NATIONAL SERVICE RESERVE CORPS (NSRC) POLICY REVIEW AND ENHANCEMENT WORKSHOP

Bicol University (BU), in partnership with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Philippine Society of National Service Training Program (NSTP) Educators and Implementers (PSNEI), conducted the National Service Reserve Corps (NSRC) Policy Review and Enhancement Workshop last November 26, 2015 at Hotel St. Ellis, Legazpi City, Albay.

In attendance during the activity were: Dir. Edgardo J. Ollet, MNSA, Chief of Plans and Programs Division of NDRRMC-OCD Central; Dr. Rafael Querubin, PSNEI National President and University President of Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC); Dr. Manuel C. Mendoza, Supervising Program Specialist of CHED Regional Office V and Dr. Florida C. Labuguen, Ex-Officio Officer/Past President and Executive Director of BU.

A graduate of Bicol University (BU) bagged the first prize in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Video Contest as part of the 2015 APEC Leaders’ Week held last November 16-19 in Manila, Philippines.

BU alumna wins 2015 APEC Video Contest

Chrysthelyn Siena Quides, an AB Broadcasting alumna of the College of Arts and Letters (CAL), bested other competitors from the Philippines and other countries to win the APEC 2015 Video Contest.
contest which focused on the impact of trade and economic development on people’s lives in the Asia-Pacific. With the theme “Building Inclusive Economies, Building a Better World: how have technology and innovation changed your life?”, the three-minute video contest put particular emphasis on the benefits of technology and innovation in micro, small, and medium enterprises.

Quides’ winning entry, “Anna’s Village,” which talks about how technology helped spur innovation in a small, remote community and promote its development, was praised by Dr Alan Bollard, Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat in a press statement. “The story of Anna’s village creatively shows how technology and innovation can make a positive difference to people’s lives and livelihoods,” he said. “Ms Quides’ video provides a clear picture of APEC’s work and its potential benefits to people and society as well as inspiration to Leaders, Ministers and Senior Officials for taking the region’s agenda forward.”

In the award presentation held last November 16 at the International Media Center, Quides explained the idea behind her video. “I came up with Anna’s Village because it is important not only to enumerate what people and communities can get out of innovation, technology, and development, but also to actually tell their story.” “Anna is a representation of every Filipino child with dreams and hopes that future will be good. Anna’s parents are representation of every father and mother striving hard to secure their children’s future,” she said.

In an interview with The BUzzette, Quides revealed that the win was unexpected. “The deadline of submission was Oct 17, I learned about the competition around Oct 9 or 10. Regardless of limited time and resources, I decided to push through the production stage. I also had problems submitting the video on the day of the deadline, but I was able to upload the video, three hours before the deadline,” she shared.

Asked about the inspiration behind Anna, the central character in her video, she said, “Anna is a fictional character but more than just a character; she is a living symbol of our journey to a better world.”

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As for her future plans, Quides shared that she intends to finish her Master’s in Development Communication degree at the University of the Philippines, Open University, and possibly join a film festival next year with the help of her friends. She likewise encouraged her fellow BU graduates to do their best despite the odds. “Struggles may come but it is part of the process of learning and being a better person. Don’t limit yourself to the things that you should learn. Never stop learning; it’s a continuous process,” she said. (Gladys G. Serafica and Ranelle Anne Sertan)
delegates coming from the 17 regions in the country composed of administrators, coaches, trainers and student-participants to compete in the 21 cultural-artistic events in five major venues.

Headed by PASUC President Dr. Ricardo E. Rotoras, in-cooperation with PASUC Regional President Dr. Modesto Detera of Sorsogon State University, and all SUC presidents of the host region, the festival is a national scholastic competition conducted by the SUCs throughout the country to determine the champions who will represent PASUC in other intercollege or interscholastic socio-cultural-artistic events.

Student-participants competed in various competitions in four general categories: Musical competition (chorale, instrument solo, vocal solo, vocal duet, and pop solo); Performing arts (radio drama, sweet and short play); Dance competition (indigenous dance, contemporary, hip-hop, and folk dance); Literary competition (story-telling, essay writing, extemporaneous speech, pagsulat ng sanaysay, dagliang talumpati at pagkukuwento); and Visual arts competition (on-the-spot painting and charcoal rendering). Special categories are Quiz Bowl and the Search for Mr. and Ms. PASUC 2015.

Dr. Baby Boy Nebres, regional and university focal person of the festival said that BU is honored to be this year’s host. He also revealed that the university has rigorously prepared for the event, determined to show the best of Region V to the rest of the 16 regions. “This is the first time for Bicol to be chosen as the host region of the PASUC festival. One of the reasons why we were chosen is because we have won Ms. PASUC for three times. Another is because of the strong support of the governor of Albay. We want to show the best of Bicol University. Who knows, we could be the next host for SBUAA 2017-2018,” he said.

The festival aims to provide opportunities for tertiary level students who are skilled and talented to participate in socio-cultural competitions, and to develop among them the character of excellence and appreciation of the Filipino culture, aesthetic values, knowledge, understanding and socially desirable traits. (Suzene Cajegas)

ISO from p.1

conformity findings. Zoleta said they will recommend to TÜV SÜD that the ISO certificate of BU be maintained, with the provision that the university submits within five working days or by November 26, its correction and corrective action plans for the two minor non-conformities and eight opportunities for improvement they had found. With the recent ISO audit results, “there’s no way to but up,” Mascarías said.

BU’s commitment to implement quality assurance methods in both the academic and support services, and its zeal to build procedures for its maintenance is anchored on the BU vision to be a world-class university.

In the opening meeting held last November 16, Mascarías emphasized that the yearly ISO surveillance audit will continue in his term as this is vital in achieving the university’s vision. “We want to continue this audit system because I believe that our vision of becoming a world-class university would need an affirmation. And this affirmation can only be done part and parcel through the conduct of activities such as this,” he said.

The ISO audit system is just one of the quality assurance mechanisms utilized by BU to ensure the efficient performance of the university in meeting its goals such as commitment to quality and client satisfaction. (Gladys Serafica/OP)
BU hosts PASUC National Culture and the Arts Festival 2015

At least 2,500 delegates from 112 State Universities and Colleges (SUC’s) took part in the 7th Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) National Culture and the Arts Festival held at Bicol University (BU), Legazpi City, Albay last November 30 to December 2, 2015.

PASUC, an association of public tertiary institutions in the Philippines which includes all state universities and colleges under the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has identified Albay province and BU to be the official host of this year’s festival. With the theme, “Transforming the Landscape of Culture and the Arts in the Public Higher Education Institutions,” the event aimed to pool together Japanese professors visit BUTC

Bicol University Tabaco Campus (BUTC) welcomed three professors from the Faculty of Humanities and Economics at Kochi University, Japan last November 27 to December 1, 2015.

Dr. Kayo Nakagawa, Professor and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Economics, Dr. Mina Hori (Lecturer), and Dr. Teruyuki Shinbo (Professor) of the same Faculty and the Graduate School of Kuroshio Science composed the Kochi University visiting team.

In consultation with BUTC professors, Kochi University professors prepared a plan of activities for a proposed Social Science undergraduate students’ study tour in the Bicol region slated in 2016. In line with this, the BUTC-Kochi University team of professors conducted a reconnaissance survey of BUTC’s Coral Rehabilitation project site in San Miguel Island, Tabaco City and several business enterprises in Albay such as the PhilCeramics Arts and Crafts Center in Tiwi, Juboken and Natural Carpet Industries in Camalig, and COP Pili Sweets & Pastries in Daraga.

The activity is part of the academic collaboration between BUTC and Kochi University, which includes research and development (R&D), and faculty and student exchange programs. The Kochi University student tour in 2015 will be the second wave of Kochi student visitors, following the first batch in 2010. BUTC students have conducted similar visits in Kochi, Japan over the past years. (Ninfa R. Pelea, BUTC)

Japanese professors visit BUTC/PAGE 3

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