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CCS subscribes to new eLibrary collections

standards. ACM and IEEE has provided guidance to the offering of the information technology and computing disciplines,” said Engr. Marlon V. Gamido, CCS Dean, in an online interview.

The college arrived at the idea of subscribing to a digital library through benchmarking activities which eventually led them to contacting the IEEE and ACM journals providers.

“The CCS has contacted the suppliers for the IEEE and ACM journals and asked for specifications of each. The specifications were presented to the faculty members and the DIT TSU-CHED scholars for comments and earned approval by them,” Dean Gamido added.

Under the leadership of Dean Gamido and Associate Dean Prof. Valarie D. Simbol, they saw the potential of eLibrary subscriptions

in enhancing the university’s library collections profile for accreditation and academic research purposes. This will also prepare them for the college’s plan to apply for CHED Center of Excellence or Center of Development.

The said e-collections are available in offices, colleges, and libraries using the TSU provided internet access.

[Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat]

EDITORIAL

A More Gender-Inclusive TSU for 2020

Tarlac State University administration issued TSU Memorandum Order No. 82, s. 2019 on December 20 urging the community to express solidarity with the gender initiatives of the university by sporting orange attires, instead of the usual green, every first Friday of the month.

As indicated in the memo signed by university president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, TSU is a staunch advocate and implementer of gender equality and related policies and activities among government agencies especially state universities and colleges. This is evidenced by the putting up of gender-neutral comfort rooms, holding of Mx. Warriors TSU pageant for transgenders, and continual administration of seminars, symposiums, and engaging activities through the Gender and Development (GAD) Office headed by Dr. Rita E. Pulmano.

However, the gender equality advocacy of the university has been challenged in the middle of 2019 during the preparation for the 30th Commencement Exercises. This may be

perceived negatively by outsiders but TSU took the high road.

In reality, this challenge gave TSU a chance – a chance to review and strengthen its GAD-related policies; a chance to make the university a more gender-inclusive abode for the students and employees alike.

One of the strengths of TSU is its resilience. It knows how and when to recuperate and make a situation better. And to make things better, the university issued the memo no. 82 followed by the conduct of the levelling session on GAD concepts with the TSU Administrative Council, seminar-workshop on GAD concepts and gender analysis tools with focal persons, and the reconstitution of the university’s GAD Focal Point System which involves both the provincial and city government.

These happenings have woken up TSU to peek through the lens of gender and development in its various undertakings. And every first Friday of the month, all TSU campuses are painted with orange – a bold manifestation of support to the global agenda on achieving gender equality.

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Groundbreaking ceremony held for TSU Concepcion Campus



Tarlac State University and the Local Government of Concepcion led the groundbreaking ceremony for the TSU Concepcion Extension Campus located at Barangay San Nicolas Poblacion, Concepcion, Tarlac held on January 28, 2020.

The additional TSU campus is a 9,000-square-meter lot owned by the LGU Concepcion.

The Concepcion campus is a legacy project of the legacy team – terms coined by former Department of Education Secretary Jesli A. Lapus who graced the event.

The said team is composed of Municipal Mayor of Concepcion Hon. Andres D. Lacson, Municipal Vice Mayor of Concepcion Hon. Atty. Joey L. Baluyut and the Sangguniang Bayan members, TSU Board of Regents members Hon. Reynaldo L. Catacutan (Capas Mayor) and Hon. Dennis Norman T. Go (Tarlac 2nd District

Board Member), and TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, who are instruments to the full realization of the additional campus.

According to Mayor Lacson, the LGU allotted ₱ 75 million from their local funds for the 10-month construction of the lecture rooms.

The ₱ 36.5M Phase I construction has undergone bidding with an allotted ₱ 35M funding for 2020. Barangays also gave 20% of their respective budgets for the TSU Concepcion Extension Campus.

As a legacy project, the Concepcion campus will help TSU accommodate around 500 enrollees by 2021, its target year of operation.

Mayor Lacson also plans to connect the future Concepcion campus to the Benigno S. Aquino National High School (BSANHS) grounds and the nearby sports complex where the students may hold their P.E. classes.

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TSU secures top 2 performing school in December CLE



Tarlac State University was named as the second-best performing school in the December 2019 Criminologist Licensure Examination (CLE) posted by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

TSU obtained 97.07 passing percentage with its 66 passers acing the national passing rate of 44.11%. All 2019 passers (including the June 2019 CLE passers) will receive a certificate from the College of Criminal Justice Education (CCJE).

“We have a very comprehensive program at tayo lang siguro ang may comprehensive program in relation to licensure examination,” CCJE Dean Dr. Theodore Timpac

said in an interview.

Dean Timpac further said that 4th year students have Saturday review classes in preparation for the examinations.

Timpac served as the review director for Laguna State Polytechnic University for five years and Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology for four years. He applied his experience in managing the CLE board exams review and said that one should instill discipline, and everything will follow.

In November 2016, the Criminology Department became independent from the College of Arts and Social Sciences when the TSU Board of Regents agreed

to have another college named as the ‘College of Criminal Justice Education.’

Lian Carla Luzong, 2016 Criminology graduate, ranked 6th in the October 2016 Criminologist Licensure Examination while TSU placed third among the top performing schools. The following year, TSU was declared as the top performing school in the December 2017 CLE with a 98.21 passing percentage.

Since then, TSU placed among the top five performing schools nationwide. The university ranked fourth in June 2018, first in December 2018, and third in June 2019.

[Maria Adelaida Calayag]

TSU, LGU Tarlac City inks partnership with Chinese Training School



Tarlac State University and the City Government of Tarlac signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Jinan Licheng District Dezh Training School of the People’s Republic of China on January 9, 2020 at the TSU Main AVR.

The MOA is about the admission of Chinese students to the TSU graduate programs inclusive of Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Public Administration (MPA), Doctor of Public Administration (DPA), Master of Arts in Education (MA in Education), Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), and Master of Arts in Nursing (MAN).

According to Mr. Wang Yong Yi, CEO of Jinan Li Cheng Dezh Training School, they chose TSU because it is one of the recognized universities of the Ministry of Education in China. Also, they have known TSU for its quality education and state-of-the-art buildings and facilities.

“Tarlac State University is among the first batch of overseas universities recognized by the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China,” Mr. Wang Yong Yi said in his

speech.

He added, “TSU is a rare university to work with, and also ideal for Chinese students to pursue their master’s or doctor’s degrees. Benefiting from the beautiful campus environment in a very safe city, hotel serviced conditions of residence and a high standard of teacher education, students may be relieved to finish their studies.”

The said partnership was brought to TSU through the efforts of Hon. Maria Cristina C. Angeles, Tarlac City Mayor, who was also present during the activity. In her speech, she said that the success of TSU is also the success of Tarlac City.

TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, who represented the university in the MOA signing, said in her welcome remarks that this endeavor is a significant day both for TSU and the City Government of Tarlac because of their first partnership to make TSU a globally competitive educational institution.

She also said that a group of Chinese students who will enroll in the MBA and Ed.D. programs are set to arrive in TSU this January.

Meanwhile, Mr. Chou Chang Liang, owner of the training school, focused his speech on the promotion of cultural exchange and immersive learning experience in the Philippines on teaching English as a second language.

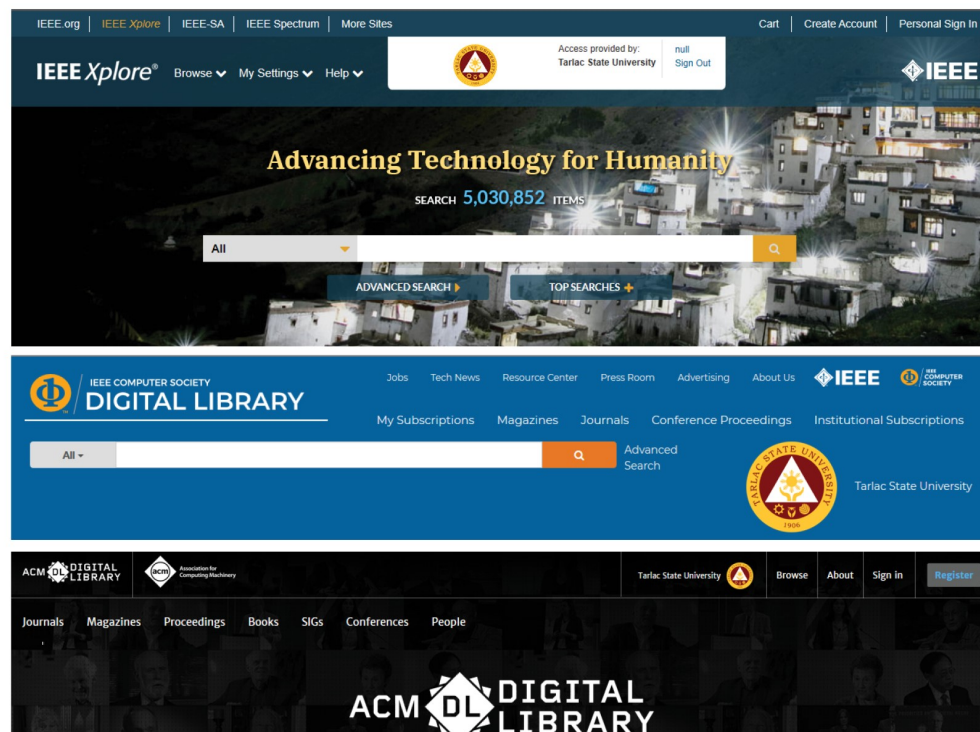
Other than the MOA signing, the Chinese partners also awarded financial assistance or scholarship amounting to ₱160,000 to 20 TSU students selected by Hon. Angeles from Barangays San Jose de Urquico, San Isidro, San Luis, Ungot, and Balingcanaway. Each student will receive ₱8,000 every semester. The financial assistance will be given to the students through the City Government.

Towards the end of the program, the Chinese partners gave additional five slots of scholarship to TSU where the University President will be selecting TSU student-recipients.

Also present in the activity are Mr. Qui Ze Jiang and Mr. Zhou Wei Ping, colleagues of the Chinese partners; TSU Vice Presidents and Administrative Council; barangay officials from Tarlac City; and parents of the scholarship recipients.

[Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat]

CCS subscribes to new eL ibrary collections



The College of Computer Studies ventured into digital library collections (eLibrary) by subscribing to the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society starting December 2019 and Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) starting January 2020 through provider LibTech.

The IEEE Computer Science

Digital Library (CSDL) of the IEEE Computer Society provides online access to 34 society magazines and transactions, more than 9,000 conference publications dating back 1995, and more than 700,000 computing articles and papers as stated in CCS office correspondence no. TSU-CCS-012-2020, dated January 22,

TSU joins Taiwan Winter Camp

Dr. Theodore M. Timpac, Dean of the College of Criminal Justice Education, served as the students' faculty guardian during the camp. He observed that the Filipino culture stood out because of the innate positive disposition and obedience of Filipinos.

"When we went there, ang experience lang naman is napakadaming culture. It is up to the Filipinos to show their culture and other nations to show theirs also. And to tell you, what they admired so much is yung culture ng Filipinos. Kasi kahit na anong problema, masaya sila [Filipinos]. At the same time, kung may pinapagawa, automatic walang hesitation sa Filipino

students. Automatic ginagawa nila yun," said Dean Timpac.

Aside from TSU, participants from across the seas have also joined NTCU's invitation — Seoul National University of Education from South Korea; University of Alba Iulia from Romania; Saint Petersburg Electrotechnical University, Mosco City University, and Moscow Pedagogical State University from Russia; Newton College from Czech Republic; and University of Burgundy from France.

Almost 50 participants including the faculty guardians joined the camp with a respective NTCU student "partner" who will serve as a guide and translator in

2020.

Also stated in the same communication, the ACM Digital Library provides the computing profession with leading-edge publications, conferences, and career resources inclusive of 400,000 full-text articles, more than 44 high impact journals, and 37 technical newsletters from ACM's Special Interest Groups among others.

Both CCS faculty members and students can widen their knowledge in the computing field through the state-of-the-art e-resource materials. The learning materials are helpful in providing additional reference to the outcomes-based teaching and learning course plans and can serve as a supplement to classroom learning.

"The curriculum design of the IT and computing programs as provided for by the Commission on Higher Education are referenced from the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE)

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Groundbreaking ceremony held for TSU Concepcion Campus



FULFILLED DREAM FOR QUALITY EDUCATION WITHIN CONCEPCION

Opening a TSU Concepcion Extension Campus was once a dream of the town which is now part of its history and milestones.

"At last, ang pangarap ng Concepcion ay matutupad na rin," said Vice Mayor Baluyut in his welcome remarks.

With the presence of the DepEd representatives from the Tarlac Province Division and teachers from the neighboring BSAHNS, Vice Mayor Baluyut stressed that the youth of Concepcion can now advance from elementary, secondary to quality tertiary education within



the municipality.

In response, President Mallari reassured that the brand of TSU education will definitely be available to the future Concepcion campus students for youth empowerment.

BIG THINGS START SMALL

Despite the small lot area of the Concepcion campus, President Mallari emphasized that "big things start small" and youth empowerment in Concepcion is one of the objectives in putting up the additional campus.

In addition, former Tarlac third congressional district

representative Hon. Herminio Aquino said, "No place has ever progressed if there is no quality education."

During the program, the grounds of the campus was blessed by Fr. Ricardo Capinpin, Jr. who shared that the groundbreaking ceremony coincides with the feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas who was always in the pursuit for excellence and truth.

The Concepcion extension is the 5th TSU campus following the inauguration of the Capas Cristo Rey Extension Campus in 2018.

[Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat]

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**TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY****Vision**

Tarlac State University is envisioned to be a premier University in the Asia Pacific Region.

Mission

Tarlac State University commits to promote and sustain the offering of quality and relevant programs in higher and advanced education ensuring equitable access to education for people empowerment, professional development, and global competitiveness.

Towards this end, TSU shall:

- 1.) Provide high quality instruction through qualified, competent and adequately trained faculty members and support staff.
- 2.) Be a premier research institution by enhancing research undertakings in the fields of technology and sciences and strengthening collaboration with local and international institutions.
- 3.) Be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals

Quality, Environment, and Health and Safety (QEHS)

Tarlac State University is committed to improve continually for:

- Global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of education, research, extension, training and consultancy services, hotel operation and administrative support services;
- safe and healthy working conditions to prevent injury and ill health of its employees, students, guests, visitors, suppliers and contractors;
- management of environmental aspects towards the prevention of pollution;
- compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers.

ers' retirement

Sicat, a surprise send-off was put up for Dr. Louella F. Ona. Dr. Ona, or Ma'am Glo to many, initially went on a sabbatical leave for a year eventually continuing it with the much-anticipated retirement to spend more time with her family. Before her sabbatical leave, she is the Vice President of the then Institutional Linkages and External Affairs. She also held the position of Vice President for Research, Extension, Production and Development (VP REPD).

She was also named as the Adviser of The Work, the official student publication of TSU, where Prof. Jose Russel Arador, former Office of Public Affairs Director, was then Editor-in-Chief.

In her 32 years of service in the university, Ona served as University Secretary and Acting Secretary of the Board of Regents and Chairman of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC).

She was also designated by the Commission on Higher Education as Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the TSU President from March 26 to 31, 2014 prior to the appointment of President. Mallari.

Ma'am Glo is known as the epitome of elegance in the university for her unique fashion that can make



passersby hold their gaze and study her physique. No wonder why she is mostly seen as the 'Gloria Romero' of TSU with her beauty that never fades.

"I do not see myself as an icon for fashion but I take extra care in the way I dress and present myself to the world because I believe that the way you dress expresses who you are without having to speak," Dr. Ona said in an interview.

Ona will still continue to teach even after her retirement. She said she is grateful for the opportunities given to her by the university where she learned about hard work, commitment, and excellence.

"TSU will always be part of my

life, and I am grateful to the university for giving retired faculty members the privilege to continue teaching even after retirement. I intend to avail of this privilege for a while, perhaps for two or three more years because I see it as a way to tone down the expected abrupt change in the daily routine I have been used to for more than three decades," Dr. Ona added.

COMIC AND FANTASTIC BUDGET OFFICER

And towards the end of January, January 28 to be exact, is the party meant for Mr. Jesus Danganan, the legendary Budget Officer of the university. Sir Jess is popular among TSU personnel seeking for financial management advice (and approval) for their specific colleges' or offices' needs. He is even more popular for his wit, humor, and, most importantly, his keen tactics and strategies in dealing with people and in managing the university's budget.

Danganan served the university as Budget Officer IV and Director of Business Affairs and Auxiliary Services Office.

[Maria Adelaida Calayag & Jazzel Llaneli Manabat]



TSU key players New directors for NSTP and URO appointed

Holding send-off parties for retirees is already a tradition in Tarlac State University spearheaded by the Human Resource Development and Management Office. It has been practiced since the first term of presidency of Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari in 2014. But January 2020 is unlike any usual month for send-offs because three veteran TSU leaders opted to retire in the same month.

What is distinct in their respective send-off parties is how each one reflects their personalities. Ma'am Lolit's party aired a feel of warmth and motherly love; Ma'am Glo's elegance and grace was all over the Alumni Center even with the food served; and Sir Jess' was very much like him - comic and light.

In all three parties, TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari displayed mixed emotions. She is happy because the retirees can now have more quality time with their families, but she is also sad because the three TSU leaders played big roles in her administration - from the calm troubleshooting skills of Dr. Ona, critical thinking of Dr. Sicat, and budget wisdom of Sir Danganan.

But TSU does not have to worry. These leaders all committed during



their respective parties to frequently visit and still help the university in its endeavors.

THE MOTHERLY VP

The first TSU official to be given a surprise send-off party (January 16) is Dr. Lolita V. Sicat, fondly called Ma'am Lolit, who retired as OIC Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance and International Affairs Director. Prior to retiring as VPPQA, she also served the university as the Vice President for Academic Affairs from March 2010 to January 2017. Overall, she is known in TSU as the Kapampangan mother who is active in Radio Maria endeavors.

Sicat is a published author of several handbooks and modules in the university. She was also the editor of the books 'Tarlac City: The Melting Pot' and 'Lubao: The Cradle of Kapampangan Civilization' authored by his husband, Dr. Rodrigo Sicat, who is also one of the prolific writers of Tarlac and Pampanga's culture and history. No wonder how their writing skills and love for the local culture bound them close.

She also has a great love for ornamental plants, especially with the different kinds of gumamela flowers in their garden which, according to her, relieves her stress. Before she retired, she happened to have met her grandchild, Benedict Ethan, the first born of her daughter, Portia Bicerra.

Sicat finished two master's degrees from then Tarlac College of Technology which are Master Education in Administration in 1983 and Master of Arts in Teaching major in Mathematics in 1985.

She immensely served TSU for 40 years and still teaches at the College of Public Administration and Governance's Graduate School.

Ethereal VP

Two days after the party held for



Directors of National Service Training Program and University Research Office were named in TSU Administrative Order nos. 4 and 5, dated January 2020, signed by TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

Prof. Louis Adonis Silvestre, faculty member of the College of Arts and Social Sciences, is appointed as the new NSTP Director. As director, he should carry out the academic policies of the university insofar as they affect the NSTP as stated in the TSU Code, Title III, Chapter 3.

He is tasked to work with the coordinators of the three areas of NSTP namely, Civic Welfare Training Service, Literacy Training Service, and Reserved Officer Training Corps Unit.

Silvestre completed his AB Philosophy degree from Our Lady of

Peace College Seminary in 1994 and finished his Master in Development Management major in Public Management in Pangasinan State University in 2011. He started working in TSU in 2002 as lecturer and became CWTS coordinator in 2008 where he assists the university NSTP Director in processing the serial number of CWTS graduates.

Meanwhile, Prof. Edjie De Los Reyes, faculty member of the College of Computer Studies, is appointed as the new Director of URO.

De Los Reyes will perform the functions stated in the TSU Code, Title III Chapter 4. He is also expected to work and coordinate with the Department Research Chair of each college.

The office also supervises the

Analytical Services Laboratory and Natural Products Research Center; Center for Tarlaqueño Studies; and Pamantasang Sentrong Wikang Filipino.

De Los Reyes finished his Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering in St. Louis University in Baguio City and Master of Science in Information Technology in Tarlac State University. Recently, he completed his doctoral degree in Information Technology from the Technological Institute of the Philippines in Quezon City as a CHED K-12 scholar.

Previously, he served CCS as a chairperson from 2009 to 2014 and Associate Dean from May 2014 to June 2016. [Maria Adelaida D. Calayag]

TSU accepts to host PCSMT 2019 after Taal eruption

Tarlac State University hosted the Annual Science and Mathematics Quiz and the Search for the Ambassador and Ambadress of the Philippine Consortium for Science, Mathematics, and Technology, Inc. (PCSMT) from January 29-31, 2020.

The event formally commenced on January 30, 2020 at the TSU Gymnasium with 29 participating institutions of higher learning from all over the country with a special participation of the coordinators of the new PCSMT members from Sultan Kudarat State University and Apayao State College.

Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo, Batangas State University President (BatSU) and Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) National President, graced the occasion as the guest of honor and speaker. With the theme "Nurturing Potentials in Science, Mathematics and Technology for Sustainable Development," he talked about the current scenario and objective of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education as well as the challenges and its future direction.

"We need the re-engineering of the entire [education] system: human resource development, curriculum development, and infrastructure development are the three main pillars that we need to strengthen," said Ronquillo in his talk.

"I am appealing to our teachers. Let's engage ourselves and go the extra mile, because it's undeniable that science, mathematics, and technology are drivers, propellers of economy," he added.

BatSU is the original host institution for the 2019 PCSMT last November. However, due to logistical reasons Dr. Ronquillo asked for the event to be moved this January. Unfortunately, because of the eruption of Mt. Taal last January 13, 2020, the PCSMT board members have decided to hold the event in TSU instead.

"I'm thankful to our friend, President Mallari, and to the great

men and women of Tarlac State University for accepting our... it's not actually an invitation, but a demand - that TSU we feel [is] best fit to be the host," Ronquillo said.

Present also in the opening ceremony are Dr. Dexter Buted, Pangasinan State University President and PCSMT Chair; Dr. Eutiquio L. Rotaquio Jr., Aurora State College of Technology President; Hon. Dan Canlas Asiaten, Tarlac 2nd District Board Member in behalf of the Provincial Government of Tarlac; Atty. Joselito Castro, City Legal Officer in behalf of the City Government of Tarlac; as well as the TSU officials led by University President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

The awarding ceremony and induction of the new PCSMT National Student Chapter Officers was held the next day, January 31, 2020, at the TSU Gymnasium.

The champions of the Annual Quiz and Search for the PCSMT Ambassador/Ambadress are the following:

Biology	Central Luzon State University
Physics	Batangas State University
Chemistry	Palawan State University
Mathematics	Central Luzon State University
PCSMT Ambassador	Batangas State University
PCSMT Ambadress	Pangasinan State University
Best in Video Advocacy	University of Northern Philippines

The overall champion for this year's activities is Batangas State University. This is their 4th consecutive win. [Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan]

TSU sends off 500 graduating students for the 31st Commencement Exercises



The 31st Commencement Exercises for the 500 graduates of the 1st semester of the A.Y. 2019-2020 was held on January 24, 2020 at the TSU Gymnasium.

Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari conferred the degrees of 47 graduates from the master's programs and 453 from the bachelor's programs.

Listed below is the summary of graduates for January 2020:

	BACHELOR PROGRAMS	GRADUATE PROGRAMS
College of Criminal Justice Education	44	
College of Fine Arts and Architecture	1	
College of Teacher Education	43	36
College of Business and Accountancy	142	1
College of Arts and Social Sciences	59	
College of Science	9	
College of Computer Studies	93	2
College of Public Administration and Governance	2	5
College of Engineering and Technology	60	3

Hon. Ron P. Salo, Representative of the Kabayan Party List of the 18th Congress of the Republic of the Philippines, is the invited speaker for the graduation ceremonies.

He emphasized that education should not only be knowledge based, but also competency based in which he defined as "Education 4.0." This and the 3Cs (Critical Thinking, Competency, and Character) are the country's two prong solution to one of the problems in education – under/unemployment and job skills mismatch.

"I'm also confident that you will all become assets to this country and pro-actively contribute to our nation building. I have faith in you, graduates of TSU, that all of you will become agents of positive change in our society," he concluded.

Meanwhile, the Baccalaureate Services were held on January 23 with a Holy Mass presided by Fr. Jowi Mendoza.

Hon. Melissa P. Yeung-Yap, TSU Board of Regents Representative of the Higher and Technical Education, CHED and CEO of Katinko (Greenstone Pharmaceutical), served as the guest

of honor and speaker. She delivered an engaging message fit for the graduating students.

"You have been given so much knowledge, so much power, so much blessing. The question is what are you gonna do about these 'seeds' you have been given? Itatapon mo ba? Ibigay mo ba or itatanim to share with others? There's already no question about your talents and knowledge. I want to leave you this challenge because our country needs you. Give Philippines a chance," Yap said in her remarks.

[Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan]

TSU joins Taiwan Winter Camp

Fivestudents from Tarlac State University were invited to join the Spectacular Taiwan Culture Winter Camp 2020 organized by the National Taichung University of Education (NTCU) in Taichung, Taiwan on January 16 to 22, 2020.

The winter camp is designed for students from sister universities of NTCU. It aims to help the international students enrich their interest and knowledge of the Chinese

language and cultures in Taiwan through different kinds of activities, classes and field trips.

The student-participants are Hossanah Grace N. Quiambao from the College of Teacher Education, Reizend P. Rebutar from the College of Business and Accountancy, Dexter Ivan T. Fernandez from the College of Science, Aaron Joseph G. Cabrera from the College of Arts and Social Sciences, and

Patrick Kleo D. Lim from the College of Engineering and Technology.

When asked what values he learned from the trip, Lim from CET said, "Maging open po. Parang, willing to learn and try lang po ng try. Kung against po sa inyo (the Taiwanese culture against yours), parang ok lang naman po na hindi i-adapt pero at least you tried."

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New officials appointed under OVPPQA

Effective January 2020, new designations under the Office of the Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance (OVPPQA) were signed by TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari through Administrative Orders No. 2, series 2019 last December 26; No. 1 and No. 10, series 2020 last January 2 and 8, respectively.

Dr. Niño B. Corpuz is now the Officer-in-Charge of the OVPPQA, previously led by Dr. Lolita V. Sicat who has recently retired. Dr. Corpuz's previous position as the Director of the Quality Assurance Office (QAO) is now succeeded by Dr. Ma. Socorro D. Valdez. Meanwhile, Dr. Cynthia G. Quiambao is now the Head of the AACUP (Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities of the Philippines) Accreditation Unit of the QAO.

QUALITY LEADERSHIP

Since the designation of Dr. Corpuz as the Director of the QAO last August 2019, the office has effectively facilitated accreditations and assessments and has helped the university increase its level in terms of quality.

Several programs under the College of Teacher Education, College of Public Administration and Governance, College of Science, College of Engineering and Technology, and College of Business and Accountancy have successfully undergone AACUP Level IV Phase 2 accreditation survey visits.

TSU has also subjected itself through Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) spearheaded by the Office of Institutional Quality Assurance and Governance of the Commission on Higher Education (OIQAG-CHED) last August 28 to 30, 2019 where the QAO oversaw the processing and presentation.

Aside from this, they conducted several trainings and seminars on the retooling of accreditors on Outcomes-Based Quality Assurance (OBQA) for Luzon State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and represented the university in the 2019 ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN) which is a network of 10 national quality assurance authorities and ministries responsible for higher education among

the ASEAN member countries in Davao City.

ESTEEMED ACCREDITOR

Before taking post as the new director, Dr. Valdez was the chairperson for the Mathematics Department of the College of Science for three years, and the dean of the same college for six months. She also became the Director of the Business Affairs and Auxiliary Services Office for two years and then becoming head of the CHED and Government-Entity

Accreditation Unit in concurrent to serving as the Assistant Director of QAO.

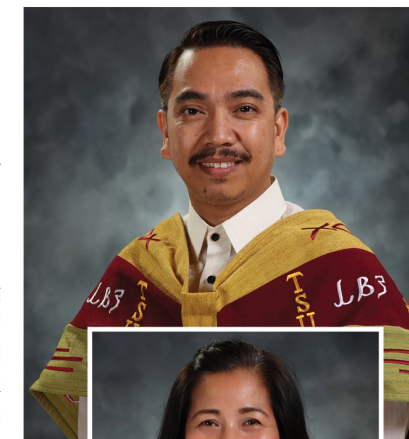
A graduate of Chemical Engineering in Saint Louis University and Doctor of Education in Pangasinan State University, Dr. Valdez is also an evaluator for NBC (National Budget Circular) 461 which notes the position classification and compensation scheme for faculty positions in State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) for nine years.

THE NEW HEAD

As the new head of the AACUP Accreditation Unit, Dr. Quiambao, Associate Professor V from the College of Teacher Education, will spearhead and coordinate all institutional and academic-program accreditation survey visits of the university and the various colleges.

With almost 23 years of service in TSU, Dr. Quiambao started as an instructor, then designated as the Academic Head for TSU-Laboratory School, and even became its OIC-Director in 2009. She has also been the chairperson for the Extension Program, Experiential Learning, and area head for Master of Education-Physical Science in TSU.

Currently, she is the adviser of the Student Teachers Organization, a supervisor of student teaching, and the chairperson



for the Bachelor of Elementary Education Department and Graduate School Extension Program.

INTO THE FUTURE

When the new officials were asked about their future hopes in their recent appointments, all of them expressed the same sentiments: to sustain the excellence achieved by the university and to continually aim for higher level accreditation both national and international.

"I'm here to continue what we have started. Ang trabaho [namin] is to facilitate, help the admin, the President, in implementing and planning all the standards. Kasi ang office (OVPPQA), very broad pero distinct. All these [units] under the VPPQA facilitates the university's compliance to the varied standards of agencies and other regulating bodies," Dr. Corpuz said in an interview.

"[We] will not be the one to maintain, however. Hindi naman kami ang nagtuturo, hindi naman kami yung gumagawa ng [presentations], hindi namin kayang gawin yung functions ng lahat ng colleges. But instead, we help and assist the colleges and offices of the university to comply and meet certain standards," he also added.

[Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan]