mother Language Day Conference held on February 23-25, 2024 at the Caraga State University//SSSalvacio*



# Mt. Collegian launches website

BSU is Iyaman receptive...from page 1



Mt. Collegian staff and alumni, their advisers Karen O. Laking and Richard Giye with BSU officials pose before a monitor showing the MC website after its launching at the BSU library on February 12, 2024. //B.Tayaban

The Mountain Collegian (MC) launched its website as part of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on February 12, 2024. The event was attended by University officials, alumni and MC staff. Aside from the launching of the website, the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo was also showcased.

MC adviser, Karen O. Laking acknowledged the presence of the attendees and commended the hard work of the MC staff and alumni. Laking also encouraged the current staff to continue what had been started. T

The MC alumni also shared their experiences as

staff members of the student publication. They expressed their hopes that the website will be successful.

The event was also attended by BSU La Trinidad Executive Dean, Eugene S. Lumasok and OSS Director Erlyn Honeylette Marquez to show their support for the student publication.

OIC President, Gretchen C. Ablaza appreciated the MC staff for their initiative. She assured them that choosing to be a part of the MC will nurture their creativity and will also help them in their careers later. The MC website URL is [mtcollegian.org](http://mtcollegian.org) //BTayaban

BSU's part in the agreement is to: assist in the formulation, implementation and review of policies, plans and programs of the SWDLNet-CAR especially with reference to upgrading professional practice, enhancing agency programs and continuing professional education; assist in the development of standard and specialized capability building modules/ programs and participate in pilot testing them; share/ offer existing expertise, facilities, services, and other resources in the furtherance of the objectives of the SWDLNet-CAR; and assign a representative who shall participate in the conduct of institutional development and capability building activities, researches, monitoring and evaluation of the Learning Network's programs.

Imelda G. Parcasio of the College of Teacher Education, Kipa-an and Ablaza actively participated in the fulfillment of BSU's counterpart in the said MOA. //F.Labad-dan (BAComm Intern)

## NPRCRTC holds purple yam production training...from page 3

reminded the participants that various root crops like ube, sustained our forefathers who settled in the mountainous regions of the Cordilleras, during the war, and at the peak of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Anduyan also expressed his concern on the gradual decline of young people who wanted to venture into agriculture because of two major reasons: that they can't see it as a viable livelihood that leads to overall life improvement, and that the current challenges faced by farmers such as oversupply leads to food waste without profit.

"It is high time for us to make agriculture sexy, enticing, and interesting so that the younger generation will go back to farming and be proud of farming as a profession because of its dignity to bring food to every person in every home," he challenged.

As for the latter, Anduyan expressed his expectation for Benguet

State University along with the other CAR State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) to continue the path of discovering innovations for food production to prevent wasted farmers' produce from going to waste.

"SUCs must be at the forefront in addressing all of these problems because you are the knowledge and technology production centers in your areas," he said.

During the closing program, the participants

expressed gratitude to the training organizers and the resource persons and shared their insights gained throughout the event.

Juliet Damsa, a first-time trainee of purple yam production, recognized the significance and impact of yam cultivation.

Damsa also shared that the activity provided an opportunity for the participants to develop research topics related to purple yam, emphasizing it would contribute to the

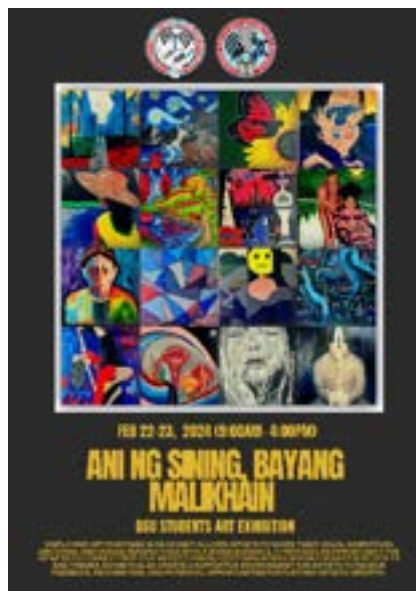
improvement and increased yield of purple yam.

Teresita D. Masangcay, Chief of the Crop Management & Seed Production Division of NPRCRTC, assured support and technical assistance to students planning to conduct research on purple yam and other root crops.

BSU personnel along with several agriculture students majoring in agronomy attended the said event. // EMBawayan, CANapiloy



Participants and speakers of the Purple Yam Production Training organized by the NPRCRTC on January 30-31, 2024. //CANapiloy



## College of Arts and Humanities holds student art exhibition

On February 22–23, the College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) held an event to celebrate the National Arts Month.

As part of its commitment to fostering artistic expression and celebrating student talent, the Department of Arts and Communication, presented "Ani ng Sining, Bayang Malikhain," an art exhibit held in the hallway between Rooms 206 and 207. This activity, initiated by Mr. Revin Xavier L. Ignacio, served as a platform for students to showcase their unique artistry, instill a love of learning and respect for the arts, and encourage

them to express themselves creatively and develop their unique talents and skills.

The exhibit showcased a collection of artworks from current and previous Art Appreciation classes and Indigenous Creative Crafts courses. Visitors were treated to a diverse range of creations, reflecting the artistic vision and technical skills nurtured by different faculty members within the Department of Arts and Communication. Additionally, the exhibit highlighted some video and printed

works of various BSU students, adding a dynamic dimension to the showcased visual talents.

Beyond showcasing individual talents, the exhibit served as a rallying cry for the entire BSU community to come together and celebrate the boundless potential of human creativity. It underscored the college's role not only in imparting technical skills but also in nurturing the imagination and ingenuity of the next generation of artists and communicators. //FLabad-dan (BAComm Intern)

### BSU R&E under new leadership...from page 1

recognized research hub that is not only confined within the province.

"I wish to see the day when our bodies of research here in the university will soon be making an impact on the international arena where people from around the world would also benefit from our findings," he said.

To achieve this, the new vice president specified some of his strategic undertakings in the coming years which include collaboration, linkages, and full-fledged support for the university researchers among others.

On points of partnership and linkages, VP Lumbres encouraged his fellow researchers and extensionists to capitalize on outside-funded projects and other available resources outside the university as observations concluded a decline in this area.

He further explained the necessity of collaboration for crafting relevant and timely policies to address current issues and mitigate future challenges. Additionally, he plans to focus on creating an inclusive and nurturing environment as part of the university's research culture that fosters growth and excellence. This encompasses a "good support system" including state-of-the-art facilities, laboratories, and new methodologies among others.

VP Lumbres shared, "We need to capacitate our researchers, both faculty members and non-teaching personnel. We need to link them to the right people and right institutions."

One of his advocacies also highlights initiatives to support people from the university possessing promising potential as agents for positive and impactful changes and development to be sent for their international studies.

"Our researchers need to study outside BSU. In this way, we can adapt whatever existing knowledge and technologies they have. We will then try to calibrate it according to our structure and setup," he added.

When asked about the true goal of research, VP Lumbres expressed, "Definitely, it's to help humanity. For instance, it helps to minimize environmental degradation. In the social aspect, we contribute to the preservation of the indigenous people's knowledge. Then of course, on the business side, the end goal is to commercialize our maturing technologies which can help our farmers increase their profit and spend lesser cost on their inputs."

On another note, the vice president emphasized the imperative role of a clear

vision along with a good moral, a good name, and a good foresight in leading such a big sector. According to him, achieving well-organized steps towards development requires a holistic approach.

While admitting that the vice presidency is a daunting position, VP Lumbres expressed optimism and enthusiasm for the future.

"Since the research and development sector plays some of the biggest roles in the university, it brings much pressure right now... Compared to the former vice presidents, I am relatively younger by experience. But at the same time, I am happy to see that the sector also has a lot of space left for improvement and its potential in terms of development for the university," he answered.

Prior to his appointment, Roscinto Ian Lumbres bagged various awards and recognition in the field of research and extension from various agencies and universities.

One of the most noteworthy recent remembrance is his 'Outstanding Young Scientist 2022' award by CHED. He was also recognized as an 'Outstanding Extensionist' and 'Outstanding Thesis Adviser' at the BSU 107th Foundation Anniversary last December 2023. // CANapiloy