

Harmonious. The Benguet State University (BSU) Glee Club was featured to perform their pieces during the Korotura at the University Gymnasium. #DCS archive

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Shamag

Official Publication of Benguet State University

ISSN 0118-0304

October 2017
Vol. XXI No. 10

BLIS garners 85.71 passing rate

BSU lauded as top performing school

Benguet State University (BSU) – College of Teacher Education (CTE) garnered a total of 85.71% passing rate and landed third top performing school in the Librarian Licensure Examination that took place in September.

Twenty-four out of 28 Bachelor in Library and Information Science (BLIS) students exceeded the national passing rate of 60%.

According to Russel B. Dolendo, BLIS Department Chair, students under the degree have been exceeding the national passing rate and is always at the first to sixth place in the top performing schools since 2005.

“It is a proof that we are performing good in the teaching-learning process,” expressed Dolendo.

Dolendo also said that the faculty has been preparing the BLIS students from their

first year. She said that activities such as enhancements programs that include outside counterparts help the students to review for the licensure examination.

Further, Dolendo added that the students’ on the job training (OJT) included practice in other libraries from other schools. She said that within the first semester of 2017 -2018, there are five schools that CTE have forged memorandum of agreement in housing OJTs.

“We try our best to mold all of them,” Dolendo concluded. #MDPenchog



ALL ABOUT ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an organization of countries in Southeast Asia set up to promote political, economic, and cultural development in the region.

The ten Member States that make up one of the world's most diverse and fast-moving regions are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

10 ASEAN MEMBER STATES



BSU-HRDO initiates Caravan 2017: Infomediation Service

As a part of the Caravan 2017: Infomediation Service, Benguet State University Human Resource Development Office (BSU – HRDO) conducted a series of activities to further enhance the knowledge and awareness of BSU employees.

A fora on BSU policies were conducted from October 25 to October 27 at the BSU – Main campus. On October 25, the forum was held at the Chrysanthemum Hall attended by the first batch of teaching personnel. On October 26, the forum was held at the

Northern Philippines Root Crops Research and Training Center (NPRCRT) attended by the first batch of non-teaching personnel.

On October 27, the second batch of non-teaching personnel had their forum at the Chrysanthemum Hall while the second batch

| CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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First published in 1996, Shamag is one of the official publications of Benguet State University. It was named after the Ibaloi word for news. It is a medium for employees, clients, students and partners to disseminate their programs, achievements and advocacies. Shamag aims to help the University goals in developing proactive programs for quality service by developing effective and efficient innovative platforms for cascading information and strengthening public-private partnerships.

Articles, pictures, comments, suggestions, reactions, and letters to the Editor may be submitted to the Editor or Associate Editor of Shamag at the Benguet State University Public Affairs Office through (074) 422-2127 loc. 69 or through email at publicaffairs@bsu.edu.ph.

Submitted materials will be acknowledged but Editors will determine whether materials submitted for publication shall be printed based on the Filipino Journalist's Code of Ethics. The editors also reserve the right to edit submitted materials for mechanics. The Shamag is guided by the journalistic standards of the Associated Press. Any opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Shamag staff.

VISION*

A PREMIER UNIVERSITY delivering world-class education that promotes sustainable development amidst climate change

MISSION

To provide quality education to enhance food security, sustainable communities, industry innovation, climate resilience, gender equality, institutional development and partnerships

CORE VALUES (SLIDES)

- Student-centered
- Leadership
- Integrity
- Diversity
- Efficiency
- Service

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal I. To develop proactive programs to ensure relevant quality education

Objectives:

- 1.To benchmark curricular and co-curricular programs with national and international standards
- 2.To develop alternative learning experiences to enhance skills that match industry needs
- 3.To develop innovative and relevant curricular and co-curricular programs
- 4.To enhance proactive student welfare and development programs

Goal II. To develop proactive programs for quality service

Objectives:

- 1.To enhance relevant human resource development programs
- 2.To develop effective and efficient innovative platforms for cascading information
- 3.To enhance and develop employee welfare programs

Goal III. To enhance responsive systems and procedures for transparent institutional development

Objectives:

- 1.To enhance and develop innovative financial management systems
- 2.To ensure transparency in all transactions in the university
- 3.To ensure inclusive and consultative decision making

Goal IV. To develop relevant and gender sensitive research and extension programs for institutional development, sustainable communities, climate resilience, industry innovation, and partnerships

Objectives:

1. To develop relevant multimedia tools in disseminating technology, knowledge and information generated from RDE programs
2. To develop relevant RDE activities that will address current problems and support cultural advocacy
3. To partner with strategic local, regional, national and international entities

Goal V. To strengthen and expand public-private partnership

Objectives:

1. Sustain and pursue functional University-relation with the alumni and other organizations both in the government and non-government entities
2. To strengthen the linkage among academe, industries, LGUs and community

*Board of Regents Approved Resolution # 2494, s. 2016.

Talk to us!



74-422-2009 (Telefax, University and Board Secretary)

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Policy discussion. Raymundo H. Pawid, Jr., Chief of the Human Resource Development Office tried to answer all the queries from the participants on October 26 at the NPRCRTC. #DSEmok



| BSU-HRDO INITIATES...FROM PAGE 1

of teaching personnel had their forum at the NPRCRTC the same day.

BSU – Bokod Campus will have the forum on November 8 while BSU – Buguias Campus will have the forum on November 10.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION POLICY AND THE RECRUITMENT, SELECTION, AND PLACEMENT POLICY

Atty. Matias C. Angiwan, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer presented the BSU policy in line with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill.

The FOI Bill under the Executive Order No. 2, series of 2016, refers to the mandating of public agencies the disclosure of public documents. The Bill also outlines the exceptions for public disclosure and the procedures for accessing public documents.

According to Angiwan, the Agency FOI Manual of BSU is currently under creation. Angiwan added that there is a policy of full disclosure only on the matters that is of public concern.

However, there are exceptions and the FOI rights have limits. Angiwan said that while access to official records may not be prohibited, it may be regulated either by law or the inherent power of an officer to control his office and the records under his/her custody.

After Angiwan's discussion, Frances Noelle G. Escalera, Administrative Officer of the Human Resource Management Office (HRMO), discussed the updated Recruitment, Selection, and Placement (RSP) and the Merit Selection Plan.

Escalera further discussed that the new RSP is now characterized by strict observance in the selection of employees in all levels. She added that the HRMO is now focused on the

competency-based profiling in the selection of BSU employees.

MANDATORY RANDOM DRUG TEST POLICY AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Dr. Florence V. Poltic of the University Health Services (UHS) then discussed the Mandatory Random Drug Test (MRDT) Policy. Poltic said that the policy is in accordance to President Rodrigo Duterte's flagship program on illegal drugs.

"This is to ensure that the workplace is a drug-free place," Poltic said.

She added that the MRDT that is to be conducted is unannounced and will be conducted in a fishbowl method during flag ceremonies. A fishbowl with the names of employees would be presented and the University President will randomly pick out a name. The employee who is chosen would be subjected to drug testing at a Department of Health (DOH) Accredited laboratory or clinic.

If the employee is drug-negative, the data would be submitted to the HRMO. However, if the employee is drug-positive, his name will be submitted to the HRMO and is notified. The employee is given 15 days to challenge the test results in case there are cases that the medication is not illegal.

According to Poltic, medicines for cough and colds have a similar chemical composition with methamphetamine (or shabu). In cases such as this, the employee is encouraged not to take in any form of medication for one day before conducting another drug test.

If ever the results are still positive, the employee is mandated to proceed to the UHS for the Drug Dependency Examination or to a DOH accredited doctor. Poltic said that there are interventions that BSU is prepared to

provide in case of illegal drug intake.

Atty. Reynante B. Basco of the Office for Legal Affairs discussed the Sexual Harassment Policy of BSU. The policy is in accordance to the Republic Act 7877 or the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995.

Basco pointed out that there are three aspects of the offense: criminal, civil, and administrative. Both criminal and civil aspect is covered by RA 7877 while the administrative aspect is covered by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) resolution no. 01-0940 for government employees.

According to Basco, sexual harassment is committed by a person who has authority, influence, or moral ascendancy that solicits sexual favors from the victim in a workplace and educational or training institution.

He added that a person can file three cases at once to a person who committed sexual harassment against him/her. The penalty for filing for a civil case is an independent action for damages while the penalty for filing a criminal case is one to six month-imprisonment, or a fine of PhP 10,000 to PhP 20,000, or both at the discretion of the court.

Basco classified acts of sexual harassment into three: grave offenses, which refers to acts with malicious intent and the lot; less grave offenses, which include unwanted touching or brushing against a victim's body or verbal abuse with sexual innuendos or overtones; and light offenses, which include secretly looking or staring at a person's private parts or worn undergarments among others.

"It does not necessarily mean that violators are always men while the victims are women. The violator can be in either sex and the victim can also be in either sex," expressed Basco.

#MDPenchog

OSS launches Mental Health Awareness advocacy

There is no health without mental health.

This is according to Irene Alcantara, Benguet State University Office of Student Services (BSU – OSS) Guidance Counselor stating the rationale of the advocacy on Mental Health Awareness in the University.

According to Alcantara, mental health is not the absence of mental illness but is a state of mind wherein all aspects of an individual's life is balanced, may it be psychologically, physically, mentally, and socially. If these aspects are balanced, there is a good mental health.

However, Alcantara said that it is difficult for an individual to balance all the said aspects because of environmental factors, external factors, and internal factors. Accordingly, depression manifests itself mostly to adolescents that, in most extreme cases, the aftermath results to suicide.

Alcantara added that among the many factors causing depression, she said that it might be caused by an interplay with social issues such as dysfunctional family cases, abuse cases, and family issues; psychological issues, such as low self-esteem, personality issues; and many more.

To point out the usual symptoms, Alcantara said that we as concerned individuals can help by first identifying the signs of a person suffering from depression. These evident symptoms include, isolation, loss of appetite or overeating, disturbance of sleep or oversleeping, declining academic performance, anxiety, and individuals who use negative coping mechanisms such as substance abuse.

In accordance with the Mental Health Awareness Month, OSS conducted seminars on October 20 and October 27, 2017. Speakers include May Ann Racuya and Pamela Dayao from the Philippine Mental Health Association (PMHA) Baguio-Benguet Chapter who both discussed Understanding Mental Health.

Janet Calado, Department Head of Psychology from the University of Baguio and Dr. Genna Hippolito of Baguio General Hospital Mental Clinic (BGHMC) spoke on Adolescent Depression and Suicide.

In the efforts to prevent mental illness, Alcantara said that the OSS is open for students who needs counseling. In addition, the OSS is currently conducting information dissemination and campaigns to raise awareness among students.

“Kung gusto nila ng kausap, open ang OSS para makinig (If ever the students needs someone to talk with, OSS is always open to listen to them),” expressed Alcantara.

For future plans, the OSS is currently preparing advocacy forums especially on positive coping skills, forums on suicide, and the like. She added that the Society of Student Grantees (SOSG) is currently selling advocacy shirts as of press time.

Alcantara also said that OSS will launch advocacy materials in the future to help raise awareness on mental health.

“Hopefully these coming years, we expand our reach to the whole University,” concluded Alcantara. #MDPenchog

BSU co-sponsors Korotura



With resounding voices, the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) Choral Ensemble filled the Benguet State University (BSU) Gymnasium during their performance on October 21, 2017.

As a part of the UPLB Cultural Exchange Department's line of activities, BSU was tagged to co-sponsor the activity titled “Korotura”.

BSU Glee Club, a student performing arts group of BSU was also featured in the said event. The songs performed were combinations of Western music to Original Pilipino Music (OPM). They also performed a rendition of a cultural chant from Kalinga.

After the performance, the UPLB Choral Ensemble sat with the members of BSU Glee Club, University of Cordilleras Chorale, Saint Louis University Glee Club, and the UP Baguio Tinig Amianan to share their knowledge and tips on chorale performance.

According to Stanley F. Anongos, Jr., Director of the Center of Culture and the Arts (CCA), there is an evident difference between the UPLB Chorale Ensemble and the BSU Glee Club. He further said that due to time constraints considering the members of the BSU Glee Club are students, Anongos expressed that there is a need for a wider exposure.

“Time-dependent *ang ating mga* students and faculty. *Pero kung sakaling may* activities for similar exposure, *susuportahan natin ‘yan* (Our students and faculty are time-dependent. However, if there might be any activities for student exposure, we will support),” Anongos reassured. #MDPenchog



HABI. Titled HABI: Continuing the Thread of ASEAN Culture, the Philippine Information Agency set up a photo exhibit at the BSU Administration Building to showcase the diversity of cultures around ASEAN countries. #DSEmok

Empowering Youth.

PCI Kimberly Molitas (in photo) of the National Capital Region Police Office inspired many students to do their part in engaging with other ASEAN countries. #MDPenchog



BSU co-hosts ASEAN 2017 Youth Forum

Geared towards understanding the role of the Benguet youth in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) arena, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) together with Benguet State University (BSU) conducted a Youth Forum at the BSU Gymnasium on October 23, 2017.

“The youth of today has a greater opportunity to explore the world,” opened BSU President Feliciano G. Calora, Jr. encouraging the Benguet student participants that with the ASEAN integration, the youth has a wide scope of opportunities abroad. He also added that they start by processing their own passports.

After the welcome remarks, Marie Carolyn Verano, Schools Division Superintendent of the Department of Education (DepEd) Schools Division of Benguet gave an inspirational talk and motivated the students to strive in the global arena.

“It is now time for you to make our world better,” expressed Verano.

UNDERSTANDING ASEAN AND THE YOUTH

Joseph B. Zambrano, Information Officer of PIA – CAR presented an overview of the ASEAN. He said that as of this year, the Philippines was chosen to be the chair of ASEAN 2017 with the theme “Partnering for Change, Engaging the World”.

Zambrano said that ASEAN is a community of opportunities. These opportunities include generation of jobs, easy access to work abroad, a stronger protection within nations, and maritime stability. He added that the ASEAN countries have a vast economic market with 624 million possible consumers in the ASEAN market.

After Zambrano’s piece, Menzie Kuengan, Supervising Education Program Specialist

of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) - CAR, presented opportunities for Colleges and Universities in the ASEAN community. Kuengan presented also the different memorandum orders in line with ASEAN partnerships in the academic arena.

“Shoot for the moon, because though you will miss it, you’d still land on the stars,” Kuengan expressed.

The talks ensued with Kimberly Molitas, Police Chief Inspector of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCPRO) talking about ASEAN 2017 and the Government’s Program on Illegal Drugs.

According to Molitas, the ASEAN is created because it wants to uphold the most important factor between the ASEAN countries: peace and security. She said that peace and security is tantamount to economic development and ASEAN is trying its best to uphold maritime security and avoid transnational crimes.

Transnational crimes refer to crimes that are committed between countries. Molitas identified a few: drug smuggling, arms smuggling, piracy, human trafficking, and cybercrime. Focusing on illegal drugs, Molitas added that the Philippines is a trans-shipment of drugs due to the loose security on our maritime laws.

Molitas said that such is one of the reasons why ASEAN is formed. She added that to control the situation is to resolve transnational issues the traditional way.

“That is why we have ASEAN, we sit down

together, we talk together, and we resolve our issues,” she added.

Molitas said that there are four roles that the youth can contribute on the war on illegal drugs: it is to be informed, be involved, be courageous, and be resilient. She added that the youth can utilize any available resources such as social media to be able to support the government.

Further, Molitas encouraged the students to be proud of the Cordilleran culture. She said that the Cordilleran culture is a culture that sees the goodness in every person. Molitas added that Cordillerans should share the culture of unity and humanity and the Philippines would become one of the greatest nations in the world.

“We want to build a nation that is safe for you, so that the Philippines is a country worth living for and dying for, do you believe that?” posed Molitas to the participants of the forum.

Participants came from different schools of Benguet including BSU, King’s College of the Philippines, Cordillera Career Development College, Pines City Colleges, Fianza Memorial National High School, Taluy Sur National High School, Tuba National High School, Governor Bado Dangwa Agro-Industrial School Extension, Kapangan Central National High School, Benguet National High School – Main, Bakun Nation High School – Sinacbat Extension, Evelio Javier Memorial National High School – Main, La Trinidad National High School, Tublay School of Home Industries, Loakan National High School, and Alejo M. Pacalosa memorial National High School. #MDPenchog



Official Publication of Benguet State University Shamag

ISSN 0118-0304

October 2017
Vol. XXI No. 10

PILLAR III: SOCIO-CULTURAL

The ASEAN Community is all about you.

ASEAN promotes high quality of life, equal access to opportunities, and enhanced capacity in responding to natural calamities



PILLAR II: ECONOMIC

The ASEAN Community is home for your business investment.

ASEAN provides opportunities and creates a more business-friendly environment through skilled labor and deeper integration in trade and services.



PILLAR I: POLITICAL-SECURITY

The ASEAN Community brings peace and security to your life.

ASEAN upholds a rules-based region of shared values and norms where conflict resolution and prevention are recognized and protected.



Demonstration. The two Thai students (front row, right and left) tried the preparation of stock solution, media and agar for tissue culture with the HORTI researchers. #HORTI archives

HORTI spearheads Basic Training on Tissue Culture Technology, houses 2 Thai students

The Horticulture Research and Training Institute (HORTI) conducted a training on Basic Tissue Culture and Production Technology at the Benguet State University (BSU) Tissue Culture Laboratory.

The said training was participated by Muhammadhaisam Daoh and Waerusalan Waekaday, two students from Princess of Naradhiwas University, Thailand who are majors in Applied Biology Science. The two Thai students started their training on September 5, 2017 and finished on October 23, 2017.

Meanwhile from October 2-6, the HORTI researchers and staff were also trained on Tissue Culture Technology.

The training aimed to promote the importance of tissue culture techniques used to maintain and grow plant cells, tissues or organs under sterile conditions on a nutrient culture medium.

Plant tissue culture is widely used to produce clones of a plant through micropropagation methods; produce clean planting materials which involve

different activities and methods on the micropropagation of different crops and setting up a laboratory.

The training focused on the following advantages: to know the advantages and disadvantages of tissue culture; to learn the different stages in the micropropagation of different crops; hands-on activities on the laboratory procedures in the preparation of stock solution and culture media.

On October 2, Milagros R. Dumaslan, in-charge of tissue culture laboratory lectured on advantages of tissue culture, do's and don'ts in the laboratory, setting up a laboratory, preparation of stock solution and culture media, and computation and conversion of stock solution.

Trainees underwent hands-on training on October 3 regarding the routinely activities in the laboratory such as preparation of stock solution and culture media, sterilization of culture media, washing of glass wares, preparation and sterilization of planting materials.

Further, trainees tried on the removal of explants under the laminar flow to remove the meristem of the strawberry plant and planted it in the culture media. Participants visited the strawberry runner establishment at HORTI greenhouse during the last day of the training on October 6. #AMKimeu

Five degree programs qualify for Level IV Phase 1, BSAS undergoes re-assessment

Five degree programs namely, Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics, Master of Science in Horticulture, Master of Science in Rural Development, PhD in Horticulture, and PhD in Rural Development were qualified for Level IV Phase 2 after the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities of the Philippines (AACUP) survey visit conducted on July 24-28, 2017.

Bachelor of Science in Applied Statistics (BSAS) however, was given until July 2021 to prepare for the revisit of Areas namely, Vision Mission and Goals (Area 1); Faculty (Area II); Support to Students (Area IV); Research (Area V); Extension and Community Involvement (Area VI); Facilities and Physical Plant (Area VIII); Laboratory (Area IX); and Administration (Area X). Curriculum and Instruction (Area III) and Library (Area VII) both passed the evaluation.

According to Dr. Aurea Marie M. Sandoval, Director of the Office of Quality Assurance and Accreditation (OQAA), there are two phases that a degree program must undergo to finally achieve the Level IV accreditation status. She also said that attaining Level IV means that the program is well-matched to international standards.

"Level IV accreditation status means that our programs are at par with Universities abroad," expressed Sandoval.

According to the Summary of Ratings given by the AACUP, the five degree programs must prepare for Level IV Phase 2 to qualify them for the Level IV accreditation status. Dr. Sandoval said that to meet this status, the program coordinators must prepare for a presentation of five mandatory areas to be evaluated namely: Research, Extension, Curriculum, Planning and Development, and Linkages. #MDPenchog