PNoy inaugurates BUCM building, calls BU a world class university

President Benigno S. Aquino III inaugurated on May 19 the newly completed BU Health Sciences Building which will house the first state-run medical school in the Bicol region, the Bicol University College of Medicine (BUCM).

In his speech during the event, he expressed his admiration for the progress he has seen in the Province of Albay under the leadership of Governor Joey Salceda, and particularly lauded BU President Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya for the quality education that Bicol University is now known for.

“Talaga naman pong world-class ang kahusayan ng Bicol University,” he stated.

Her dream since the start of her term, BUCM has become one of BU President Lauraya’s greatest achievements in her 8-year, 2-term administration which ends in March 2015. The realization of this dream, she said, was made possible because of President Aquino’s approval and appropriation of funds for the project, and the constant support and intervention of Governor Salceda.

BUCM will offer a double-course program, to produce graduates of Doctor of Medicine and Master in Public Administration major in Health Emergency and Disaster Management (MD-MPA). Its first batch of students will start this June, to hold classes at the newly inaugurated and blessed BU Health Sciences Building. Enrolment of qualified applicants is on-going, with a Freshmen MD-MPA Adaptation Program and Induction Seminar set for June 2-6. (Ma. Celina Eladia G. Meneses/OP)

BU, AMDA seal partnership thru MOU

Dr. Shigeru Suganami, President of the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA), together with Ms. Nozomi Yamazaki, AMDA Secretary, and accompanied by Ms. Nepp Geniston of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP), visited Bicol University on May 9-10.

AMDA has tied up with Bicol University (BU) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), for BU to: cooperate in the AMDA Multinational Medical Mission in accordance with the

BUGS hosts Bicol Regional Forum on Political Dynasties

Congressman Leni Robredo speaks on Political Dynasties on May 8 at BU Amphitheater. (Earl Recamunda)
**BU, DepEd train K to 12 Grade 9 teachers**

The Regional Mass Training of Grade 9 Teachers of the K to 12 Basic Education Program for the Division of Albay, Legazpi City, and Ligao City was organized by Bicol University College of Education in partnership with the Department of Education and the Teacher Education Council for Summer 2014. First batch was held May 1-15 with 682 participants, and the second batch on May 22-27 with 497 participants. Simultaneous sessions were held at the Bicol University Main Campus. *(Jona V. Castañeda/OP)*

**Lastrellas launch new scholarship foundation**

The Lastrella Family launched the Cleto and Fe Lastrella Family Foundation (Cle2FeFF) under the Bicol University Alumni Endowment Management Council on Foundations, Inc. at the BU Amphitheater, on May 8. The foundation will support the University’s chorale and dance troupe. *(Earl Epson Recamunda/OP)*

**Political Dynasty... from page 1**

The Bicol University Graduate School Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Local Governance (BUGS-JMRI) in partnership with the People’s Initiative Coalition against Dynasties (PICAD) conducted the “Bicol Regional Forum on Political Dynasties: The Call for a People’s Initiative”, with Hon. Maria Leonor “Leni” Gerona-Robredo, Representative, 3rd District, Camarines Sur, as the guest speaker. The forum, held at the Bicol University Amphitheater on May 8, had a total of 170 participants from Albay, Catanduanes, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon, and Masbate. Media practitioners and other guests also attended the said forum.

According to PICAD, political authority exists for the common good and should therefore not be exercised for the sake of private and family interest or for the interest of a political party. They said that when political authority is exercised merely for these narrow interests, it betrays the reason for its existence; moreover such situation breeds corruption and inhibits general access to political power which is a fundamental mark of democracy. PICAD strongly denounces the continued existence of family political dynasties and the continuing delay of passing a law to implement the constitutional provision banning political dynasties. *(Earl Recamunda/OP & Jonairah Macalangcon/GS)*

**Google... from page 4**

Bicol University hosted the Google for Education Programs in the Philippines on May 21 to 24 at the College of Science Building, BU Main Campus. IT administrators, teachers, non-teaching and office staff, and student organization officers were its target participants. The series of Regional Workshops and Training was offered for free to all participants from the SUCs who wished to avail of the company services. This program aims to help educational institutions access digital platforms to transform learning opportunities through improved infrastructure, learning tools, and skills. Their site, www.google.com/gasp, may be visited for more details. *(Jona V. Castañeda/OP)*

**BU@45 Lecture series: 1st lady pres featured in 3rd lecture**

Remembering the first lady-president of Bicol University, Dr. Nora L. Licup shared her experience working with the late Dr. Patria G. Lorenzo, 3rd president of Bicol University during the 3rd lecture of the 45th BU Foundation Anniversary Lecture Series: The Bicol University Leaders in the Context of their Times, featuring Dr. Lorenzo’s leadership from 1988 to 1992. The lecture was held on April 14, at the BU Amphitheatre.

The lecture was organized by the Bicol University Graduate School in cooperation with the College of Nursing and the Research and Development Center. The university also awarded a plaque of recognition to Dr. Patria G. Lorenzo, which was received by her husband, Dr. Manuel N. Lorenzo, and daughter, Prof. Bernadeth Lorenzo-Abrera. *(Earl Epson Recamunda/OP)*

**Political Dynasty... from page 1**

President Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya gives her opening remarks during the Regional Mass Training of Grade 9 Teachers of the K to 12 Basic Education Program on May 22 at the BU Amphitheatre. *(Jona V. Castañeda)*

**Lastrellas launch new scholarship foundation**

Dr. Lauraya signs a memorandum of agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Lastrella during the launch of the Cle2FeFF at the BU Amphitheater on May 8, 2014. *(Earl Epson Recamunda)*

**BU@45 Lecture series: 1st lady pres featured in 3rd lecture**

Dr. Nora L. Licup talks about the first lady-president of Bicol University on April 14, 2014 at the BU Amphitheatre for the 3rd part of the 45th BU Foundation Anniversary Lecture Series. *(Earl Epson Recamunda)*
Sena featured in 4th lecture

Dr. Lylia Corporal-Sena, 4th president of Bicol University (1993-1999) was given recognition during the 4th lecture of the 45th BU Foundation Anniversary Lecture Series: The Bicol University Leaders in the Context of their Times on May 24, 2014 at the BU Amphitheatre. Dr. Arnulfo Mascariñas shared the accomplishments and challenges of Bicol University during Dr. Lylia Corporal-Sena’s administration. The lecture was organized by the Bicol University Graduate School in cooperation with the College of Arts and Letters and the Research and Development Center. (Jona V. Castañeda/OP)

The Philippine Center for Gifted Education Inc. in partnership with Bicol University College of Education conducted a Summit on Giftedness 2014: “Actively Searching for the Filipino Gifted” on May 2-4 at the BU Amphitheatre.

Lectures and workshops were conducted regarding the following topics: “The Identifying Gifted and High Ability Students: A Conundrum” by Dr. Elizabeth Ventura, Professor, Department of Psychology, UP Diliman; “Tiger Mom Style: A Bane or Boon in Nurturing the Gifted/High Ability Students” by Dr. Frances Magtoto, Professor, SPED-UP Diliman; “The 2E’s: The STAR Giftedness Across Lifespan” by Dr. Leticia Peñano-Ho, Clinical Psychologist and Neurotherapist, Former Dean and Professor-UP Diliman; and “Growing Up Gifted” by Dr. Jose Perico Esguerra, Professor, National Institute of Physics (NIP), UP-Diliman.

More than 200 participants consisting of school administrators, teaching staff from Department of Education and Bicol University, and other sectors attended the forum. (Jona V. Castañeda/OP)

AMDA... from page 1

BU and AMDA sign a Memorandum of Understanding for partnership, on May 9 at the BUGASS Conference Room. Earl Recamunda

Dr. Jocelyn I. Bartolata from the faculty of the College of Arts and Letters, comes home from an International Training Program: Audio Visual Learning Materials (ITP-AVLM) conducted by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven), Belgium. The training which lasted 60 days (March 26-May 21, 2014) was funded by the Belgian government through the VLIR-OUS. The ITP-AVLM aimed to increase competency on working with audiovisual learning materials, and this with regard to the selection of technology appropriate to local contexts, the development of multimedia, its integration in higher education, and the organization of multimedia services. The training consisted of presentations, workshops, seminars, demonstrations, hands-on sessions, group discussions, individual project work and reflection moments.

For her midterm requirement, Dr. Bartolata successfully defended in the formal project proposal to a team of KU Leuven experts the project titled: “E-learning Mode for Purposive Communication.” The project has three major components: course level, staff development level, and policy level. Likewise, as a final requirement, she has started preparing an online test course which is now uploaded to the BU LMS. This is a jumpstart from the course level component of the project. She presented the same in the AVLM expo and demonstrated its features to the educational technologists of KU Leuven using the BU-LMS as its main portal. Currently, the test course is also accessible using the link: https://versal.com/c/u9bnel/purposive-communication. The same proposal will be submitted to Bicol University for consideration. (Jona V. Castañeda/OP)

CAL faculty completes Belgium scholarship

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BU Pres speaks at PMAP Luzon Summit

Dr. Fay Lea Patria M. Lauraya, Bicol University President, together with Atty. Maria Leonor G. Robredo, Congressman of the 3rd District of Camarines Sur and Ms. Jocelyn R. Pick, Managing Director of Profile Asia Pacific, Inc. discuss topics covering partnerships among the government, academe, and the industry during the 8th People Management Association of the Philippines (PMA) Luzon Summit, held on May 8 at the Oriental Hotel, Legazpi City.

Dr. Lauraya focused on the endeavors of the academe in partnership with the government and with the private sector, in line with the summit’s theme, “Global Mainstreaming of People Managers’ Competencies and Mobility.” (Earl Epson Recamunda/OP)

BUGASS goes team-building

Bicol University General Administration Support Services Teambuilding Activities held on May 31, 2014 at Ooh-lala Paradise Spring Resort, Muladbucad Grande, Guinobatan, Albay was organized by the BU Human Resource Management Office.

BU hosts Google Apps for Education Workshop

Google conducts seminar-workshop for teachers on its second day May 22 at the College of Science Building 1. (Jona V. Castañeda)

BU High alumni hold 7th BU High grand homecoming

The Integrated Albay-Bicol University High School (IA-BUHS) Alumni Association, Inc., composed of the Alumni of the Albay High School, Bicol University High School, Bicol University Laboratory High School, and Bicol University College of Education Integrated Laboratory School-High School Department, gathered at the Albay Astrodome for its 7th Grand Alumni Homecoming last May 1 to 3. This year, the Alumni Association donated Php15,000 to BUCEILS-HS for the repair of chairs and tables for the students and teachers. Another Php15,000 was donated by Arch. Goldwin Barria for the conversion of the canteen into the TLE Room. Gov. Joey Salceda, who graced the occasion, pledged, during his speech, to donate 1 million for the Alumni Association. (Earl Epson Recamunda/OP)