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The Golden Years of soaring sarimanok

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The Golden Years of

soaring sarimanok





Chancellor's Message

Mindanao State University-General Santos 50th Founding Anniversary

This year, we reflect on the theme: "SMART MSU GenSan: Celebrating Golden Years of Pursuing Academic Excellence, Creating Champions of Peace and Development." We are the standing proof and the living testaments of our golden years of perseverance, hard work and dedication of all officials, faculty and staff, alumni, students, and stakeholders who served and are serving the University through the years.

MSU General Santos is fortunate enough that despite the busy schedule, the Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology, Hon. Ivan John E. Uy joined us last night in the SALUBONG, our welcome ceremony for this grand celebration. Just this morning, we had our friends coming from Huwaei Technology in China and together with the academe, explored possibilities of collaboration in terms of ICT and digital transformation. There will be more advancements in terms of educational technology and ICT modernization in the Campus, we start with the building of the ICT Office, the Virtual Learning Studio, and soon, the realization of our ISSP. Others may say this is an ambitious feat to take, but being proactive is the least we can do to become good, and being hardworking is the road to becoming great.

As I always believe our Dakilang Pamantasan is now 50 years old – our Golden Founding Anniversary. In fact, Gold, aurum in Latin, means "the glow of sunrise," is the rarest and the most indestructible metal in the natural world. Every MSUan has a glowing spark of dream hoping to be a rising success someday. Every MSUan is a gold who masters the art of surviving despite rough terrains, and who keeps on shining no matter how darkness envelopes them. You become the golden gems in your future careers, and you continue to prove that you exude excellence. No one can claim that the success of MSU is because of his own hands only. MSU GenSan is a product of our collective effort, with our hands working together, our beating hearts with one common beat, with our minds' common will that is MAKING MSU GENSAN – the BEST!

Making it to 50 years is a blessing, and we pray for more years to come for our MSU General Santos. Prayers will take us half a mile to the goal, but our hard work, perseverance, commitment to excellence and service, respect and integrity will make us more DAKILANG PAMANTASAN.

Mr. President, as the Chancellor of MSU General Santos, as my response to your call at the SALUBONG, we will always seize the best stars in the skies of academic excellence and global competitiveness. MSU General Santos will always be for ONE MSU!

Go for GOLD! MABUHAY ANG MSU GENSAN, MABUHAY ANG MSU!





The 'Sarimanok,' a mythical bird of the Maranaos with its vibrant wings, feathered tail, and beak or talons grasping a fish, has come to symbolize the cultural and artistic vibrancy of its people and all of Mindanao. Featured in our art, academic insignias, and atop the mace paraded during commencement rites, this emblem embodies the beauty, diversity, and shared aspirations rooted in Mindanao State University – General Santos.

How high then has the Sarimanok soared?

Nestling in hope, the birth of Sarimanok

Mindanao State University-General Santos City started as a community high school in 1967, six years after the creation of MSU-Marawi Main Campus. The high school was hosted inside Dadiangas West Elementary School. *In a dawn of dreams, the Sarimanok hatches ready to stretch its wings*. The studentry was filled with hope as an institution was created to cater to their need for quality education. The first recorded commencement exercises was in 1971 with around 120 graduates. This modest beginning would then become the foundation of a thriving academic institution.

To accommodate the growing student population, the administration secured a 3.3-hectare land donation from the General Santos City Local Government, centrally located in the city. According to the Multi-Purpose Cooperative Photohistory (2018), the administration initially sought the support of the University of the Philippines in Diliman to adopt the community high school. However, after being informed that General Santos was outside U.P.'s service area, the proposal was redirected to Mindanao State University in Marawi. This pivotal move was nested with promise to start the flight of sarimanok.

On taking its first flight

A significant milestone occurred on April 6, 1971, when the MSU Community High School was upgraded to MSU Community College. By October 10, 1973, the college had officially become a full-fledged collegiate campus of the MSU System, thanks to Board of Regents Resolution No. 822. The university started offering its pioneering two-year general education program. The fledgling Sarimanok had taken its flight, bravely venturing into new horizons.

MSU GenSan experienced a transformative period of growth and development with the acquisition and expansion of the campus and the creation of six new colleges, each designed to cater to diverse academic and professional fields. This expansion necessitated the recruitment of additional faculty, which was achieved through the approval of 107 new positions. This move ensured the effective operation of the new colleges and their various programs as well as

strengthening MSU GenSan's commitment to providing accessible, high-quality education.

In the grip of a strong breeze

Mid-flight to its journey, the Sarimanok was caught in a whirlwind that tested its grit. Just as the university was making a name for itself, it faced a significant challenge when the University of Southern Philippines in 1978 was institutionalized. The merging of various colleges in Region XI (which General Santos City was then part of) including MSU GenSan was made through PB 153. This resulted in the MSU GenSan being part of the new university for two years. During this time, protests sparked from faculty, parents, and students. Former Chancellor Osop viewed this period as a critical threat to the university's identity and representation, describing it as an attempt "to phase out Muslims in Region XI".

Amidst this swift breeze that had seemingly shaken the university's flight, it did not completely lose its identity when Bill 406 was later passed. This allowed MSU General Santos to separate from the University of Southern Philippines.

Finding its stable perch

Continuing the journey akin to redemption, the university's domicile was secured when PD No. 2162 was signed carving out 149.76 hectares of land for MSU GenSan in its present main campus at Brgy. Fatima. On November 21, 1980, a groundbreaking was initiated marking the formal establishment of its new home. *Conquering once unfamiliar skies, the Sarimanok has found its stable perch.* In 1981, the MSU Board of Regents granted autonomy to MSU General Santos through Resolution No. 60. This autonomy gave the university greater control over its internal affairs and the freedom to shape its own direction. It also established a direct line of communication with the University President, ensuring that the campus could more effectively advocate for its needs and pursue initiatives that reflect its unique vision and goals.

The Tanghal Building, the present residence of the College of Agriculture, was the first to rise on the Fatima Campus, marking a new chapter in the university's development. It was within its walls that a significant moment unfolded—the MSU Board of Regents held its 109th meeting here on November 20, 1981. This is a testament to the building's early importance in the university's history. Shortly after, the Arts and Sciences and Administration Building was constructed, which would later be known as Gemma East and Gemma West. At the location now occupied by the Physical Plant Division (PPD), a 20,000-gallon water tank was also erected. Present Cultural Affairs Office and Alumni Relations Office Directress, Dr. Alma Celesthia



Aguja, DM, and other alumni referred to it as the "thirst-quencher," serving not only the MSU community but also providing crucial water supply to the entire Tambler settlement, where 4,000 landless families had been resettled.

Other infrastructures were soon erected like the university gymnasium in 1983, the H building, the present residence of the College of Engineering, in 1984, and the Y Building, the seat of the university administration, in 1987. It was also in 1987 that the university acquired a 3.33-hectare site in Barangay Siguel, along Sarangani Bay, to serve as a field research and laboratory station for the College of Fisheries. This new location provided valuable resources for research and practical training in the field of fisheries.

Moving towards the 1990s, the Science and Technology Training Center (STTC) was inaugurated. This structure served as a hub for advanced research undertakings, soon hosting the brilliant minds working on Tuna research for the city's booming industry. Soon after, the University Infirmary was constructed to better serve the medical needs of the university community and its nearby clients. Adding to the list, the University Museum, serving to preserve and showcase the rich cultural and artistic collections of Mindanao, was established under the supervision of the Cultural Affairs Office. Other structures built like the University Library, the Student Center and the various college buildings have paved the hallowed grounds of the university with the enduring value of resilience and sustained progress. Truly, the Sarimanok has found its home.

A radiating beacon of hope

Amidst all adversities, the university has towered with its remarkable feats in education, proving to be a beacon of hope for the children of Mindanao. A testament to this is the success achieved by its graduates. Year by year, the university has produced exemplary graduates who would soon serve their community and the country. Some of whom have been topnotchers and known experts in their fields. In all its glory, the Sarimanok has radiated its wonder for everyone to see.

With every visionary leadership and the support of its dedicated faculty and staff force through the years, MSU GenSan has grown into a beacon of hope for its serviced community. Staying true to its mandate of improving the living conditions of Muslims and Indigenous People in Mindanao, the university has been actively involved in initiatives from admission to scholarship to extension that benefited greatly the underserved and marginalized communities. For one, MSU-GenSan has championed peace as it gears towards becoming a National Peace University. It has also extended support in various capacities to marginalized communities by creating extension works, promoting

peaceful engagements, and building community resilience through the efforts of various university units.

In strengthening its partnership with the Local Government Unit of General Santos City. The University also supported the LGU in organizing the Kalilangan Festival from 2011 to 2014, 2016 to 2018, 2020, and 2023. The collaboration of MSU General Santos and the City Government has led to the conferment by the Department of Tourism to Kalilangan as the Best Cultural Festival in the Philippines for three consecutive times. This is truly an unprecedented feat. Extending to the global arena, MSU GenSan also partnered with various universities and colleges for mutual development and collaboration in areas of instruction, research, faculty development, staff exchange, and student mobility. By engaging in these global collaborations, MSU GenSan reinforces its commitment to academic excellence, cross-cultural understanding, and innovation, while expanding opportunities for its constituents.

Just recently, the pandemic might have challenged once again the university's tenacity, but it did not deter its commitment to its mission of delivering quality education for all. Proof of this is the recent opening of its College of Medicine which aims to produce doctors and medical professionals who would cater to the medical needs of underserved communities given the challenged health system of the country. This expansion into medical education reflects the University's broader mission to provide not just knowledge, but also meaningful service to society.

The Sarimanok now soars high and shines in gold ever more brightly. As MSU GenSan has turned 50, its past and future converge at one point in time. Today, it looks back on its rich history that has polished it into an academic institution of excellence and committed service. Also today, it looks forward to its future built on the collective aspirations of its administration, faculty, staff, and students. These aspirations are as magnificent and enduring as the mystical Sarimanok. As MSU GenSan steps into the next chapter of its journey, it carries a legacy of inspiration, growth, and unwavering dedication hopeful that in the next 50 years, the university will soar to much greater heights.

References from MSU GenSan Multi-Purpose Cooperative Photohistory (2018) and data from CAO Directress, Dr. Alma Celesthia Aguja penned by Raydan M. Tangwayan, LPT



Honoring Five Decades of Continued Excellence



MSU-GenSan continues to honor the remarkable achievements of its graduates and the impactful contributions of its faculty and staff in its golden year. From the local scene to the global stage, the University has inspired excellence through its trifocal function of instruction, research, and extension.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY



MSU Gensan hosts 3-Day MSU System Peace Summit

Jasmin P. Saricala

3-Day MSU System Peace Summit, capped with the presentation of policy alternatives as groundwork for the prospect of putting the MSU System on the frontline of peace-building initiatives, held at Phela Grande Hotel, GenSan. Education and IPDM Cluster from various campuses of Mindanao State University (MSU) System collaborated for this initiative of significant stride towards forging a path to lasting peace, November 19-21.

Day 1: Empowering Minds Through Peace Education

The summit commenced with an insightful exploration of the "Prospects for Strengthening Peace Education in MSU System." Prof. Maria Theresa Pelones and Prof. Jovar G. Pantano, shared their perspectives on integrating Peace Education in relevant Teacher Education courses in the MSU System and Teacher Education Institutions. Discussions centered on practical approaches to embed peace education across disciplines, ensuring that it becomes an integral part in the curriculum of

Teacher Education Institutions.

"We are all called to take on the mission of advancing a culture of peace, a genuine development of principles of peace, the resolutions of conflicts, and the defense of human rights," said Dean Pelones. Capping their presentation, an indicative timeline of the 2024–2028 strategic roadmap in teaching Peace Education in MSU System College of Education was proposed.

Day 2: Shaping Policies for t he Future of IPDM

The need for the reconfiguration of the MSU Peace Council transitioned the summit into a dynamic conversation. "Policy Conversation on the Futures of Integrated Peace and Development Management (IPDM)" opened a thorough conversation regarding the future trajectory of IPDM and its potential impact for MSU System in leading the initiatives for championing peace in Mindanao.

Day 3: Synthesis and Action Planning

In the culmination of the 3-day MSU System Peace Summit, the collaborative efforts of MSU academic leaders and IPDM Directors have illuminated a transformative path toward the important role of MSU through innovative education policies.

The third day revolved synthesis and action around planning, Dr. Maria Theresa P. Pelones-representative for education cluster, and **IPDM** Maguindanao Director, Grant Warren Lu- representative for the IPDM Cluster, presented their three policy alternatives for their respective sectors.

As the MSU System charts its course toward becoming a national peace university, these initiatives stand as a testament to the institution's commitment to shaping a brighter, more peaceful future. The summit marks a pivotal dialogue in the transformative power of education and collective innovation in fostering lasting peace for Mindanao.



TOPNOTCE

2022-2024 ROLL OF TOPNOTCHERS

- A TOP 4 Engr. Jethro P. Batislaong
- B TOP 4 Melrose Pedrosa, LPT
- Engr. Adrienne Miritza Moreno C TOP 5
- D TOP 5 Engr. Laurence Lee Pajarillo
- E TOP 6 Engr. Allan Ace S. Dignadice
- F TOP 7 Norman Pangantihon, LPT
- Dianna Mae Tiongson, LPT G TOP 7
- Joanne M. Naya, LPT H TOP 8
- TOP 8 Engr.. Willie Gaile O. Taberna
- J TOP 9 Engr. Jackielou L. Paches



HIEVERS' CORNER ACHIEVERS' CORNER ACHIEVERS' CO

The Mindanao State University, General Santos, has once again proven itself through various board exam results conducted by the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC). This is a clear manifestation of the University's continuing excellence in different fields of specialization while upholding its mandate of improving the living conditions of the Indigenous Peoples (IP) and Muslims in Mindanao. Congratulations, and may everyone continue the lineage of success for the betterment of the people in the region and the whole country. Here are the rosters of those who have successfully hurdled the examinations:

John Jay L. Morido, MA

September 2023 Agricultural and **Biosystems Engineer Licensure Examination** (31.71% Passing Rate)

Topnotchers:

Top 5:

Engr. Adrienne Miritza Inguito Moreno Top 9:

Engr. Jackielou Llanera Paches

Abdulwahab, Manan Alon Alcaide, Lonelle John Samama Badillo, Joven Yang Balane, Loutiana Yobhel S. Canencia, Andrienne Dannes Sanchez Corporal, Bench Mark M. Cortez, Hanna Vania C. Dela Cruz, Archie Dy Dela Cruz, Arnel R. Dimpo, Ramy Jay P. Lalisan, Hanz Learny Sumagaysay Magdaong, Jabbar Nyle Y. Montales, Jolina Baga

Moreno, Adrienne Miritza I. Norbe, Mia Mae S. Paches, Jackielou L. Paches, Jackielyn L. Peñalosa, Michael Jeff Binaldo Pojas, Quint Ivan G. Publico, Bryan Dave Ramos, Roselle Grace Masalon Sadang, Althea Gamit Samsona, Chrizel S Santua, Fahad Adao Quisto, Marslegen Germino Tuballa, John Kenneth Yee

September 2023 Board Licensure **Examination for Teachers**

Top 6: Berry Lauron

October 2023 Certified Public Accountant **Licensure Examination**

(42.42% Passing Rate)

Jessie M. Aala, CPA Joanna Mae C. Abranilla, CPA Gevaniña L. Bajar, CPA Ana Cristy C. Claver, CPA Mark Loyd B. Defensor, CPA Norolnoha M. Guiamalodin, CPA Joshua P. Lb-Ib, CPA Glay Cel V. Lazona, CPA Jesierel H. Namion, CPA Queennie Babe M. Pacaco, CPA Cleofe Jane B. Patnubay, CPA Gillian G. Tilad, CPA John Paul G. Yasaña, CPA Trixia Mae D. Batiancila, CPA

September 2023 Electrical Engineer **Licensure Examination**

(72% Passing Rate)

Engr. Abad, Zaida Tun Niza D. Engr. Abella, Lyra Jane H. Engr. Bantayan, Ivahn M. Engr. Barago, Cristina G.

Engr. Barrato, Joana Lyn P. Engr. Carillo, Babielyn S.

Engr. Dagatan, Psychelaine B.

Engr. Francisco, Von Froilan P.

Engr. Galia, Neil Justine B.

Engr. Galon, Aldren A.

Engr. Guevarra, Linn Joshua P.

Engr. Lagman, Juhanierence Antonette K.

Engr. Manton, Rosemarie P. Engr. Notario, Jayson Mark E.

Engr. Ramping, Reiner T.

Engr. Silauso, Jasper A.

Engr. Valete, Gio Adriel C

Engr. Yamas, Adrian Lloyd E.

October 2023 Fisheries Technologists Licensure Examination

(60.87% Passing Rate)

Agraviador, Jeah Jaye Amboc, Reynaldo Jr. Ando, Ropha Jean Avila, Zion Barrometro, Jose Jr.

Belgera, Kathleen Rose Brao, Leizly

Cabasag, Michael Bon Cachuela, Shanelle

Cantoja, Ricardo Jr. Clarito, Junah Myka

Cuaresma, Cleopatra

Dalagan, Veverlyn Diaz, Careen Joy

Dionero, Retchelle

Encarnacion, Archel

Eser, Glenn May

Federis, Quezia Faith

Fernandez, John Rey

Fronteras, Ian Lloyd

Gabayeron, Jannien

Gadiano, Dianna Kate

Guarizo, Felix Jr Hadjiomar, Samsoden

Jabon, Scottie

Jacobo, Alexagiel

Jaen, Christine Joy

Jai, Settie Johhinha

Jalil, Saidin

Jualo, Paul Anwayne Lim, Kate Margarette

Lorenzana, Kesha

Manayan, Darwin

Nasser,Norhuda Ocot, Carren Jee

Palado, Via Mar

Palomique, Sharisse Peña, Michael John

Pendaton, Margie

Pitaca, Juniel Jones

Talatala, Judy Ann

Tanzo, Honeylyn

November 2023 Civil Engineer Licensure Examination

(42.86 Passing Rate)

Engr. Bautista, Adrianne Carl B.

Engr. Bolanio, Frances Kenth S.

Engr. Caraat, Jyzryl M. Engr. Comoda, Thea Jan Czarainne T.

Engr. Demasuay, Rolex F.

Engr. Gamil, Jan Lloyd S. Engr. Gonzales, Diana J. Engr. Jabail, Samrod S.

Engr. Kadjie, Genbert A.

Engr. Lomboy, Eunice Joy S.

Engr. Mayor, Angelica P Engr. Pagaran, Jover D.

Engr. Palmes, Almaera Jade D.

Engr. Radi, Musrifah U.

Engr. Saya-ang, Marianne Grace L

Engr. Tabanao, Sheen T.

Engr. Ursabia, Christopher John B.

Engr. Vicente, Janvince Joshua B.

October 2023 Electronics Engineer Licensure **Examination**

(52.94% Passing Rate)

Engr. Berbecho, January Xyzholou V. Engr. Cerado, Jaztiene Dianne N.

Engr. Dela Cruz, Razzheen Shyricka E.

Engr. Hidalgo, Lloyd Joseph P. Engr. Olmedo, Reymond M.

Engr. Pongcol, Genevieve C.

Engr. Punay, Princessclaire B.

Engr. Serenuela, Kim Harvey M.

Engr. Ytac, Jovelyn M.

November 2023 Licensure Examination for **Agriculturist**

(63.43% Passing Rate)

3rd Top Performing School

Agr. Nil March Friend N. Abag

Agr. Gracel T. Abarquez Agr. Julkalnin A. Abdulwahab

Agr. Lyka G. Albarracin

Agr. Asnaera P. Ali

Agr. Rey C. Ancuna Agr. Dominic P. Arancina

Agr. Julkaida D. Arcega

Agr. Matthew M. Arenas

Agr. David Brian L. Atong

Agr. Kimberly A. Avansado Agr. Bethy Mae C. Baliguat

Agr. Junrey P. Besmanos

Agr. Keith Rian T. Betita

Agr. Kristoffer Robert L. Betorin Agr. Vonn Robert Andrey L. Betorin

Agr. Chaina S. Casumpang

Agr. Adrica Corien E. Concepcion

Agr. Joannie Daye Agr. Karl Joshua Adriane A. Dazo

Agr. Ella Mae B. Dechavez

Agr. Kris Jane C. Dela Cruz

Agr. Nestle R. Dela Cruz Agr. Marife M. Dela Fuente

Agr. Thea Marie C. Diestro

Agr. Arniel A. Dimalao

Agr. Junalyn T. Epifanio

Agr. Fern Nyfrethery A. Eroy

Agr. Charisse Jane C. Maguad

Agr. Desamito K. Mamalumpong

Agr. Jewe O. Manalo

Agr. Jael M. Mang

Agr. Aljie Manggaga

Agr. Jo Anne P. Mariblanca

Agr. Jovielou P. Mariblanca Agr. Mohammad Khalid M. Marohombsar

Agr. Kenneth Paul B. Estrella

Agr. Emma Rose L. Evangelio Agr. Jehu Mark B. Fernandez

RNER ACHIEVERS' CORNER ACHIEVERS' CORNER ACHI

Agr. Samuel D. Floren Agr. Bryan Jay L. Franco Agr. Don Carlo G. Gadayan Agr. Alaisa R. Ganzon Agr. Justin Miguel D. Gorospe Agr. Kristine Jessa C. Ibao Agr. Inilyn Grace P. B-Ib Agr. Alyssa Marie G. Ilustrisimo Agr. Cátherine T. Jumawan Agr. Mica D. Lambac Agr. Neil John B. Llavado Agr. Kesylme E. Loregas Agr. Danica M. Lorono Agr. Renz Lee B. Luy Agr. Modassir H. Macabangin Agr. Jerocel Maganyog Agr. Harvie Kenneth R. Magpulong Agr. Mariza M. Mating Agr. Megnon Mae C. Meneses Agr. Katrina D. Montes Agr. Mahdi M. Mudsamil Agr. Myrel M. Munez Agr. Aprillyn O. Novilla Agr. Leighden Nicole J. Ogues Agr. Lieza May L. Palma Agr. Karen Kaye B. Palmaera Agr. Nicca Mae A. Patindol Agr. Regine E. Pichon Agr. Anthony P. Porras Agr. Neil John T. Preciados Agr. John Paolo Quido Agr. Jann Vince L. Rago Agr. Robert A. Ramos Agr. Benjie Rebamontan Agr. Aldric G. Relator Agr. Graciel Mae F. Ricaplaza Agr. Jade Reuben S. Rojas Agr. Jillane J. Rosales Agr. Miles P. Sabrido Agr. Cinderella E. Saling Agr. Mahanora T. Samama Agr. Angel Lou Sebastian Agr. Jate M. Tomarong Agr. Charlemagne T. Trabado Agr. Merzaq A. Ulama Agr. Precious S. Yabes

2024 Certified Public Accountant Licensure **Examination**

(30.28% Passing Rate)

Abendan, Al Zyrahwin Orbita Anongos, Rexa Serrano Bedayo, John Mark Templonuevo Boliquen, Joshua Peñalber Cabras, Marijoy Matanguihan Catolico, Joaennel Zhen Ronquillo Cortes, Nykka Andrea Albances Dela Cruz, Cielo Solitario Hipolito, Jeanielyn Jamerlan Juaneza, Randy Jr Cambian Lovitos, Cydilyn Ong, Samuel Gondon Patron, Mark Louie Frondoza Sionosa, Ivy Joy Dagohoy Sionosa, Justine Anne Jungco Sumugat, Jave Abigail Aribal

February 2024 Mechanical Engineer **Licensure Examination**

(87.50% Passing Rate)

Engr. Aguilar, Philip Roy B. Engr. Andres, Kryslene Joy M. Engr. Awitin, Flordelis D. Engr. Balbaloza, Kyle Shan M. Engr. Baldemor, Jaymar H. Engr. Barluado, Mariannie C. Engr. Bolatin, Frances Audrei Y. Engr. Brobo, Benjie G. Engr. Bundoc, Rei Eryca L

Engr. Cabantug, Rence Guilven C. Engr. Cadlawon, Francis Jay B. Engr. Carbonilla, Marvin T. Engr. Casicnan, Leonard A. Engr. Castardo, Myka Grace P. Engr.Cator, Giland T. Engr. Catulong, Karyle C. Engr.Combong, Hannah Bless C. Engr. Dalayap, Kennyth Bhovels. Engr. Daniel, Alleahna Marie R. Engr. Dante, Vijett Aron E. Engr. Dimacutac. Isam Benedict A. Engr. Dondoyano, Justine Jays. Engr. Duatin, Josiah Julianne A. Engr. Dumaran, Chary Mae J. Engr. Gulanday, Brian Jade Z Engr. Hadji Noor, Fatma Hafsah M. Engr. Intila, Kent B. Engr. Refugio, Kyle M. Engr. Kudarat, Abdurrahman Wahid K. Engr. Resurreccion, Tom Kenneth B. Engr. Leong, Jheyrick Engr. Machan, Leeanni. Engr. Mendoza, Jovic. Engr. Miranda, Jun Harrold A. Engr. Moises, Jericho L. Engr. Obial, Gerard C. Engr. Paches, Rayner Ginno Engr. Pama, Nhel Japheth L Engr. Piang, Abdulmohaimen P. Engr. Pilar, Steven B. Engr. Ruiz, Jane Gerdie B. Engr. Samperoy, Jumellian M. Engr. Saur, Karla Aron G. Engr. Taha, Diana T.

Engr. Tumulak, lan Jaye. Engr. Ty, Cyrus L Engr. Undac, Mohaimen, D.

Engr. Villaluna, John Carlos. Engr. Villanueva, Reynaldo Jr. C.

March 2024 Board Licensure Examination for **Professional Teachers**

BEED (87% Passing Rate)

Top 7:

Diana Tiongson Top 10: Claire Tusoy

BSED (69.83% Passing Rate)

Top 4:

Melrose Pedrosa

Top 7:

Norman Pangantihon

Top 9: Lester Estolonio

Top 10:

Junna Guimary

Top 10:

Princess Laiz

April 2024 Electrical Engineer Licensure **Examination**

(92.86% Passing Rate)

Engr. Acapulco, Andrean Lucas Engr. Albios, Khrys Dave Engr. Amierol, Chauncey Earl R. Engr. Apuya, Christine Joy B. Engr. Basco, Keth Andrew A. Engr. Besin, Kenny Ann T. Engr. Buenacosa, Jhune Marc Engr. Cabrela, Johnrex L Engr. Castañeda, Lyka Mae T. Engr. Celiz, Rojee J. Engr. Cubar, Brian Howard Engr. Donque, Mc Zomar L. Engr. Diaz, Robert James B. Engr. Etang, Dioanna Marrey M. Engr. Galon, John Zhidrik D. Engr. Garay, Philip Joshua H.

Engr. Lacorte, Deacie S.

Engr. Macaton, An Nor N. Engr. Mamigo, Aldrin S. Engr. Manriquez, Chris Paul C. Engr. Mantalaba, Robertson R. Engr. Marcos, Glyza Mikaela P. Engr. Matundo, Julianne Kaye M. Engr. Nolasco, Angelika May V. Engr. Ortega, Liezl Grace Engr. Pepito, Sean Miles V. Engr. Prudente, Lemuel Zigmund C. Engr. Pulmones, Robert Deo M. Engr. Reovoca, Romejean Anne B. Engr. Rivera, Isaiah M. Engr. Rosa, Angelica V. Engr. Serviento, Trixia Necole B. Engr. Talaña, Peter Japhet A. Engr. Torralba, Avery Ace B. Engr. Torrecampo, Ivan Dave B. Engr. Torred, Deane D. Engr. Torres, Mark Jasper F. Engr. Wite, Angelica Shaina G. Engr. Zabala, Joshua Kenneth B.

April 2024 Electronics Engineer Licensure **Examination**

(63.64% Passing Rate)

Engr. Jethro Batislaong

Engr. Allawan, Shanen May C. Engr. Dolojo, Hyacinth Xyra C. Engr. Flores, Mia Abbygale P. Engr. Gepiala, Edgardo Jr. B. Engr. Gonzales, Lance Harvey C. Engr. Gumafelix, Harold P. Engr. Jabel, Janna A. Engr. Lamoste, Hart Shawn Q. Engr. Leonin, John Christian R. Engr. Nogra, Zydryx C Engr. Osano, Francis Reid R. Engr. Palacios, Joshua B. Engr. Palmes, Jericho P. Engr. Panlaque, Christian Paul B. Engr. Sombillo, Issa Bernadette A. Engr. Tagalogon, Jest Joyce C. Engr. Teves, Chloee Faith O. Engr. Ting, Patrrick Jay S. Engr. Tumbagahan, Frederick Jr. D. Engr. Utto, Amorah K.

April 2024 Electronics Technician Licensure **Examination**

(84.38% Passing Rate)

Abo, Normina M. Alisbo, Candy Louvien A. Allawan, Shanen May C. Batislaong, Jethro P. Dolojo, Hyacinth Xyra C. Dispo, Lucille C. Flores, Mia Abbygale P. Galagaran, Christian D. Gonzales, Lance Harvey C. Gumafelix, Harold P. Jabel, Janna A. Lamoste, Hart Shawn Q. Leonin, John Christian R. Nuñez, Charles Reynold A. Osano, Francis Reid R. Palacios, Joshua B. Panlaque, Christian Paul B. Rojo, Jude Cyrill F. Sombillo, Issa Bernadette A. Sultansarip, Hamza M. Tagalogon, Jest Joyce C. Tan, James Adrian Z Tillan, Chrizyl Rose Dos P. Ting, Patrrick Jay S. Tumbagahan, Frederick Jr. D. Utto, Amorah K.

Sending MSUans To The World: Stories of Fellowships and Excellence

Arthlie S. Laug-Laug and Razul Andi Ariz

Students from Mindanao State University-General Santos City (MSU-Gensan) have made notable achievements in various national and international events, highlighting their leadership, advocacy, and talents across diverse fields.

Promoting Gender Equality in London

Hazel Jane J. Anating, a third-year BSED Mathematics student, Miss MSU 2022, and Diwata ng Polomolok 2023, represented the Philippines at the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts event in London, UK, from November 5-13, 2023. She promoted SDG 5: Gender Equality and engaged in cultural exchange activities. She is also Vice President of the College of Education Students' Organization and will attend the Ayala Young Leaders Congress.

Sustainable Development Advocacy in ASEAN

Jick L. Acupan, a fourth-year Mechanical Engineering student, and Louie Jay J. Toledo, a fourth-year Agricultural Business Management student, represented MSU-Gensan at the OR Seeding the Future ASEAN Camp 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand, focusing on environmental protection and youth empowerment.

Advocating for LGBTQ+ Rights and Anti-Poverty Ffforts

Gellie Rose Davalos, a fourth-year Political Science student and Supreme Student Council President, attended the National LGBTQI Students Network Conference and Mindanao SOGIE Equality Summit. She was elected Vice President of FEMSUSSCO and a Council Member of the National Anti-Poverty Commission - Youth and Students Sector. Nelvi S. Caiña, a fourth-year BSED English student and President of Empress, participated in the National Sectoral Assembly and the EMERGE Conference on the Anti-Discrimination Law.

Youth Advocacy and Environmental Initiatives

Ramzel Ivan Hugh G. Delloro, a second-year Political Science student, with Aziza Eto (first-year BS Economics) and Khyla Arestales (fourth-year BS Accountancy), participated in the Arangkada: National Youth Leaders Summit 2023 in Cebu City. Ruby Jane U. Facurib, a fourth-year BS Information Technology student, joined the National Policy Forum on Mayors organized by Greenpeace Philippines.

Leonard E. Tucjayao, a third-year Political Science student, attended the PACE Journalism Fellowship and 1lth BAQ Conference on environmental reporting. Mherzel Gyn T. Apusaga, a fourth-year Electronics Engineering student, participated in the DOST-SEI National Patriot Scholars' Congress, leading community service projects.

Arts, Literature, and Peace-Building Excellence

Karylle S. Zabala, a fourth-year BA Filipino student, was a finalist in the 56th Shell National Students Art Competition. Mark Joseph S. Canlas and Zach Jacob Feldan represented MSU-Gensan in the Young Creatives Challenge in Game Development. Teresa C. Daytic showcased her artwork at the 13th Tam-awan International Arts Festival. Jahir N. Kalimbol participated in peace-building initiatives, including the Human Rights Youth Camp and the Ourmindanaw Peace Summit. John Dave B. Pacheco, editor-in-chief of *Pingkian*, was a fellow at the 62nd Siliman University National Writers Workshop, reflecting MSU-Gensan's commitment to nurturing literary talent.

Academic Competitions and International Conferences

Fourth-year Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering students competed in PAEStigan X 2024 at UP Los Baños, Laguna. Students from the Literary and Cultural Studies and English Language Studies programs attended the ICALLE 2023 conference at De La Salle University, Manila. Twenty students from the Bachelor of Arts in English Language Studies program undertook an international internship at Phranakhon Rajabhat University, Bangkok, Thailand, from June 10-21, 2024, marking a milestone for future international opportunities.

These achievements demonstrate the dedication of MSU-Gensan students to leadership, advocacy, arts, and global engagement, enhancing the university's reputation as a hub for future leaders.

INTERNATIONAL



Bangkok, Thailanc



Bachelor of Arts in English Language Studies (BAELS) program

Nternational Internship at Phranakhon Rajabhat University

Bangkok, Thailand



LOCAL

Gellie Rose Davalos

2023 National LGBTQI Students Network Conference

Mindanao SOGIE Equality Summit Ateneo de Davao University

Nelvi S. Caiña

National Sectoral Assembly for the Youth and Students Sector Makati City

Arthlie S. Laug Laug

EMERGE conference University of the Philippines-Visayas, Iloilo City

Aziza Eto Khyla Arestale Ramzel Ivan G. Delloro

Arangkada: National Youth Leaders Summit 2023 Cebu City

Teresa C. Daytic

13th Tam-awan International Arts Festival Tam-awan Village, Baguio City Bachelor of Arts in English Language Studies (BAELS) Bachelor of Arts in Literary and Cultural Studies (BALCS)

International Conference on Applied Linguistics and Language Education (ICALLE) 2023

Makati City

Angelica Mariz Tan Kurt Rhen Ming Irelle Jane Yusay Klarenz Donguines Miles Jester Uchi Ivan Esporton Edrian Dayupay Bonhomie Tanutan

PAEStigan X 2024: The State College and Universities National PAES Quiz Contest

University of the Philippines-Los Baños, Laguna

John Dave B. Pacheco

62nd season of the Siliman University National Writers Workshop (SUNWW)

Siliman University in Dumaguete City

Jahir N. Kalimbol

Human Rights Youth Camp Pampanga, Philippines

Ourmindanaw Peace Summit Davao City

Ruby Jane U. Facurib

National Policy Forum on Mayors
-Mindanao Leg
Davao City

Karylle S. Zabala

56th Shell National Students Art
Competition

Shell Pilipinas Corporation

Mark Joseph S. Canlas Zach Jacob Feldan

Young Creatives Challenge (YC2) -Game Development Category Taguig, Philippines

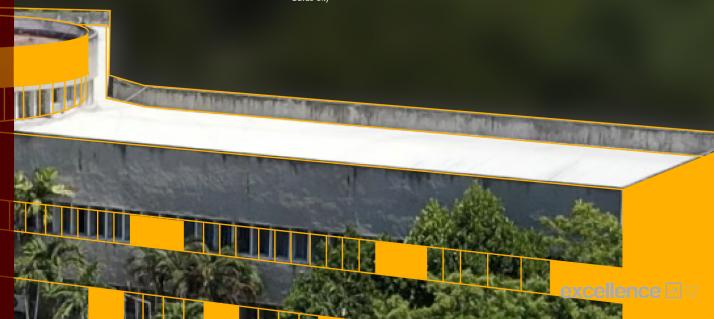
Mherzel Gyn T. Apusaga

DOST-SEI National Patriot Scholars'

Pasay City

Leonard E. Tucjayao

PACE Journalism Fellowship and 11th BAQ Conference 2023



From MSU-GenSan to the World:

Faculty and Staff Making a Difference

Engr. Joshua Marvin A. Noval

Mindanao State University-General Santos (MSU-GenSan) takes pride in its faculty and staff's unwavering commitment to excellence. This dedication extends beyond the classroom walls, asevidenced by their active participation in national events and international endeavors. MSU-GenSan's academic leaders are making significant contributions across various disciplines, from presenting research at prestigious conferences to securing awards, esteemed fellowships, and scholarships.

FELLOWSHIPS

Jasmin Saricala was a Changemaker Fellow in the Leadership and Democracy (LEAD) Fellowship 2 – Future Bridging Leaders Program (FBLP) 5 from July 14 to April 10, 2024, at the Asian Institute of Management in Makati, Metro Manila. Supported by USAID, The Asia Foundation, and AIM, this program equips young leaders to drive social change through participatory governance.

Raydan Tangwayan, from the Cultural Affairs Office, was selected as one of 10 Mindanao Young Leaders by UnionAID and Victoria University of Wellington to study Sustainable Development in New Zealand (September-December 2023). He is now leading a project titled "Balaw-Balaw Situating and Strengthening the Roles of Indigenous Men in Ending Intimate Partner Violence"." focusing on Indigenous men's roles in ending intimate partner violence.

Prof. Norman Ralph Isla, Campus Secretary and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Services, was selected by the US Department of State for the "Teaching Media and Information Literacy in the English for Academic Purposes Classroom" program at Arizona State University 'from October 8–30, 2023. As the only Philippine representative, Prof. Isla exchanged best practices with global educators, enhancing his ability to teach media literacy and underscoring the University's commitment to educational excellence.

Dr. Jovanie Camacho Espesor, a Political Science faculty member, attended the Asia Peace Innovators Forum-Project Accelerator in Salzburg, Austria, from March 24-28, 2024, to collaborate on a deradicalization project. Previously, he participated in a fellowship at Georgetown University's Institute of Women, Peace, and Security in Washington, DC, from October 26-28, 2023, where he presented his study, "In the Name of the Father and the Son: Iteration of Masculinities and Vectors of Social Power in War-ridden Bangsamoro."

Dr. Monsour Pelmin recently completed the first module of the Adenauer Young Leaders Program (AYLP) held in Makati City from March 17-23, 2024. This program, organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Philippines, equips young leaders with leadership and program development skills.

Dr. Michael B. Cahapay and Dr. Diane Mae Lozano from the College of Education presented at the Asia Pacific Conference on Curriculum Studies and Instructional Designing (APCCSID) in Bangkok, Thailand, from March 22-24, 2024. The conference, themed "Curriculum Studies Across Diverse Contexts: Designing the Future," explored adapting curriculum development to a globalized world.



Dr. Edward Lapong

Dean of the College of Agriculture at MSU-General Santos and President of PSABE-Region XII, was honored as the Most Outstanding Agricultural and Biosystems Engineer in Higher Education Institutions at the 73rd PSABE National Convention in Legazpi City, April 22–26, 2024. The event also included the 35th Philippine Agricultural Engineering Week and the 20th International ABE Conference.

PUBLICATIONS -

Prof. Tanya Molarto presented two papers at the 5th International Conference on Automation, Mechatronics, and Robotics (AMRo 2023) in Taguig City, Philippines (October 27-28, 2023). Her papers covered RFID-Based Vehicle Identification and Gate Access Control for MSU-Gensan and a Smart Street Lighting System with a Webserver Interface.

Engr. Jay Villan presented his research, "Dust Impact Assessment on Micro Solar Voltage: A Deep Learning-Enabled Prediction Approach," at the virtual 2023 IEEE 14th International Conference on HNICEM. His work used deep learning to predict dust impacts on micro solar voltage, aiding in the optimization of renewable energy systems.

Jay Carlo Bagayas presented his "Futendo" research while Reymart Juntado Canja introduced "BOWLCRAFT: A game of pins for Physical Education Classes" Jofranco G. Lozano rounded out the Filipino contingent with his presentation on "Vollton: An Innovative Game for Physical Education Activities" at the ASEAN Council of Physical Education and Sport (ACPES) Conference 2023, held at Mahasarakham University, Thailand

Engr. Ria Palma Cordova also presented "Predicting Photovoltaic Generation using a Hybrid ARIMA-SVR Model" at the HNICEM conference. This research explored optimizing solar power generation with a combined ARIMA-SVR approach

Engr. Ria Palma Cordova, Engr. DJ Michaelangelo Gunay, Engr. Mill Christian Gunay, Engr. Chain Roida Amor Diomahali, and Dr. Noel Gunay from MSU-GSC presented their research, "A Deep-Learning Based License Plate Recognition for Tricycles in General Santos City," at the HNICEM conference. Their work focuses on enhancing urban traffic management.

Dr. Jane S. Malasador, Chairperson of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at MSU, presented her research on "Geo-Spatial Mapping and Analysis of Water Sources Suitability as Potable Water in South Cotabato" at the Disaster Resilience and Sustainable Development 2023 conference in Thailand, December 7-8, 2023.

SCHOLARSHIPS-

Prof. Irene T. Bernadas from the Senior High School Department is a recipient of the KOICA Scholarship for the 2023 KOICA-HGU Master's Degree Program in Techno-Entrepreneurship. She is pursuing an MSc in ICT Convergence at Handong Global University, South Korea, from August 2023 to December 2024, focusing on innovations in ICT convergence.

Engr. John Francis V. Pedroso from the Civil Engineering department completed his Master's in Water Engineering and Management at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, through the Pan Merit Belt and Road Scholarship. His dissertation, titled "Relating Land Use and Land Cover Change and Reservoir Sedimentation to Coastal Turbidity Trends in the Red River Basin, Vietnam," was completed from August 2022 to May 2024.



MSU-GenSan celebrates success of 2,158 grads in 44th Commencement Exercises

Mary Ann Malabja and Devie Jane Muesco

Wearing their sotra togas with pride, a total of 2,158 graduates of Batch Lahimsug walked down the aisle of the University Quadrangle for the 44th Commencement Exercises, July 20, 2023.

with In line the commemoration of the University's 50th Founding Anniversary, the graduation's theme, "The MSU General Santos: Celebrating Golden Years of Pursuing Academic Excellence, Creating Champions of Peace and Development," highlighted the success of the graduates who have displayed academic leadership, excellence, commitment to service. The same commitment contributes to the University's mission to advance peace and development in Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan (MinSuPala) since its founding 50 years ago.

year's batch of This graduates is named "Batch Lahimsug" which is derived from the terms 'Lakas', 'Himakas' and 'Sugakod' which mean strength, perseverance, and triumph respectively. JD Usman D. Aragasi, the University's Acting Chancellor, presented the 2,158 candidates who had satisfactorily completed their academic studies and were eligible for graduation. This was followed by the conferment of degrees and titles by the MSU System President, Atty. Basari D. Mapupuno.

In addition, Prof. Tersa R. Castillo, University Registrar, proudly acknowledged the academic honors and awards for the Academic Year 2022-2023. 48 graduates clinched Magna Cum Laude, 496 graduates achieved Cum Laude, and 25 graduates received With Honors.

Jethro P. Batislaong, a Magna Cum Laude graduate with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electronics Engineering, was hailed as the Valedictorian of Class 2023. During his Valedictory Address, he asked his fellow graduates, "What is on top of your mind when we say 'Iskolar ng Bayan'?" He then reflected on

his university journey that made him decipher the true meaning of being an Iskolar ng Bayan. "We became very invested in working the people's expectations of us as change-makers, innovators, and advocates. These are the Iskolar ng Bayan – imperfect, carefree, practical, and above all, human," he remarked. He also added that their journey in college taught them to value the process of growth, learning, and embracing themselves as humans. "It's okay to feel fear and disappointment and sometimes lose this spark and idealism because, in this moment of our lives, we learn what it means to be human," he uttered. Batislaong concluded his speech by asking the same question and directly answering, "Human, but an MSUan. And that separates us from others."

In this year's solemn ceremony, Clarice Angelica S. Edes, Magna Cum Laude, with the second highest honor from Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in English, led the graduates in reciting the pledge of loyalty. This was then followed by a heartfelt tribute to parents that was led by the two University Leadership Awardees namely, Briane Jay D. Casas, BS in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, John Mi<mark>chael O. M</mark>acaya, Cum Laude, BA in Political Science. The leadership awardees were also honored by the Federation of MSU System Supreme Student Councils (FEMSUSSCO) through its President and MSU Student Regent, Hon. Veanamri Elise V. Santillan who awarded them with plaques of appreciation. The MSU Alumni Association also extended the same recognition to them through its President and MSU Alumni Regent, Hon. Renato D. Boniao. Regent Boniao also led the induction of the graduates to the MSU Alumni Association after delivering a heartwarming speech to the Class of 2023.

Furthermore, the first Filipina Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, Hon. Amenah F.

Pangandaman, this year's Guest of Honor and Commencement Speaker, highlighted the words excellence, development during her commencement address. "Today, proudandtellyourselves, you are the change that Mindanao needs. And that change you all have started and created will sustain lasting peace and development in Mindanao and the whole country," she added. She then remarked in an exhortation to the graduates that the moment they leave the institution, they decide to ground themselves in values such as hard work, responsibility, generosity, faith, and respect for others. responsibility, "You don't have to figure everything out after graduation, but what's important is that you have already started," Sec. Pangandaman expressed.

Before she ended her speech, she gave an impactful and inspiring sentiment for all graduates, "You are all leaders, and by leaders, I do not mean your degrees, your titles, or your educational attainment. You are leaders determined by what's inside your mind and heart." Sec. Pangandaman closed it by delightedly stating the phrase, "Mindanao is ready for the future."

Afterward, with passion in their voices, the graduates sang their hearts out and swayed to the rhythm of their graduation song, "Moments We Live For" by Paradise. They held their smartphones aloft, with the flashlight on, creating a mesmerizing ocean of lights during the celebration. Following this joyful performance, the graduates sang the University Hymn with an overwhelming sense of pride and honor. As they concluded the hymn, fireworks illuminated the sky, marking the grand finale of the celebration.



MSU GenSan clinches NEDA Innovation - Learning and Education Award

Norman Ralph B. Isla, DComm



Among contenders, the Sugod Kalinaw team of Mindanao State University - General Santos (MSU GenSan) composed of Ms. Gellie Rose D. Davalos, Mr. Jason B. Abendaño, and Ms. Nuraipa M. Guialudin, accompanied by Mr. John Michael Macaya joined the sector of Learning and Education and bagged the award as the Best Innovative Solution for Learning and Education for their project entitled ReaCab: Improving the Reading and Vocabulary Skills of Grade 1 to Grade 4

Learners through Gamified Platform.

This year's theme, "Unboxing the Filipinnovation Mindset", serves as an avenue to come together, exchange ideas and connect to one another where almost 120 students from 38 participating universities across the country, both private and public, joined the said event.

HABI 2.0 2024 is a government-led program which aims to unbox and cultivate Filipino innovation and create solutions to common societal challenges. The event took place at Novotel Manila Araneta, Quezon City on April 22, 2024.

Charting the Future's Horizons: MSU-GenSan Hosts 2023 PSPA International Conference

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a groundbreaking initiative, Mindanao State University - General Santos proudly stood at the forefront of the highly anticipated 2023 International Conference on Public Administration and Governance Innovation organized by the Philippine Society for Public Administration (PSPA) from November 24 to 26, 2023. Set against the vibrant backdrops of General Santos City and South Cotabato, this prestigious event aims to delve into the forefront of public administration and governance innovation through the collective solidification of PSPA's core principles: phronetic leadership, public service, and knowledge creation.

Themed "Advancing Public Administration: Governance Innovations and Futures," tens of dignified delegates, including esteemed experts, thought leaders, and academics from around the globe, convened to develop ideas and strategize agenda aimed at strengthening public reforms in the Philippine bureaucracy.

During Day 1, the conference officially commenced with a plenary session at Greenleaf Hotel with Dr. Lizan Perante-Calina, PSPA President, delivering the opening remarks. Chancellor Usman D. Aragasi, Mayor Lorelie G. Pacquiao (represented by Councilor Ric Atendido), and Cong. Loreto Acharon (represented by Councilor Odyok Acharon) warmly welcomed the participants.

In his welcome address, Chancellor Aragasi highlighted the significance various sources of Public Administration's wisdom, ranging from theories, research and practical experiences, and the important of the delegates therein. "Public Administration is a field that encompasses the study and application of principles, theories and practices efficiently and effectively for government's delivery of public services," Chancellor Aragasi emphasized.

Moreover, Dr. Ma. Oliva Domingo, Conference Adviser & Chair of the Scientific Program Invitation Committee, emphasized the crucial role of Public Administration in shaping the path of nations and their commitment to democracy. "Public Administration is a reflection of a working democracy, significantly influencing the trajectory of nations," Dr. Domingo remarked. Enveloped in the vibrant tapestry and celebration of SOX's diversity, participants and visitors experienced a captivating cultural immersion presented by MSU's Kabpapagriya Ensemble during the Fellowship

Night hosted by MSU.

During Day 2, simultaneous panel sessions, paper presentations, and workshops took place, culminating in the **Awarding** Ceremonies for Best Paper and PSPA Loyalty Award. The pulsating beats, natural richness, and community spirit transported everyone into the heart of the city's thriving industry as MSU's KE vividly showcased the Tuna Festival during the Solidarity Night hosted by MSU-GenSan.

Finally, delegates were able to immerse in innovative fishing techniques and sustainable processing practices of GenSan's Fishport and South Cotabato's Lake Sebu—showcasing

e c o n o m i c advancements that propel both the city and the province into a dynamic, sustainable, and prosperous future.

Dr. Ma. Olivia Z. Domingo, Conference Adviser and Chair of the Scientific Program and Invitation Committee.



Mark Ivan Card

Mindanao State University-General Santos hosted the International Forum in collaboration with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan. The event took place on November 14-15 at MSU Gymnasium and Grand Summit Hotel.

The university proudly welcomed participating institutions from the BARMM and SOCCSKSARGEN, including Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology, Mindanao State University - Maguindanao, Notre Dame of Marbel University, Holy Trinity College-General Santos City, University of Southern Mindanao, and Notre Dame of Dadiangas University.

The program commenced with welcoming remarks from MSU-GSC acting chancellor, Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, followed by a message from MSU-GSC SSC President, Hon. Gellie Rose Davalos. After then, Mr. Itsu Adachi, the Executive Director of Sasakawa delivered a Peace Foundation, powerful message. Dr. Jovanie C. Espesor PHD, the project leader of MSU-GSC, presented a lecture on the fundamentals of WPS and UNSC 1325, providing valuable insights into the beneficial role of women in society. After the lecture, there was an open forum that allowed students to pose questions to the lecturer and Sasakawa Peace Foundation. The program concluded with the symbolic hanging of paper cranes, representing a commitment to advocating peace.

After a lunch break, the second part of the program featured engaging activities where students showcased their knowledge about WPS through a Quiz bowl and WPS Trivia, with amazing prizes awaiting those who could answer correctly. The event concluded on a positive note, infused with a sense of enjoyment, as participants carried with them the knowledge acquired during the forum.

The day after that, the think tanks unleashed a fructuous forum at Grand Summit Hotel, General Santos City, that was attended by major agency executives, administrators, and academics of SOCSKSARGEN and BARMM.

Dr. Jovanie C. Espesor, the forum moderator, facilitated the dialogue among the participants and accentuated the important role of women in promoting peace and security in the context of family feuds, political rivalries, conflict, and war. Right after, Dr. Espesor incandescently responded to the audience queries and clarifications.

significant to grassroots amplification of the narratives, Dr. Lolymar Jacinto Reves unveiled her talk about the psychological and mental dimensions of the encounters and experiences of the research participants. She highlighted how the wars and conflicts leave massive impacts to the women and men of both Lanao Del Sur and Maguindanao - the locale of the research.

Thereafter, Dr. Jovar Pantao, a pedagogical expert, delivered his favorable talk on the importance of research, focusing on the future-thinking approach discussion on how Women, Peace and Security, and Masculinity can be integrated with the University education curriculum, and in the context of Philippine Higher Education. Similarly, the discussion aimed to explore the international education framework.

Atty. Basari Mapupuno, the MSU System President, showed also his support by gracing the event, and gave his inspirational message and lauded the organizers and speakers for their significant contributions on championing the knowledge and advocacy on Women, Peace and Security, and Masculinity.

The convention and unification of the think tanks on the International Forum on WPS&M provided a platform for sharing collaborative insights, perspectives, and recommendations on addressing the contemporary issues anchored on WPS&M in the country and the globe.

The two-day forum forged collaboration and partnership among various sectors and institutions involved in the promotion of WPS&M. It was concluded with strong commitment and clear vision for the attainment of a more peaceful and inclusive society.









Universities convene in Academic Forum on Climate Fragility Risks in the Bangsamoro

Mark Ivan Caro

Mindanao State University-General Santos through the College of Social Sciences and Humanities in partnership with the Hongkong University of Science and Technology and the United States Institute of Peace, conducted an Academic Forum on Climate Fragility Risks in the Bangsamoro on August 2, 2023, at the Grand Summit Hotel, General Santos.

The forum highlights the Presentation of the quantitative and spatial results of the study among academics and researchers from Notre Dame of Dadiangas University, Notre Dame of Marbel University, Mindanao State University-General Santos, and Sultan Kudarat State University.

In her welcome address, Dr. Carmela G. Ong, Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities encouraged the guests and participants to actively participate in the discussion and acknowledge the importance of research to the community. "Through platforms such as this, we reaffirm our commitment to a better society, practice our expertise, and continue to inspire us to engage in research for a better future of our society," Dr. Ong

Dr. Laurence L. Delina, the Project Leader who is an Assistant Professor of Environment and Sustainability at the Hongkong University of Science & Technology, presented the rationale and the findings of the study and reiterated the need to act on climate change.

"We are very interested in learning the impact of climate change to everyone because each of us in this room, we bare the impacts of climate change," Dr. Delina emphasized. He also reminded partner higher institutions to collaborate in research entering the era of collaboration, "The forum seeks to strengthen and encourage collaboration of HEIs in Region 12. We are not competitors, we are collaborators."

Homer Pagkalinawan, Geographic Information System Specialist, run through the data sets, sources, and tools used in conducting the study. "The study used a mixed method approach looking at both quantitative and qualitative data." He added that the quantitative sources of information included a four-decade tracking of climate and rainfall data, vegetation health indices and land use changes, food process changes, as well as conflict incidence culled from data sets of the International Alert, a Londonbased think tank NGO, through its Bangsamoro Conflict Dataset Program.

Prof. Rufa Guiam, Anthropologist and Peace Studies expert, emphasized one key finding looking into climate change as a 'threat multiplier.' "The effects of extreme weather events exacerbate existing debilities in local governance and long-standing structural weaknesses that have pushed many communities to abject poverty." She encouraged the academe to willingly interact with local organizations and

forge partnership and to always bring back to the community and be mindful of the realities on the ground through research.

One of the professors from Notre Dame of Marbel University, Mr. Kloyde Caday, expressed his gratitude as a participant in the forum where academics were able to devote their time and expertise environmental championing protection and peace. "Through the presentations of Dr. Delina, Mr. Pagkalinawan, and Professor Guiam, they depicted what meaningful research works should look like data-driven, socially conscious, and output-based that resonate with the community's voice. Intersectionality as a framework in research is interesting to expose how systems of power influence the struggles we are confronting and to prove that even supposed natural occurrences like climate conditions can be impacted by political and structural violence we don't usually factor in. Lastly, this forum reminds us that research findings shouldn't be confined to our papers and libraries, but be utilized for us to become better teachers, environmentalists, and advocates."

Dr. Jovanie C. Espesor, Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee, served as the moderator of the event and led the questionand-answer portion during the workshop session. He also cited the value of doing research work, "As an ethnographer, it is important to be mindful of the realities in the ground from fieldwork."



1st Midyear Convention of PAPSHI Elevates School Health to New Heights

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a groundbreaking initiative to foster excellence in School Health, the Philippine Academy of Physicians in School Health, Inc. (PAPSHI) successfully launched its 1st Midyear Convention with the theme "AIM HIGHER: Advances, Innovations, and Methods for Holistic and Inclusive Guidelines in Health Education and Research," on November 10-11 at the Grand Summit Hotel, General Santos City.

PAPSHI, a nationwide association uniting physicians devoted to the advancement of School Health, is proud to present this inaugural midyear convention in collaboration with the Mindanao State University General Santos City (MSU GENSAN), as co-host. The two-day event promises a rich exchange of knowledge and insights.

The convention's opening remarks were eloquently delivered by Dr. Ryan Jeanne Ceralvo, setting the tone for an event focused on pushing the boundaries of School Health. Dr. Usmaima Usman, in her warm welcome remarks, expressed gratitude for the diverse participants hailing from different regions, emphasizing the convention's role as a catalyst for collaboration, cultural exchange, and celebration unwavering commitment to "This excellence in school health. is a momentous event not just for PAPSHI and MSU GENSAN, but also for every single one of us as it symbolizes the beginning of partnership and friendship, a celebration of unwavering commitment in advocacy, excellence in school health and a safe space for cultural exchanges, "Dr. Usman declared.

Keynote speaker, Minerva Calimag, PMA President, praised the significance of the convention conducted by PAPSHI and MSU GENSAN. She discussed the importance of advancing health education research, especially in schools. "Every day, indeed, the pillar that we opt for is research; it brings us spaces. That is what everyone should be doing, especially in schools," she emphasized. Dr. Calimag also focus on students' mental health in the aftermath of the pandemic, adding, "Even socio-emotional learning is something we should address."

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA of MSU General Santos delivered a powerful message of support, emphasizing the university's dedication to becoming a national peace university. He lauded the convention for its focus on excellence in school health and stressed the vital role of doctors, "The importance of doctors in universities lies in focusing on the rules and promoting the overall well-being of our academic community. We can make it, but doctors can make it more legitimate," Chancellor Aragasi asserted. He also expressed MSU General Santos's commitment to being a strong partner of PAPSHI and proudly announced the successful practices of medical services within the university. Followed by signing of memorandum of

understanding with Mindanao State University- General Santos City.

convention The agenda features a diverse range of plenary sessions, including keynote speakers and forums conducted by renowned experts in the field of School Health. Topics will span the latest advances, innovations, and methods essential for crafting holistic and inclusive guidelines in health education and research. The MSU Gensan also prepared a social night for the participants in the evening as everyone wore their cultural attires and experienced a night of music and Gensan's finest tuna. The 2nd day of the convention still features a diverse range of plenary sessions, including keynote speakers and forums conducted by renowned experts in the field of School Health same as the day 1.

As the convention concluded, Dr. Randolph Trinidad, PAPSHI Vice-President, looked toward the future, acknowledging the challenges that lie ahead. He expressed hope in overcoming these obstacles, paving the way for more conventions to come and also conveyed heartfelt thanks to everyone who played a role in the success of PAPSHI's Midyear Convention. camaraderie, collaboration, commitment demonstrated during these transformative days serve as the foundation for future endeavors, ensuring that PAPSHI's mission to advance excellence in School Health continues.



Empowering Futures of the Academe



MSU-GenSan is charting a path toward a brighter academic future through innovative strategies and visionary planning. With a commitment to excellence and sustainability, the University adopts a future-ready approach involving all its units and stakeholders.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY



MSU General Santos partners with DAP for groundbreaking course on Foresight and Futures Thinking

Jasmin P. Saricala

In a bid to foster a culture of anticipation and innovation, Mindanao State University General Santos (MSU-Gensan) embarked on a transformative journey in collaboration with the Development Academy of the Philippines, Graduate School of Public and Development Management (GSPDM). The Executive Course on Foresight and Futures Thinking, spanning two phases, aimed to equip participants with the tools and mindset necessary to navigate the complexities of the future.

The first phase of the course, conducted online from August 14-18, 2023, saw 30 participants, comprising university officials, directors, heads of offices, and faculty members, engage in comprehensive modules led by esteemed facilitators. Dr. Lizan E. Perante-Calina initiated proceedings with an exploration of the fundamentals of futures thinking, followed by Dr. Reginald G. Ugaddan, who delved into various tools and methodologies employed in foresight practices. Subsequent modules focused on policy analysis, planning, and evaluating plausible future scenarios, laying a robust theoretical foundation for the participants.

The second phase, held from August 27-30, 2023, brought participants and facilitators together for a face-to-face session at the Punta Isla Lake Resort, Lake Sebu, South Cotabato. Here, participants had the opportunity to apply their knowledge by presenting policy proposals addressing pertinent concerns within their sectors, communities, or organizations. Expert guidance from Dr. Perante-Calina, Dr. Ugaddan, and Dr. Ma. Oliva Z. Domingo ensured the refinement of these proposals, culminating in presentations to a distinguished panel.

Among the Futures Thinking Learners are:

| 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. | Dr. Jovar G. Pantao Ms. Ayna Vor D. Aguja Dr. Monsour A. Pelmin Prof. Norman Ralph B. Isla Prof. Novie Arren P. Barreto Ms. Hania-Persia F. Usman Ms. Ruhama L. Gomez Prof. Ronaldo T. Bigsang Dr. Ryan G. Banal Prof. Tres Tinna B. Martin-Dela Cruz Prof. Beverly T. Garcia Prof. Jay S. Villian | 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. | Prof. Jay D. Buscano Prof. Tanya M. Osorio Prof. Paolo M. Tagaloguin Ms. Ruhama L. Gomez Dr. Laiza L. Limpin Prof. Christine Dawn Obemio Atty. Hannah-Tunisia F. Usman Prof. Rhumer S. Lanojan Dr. Usmaima F. Usman-Naga Dr. Analyza D. Galia Dr. Diane Mae Ulanday-Lozano Dr. Alma Celesthia Dumalag-Agujo |
|---|--|--|---|
|---|--|--|---|

Among the Futures Thinking Learners are:

| 26. | Chancellor JD. Usman D. Aragasi | 29. | Vice Chancellor Dr. Jaime James A. Namocatcat |
|-----|--|-----|---|
| 27. | Vice Chancellor Dr. Mishell D. Lawas | 30. | Vice Chancellor Prof. Sheila J. Loable |
| 28. | Vice Chancellor Ms. Nurleilah G. Canac | an | |

The event was facilitated by Dr. Mario J. Aguja, IPDM Director and DAP Fellow.

The culmination of the course not only showcased the dedication and commitment of MSU-Gensan but also garnered recognition from the DAP Graduate School of Public and Development Management. Five scholarship slots for the Certificate Course on Foresight and Futures Thinking (CC-FFT) Batch 6 Scholarship Program were awarded to MSU-Gensan, reflecting the institution's exemplary performance. Participants were tasked with nominating individuals for these scholarships, with the top nominees receiving the prestigious opportunity to become DAP fellows. They are Dr. Jovar G. Pantao, Dr. Monsour A. Pelmin, Ms. Ruhama Gomez, Mr. Rhumer S. Lanojan, and Ms. Hania-Persia F. Usman.

The success of the Executive Course on Foresight and Futures Thinking underscores MSU-Gensan's commitment to excellence in education and proactive planning for the future. By embracing foresight practices, the institution is poised to navigate uncertainties and lead the way towards a more resilient and innovative future.



MSU-Gensan Strategize for Future Success: Campus University Council Meeting Highlights

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

A momentous gathering took place at the Regional Science Research Center (RSRC) of Mindanao State University, General Santos, under the guidance of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishel D. Lawas. The Academic Council, composed of college deans, department chairpersons, and faculty representatives, convened for the Campus University Council Meeting on November 15, 2023.

The focal points of the meeting included comprehensive plans for the remainder of the ongoing academic year 2022-2023, as well as forward-looking strategies for the College of Medicine in the upcoming academic years.

The council, as a vital component of MSU-Gensan's governance structure, collaboratively explored initiatives to address any academic gaps and disruptions, ensuring a seamless learning experience for students and faculty. Dr. Lawas, in her role as convener, emphasized the importance of unity and shared responsibility in navigating the evolving landscape of education.

The future of medical education took center stage as plans for the College of Medicine were presented and discussed. The council showcased a commitment to advancing the institution's medical programs, aligning with the university's mission to excel in healthcare education and research.

Moreover, each college presented its candidates for graduation, marking a milestone in assessing the composition of the upcoming graduating class. This detailed process allows the university to forecast the academic landscape, plan for future resource allocation, and celebrate the achievements of the graduating students.

The Campus University Council Meeting served as a platform for open dialogue and collaboration among academic leaders, fostering an environment of transparency and accountability. The dedication of MSU-Gensan's leadership to the continuous improvement and success of the institution was evident throughout the discussions.







The Future of MSU GenSan's Academic Landscape: Day 1 of Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight Conference 2023

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Future thinkers of Mindanao State University-General Santos put forth comprehensive scenarios of MSU GenSan's academic landscape for the next 20 years. Held at Avior Hotel-General Santos City, academic domain of the university propelled the first day of Futures Thinking and Foresight Strategic Conference 2023 with their holistic academic framework for the university. This 2-Day conference-December 18-19, aims for holistic betterment of the university gearing for global excellence.

For the first set of presenters, the internationalization of the College of Business Administration and Accountancy by 2044 highlights the rising challenges faced by the college. Presenting its flight towards internationalization, the college presented various efforts that could

preventits "Canceled flight" disowned scenario and proceeds to its "Boarding flight" preferred scenario. This flight to internationalization of CBA&A by 2044 projects a college that servés as a húb for valuable resources and support for businesses worldwide.

Dean Edward R. Lapong, PhD of the College of Agriculture presents the college's continuing dedication contributing to sustainable agriculture and countryside development. Application of strategic approach to their "Dis-AGRIable" disowned scenario, could result to their "AGRICA!" preferred scenario— projecting its active contribution to smart agriculture.

The College of Education and College of Fisheries capped the morning session and followed by an open forum. VCPD Shiela Loable urged the presenters to forge partnerships with national and international sectors that could work hand in hand with the university in realizing all of the preferred scenarios.

Continuing the afternoon session, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics presented key factors which lead to their "Ang SCIEyeah!" integrated future, which projects the college to be an Internationally-accredited Institute of Mathematics, Institute of Science, Institute of Applied Science, and Institute of Computing Studies by

College of Social Sciences and Humanities, College of Medicine, Senior High School, and Junior High School have also presented their outputs in the conference that will shape the future of MSU in the next 20 years- Hiraya Manawari!

The Future of MSU GenSan's Semi and Non-Academic Landscape: Day 2 of Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight Conference 2023

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

The second day of the Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight Conference at Mindanao State University-General Santos (MSU GenSan) unfolded with a dedicated focus on the landscapes of semi and non-academic domains of the university pioneering educational methods, securing the institution's ongoing leadership in academic excellence.

During the Morning Session, dynamic presenters at MSU GenSan's conference shed light on diverse administrative functions. The Office of Student Affairs and Services, Registrar's Office, and Office Guidance and Counseling Services cluster prioritized a student-centric environment, while the Medical Services Department provided insights into medical education and healthcare initiatives.

The second set of presenters included the cluster made up of the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM), Center for Women's Ștudies (CWS), Cultural Affairs Office (CAO) and Sports Development Office (SDO) highlighting the harmonizing of their functions for the holistic

development of the University.

The financial backbone of the university then too the stage with presentations from the Budget, Accounting, and Cashier offices. Key focal points included financial strategies, budget allocation, and transparency measures. Afterwhich, the cluster of Procurement Office, Supply and Management Internal Audit Services, and Bids and Awards Committee then addressed the essential role of transparent and efficient procurement and logistical processes in sustaining the university's growth. Lastly, the focus shifted to the Dormitory and Housing, where specific

details were highlighted, enriching the comprehensive understanding of the university's facilities accommodations.

In the afternoon, Communications Information and Technology Office and University Press and Communications Office center stage, exploring technology application strategies and the crucial role of communication in fostering a connected university community.
The day concluded with discussions on disaster preparedness and community engagement led by the University Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Office and the Civil Security Unit.

Each session at the conference significantly contributed to shaping MSU GenSan's future academic landscape, embodying a holistic and forward-





MSU-GenSan submits nine programs for AACCUP's Level III: Phase 2 Accreditation Survey Visit

Monlouie M. Sorzano, MA

To ensure quality assurance of academic programs offered in the University, Mindanao State University-General Santos submitted nine of its programs for the Level III: Phase 2 online accreditation survey visit of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP), July 26-28, 2023.

The three-day survey visit was led by the AACCUP Accreditors and overall coordinators, Dr. Boyet L. Batang, Vice President for Academic Affairs of

The three-day survey visit was led by the AACCUP Accreditors and overall coordinators, Dr. Boyet L. Batang, Vice President for Academic Affairs of Isabela State University, and Dr. Jaime M. Forbes, Chairperson of the Student Affairs and Services Office of Bataan Peninsula State University's Balanga Campus. The programs that were subjected to the accreditation survey visit were the following: from the College of Social Science and Humanities, BA in English Language Studies, BA in Political Science, BA in History, and BA in Sociology; from the College of Fisheries, BS in Marine Biology; and lastly, from the School of Graduate Studies, Master in Sustainable Development Studies, Master in Susiness Management, and Master of Arts in Education.

During the opening program, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of MSU-Gensan, gave her informative welcome remarks and proudly expressed that MSU-General Santos has always strived hard for academic excellence, as evident in its accomplishments as a University over the past years. "Accreditation process is actually a significant step towards the realization of our vision of being a premier institution of innovative and ethical leaders for sustainable

development," Dr. Lawas remarked. Before ending her address, she gave a sincere appreciation to all MSU- Gensan local task force members who took the extra mile in the preparation of this year's visit. "You all remain committed and dedicated in accomplishing your tasks. Truly, you deserve the warmest applause for a job well done," she said.

According to Dr. Batang, the nine programs to be accredited must

According to Dr. Batang, the nine programs to be accredited must garner an overall rating of at least 4.0 and be able to identify two mandatory plus two other areas for the survey visit. Also, the programs must meet the requirements of the criteria for Level III: Phase 2, such as well-defined objectives, an adequate and relevant program of activities to achieve objectives, systematic and effective procedures in terms of teaching methods, curriculum development and testing, a reasonable budget, the provision of materials and other resources, and the participation of a significant number of faculty and staff, students, and community in major projects and activities

projects and activities.

"We, at the AACCUP, are ensuring everyone that we will evaluate fairly and objectively all the programs of Mindanao State University—General Santos City," Dr. Batang exclaimed.

Santos City," Dr. Batang exclaimed.

The program featured a virtual tour highlighting various facilities in MSU-GenSan. Additionally, a thoughtfully crafted promotional video was presented, capturing the essence and spirit of the university and emphasizing its commitment to excellence in education, vibrant campus life, and its role as a nurturing community for personal and academic growth.

The Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Ms. Nurleila G. Canacan, CPA, wrapped up the opening program and conveyed her appreciation to all those involved during the accreditation processes. She also extended her thanks to the QuAMSO for their dedicated efforts in maintaining the accreditation spirit alive since 2014. VCAF Canacan concluded her speech by remarking, "quality education through accreditation."

In the succeeding days, the programs underwent a comprehensive evaluation which included virtual tours and interviews with administrators, faculty, students, alumni, research and extension partners, and other stakeholders. With the Quality Assurance and Management Office (QuAMSO), led by Prof. Ronald P. Sombero, at the helm of the accreditation preparations, the programs were fully equipped for the series of accreditation evaluations by the AACCUP Survey Team.

the AACCUP Survey Team.

The accreditation survey visit culminated with an exit conference cum closing program on July 28, 2023. The accreditors delivered their findings of the programs evaluated. The conference was highlighted by the giving of the general impression of the AACCUP Survey Team. The University and its accreditation working teams manifested commitment to continuously improving compliance to standards of the areas evaluated and the performance of their programs in general. The online accreditation survey visit yielded generally positive results with a few points for improvement by the programs.





Mindanao State University-General Santos subjected nine of its programs to the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) level 3 phase 2 online accreditation survey visit last November 28–30, 2023.

The programs subjected to survey visits were BS Civil Engineering, BS Mechanical Engineering, BS Electronics Engineering, BS Agriculture, BS Agricultural Biosystems Engineering, BS Agricultural Business Management, BA Islamic Studies, and BS Science in Fisheries.

The program commenced with Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, PECE, the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, delivering her welcome address, followed by the presentation of the purpose and introduction of the AACCUP survey team by the Prof. Nestor C. Competente of the Rizal Technological University. Prof. Competente, as the overall coordinator, provided insightful statements outlining the comprehensive agenda for the accreditation survey visit.

"Mindanao State University-General Santos City with its passion for quality assurance has recognized accreditation as a mechanism for quality improvement of its academic program provisions and pursuance of its mandate. Accreditation is a fundamental part of higher education for every program to be more ambitious while being realistic in achieving exceptional outcomes. MSU-Gensan has always been

striving hard towards academic excellence. And I am optimistic that this year's accreditation will once again be indicative of the constant effort the constituents exerted in pursuing excellence." Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi conveyed in his message.

Concluding the opening program, Prof. Czarina Siao-Saikol, Director of the Quality Assurance Management Services Office, remarked on the importance of the accreditation and provided a glimpse of what to look forward in the next days.

The second day was highlighted with documentary and video presentations per program, exhibiting their areas of assessments. These documents contain essential data for their accreditation. Thereafter, the panelists raise queries and suggestions regarding the areas that necessitate further improvements and commend the areas that are performing well.

The day after, marked the delightful end of the AACCUP Online Accreditation Survey Visit through an exit conference. With a remarkable acknowledgment messages by Prof. Norman Ralph Isla in behalf of the Chancellor, and Dean of the College of Business Administration and Accountancy, Dr. Marissa Dela Cruz in behalf of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the University expressed their gratitude to the AACCUP team and the accreditation local task force for the successful 3-day survey visit.

Overall Coordinator Roland M. Valencia of the Rizal Technological University delivered the survey teams general impression of the visit highlighting generally positive findings recommendations. Thereafter, Campus Secretary, Prof. Norman Ralph Isla delivered the commitment response in behalf of the Chancellor. Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Ms. Nurleila G. Canacan then led the awarding of certificates and Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, Dr. Jaime Namocatcat delivered the closing remarks.

The third day ended with a remarkable statement from Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, "Standard means Excellence, Excellence means MSU-GSC." She encouraged MSU-GSC to strive on promoting quality education at par with global standards and anchored on the core values of Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excellence.

The three-day online accreditation survey visit played a pivotal role in maintaining the university's excellence in education. This noteworthy event served as a valuable learning opportunity, contributing to the university's commitment to ensuring quality education. As it prepares for subsequent accreditation surveys, the institution remains dedicated to accrediting programs and upholding its mission of delivering high-quality education to students.

MSU-GenSan undergoes RQAT Evaluation for COPC

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Mindanao State University-General Santos underwent a thorough evaluation of its ten (10) academic programs for the issuance of a Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) in an onsite inspection by the dedicated Regional Quality Assessment Team (RQAT) under the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office XII (CHEDRO XII), August 10, 2023.

In the opening program held at the Conference Room, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, proudly expressed the University's vision and mission and was delighted to introduce MSU-Gensan to the CHED and RQAT members. VCAA Lawas emphasized that MSU-Gensan is well-committed to providing quality education with its goal and aspiration to become a globally competitive and a national peace university.

This one-day onsite inspection was led by Engr. Jhan Jkem B. Fontanilla, MSCE, Education Supervisor II. The ten (10) programs subjected to inspection were BS Civil Engineering, BS Agricultural and Biosystem Engineering, BS Mechanical Engineering, BS Electronics Engineering, BS Electrical Engineering, BS Engineering Technology, BA in English Language Studies, BA History, BA Sociology, and BS Fisheries. The RQAT thoroughly examined all facets of the programs, from curriculum design and teaching methodologies to student outcomes and facilities. The comprehensive assessment sought to ensure the quality and compliance with the standards of the programs offered at MSU-GenSan.

In an exit conference, the university administration, college deans, department chairpersons, faculty, and staff were present to receive the overall findings of the evaluators. Every evaluator gave general remarks to improve and develop some areas of the program. The dynamic exchange of insights not only enriched the overall evaluation process but also fostered a collaborative environment aimed at continuous enhancement and growth within the educational landscape.

Concluding the COPC RQAT inspection, Dr. Lawas delivered thoughtful closing remarks. As the inspection came to a close, Dr. Lawas summarized the key observations and outcomes of the assessment and expressed appreciation to all participants for their collaborative efforts.

Dr. Mishell D. Lawas. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, proudly presents MSU-GenSan's vision and mission.





Mindanao State University Explores Expanding Scholarships for College of Medicine Students

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a strategic move towards enhancing educational opportunities, Mindanao State University - General Santos City convened to discuss the expansion of scholarships for the College of Medicine students, on October 19 2023.

The Dean of the College of Medicine, Dr. Edwin C. Alconce began the discussion by shedding light on the current scholarships available to medical students. These scholarships have been instrumental in supporting students' academic pursuits, ensuring access to quality education.

Chancellor JD Usman Aragasi MPA, driven by the university's vision to transform all Mindanao State University students into scholars who receive stipends, shared a groundbreaking proposal. "I would like to talk with the local government units (LGUs) from the cities where the students originate, urging them to provide scholarships to their respective students at MSU," he

emphasized. This proactive approach seeks to create a network of support for aspiring scholars.

The meeting also highlighted existing scholarship programs offered by various LGUs. Notable programs include "PATABA-PO" from Polomolok, "Edukar" from General Santos, and "Kabugwason Paglaum Scholarship and Grant" from South Cotabato. Additionally, Abdulhalik M. Kasim, MD, Assistant Secretary of Health, presented forthcoming scholarship initiatives from their office. These scholarships promise to open new doors of opportunity for aspiring medical professionals.

The discussions emphasized Mindanao State University's dedication to granting equal and inclusive access to high-quality education. The institution wants to empower its students and build a better future for the medical profession through these scholarship programs, making sure that no eligible student is left without the help they need to pursue their educational aspirations.





MSU-General Santos launches Institute of Islamic, Arabic, and International Studies

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a momentous event, Mindanao State University - General Santos officially launched the Institute of Islamic, Arabic, and International Studies (IIAIS) on January 17, 2024, at the COED Building.

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Mishell D. Lawas, set the tone for the institute's vision, highlighting its focus on research, extension and innovation. She emphasized university's commitment to providing exceptional opportunities for our Muslim brothers and sisters pursuing degrees within the Institute and asked everyone to take part in the creation of this institute stating, "Launching of this program is significant and requires collaboration for each and everyone. As this institute is not only for Islamic Studies program, but also plays a big part in becoming a national peace university.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, expressed profound emotions as he reflected on the university's journey leading up to the establishment of the Institute. He emphasized the university's important role in fostering cultural understanding and friendship among its diverse community, acknowledging the opportunity given to everyone to appreciate each other's cultures. Furthermore, he underscored the of inaugurating significance the Institute of Islamic, Arabic, and International Studies, stating, "MSU Gensan has already been 50 years; we really need to have an Institute for Islamic studies as it is a very important action in promoting peace." His words highlighted the institute's crucial role in advancing not only academic excellence but also contributing to the broader goal of promoting peace

through education.

Chancellor then commended the university's accomplishment in being the first to establish such an institute, specifically noting, "MSU Gensan is the first to have an Institute of Islamic, Arabic, and International Studies which is something we should be proud of." Chancellor Aragasi expressed confidence that this pioneering initiative would influence other campuses and systems, setting a precedent for institutions to prioritize cultural understanding and academic excellence in the pursuit of peace and knowledge.

Ťhe launch received messages of encouragement from individuals across various fields who expressed their support. Dean of King Faisal Center for Íslamic, Arabic and Asian Studies, Abdulcader M. Ayo, Ph.D., Division Chief Jocelyn Lambac-Kanda, MPA, Sh.C., and Provincial Officer, NCMF-Gensan Field Office Mosmar C. Mamad, expressing gratitude as they foresee the myriad opportunities the Institute can offer. The ribbon-cutting ceremony then provided attendees with a sneak peek into the classrooms specially designated for the Institute. These cutting-edge facilities promise an enriching and conducive learning environment. Additionally, the cultural performance by the Kabpapagaria Ensemble not only showcased their artistic prowess but also added an extra layer of vibrancy to the occasion.

In the academic overview presented by Acting Dean Abdul M. Lantong, Ph.D., of IIAIS, MSU-General Santos, the mission and vision of the Institute were outlined. The overarching goal is to produce competent Bangsamoro human resources who will play pivotal roles as agents of

development in southern Mindanao. Dean Lantong emphasized that the Institute aims not only to highlight Islam as an integral part of Philippine culture but also as a medium and complete way of life.

To achieve these missions, the Institute has designed two primary programs: degree and non-degree programs. Under the undergraduate degree programs, students can pursue a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Íslamic Studies or a Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Studies majoring in Sharia. These programs are strategically crafted to provide a comprehensive understanding of Islamic principles and their applications. Looking ahead, the Institute envisions the introduction of future programs and courses that will further enhance the academic landscape. As for the non-degree programs, the Institute is planning to offer certificate courses in various areas, including Halal awareness, Islamic banking and finance, training for good governance, and other pertinent subjects. These degree courses are intended to cater to a diverse range of learners and seeking professionals specialized knowledge and skills.

Concluding the event, Mohammad Nashief F. Disomimba, Director of the Halal Research and Training Center, emphasized the institute's commitment to holistic education and cultural understanding. The launch of the Institute of Islamic, Arabic, and International Studies at MSU-General Santos marks a groundbreaking chapter in the university's history, reflecting its dedication to fostering knowledge, peace, and cross-cultural appreciation

appreciation.



as the 6th Agricultural and
Biosystems Engineering (ABE)
Expo 2024 unfolded on May 6-7.
Hosted by the BS ABE Department of
Mindanao State University-General
Santos, the two-day extravaganza
celebrated the prowess of budding
agricultural engineers, spotlighting
their inventive solutions and technological advancements aimed at revolutionizing the agricultural

technological advancements aimed at revolutionizing the agricultural landscape.

Under the stewardship of Dr. Jane S. Malasador, Chairperson of the ABE Department, and with the enthusiastic support of Dr. Edward R. Lapong, Dean of the College of Agriculture, the event attracted participants, sponsors, and guests eager to witness the latest in sustainable agricultural practices.

The expo was a melting pot of competitions and presentations showcasing the ingenuity of ABE students and junior agricultural engineers. From feasibility studies to structural and renewable energy designs, the event underscored the pivotal role of technology in driving agricultural sustainability.

One of the standout competitions, the Woodworks Display Competition, challenged students to craft tables and chairs sans nails, emphasizing design, ergonomics,

emphasizing design, ergonomics,

efficiency. Chair No. emerged victorious,
hailed for its intricate
craftsmanship and ergonom
design, clinching the Overo
Champion title.
The ergonomic ne Overall

and

The awarding ceremony zed outstanding recognized achievements across various categories, including the Fastidious Studies Species Special Awards and Winners, the Renewable Energy Miniature Design Competition, and the Structural Miniature Design Competition.

Moreover, the expo served as a platform for entrepreneurial endeavors with the Agro Agro Pitching endeavors with the Agro
Technopreneurship Pitching
Competition, which highlighted
promising startups in the field of
ABE. Fiberest stole the show, securing
the Overall Champion and Best
Innovator titles for its sustainable
and chemical-free packaging tray
alternative made from natural fibers.
The annual ABE Expo stands a s a testament to the dedication and innovation of students and professionals in unraveling the engineering marvels of agriculture. By spotlighting advancements in technologies and fostering collaboration, the expo has played a pivotal role in propelling agriculture towards greater productivity, efficiency, and environmental stewardship.

pivotal role in propelling agriculture towards greater productivity, efficiency, and environmental stewardship.

With each edition, the ABE Expo reaffirms its commitment to shaping the future of agriculture, inspiring a new generation of engineers to tackle the challenges of feeding a growing global population sustainably. As the curtains draw on another successful expo, the legacy of innovation and collaboration continues to flourish, driving agricultural engineering towards new agricultural engineering towards new horizons of excellence and impact.

Symposium Unites Experts and Government Agencies for Sustainable Tuna Management Talks

Monlouie M. Sorzano, MA

General Santos City
The halls of Greenleaf
Hotel came alive on
August 23, 2023, as
an influential talk
"Tuna Research:
Sustainable Talk
Towards Sustainable
Management of
Tuna 2023 Onwards",
assembled an
assembly of experts,
practitioners,
and government
agencies in a
concerted effort
to pave the way
for responsible
and enduring

tuna management strategies.

Dr. Jaime A. Namocatcat, Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, welcomed attendees, including representatives from key government bodies such as PSTC, NEDA, SFFAII, DA Region XII, BFAR Region XI & XII, and others. Mayor Lorelie Pacquiao's representative, Ms. Shandy Llido, and Mari Ann Acedera, Division Director (MRRD), also expressed their support for the event.

The symposium highlighted Mindanao State University's tuna research projects. Dr. Edna P. Guevarra presented Project 1, studying the reproductive biology of Philippine neritic tuna species, while Prof. Grenville A. Castrence and Dr. Guevarra

led related studies on reproductive dynamics and gonadal profiling. Dr. Donna Ria J. Canacan shared findings from Project 2 on tuna species' diets using metagenomics.

Project 3, focused on otolith analysis, was discussed by Dr. Guevarra and colleagues, followed by Project 4, which looked at ichthyoplankton resource identification to replenish tuna species in Sarangani Bay, led by Prof. Julius V. Mingoc.

The event concluded with a collective decision to craft a policy for sustainable tuna management, with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) leading the initiative.



Tuna Research SusTUNAble Talk Takes a Leap Towards Sustainable Management: Mindanao State University Leads the Way

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

On August 22, 2023, the Science Research Regional Center (RSRC) at Mindanao State University hosted participants from various fields to discuss sustainable tuna management. Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, Dr. Jaime A. Namotcatcat, welcomed the attendees, including the Technical Working Group, deans, and college representatives. Acting Chancellor J.D. Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, emphasized the importance a unified understanding of fishing industry. Edna ` Dr. Guevarra, program leader, presented an overview of the tuna research program, highlighting its four

projects. Dr. Guevarra introduced Project 1, "Reproductive Biology Studies of Three Philippine Neritic Species in Mindanao," followed by Prof. Grenville A. Castrence's presentation on reproductive dynamics, and Dr. Guevarra's focus on gonadal characterization.

Project 2, led by Dr.
Donna Ria J. Canacan, explored
the dietary habits of six tuna
species using metagenomics,
while Project 3, "Otolith
Elemental Fingerprinting,"
involved macrostructural and
microstructural otolith analysis
by Prof. Ariel Ortiz, Dr. Cleto Nanola
Jr., and Dr. Sitti Zayda A. Halun.
Prof. Julius V. Mingoc

led Project 4, "Ichthyoplankton Resource Identification," focusing on plankton resource distribution. The event concluded with discussions on refining the tuna research program's Phase I study, and plans for future publications and presentations were outlined, with inputs from experts like Dr. Wilfredo L. Campos and Dr. Mudjiekeewis D. Santos.







Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

On October 4, 2023, Huawei Technologies launched its Smart Campus Transformation initiative at Mindanao State University-General Santos City (MSU-GenSan), aiming to integrate advanced technology into the university's infrastructure to enhance education for students and faculty.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, opened the event, welcoming participants and emphasizing the initiative's significance as MSU-GenSan marks its 50th anniversary. Huawei representatives outlined the project, which includes digital infrastructure

upgrades, improved connectivity, and modern learning tools. An open forum allowed attendees to engage with experts and learn more about the project's impact.

Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, expressed optimism about MSU-GenSan's future, noting that the project will help the university become a smart institution. On April 18, 2024, MSU-GenSan launched its 'SMART MSU' project, backed by a nearly one-billion-peso budget. The project includes 117 access points, 70 CCTVs, and model e-classrooms featuring Huawei IdeaHub S2 technology, along

with a new Learning Management System (LMS) and Student Academic Information System (SAIS)

Information System (SAIS).

The university celebrated its commitment to modernization during its 50th Golden Anniversary SALUBONG Ceremony on October 3, 2023, where DICT Secretary Hon. Ivan John E. Uy praised MSU-GenSan's efforts to inspire future leaders through education and technology.

MSU-GenSan's Smart Campus Transformation signals a new era of innovation, reinforcing the university's legacy as a leader in academic and technological advancement.



Mindanao State University - General Santos has been flocked by diverse incoming first year students coming from SOCCSKSARGEN and other neighboring regions yearly vying for the qualifying exam that determine their admission and scholarship from the MSU System. This year, the university successfully conducted the simultaneous administration of the System of Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE), under the supervision of the Admission Office with its testing centers last February 25, 2024.

With hope and determination to attain quality education, a total number of 7905 incoming first year students coming from different schools in surrounding localities attended the SASE administration in its main testing center at MSU Gensan, Fatima Campus. The said exam was administered in four successive administration batches that commenced from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The university warmly welcomed the SASE examiners with with unequivocal effort in the presence of the staff of of the Admission Office, headed by Prof. Jerry J. Dela Cruz, examiners, proctors, Supreme Student Council, and medical and security personnel that were stationed on designated areas in the campus to ensure the smooth conduct of the SASE exam. The preparation for the examination commenced last December 20, 2023 which prompted the online application that officially ended last February 15, 2024.

In its mission to make SASE accessible to everyone, MSU-Gensan took charge of 13 different test centers. MSU-General Santos in Fatima, General Santos City served as the main testing center. Other satellite test centers are located in Koronadal National Comprehensive High School, Koronadal,

South Cotabato; Tupi National High School, Tupi, South Cotabato; Libertad National High School, Surallah, South Cotabato; Sta. Cruz Mission School, Inc., Lake Sebu, South Cotabato; Digos City National High School, Digos City, Davao del Sur; Edna Guillermo Memorial National High School, Brgy. Nuing, Jose Abad Santos, Davao Oriental; Kiamba, Sarangani Province; Malapatan National High School, Kiamba, Sarangani Province; Tagum National High School, Tagum City, Davao del Norte; Mariano Peralta National High School, Malita, Davao Occidental; Kidapawan City; National High School, Kiapawan City; and Bagangga, Davao Oriental.

The MSU SASE results will

The MSU SASE results will be posted soon on the MSU-Gensan Admission Official Facebook Account (Msu GenSan Admission). All the best to our SASE takers!



Harmonizing Golden Values



Attuned to its drive for academic excellence, MSU-GenSan unites the community through its initiatives on peace, gender and development, sustainability, personal and social well-being, and more. The values that the University holds serve as its compass in directing the course of its programs, projects, and activities as it turns 50.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU-Gensan Hosts Empowering Dialogue with Sen. Risa Hontiveros to Launch 2024 National **Women's Month Celebration**

Arthlie S. Laug-Laug

In quest for the attainment of gender-responsive and gender-inclusive society, Mindanao State University-General Santos sat together in an insightful conversation with equality champion Senator Risa Hontiveros during the commencement of the 2024 National Women's Month on March 1, 2024. The event, held at the MSU Gymnasium, garnered participation from diverse sectors within and beyond the MSU community—including university officials, faculty and staff, students from NSTP and FPE classes, as well as other GAD advocates and officers from the Local Government Unit and Higher Educational Institutions across General Santos City.

The university gymnasium was permeated with a symphonic Tri-people serenade of the Kabpapagariya Ensemble that was punctuated with thunderous applause of appreciation, setting the stage for the opening program.

The program commenced with a warm welcoming message from Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, who graciously acknowledged all attendees, dignitaries, particularly the esteemed guest Senator Risa Hontiveros, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations, and Gender Equality, for their participation in MSU-GSC's Women's Month celebration. Chancellor Aragasi expressed gratitude to Sen. Risa for her unwavering support of the university and eagerly anticipated future engagements and collaborations with the good senator. He emphasized the importance of promoting equality, stating, "Equality must be promulgated-every individual or group of people is given the same opportunity and resources and afforded by the same rights and privileges regardless of circumstances as equality increases equity in the society."

Dr. Mario J. Aguja enthusiastically introduced the honorable guest speaker, Senator Risa Hontiveros. Then, Senator Risa conveyed a poignant message acknowledging the unwavering dedication and tireless efforts of women and LGBT+ communities in their

pursuit of equality and recognition.

'A nation who holds women back will never be able to move forward. Bilang isang bansa, kailangan nating tugunan ang mga suliranin ng mga kababaihan, and to achieve that, we need more women leaders. Kailangan ng ating bansa ang lakas at husay ng kababaihan. Step up to the challenge, be involved, be informed, speak truth to power, embrace your potential for greatness and be the best that you can be," said the dignified solon.

Thereafter, the MSU Kabpapagariya Ensemble offered a tributary serenade, "Para kay Juana," honoring the long standing plight and invaluable contributions of women in nation-building.

The event was further enriched by the insightful conversation with Honorable Risa enthusiastically moderated by Dr. Diane Mae P. Ulanday-Lozano, the Director of Center for Women Studies, and Dr. Norman Isla, the Campus Secretary. The conversation centered around critical topics such as the enduring challenges faced by women and the LGBT community in overcoming patriarchal systems, the implementation of drug rehabilitation programs and healthcare systems, and the proliferation of cyber hate speech targeting these marginalized groups in the Philippines and worldwide.

This was followed by the presentation of plaques of recognition to the honorable speaker. Subsequently, Honorable Risa led the reading of the oath entitled "For Every Woman" by Nancy Smith, dedicated to the essence of women in the nation, with all attendees joining in.

To conclude the event, the senator was honored with the prestigious Inaul cloth of the Maguindanaon culture. The momentous event concluded with a memorable photo session and resounding cheers of "Happy Women's Month." While the event drawn to a close, the unity forged and knowledge gained during the event will forever echo in the hearts of every MSUan resonating within the campus and beyond.





UN Celebration Opening 2023: Illuminating Global Perspectives through Engaging Exhibits Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

The opening of the UN Celebration, marked a significant event that brought together the academic community to commemorate the work of the United Nations. Spearheaded by the Director of the Office of International Affairs, Prof. Beverly T. Garcia, the celebration emphasized the importance of global cooperation and understanding held on October 23, 2023, at the College of Social Sciences and Humanities building.

The UN Celebration began with a unique and engaging experience for attendees. Guests, including students and visitors, were warmly greeted by captivating exhibits at the College of Social Sciences and Humanities building. These exhibits provided a glimpse into various global themes, offering both entertainment and education to all who explored them. Each display presented a different perspective on important global issues, creating an enlightening atmosphere.

The event officially commenced with a welcome address delivered by the Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Dr. Carmella G. Ong. Dr. Ong began by sharing the history and significance of the United Nations, emphasizing its important role in promoting peace, justice, and sustainable development worldwide. She stressed the need to renew the commitment of all to support the United Nations' mission and ensure that no one is left behind. "Together, we can strive for a world where peace, justice, and sustainable development prevail," Dr. Ong passionately stated. "We must continue working diligently to achieve the goals set forth by the United Nations," she added.

exhibits on were carefully organized to provide a comprehensive understanding of various global issues. These exhibits were the result of collaborative efforts by different student organizations, each offering a unique perspective on freedom, equality, and knowledge for all. Prof. Cris Hanibal Non, who provided a concept brief for the exhibit, shared the underlying purpose of the displays, saying, "We are here to discover, be entertained, and educated simultaneously."

These exhibits were a testament to the diverse perspectives and ideas that students and organizations brought to the celebration. They not only celebrated the work of the United Nations but also encouraged attendees to reflect on the pressing issues our world faces and consider their role in addressing them.



MSU-GenSan unveils ASEAN Roster of Flags, celebrates National Peace Consciousness

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a momentous event, the University conducted its long-standing tradition of flag-raising ceremony at the start of each month merged with the celebration of the inauguration of the ASEAN Roster of Flags and the celebration of National Peace Consciousness Month on September 6, 2023. During the flag-raising ceremony, Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, delivered a message of congratulations. He praised the Office of Student Affairs and Seevices (OSAS) for the successful orientation of freshmen and transferees, highlighting the importance of a smooth transition into university life. Chancellor Aragasi also motivated everyone to level up, "We should level up our thinking, we have to keep up with the development around us" he said.

Two separate announcements were then made during the ceremony, addressing both academic and non-academic matters. Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (VCAA), expressed her heartfelt congratulations to all those present. She also emphasized the importance of academic excellence, have a lot of upcoming activities, we have so much on our plate and hopefully we won't forget the basics which is to conduct classes to continue quality education" she said.

Meanwhile, HRMO Office-In-Charge, Ms. Flordeliza Tampus, delivered a message on behalf of the non-academic staff. She emphasized the staff's dedication and passion for their work. She also provided two gentle reminders, urging staff to be responsible for their Daily Time Record (DTR) and Faculty Service Record (FSR). Additionally, she stressed the significance of attending the monthly flag-raising ceremonies.

Following these significant announcements, the event transitioned into its second phase—the inauguration of the ASEAN Roster of Flags. This initiative, conceptualized by Chancellor Aragasi, aims to demonstrate MSU's readiness to embrace ASEAN countries within its campus.

Prof. Beverly T. Garcia, the Director of Office of International Affairs, one of the driving forces behind the ASEAN Roster of Flags, also shared insights on ASEAN and its history, highlighting MSU's commitment to the ASEAN community.

The highlight of the ceremony was the official inauguration of ASEAN flags, where flags representing the ten ASEAN member countries were presented before the gathered audience. And as MSU continues to evolve and expand its horizons, this event marked a significant milestone in its journey towards becoming a globally competitive university, promoting not only academic excellence but also international understanding and collaboration. specific portion of the activities was also dedicated to the launching of the National Peace Consciousness Month celebration for September. This is in support of the University's advocacy in advancing peace and progress in Mindanao and the entire country.





MSU-Gensan along with the OPAPRU hold a Project Conference

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Mindanao State University -General Santos, along with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace and Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), successfully conducted a Project Conference at the MSU Conference Hall on January 31, 2024.

In his welcoming address, Dr. Mario Aguja initiated the program with warm greetings and acknowledgments to MSU officials and colleagues from various MSU System campuses participating in the project. These include MSU-Sulu overseeing Basilan projects, MSU-Marawi in the Lanao del Sur area, and MSU-Maguindanao in the

Maguindanao area. Dr. Aguja also expressed gratitude to the project development officers of MSU-Gensan designated in Sarangani, Maasim, and Sultan Kudarat.

Following the welcoming remarks, Dr. Aguja presented the objectives and rationale of the event. "The purpose of this conference is to walk through all the proposals you have as agreed with the OPAPRU. Once all proposals are completed, you submit them to the OPAPRU, and they will conduct the due diligence," he explained.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of projects from different campuses of the MSU System, including MSU

Sulu, MSU Marawi, and MSU Maguindanao. The OPAPRU/PAMANA and SPECIAL BAC commended the projects, provided comments, and offered suggestions for aspects requiring further improvements.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, sealed this event with his message of gratitude to all the initiators of this program, "Sir Mayong has a wide understanding and appreciation of the dynamics of the Mindanao revolution. Salute to him and the other initiators not only for their views but for their effort and movement for this university and for the entire university system program" he added.

OPAPRU, MSU sign MOA for the implementation of Transformation Program for MNLF

Jasmine P. Saricala

The national government is reaffirming its commitment to upholding signed peace agreements, including the landmark 1996 Final Peace Agreement (FPA) with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). In a significant step towards realizing this goal, the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU) has teamed up with the Mindanao State University (MSU) System, signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on Thursday, July 6. The MOA aims to facilitate the implementation of the Transformation Program for the MNLF, a crucial initiative rooted in the provisions of the 1996 FPA.

The Transformation Program, stemming from the historic peace accord that ended decades-long armed conflict between the government and the MNLF, aims to transition MNLF members and their families into peaceful and productive civilian life, particularly those who were not integrated into the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) under the FPA.

Presidential Adviser Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity, Sec. Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., and MSU System President Atty. Basari D. Mapupuno, the MOA, symbolizing collaborative effort towards peacebuilding and socioeconomic Atty. development. Mapupuno expressed gratitude for the partnership, highlighting the significance collaboration in achieving sustainable

peace and unity.

Chair Cesar B. Yano of the Government of the Philippines (GPH) Management Committee emphasized the MOA's importance in advancing the peace process, stressing its contribution to sustainable development and stable peace in the Bangsamoro region.

David B. Diciano, OPAPRU Presidential Assistant for Bangsamoro Transformation, praised MSU's potential to facilitate the development of MNLF communities, citing the university's capacity to share technologies and sustain developmental gains through extension services.

Funds for the project are allocated under



Funded Project (PAMANA-LFP) under the FY 2023 General Appropriation Act. These funds will be utilized by MSU for community assessments, consultations, and the implementation of socio-economic projects in twenty-five priority MNLF communities across various provinces.

communities across various provinces.

Additionally, MSU will conduct profiling of 2,000 MNLF combatants from the provinces of Saranggani, Sultan Kudarat, Basilan, Lanao Del Sur, Maguindanao Del Sur, North Cotabato, Cotabato City, and Basilan and provide capacity-building and enhancement training to support the Transformation Program's objectives.

Furthermore, MSU is advocating for House Bill No. 969, designating the university as the National Peace University, demonstrating its dedication to peace, development, and reconciliation in the Bangsamoro region.

Galvez expressed full support for MSU's aspiration to become the National Peace University, echoing optimism from

various stakeholders regarding the partnership's potential and expressing confidence in MSU's ability to contribute significantly to the Transformation Program's success.

Dr. Mario Aguja, OIC Director of the Institute of Peace and Development in Mindanao MSU-General Santos City, highlighted the program's potential to uplift socioeconomic conditions in covered areas.

MSU College of Education to Provide Capacity Building Support for DepEd Teachers in teaching Peace Education

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

In response to Department Order 001, s. 2024 issued by the Department of Education mandating that all Fridays throughout the school year prioritize peace education during Catch-up Fridays, the College of Education, along with its partners, has pledged support to provide capacity building for DepEd teachers. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between DepEd GenSan, DepEd Sarangani officials, and MSU GenSan, formalizing this commitment held at MSU Conference Room – May 6, 2024.

The directive highlights the significance of integrating peace education

into the curriculum, emphasizing the pivotal role educators play in nurturing peace and understanding among students. Recognizing this imperative, the College of Education, in collaboration with stakeholders, aims to deliver comprehensive training in peace education to teachers. It is widely acknowledged that teachers require specialized training to effectively facilitate discussions on peace, conflict resolution, and global citizenship within the classroom setting.

Mindanao State University has a longstanding commitment to promoting peace and development in the region. Key initiatives

include the establishment of the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM) and the introduction of the Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE) 101 course.

The upcoming training sessions are expected to commence in the coming months, with a strong emphasis on participatory learning approaches and practical classroom applications. By equipping teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge, the College of Education is poised to play a pivotal role in advancing the cause of peace education in the Philippines.



2,132 learners, 214 student tutors, and 43 Youth Development Workers (YDWs) to benefit from Tara, BASA! Tutoring Program

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

2,132 learners, 214 student tutors, together with 43 Youth Development Workers (YDWs) from General Santos City are the target beneficiaries of the Tara, BASA! Tutoring Program—a holistic social welfare and development model that creates a learning ecosystem for communities. The program is the result of the forging of a partnership between the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the City Government of General Santos City, and Mindanao State University-General Santos City during the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement held at MSU-GenSan Conference Room – April 22.

Tara, BASA! Tutoring Program essentially provides tutorial sessions for elementary Non-reader students, Parenting Sessions, Capacity Building, and Cash for Work for the Tutors and Youth Development Workers (College Students). The target beneficiaries

of the program covers college students who belong to low-income families and incoming Grade 2 pupils that are non-readers or are struggling to read who also belong to low-income families. The selected college students will serve either as tutors for struggling and non-reader children or as Youth Development Workers (YDWs) who will conduct parenting sessions with parents that will guide them to be the "Nanay-Tatay Teacher" of the program.

"We are delighted that our dear Iskolar ng bayan from MSU-GenSan will serve as the front liners of providing service for the learners and families..." for it takes a village to raise a child, together with the partners of this program let us become that village for our children" Professor Diane Mae P. Ulanday-Lozano, EdD highlights in her message of support for the program.

Il Elementary Schools in General Santos City including; Labangal Elementary School, S. Saway Central Elementarty School, Saludin Anas Elementary School, New Society Central Elementary School, Lanton Elementary School, GSC Elementary School for the Arts, J. Daniel Elementary School, Lozano Elementary School, Pao Pao Elementary School, Sinawal Elementary School and P. Kindat Elementary School will hold the tutorial sessions of the program.

The MOA Signing and Program Launching officially conducts the implementation of Tara, BASA! Tutoring Program with all hope will strengthen the family and community support systems of struggling to read and non-reader elementary students, aid and capacitate college students in difficult circumstances, and improve the reading proficiency of learners in General Santos City.



The 4-Day Training of Trainers Event for Cooperative Training Providers

Mark Wendell Matunog & Kimberly Dormido

The 27th of April, 2024, marked the commencement of the Training of Trainers for Cooperative Training Providers, hosted at the prestigious East Asia Royale Hotel. The event, initiated by Mindanao State University-General Santos City in partnership with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), indicate a significant stride towards nurturing cooperative excellence and fostering community empowerment.

Dr. Keno Jay Balogbog, leading the Department of Extension, spearheaded the successful launch of the 4-day Training of Trainers (TOT) for Cooperative Training Providers (CTPros), alongside his dedicated team and the Technical Working Group (TWG). Enthusiastic participants from various Cooperatives including MSU-MPC, DAR Sarangani Province, RISOG Soccsksargen Agricultural Cooperative, Sultan Kudarat Seed Growers Marketing Cooperative (SKSGMC), Dolefil Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Cooperative (DARBC) PLEASES Credit Cooperative, City Cooperative Office - LGU Kidapawan, LGU Claver, LGU Esperanza-Agusan, LGU Kiamba, DARRO 12, and BARMM actively engaged in the training sessions, showcasing a commendable commitment to learning and collaboration.

The day kicked off with an inspiring welcome remark by Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Chairman of the Technical Working Group and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, whose impassioned words set the tone for an engaging and enlightening day ahead, emphasizing the vital role of cooperative education in driving social and economic progress.

Chancellor JD. Usman D. Aragi of MSU-GSC extended his heartfelt support to the initiative, emphasizing the fundamental role of education in driving cooperative development. His insights resonated deeply with participants, igniting a collective sense of purpose and solidarity.

The presence and contributions of the following distinguished guest speakers, namely Asec. Abdulsalam A. Guinomla, the Head of Education, Advocacy and Union Cooperative Cluster, Cooperative Development Authority, Juriski B. Mangelen the Acting Regional Director, CDA Regional Office XII, and Engr. Felipe T. Galia the Chairman of MSU Gensan Multi-Purpose Cooperative, as well as the presence of Ruth Alendajao, Senior Cooperative Development Specialist, added immense value to the event, underscoring the importance of collaboration and partnership in advancing the cooperative movement.

Throughout the 4-day event, participants immersed themselves in interactive activity sessions to hone their skills as effective trainers in the cooperative scope. From exploring Teaching Adult Learners to delving into the details of cooperative practice and governance, every session was designed to empower participants with the knowledge and tools needed to catalyze positive change in their respective cooperatives and their communities.

Bringing a wealth of expertise, Luz P. Doce, MA, Laiza L. Limpin, DIT, Mario J. Aguja, PhD, Engr. Edward R. Lapong, PhD, Engr.Virgilio A. Ramos, MS, Noralyn L. Bidad, Marissa G. Dela Cruz, DBA, Nurleila G. Canacan, CPA, MPA, and Atty. Daniel M. Galzote, CPA captivated participants with their brilliant insights as they discussed topics related to the cooperative field. Through engaging sessions led by experienced resource persons, attendees gained invaluable insights into effective training strategies, cooperative principles, and practices of fostering cooperative environments.

As we reflect on the past four days, we celebrate the collective achievements and look forward to the ripple effects that will undoubtedly shape the landscape of cooperative training across the region. Our journey towards excellence in cooperative training is just beginning, and we invite all participants to stay tuned for future updates and opportunities to further advance our shared goals. Together, we can create a world where cooperation thrives, and every individual has the opportunity to reach their full potential. Stay engaged, continue learning, and make a difference!



On October 10, 2023, the Mindanao State University-General Santos City celebrated its 50th Founding Anniversary since its institution in 1967 as a community high school and became a full-fledged collegiate campus of the MSU System on October 1973 through the BOR Resolution No. 822.

Banking on the theme "SMART MSU Gensan: Celebrating Golden Years of Pursuing Academic Excellence, Creating Champions of Peace and Development," the institution honors its achievements and breakthroughs over the years that established its stature as one of the premier universities in the region and the country in terms of instruction, research, and extension. It is relentlessly committed to providing competent human resources and improving the living conditions of Muslims and Indigenous. Currently, to underpin its mission to serve the people of Southern Mindanao in achieving sustainable peace and development, the institution perseveres to become the National Peace University.

I have been in this institution for more than 11 years, four years as an undergraduate student and seven years as a Senior High School teacher. I saw how it progressed and prospered. Extracurricular activities are no longer exclusive to intramurals and acquaintance parties. Many buildings and facilities were built to augment the students' learning. New programs and courses were created to keep up with the demands of students and industries. Not to mention, the College of Medicine was established as an initiative to fill the medical shortage in the region. Teachers and students came and went. I felt honored to work with my former professors when I got employed. Several years later, some former students are now my colleagues, and I could not feel any prouder. Times have changed, and MSU is now in a whole new paradigm. However, one thing is constant: MSU works for the greater good. Like gold, it is valuable in society, and its impacts and contributions have lasting effects on the world.

Value and Grandeur

Because of its rarity desirability, gold is recognized as a valuable commodity. In Mindanao, where education is still a privilege to some, MSU-Gensan has opened its doors to fulfilling dreams and visions by offering affordable quality education. Invaluable assets like knowledge and skills are imparted through education, uplifting peoples' socioeconomic, professional, and personal conditions. With its flagship programs, such as engineering, agriculture, and fisheries, MSU-Gensan has produced professionals and experts who labored on the region's economic prosperity and environmental development.

Conductivity and Purity

Gold facilitates the flow of energy; therefore, it is an excellent conductor of electricity. It is embodied in two of its four core values: service and excellence. The culture at MSU-Gensan encourages intellectual curiosity, creativity, and innovation among students and faculty, and their outgrowth



Jaydee G. Paid, MA

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transcends to the service communities through research and extension. With its international, national, and local partners and linkages, the MSU Gensan bolsters socioeconomic development and addresses societal issues.

Gold is known for its brilliant yellow shine due to its resistance to tarnishing. The same goes with MSU-Gensan, whose reputation as a globally competitive university is indebted to respect and integrity. It strongly emphasizes academic integrity, honesty, and ethical behavior, ensuring a pure environment for learning and scholarship.

Durability and Malleability

MSU-Gensan has faced many adversities and problems yet remained triumphant. One is the COVID-19 pandemic, which has recently shaken the educational paradigm by disallowing inperson classes. The institution adapted to this change and employed flexible learning to ensure learning continues.

With its recent collaboration with Development the Authority of the Philippines (DAP) and the Graduate School of Public and Development Management (GSPDM), all academic, semiacademic, and non-academic departments participated in a course training session focused on Foresight and Futures Thinking. Participants were given tools and modules to create a mindset to prepare for future challenges and cultivate resilience. MSU-Gensan is anchored to its vision of becoming a smart premiere university through this.

Beauty

Each member of the MSU-Gensan community has a way of appreciating and adoring its beauty. I am captured by how its simplicity harmonizes with nature. During periods of warmth, the sun dries out all the trees and grass, giving it a golden glow that adds to its allure. While on most days, its verdant look signifies growth and tranquility.

Aside from that, one unique trait of MSU-Gensan that adds to its beauty is its capacity to function as a crucible for people with diverse learning needs and cultural and religious backgrounds. Despite that, harmony is achieved through acceptance, tolerance, and appreciation. Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE) is taught among the students to make them peace champions and advocates.

Given all this, MSU-Gensan's aptness to gold is undoubted. It has an established value and grandeur, so all students aspire to study here. Its conductivity and purity inspire its constituents to be involved in community-building and uphold values of respect, integrity, service, and excellence. As time progresses, it remains steadfast and gains in strength. Moreover, its beauty is evident in fulfilling its mission—to serve the Mindanaoan and Filipino people.

MSU-Gensan is gold. Gold is wealth.

The people, especially all the faculty, staff, and students who worked and studied there, cherish this beloved institution; in return, it enriches the lives of those who love it.

OOD, THE GLORY

Celebrating Milestones and Socio-cultural Impact

excellence 40



MSU-Gensan strides a Walk for L.I.F.E and gathers for PE and Health Books Turnover Program

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Mindanao State University - General Santos achieved a milestone on March 6, 2024, through the successful execution of the Walk for L.I.F.E. program and the PE and Health Books Turnover at Laktanan Wellness Garden.

The program commenced with the ceremonious turnover of PE and Health books, signifying a pivotal moment for the PE department in its pursuit of academic excellence. The said resources were donated by Prof. Henry Daut, a former Dean of the College of Sports, MSU-Marawi, and an official of the Philippine

emphasized the significance of investing in books, stating, "Invest in books; you may find everything in the touch of your finger, but none beats the words of an author."

Thereafter, a dynamic Zumba dance, led by the Balinsasayaw Dance Collective, engaged all participants. The event was highlighted by the Walk for L.I.F.E. parade, featuring various PE students, frontlined by university athletes, and PE teachers stride around the University Quadrangle.

The acronym L.I.F.E. stands for Lifelong Involvement in Fun

Exercises for MSU constituents. This initiative aims to promote campus-wide exercise for university employees, staff, and students, fostering a healthier, stronger, and more productive MSU-Gensan community.

The program concluded with lively Larong Pinoy activities facilitated by Kalbangi members, adding a spirited touch to the event. This initiative aligns with the National Women's Month celebration, contributing to a healthier and more productive future for the MSU-Gensan community.



MSU – General Santos celebrates National Peace Consciousness Month

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a determined effort to create a secure atmosphere that fosters peace and unity, Mindanao State University-General Santos hosted its much-awaited event, KAPEACETAHAN, with the theme "Kapayapaan: Responsibilidad ng Bawat Mamamayan," on September 20, 2023.

The day commenced with a morning soft opening at the Library Lobby, where an exhibit awaited visitors. Attendees had the opportunity to explore displays that delved into the significance of peace and its relevance in today's world. Then was followed by a symbolic ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking the official opening of booths that attracted attendees with their

displays. Students, faculty, and visitors alike embraced the opportunity to participate actively in discussions and activities revolving around the theme of peace and individual responsibilities.

The day took a heartening turn with the "Walk and Bike for Peace" event, where participants from different colleges came together, walking and biking side by side, bearing not only their physical presence but also a shared commitment to peace and camaraderie.

Moreover, the highlight of KAPEACETAHAN 2023 was the "Saranggola ng Kapayapaan Show." Various teams explained the significance of their entries and what each kite symbolized in the pursuit of peace. As the sun began to set, the kites took to the skies in a breathtaking display of color, representing the collective longing for harmony and tranquility.

Honorable Frank Jeay Montebon, President of the College of Education, then delivered the opening remarks and explained the rationale behind this year's celebration. He emphasized the important role of peace in the academic community and the broader society.

Following this, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, delivered a heartfelt message of support. She emphasized the university's unwavering commitment to promoting peace through classroom instruction and peace-related initiatives, highlighting the active role of MSU campuses in advancing regional and national peace programs and shaping future champions of peace and development through various activities. Dr. Lawas stated, "MSU campuses took active roles in the promotion of peace through classroom instruction and conducting peace-related activities and initiatives such as this."

Another message of peace came from the representative of OPAPRU, Francis Maynard Delfin, emphasizing that the formula for positive change starts with us. As responsible citizens, our responsibility starts inside the classroom, inside the state universities, and MSU is the number one partner of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace Reconciliation Unity in bringing peace to Mindanao. "Your peace education efforts in conflict identification, diversity, gender, and many others are bringing positive change to our country," he said. The day concluded with the awarding of certificates and prizes to the event's winners. As the stars lit up the night sky, the festivities continued with a peace concert, reminding everyone of the importance of unity, understanding, and unwavering commitment in achieving peace.

The 2023 National Peace Consciousness Month set in September was celebrated by the University through various component activities supervised by Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao headed by Dr. Mario J. Aguja together with partner offices.





NCWP and PMWC Foster Partnership and Gender Equality Through Dialogue at MSU General Santos

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In an important gathering aimed at promoting women's empowerment and gender equality, the National Commission on Women and Politics (NCWP) and the Philippine Muslim Women's Council (PMWC) visited Mindanao State University (MSU) General Santos for a consultative dialogue with the academe on August 30, 2023, MSU-General Santos campus Peace park.

The event commenced with a warm welcome by Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, who stressed the university's commitment to fostering partnerships that promote gender equality. In his opening remarks, Chancellor Aragasi emphasized MSU-General Santos's dedication to promoting women's empowerment and its willingness to collaborate with organizations like NCWP and PMWC.

Following the welcome address, Honorable Bai Norhata Alonto, President of PMWC, elucidated the program and activities of the consultation. Alonto delved into the historical context of NCWP and its role in advocating for women's rights. She also emphasized the goal of the organization, which is to empower Muslim women and for their voice to be heard. The organization's efforts in collaborating with local government units on projects aimed at women's development was also mentioned.

Alonto remarked, "The NCWP should be the representative of women's organizations, as it's the only women's organization recognized by the national government. It was instrumental in creating the Philippine Commission on Women, giving birth to it. And I'm delighted to say that the face of NCWP here in Mindanao is PMWC."

Concluding consultative dialogue, Honorable Exec. Judge Wenida Papandayan, who brought into focus the significance of the consultative dialogue praised the active engagement of MSU-General Santos and expressed optimism regarding ongoing collaborations between academia and women's organizations. She noted that such partnerships are pivotal in driving positive change towards gender equality and women's empowerment.



Seminar-Training on Safe Spaces Act and Orientation on CODI Manual: Empowering a Safe and Inclusive MSU Gensan

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a profound effort to create a safe and inclusive environment within the MSU Gensan campus, a seminar-training on the Safe Spaces Act, also known as the Anti-Bastos Law, aimed to educate and empower the academic community on the importance of gender-based sexual harassment prevention and awareness, was held at the RSRC on August 25, 2023.

The seminar commenced with a warm welcome and an insightful program overview by Dr. Diane Mae Ulanday-Lozano, Director of the Center for Women Studies. She emphasized the critical need for an act on campus that protects the safety and dignity of all students and employees.

The centerpiece of the seminar was the comprehensive discussion of the Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313) by Atty. Hanna-Tunisia F. Usman, University Legal Officer She provided a thorough understanding of the act, commonly referred to as the "Bawal Bastos Law." She highlighted the scope of the law, which defines gender-based

sexual harassment in streets and public spaces.

Atty. Usman elaborated on the different areas within the campus where such harassment can occur, stressing the importance of awareness and prevention. She emphasized the significance of learning the Safe Spaces Act and its various sections, as it empowers individuals with knowledge of their rights and obligations.

"As citizens, it is essential to understand the boundaries of our actions for harmonious coexistence," Atty. Usman stated, encouraging everyone to embody MSU's core values. The seminar provided an and conversational interactive platform to address the various types of gender-based sexual harassment, fostering a deeper understanding of this pervasive issue. "Let's learn how to be human. Learn how to respect other people," she added, resonating with the audience and emphasizing the importance of mutual respect and consideration for all members of the academic community.

Following the informative sessions, an open forum provided an opportunity for attendees, including

the OSA Director, the Prefect of Discipline from CETD, and medical team representatives, to seek clarifications and pose questions. Faculty members were actively engaged in the discussion. Dr. Ulanday-Lozano Moreover, discussed an overall synthesis and outlined future initiatives planned by the IPDM (Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao). She stressed the importance of fully integrating the peace process into the university's activities.

Office Cultural **Affairs** Director, Dr. Alma Celesthia D. Aguja, was tasked with giving the closing remarks to conclude the enlightening activities of the day. In her speech, she encouraged everyone, "Let's continue equipping ourselves with knowledge about the Safe Spaces Act." She also announced the approval project that would further disseminate information about the act through seminars involving faculty, staff, and students, thus ensuring a wider understanding and application of the Safe Spaces Act within the institution.



MSU GenSan's Office of Guidance and Counseling Conducts Mental Health Workshop for the University Employees

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

In accordance with the celebration of World Mental Health Day, MSU-GenSan employees from various university offices joined the workshop on mental health initiated by the Office of Guidance and Counseling on Wednesday, October 25, at the Regional Science and Research Center. Director of the Office of Guidance and Counseling Services, Hania-Persia F. Usman, RPm led the workshop proper, conducting a series of interactive activities for the employees.

Drawing an emoticon that represents their current emotional state, MSU-GenSan employees actively participated in the workshop. Hania-Persia F. Usman, RPm conducted these interactive activities along with small discussions that created a safe space for everyone to freely engage and participate in the workshop.

"I really want my participants to be engaged in the discussions through prompting small talks whenever I do my workshops" she said.

As stated by Dir. Usman, improving the workplace system is one of the precautions for mental health problems experienced by employees. Improving the system is beneficial not only for their mental health, but also for their operational function in the office. Hence, as pursuant to Republic Act No. 11036 or the Mental Health Act of the Philippines, the Office

of Guidance and Counseling Services finds it imperative to conduct the workshop to promote moral efficiency, integrity, and responsiveness in the workplace. The workshop also includes listing down the three major stressors that strains the employees on their everyday lives. Having the list of stressors, Dir. Usman comprehensively distinguished the difference between positive and negative stress experienced by the employees. Giving a positive perspective about the things or tasks that they consider as "stressful".

Capping the workshop, green ribbons were distributed to the participants as a symbol of hope in this grand scheme of life.





Pre-Medical Society conducts bloodletting program at Mindanao State University-General Santos

Bai Alleynore A Kalim

The MSU-GSC Pre-Medical Society, an organization for MSU-Gensan undergraduate students aspiring to pursue careers in medicine and healthcare, spearheaded the bloodletting initiative at Mindanao State University-General Santos on March 6, 2024. The activity which was held at AVR Library from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM garnered enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff.

This bloodletting initiative, strategically aligned with the National Wellness Month (NWM), played a pivotal role in meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially during emergencies and medical procedures. With an overarching goal to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation, the initiative sought to underscore its life-saving impact and emphasized the significance of such initiatives in addressing critical shortages and meeting the needs of patients in medical facilities. Through the collaborative efforts of the Pre-Medical Society, volunteers, and various other student organizations, the program successfully facilitated a conducive environment for individuals to contribute to this noble cause.

The Pre-Medical Society expressed gratitude to all participants, donors, volunteers, and supporters whose collective contributions made the bloodletting program a resounding success. Their unwavering commitment to the cause exemplifies the spirit of service and solidarity that defines the MSU-Gensan community, all while underscoring the institution's broader mission to nurture socially responsible individuals and contribute meaningfully to societal welfare.



MSU GenSan Hosts Seminar on Integrating Advanced AI Technology in Research

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Mindanao State University - General Santos (MSU GenSan) held a pioneering seminar on research methods incorporating advanced AI technology, specifically AI Gemini. Organized by the Gender and Development office at MSU GenSan, the seminar aimed to bring together representatives from various university departments to explore innovative applications of AI in gender and development research on May 15, 2024,

Dr. Alma Celesthia D. Aguja opened the seminar by outlining its objectives. She emphasized the importance of identifying gaps and themes in current gender and development research and stressed the goal of equipping researchers with the tools and knowledge to leverage Al in their studies.

Participants engaged in discussions on the use of AI in academic research, focusing on AI Gemini's capabilities in data analysis, predictive modeling, and machine learning. These capabilities can be applied to tasks such as designing AI-driven surveys, analyzing gender disparity data, and creating models to predict the outcomes of gender-focused programs.

The second session featured Prof. Novie Arren P. Barretto from the Sociology Department, MSU GenSan, who highlighted the need for the university to develop policies governing AI usage. "It's time for MSU to create a policy on how, when, and to what extent we will use AI." Barretto remarked. She shared the University of the Philippines' Principles for

Responsible and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence, emphasizing the importance of ethical guidelines for AI use in academic research.

Continuing on Barretto's presentation, the seminar included a literature review, examining existing research and best practices in AI and gender studies. This review provided participants with a deeper understanding of the theoretical foundations and practical applications of AI in gender and development research.

The seminar concluded with a collaborative brainstorming session, where participants developed actionable plans to integrate AI Gemini into their ongoing and future research projects.





MSU Gensan's Stop the Scam Hubs Campaign ignites awareness and solidarity against human trafficking

Arthlie S. Laug-Laug

In a concerted effort to end the perpetuation of human trafficking and forced labor through scam hubs orchestrated by various multinational syndicates towards Filipinos and other nationalities, Mindanao State University - General Santos spearheaded a pivotal campaign held at the University Library Audio Visual Room on March 21, 2024. The event was initiated by the Center for Women Studies (CWS) and MSU-Cultural Affairs Office (CAO) in partnership with the Active Citizenship Foundation (ACF), the Office of Senator Risa Hontiveros, and the British Embassy in Manila, which saw participation from at least 100 various college students.

In her welcome address, Dr. Diane Mae P. Ulanday-Lozano, the Director of the Center for Women Studies, urged the participants to remain vigilant and familiarize themselves with the modus operandi of scam hubs and expressed hope that the forum would ignite meaningful conversation, exchange of insights, and discourse participation, ultimately leading to the formulation of strategies and

meaningful actions to address this pressing issue. "May we continue to stand as beacons of hope, determined to protect the rights and lives of the vulnerable," she stressed.

Following, Ms. Catherine 'Kizzie' Sumaylo Matura, the lead Researcher of Scam Hubs, delved into the complexities of the issues, presenting their community project's effort to fight scam hubs. included understanding This recruitment processes, rescue operations, policy responses, and effective prevention strategies. The presentation likely shed light on the intricate mechanisms that exploit individuals and perpetuate these scams.

The highlight of the event was the insightful sharing of the personal experience of a Filipino human trafficking survivor who is bound to work as a Call Center Agent in Thailand and ended up recruited to work as a cryptocurrency scammer in Myanmar during the year 2021. Her firsthand experience served as an imperative reminder to remain cautious and vigilant about the "too good to be true" opportunities of

scam hubs.

"If we cannot eradicate the perpetuation of the scam on us, we should be the ones to have initiatives through avoidance of the red flags of scam hubs whenever we encounter them," she stressed.

The program concluded with symbolic gesture solidarity as the participants were photographed with raised clenched fists orchestrated with the resounding cry of "#FightScam." This gesture encapsulated their dedication to combatting human trafficking and forced labor, striving for a future where decent work and economic growth are attainable for all Filipinos.

This event represents a significant step towards raising awareness, fostering dialogue, and mobilizing action to address the pervasive issue of human trafficking forced labor and facilitated through scam hubs. It underscores the importance of collaboration and community engagement in addressing complex societal challenges.

First Cash—for—Work Assistance Project Launched by DSWD, benefiting MSU General Santos Students and Graduates

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

In a significant move to support students and fresh graduates, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has initiated its first-ever cash-for-work assistance program. Mindanao State University (MSU) General Santos is honored to be the first beneficiary-partner in this groundbreaking project in General Santos City.

The program at MSU General Santos has enrolled 700 beneficiaries—both recent graduates and current students—who have been given the opportunity to work for 90 days with paid compensation. This effort not only

the transitional period from academic life to professional careers. This initiative is aligned with the current administration's commitment to enhancing work and career opportunities for the youth.

The DSWD, known for its various social assistance programs, has emphasized that this project is a step toward a more inclusive approach to community welfare, focusing on education and career development. DSWD representatives at the launch highlighted the importance of investing in the youth as the backbone of future economic growth.





MSU General Santos gathered its officials, faculty, and staff in a solemn gathering dubbed as "Solidarity for Peace" last December 7, 2023. Held at the university's Centennial Lane, the event served as a tribute to the somber incident that occurred at the MSU-Marawi's Dimaporo Gymnasium last Sunday morning, December 3.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi delivered an empowering message of hope urging everyone to actively contribute to the pursuit of peace and to refrain from actions that could disrupt the harmony of the communities. Emphasizing cooperation, he underscored the importance of viewing MSU as a crucial institution dedicated to promoting peace and contributing to the betterment of the community.

Furthermore, Dr. Mario J. Aguja, the Director of the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM), expressed words of solidarity and sought to mend the wounds of a community torn apart by senseless violence. He underscored the gathering as a means to denounce the tragic incident at MSU-Marawi campus, honoring

the victims and uniting in sympathy with the families who lost their loved ones. Dr. Aguja further highlighted the collective effort to combat all forms of violence, encouraging victims not to be intimidated and to persist in demonstrating unity through simple gestures.

"Sa gitna ng dilim at karahasan, patuloy tayo sa ating pagkilos para sa kapayapaan, para sa pagkakaroon ng isang makatarungan at makataong lipunan. Ipakita nating tayo ay hindi natatakot. Ipakita nating tayo ay hindi napapagod. Sabi nga nila, the only way to peace is peace," Dr. Aguja remarked.

In the wake of the ceremony, MSU-GenSan stands as a pillar of strength together with all the campuses of the MSU-System. Together, the MSU System stands united not only in grief but also in an unwavering commitment to peace, justice, and unity. The echoes and wounds of the devastation may linger, but through shared determination, the MSU community strives to forge a path towards healing and renewal.





Striving for Greater Heights and Forging Partnerships



MSU-GenSan continues to deliver its mandates as boosted by the strategic partnerships it has entered. Believing that collaboration is a key element of innovation and progress, the University aims to build stronger connections with local, national, and international partners that share with its vision



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU-GenSan welcomes DBM Secretary Pangandaman

Razul Andi Ariz

Mindanao State University

— General Santos extended a
warm welcome to Department of
Budget and Management Secretary
Amenah F. Pangandaman, at the
Conference Hall, Administration
Building on June 1, 2023.

JD Chancellor Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, in his welcome address, acknowledged dignitaries present and announced Sec. Pangandaman accepted the request to be the keynote speaker of the incoming Commencement Exercises MSU-GenSan. Chancellor Aragasi also expressed gratitude for her support to the College of Medicine, for approving request for plantilla positions for faculty members and for recognizing other needs of the University.

Prof. Shiela J. Loable, the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, presented proposed projects aimed at addressing the growing needs of students and maintaining the quality of services offered. She highlighted three

priority projects: (a) Completion of Phase 2 of the University Gymnasium, (b) Creation of plantilla items for teaching positions, and (c) Establishment of the Regional Center for Psychological Assessment and Research Services. With a student population of 10,000, the completion of the gymnasium will greatly benefit the students in conducting various activities. Prof. Loable also commended the DBM for their responsiveness regarding the request for plantilla and provided an overview of the situation within the University.

Prof. Norman Ralph B. Isla further explained the establishment of the Regional Center for Psychological Assessment and Research Services. The project is poised to function as a Mental Wellness Hub and if approved, will be the first of its kind in the region, pursuant to Section 16 of Republic Act No. 11036, otherwise known as "Mental Health Act."

Sec. Pangandaman shared

that she is aware of the needs of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs). She encouraged institutions to submit campus land use plans with multi-year investments and site development plans, pursuant to the Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan Act (LUDIP Act) to CHED, in order to properly address concerns such as infrastructure projects.

Sec. Pangandaman gave a positive response on the provision of funds for the Gymnasium and challenged the University to propose more projects for Research and Development. Additionally, she promised to discuss more proposed projects when she comes back in July 2023 for the 44th Commencement Exercise of MSU-GenSan.

Also present during the campus visit as a testament of support were DBM Undersecretary Wilford Will L. Wong, DBM Regional Director Akmad J. Usman, Vice Chancellors, College Deans, Directors, and MSU-GenSan faculty and staff.



Towards SMART MSU: DICT Secretary honors MSU GenSan Golden Anniversary SALUBONG Ceremony

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT



MSU Gensan's Pasasalamat Program honors Asec. Achilles Gerard Bravo

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a momentous gathering, Mindanao State University General expressed profound Santos gratitude through the Pasasalamat program for Asec. Achilles Gerard Bravo from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) at Greenleaf Hotel on January 29, 2024.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, set the tone with an inspiring speech, beginning the program with the quote, "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more." Emphasizing the importance of sound fiscal administration, Chancellor Aragasi commitment shared his responsible financial management for MSU Gensan. "I envision that MSU Gensan will always be true to its vision and mission and even exceed people's expectations on what we can do in the future," he declared. Expressing gratitude for collaborations and dialogues with influential individuals, he pledged to continually seek inspiration and support for the university.

> extended his gratitude to Achilles Gerard Bravo, recognizing him as one of the individuals significantly contributed to the university's progress. "Thank you for your commitment," he stated, acknowledging Bravo's dedication and support and expressed gratitude Gensan officials for their

continued support and extended a warm welcome to the incoming undersecretary and MSU officials.

Asec. Achilles Gerard Bravo, introduced by Campus Secretary Norman Ralph Isla, emerged as a true advocate for positive change. Bravo's unwavering commitment to excellence and the betterment of society became the focal point of the celebration. The Pasasalamat program recognized his outstanding contributions and provided a dedicated platform to express gratitude, particularly for his remarkable impact on MSU Gensan.

program moved The forward with the presentation of a plaque of appreciation to Asec. Achilles Gerard Bravo, acknowledging his invaluable contributions to the university. The honor was bestowed upon him as a symbol of gratitude for his unwavering support and commitment.

Asec. Achilles Gerard Bravo from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) then took the stage. Bravo conveyed his appreciation for the warm hospitality and kindness extended to the DBM. "I hope to truly capacitate and assist the university," he stated, acknowledging the vast opportunities and promising future he sees for MSU General Santos City, distinguishing it from other universities.

The event showcased a harmonious convergence of gratitude, commitment, and optimism for the future of MSU Gensan, setting a positive tone university's journey for the ahead.

Striving for Greater Heights and Forging Partnerships

Alumni Pavilion symbolizes unwavering support of graduates

Raydan M. Tangwayan, LPT

The Alumni Relations Office, under the leadership of its OIC-Director, Dr. Alma Celesthia Dumalag-Aguja, successfully conducted the launching ceremony of the alumni pavilion on June 13, 2023. This event is supported by key pioneering alumni, university administration, faculty, and staff.

During her speech, Dr. Dumalag-Aguja expressed gratitude to the alumni community who generously contributed to the realization of the alumni pavilion. These contributions were a result fundraising activities carried out during the "Balik Tambler" event in 2011. She emphasized that the unwavering support and commitment of the alumni were instrumental in the successful completion of this facility, further enhancing the university's development. Adding to that, Dr. Dumalag - Aguja also praised the staff of the Alumni Relations Office, Physical Plant Division, and Cultural Affairs Office who exerted efforts for the realization of the project.

Also present at the event, Acting Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA showed his full support for the launching of the pavilion. Reflecting on his management decisions crucial for the university's future, he cited the creation of the alumni pavilion as a testament to the importance of tapping on the leadership potential of constituents realizing plans. Chancellor Aragasi is also in support of creating establishments alumni pavilion that would cater to the needs of the University's 11,000 enrolled students. On the other hand, Chancellor Aragasi called upon the alumni community to sustain their collaborative initiatives and actively contribute to the creation of spaces that benefit students, faculty, and staff. Recognizing the importance of fostering a sense of community, encouraged increased collaboration between the university and the alumni community through the Alumni Relations Office.

Responding to these remarks, Ms. Mercy G. Aquino, speaking on behalf of the alumni community, emphasized the power of collective action when individuals unite for a common purpose. She highlighted that even small contributions from every member, regardless of their financial status, can make a significant impact on the university's growth and development.

Positioned adjacent to the University Library, the Alumni

Pavilion stands as a versatile and multifunctional space designed to accommodate a wide range of activities. It features conducive meeting spaces and serves as a dedicated study area for students. Equipped with electricity, tables, and benches, the pavilion caters to the diverse needs of the University community.

The inauguration of the alumni pavilion holds a special significance as it coincides with the celebration of Independence Day. This auspicious occasion symbolizes the unity and collective spirit of the university's alumni in contributing to the institution's growth and progress. It stands as a testament to the lasting impact of collaboration between the university and its esteemed alumni, embodying the spirit of unity and support that propels the institution forward.

As the university continues to forge ahead, the alumni pavilion stands as a tangible representation of the fruitful relationship between the university and its graduates. It serves as a reminder of the shared vision, collaboration, and unwavering support that will continue to shape the institution's future





Razul Andi Ariz

Adhering to its commitment of enhancing faculty well-being, professional development, and fostering a supportive environment for its educators, Mindanao State University - General Santos has officially inaugurated the 'Gumnè Kalinaw' Faculty Lounge Building on March 01, 2024, with Honorable Senator Risa Hontiveros leading the turnover thereof. The event, held beside the University Library, marked an important moment in the university's mission of academic excellence and community support.

Dr. Mario Aguja, President of the Faculty Union, highlighted the significance of this wellness center, emphasizing its dedication to prioritizing the mental health of university educators. He underscored that the faculty lounge will serve as a sanctuary for every faculty member, offering a space for work, rest, and personal hygiene routines. The building's name, 'Gumnè Kalinaw,' translates to 'Home of Peace,' derived from the Blaan term 'gumnè' for 'home' and the Cebuano term 'kalinaw,' for 'neace.'

Expressing gratitude for the support received from MSU management and Senator Risa Hontiveros's office, Dr. Aguja stated, "We are pleased and proud that the funds entrusted to us have been utilized effectively for the benefit of our educators at the university. We are doing this for the students and for the Filipino people. This is part of building a just and humane society."

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, acknowledged the support of the university council and staff, emphasizing the importance of teamwork between top management, stakeholders, and the faculty union. He assured, "Rest assured that the assistance you provided, Ma'am (Risa), exceeds the implementation of our program."

Senator Risa Hontiveros, as the guest speaker, delivered an acceptance and inspirational message, highlighting the crucial role of educators and students. She pledged unwavering support to MSU-Gensan and expressed hopes that the facility would become a holistic space addressing the diverse needs of faculty members and students in the future. "... you can count on my continuous support. Our support will continue for our university stakeholders, faculty members, and students of MSU-Gensan," she affirmed.

With Senator Hontiveros administering the oath, the newly elected Faculty Union were sworn to office symbolically in time for new beginnings as the faculty lounge is opene. Thereafter, Senator Risa was presented with tokens of appreciation, including Maguindanaon Baul and Inaul Malong, along with a plaque appreciation read by Dr. Norman Ralph B. Isla, the Campus Secretary. The program concluded with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, symbolizing the inauguration of a new, yet continued era of university excellence.





The official launch of the ICEBOX Technology Business Incubator (TBI) marked a significant milestone in the journey towards operational sustainability and innovation for General Santos City and the broader Region 12. The launch event, held at the ICEBOX Event Space in H-Building, Mindanao State University-General Santos, also kicked off the Gensan Innovation Week 2023 under the theme "Expanding Horizons."

The event brought together key stakeholders from academia, government, and industry, emphasizing collaboration to foster innovation. JD Usman D. Aragasi, MPA, Chancellor of Mindanao State University-General Santos, opened the event with insightful remarks. Leonard V. Flores, PhD, EnP, CESE, City Government Department Head II at CEMCDO, reinforced the city's commitment to fostering an innovative ecosystem.

Dr. Noel S. Gunay, Project Leader of ICEBOX, provided a comprehensive update on the TBI, highlighting its role in nurturing emerging startups. A Memorandum of Intent was signed by representatives from LGU-GenSan, DOST XII, DTI Gensan, AIM-DBI, and the GenSan Chamber of Commerce Industries Inc., symbolizing their collective dedication to supporting innovation.



The Gensan Innovation Week continued with the Copyrights Caravan and Creatives Fair on October 26–27, 2023, in collaboration with IPOPHL, CEMCDO, and ICEBOX TBI. The event highlighted the importance of intellectual property rights in fostering innovation. Atty. Emerson Cuyo, Director IV of BCRR, along with other experts, provided valuable insights on copyright protection in the digital age.

On October 27, 2023, a Business Compliance and Licensing Seminar was held to guide startups through the complexities of business registration and licensing, featuring experts from DTI, City Planning and Development Office, and CEMCDO.

Expanding Digital Horizons

ICEBOX TBI participated in the Digital Career Expo 2023 on November 28, 2023, at the Sarangani Provincial Gymnasium. Hosted by DICT Region 12 and Mainland BARMM, the event focused on building a robust ecosystem for digital careers, discussing government support, global market opportunities, and emerging technologies.

ICEBOX also participated in the IT-BPM Industry Regional Summit on March 11, 2024, to advance the IT-BPM sector in SOCCSKSARGEN. The event aimed to empower the industry and foster rural development, in collaboration with the I.T. & Business Process Association of the Philippines, LGU GenSan, DICT Sarangani-GenSan, and the IT-BPM Industry in the city. ICEBOX TBI also showcased its innovative offerings as an exhibitor at the Kalilangan and National Arts Month Trade Fair and Exhibits, hosted by LGU GenSan and DTI General Santos City, held from February 27 to March 1, 2024.

To further expand the ecosystem,, the ICEBOX TBI core team headed to SingaporeandMalaysiaforanInternational Study Mission and Benchmarking in partnership with Reactor School, a Singapore-based company. This activity opened doors for the TBI to explore the startup ecosystem in other countries and discuss the intricacies of its operations.

Empowering the Next Generation

On May 4, 2024, the Student Bootcamp equipped students with skills to ideate solutions and create value propositions. The bootcamp was led by Engr. Hannah Grace Parcon from the ICT Industry Development Bureau and DICT Region 12. This event is part of the awareness programs of the incubator, also dubbed the UNBOXING Series.

eights and Forging Partnerships

Culminating the of awareness events to cultivate the culture of innovation and technopreneurship, the UNBOXING Hackathon: SarGen Startup Challenge was launched on May 10, 2024, in partnership with DICT SarGen and Region 12, DTI Gensan, and LGU-CEMCDO. The event saw participation from various institutions in the region, with 17 teams pitching their startup ideas. The Imagineers from MSU-GenSan won the Championship title, followed by A&BH eRealtor from Notre Dame of Marbel University, and OMMU from South East Asian Institute of Technology, advancing to the Regional Startup Hackathon.

The ICEBOX TBI Campus Roadshow continued its mission to connect with various institutions. Notable events included a Demo Day at Notre Dame of Dadiangas University, Inc., and participation in the SHS Research Conference at STI College General Santos, showcasing innovative projects and fostering collaboration among students and technopreneurs. ICEBOX TBI also hosted the Demo Day for WEN Ignite -Technopreneurship Students of MSU-General Santos on May 20-21, 2024, in collaboration with the Wadhwani Foundation.

Looking Ahead

ICEBOX TBI has opened applications for Cohort 2 of its incubation program. Accepted applicants will receive a tailored incubation program, access to facilities and ecosystems, and mentorship with industry experts. With the BOR Resolution No. 421, s. 2023, the incubator will continue its operations after being funded by DOST PCIEERD. According to the resolution, it will operate under the Department of Innovation.

ICEBOX TBI also signed a Memorandum of Agreement and Understanding with Southern Educators Philippines and Entrepreneurs Development for Information Technology, Inc. and the Local Government Unit of General Santos City, further cementing its role in driving innovation and technopreneurship in the region. Looking ahead, ICEBOX TBI is set to sign agreements with DTI Region 12, DICT Region 12, Reactor School, and Wadhwani Operating Foundation to further cultivate the culture of innovation and produce more investable and impactful startups.



NEDA Region XII and MSU-GenSan launch SOX RDP Roadshow to promote regional development

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

The National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) Region XII, in partnership with Mindanao State University-Santos (MSU-GenSan), General spearheaded the first SOX Regional Development Plan (RDP) Roadshow on April 3, 2024, at KCC Veranza Mall in General Santos City. The event marks the beginning of a series of roadshows organized by NEDA, as the Secretariat of the National Innovation Council (NIC), aimed at promoting public awareness and collaboration around the National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document (NIASD) 2023-2032 among regional and local stakeholders.

These roadshows will identify existing innovation policies, infrastructures, and programs, while also determining how the region can contribute to the core targets of the NIASD. Furthermore, these will also serve as a platform for accelerating collaboration among industry, government, and academia in the region. particularly at the grassroots level, and to enhance awareness of the region's development agenda.

Among the notable speakers at the event were Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at MSU-GenSan, and Phlorita A. Ridao, CESO IV, Regional Director of NEDA-XII and Vice Chairperson of the Regional Development Council XII (RDC XII).

her speech, Vice Chancellor Lawas highlighted the significance of the blueprint for regional development, emphasizing its potential to foster inclusive and participatory dialogue. She stated, "Our gathering here aims for an inclusive and participatory dialogue that transcends boundaries to holistic solutions for stimulate the region. MSU-GenSan, as your partner higher education institution that serves as a hub of knowledge creation, innovation, and capacity building, plays a pivotal role in shaping the future leaders, thinkers, and doers in our society. We are committed to undertaking and translating these visions into action."

RDC XII Vice-Chairperson and NEDA XII Regional Director Phlorita A. Ridao expressed appreciation for the invaluable contributions of the RDP roadshow partners, especially MSU-GenSan. She also emphasized the objectives of the roadshow, including promoting the RDP 2023-2028 for better appreciation among the SOCCSKSARGEN people and securing their support and commitment in implementing the plan.

Furthermore, she expressed

confidence in the region's ability to achieve and surpass its goals, stating, "The RDP 2023-2028 as our guide and our unity as our strength, I am confident that we will not only achieve, but surpass our goals, driving SOCCSKSARGEN to even greater heights of success and progress. Together, we can strengthen our efforts and create lasting positive change for the people of SOCCSKSARGEN."

The event also featured cultural presentations from MSU-GenSan's Kabpapagariya Ensemble (K.E.), showcasing the rich and celebrated cultural diversity of General Santos City and Region XII.

Representatives from the League of Councilors of General Santos City, City Development Council (CDC) members, private sectors, higher educational institutions within the city, youth sectors, SK chairpersons, also graced the event.

RDC XII will continue to launch various advocacy and promotional campaigns across the provinces and cities within the region to make the RDP more accessible to the public and enhance awareness of the region's development agenda, particularly at the grassroots level.



Over 200 JO employees join Pag-IBIG orientation right after Chancellor Aragasi inks MOA with Pag-IBIG

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

Chancellor Aragasi inks Memorandum of Agreement with Pag-IBIG providing the Job Order employees a voluntary option to deduct over 200 pesos off their monthly wages. The signing was then followed by a campus orientation, held at AVR Library, conducted by Pag-IBIG to orient the JO employees about the benefits and provisions of the partnership. Chancellor Aragasi emphasized the importance of financial literacy and responsible planning during the financial orientation, urging employees to consider the long-term advantages of participating in the program-April 18, 2024.

In his remarks, Chancellor Aragasi highlighted the significance of partnerships with reputable institutions like Pag-IBIG in enhancing the welfare of university employees.

He expressed optimism that the voluntary deduction would empower employees to take proactive steps toward securing their financial future.

The campus orientation spearheaded by Mr. Bernard Guiveces and Mr. Melvin Cruz provided employees with comprehensive information the on process, eligibility criteria, and the various benefits associated with Pag-IBIG membership. Representatives from Pag-IBIG conducted interactive orientation, addressing queries clarifying misconceptions to ensure that employees make informed decisions regarding their participation.

The Memorandum Agreement (MOA) between the university and Pag-IBIG reflects a collaborative effort to promote stability

among its workforce. Under the agreement, employees can opt to allocate a portion of their monthly earnings towards Pag-IBIG savings, which can be utilized for housing loans, calamity assistance, and retirement benefits, among other purposes.

As the university embarks on this new chapter of financial empowerment, Chancellor Aragasi encouraged employees to seize the opportunity to secure their financial future and leverage the benefits offered through the partnership with Pag-IBIG. The signing of the MOA and the subsequent orientation marks a significant milestone in the university's ongoing efforts to prioritize the well-being and prosperity of its employees.

MSU-Gensan Hosts PAC Meeting for University Development

Officials came together for the President's Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting at MSU General Santos, the second hosted by the university during President Mapupuno's leadership, on November 20, 2023.

Participants, including MSU System Heads, Chancellors, and System Officials, engaged in lively discussions covering various university development actions.

This indicates a proactive effort to enhance ties between the constituent universities, highlighting the administration's commitment to working together and fortifying the overall strength of the MSU System.

MSU System President Atty. Basari D. Mapupuno addresses attendees at the President's Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting.



MSU-Gensan, Universitas Negeri Malang partner for international exchange

Cathy Mae Toquero, MAT

Mindanao State University-General Santos (MSU-Gensan) forged a partnership with Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) to facilitate faculty and student academic exchanges. Both state universities officially entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on May 20, 2024, at the Indonesian Embassy in the Philippines.

The MSU-UM partnership the first international exchange collaboration of MSU-Gensan. It will involve participant exchanges, collaborative research projects, teaching internships, and joint academic activities such as conferences, symposia, lectures, and workshops. The academic exchange aims to strengthen international relations, scholarship practices, and research collaborations between MSU-Gensan and Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) of Indonesia.

During the MOU signing ceremony, a courtesy visit took place at the Office of the Indonesian Ambassador. His Excellency, Indonesian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Agus Widjojo, led the discussion and witnessed the MOU signing of the

universities.

Discussions included academic partnerships, scholarship orientations, and future diplomatic among the involved **Ambassador** Widjojo emphasized cultural the diplomatic value of international academic collaborations between the Philippines and Indonesia, highlighting their role in producing human resources and promoting peace within and beyond the Southeast Asian region.

Dr. Hariyono, Rector of UM, spearheaded the formal signing ceremony of the universities. MSU-Gensan Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, represented Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi at the event and acknowledged the significance of the partnership.

"This is an opportunity and a delightful moment for us because excellence and learning should be pursued in collaboration with the best universities," remarked Dr. Lawas. Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) is ranked number one in the education

discipline in Indonesia by Times

Higher Education in 2023 and holds

rank one for education in the Scimago World rankings for 2024. Hence, the College of Education of MSU-Gensan will spearhead the implementation of the academic exchange in the coming months.

The MOU stipulates that the exchange of participants will last from two weeks to a month, will be visa-free, and will include free cultural tours and living expenses, with UM housing participants in its international student dormitory.

This event marks a significant milestone in MSU-Gensan's strategic roadmap for internationalization. Prof. Cathy Mae Toquero, project leader, conceptualized the partnership along with Physical Education Department Head, Mr. Jay Carlo Bagayas.

The MOU signing ceremony was witnessed by university officials, military leaders, and academic dignitaries from both countries.

Also present for MOU signing with UM were officials from Miriam College Foundation and Batangas State University. Other universities that have partnered with UM include the University of the Immaculate Conception and President Ramon Magsaysay State University.



Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, Shiela J. Loable, MS capped the turn-over ceremony of the Establishment of Organic Goat and Organic Pesticide-Fertilizer Production Facilities saying, "we marked the Golden Anniversary of MSU-GenSan with this successful turn-over ceremony of the facilities", October 10, 2023.

Held on the Goat Production Area of the College of Agriculture, Vice Chancellor Shiela J. Loable extends her enthusiasm for the ceremony as it marks the celebration of the university's 50th anniversary. The ceremony is a testament to the university's momentous golden anniversary as it manifests the continuing pursuit of initiatives that transcends fifty years and beyond. Edward R. Lapong, PhD the Dean of the College of Agriculture acknowledged the invaluable support of the Department of Agriculture in the successful establishment of the said facilities. Extending his sincere gratefulness, Dr, Lapong highlights the facilities as valuable assets for further research and instruction of organic agriculture which makes Mindanao State University-GenSan truly grateful for this partnership.

Present on the Turn-over Ceremony were Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Ms. Nurleila G. Canacan, and Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, Shiela J. Loable, MS. Together with the Vice Chancellors of the university, Chief of Regional Organic Agriculture Division Ma. Corazon Sorilla led the cutting of ribbons for each facility.

Ma. Corazon Sorilla also extends her gratefulness for the university and urges Mindanao State University-General Santos to continue its initiatives for the agricultural sector as the Department of Agriculture values organic agriculture and its vital role for the country to move forward.



Iloilo Science and Technology University Alumni Association conducts benchmarking visit to Mindanao State University Gensan

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

The Alumni Association of Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISAT U) embarked on a benchmarking visit to Mindanao State University General Santos to exchange best practices and strengthen their alumni engagement strategies on May 14, 2023.

The ISAT U delegation, led by their Alumni Association President Atty. Leo S. Sombiro, was warmly welcomed by the MSU Gensan Alumni Affairs Office. The visit aimed to foster collaboration between the two institutions and enhance the effectiveness of their respective alumni programs.

During the visit, the ISAT U team participated in a series of presentations and discussions focusing on alumni

engagement, fundraising strategies, and community involvement initiatives. MSU Gensan shared their successful programs and innovative approaches in maintaining strong connections with their alumni network as well.

ISAT U Alumni Association President expressed gratitude for the opportunity, stating, "This benchmarking visit has provided us with valuable insights and new ideas that we can implement to better serve our alumni community." Atty. Sombiro stated.

MSU Gensan's Alumni Affairs Office highlighted the importance of such exchanges in building a collaborative academic community across regions. "Sharing our experiences and learning from each other is essential for the growth and development of our alumni associations. We are pleased to have hosted ISAT U and hope this visit marks the beginning of a long-term partnership," said the MSU Gensan Alumni Relations Office Director, Dr. Alma Celesthia D. Aguja.

The visit concluded with a campus tour and a ceremonial exchange of tokens of appreciation, symbolizing the beginning of a fruitful relationship between the two institutions. Both alumni associations are optimistic about future collaborations and the mutual benefits they will bring to their respective communities.



Spheres of Federalism: MSU GenSan, MSU Maguindanao, and PILG Explore the Terrain of the Federal Form of Government

Jether Boy B. Cataluña, LPT

Students from Mindanao State University GenSan and Maguindanao Campus join the Seminar on Local Governance, Decentralization, and Federalism that explores the facets and complex terrain of Federalism. The discussion primarily revolves around tackling the nation's status quo and how Federalism can potentially reshape it. Speakers and delegates from the Pimentel Institute For Leadership and Governance (PILG) with the support of the Hanns Seidel Foundation, shed light on the intricacies of Federalism at MSU GenSan Regional Science and Research Center (RSRC)-April 22, 2024.

"We must look to the potential power of Federalism on how it can reshape the nation's political landscape...discussion about it is timely, relevant, and important" Atty. Gwendolyn Pimentel-Gana, the President of the Pimentel Institute

For Leadership and Governance (PILG) highlights the need to discuss reforms in the political landscape of the nation.

The discussion focuses on four topics that comprehensively lay out the spheres of Federalism; Atty. Elmar Jay Martin I. Dejaresco a lecturer and Corporate Secretary of PILG opened the seminar with his topic on the Basic Powers and Structure of the Philippine Government. After checking the status quo of the nation's unitary form of government, implications for human rights protection and promotion were discussed by Atty. Luis Ma. Gil Gana on the topic of Federalism and Human Rights.

"It is vital to constantly check the status quo and determine what the centric government has missed to provide to its people" Atty. Elmar Jay Martin I. Dejaresco strongly presented how Federalism would enhance Human Rights by eradicating the tie that bounds each region to the central government.

A deeper look at Federalism was then discussed by Prof. Alex B. Brillantes, PhD on the topic Federalism in the Philippines: Overview, Issues, and Directions. Professor Edmund S. Tayao ended the discussion with his topic Why Federalism? Understanding the need for Reform and Rectifying Misnomers.

Each stint is followed with an open forum that caters to the questions and queries of the participants.

The PILG extends its gratitude to MSU GenSan for taking the challenge of holding the 3rd batch of the Federalism 101 seminar. These seminars aim to conduct a comprehensive dialogue that would open possible solutions to uplifting the nation's state.



MSU-GenSan Hosts Forum on Maritime Security, West Philippine Sea; Dr. Clarita Carlos Invited as Guest Speaker

Kenneth Lisbo, LPT

In line with the university's commitment to mainstream issues of international relevance, MSU-GenSan, in collaboration with the College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH), hosted an event entitled "Navigating the Waves of Geopolitics in the West Philippines Sea" on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at the Greenleaf Hotel, General Santos City.

Forging Partnerships

Striving for Greater Heigh

Under the theme "Exploring the Parameters of Multilateralism and the Durabiliy of a Rule-Based Order in International Relations and Maritime Security" the forum engaged in a wide-ranging discussion on the complexities of the situation in the West Philippine Sea. Dr. Clarita Carlos, in her lecture, emphasized the importance of ownership and stewardship, touching on the concept of the Social Contract among states. She further discussed the UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea) and the caution needed

when directing foreign policy based on various international laws.

Hosted by Prof. Mubarak
Tahir, the forum commenced with
messages and remarks from
guests, including MSU-GenSan's
Chancellor, JD Usman D. Aragasi,
MPA, who stressed the need for
nuanced and informed analysis
in geopolitics. He highlighted
the importance of having a
renowned security expert
and academic like Dr. Clarita
Carlos at such events, given
her experience and track
record in national security.
Primarily organized by CSSH,

with support from the Department of Political Science, Political Science Students' Organization, and the Human Rights Society, the forum attracted over a hundred student participants and faculty members from CSSH, the Institute of Islamic Studies, and the School of Graduate Studies.

In the afternoon session, a panel of experts, including Dr. Prescillano Campado, Prof. Beverly Garcia, Prof. Joshua Castillo, and Prof. Jun Rex Halique, reinforced the discussion on maritime security and international relations. Prof. Jayboy Sartorio and Ms. Arlyn Hervias moderated and hosted the panel discussion, respectively, adding depth to the discourse.

The engagement heightened as moderators solicited questions from student participants and faculty members, addressing topics such as the validity and effects of the Arbitral Ruling of the South China Sea, the foreign policy of the current administration, and the UNCLOS.

The event concluded with photo opportunities for participants and the awarding of certificates and plaques to the panel members and Dr. Clarita Carlos.

Article by: Ramzel Ivan Hugh Delloro



Celebrating Milestones and Sociocultural Impact



In its golden year, MSU-GenSan has ever proudly shined by celebrating its vibrant cultural, artistic, and sports feats. With every loud cheer and resounding applause, MSUans have truly painted the town gold, proud of its excellence beyond the four corners of the classroom.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY



As part of the celebrations for its Golden Anniversary, a historic event unfolded at Mindanao State University-General Santos City on September 6, 2023. The institution hosted the inaugural "Sinugdanan," a celebration derived from the Visayan word "sugod," meaning "to begin," that signifies the start of a new academic year and, in a broader sense, the commencement of new journeys and opportunities.

Following the opening remarks, the event delved into the "History of the Colleges." Deans from various colleges took center stage to share their respective institutions' historical journeys. These enlightening narratives shed light on how each colleges came into existence, providing the audience with a deeper understanding of their origins and evolution.

but symbolizing the beginning of the school year, new challenges, opportunities that we have to conquer," Dr. Lawas remarked. She also highlighted that the emblems on display during the event not only represent the strengths of individual colleges but also serve as powerful symbols of MSU's unity and collective vision.





Pioneering Paths: MSU System Celebrates 62 Years of Transformative Leadership

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

In the heart of Mindanao, a beacon of education and social transformation has stood steadfast for 62 years. The Mindanao State University System, with its unwavering commitment to excellence, inclusiveness, and fostering national and international connections, marks another milestone in its renowned journey. As it celebrates its founding anniversary, it not only reflects on its rich history but also

reaffirms its dedication to shaping a brighter future for Mindanao and the Filipino people.

On September 1, 2023, Mindanao State University marks its 62nd year of taking the lead in social transformation, ensuring excellence, advancing national and international linkages, and demonstrating inclusiveness for Mindanao and the Filipino people.

As an initiative to address the so-called "Mindanao Problem", the Mindanao State University was founded in 1961 through the Republic Act 1387 by Senator Domocao A. Alonto. Bearing this duty of becoming the beacon of

hope not only for Mindanao but also for the whole country, MSU continues its mandate of giving premium in providing quality education for the Mindanaoans.

Mindanao The State University has evolved over the years in keeping with national and local developments. The university has grown from its main campus in Marawi City to a University System that now comprises several campuses located in major centers in Mindanao and Sulu. Its 11 collegiate campuses are located in 8 provinces, in 4 of the 6 regions in Mindanao, namely: MSU Main Campus (Marawi City, Lanao del Sur), MSU-LNCAT (Marawi City, Lanao del Sur), MSU-Maguindanao (Dinaig, Maguindanao), MSU-Sulu (Jolo, Sulu), and MSU-TCTO (Bongao, Tawi-Tawi) from ARMM (Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao); MSU-Buug (Buug, Zamboanga Sibugay) from Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula); MSU-IIT (Iligan City, Lanao del Norte), MSU-Naawan (Naawan, Misamis Oriental), MSU-LNAC (SND, Lanao del Norte), and MSU-MSAT (Maigo, Lanao del Norte) from Region X (Northern Mindanao); and, MSU-General Santos (General Santos City, South Cotabato) from Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN).

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MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY

MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY

Founding Anniversary

Mindanao State University

General Santos City

mandates University include (1) performing the traditional functions of a namely: instruction, university research, and extension service; (2) helping accelerate the program of integration among the peoples of Southern Philippines, particularly the Muslims and other cultural minorities, and (3) providing trained manpower skills and technical know-how for the economic development of the Mindango. Sulu and Palawan (MINSUPALA) region. Furthermore, MSU's current vision is "to be a premier supraregional university committed to the social, political, and economic development of Mindanao while achieving international recognition as a leading institution of higher learning." Its mission statement reads, "Committed to the attainment and sustainable peace

development in the MINSUPALA region, the MSU System will set the standards of excellence in science, arts, technology, and other fields; accelerate the economic, cultural, socio-political, and agro-industrial development of the Muslim and other cultural groups, thereby facilitating their integration into the national community, preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the region and conserve its natural

resources; and infuse moral and spiritual values. For collaborative efforts, for diplomatic relations, for international recognition as a leading institution of higher learning, the MSU System pursue vigorously linkages with foreign agencies."

Mindanao State
University System is the
only university in the
Philippines with a special
mandate of integrating
the cultural communities,
especially the Muslims
into the mainstream of the
nation's socio-cultural and
political life by providing
them with opportunities for
quality and relevant public
education for their self-

development and providing trained manpower skills and technical knowhow for the economic development of the Mindanao, Sulu (Basilan and Tawi-Tawi) and Palawan region.

As Mindanao State University founding celebrates its 62nd anniversary, it looks to the future with optimism and determination. Guided by its core values and driven by its mission, the university remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence, social transformation, and inclusivity. With a renewed focus on innovation and collaboration, it continues to pioneer new paths, shaping the next generation of leaders with its transformative leadership, shedding light on the way to a better future, and making a lasting impact on Mindanao and beyond.

MSUSAA 2024: Celebrating Unity and Victory

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

Day 1: MSUSAA 2024 Kicks Off with Unity and Spectacle

The MSUSAA 7th Unity Games 2024 began with a vibrant parade through General Santos City, culminating in an inspiring opening ceremony at MSU-Gensan. Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi emphasized the unity of the MSU System, while local and national dignitaries highlighted the importance of sports in fostering community spirit. The day concluded with spirited competitions, a creative shirt modeling segment, and a grand fireworks display, setting the stage for an exciting week of athletic excellence.

Day 2: Action-Packed Start to the Competitions

The second day saw the official start of the sports competitions, with basketball, lawn tennis, softball, and soccer matches drawing significant attention. Athletes demonstrated exceptional talent and sportsmanship, while the athletics arena buzzed with excitement as competitors showcased their speed, strength, and endurance. The camaraderie among participants was evident, as the shared passion for sports united athletes from diverse backgrounds.

Day 3: The Battle Continues in the Arena of Champions

Despite the rain, the third day was a vibrant spectacle of sportsmanship and skill across various venues in General Santos City. Women's basketball games kept spectators on edge, while lawn tennis, soccer, baseball, softball, and athletics events added to the day's excitement. Victories in athletics and the adrenaline-pumping combats of Karate-Do and Arnis marked a day filled with intense competition and unwavering support from fans.

Day 4: Delegates Battle Through Intense Day Vying for Podium Finish

The fourth day featured thrilling victories and historic moments in chess, volleyball, soccer, and various martial arts. MSU-Gensan's women's chess team secured a narrow championship victory, while MSU-Marawi dominated in Kata and Kumite events. The day's intense competition fueled athletes' aspirations, motivating them to chase their dreams and aim for victory in their sports.

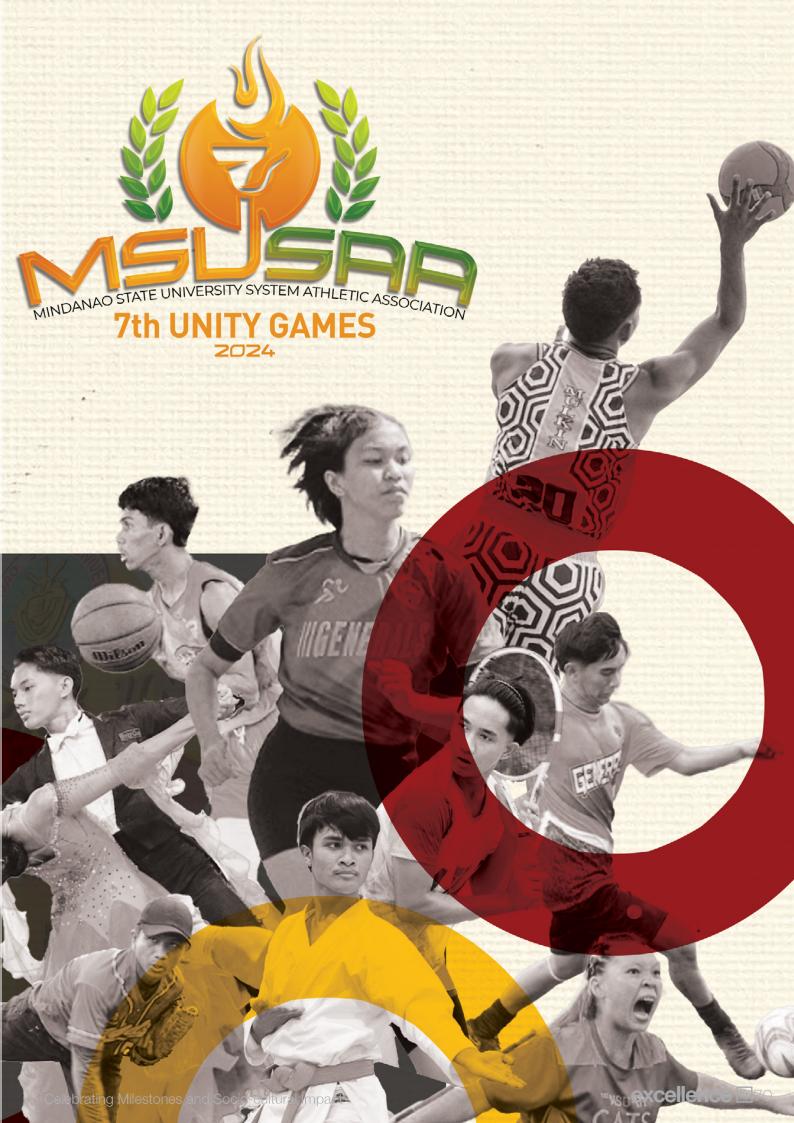
Day 5: Battles for Glory and Survival

The atmosphere on the fifth day was charged with the relentless pursuit of victory, with electrifying matches in badminton, sepak takraw, lawn tennis, and basketball. MSU-IIT clinched the soccer championship, while MSU-Gensan dominated in baseball and beach volleyball. The day was marked by unforgettable performances and narrow wins, embodying the true spirit of the MSUSAA Unity Games.

Day 6: Celebrating Unity and Victory

The final day of the MSUSAA 7th Unity Games concluded with athletes showcasing extraordinary dedication, skill, and sportsmanship. The Generals, Cats, and Royals established dominance across various sports, accumulating 278, 197, and 166 points respectively. Thrilling basketball and volleyball finals kept audiences captivated, while beach volleyball and sepak takraw added to the excitement. The closing day symbolized the array of experienced, emotions from victory to defeat, highlighting the unity camaraderie and that define MSU System.

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MSU GenSan celebrates Year-Starter Thanksgiving with a spectacular Faculty and Staff Night

Mindanao State University General Santos commenced the year with a spectacular Year-Starter Thanksgiving event, held at the MSU CETD Covered Court on January 12, 2024. The night was filled with lively games, heartfelt acknowledgments, and recognitions, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and aratifude.

atmosphere of camaraderie and gratitude.

Chancellor JD Usman D. Aragasi MPA warmly welcomed attendees in his opening address, expressing gratitude for the collective efforts of the faculty and staff that contributed to the university's achievements over the years. In a special note, he extended heartfelt thanks to retirees, stating, "We owe you what we have tonight, and this program is yours."

The event continued with an insightful accomplishment report, showcasing the university's significant milestones, followed by the much awaited raffle draw. The night also featured the recognition of long-serving individuals, with service awards presented to those who dedicatedly served the university for 20 to 40 years. The same recognition was also given to the retirees who

have gracefully left their posts in the university. In a solemn tradition, post-humous recognition was given to employees who have sadly departed.

The pinnacle of the evening was the Talentadong MSUAN competition where three teams showcased their talents, with "Yesterday's Once More" from the MSU College campus emerging as the champions. The faculty and staff from CETD secured the second spot, and the School of Graduate Studies team clinched the third position.

The awarding ceremony concluded with the recognition of the best-dressed participants dubbed as Ladies and Gentlemen of the Night.

The celebration culminated in a lively dance party, where the faculty and staff of MSU rejoiced in their achievements, fostered connections across departments, and eagerly embraced the promise of a brighter new year. The Year-Starter Thanksgiving Faculty and Staff Night truly embodied the spirit of gratitude and optimism at MSU Gensan.

Service Awardees:

Efren T. Awayan (20 Years)
Beethoven C. Morales (20 Years)
Esmaida A. Alaiden (20 Years)
Janifa L. Macalangcom (20 Years)
Ramon M. Eduque, Jr. (20 Years)
Pablo B. Flamiano (20 Years)
Nelia P. Antonio (25 Years)
Yshmael B. Diomahali (25 Years)
Edward R. Lapong (25 Years)
Charlie Taclendo (25 Years)
Alma Celesthia D. Aguja (30 Years)
Rosemarie D. Paches (30 Years)
Blizabeth P. Sunio (30 Years)
Janet T. Comoda (30 Years)
Arnel R. Masmodi (30 Years)
Marissa G. Dela Cruz (35 Years)
Estrelleta B. Maningcara (35 Years)
Helen S. Caliza (35 Years)
Luz P. Doce (35 Years)
Luz P. Doce (35 Years)
Laureana A. Emnace (35 Years)
Benito D. Sison, Jr. (35 Years)
Lisiar R. Cabangcala (40 Years)
Ligen C. Cobard (40 Years)
Lingco T. Pancho (40 Years)
Lingco T. Pancho (40 Years)
Efren M. Sioquim (40 Years)
Efren M. Sioquim (40 Years)
Normina A. Tomindug (40 Years)

Retiree Awardees:

Elisa L. Palapar (4 Years)
Marilyn M. Macalangcom (19 Years)
Teresita F. Pangcoga (19 Years)
Reynaldo T. Villagantol (21 Years)
Arnoldo G. Liansing (22 Years)
Mohalidin M. Tuya (32 Years)
Akmad M. Mocamad (34 Years)
Estrelleta B. Maningcara (35 Years)
Benito D. Sison, Jr. (35 Years)
Wilfredo B. Asparin (36 Years)
Cherryl D. Dindang (37 Years)
Rasdie M. Maningcara (37 Years)
Eliseus B. Barbero (38 Years)
Epimaco A. Cabanlit, JR. (38 Years)
Naya E. Boltron (40 Years)
Lisiar R. Cabangcala (40 Years)
Danilo N. Panis (41 Years)
Camilo M. Maningcara (42 Years)
Tersa R. Castillo (43 Years)
Nelson P. Villa (43 Years)

Posthumous Awardees:

Ronniel D. Mangansakan (6 Years) Malik M. Panda (21 Years)

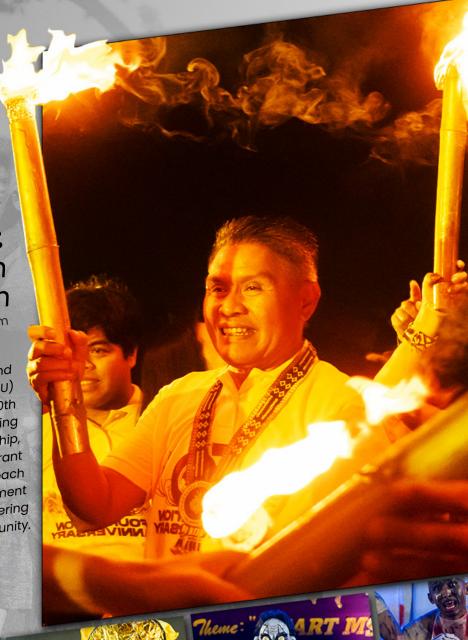




MSU General Santos Golden Anniversary Intramurals 2023: A Week of Triumph and Celebration

Bai Alleynore A. Kalim

In a festive display of unity and talent, Mindanao State University (MSU) General Santos Campus celebrated its 50th Foundation Anniversary with an exhilarating week-long extravaganza of sportsmanship, creativity, and camaraderie. From the vibrant opening ceremony to the grand finale, each day of the Intramurals 2023 was a testament to the indomitable spirit and unwavering excellence of the MSU community.





Day 1: A Spectacular Start

The festivities kicked off under the scorching sun with a magnificent parade honoring MSU's rich legacy and the inauguration of Intramurals 2023. The campus came alive with bursts of color and energy, setting the stage for an unforgettable celebration. As night fell, the lighting of the torch marked the official commencement of the event, ushering in a new chapter of greatness and unity.



Amidst intense sports competitions, students showcased their creative talents in events like Collaborative Desktop Publishing and GAD Film Screening. The day culminated in a dazzling display of dance moves during the electrifying Dance Night, leaving spectators in awe of the participants' skill and passion.

Day 3: Unleashing Voices and Skills

From sports events speaking competitions, Day 3 showcased the diverse talents of MSUans. The day transitioned into a musical extravaganza, highlighting the singing talents of the students. academic Meanwhile, excellence took center stage with rigorous quiz battles and intellectual showdowns.

Day 4: Championships

the competition intensified, athletes battled it out for a spot in the championship future Simultaneously, their debaters showcased eloquence and persuasion skills in a gripping online The competition. debate with concluded alumni day heartwarming homecoming, reuniting past and present MSUans in a

Day 5: Crowning moment

The stage was set for the much-awaited Miss MSU 2023 pageant, where and intelligence, advocacy took center stage. beauty, The crowning of Cyrille Mae college of Marcilla from Fisheries marked a historic moment in MSU's legacy, while other queens were celebrated remarkable their day The achievements. also saw the continuation competitions, captivating the audience with intellectual prowess.

Day 6: Champions Rise championship games unfolded, colleges left no stone unturned in their quest for victory. Literary captivated performances audiences, while musical and dance competitions added to the festive atmosphere. The day culminated in a spirited 'bardagulan,' showcasing wit and creativity.

Day 7: A Grand Finale

The final day saw the crowning of champions and the culmination of a filled with triumphs celebrations. Athletes week displayed unparalleled skill determination, while students dazzled in their and fashion-inspired outfits during the Students' Night. As the night came to a close, the MSU community bid farewell to an unforgettable week, cherishing memories of unity, excellence, and camaraderie.

General MSU Santos Golden Anniversary Intramurals 2023 was more than just a series of events; it was a celebration of MSU's rich heritage and a testament to the resilience and talent of its students. As the campus looks forward to the next 50 years and beyond, the spirit Pamantasan continues to shine brightly, Dakilang inspiring generations to come.



MSU-Gensan Celebrates National Arts Month;

Decolonized Exhibits

Raydan M. Tangwayan, LPT

"Ani ng Sining, Bayang Malikhain" is this year's theme for the National Arts Month. It emphasizes the importance of fostering a thriving creative community. When people come together to create art, it flourishes, and history remembers societies that embrace artistic expression.

ANI NG SINING,

Following this, the Mindanao State University - BAYANG MALIKHAIN
General Santos City, through the Cultural Affairs
Office, celebrated the National Arts Month with a culminating activity at the Alumni Pavilion on February 28, 2024. During the said event, students who are members of the MSU Chorale, Arya, and the Kabpapagariya Ensemble, showcased their talents as performing artists.

"This is a rare occasion where all skill grantees gather and present their art," expressed Ms. Alma Celesthia Dumalag-Aguja, DM, Director of the Cultural Affairs Office.

Prior to the culminating activity, the Museum of Cultural History and the Arts also made a photo exhibit of the works of the National Living Treasures for 2023, alternatively called as Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan from Southern Mindanao. By virtue of Proclamation No. 427 from Malacañang Palace has named the following to receive the Gawad ng Manlilikha ng Bayan (GAMABA) for 2023 from Region XII:

1. Bundos Bansil Fara (Lake Sebu, South Cotabato) safeguards and promotes the T'boli temwel (brasscasting) tradition;

2. Barbara Kibed Ofing (Lake Sebu, South Cotabato) safeguards and promotes the T'boli t'nalak (ikat weaving) tradition; and, 3. Rosie Godwino Sula (Lake Sebu, South Cotabato) safeguards and

promotes the T'boli lingon (chanting) tradition.

In addition to the works of the 2023 awardees, the works of former GAMABA Awardee Bai Estelita Bantilan (mat weaver), Fu Yabing (weaver and dyer), and Lang Dulay (Tnalak).

Finally, after 40 years of KE's existence (the official performing arts arm of the university), the university welcomed the Balinsasayaw (a dance collective) as its newest addition.

"Wherever we go, whatever we do, we not only represent ourselves, but also MSU. Please be responsible," reminded by the CAO Director.





The 18th Tanghal Festival's Celebration of Mindanao's Artistic Harvest

Al-Farouk Racman P. Minodar, LPT

With the goal of promoting culture and the arts in the region through diverse programs and initiatives, the Mindanao State University - General Santos, as selected by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Dramatic Arts, hosted the 18th Tanghal National University and Community-Based Theater Festival - Mindanao Leg, held last March 14-16, 2024.

Under the theme "Ani ng Sining, Bayang Malikhain," 13 theater groups from across Mindanao gathered at MSU-General Santos and nearby venues to showcase their talents.

The performances featured a variety of genres, including comedy, drama, tragedy, puppet shows, and Indigenous Peoples' stories, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Mindanao.

Known as the flagship project of the NCCA-NCDA, for National Arts Month celebrated every month of February, this marks the third time the University has hosted the festival. For 2024, the event was considered the biggest with 23 performances and over 3,000 audience reach in 7 venues.

The three-day festival commenced by the banging of traditional gong of Chancellor JD Usman Aragasi, MPA and assisted by the Festival Director / NCDA Mindanao Director Dr. Norman Ralph B. Isla and Cultural Affairs Director Dr. Alma Celesthia Aguja. Special guests, including Congressman Loreto "Ton" Acharon, IPDM Director Dr. Mario J. Aguja, NCDA Vice Head Dr. Hobart Savior, and NCDA Secretary Ted Nudgent Tac-an, further emphasized the significance of the festival for Mindanao's cultural growth.

The 18th Tanghal Festival became a vibrant space for dialogue, celebrating Mindanao's cultural identity while promoting inclusivity and creativity in the arts. MSU-Gensan's commitment to such events highlights its role in advancing culture and the arts in the region. The festival fostered a sense of community and cultural pride, inspiring many to explore their creative potential and demonstrating the unifying power of the arts.

Participating theater groups included Apat sa Taglamig, Inc., Beyond Fortress Collective, Oro Teatro Bulawanon, MSU - Maguindanao Sining Kandidilimudan, Xavier University - The Xavier RMMC BPeA, JRMSU Teyatro Dasuliman, RMMC Teatro Ambahanon, ArtHome Theater Collective, Kalimudan Culture and Arts Center, RMMC BCAEd, Gensan Kabpapagariya Ensemble, and BIDA General Santos. As one, they contributed to making 18th Tanghal Festival a resounding success, further highlighting vibrant how Mindanao is with its dynamic cultural landscape.



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

The Editorial Board is proud to offer you this June 2024 issue of Excellence, 'The Golden Years of Soaring Sarimanok' as a tribute to Mindanao State University - General Santos' 50th Founding Anniversary.

The 'Sarimanok,' a mythical bird of the Maranaos with its vibrant wings, feathered tail, and beak or talons grasping a fish, has come to symbolize the cultural and artistic vibrancy of its people and all of Mindanao. Featured in our art, academic insignias, and atop the mace paraded during commencement rites, this emblem embodies the beauty, diversity, and shared aspirations rooted in Mindanao State University - General Santos.

In this issue, we pay homage to the vibrant history and development of our institution in time with our golden anniversary while sharing a collection of university news divided into five themes: Honoring Five Decades of Continued Excellence, Empowering Futures of the Academe, Harmonizing Golden Values, Striving for Greater Heights and Forging Partnerships, and Celebrating Milestones and Socio-cultural Impact. Each section contains carefully curated articles attuned to their respective themes to document the most recent news and interests going on and about the university.

Just like the Soaring Sarimanok in its gold polish, this issue uses the golden motif to celebrate timeless and enduring stories for our readers. We invite you to read this issue inspired by the excellence every MSUan embodies as well as our hopes for the university as it turns 50.

With a passion we hold golden, we thank you for your time and enthusiasm in reading.



