



Shamag

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BSU celebrates 38th Charter Anniversary with continuous commitment to serve communities

Benguet State University celebrated its 38th Charter Anniversary with a line-up of activities highlighted by the Charter Anniversary program on January 12, 2024. The theme for this year's celebration is "BSU Addressing the Educational and Entrepreneurial Appeal of the Communities," a statement of the University's continuous commitment to be of service.

President Felipe Salaing Comila opened the 38th Charter Anniversary program by paying homage to former Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos, who signed Presidential Decree 2010 in 1986 elevating the then, Mountain State Agricultural College (MSAC) to Benguet State University.

Benguet Congressman, Hon. Eric Go Yap was the keynote speaker for the program. He pointed out that BSU can help communities in many ways amidst the current issues of vegetable and strawberry farmers. He also praised all those who were instrumental in the establishment of the BSU College of Medicine.

"Ang BSU...should be a tool *para sa ating mga kabataan para magkaroon*

ng magandang kinabukasan. Kapag gaganda ang kinabukasan ng ating mga studyante, ng mga kabataan, gaganda din po ang kinabukasan ng ating probinsiya (BSU should be a tool for our youth to have a better future for themselves and our province)," Hon. Yap remarked.

Hon. Yap's keynote address was followed by short messages from Baguio City Mayor, Hon. Benjamin Bañez Magalong and the mayors of the different municipalities of Benguet namely: Kapangan Mayor, Hon. Manny Ediong Fermin; Kibungan Vice Mayor, Hon. Edwin Nitron representing Kibungan Mayor, Hon. Cesar Molitas; Bokod Mayor, Hon. Thomas Kisal Wales Jr. represented by his Executive Assistant, Glen Duguis; Buguias Mayor, Hon. Ruben Ludaes Tinda-an;

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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

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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

Lithuanian mentors lecture on international trade and business strategy

As part of the faculty mobility partnership with Benguet State University, mentors Asta Kyguolienė and Monika Didžgalvytė-Bujauskė from Vytautas Magnus University (VMU) in Lithuania shared their expertise on international trade and customer experience management through a whole-day lecture at the College of Home Economics and Technology (CHET) Function Hall on January 16, 2024.



Participants of the lecture on January 16, 2024 with mentors Asta Kyguolienė and Monika Didžgalvytė-Bujauskė

During the morning session, Professor Monika discussed the relevance of international trade, which is crucial for countries, to acquire resources for sustained production, job creation, and development among others.

Her discussion encompassed the definition and importance of international economics, the different assumptions and benefits of international trade, and the various classical models for demand and supply used in international trade.

In an interview, she further explained that being equipped with knowledge and understanding of international trade can take you so far, especially for students who want to

work in labor markets and international firms.

"It doesn't mean you have to take in everything for granted with what you hear and learn. You have to think on your own and double-check everything," she added.

Selected entrepreneur students from the College of Home Economics and Technology (CHET) and agribusiness students from the College of Agriculture (CA) attended the said lecture.

Following that, CHET faculty member Jeftee B. Pinos-an summarized the salient points of the discussion before facilitating the question-and-answer portion of the lecture.

In the afternoon, Kyguolienė talked about the vital role of

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BSU Open University holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for new building

BSU officials led by President Felipe Salaing Comila and Open University (OU) Director, Leonardo T. Apilis marked the construction of a new OU building through a Groundbreaking Ceremony on January 11, 2024. The soon-to-be OU building is located near the College of Information Sciences (CIS).

The ceremony also included the unveiling of the billboard and the laying of the cornerstone officiated by Matias C. Angiwan Jr. In his message, President Comila expressed his desire to see an increase in OU enrolment in the following semesters so that the new building will serve its purpose.

He also shared his dream for an enhanced OU curriculum, making it entrepreneurially inclined to produce more graduates who are not only limited to an employee-oriented mindset but who will help boost the country's job creation and decrease the high amount of unemployment.

Apilis, together with OU Assistant Director, Rashid B. Lokines, also conveyed their delight in this noble undertaking as they look forward to a brighter future with quality facility and instruction delivery.

BSU-OU alumna, Meliarazon F. Dulay M.D., who serves as the Benguet Provincial Health Officer, concluded the ceremony with a message of gratitude and well-wishes to the university.

"I believe that my stay in this university molded me through HEALTHIER education," she said.

Using the acronym H-E-A-L-T-H-I-E-R, she summarized her definition of a healthier education which are: holistic learning, empowerment, active lifestyle, lifelong learning, team collaboration, health advocacy, innovation, ethical leadership, and resilience.

The ceremony was also graced by the presence of CHED-CAR education supervisors and Lita M. Colting, a former BSU-OU Director. //CANapiloy



The laying of the cornerstone on January 11, 2024 with (l-r) BSU-OU Director, Leonardo Apilis; BSU-OU alumna, Meliarazon F. Dulay, M.D.; Matias C. Angiwan who officiated the ceremony; former BSU-OU Director, Lita M. Colting; Associate Executive Dean of BSU La Trinidad, John Botengan; Planning and Development Office Director, Melvin Aromin; and BSU President, Felipe Salaing Comila



Bamboo Fun Run



January 8, 2024 - Employees teamed up for the Bamboo Unity Fun Run as part of the university's 38th Charter Anniversary Celebration. The run kicked off in front of the BSU Administration Building towards the College of Engineering and back to the starting area. The participants, grouped into seven teams and completed the track while riding a bamboo pole. A modest amount of cash incentives was then given to all teams for their active participation.//CANapiloy

Fun Bike



January 12, 2024 - Led by the BSU Non Teaching Association, employees biked around the campus at dawn with their balloons. This was still in celebration of the 38th Charter Anniversary//Photos courtesy of RHKinnud



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service



January 12, 2024 - The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service in celebration of the BSU 38th Charter Anniversary was officiated by the La Trinidad Ecumenical Council of Churches (LTECC). The messenger of the service, Rev. Felipe Billao Ehicán Jr. of the North Highland District Lutheran Church of the Philippines, conveyed the importance of being connected to the Creator. The ministers then prayed for the safety and strength of BSU and the community.//BTayaban

BSU celebrates...from page 1

Executive Assistant Reynold Rhoda representing Itogon Mayor, Hon. Bernard Sagandoy Waclin; Tublay Mayor, Hon. Armando Infante Lauro; and La Trinidad Vice Mayor, Hon. Roderick Chiok Awingan representing La Trinidad Mayor, Hon. Romeo Kimo Salda. The respective mayors, vice mayors and executive assistants expressed their willingness to work with BSU for the benefit of their constituents.

The 38th Charter Anniversary Program was attended by guests from the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) regional offices of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Agriculture (DA), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Commission on Higher Education

(CHED), and the Department of Education (DepEd). Guests from the Mountain Province State Polytechnic College (MSPC) and the Benguet State University and Community Multipurpose Cooperative (BSUCMPC) also attended the program.

Various activities in celebration of the 38th Charter Anniversary were organized by the different sectors of the University. These include the: Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, Balik-Eskwela Fest, PRAISE EVERLASTING Awards, Christmas Lights Retreat, and Fellowship Night all held on January 12, 2024; Mass Blood Donation and Darts Tournament held on January 19, 2024; Balik-Eskwela Booths held on January 10-12, 2024; Seminar on IKS Accommodation in School Contexts held on January 24, 2024; Intercampus friendship games held on January 26, 2024; Purple Yam Production Training held on January 30-31; and the upcoming Passport on Wheels Data Capturing activity on February 1-2, 2024.//JSTabangcura

Balik Eskwela University Fest



January 12, 2024 - Students from the various colleges of Benguet State University actively participated in the Laro ng Lahi as part of the university's 38th Charter Anniversary Celebration. Holding their banners with pride, the event opened with a parade that started in front of the BSU Administration Building towards the University oval. According to SSG Adviser, Russell B. Dolendo, the event is an opportunity to cultivate camaraderie and sportsmanship among students. It is also to showcase their talents and skills in the different game categories, and prepare them for the upcoming university sports fest. Each team displayed unwavering resolve in their participation with the College of Human Kinetics emerging as the overall champion.//CNapilo

PRAISE EVERLASTING Awards



In celebration of the Benguet State University 38th Charter Anniversary, employees and retirees were recognized during the Program on Rewards, Awards, Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) Everlasting Awards held at the University gymnasium. The momentous event gave distinction to retirees and employees who have consistently demonstrated exceptional work and contributed to the achievement of University goals throughout the years. Employees who served for 10 years received their Loyalty Awards while employees who served for 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years received their Milestone Awards. Retiring employees were also honored with the Salamat-Mabuhay Award. The awardees were chosen not only for their length of service, but also for their accomplishments embodying the vision, mission, and core values of BSU. Benguet Governor, Hon. Melchor Daguines Diclas graced the event as the inspirational speaker. He reminded the awardees to take joy in their legacy and extended his appreciation and congratulations for the excellence BSU has demonstrated as shown in the University's recent performance in the licensure examinations.//PGadang

Fellowship Night



January 12, 2024 - BSU officials, faculty, staff, and students showcased their talents and creativity during the BSU 38th Charter Anniversary Fellowship Night. Excitement and anticipation engulfed the gymnasium. The sound of cheers and applause echoed through the venue as the performances from different colleges and sectors commenced. The performers displayed their remarkable talents in singing, dancing, and acting. The event served as a venue to showcase and celebrate the University's unity, diversity, and camaraderie.//PGadang

Christmas Lights Retreat



January 12, 2024 - GSO staff, Diego Bulangen assists BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila in switching off the Christmas lights as University officials watch. The ceremony signifies how 'we take away the lights and keep them in our hearts' as mentioned by International Relations Office (IRO) Director, Ma. Luz D. Fang-asan on her opening remarks.//PGadang

Mass Blood Donation



January 19, 2024 - Philippine Red Cross - Benguet Chapter's Blood Donors Network and its member Benguet State University held a Mass Blood Donation Activity at the Secondary Laboratory School Covered Court as part of the 38th Charter Anniversary celebration. Employees and students joined the activity by donating blood for public needs.//BTayaban (UPAO Staff-Intern)

Passport on Wheels



January 11, 2024- La Trinidad Mayor Romeo K. Salda and BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila arrived at the BSU-International Relations Office (IRO) for updates on the Passport-On-Wheels pre-registration. BSU student volunteers and IRO staff were able to pre-register around 240 applicants within the day. The next step which is data capturing will be held on February 1-2, 2024 at the BSU Gym. This initiative was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the LGU La Trinidad and BSU in celebration of the 38th BSU Charter Day.//JSTabangcura

Seminar on IKS Accommodation in School Contexts



January 24, 2024 - To address the growing concerns of decreasing knowledge of indigenous culture, history, and practices among teachers and learners in the Cordillera region, BSU held a seminar-workshop on Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) accommodation in the school context. This was spearheaded by the BSU College of Social Sciences (CSS) in partnership with the BSU Gender and Development (GAD) Office, BSU Alumni Association, Inc., and Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas (FIMI). The event was participated by both faculty members and researchers in the university.//CNapiloy

Purple Yam Production Training



January 30-31, 2024 - To respond to the increasing marketability of the Philippine-grown root crop dioscorea alata commonly known as 'ube', the Northern Philippines Root Crops Research and Training Center (NPRCRTC) conducted a Purple Yam Production Training at the Ganza Hall, NPRCRTC Bldg. According to CHED-CAR Director Demetrio P. Anduyan Jr., the training aims to contribute to the food security problems in our region and our country while also encouraging the younger generations to engage in the agricultural sector as the country has seen a gradual decline of young people who want to venture into this field. The training is also part of the BSU 38th Charter Anniversary Celebration.//CNapiloy

BSU employees attend training on Government Procurement Reform Act

Employees of BSU came to learn more about the provisions of the Government Procurement Reform Act or RA 9184 at the College of Human Kinetics Function Hall. The three-day training was led by the Human Resource Development Office to familiarize the employees with the laws, rules, and regulations as well as the most recent information regarding the Republic Act.



BSU President Felipe Salaing Comila attended the training to motivate the participants



DBM-CAR Assistant Director Marie Christine D. Andaya, one of the resource speakers in the training

Felipe Salaing Comila, the University President, encouraged employees to deepen their understanding of procurement in order to mitigate challenges at work.

The resource speakers from the Department of Budget and Management – CAR are also Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) recognized trainers. They are Assistant Director Marie

Christine D. Andaya, Ms. Liza B. Fangsilat, and Atty. Zenaida Bautista-Biteng. The topics discussed include: Key Features of GPRA and Procurement Organizations; Procurement Planning, Budget Linkage, including Early Procurement Activities; Preparation of Technical Specifications, Scope of Work and Term of Reference; Green Public Procurement; Alternative Methods of Procurement; Latest GPPB

Issuances and Updates; and Standard Bidding Procedures for Goods, Services, and Infrastructure Projects.

VP for Administration and Finance Allan C. Sacpa during the closing program complimented the employees for completing the training and appreciated the trainers for their time and effort.//BTayaban (UPAO Staff-Intern)

Darts Tournament



January 19, 2024 - As part of the BSU 38th Charter Anniversary Celebration, the Gender and Development (GAD) Office with the College of Human Kinetics (CHK) and Center for Sports, Wellness, and Development conducted a Darts Tournament held at the College of Engineering Building. The tournament was participated by employees and students from different BSU colleges and offices. The aim was to promote sportsmanship and teamwork, relieve stress, and help the participants develop a healthy pastime.//PGadang

Intercampus Friendship Games



January 26, 2024 - The BSU-Bokod hosted the Intercampus Friendship Games in celebration of the 38th BSU Charter Anniversary. It was participated by employees and students from the La Trinidad, Bokod, and Buguias Campuses. The games started with the Bike Fun Ride dubbed as Ondaw Shi Nay Betaw, an Ibaloi term which means going the distance. The event was spearheaded by the BSU Center for Sports Recreation and Wellness Development, BSU Government Employees Association, and the BSU Non-Teaching Association to promote camaraderie, sportsmanship, and teamwork. The ride's route started from the Bokod Campus, going to Kamora National High School in Kabayan, Benguet, and then back to the Bokod Campus. Meanwhile, other employees and students played volleyball and basketball. BSU Bokod Executive Dean Shakira B. Herman welcomed everyone and encouraged them to sustain the spirit of camaraderie and unity.//EBawayan with photo contributions from Leo Kimbungan

Balik-Scientist Venecio Ultra shares expertise with BSU

Benguet State University (BSU) welcomed Balik-Scientist Venecio Ultra Jr. on January 15, 2024. Prof. Ultra, the third Balik-Scientist received by BSU, is an associate professor of the Botswana International University of Science and Technology. He will be sharing his expertise with BSU researchers and students on environmental soil chemistry and mineralogy through a series of engagements until December 2024.

As a Balik-Scientist, Prof. Ultra expressed his commitment to helping research groups strengthen Research and Development (R&D) programs. He also expressed his support to bridging the gap between Filipino researchers and the Philippine government in the promotion of R&D.

"What are the barriers these research groups encounter that hinder them from being productive in research activities? As a Balik-Scientist, I want to be a mediator or a channel that can provide them with what is happening on the ground... why do we have this weak output in our R&D activities?" he asked.

In addition, he emphasized the need for more individuals skilled with hands-on R&D activities, particularly in the Philippines where exposure to practical training may be limited for students.

Drawing from his experiences, Professor Ultra acknowledged the challenges faced by scientists and stressed the importance of discipline, perseverance, and the acceptance of failure in the journey towards success. He shared best practices with BSU faculty and students aspiring to become scientists, urging them to embrace the work, develop passion, exercise patience, and never give up. He expressed optimism towards the significance of his collaboration with BSU.

"It's good that we are starting the collaboration. I'm optimistic that we have some good things to come as long as the BSU Core Team will continue to engage with me," he expressed. The BSU core team are the College of Agriculture (CA), College of Forestry (CF), College of Engineering (CE), College of Natural Sciences (CNS), Center for Geoinformatics (GIS), and the Institute for Social Research and Development (ISRD) which are BSU offices and colleges that have programs related to Ultra's expertise in environment and chemistry.

As part of his engagement, Professor Ultra served as the resource person for the Seminar on Assessment and Mitigation of Heavy Metal Pollution in Agricultural Areas and Food Systems: The Case of Botswana and the Philippines, held on January 17-18 at the Everlasting Hall and Online. It was spearheaded by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension, GIS, CA, Cordillera Organic Agriculture Research and Development Center (COARDC), and Cordillera Consortium for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Resources Research and Development (CORCARRD).

The first day of the seminar focused on packaging and development of research proposals related to the assessment and mitigation of heavy metal pollution in the environment, biodiversity, agricultural areas, and food systems. This was participated by BSU researchers and faculty members.

On the second day, Prof. Ultra shared his study on heavy metal pollution in agricultural areas and food systems in Botswana and the Philippines and how to address its negative impacts. The seminar was attended by over 300 participants from different educational institutions, including BSU, and public and private organizations nationwide.

GIS Director Roscinto Ian C. Lumbres, one of the seminar organizers and a seasoned BSU researcher, appreciated the relevance of the topics discussed by Prof. Ultra.

"First, heavy metal pollution has negative impacts on human health, environment, and in the agricultural sector. Vegetables with heavy metal contamination is a big concern for someone's health. Now as a researcher, your duty is not only focused on the scientific community but the community itself and we hope to prevent or mitigate this harmful impact. Also, one of the economic activities in Benguet is mining that's why Dr. Ultra has chosen BSU," he said.



Professor Ultra in one of his speaking engagements at BSU

Lumbres added that the seminar would help BSU researchers develop a research proposal to address the negative impact of heavy metal pollution in the ecosystem. He hoped that students would gain awareness of the negative impacts of mining and they would contribute strategies to mitigate these. He also looked forward to more R&D outputs with the guidance of the Balik-Scientist.

"The University is honored that Dr. Ultra came to BSU. We expect to have more collaborative R&D projects with him and it's a big opportunity that he came to the University to be involved in the mitigation of heavy metal pollution in agricultural land and food systems which is relevant in Benguet and the Cordillera," he said. He also hoped the University would accommodate Balik-Scientists every year.

"Because we are into internationalization and to support our pursuit for international level, we need Balik-Scientists," Lumbres added.

On January 19, Professor Ultra together with the BSU Core Team conducted a survey in Mankayan, Benguet for possible research activities related to mining. Aside from engaging in research activities, Professor Ultra also shared his work experiences and some of the Botswana cultures with the BSU community.

The Balik-Scientist Program, established in 1975 through Presidential Decree 819, aims to encourage Filipino scientists to return to the Philippines and share their expertise contributing to the country's development. //EBawayan

Lithuanian mentors...from page 3

customer experience management in increasing loyal customers for any business or service. In her presentation, she identified the methods and tools for understanding customers, the elements of a customer journey, and sample strategic customer experience management by major enterprises and multinational corporations.

According to her, an effective business strategy is not only limited to good services. Instead, it's about considering the positive emotions that customers experience as a whole, saying that "sometimes, the smallest things take the biggest part in our hearts."

"Disneyland is one of the best places to learn about customer experience," she added.

Tourism and hospitality management students attended the afternoon lecture. //CANapiloy