The past two and a half months have gone by so fast. Before I know it, I will have completed my first one hundred days in office.

I have dedicated most of the summer to disseminating my vision and plans for Bicol University for the next four years. Through campus visits and other fora, I have been able to reach out to the BU community with the humble request that they join me in this journey towards becoming a world-class university. I also met BU stakeholders—LGU, NGOs, NGAs, etc.—to discuss and explore other possible areas of collaboration.

Allow me to make the same call, not just to my dear BUenos, but to our stakeholders and partners in development, knowing that we need all the support in order to reach our vision. I shall hold on to my promise that the best is yet to come!

Newly-designated officials of Bicol University attended the three-day Management Orientation Training last May 19 to 21 at Patio De San Jose, Mallilipot, Albay.

The training was attended by the top management of BU, deans, directors, associate deans and planning officers, heads of offices, budget officers, and administrative officers.

In his speech, Dr. Arnulfo M. Mascariñas, BU president, laid down his plans for next four years. He focused on BU being a world-class university. He said, “If we are going to benchmark at Harvard or UP, we are not there yet.”

Mascariñas enumerated seven strategic options to achieve the vision of becoming a world-class university, and the areas that he wants to focus on. These are: 1. Promoting a responsive and efficient academic governance; 2. Enhancing the resource endowment of the university; 3. Offering market-driven and relevant academic programs; 4. Strengthening the foundation for research, development, and innovation; 5. Increasing the institution’s research and development outputs; 6. Expanding the institutional partnerships; and 7. Enhancing the institution’s visibility and reputation.

From April to May this year, ten BU faculty members presented their research papers in various international conferences in Europe, Asia, and Australia.

From the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Shirley N. Maloles and Dr. Aurora M. Monjardin presented the papers “Barangay Arimbay Indigenous Verbal Lore: An Anthology of Riddles” and “Barangay Arimbay’s Indigenous Verbal Lore: An Anthology of Folksongs” respectively, during the Sixth Asian Conference on Arts and Humanities (ACAH 2015) held on April 2-6, 2015 at Osaka, Japan. The conference was organized by the International Academic Forum (IAFOR) based in Nagoya, Japan, and registered as a non-profit organization.

Four faculty-researchers from the College of Education presented their papers in the International Journal of Arts & Sciences (IJAS) Conference for Academic Disciplines last April.

A World-Class University Producing Leaders and Change Agents for Social Transformation and Development.
BU hosts public forum on conservation farming

To promote the Conservation Farming Villages (CFV) in the Philippines, local government units in Albay gathered at a public forum at the Bicol University Amphitheater on April 14, 2015.

The BU College of Agriculture and Forestry together with the University of the Philippines Los Baños, the Local Government Unit of Ligao, and the Provincial Government of Albay organized Scaling-up Conservation Farming Villages, which aimed to disseminate the importance of watershed and its relationship to CFV; to let the participants share experiences, lessons learned, and challenges in the implementation of CFV; and to plan for the scaling-up of the implementation of CFV in other towns and cities of Albay. 
(Earl Epson L. Recamunda/OP)

BU conducts K to 12 training for grade 10 teachers

Bicol University in partnership with the Department of Education and the Technical Education Council organized a regional workshop for Grade 10 teachers of Legazpi City, Ligao City, and Albay Division for the new K to 12 Educational Program, last May.

The workshops for English, Filipino, Araling Panlipunan, Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao, and Mathematics teachers were held on May 4-9, while the workshops for Science, Filipino, and Music, Art, Physical Education and Health (MAPEH) teachers were held on May 11-16.

A total of 1,253 participants attended the said training.

The opening program was held at the Casablanca Hotel in Legazpi City, while the workshops were held in different venues at Bicol University College of Education.

The workshop was organized to introduce the new grade 10 curriculum and present innovations skills for teachers in the new K to 12 curriculum.

During the opening programs Dr. Arnulfo M. Mascarinas, BU president, expressed his support to the K to 12 program in his message. The organizers showed a video message from Br. Armin A. Luistro FSC, secretary of the Department of Education.
(Earl Recamunda/OP)

4 security guards given honor

The university gave honor to four security guards last May 4 for their vigilant performance and adherence to their duties and responsibilities as security guards and for being a good example in promoting honesty and ensuring safety and security in the university.

Dennis Lositaño, Dennis M. Llorca, Ranulfo Padilla Jr., and Roel M. Llendelar were given certificates of commendation. They were able to recover lost documents together with an amount of money and return them to the owner.

Training... (from page 4)

and extension; 5. Developing a critical mass of top students and outstanding faculty members; and 6. Upgrading and modernizing physical and infrastructure facilities.

Administrative and academic topics were discussed by selected BU officials and officers from other government agencies. Among the speakers were Dr. Roberto F. Rafiola, Professor 12 and former Vice-Chairman for Administration at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), who tackled Introduction to Strategic Management and Basic Management Functions in Organizations, and Dr. Jose V. Camacho, the dean of UPLB Graduate School who shared about Decentralized Graduate Studies. Representatives from the National Economic Development Authority, the Civil Service Commission also discussed Regional Development Agenda, Higher Education Roadmap: Regional Perspective for Bicol, and Evaluating Organizational Performance Through the Strategic Performance Management Framework. 
(Jona V. Castañeda/OP)
10 BU... (from page 4)

April 13-16 at FIAP Jean Monnet, Paris, France. The papers presented were: 1) Assessment of the Initial Implementation of the Ladderized Teacher Education Program for Preschool by Dr. Rebecca Rosario O. Bercasio; 2) Model of the K-12 Aligned Teacher Education Program for Preschool by Dr. Helen M. Llenaresas; 3) Towards a Responsive Teacher Education Program in Bicol University, Philippines: Focus on Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education by Dr. Rebecca Rosario O. Bercasio, Prof. Merriam P. Maldo, and Prof. Agnes M. Reonal; and 4) Feasibility of the Ladderized Teacher Education Program for Preschool by Dr. Jocelyn J. Paje. The IJAS conference was organized by the International Journal for Arts and Sciences. From the College of Engineering, Engr. Medel E. Aligan presented his paper entitled “Evaluation of the BS Geothermal Engineering Program of the Bicol University College of Engineering, Legazpi City, Philippines” was presented in the World Geothermal Congress 2015 held on April 19-24 at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia. The convention was sponsored by the International Geothermal Association (IGA).

Dr. May Antoinette S. Imran of College of Arts and Letters and Prof. Katherine E. Evasco of College of Social Sciences and Philosophy presented their papers “Barangay Arimbay Verbal Lore: An Anthology” and “Community Initiatives and Local Technological Innovations for Disaster Resilience in Albay Province Philippines,” respectively at the 1st International Conference on Interdisciplinary Studies for Cultural Heritage held last May 12-13. The conference was organized by the Pasundan University Indonesia (UNPAS) and the University of Northern Philippines (UNP). Prof. Adrian B. Aguilar of the College of Arts and Letters presented the paper “Land for Landless” during the 4th International Conference on Disaster Management and Human Health, convened under the theme “Reducing Risk, Improving Outcomes” on May 20-22, 2015 at Istanbul, Turkey. The conference was organized by Wessex Institute of Technology, UK. International research dissemination is one of the Key Result Areas (KRAs) for the research mandate of the university. Attendance of faculty-researchers in international research conferences not only provide the venue for them to disseminate their research outputs but also an opportunity to interact with fellow researchers and gain additional knowledge on their research and development interest. (Dr. Rebecca Rosario O. Bercasio/RDC)
The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Technical Panel conducted a two-day evaluation at Bicol University College of Medicine (BUCM) on May 12 to 13, to evaluate and acknowledge the Doctor of Medicine-Master in Public Administration (Major in Health Emergency and Disaster Management) Double-Degree Program.

The panel that includes Technical Panel of Health Professions Education (TPHPE) Chair Dr. Alberto Roxas, and members Dr. Joselito F. Villaruz, Marivic V. Iriberr, Dr. Alfaretta Luisa T. Reyes, Dr. Mildred N. Pareja, and Dr. Ma. Teresa G. De Alban assessed the college’s curriculum, faculty and student’s profile, laborator and IT equipment, physical plan, and other related areas.

The event aimed to acknowledge the capability of the college to implement a double-degree program, being the first institution to offer such in the Bicol Region. The first day opened with the presentation of the MD-MPA Curriculum by Dr. Ruben Caragay, dean of the college.

Different officials from partner institutions and agencies also joined the event together with the BUCM faculty members and students. (Christine Z. Andes / CM)

Bicol University congratulates all the passers of the following Licensure Examinations for the month of April & May 2015 especially:

### Midwife Licensure Exam (MLE)

**Carlo Cervantes Vibar**, 88.95, Rank 2  
**Gabrielle Castuera Carpio**, 87.75, Rank 9  
BU Passing Rate: BUCN: 100%  
BUTC: 95.24%

### Registered Master Electrician (RME)

**Arlene Clerigo Borbor**, 84.50, Rank 9  
BU Passing Rate: 77.27%  
Nat'l Passing Rate: 41.92%

### Registered Electrical Engineers (REE)

BU Passing Rate: 66.67%  
Nat'l Passing Rate: 41.92%

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**Newsbrief**

**Merilles selected as TOSP-V winner, nat'l finalist**

January B. Merilles, a Bicol University College of Education graduate, was chosen as a finalist for the 2015 Search for the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines Region V last May 5, at the Kanzo Hall, Legazpi City, Albay. There were 14 participants and only 4 were selected as regional finalists.

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**CHED Technical Panel visits BUCM**

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