It has been quite an eventful summer this year, jam-packed with activities that speak only of the university’s dedication to its vision of a world-class university. With a number of state universities benchmarking with us, and us benchmarking with yet other universities, we exemplify the philosophy of sharing, where we recognize that nobody has the monopoly of knowledge. I am proud to say that we have achieved much this past school year, including not just maintaining our centers of excellence and development, but adding another feather in our cap through the College of Nursing, now a Center of Development in Nursing. A center of excellence refers to a department

BU programs hailed as COE, CODs by CHED

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has declared three Bicol University programs as centers of development and center of excellence in an awarding ceremony held at the HEDC Building, C.P. Garcia Avenue, UP Diliman, Quezon City last May 17, 2016. CHED has reinstated two programs as BU was once again conferred the status of Center of Excellence (COE) in teacher education and Center of Development (COD) in Fisheries. BU has also added another achievement as it was hailed by CHED as a Center of Development in Nursing.

BU’s Most Outstanding Grad wins TOSP regional award

The Most Outstanding Graduate of Bicol University (BU) for 2016 was hailed as one of the regional winners in the Search for the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TOSP) during the awarding rites held last May 23, 2016 at the Sambalas Grille, Bonot, Legazpi City.

Andrew O. Refareal, a BS Education major in English Magna Cum laude graduate from Bicol University Polangui Campus (BUPC) emerged as one of the three awardees out of the seven finalists from private and public universities in the Bicol region. Refareal, the former editor-in-chief of the Inditers, the official student publication of the BU Polangui Campus, is no stranger to awards. For two consecutive years from 2015 to 2016, he was hailed as BUPC’s Outstanding Student of the College. He also graduated valedictorian at Magurang Elementary School in Polangui, Albay and salutatorian at Polangui General Comprehensive High School. Refareal attributed his success to his family. “I

The PRESIDENT’S OUTBOX

LEADERSHIP   SCHOLARSHIP   SERVICE   CHARACTER

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BU hosts 5 events in Palarong Pambansa 2016

Five out of the total 21 sports events were held at Bicol University (BU) in this year’s Palarong Pambansa 2016.

The Albay Sports and Tourism Complex, located in the BU main campus was chosen as the primary venue for this year’s sports spectacle which was held from April 10-16, 2016. The said venue houses an Olympic-sized swimming pool, a rubberized track oval, and a grandstand. BU was also the designated venue for the football, volleyball, athletics, swimming, and shotput sporting events in the weeklong athletic competition. Legazpi City, Ligao City and the municipalities of Sto. Domingo, Daraga, Camalig and Guinobatan were among the identified playing venues in the 59th edition of Palarong Pambansa.

At least 14,000 student-athletes including 36,000 officials from the country’s 18 regions joined the event. With the theme, “Transforming Communities, Transcending through K to 12,” Palarong Pambansa aims to gather Filipino student-athletes from public and private schools at the elementary and secondary levels in an annual multi-sporting event.

IA-BUHS celebrates centennial anniversary

The Integrated Albay-Bicol University High School (IA-BUHS) Alumni Association Inc. celebrated its centennial anniversary in a homecoming event held at the Albay Astrodome on May 20-21, 2016.

With the theme “100 years of Unity through Excellence and Diversity,” this year’s homecoming was marked by numerous festive activities. The two-day event kicked-off with a grand motorcade and a thanksgiving mass. One of the highlights of this year’s event is the planting of the time capsule.

In the spirit of public service, the organizers, headed by Maria Vivian P. Manila, chairperson for the Centennial Anniversary Celebration also held a bloodletting activity and sponsored a medical-dental mission. A grand ball as well as batch competitions and raffle draws were also held to add excitement to the event. The Batch ‘66, Golden Jubilarians, and the Batch ’91, Silver Jubilarians were this year’s hosts.

Established in 1902 in Guinobatan Albay, the Bicol University College of Education Integrated Laboratory School High School (BUCEILS HS) was formerly known as Albay High School. With the integration of the different laboratory schools of the College of Education, its name was changed to Boys and Girls High School.

In 1969 with the establishment of Bicol University, by virtue of RA 5521, the Albay Provincial High School became known as the Bicol University High School. With the integration of the different laboratory schools of the College of Education, the name was changed to Bicol University Integrated Laboratory High School. (Earl Epson L. Recamunda/OP)

As one of the regional winners, Refareal will represent the region and advance in the national search for TOSP for 2016. “I hope that this time around, a [Bueño] will be able to earn a place in the roster of students who are outstanding not only in intellect, but also in their story of hard work and dedication to their university, the community and to the country,” Refareal said. (Earl Epson L. Recamunda/OP, Photo from TOSP Bikol Alumni Community Facebook page)

TOSP awardee/from p.1

IA-BUHS alumni association inc. entertained the crowd with their festive dance number during the opening program of the two-day centennial homecoming last May 20, 2016. (Earl Epson L. Recamunda/OP)

Girls High School.

Members of the Integrated Albay-Bicol University High School Alumni Association Inc. entertained the crowd with their festive dance number during the opening program of the two-day centennial homecoming last May 20, 2016. (Earl Epson L. Recamunda/OP)

A World-Class University Producing Leaders and Change Agents for Social Transformation and Development.
As part of the evaluation of the Bicol University College of Medicine (BUCM) to be acknowledged as the first state university to open a medical school in the Bicol Region offering a double-degree program, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Technical Team conducted the final assessment to the College on May 5, 2016 at the BU Health Sciences Building.

The panel, composed of the Chair of the Technical Commission on Medical Education (TCME), Dr. Alfaretta Llusa T. Reyes who is also the Dean of University of the East, Ramon Magsaysay College of Medicine (UERMCOM); Member of the Technical Panel for Health Professions Education (TPHPE), Dr. Joselito F. Villaruz, Dean of West Visayas College of Medicine; Chair of TPHPE, Dr. Alberto B. Roxas; the Chair of the Board of Medicine Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Dr. Miguel L. Noche; and the CHED-ROV Representative, Dr. Ma. Teresa G. De Alban, focused on the compliance of the College based on the previous evaluation conducted last year.

The team looked into the college’s curriculum, schedule of classes/activities from first year to fifth year, appointments of full-time and part-time faculty, capacity of laboratories, facilities and equipment used during lecture and laboratory activities, book resources in the library, linkages to other agencies through MOAs and credentials/designations of faculty officials.

The exit conference was participated by Dr. Helen Llenaresas, BU Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Amelia A. Dorosan, Vice President for Administration; Dr. Victor Soliman, BU Graduate School Dean; Ms. Ma. Victoria Olaguer, OIC, University Librarian, together with BUCM faculty-doctors including other officials and staff from partner agencies who also collaborated in the pursuit of the activity. (Christine Z. Andes /CM)

Delegates from the Abra State Institute of Science and Technology (ASIST) composed of teaching and non-teaching staff benchmarked BU’s best practices on April 26, 2016. (Jona V. Castañeda / OP)

by DBM standards as SUC Level IV. The said universities also learned valuable insights on BU’s successful implementation of ISO 9001:2008.

The UEP delegation was led by James Baines, President of UEP Non-Teaching Staff Association, while the BS Lipa City Campus Faculty Association delegation was led by Nora G. Dimaano, dean of Colleges. The said visits were held last May 19 and 20, 2016 respectively. (Jona Castañeda/OP)

Within a higher education institution, which continuously demonstrates excellent performance in the areas of instruction, research and publication, extension and linkages and institutional qualifications. A center of development, on the other hand, is identified as a potential center of excellence.

According to CHED Memo Order no. 38, “the designated COEs and CODs may avail of financial assistance on a project proposal basis geared towards the development of improvement of the programs, particularly cutting-edge technology in the different disciplines, provided that the implementation of the project should conform to the policies stipulated in the respective CMOs”.

The said recognition is valid from April 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018. (Earl Epson L. Recamunda / OP)

RD Agnes M. Espinas of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) shares the Bicol Regional Development Plan during the BFHE General Assembly on April 29. (Jona V. Castañeda/OP)

M. Espinas of the National Economic and Development Authority Region V, talked about “The Bicol Regional Development Plan (RDP): Its Challenges to Bicol HEIs for Inclusive Development.” She expounded on the RDP plan which included the sector outcomes and key strategies. The roles of the academe were also given light by Dir. Espinas. She said that, “the academe is in the best position to evaluate and assess the impact of government programs and also provide hard evidence for policy and decision making.”

Dr. George Colorado, Regional Director of the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office V was represented by Christian Rivero, who presented the CHED updates and discussed the salient features of the UniFAST Law (RA 10687).

Bicol University, Ateneo de Naga University, Partido State University, Aquinas University and Central Bicol State University of Agriculture participated in the event. The five HEIs presented their research and extension initiatives as well as their best practices.

Simultaneously, a board meeting was conducted at the BUCAL Conference Room among BFHE officers and other HEIs administrators.

The meeting focused on the role of the Bicol HEIs in facing the challenges of the ASEAN Integration specifically identifying possible collaboration and partnership of HEIs in research and extension. The said meeting also encouraged faculty members to undertake research and extension and strengthen the research activities of HEIs along the Bicol Regional Development Agenda. (Julius Caesar Martinez/ CAL)
Universities benchmark BU’s Quality Management System
Bicol University (BU) opened its doors to fellow educational institutions in a series of benchmarking visits during the summer of 2016. BU welcomed the Abra State Institute of Science and Technology (ASIST), which sent 36 teaching and non-teaching staff to the College of Arts and Letters (CAL), College of Education (CE), and the College of Science on April 26, 2016. This was followed by the visit of the Campus Director of Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) Balanga Campus, Magdalena Abella, together with the university deans and coordinator to the College of Education (CE), College of Business and Accountancy, and College of Nursing (CN) to benchmark on BU’s best practices on education, accountancy, nursing, and ISO accreditation. The Cebu Technological University (CTU) also benchmarked with BU on April 28, 2016. Headed by Vice President for Research, Francia Ann R. Sy, the Southern Leyte State University (SLSU) also sent its delegation on May 17 to observe the best practices of the university on Research Development and Extension projects. The University of Eastern Philippines (UEP) and the Batangas State University (BSU) Lipa City Campus, on the other hand, visited BU to benchmark on its best practices in production, research, extension, knowing that BU is ISO 9001:2008 certified, and is recognized benchmark/p.3

BU graduates top National Exams
March 2016 Licensure Examination for Teachers (L.E.T.)
Anna Veronica Belmonte, 7th Placer, 89.60%

April 2016 Registered Master Electrician Licensure Examination
Reymark M. Embate, 1st Placer, 92.50%
Lorenz C. Catolico, 4th Placer, 90.00%
Frenz Karl A. Garcia, 10th Placer, 87.00%
BU passing rate: 87.27%
National passing rate: 56.03%

April 2016 Nursing Licensure Examination
Mary Recidel Danice S. Bernarte, 2nd Placer, 90.00%
Deanna Corinne E. Serrano, 3rd Placer, 89.60%
Maria Teresa B. Barrios, 8th Placer, 89.05%
BU passing rate: 100% College of Nursing 100% Tabaco Campus 92%
National passing rate: 49.18%

 BU hosts 2016 BFHE General Assembly
The Bikol Foundation for Higher Education, Inc. (BFHE) conducted the 2016 BFHE General Assembly last April 29, 2016 at the Bicol University College of Arts and Letters (BUCAL) Amphitheater. BFHE is an association of higher education institutions (HEIs) both public and private in Bicol region. As a non-stock, non-partisan and non-government organization, its members are HEI Presidents and Administrators. At present, BFHE is organized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as the Regional Association of HEIs in Bicol. With the theme “Strengthening Responsiveness of Bicol HEIs in the Regional Research and Extension Development,” the general assembly was graced by the presence of HEIs leaders representing various public and private universities and colleges all over Bicol region. The assembly’s first speaker, Dr. Napoleon K. Juanillo, Jr., Director IV of the Commission on Higher Education Office of Planning, Research and Knowledge Management, discussed “Musings on Research and Extension in Philippine Higher Education: The Search for Strategic Perspectives for Change and Reform.” He thoroughly discussed the roles of Philippine Higher Education highlighting the purpose of a university as a research and development laboratory. He also expounded on the knowledge and innovation production loop.

The second speaker, Regional Director Agnes

CONGRATULATIONS
DR. RENATO REX
for winning the
2016 Outstanding Albayano Awardee
in Cultural Education
given by the Provincial Government of Albay

Photo courtesy of Dr. Rex

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