



## BSU retains ISO 9001:2015 certification

**BSU is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of maintaining its ISO 9001:2015 certification. This is after the TUV Rheinland audit team recommended the awarding of the new certificate during their online audit of BSU processes on October 20-21, 2021.**

President Felipe Salaing Comila thanked the TUV Rheinland team for their role in helping BSU enhance its delivery of quality education. He likewise commended all the men and women of BSU who worked countless hours to achieve this feat.

ISO 9001:2015 is the international standard specifying what a quality management system (QMS) is. The standard is used by organizations to show consistency in providing products and services that meet customer and regulatory requirements. It is the most popular standard in the ISO 9000 series and the only standard in the series to which organizations can be certified. ISO 9001 was first published in 1987 by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), an agency of more than 160 countries. The present version of ISO 9001 was published in September 2015.

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## 4<sup>th</sup> BSU president passes on

**Dr. Rogelio D. Colting, the 4th president of Benguet State University has succumbed to illness (non-COVID-19 related) on October 17, 2021. His wake was held on October 18, 2021 at the University Gymnasium; on October 18-20, 2021 at the Colting's residence in Acop, Tublay and then on October 20-22 at his ancestral home in Bangho, Tublay where he was laid to rest. He was 70 years old.**



Dr. Colting served two terms as University president from the year 2003 to 2011. When Dr. Colting's term as the 4<sup>th</sup> BSU president began on July 1, 2003, he set a ten-point agenda targetting programs that cover instruction; research and development; extension services and outreach; resource generation; administration and governance; information communication technology; human resource development, and personnel welfare; student services and welfare; culture, and arts; and disaster and emergency program and security.

His advocacy on organic agriculture has trailblazed major activities in the University such as the first Cordillera Organic Agriculture Congress on January 13-14, 2006 as one of the activities during the 20<sup>th</sup> Charter Day Celebration. The purpose of the congress was well captured in what a journalist wrote:

“The gathering was not meant to be just another congress on organic agriculture. The participants and the speakers did not just hear one another, they wanted the Cordillera to shift from chemical-based agricultural production to organic farming to produce safe and competitive agricultural products for both local and international markets. Because of the support and acceptance for the promotion of organic farming, BSU intends to annually

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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](mailto: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

BSU as an International Smart University engendering graduates to walk the intergenerational highways.

## MISSION

BSU cares to: Challenge innovation, Advance technology and facility, Revitalize administration, Engender partnership, and Serve intergenerational role.

## DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Goal I. Challenge Innovation in the four fold functions of the University**

**Objectives:**

1. To provide quality education responsive to the needs of time;
2. To enhance research productivity contributing to sustainable development;
3. To disseminate relevant research outputs and other scholarly activities consistent with BSU's mandated programs;
4. To promote sustainable and appropriate resource generation strategies for the implementation of development plans; and
5. To advocate for resource management and effective energy efficiency in addressing the demands of climate change.

**Goal II. Advance Technology and Facility by shaping the University become responsive to modern needs.**

**Objectives:**

1. To use information and communication technology learning resources to sustain and enhance quality of alternative teaching - learning continuity endeavors;
2. To upgrade facilities and enable researchers/extensionists to conduct activities using specialized facilities;
3. To acquire and upgrade state-of-the-art facilities in the projects innovation; and
4. To upgrade facilities and establish modern physical infrastructures.

**Goal III. Revitalize Administration by harmonizing performance monitoring, information, and reporting systems.**

**Objectives:**

1. To elevate the BSU PRIME-HRM to a level of excellence for good governance and efficient public service;
2. To reinforce transparency, integrity, and objectivity in the delivery of service;
3. To regenerate instruction, research, extension, production, linkages, governance, management, and policies; and
4. To streamline operations to be efficient, effective, and responsive to challenges and changes.

**Goal IV. Serve Intergenerational Role by revitalizing the Spiritual, Physical, Economical, Cultural, Intellectual, Emotional, and Social (S.P.E.C.I.E.S.) state.**

**Objectives:**

1. To establish academic partnerships with local, regional, national, and international institutions providing educational opportunities for faculty, staff, and students;
2. To increase and sustain university relations with academe, industries, GOs, NGOs, and LGUs for research funding;
3. To increase and sustain partnership with academe, LGUs, NGOs, Industries, and others; and
4. To comply with existing laws, policies and other requirements key indicators.

**Goal V. To strengthen and expand public-private partnership**

**Objectives:**

1. To offer programs that embody social, cultural, economic and developmental needs both for local and global markets;
2. To champion local culture and languages in the University context through research, extension, and academic programs;
3. To document and sustain Best Practices.

AdCo Action No. 03, s.2021

## Quality Policy

Benguet State University is continuously committed to improve its Quality Management System, satisfy requirements of relevant interested parties and provide excellent service for quality education and innovative research aligned with sustainable development and client satisfaction.

Board Resolution # 2847 S.2016

## 32 graduates pass Forester Licensure Exam

*Graduates of Bachelor of Science in Forestry passed the Forester Licensure Exam (FLE) held on October 20-21, 2021. Benguet State University listed a passing rate of 50.79%.*

The new licensed foresters are: William Bob G. Aga-id, Caesar B. Alfredo, Emmanuel A. Balao-in, Emethes G. Batucan, Arlene S. Bernardo, Gertrude R. Boquiren, Jhycel C. Bucasan, Angelyn B. Dagad-ay, Leonora G. David, Kaila Mae M. Esnada, Shirly T. Epara, Decelyn B. Fernandez, Renelyn B. Kitoyan, Tiffany P. Lamsis, Elena B. Linnom, Elaine T. Lisayen, Desiree G. Luzano, Asenith D. Mapili, Kayzel B. Pablo, Mary Ann W. Pago, Jolibeth A. Palos, Shamryn F. Para-an, Emmalyn L. Quidmas, Jonathan T. Quidmas, Oliver S. Rico, Alvin L. Rivera, Maria Theresa B. Satud, Lily Rose D. Tanagon, Epler K. Telado, Edwin C. Tomin, Jessica W. Ventura, and Celeste L. Wais.

Dr. Conrado Bao-idang, dean of the College of Forestry, said that the College of Forestry is still proud despite the rating achieved. One of the first-time examinees who passed was a student of the University for around 10 years.

Dr. Bao-idang shared that the preparation or review for the FLE was done online because of the COVID-19 pandemic and that the graduates who reviewed and their lecturers struggled. To encourage their reviewers, the college provided additional review materials and advised them to keep on reading the works of experts in the field of forestry from other universities. Resource

speakers from Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) were also invited.

A successful examinee, Forester Epler Telado is proud and thankful for his achievement despite the pressures and challenges encountered during the online review.

*“Kung maganda yung signal nakiki-join ako online, if not nagbabasa na lang ako sa mga review materials ko at kung may tanong shinishare namin sa group chat and everyone can answer (If the signal is good, I join online, if I can't I just I read my review materials and if there are questions, we share to group chat and everyone can answer)”*, For. Telado said.

Dr. Bao-idang and For. Telado advised future foresters to do their best in studying while taking their degree, exert more effort, keep on reading and seek tips from licensed foresters.

*“Sa mga future foresters, tiwala sa sarili, always think positive. Help yourselves na kaya nyo yan at makapasa kayo. Ang board exam... It's all about exerting effort, kelangan magsunog ng kilay (To future foresters, trust yourselves, always think positive. Help yourselves. You can do it and be able to pass the exam. Board exam is all about exerting effort and studying hard,”* added For. Telado.

They also thanked the CF faculty and staff and the professional experts who shared their knowledge during the review. //EMBawayan

### *BSU retains ISO... from page 1*

After three years of ISO 9001:2015 implementation, OQAA Director Dr. Aurea Marie M. Sandoval said that there is greater or better awareness and adherence of BSU constituents in performing their tasks and conducting office processes in accordance with ISO standards.

She added that processes and procedures (flow charts) of office transactions are being implemented according to how these have been planned by process owners in accordance to ISO standards. Risks in the workplace are identified, addressed and minimized while opportunities are used for improvement. There has also been a higher percentage of Client Satisfaction based on the Feedback forms submitted.



## BSU, University of Guam, NEDA-CAR celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Month through a Webinar

Benguet State University, University of Guam, and NEDA-CAR held a webinar titled “2nd International Conference on Understanding Culture Across Borders: The IKS of the CHamoru of Guam and the Igorots of the Cordillera”. The webinar was held at the Carnation Hall, Research and Extension Building last October 26, 2021.

Six resource speakers talked about their respective topics via face-to-face and or through zoom. Some participants attended face-to-face at the Everlasting and Carnation Hall of the Research and Extension building while others attended via Zoom and Facebook live. The Webinar was divided into morning and afternoon sessions. The morning session theme focused on “Celebrating CHamoru Identity through Decolonizing Education and Traditional Arts.” And the afternoon session theme was “Celebrating Cordillera Indigenous Autonomy and Identity.”

During the morning session, Dr. Kisha Borja-Quichocho-Calvo, assistant professor and Program Coordinator of CHamoru Studies, Division of Humanities College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the University of Guam, was the first speaker who discussed “The Role of CHamoru Women in Decolonizing Education in Guåhan.” She talked about the importance of women and their roles in decolonizing education in Guahan, Guam by making policies that mandate courses on CHamoru language and culture, singing of their national anthem, Fanohge CHamoru, and recitation of a poem titled Inefresi, a promise to the Chamoru people to cherish their culture and belief.



Ms. Kisha further discussed the efforts of the youths and children in connecting the future generation to their land through language revitalization, culture programming, writing, and publishing literature. Ms. Kisha concluded that the ways of CHamoru women and the CHamoru community in educating their children have a big impact on their identity as CHamoru.

The second speaker was Prof. Vincent Reyes, Master of the CHamoru Dance/National Folkdance Director University of Guam who spoke on “CHamoru Folk Dance: From its modern reinvention of an extinct ancient practice to becoming a reachable and relevant voice or CHamoru cultural identity.” He shared the history of CHamoru dance, starting on how it became extinct after they were colonized by Spaniards and how it was re-introduced as a form of entertainment for the tourists in 1964. Furthermore, Prof. Reyes presented the different reconstruction approaches in re-introducing the CHamoru pre-colonial dances. These are Touristic Polynesian influence, 1980’s Pa’a Taotao Tano’, Traditionally Styled and Evolution. Each reconstruction approach was discussed accompanied by a video presentation. The presentation ended with a dance video titled “Para Hamyo: A Gift for you.”

The afternoon session started with the discussion of Mr. Gary A. Pekas, writer, editor and columnist of Zigzag Weekly, member of Autonomy IEC Speakers of SPCAR-NEDA, Mountain Province LGU, with the topic “Celebrating the Past of Cordillera Indigenous Autonomy and Identity: From Ili-Based Identities to Regional-Based Identity”. Mr. Pekas talked about the state of the Cordillera during the pre-colonial era and the situation of the Indigenous people during the colonization of the Spanish. Furthermore, the presence of the Americans especially in the Cordillera, the establishment of National Roads that opened the Cordillera to the Americans, and the opening and support for Mining in the Cordillera were discussed. The threat to the ancestral lands during the time of Martial law was also highlighted.



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The Gender and Development Office had its 2-day Planning and Budgeting activity for the year 2022 on October 15 to 16. It was participated by the Gender Focal Point System-Technical Working Group Members. Resource speaker, Dr. Ferdinand P. Gonzalez talked about the importance and guidelines of GAD planning and budgeting, its legal basis, policy imperatives, and GAD funds audit.//PJGadang

**SIX STUDENTS FROM CORDILLERA ARE FINALISTS FOR TOP 10 OUTSTANDING STUDENTS OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**Alladin Bañez**  
(Benguet State University)

**Denmark Butic**  
(Ifugao State University)

**Austin Miguelle Ogad**  
(Saint Louis University)

**Joven Wadwahan**  
(Baguio Central University)

**Von Ameri Escobar**  
(Abra State Institute of Sciences and Technology)

**Edgar Christian Dirige**  
(Saint Louis University)

Alladin Bañez representing Benguet State University is one of the six students from the Cordillera region as finalists for the Top 10 Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TOSP).//PIACordillera

**BSU University of Guam... from page 4**

Mr. Pekas concluded his discussion with the question “Are we willing to become warriors in many forms, in the media, in the social media, in the academe, even talking to our neighbors, as we continue to pursue self-determination and the search for a Cordillera identity that we sustain the dream to self-determination, are we willing?”

The next speaker was Mr. Wilbert “Bit” Wanas, DepEd Mankayan Faculty/ IP Champ Delegate of the IAG, member of the Autonomy IEC Speakers of SPCAR-NEDA who talked about the topic “Forging the Future for the Cordilleran Youth: The Role of the Cordilleran Youth in Autonomy”. Mr. Wanas titled his presentation “I, Myself and Autono-ME (Autonomy)”. His presentation focuses on the benefits of being an autonomous region. He shared that through his personal experiences he realized that having an autonomous region will boost the businesses in the Cordillera and will help the local entrepreneurs and will provide more stable jobs. Furthermore, he said that through autonomy, the Cordillera will experience a better quality of education including culturally-sensitive education. He ended his presentation by challenging the youth of the Cordilleras to learn, educate and advocate Autonomy.

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**BSU teachers to attend virtual Master Trainer Course in London, UK**

The University has been selected as a grantee-participant for the English-medium education and internationalization training under the ‘Access and Competitiveness through Internationalization of Higher Education (ACT-IHE)’ Project.

Three BSU faculty members met the criteria for the English-medium education (EME) training program. They are Dr. Kara S. Panolong, Dr. Ronda B. Tullay and Dr. Jhordan T. Cuilan. The training grant is by the Commission on Higher Education in collaboration with the British Council-Phils. The training provider will be the University of Southampton, London, United Kingdom. All sessions will happen online starting October 2021.

BSU was selected out of the six SUCs of CAR to participate in the program.//JSTabangcura

*4<sup>th</sup> BSU President... from page 1*

conduct a congress as a venue for organic farming enthusiasts and experts to share their experiences and expertise. Farmers, government institutions unite to promote Organic Farming in Cordillera.”

The congress gained the commitment of various organizations in promoting organic agriculture in the Cordillera. Later on, the BSU Organic Agriculture Program (BSU-OAP) was ironed out. Dr. Colting, knowing very much how the newspapers can help in the new advocacy, in his R4D corner under the ‘University Belt’ column of Sun Star Baguio wrote on February 27, 2008, the program’s framework is premised on the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines (OCCP) definition of organic agriculture, which is, “the use of agricultural methods and practices that are considered to be ecologically sound and sustainable.” Inspired by this mantra, the BSU-OAP aims to achieve the following: produce organically grown crops for consumers, generate technologies that promote long-term productivity of farms, develop a market for organically grown crops and produce graduates who will support the organic agriculture industry. In the following years, the Organic Market and the Cordillera Organic Agriculture Development Center were launched. BSU-produced coffee and some vegetables now boast of being certified by the Institute of Marketecology, an international organic agriculture certifying body, and the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines. Aside from these developments, organic agriculture as one specialization in the degree BS in Agriculture was also offered along with Master of

Science in Agroecology with specialization in Organic Agriculture at the BSU-Open University in partnership with the ICRISAT.

In the context of sustainable development along with Agriculture, Fisheries, and Natural Resources, BSU continued exploring avenues where organic agriculture will see promotion.

Dr. Colting’s other prime focus is the student-first policy. Support to students’ activities was given. The campus press was given full freedom to express the sentiments of the students, there was no censorship. In return, students continued to perform well in Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations (TAYO), Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TSOP), AYALA Youth, Press Conferences, and others.

Various partnerships with local, national, and international institutions have been formed to provide an avenue for BSU to gain support for its extension services and outreach, students, and constituency.

Some of these partners include the Asia Vegetable Research and Development Center, Australian Center for Agricultural Research, Australian International Language Academy, Southern Cross International Learning Institute, Centro International De La Papa, In Went Organization, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Soka University, Plastro Company, ARAVA International Center for Agricultural Training and many more. Locally, BSU partnered with CHED, CICT, Figaro Foundation, HARRDEC, SUCs, NFA, media organizations, farmer’s associations, LGUs, NGOs, and private universities for projects ranging from technology commercialization to livelihood projects.

One example is the strawberry runner production through tissue culture. This provided local farmers with disease-free strawberry runners eventually earning it the Best HEI Extension Program award from CHED in 2010. BSU also served as a Nodal Center on ICT Development.

The Intellectual Property Rights Office was also established in 2003 to safeguard technologies developed in the University from piracy. Likewise, the formation of the University Public Affairs Office in 2005 contributed to an increased number of visitors to the University promoting agro-tourism and improved the packaging of BSU-related information for prospect partners, clients, and students. The International Language Center was launched to accommodate the increasing number of foreign students.



*4<sup>th</sup> BSU President... from page 6*

The University Library became the first library in North Luzon to fully automate library services adopting the Follet Library Integrated Software in 2006.

In 2007, BSU got the highest overall Annual Performance Rating (APR) among SUCs in CAR according to the Annual Report of the Department of Budget and Development (DBM) and eventually attained SUC level IV under the Commission on Higher Education in the same year.

In Dr. Colting's last years as BSU President, the Center for Culture and the Arts and then the BSU-CCA Historical Museum was established and institutionalized. This manifested his support for culture and Indigenous Knowledge.

He retired from government service in 2011. After retirement he continued serving as a consultant, member and leader of various Non-Government Organizations. //JSTabangcura

*BSU, University of Guam... from page 5*

Dr. Stephanie Christiansen, Assistant Regional Director of NEDA- CAR was the first reactor for the afternoon session. Dr. Christiansen reacted to the "Implications of Autonomy towards Economic Development." Dr. Stephanie presented the Cordillera RDP goal – "to achieve regional autonomy" which aims to attain enhanced cordillera identity, responsive policies for the region, and progress for all, leading to their vision "A progressive autonomous region serving as a balanced ecosystem model in North Luzon for improved quality of life of Cordilleran." Historical events and challenges of the region that became the basis for the Cordillera autonomy were also discussed.

The second reactor and final speaker was Ma. Theresa B. Dolipas, faculty, Social Sciences Department, Benguet State University. Dr. Dolipas reacted to the topic "Reflections on Political and Civic Participation of the iGen in the Cordillera Region." She stated that "iGen" or Generation Z are people

who were born after the year 1995, which is the age of the internet. According to the research presented titled "Cultivating and strengthening IGen's Civic Engagements and Global Citizenship" which specifically talks about the iGen of BSU, it stated that the iGen has a considerable perception of civic engagements, which shows that the iGens are aware that civic engagement is all about community participation and an attribute of an active and responsible citizen, the iGen also attributed civic engagement as freedom of speech as well as human rights. Somehow, BSU iGen's civic engagement was due to community

immersions through their subject National Service Training Program (NSTP), barangay, and LGU programs such as green and clean, bloodletting, medical missions, and bayanihan activities. Furthermore, the iGen's community engagement is driven by personal values, the influence of other people, and their desire for personal growth. The participation of iGen in politics was also discussed where it shows that the majority of the iGen's are uninterested in politics. In conclusion, the study shows that the iGen's are active participants in civic activities which shows compassion and empathy. Dr. Dolipas ended her discussion by highlighting the importance of educating the iGen's about the concept of regional autonomy.

The event was made possible through the partnership of the Institute of Social Research and Development led by Director Gigi G. Banes, the College of Arts and Sciences - Social Sciences Department, BSU-Gender and Development, the University of Guam, BSU-SNAP, and NEDA-CAR. //PJGadang

# BSU produces nine new nutritionist and dieticians

Nine graduates of Bachelor of Science in Nutrition-Dietetics passed the Nutritionists and Dietitians Licensure Examination (NDLE) held on October 17-18, 2021. The Department of Human Nutrition of the College of Home Economics and Technology announced the nine newly Registered Nutritionists and Dietitians (RND) on October 25 as follows: April Vanessa L. Refugia, Christene Joy P. Labbot, Donalyn S. Bestre, Edmerlyn T. Dangunay, Heidi B. Montes, Janet G. Wilang, Jhonalyn D. Bannot, May Joy G. Adawi, and Mia Klarrise C. Tellez. The first-time takers of the examination listed a 62.50% passing rate and the repeaters listed 57.14% making the general BSU passing rate 60.0% higher than the national passing rate of 57.77%.

In an interview with Shamag, Department of Human Nutrition Chairperson Daisy A. Tondo shared the department's efforts in assisting graduates with their preparation for the licensure exam. One activity that the department prepared was a review series titled "Gearing up for the Licensure Examination for Nutrition and Dietetics" (GLEND). The first review was in December of 2020. Sadly, an advisory from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) postponing and resetting the licensure exam in 2021 resulted in a year delay.

"The last two series did not push through since most of the reviewees cannot continue with the online review," Ms. Tondo added. However, Ms. Tondo made sure that printed materials were given to reviewees.

The Department of Human Nutrition provided updates, recorded lectures, mock board tests, and links through an exclusive Facebook group for the examinees. Another activity prepared by the department was the "Patch Up" activity conducted a week before the exam. The activity aimed to inform examinees about the do's and don'ts during the exam. Two alumni were invited as key speakers. The GLEND and Patch Up activities were attended by BSND graduates of 2019-2021 including the re-takers.

Still, there were challenges in conducting these activities. Ms. Tondo pointed out that interaction between lecturer and peer, learner's readiness, and participation were missing during their online lectures.

"The same challenges were encountered during the review series considering that this is the first online review conducted by the department," she said. Ms. Tondo explained that some graduates had unstable internet connection and conflicts with work schedules. For Ms. Tondo, she is looking forward to the possibility of blended learning review and to sustaining the GLEND and Patch Up Activity. She encourages the new RNDs to support the next batch of examinees.

Ms. Tondo advises students who will be having the NDLE in 2022 to love the degree/profession as early as now.



"You cannot review something you did not learn so love all your subjects/course. Keep your notes, they will be useful for your review, manage your stress, and don't let COVID-19 hinder you from achieving your goal," she added.

Ms. Edmerlyn T. Dangunay who recently passed the NDLE, emphasized the importance of enrolling in a review center. Ms. Dangunay also mentioned that distancing herself from the internet three weeks before the exam helped. "Before po ako magstart ng aking review and everything, di ko po kinalimutang magdasal sa Panginoon na patnubayan kami hanggang matapos po itong board exam" she said.

Another new RND, Ms. Jhonalyn D. Bannot shared her preparations before taking the NDLE.

"I isolated myself two weeks before the exam at my boarding house. I needed to be alone for me to focus more on my self-review because I was having a hard time coping with my reviews," she said.

Both Ms. Dangunay and Ms. Bannot expressed gratitude to their college and department. "On behalf of our colleagues who are new RNDs, we would like to extend our gratitude to the Benguet State University- College of Home Economics and Technology-Department of Human Nutrition for their unending motivational support to us, iyaman!" Ms. Bannot added.//AKCarño