



## Christmas celebration at CatSU opens with ‘Parol ng Pag-asa’ lighting

by Caroline I. Vecilles

The Christmas celebration at Catanduanes State University (CatSU) started its countdown with the lighting of tree of hope and lighting of lanterns called ‘Parol ng Pag-asa’ in a simple ceremony held on December 15, 2022 at the CatSU Front Grounds.

Rolling on its 2nd year, the ‘Parol ng Pag-asa’ is a fund-raising project which started in 2021 to support the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) whose families are the main beneficiaries. In this project, the PDLs share their craftsmanship in making parols or Christmas lanterns which is given to the respective sponsors. The amount raised are used to buy noche buena for the respective families of the PDLs.

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## CatSU, ARDCI launch STUDENTS PANTRY

by Caroline I. Vecilles

Catanduanes State University in collaboration with Agricultural and Rural Development for Catanduanes Inc. (ARDCI) Corporation created a Community Pantry with the goal of helping to alleviate food insecurity that students are currently facing specifically at this time when the final exams are coming up in the university.

The project called Student Pantry, is an offshoot of a fund-raising activity that was held last month, and was initiated by ARDCI Microfinancing Inc. and its

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## CatSU GAD holds culminating activity for the 18-day Campaign to end Violence against Women (VAW)

by Caroline I. Vecilles

CatSU held a culminating activity for the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women (VAW) on December 12, 2022 at the Main lobby of the Administration building.

The campaign, observed annually from November 25 to December 12,

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## CatSU PE Chair receives Most Outstanding Innovative Leader Award

by Caroline I. Vecilles



Prof. Mark Anthony R. Dalipe, Chairperson of the Physical Education Department, College of Education of CatSU was recently awarded as Most Outstanding Innovative Leader and Educator in Physical Education and Sports in honor of his outstanding qualities, excellence, highest moral standards, honesty, civic accountability, and social responsibility.

The award was given by the International Organization of Educators and Researchers Inc., (IOER) during its first International Excellence Awards on December 12, 2022, at Grand Ballroom, Okada, Manila, Philippines.

The International Organization of Educators and Researchers Inc., (IOER), is an academic organization of eminent educationists, researchers, and practitioners across the globe. It aims to conduct national and international activities related to education and research, such as conferences, research forums, seminars and training, and other events supporting the importance of education and research.

The IOER also aims to intensify collaboration and expand partnerships among academic scientists, educators, researchers, research scholars, practitioners, and students worldwide as well as exchange and share their innovative ideas, practices, experiences, and research results in various disciplines.

The IOER vehemently strives to engage, thrive, and lead in the international platform through innovative and collaborative research that transforms knowledge and scientific discoveries into action. The organization is committed to strengthening and transforming synergies of expertise in the field of Scientific and Academic Research activities across the globe and provides leadership training and promotes integrated scholarly activities to enhance research productivity.

## CatSU student-beneficiaries receive TES grant AY 2021 - 2022

by Caroline I. Vecilles

In time for the Holidays, student grantees of the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) of Catanduanes State University received the grant amounting to Twenty Thousand Pesos (PHP 20,000) per semester.

The TES distribution for First Semester Academic Year 2021-2022 were scheduled for three (3) consecutive Saturdays beginning October, while for Second Semester 2021-2022 started in December, and was held at the Open Court, in coordination and facilitation with the management staff of the Office of Admission and Registration Services (OARS), Office of Student Support Services (OSSS), and assistance from the Cashiering Services.

A total of 732 grantees for First Semester AY 2021-2022, and 712 for Second Semester AY 2021-2022, received the TES. According to Ms. Marilyn G. Tejada, University Registrar and TES Focal person, this year's grant distribution is very timely especially with the comeback of face-to-face classes where students are financially challenged and needing monetary assistance to help them with academic requirements.

"May this truly help them as they bear with the adjustments, they've gone through in switching back to onsite with blended learning modality," Ms. Tejada said.

The Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) is a government grants-in-aid program under Republic Act (RA) 10931 that gives Forty Thousand Pesos (PHP 40,000) per school year to financially deprived Filipino students who enroll in their first undergraduate-post-secondary program in SUCs and CHED recognized local universities and colleges (LUCs) as well to those studying in private higher education institutions (HEIs) and public schools in municipalities and cities.



[18-day campaign to end VAW...](#) from page 1

raises awareness about VAW as an issue of national concern. This year's theme "United for a VAW-FREE Philippines" focused the campaign on positive advocacy messaging by encouraging everyone to commit their stand and support to end VAW and to actively participate in a joint pursuit to have a VAW-free community.

In support of the 18-day campaign period, several activities were implemented by CatSU GAD Services headed by Dr. Maria Edna R. Inigo, Chairperson of the GAD Focal Point System, and Prof. Melinda V. Abichuela, CatSU GAD Officer-in-charge. Some of the activities include a Eucharistic Celebration, VAW-free community advocacy parade, various contests participated in by bona fide students from the Main and Panganiban Campuses, such as the 20-year Philippine VAW-Gains Quiz bee, painting contest, Bicol Song Writing contest, VAW-Free Photography Contest, Slogan and Poser-Making Contest, and a seminar training focusing on Bridging the Silence on Gender and Violence.

Prof. Reashiela L. Khan, Gender Mainstreaming and Monitoring System Focal person (GMMS), led the opening remarks for the culminating activity and thanked everyone who supported the learning and development sessions. Winners of the various contests were also awarded during the program.

Prof. Khan also encouraged everyone to continuously support CatSU GAD activities and, in their own little way, be an advocate of anti-violence against women and children.

The Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710) defines the Gender and Development Program (GAD) as the development perspective and process that is participatory and empowering, equitable, sustainable, free from violence, respectful of human rights, supportive of self-determination, and actualization of human potentials.



## CatSU GAD, 2 LGUs collaborate in bridging the silence on gender and violence

by Caroline I. Vecilles

As part of the nationwide 18-day Campaign on violence against women of the Philippine Commission on Women, the Gender and Development Services of the Catanduanes State University headed by Dr. Maria Edna R. Iñigo, Chairperson of GAD Focal Point System, and Prof. Melinda V. Abichuela, GAD-OIC, held a conference dubbed as "Bridging the Silence on Gender Violence" at the Accreditation Room on December 5, 2022.

The event was made possible through the shared efforts and support

of the participating LGUs of San Andres and Baras headed by Mayor Leo Mendoza and Mayor Paolo III Teves, respectively.

Embarking on another challenging undertaking, the conference aimed to provide the participants a deeper understanding and knowledge of the current state of gender violence in the province. Notable individuals and leaders representing the different sectors and offices with direct hand on women, family and children ably presented their ideas on the services, data, plans, and challenges they encountered as gender advocates of the province.

Among the guests were DTI Provincial Director Maria Belma Escueta, PNP-Virac PSMS Josephine Bergonio, Atty. Rene John Velasco, EBMC WCD Officer Dr. Cecile A. Zuniega, Pastor Richard Manlangit Pacora of the Light and Salt of the Earth Christian Church, Sr. Basilides "Daisy" Superable of the Contemplative of the Good Shepherd Convent, and the Emergency Department Head of EBMC Dr. Arman Jefferson Espinola. Without hesitation, they made time to present the roles and experiences of their agencies and offices in responding to women, family, and children concerns in Catanduanes.

Participants represent various offices and agencies including Cavinitan Elementary School, Calatagan Elementary School, Calatagan High School, Panganiban MSWDO, Calatagan Brgy. Local Govt. Unit, Camp Camacho Provincial PNP, Eastern Bicol Medical Center (EBMC) Hospital, and Public Attorneys Office.

"Today is a special day for all of us as we continue with our advocacy and in catalyzing urgent and sustained actions to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Through this, we also hope to be informed and enlightened, and furthermore be able to think and come up with the significant ways on how the island can achieve zero gender violence," Prof. Khan, GAD-GMMS shared.



## CatSU holds orientation-workshop on SPMS preparation

by Caroline I. Vecilles

Aimed to ensure the establishment of a clear vision of the university's direction and goals for 2023, the office of Vice-president for Administrative and Financial Affairs, headed by Dr. Maria Edna R. Iñigo, held a one-day training workshop entitled "Orientation/ Workshop on preparation of Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS)", on December 6, 2022 at CatSU Accreditation Room.

The activity likewise intends to promote awareness of responsibilities among the employees of their significant organizational roles, how to run their respective units, and work effectively towards the realization of the CatSU Presidents Vision of HOPE.

The objectives include the preparation of SPMS Forms that consists of Division/Unit Work Plan (D/UWP) for 2023, Office Performance Commitment Review (OPCR) Form, Individual Performance Commitment Review (IPCR) Form, D/O/IPCR Monitoring Schedule, and the Discussion of the workflow of submission of SPMS Forms and Updated SPMS Calendar.

The workshop, which is mandated by the Civil Service Commission, was facilitated by the university's Human Resource Management Services headed by Ms. Ma. Sionne May Crispino. The Head of Offices of the University from the Administrative and Financial Affairs Division and the Central management were in attendance. Also in participation were the CatSU Performance Management Team from the Panganiban Campus, SPMS Technical Working Group, and Unit representatives.

This mirror activity is a follow up of the pioneering initiative made only after 50 years of the university's conception and further intends to strengthen the current leadership's call for transparency, integrity, and accountability, thus would help and motivate employee performance according to or beyond the expectations of the taxpaying public.

"This activity serves as a focal point of the university in making sure that we are able to refocus our direction and review the different activities that we do in the Performance Management Systems. Having a PMS in place is an integral component of the Human Resource Management", Dr. Iñigo said.

"May we have that sense of belongingness, take responsibility, claim ownership for the attainment of the institutions VMGO. Today, I hope that you have picked up all the information which should pave the way to a clear direction in the preparation of SPMS forms", she ended.

SPMS is focused on linking individual performance vis-a-vis the agency's organizational vision, mission, and strategic goals. It is envisioned as technology composed of strategies, methods, and tools for ensuring fulfillment of the functions of the offices and its personnel as well as for assessing the accomplishments.



# Unit 2 is CatSU Olympics 2022 champions!

via The CatSU Statesman

CatSU Olympics 2022				
FINAL AND OFFICIAL RESULT				
				
<b>UNIT I</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3RD RUNNER UP</b>
<b>UNIT II</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>CHAMPION</b>
<b>UNIT III</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2ND RUNNER UP</b>
<b>UNIT IV</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1ST RUNNER UP</b>

 The CatSU Statesman SOURCE : Committee on Clerk-of-Course

After the 3-day brawls of the four (4) competing powerhouse units under the scorching heat of the sun, and heavy downpour in the afternoon, Unit 2 emerged victorious and claimed the throne as champions in the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Olympics 2022.

The blue team, which is composed of College of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF), College of Science (COS), and College of Education (COEd), bagged 96 gold medals, 62 silver medals, and 65 bronze medals based on the official and final result of the Committee on Clerk-of-Course headed by Prof. Anne F. Gianan, chairperson of the Mathematics Department.

Unit 2 dominated the Arnis (Men and Women), Athletics (Women), Badminton (Women), Dancesport, Lawn Tennis (Women), Softball, Swimming (Men and Women), Taekwondo (Women), and Volleyball (Men).

The champs also are the second best in Basketball (Women), Chess (Men and Women), Lawn Tennis (Men), Sepak Takraw, Volleyball (Women), Beach Volleyball (Women), and Ms. CatSU Olympics.

Earning the first runner up is Unit IV, composed of College of Health Sciences (CHS), College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHUMSS), and College of Industrial Technology (CIT). The red team reaped 64 gold, 52 silver, and 94 bronze. They were the victors in Athletics (Men), Baseball, Basketball (Women), Futsal, Table Tennis (Men and Women), Taekwondo (Men), Volleyball (Women), and Ms. CatSU Olympics.

Ranking as second runner up is Unit III composed of College of Business and Accountancy (CBA), College of Information and Communications Technology (CICT), and College of Engineering and Architecture (CEA). The yellows owned the sports in Chess (Men and Women), Football, Basketball Men (3x3 and 5x5) and Sepak Takraw.

Meanwhile, Unit 1 or the Green team of CatSU – Panganiban Campus got the third runner up rank with 13 gold, 31 silver, and 18 bronze. The team from the North displayed its dominance in Boxing (Men).

The CatSU Olympics 2022 had its awarding ceremony at the CatSU Oval, which also featured the field demonstration of 4,260 students from the collegiate and high school level.

“I am happy that finally, after two years, we were able to have the CatSU Olympics which we had been waiting for. May you continue the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie, especially in playing the sports that you truly love,” Dr. Lily P. Custodio, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Officer-in-charge, said.

Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, CatSU SUC President III, also expressed his congratulatory message to all CatSUans who made the event possible.

“Let us work altogether in facing the challenges that involve sports development. With the comeback of CatSU Olympics, may this event be an inspiration to everyone to continue focusing on fitness and wellness,” Dr. Azanza said.

“Congratulations CatSUans for demonstrating the relevance of sports and our values that have been strengthened in this otherwise dark times of global pandemic.”

## Red secures golds in Women’s Singles Table Tennis

via Justine Louise Tuazon | Photo by Mark John Tayamora | CatSU Statesman



Two-time Bicol meet and Provincial athlete Alyssa Nicole Bernardo clinched gold for Unit IV in Singles A category in Women’s table tennis during the CatSU Olympics.

Bernardo outplayed Ma. Donabella Edrelle Gaters of Unit III in a best-of-seven game with a score of 4-1.

During the first three sets, the red lady paddler secured her win with an outstanding 11-5, 11-7, 11-1 score.

In the fourth set, Bernardo failed to counter the side spins and side chops attacks of Gaters resulting to dominance of the yellow lady paddler and ended the set with a two-point difference after a deuce, 13-11.

As Gaters showed steady plays in the fourth set, Bernardo made sure to get back using backhand serves which Gaters had trouble receiving.

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red secure golds... from page 4

Both paddlers showed their harnessed techniques as they entered the fifth set, having a two consecutive deuces. The game ended with Bernardo winning the final set as Gaters failed to save the game due to her service errors, 16-14.

Meanwhile, Monica Rodulfo won Unit IV's second gold in the Singles B category after a landslide victory against Lei Cassandra Solmerano of Unit III, 4-0.

## Yellow smashers dominate Men's Badminton tourney

via Jaymon T. Aranda | Photo by Eva Alessandra M. Subion | CatSU Statesman

Yellow Unit 3 owned the badminton court as they were hailed champions in Men's Singles and Doubles Badminton Tournament during this year's Catanduanes State University Olympics.

The Yellows showed off their radiant moves as they competed against the blazing Red smashers of Unit 4 in the championship match held on Tuesday, December 6, at CatSU Gymnasium.

In singles badminton, Mark Jun Añonuevo of Unit 3 took over the floor against Ivan Olfindo of Unit 4.

Both players started off the game with an intense energy, throwing strong and solid smashes against each other which led to an almost close fight.

The yellow smasher kept the fire burning and released flashing smashes to secure an advantage over the blazing Olfindo ending up with a landslide, 21-11.

Añonuevo continuously released striking solid smashes making it hard for his opponent to take good shots, securing another decisive victory, 21-8.

In doubles badminton, John Zeke Miniano and King Chester Tatad of Unit 3 claimed their success after a three-set close match against Unit 4's Leo De Quiros and Nicanor Alpon.

The unpredictable results of the match was felt on the first set of the game as the two fiery pairs were assertive in taking sliding smashes against each other. However, the yellows managed to faze their opponent ending the set in their favor, 22-20.

Despite the loss, the red pair maintained their head up and continued to strike solid shots, winning the second set of the game with a five-point deficit, 21-16.

The striking fire nearly burnt the court on the third set as the two opposing teams both showed their tenacity to claim the victory, leading to a drawn out ending score of 26-24.

"Sobrang intense ng laban, kaya kami kabado, pressured. Kahuna ko madadaog na kami nung kada galamang sila ng score, kaya nakaugma na nanggana kami," says Miniano during a quick interview after the game.

Tatad also shared that they underwent vigorous training everyday in preparation for the upcoming event from 4:00-5:00 PM and were glad that their team efforts were not in vain.

"Supportive ni coach, kung gatraining kami minsan igwa ng naenot na gakawat, si Sir gagibo paraan para lang makakawat kami," Miniano added, acknowledging their coach's contribution to their victory.



## Vargas comes back with a gold after an overwhelming defeat

via Kris Jane Dela Vega | Photo by Eva Alessandra Subion | CatSU Statesman

After losing in the hands of Unit 2 jock Ryster Villarete in the elimination game, Dyn Ryk Vargas of Unit 3 turned the table as he bagged the gold medal in Lawn Tennis Singles Category on Tuesday, December 6.

Vargas again played with Villarete on the opposite side of the court in the first game of the best-of-three matches.

At the start of the game, the tennis court was fired up with the fervor of the rivals to win the game. Vargas snared an early three-point lead, pushing Villarete to double his efforts, which was however proved to be in vain due to his errors, 5-2.

Villarete picked himself up and worked on his defense, stealing a point from offensive Vargas.

Unit 3 smasher, however, ramped up the pressure and sealed the victory with Villarete's unforced error, 8-3.

In an interview, Vargas explained how he turned the tides in the championship game with the same opponent who defeated him in a landslide score of 6-1 in the qualifying round.

"Na-realize ko sa first game mi na 'yun na masyado akong ga-power kaya perming ga-out [ang mga] tira ko and makusog talaga pano si Ryster. 'Yung kaso nadaog ako, na-realize ko 'yung mga mali ko sa kawat ko, kaya pag-

championship tapos siya yung kalaban ko, pig bago ko 'yung mga sala ko," says Vargas.

He further shared that his strategy for the game was to maintain the rally and wait for his opponent to commit an error.

"Makusog mga forehand niya talaga and nasakitan ako mag receive nun especially yung bola niya top spin nasakitan ako mag receive nun," Vargas added.

Meanwhile, in the second game of the championships, Luis Emmanuel Macero of Unit 2 smashed Yellow's Jerome Obogne leaving the latter to crumble in defeat, 8-0.

But the winning streak of the blue team ended in the third game as their bet Renz Bautista was bested by Unit 3's Kim Anthony Torillos with an 8-4 final score.



**Congratulations!**

Catanduanes State University has produced a new batch of equipped and competitive professionals in the recently concluded **Licensure Examination for Agriculturists (LEA)** given by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) on November 22-24, 2022.

The CatSU community is proud to share the news to the public for attaining a passing rate of

**27.35%, producing thirty-two (32) new Agriculturists**  
out of one hundred seventeen (117) takers.  
**National passing rate is 34.57%** (4,035/11,673).

**Congratulations to our new Agriculturists from CatSU Main-College of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF) and Panganiban Campus (PC).**

Here are our new Agriculturists:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ALOJADO, JOSHUA TATEL</li> <li>2. ARADOR, FELIZARDO JR. GONDONG</li> <li>3. ARCILLA, LYN BENAVIDEZ</li> <li>4. BEGUIRAS, CAREL CLEMENTE</li> <li>5. CAPISTRANO, ANTONIO SAMUDION</li> <li>6. CATA CUTAN, ARLENE CHAVEZ</li> <li>7. CELESTINO, JAYMARK IDUSORA</li> <li>8. CRISTO, NICOLE CHENTE</li> <li>9. DIWATA, JOHN DENVER AGOTILLA</li> <li>10. FERRER, JOY PONIADO</li> <li>11. GUERRERO, JAYSON BALLADA</li> <li>12. LANON, JOHN PAULO SORRA</li> <li>13. LUMABI, GIO SONER</li> <li>14. MANLANGIT, MARK ANTHONY DE LA CRUZ</li> <li>15. MARQUEZ, MARK GERALD TABLIZO</li> <li>16. MOLINA, FRANCIA TABINAS</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. NAZARENO, LEA MAE APACHE</li> <li>18. OCLARINO, JANDOLF BELLO</li> <li>19. OLAPANI, DARRYL JAY BERNAL</li> <li>20. OLESCO, FRANKLIN (CATSU PC)</li> <li>21. SORRA, RAMY RAMOS</li> <li>22. TABIRARA JOHN CARLO CUSTODIO</li> <li>23. TABUZO, JAN BRIX MATIENZO</li> <li>24. TAPAR, RUBY TUMALA (CATSU PC)</li> <li>25. TAPIA, JENY ROSE BRIONES</li> <li>26. TATEL, JEFREY GONZALES</li> <li>27. TAWAT, JOMARI TRINIDAD</li> <li>28. TESORERO, ANTHONETTE JARILLA</li> <li>29. TODOC, JAY MARIN (CATSU PC)</li> <li>30. TRAQUEÑA, GIANNE CAJUDAY</li> <li>31. TUMANLAO, JOHN PAUL SACREZ</li> <li>32. TUMAZAR, MA. GLAIZA PALMA (CATSU PC)</li> </ol>
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Institutional Passing Rate: 27.35% (32/117)  
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## Newly licensed agriculturist

by *Caroline I. Vecilles*

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[student pantry...](#) [from page 1](#)

corporate organization, headed by Dr. Ma. Cecilia L. Zantua, Managing Director of ARDCI Foundation.

According to Dr. Zantua, the Student Pantry is an ARDCI Foundation project through a donation of its corporate organization, the ARDCI Microfinancing Inc., that is envisioned to help the students especially upon learning that most often than not, they would sacrifice to skip meals just to save their allowance for some other schools needs. She further said that this project is not just a project to help people in need but also a project of honesty and kindness.

"It is a test of kindness as we look for people who can give what they can, and Honesty – for students to get only what they need, and to think about the rest too who like them are also in need. It is a challenge to the heart", Dr. Zantua said.

Ms. Karie Ann V. Santos, Project Manager shared that the general mechanism is like that of the community pantry during the pandemic with those students included in the low-income families as target beneficiaries.

"We encourage the students to avail of the program, they can get from here some of their basic daily needs like canned goods, biscuits, and the like. Also we encourage other students, employees, faculty, friends and acquaintances with generous hearts to share your blessing here at the CatSU Student Pantry. We can't do this alone; we'll also need help from our community members so we can help our future professionals to be successful by simply providing some of their basic needs", Ms. Santos said.

Meanwhile, Dr. Aida A. Dianela, one of ARDCI's consultants, and a former CatSU Director of Student Affairs of CatSU, and also a member of the CatSU Board of Regents, was happy to share about the Student Pantry.

"We are here to help those who are so disenfranchised in life and I see that the happiness, the love, the caring is so great, it is at its maximum height", Dr. Dianela gladly shared.

Dr. Dianela, in closing, enjoined everyone from CATSU to share, especially those who may already have extras, to help in sharing to those who have little or less in life.

"Whats important is we help make peoples lives light, lighter, happier and more meaningful by what we have done. Let us always remember that it is really not what we give that matters, but it is what we share because a gift without the giver is bare", Dr. Dianela said.

The pantry, located at the pavilion of the former Office of Student Support Services, is open from 8AM - 6PM, Mondays through Saturdays. All students are welcome to use the pantry once a week, and only need their student ID to gain access to its multitude of free resources — including canned goods, hygiene products, biscuits and more.



*tree of hope lighting... from page 1*

The university community composed of students headed by Student Regent, Hon. Angelo Piolo Laynes, faculty members headed by Faculty Regent, Dr. Rosanna Abundo and CASUNEA President Prof. Danilo Murillo and heads of offices, came together for a short program.

Dr. Maria Edna R. Inigo, VP for Administrative and Finance and Dr. Ramon Felipe Sarmiento, VP for Research, Extension, and Production Affairs welcomed the special guests from the BJMP San Andres District and acknowledged their support for the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) who handcrafted the lanterns and said that the observance is "a moment of prayer and thanksgiving for the generosity of those who made the University Center project come to life."

Adding highlight on this year's collection of Christmas Lights are the big lanterns handcrafted by the Computer engineering students of the College of Engineering and Architecture, and students from the College of Industrial Technology. The lanterns have a special code mechanism skillfully designed by the students.

The moment that many students and faculty had been waiting for came as the countdown for the ceremonial lighting of the Christmas Tree of HOPE took place which was led by no less than the president himself, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza.

In his message, Dr. Azanza described the ceremony as very symbolic because all would want to light the Tree of Hope and Parol ng Pag-asa for everybody to have brighter days ahead, for all fellow Catandunganons.

"May we not forget that the very meaning of this Christmas celebration is our own salvation from the greatest man who ever walked on earth, no other than our beloved savior the Lord Jesus Christ; let's offer this night to Him and our families", the CatSU President shared.

## CatSU ATIC holds Stakeholder's Forum

*by Caroline I. Vecilles*

The CatSU Abaca Technology and Innovation Center (ATIC) conducted its 2022 Stakeholders Forum in collaboration with the PhilFIDA-Catanduanes and DOST-Provincial Science and Technology Catanduanes at the CatSU Auditorium.

The forum focused on the lecture-demonstration of the CatSU ATIC research developments and current progress of the center and aims to provide information dissemination on the importance of sustaining the abaca industry in the province, as well as the need of technology and innovation application in support to the province's recognition as the abaca capital of the Philippines (Republic Act 11700).

The forum included a showcase of the comprehensive profile of CatSU ATIC via an Audio-video presentation, along with the university Techno Hubs, and the various programs, activities and projects of both the PhilFIDA-Catanduanes and DOST PSTC Catanduanes. Representatives of the participating agencies also joined the Lightning Talks with an open forum thereafter.

Workshop on the needs assessment of abaca farmers and the abaca industry, with presentation of outputs that was participated in by traders, farmers, Local government units, and STUDENTS was conducted, which was immediately followed by a consultative meeting.

Furthermore, the forum serves as a preliminary meeting for the proposed Abaca Summit to be held in May 2023 on the occasion of Abaca Festival.



## Laboratory Schools display variety of student's talent in Paskuhan sa CatSU 2022

*by Caroline I. Vecilles*

The CatSU Laboratory Schools displayed variety of their learners' talent as they hold Paskuhan sa CatSU on December 15, a prelude to the Christmas Tree of HOPE lighting ceremony.

Led by its Principal, Prof. Ditas T. Manlagnit, and Head Teacher, Prof. Joerandy Tablizo, the event was participated in by students from Grades 1 to 12, who showcased their talents in singing, dancing, that also include OPM and Christmas song numbers, Tiktok Dance Craze, Retro Dance, Modern and Hip-hop dance, Christmas medley, Dula-dulaan, and festival dances.

"It is so interesting to witness a showcase of talents from our very own students at this festive time, especially that we have not been able to hold such event for the past two years due to the global pandemic", Prof. Tablizo shared.

In her closing message, Prof. Manlagnit stated that the energy and excitement seen from the students, as well as from their proud parents, were evident.

"We hope that this will now be a beginning of an annual variety show during Christmas for our Laboratorians", the Lab Schools principal said.





# HERALD

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