



the BUIzzette

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The President's OUTBOX

Time is our greatest gift. Let's match it with actions to continuously move the university closer to international recognition. We continue to prepare our students to be globally competitive through awareness of other cultures, and build their confidence in themselves amidst diversity.

Internationalization is no longer just a buzz word. Its translation into action through various engagements and activities is now bearing fruit through greater consciousness among students, faculty, non-teaching personnel, and administrators alike, that the journey is real, and that the first few miles have been travelled.

Bicol University is now a leading state university in the country. We all worked together to achieve this status. We cannot pause now. As we begin a new year, let's rededicate ourselves once again for BU. Let's move as one to be The One!

BU celebrates 1st International Costume Fest; features Asian Cuisine Fest



The BU community celebrates cultural diversity as it goes forward in its quest for global recognition. The International Costume and the Asian Cuisine Festivals succeeded in creating awareness and appreciation for other cultures in terms of dress and food, but more than that, they have made a big impact in terms of preparing students for engagements on the international level.

In the process of international integration, the Global Linkage Office at Bicol University (GLO@BU) hosted the 1st International Costume Festival (A National Costume Contest) and the 1st Asian Cuisine Food Festival on January 16, 2013. The purpose of both festivals is to encourage every BUeño to actively participate in Bicol University's journey towards globalization and its pursuit for an international status. The festivals are also designed to encourage international understanding, and appreciation for cultural diversity.

The International Costume Festival Contest showcased glamorous and distinctive styles of national dresses of different countries around the world. Prizes were given out to the best three contestants per category, thus: 1st Place (Male) Emman M. Nakpil of BUCENG who wore a Philippine

National Costume; 1st place (Female) Maria Michelle M. Rosal, also from BUCENG, and likewise wore a Philippine National Costume; 2nd Place (Male) Mart Cedrick O. Lucila of BUCS who wore a Japanese National Costume; 2nd Place (Female)

Pearl Marian A. Peralta, a faculty member of BUCS wearing a Bhutan National Costume; 3rd Place (Male) Andrew Deuda also a faculty of BUCS wearing a Bhutan National Costume; and 3rd Place (Female) Sarah Mae T. Daen of BUCE who

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Congratulations



SHIELA MARIE M. MIRABUNA
(BUCN)

and



VERNA JOYCEE B. RIMA
(BUTC)

8TH PLACE
December 2012
Nursing Licensure Exams

EXCELLENCE

Moving as one to be the one...

INNOVATION

BUCENG still champion in AutoMATHIC 2013 Quiz



The Bicol University College of Engineering retained the CHAMPIONSHIP in the AutoMathic 2013, a national Intercollegiate Mathematics Quiz Contest held at the SEARCA Umali Auditorium, University of the Philippines Los Baños last January 11, 2013. The other team fielded by BUCENG placed 6th in the same national quiz. Far Eastern University - East Asia College and National University place 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The Champion Team 1 from Bicol University was

represented by Kim Arvin Leocadio – EE3A, Celedonio Salle Jr – ME3B and Jervy Anne Romero-CE1A. Team 2 was composed of Jerome Balanoy-CE3A, Kristoffer Darcyth Pring-CE2A, Reymark Embate - EE2A. Both teams were coached by Engr. Fernan Dematera, BUCENG faculty. Leocadio, Salle and Balanoy were the Champions last 2012.

AutoMATHic 2013 is a national intercollegiate Mathematics quiz contest for engineering students hosted by the University of the Philippines Civil Engineering Society in collaboration with the UPLB Mathematics Division of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics and the Engineering Science Department of the College of Engineering and Agro-Industrial Technology. Qualified participants are 1st to 3rd year engineering students from different colleges and universities across the country. The quiz is composed of questions from College Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus with Engineering Applications.

The event aims to test the mathematical skills of engineering students against their peers and to improve the quality of Mathematics education especially in engineering schools. The Bicol University College of Engineering regularly sends its students to various mathematics and engineering quizzes to hone their skills in problem solving and analysis, recognizing that a solid mathematical background is vital to engineering success.

(Engr. Medel E. Aligan/BUCENG)

BU CSSP spearheads foreign service forum

Part of Bicol University's journey towards internationalization is equipping its students with necessary knowledge and skills on how to deal with matters pertaining to foreign relations. This objective was achieved when officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) came to Bicol University on January 31 to talk about the Foreign Service Officer (FSO) Examinations; the nature of Foreign Service Work; the Three Pillars of Philippine Foreign Policy; and Outstanding Issues, particularly on the West Philippine Sea, Economic Diplomacy, Assistance-to-Nationals and OFW issues, ASEAN, and other related topics.

The highly accommodating group from the DFA was composed of Hon. Melita S. Sta. Maria-Thomeczek, Assistant

Secretary, Office of Personnel and Administrative Services; Hon. Maria Rowena M. Sanchez, Senior Special Assistant, Office of the Undersecretary for Administration; Hon. Teresita G. Barsana, Assistant Secretary, Office of ASEAN Affairs; Mr. Marciano R. de Borja, Special Assistant, Office of the Undersecretary for Administration, and Ms. Maricor E. Jesalva, Officer in Charge, DFA Legazpi

The forum was sponsored by the BU College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP), and was attended by students and faculty of Bicol University, especially by graduating students inclined towards foreign service as a career of choice.

At the end of the forum, the DFA officials presented BU with publications that contain further information about the topics



discussed, and offered their help to anyone who needed such from their office.

Vice President for Administration Amelia A. Dorosan represented the BU President and did the honor of welcoming the guests. (Ma. Celina G. Meneses/OP)

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wore an Indian National Costume. In addition to the cash prize, the winners received certificates of merit.

The Asian Cuisine Food Festival, on the other hand, showcased an inexpensive experience of Asian Food. Everyone had a sample of a repertoire of Asian dishes concocted by Chef Robert G. Clemeña, a native of Albay with

intensive trainings in different prestigious culinary arts centers here and abroad.

The short program also showcased a display of fresh herbs used by Chef Clemeña in his variety of mouth-watering meals. Additionally, the live classical music in violin and piano accompaniment evidently satisfied everyone's appetite and mood. (Marie Madelaine A. Bongais/GLO@BU)

<< BU Pres shares... from page 3

Uplift the Bicolano's Spirit through Language, Arts, Sports, and Culture. Support for all programs and activities in these areas is assured.

Publications. This is one of the sure ways towards international recognition.

Dr. Lauraya's "thirteen priorities in 2013" exemplifies what she emphasized in her talk, that good governance speaks of servant leadership so that hand in hand with the general improvement of services and the pursuit of international recognition is the development of personnel who can deliver what is demanded of an excellent university. ###

BU Pres shares vision for 2013 and beyond in WFP

BU President Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya once again articulated her priorities for Bicol University for this year, during the work and financial planning held on January 7-8 at the Coastal View Resort in Sto. Domingo, Albay. These are, according to her, the areas that need foremost attention:

Student-Centered Service. A quality process of honing students will ensure quality graduates who will be tested by how their learned technology and acquired knowledge results in a better quality of life.

Continual Improvement of Human Resource Management. The current faculty development efforts will be complemented with a continuing education program for non-teaching personnel.

A Green University Strategy. This means careful integration of the concepts of environmental conservation, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction in the curriculum.

Curricular Development Relevant to Local Needs. This will be addressed by the opening of the College of Medicine, the offering of BS Meteorology, Industrial Design and Animation, and the review of existing curricula in the light of educational reforms.

Pursuit of International Recognition and Quality Assurance. Thus the university continues to undergo ISO

certification and pursue accreditation, with the immediate target of having at least 30% of its programs Level II accredited or above.

Internationalization. A multicultural learning environment for Bicolanos is now a must, together with international collaboration for student exchange programs, international visiting professors, and researchers.

Modernization of Bicol University. Infrastructural facilities will be prioritized to support the development of the human spirit through piloting of e-classrooms; virtual classrooms; e-registration; and e-payroll; and improving sports facilities, laboratories and lecture rooms, and library resources.

Creation of Centers of Excellence Supportive of the MDGs. BU is targeting six more centers of excellence: Nursing; Science and IT; Social Work; Agriculture; Entrepreneurship, Business and Accountancy; and Technology and Engineering, in addition to its Center of Excellence in Teaching Education and Center of Development in Fisheries.

BU Alive in the Age of Cloud Computing. This can be achieved through an interactive website, digitalization, and tapping of social networking sites to reach out to alumni and partners.

Revitalization of Research Functions. High-impact researches are encouraged,



The bottom-up strategy of planning will always be one of the greatest strengths of this administration...



along with the implementation of researches supportive of a knowledge-based economy.

Extension Focused on "Educating to Build Resilient Communities". Convergence in a specified community will be continued for greater impact.

>> **BU** Pres shares... see page 2

BUCE NSTP sponsors symposium on Volunteerism

"Volunteerism gives you self-worth." This was one of the quotable lines of Hon. Richard "Dick" Gordon, Chairman of the Philippine Red Cross during the NSTP Speaks on Volunteerism symposium with the theme, "Volunteerism: Together we touch lives" sponsored by SETCODE, the BU College of Education (BUCE) NSTP Organization in cooperation with the BU NSTP Office held on January 31, 2013 at the BU Amphitheater.

In his speech, Hon. Gordon emphasized the importance of engaging oneself in extra-curricular activities to develop one's character and interpersonal skills. He also shared his experiences in the field of volunteerism as well as his other accomplishments. Furthermore, he explained the perks of having a well-rounded student life to aid oneself after graduation thereby increasing one's chance at employment.

An open forum followed Hon. Gordon's talk. Students were able to ask him further on his views on volunteerism as well as his views on education, tourism, the status of Philippine politics and the upcoming mid-term elections to which he eagerly gave answers. At times, Hon. Gordon engaged the student in a mini-debate to drive home his point.

Other special guests for the event were Dr. Amelia Dorosan, BU Vice President for Administration and Prof. Rowena F. Zoilo, BU NSTP Director. In their respective talks, they were one in saying that volunteerism entails commitment, strength of character and an unwavering



passion to serve.

Prof. Zoilo also invited the participants to register in the BU National Service Reserve Corps (NSRC) Group, specifically the students belonging to or who graduated from the non-ROTC component of the NSTP: Civic Welfare Training Service (CWTS) and Literacy Training Service (LTS).

NSTP faculty-implementers, student-facilitators, and volunteers participated in the activity. Some notable personalities present were Dr. Obdulia Rojas, BUCE Dean, Dr. Joselyn Paje, BUCE NSTP Coordinator, Ms. Clea Bongat, BU College of Business, Economics and Management (BU CBEM) NSTP Coordinator and Ms. Johnor Fajardo, ROTC Lady of Sponsors. (**Bran Darius Nasayao/NSTP**)

PNU benchmarks BU best practices



orientation about Bicol University, highlighting its banner programs and projects, and stressing its important achievements.

After the welcome program, the visitors were brought to the College of Education where documents and processes were showcased for them to look through and learn from. The College dean, Dr. Obdulia E. Rojas, answered their questions on practices that helped BU attain the international certification.

Bicol University is still the only state university who has received an ISO 9001:2008 certification as an institution, but has inspired many others to pursue the same achievement. At least two more universities have sought help from BU in terms of insights and experience-based suggestions on how to ensure or at least have the best shot at passing the rigorous audit that will lead to similar certification.

Twenty-four delegates, made up of vice presidents, faculty, and staff from the Philippine Normal University visited Bicol University on January 21 to learn the latter's best practices that helped it achieve its institutional ISO certification.

BU President Fay M. Lauraya personally welcomed the visitors and gave them a general

(Ma. Celina G. Meneses/OP)



BICHRD hosts BICHRD Research Training

The Bicol Consortium for Health Research and Development (BICHRD) organized a three-day Research Methods Training for researchers, to equip them with research methodologies, assist them in refining the methodology of research proposals, and assist them in packaging the proposals, in preparation for technical and ethical review by the consortium evaluators, and for possible funding. The said training was held on January 29-31, 2013 at the BU College of Nursing Function Hall.

The training, facilitated by Consortium Director Alma S. Banua Ed. D. and PCHRD-DOST Regional Coordinator Marie Jeanne Berroya, was participated by chairpersons and members of the BICHRD Research and Development (R&D) and Ethics Review (ERC) Committees, as well researchers from the different member-agencies of the consortium. Doctors, nurses, and professors from the different schools, institutions, and agencies came all the way from as far as Catanduanes and Camarines Sur to join their local counterparts in Legazpi City.

Resource Speaker during the training was Dr. Ophelia "Ophie" Mendoza, a highly recommended and much sought-after research expert, who serves as consultant for such agencies as the Department of Science and Technology, and the World Health Organization. Dr. Ophie, a graduate of the University of the Philippines (UP) and University of North Carolina, has an impressive string of researches under her belt, conducted in the Philippines and abroad. Dr. Ophie taught at UP for more than 20 years before resigning to become an independent research and statistics consultant.

During the training, participants presented their research proposals, and reviewed and evaluated each other's work, under the guidance of the resource speaker. Six out of the sixteen researches submitted were initially approved for further screening, and will be the main focus of the consortium's next training activity, although the rest of the researches presented will still be given technical assistance. (Maria Vicenta Corazon B. Guidote/BICHRD)

Licuanan keynotes BFHE conference



Dr. Patricia B. Licuanan was welcomed at the Legazpi City Airport by Dr. Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya, BU President and president of BFHE, and was brought to the Oriental Hotel, the venue of the conference. A group of media practitioners greeted them and proceeded with a short press conference where questions were asked regarding issues concerning the implementation of programs and projects of CHED for higher education in the country.

During the conference proper, Dr. Licuanan spoke on the reforms and upgrades that CHED is implementing in order to rationalize higher education and make it responsive to national development. Her discussion of the impact of K to 12 on higher education was found most timely for participating school administrators and officials. ###

The Bicol Foundation for Higher Education (BFHE) held its Annual General assembly and Symposium on January 25 with no less than the Chair of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as the keynote speaker.

Global UGrad Exchange Program grantee

AB Journalism senior Rey Anthony Ostria of Bicol University College of Arts and Letters is one of the latest grantees of the Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (Global UGrad). He will be staying at the University of Arkansas from January to May, where he will be a Cultural Ambassador of the Philippines and will immerse himself in American Culture, while also studying his field.

Global UGrad is an exchange program administered by the Philippine-American Educational Foundation in the Philippines (also called the Fulbright Commission of the Philippines) and World Learning in the United States, sponsored by the US Department of State.

(Earl Epsan L. Recamunda/OP)



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