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GROUND-BREAKING. (Left to right) DOT Regional Director Herbie Aguas, PEZA Director General Tereso O. Panga, CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, Congressman Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Governor Joseph C. Cua, and DOST Regional Director Rommel R. Serano led the ground-breaking rites for the Knowledge, Innovation, Science and Technology (KIST) Park and agro-industrial processing zone in Catanduanes State University

CatSU Makes National Headlines: Trailblazer of Green, Sustainable Dev't

Anjo G. Tugay

Catanduanes State University (CatSU) made headlines as a trailblazer in green, inclusive, and sustainable development with the groundbreaking of the first Knowledge, Innovation, Science and Technology (KIST) park in the Bicol region.

The initiative was driven by CatSU President, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, who actively advocated

for the project's approval from the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), working closely with Governor Joseph "Boboy" C. Cua and the then Director General Charito "Ching" B. Plaza.

PEZA Director General Tereso "Teo" O. Panga played a crucial role in providing essential information at the national level, ensuring the success of the

endeavor with the full support of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos

On May 25, 2023, the groundbreaking ceremony for the KIST Park and agro-industrial processing zone took place, marking a significant milestone in CatSU's history.

This is considered a major milestone at CatSU, as these

KIST Park and agro-industrial processing zones exemplify model economic zones that prioritize environmentally conscious and sustainable practices.

The projects will utilize idle lands at CatSU, mobilizing cooperation among non-government organizations,

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Academic Year Starter 2023

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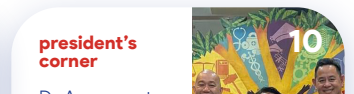
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CatSU president turnovers 100k cash incentive to Master Plumber 6th placer

Albert G. Clemente

Master Plumbers Licensure Examination (MPLE) 6th Placer Engr. Divina V. Gonzales, accompanied by her mother and brother, receives P100,000 cash incentive and a certificate from Catanduanes State University, through President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, on August 7.

"Dakulang tabang ini sa samong pamilya, buda para sa mga ma-take ning board exam, mag-adal sanang patanos ta mabalik man an saindo kapag ginibo niyo ang best niyo sa pag-adal," Engr. Gonzales said in a radio interview on Catanduanes Monitor program at Radyo Pilipinas.

Joining her daughter to receive the cash incentive, Vilma V. Gonzales extended her gratitude and recognized the effort of Dr. Azanza as this was the first-time in the university's history to grant P100,000 cash

incentive to a board topnotcher.

"Gapasalamat ning dakula and pareho ning aki dae man ako makapaniwala sa inot na nagtopnotcher ang aki ko," Engr. Gonzales' mother said. Clarifying the source of funds, Dr. Azanza said that the cash given to Engr. Gonzales was not taken from the university fund but rather donated by a group of individuals.

"Dakol ang kusa na nagtao kang nahiling so sakuyang announcement, tolo hari sa member ning Board of Regent: Regent Gabionza, Tamayo, buda ako, and may hali man sa pribadong sector, pero habo na magpabanggit ning pangalan," CatSU president recounted.

Dr. Azanza added that the incentive will continue under his term and plans to institutionalize it, in which a CatSU board topnotcher who ranks first will receive P200,000 and P100,000 for those who will take the 2nd-10th spots.



REAPING REWARDS. Engr. Divina V. Gonzales (center), Master Plumber Exam 6th placer, accompanied by her mother, Vilma V. Gonzales (right), personally receives Php100,000 cash incentive and a certificate from Catanduanes State University President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza (left) on August 7.

Engr. Gonzales, with a rating list of topnotchers as announced of 85.70%, bested 5,107 other by the Professional Regulation examinees and made it to the Commission on July 19, 2023.

CatSU eyes partnership with Hawai'i-based linguist for language acquisition studies

Albert G. Clemente

Following his lecture about Catanduanes Component of the Bikol Multilingual Corpus at Catanduanes State University (CatSU) on June 26, 2023, Bikolano linguist and Ph.D. student-researcher from the University of Hawai'i, Manoa, Louward Allen Zubiri encouraged language faculty members from CatSU to contribute to the Bicol Multilingual Corpus (BMC) Project, the largest corpus of child-directed and child speech in any Philippine language.

According to Zubiri, faculty-participants from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHUMSS) and College of Education (COEd) can build the Northern Catanduanes subcorpora by focusing on the

varieties on the northern part of the island and investigating the intergenerational transmission through documentation of the input to and output of multilingual Bikolano children.

Through this community-driven initiative, faculty members will be capacitated to conduct their own research on the Catandunganon Bikol language using various linguistic approaches, further strengthening CatSU's advocacy in promoting inclusivity and language diversity on the island through community-based research. Upon the project's completion, the BMC will serve as a model for combining language acquisition and documentation

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GREAT MINDS. Empowering the CatSU Faculty-participants, Mr. Louward Allen Zubiri spoke in encouragement about conducting their own research/study on the Catandunganon Bikol Language to further expand the university's advocacy.

Academic Year Starter 2023: CatSU welcomes over 4k first year students on first day of school

Albert G. Clemente

Catanduanes State University's newest students were warmly welcomed through the Academic Year Starter event spearheaded by the University Student Council on Monday, August 14, the first day of school, held at the CatSU gymnasium.

The event, which features remarks from university officials and student leaders, and showcases booths from various colleges, marks the students' entry into the CatSU community. University President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza welcomed the first-year students inside a jam-packed gymnasium, noting that this was the pioneer batch who will enjoy the benefits of different projects in the university, such as the four brand new buses, student center, and library, to name a few.

"Ang apat na bagong bus na maabot ay hari an sa savings kan university. Patunay na pagmatanos ang pamamayo sa unibersidad, gabalik sa mga estudyante ang biyaya," the president shared.

"Yaasahan ko na dae niyo sasayangan ang free education kan gobyerno ta iyan ang mabag'o kan puturo nindo pati kan saindang pamilya," he reminded the newest students of the university and asked everyone to cheer 'Mabuhay ang CatSU'.



WELCOMING THE NEWBIES. Over 4,000 first year students were warmly welcomed by Catanduanes State University President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza during the Academic Year Starter in August 14.

Joining the president, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Gemma G. Acedo also expressed her warm welcome and Office of the

Following the event, the first-year students embarked on

a campus tour in the afternoon, which is dubbed 'Freshies Walk' by USC.

As of this writing, August 14, 12,128 undergraduates were enrolled for the first semester, 4,123 of whom are first-year

students, according to the university registrar.

CHED Grants COPC to CATSU'S BS Electronics Engineering Program

Rochellee Jane C. Idanan

The Catanduanes State University's (CatSU) College of Engineering and Architecture (CEA) has achieved another significant milestone as the Catanduanes State University's (CatSU) College of Engineering and Architecture (CEA) has

achieved another significant milestone as the BS Electronics Engineering program receives approval for the Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC).

The approval, issued by the Commission of Higher Education

(CHED) Region V, authorizes SUC President III, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza commended CEA Dean Pedro Arcilla, Jr. and the entire CEA team for their dedication to academic excellence.

The COPC approval underscores the program's

alignment with rigorous standards and the university's commitment to providing quality education along with industry-relevant programs.

Continuing the tradition of excellence:

CatSU-JPIA hauls major distinctions in the NFJPIA Year-End Awards

Rochelle Jane C. Idanan



SECURING LAURELS. Catanduanes State University - Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants (CatSU-JPIA) take the stage with various awards lead by its president, Darcy Rinsfer B. Tabor (center) in NFJPIA Awarding. Photo lifted from FB

The tradition of excellence lives on as the Catanduanes State University - Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants (CatSU-JPIA) bagged major awards in the National Federation of Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants (NFJPIA) - Region V Council's Year-End Awards (YEA) held at the Royal Emelina in Naga City on July 22, 2023.

Garnering the highest points among the 14 participating State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), the CatSU-JPIA was hailed as the Most Outstanding Local Chapter across Bicol for their consistent display of exemplary performance throughout the federation year 2022-2023.

With their high-level commitment to conducting local

chapter activities and active participation in regional and national activities, CatSU-JPIA was also conferred with the awards as the Most Active Local Chapter and Most Productive Local Chapter in the NFJPIA - Region V community.

According to CatSU-JPIA President Darcy Rinsfer B. Tabor, who also won the Most Outstanding Local Chapter President, the key to winning these awards was the members' commitment to fulfilling their duties and responsibilities as JPIA officers, underscoring their willingness to explore and carry out the organization's projects.

He likewise commended the university's all-out support when it comes to implementing their projects and letting them participate in various regional and

national activities, which became their edge over other JPIA local chapters.

Recognizing the legacy left by the previous federation officers of JPIA-CatSU, Tabor reflected on how it inspired his current administration to remain dedicated to bringing honor to the university and to continue the legacy of CatSU-JPIA.

"As the president of JPIA-CatSU, I always tell my officers to stand firm to their sworn duties and responsibilities, explore, and expand our networks to preserve and continue the legacy of JPIA-CatSU... These awards reflect how the previous federation officers of JPIA-CatSU made an impact on the dedication and commitment of this year's federation officers, advisers, and members," Tabor recounted.

Furthermore, the outgoing president encouraged the next federation officers to always abide by the organization's mission and vision, fulfilling their functions and upholding their integrity as auditors of the student body organizations in the university.

Meanwhile, among the participants who also won in the individual category was Jezryll Quinones who received the Most Outstanding Local Chapter Officer while Prof. Michelle M. Candelaria was hailed as the Supportive Local Chapter Adviser.

The NFJPIA-YEA is an annual event of NFJPIA - Region V Council that primarily aims to give recognition and merits to JPIAns who have excelled the most in every aspect of being a student leader and/or a member of the NFJPIA community and encourage them to become achievers of their generation.

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business chambers, scientists, researchers, and key players in the information technology and agro-sector supply chains.

The conversion of idle lands of CatSU into a KIST Park and Agro-Industrial Economic Zone will potentially change the future of the whole province of Catanduanes and benefit its 263,000 residents.

The projects are projected to bring in a total of P1.55 billion in investments, promising a significant boost to the local economy.

Dr. Azanza's first Free Tennis Clinic culminates in grand success

Caroline I. Vecilles

Organized by the College of Industrial Technology (CIT) Dean, Dr. Edwin Romero, in collaboration with Catanduanes Lawn Tennis Club (CLTC), the clinic saw an impressive turnout of budding tennis enthusiasts and concluded with success during the awarding ceremony, August 3, 2023, at the new CatSU Sports Complex.

The 2-week free lawn tennis clinic, which started on June 15, 2023, was joined by a total of 23 children and young adults in this event sponsored by the CLTC, with members based in different parts of the world.

CLTC President, Ms. Francez Khu Camacho, said they selected the participants to provide them free training in basic tennis strokes, game scoring and ballboy basics.

"This is part of our advocacies, to discover young tennis players with potential, and help them qualify in the basic training course, proceed to the advanced course," she remarked.

Dean Romero echoed and shared that having such clinic sessions are an important way to test the players' mettle after learning from instructors.

"Ang pinaka goal po talaga is paramihin ang mga batang tenista sa Catanduanes, para hindi tayo maubusan ng supply ng mga tennis players sa isla na pwedeng ilaban sa mga competitions outside the province like Bicol Meet, SCUAA, Bicol Open, and even National tournaments."

CatSU president, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, whom the tennis clinic was named after, graced the event along with the participants' parents.

He was also joined by lawn tennis veteran player, Ms. Dirma T. Frias, and Dr. Rudy Tablizo, the University's Sports Director. The event recognized the outstanding achievements of the young athletes across three brackets: Beginners A and B Tournament, and Advanced Tournament.

Dexter Tel emerged as the champion in Beginners A, while



HATS OFF. Catanduanes State University President Patrick Alain T. Azanza graced his Free Tennis Cup on August 3 and happily cheered the contenders.



READY, SET, CHAMP. The winner of Dr. Azanza's Table Tennis Cup received a brand new shoes and table tennis set from the university president, along side with other university officials.

Merrydel Ann Santos secured the top spot in Beginners B. In the Advanced Tournament, Liezle Gonzales demonstrated exceptional talent, claiming the title.

In his message during the ceremony, Dr. Azanza commended the participants for "What we need is not only a mind, but a healthy body

because overall, health is more than wealth. Being active into sports, is kadakulang bagay na mababalanse in order to have a holistic development – Better start it right, to put us in the right path."

Further, Dr. Azanza thanked all the sponsors, Dr. Stephen Bagadiiong, and the parents for the full support and efforts,

forward-looking for victories in the future sports events.

"We look forward to the time to have champions not just in the region, but also at the national level," the President said in closing.

CatSU orients 171 student-recipients of one-time TDP-SUC ₱7.5k grant

Albert G. Clemente

One hundred seventy-one (171) qualified students of Catanduanes State University (CatSU) attended the orientation for the Tulong Dunong Program - State University and College (TDP-SUC) on Wednesday, August 2, at the university auditorium, and were informed that they will receive a one-time scholarship grant worth P7,500 for the academic year 2023-2024.

As cited by Office of Student Scholarship, Financial Assistance, Career Development and Placement Services (OSSFACDPS) Director Dr. Gemma M. Samas, the Php1.3 million worth of the locally funded scholarship program was made possible through the efforts of CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, who sought the support of Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda for funding allocation.

The OSSFACDPS director also underscored the importance of maintaining a 1.90 General Weighted Average (GWA) on the part of the scholars for their renewal, as stipulated under the program's guidelines.

To extend the program and serve more beneficiaries, Dr. Azanza will keep on seeking additional funding, and he shared that Sen. Legarda was committed to continuing the program in 2024.

Addressing the TDP-SUC recipients, the CatSU president



KNOWING THE BENEFITS. CatSU President Patrick Alain T. Azanza (left) together with OSSFACDPS Director, Dr. Gemma M. Samas (right), informs 171 student-recipients of P7.5k grant of TDP-SUC on August 2.

congratulated the deserving scholars and challenged them to do their part.

"Maadal talaga ning marinas asin masakripisyo. Kung kamo mahiling ko na nakatapos, maogma ako, ta ibig sabihon successful ang programang ini na pinun'an sa time kan satuyang administrasyon," Dr. Azanza advised, as he himself was also a pioneer recipient of presidential scholarship grants at the University of the Philippines

from his undergraduate to postgraduate studies.

Supporting the testament of the president, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Gemma G. Acedo reminded the beneficiaries of their responsibilities to remain in the program.

"Although may mga allowances tayo pero kailangan nating pagtrabahuhan para mamaintain ang scholarship grant," the VPAA said.

Accepting the responsibility,

Hazel Joyce Tornilla, an incoming third-year elementary education student from Panganiban campus, was grateful for the opportunity.

"Nawalan na ako ng hope sa dami ng inapplan na scholarship, pero unexpectedly nakapasok sa program na ito. Malaking tulong ito sa pag-aaral ko bilang anak ng isang PWD na ama at tanging kuya ko lamang ang nagpapaaral sa akin," Tornilla shared at the event.



To serve as One-Stop-Shop for key nat'l gov't agencies

Construction of Catanduanes People's Center kicks off in CatSU

Albert G. Clemente and Anjo G. Tugay

The construction of Catanduanes People's Center inside the campus of the Catanduanes State University, which will serve as a one-stop-shop for satellite offices of national agencies, is set to start this week.

CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, represented by Executive Vice President Dr. Bernardino C. Abundo Jr., along with Congressman Eulogio 'Leo' Rodriguez, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Assistant District Engineer Max Eleda and other government officials, witnessed the groundbreaking ceremony for the P47 million project on Friday, August 11.

"I remember the numerous times Cong. Leo Rodriguez and I met with Senator Francis Tolentino in the halls of Senate to seek budget for the People's Center that shall rise inside CATSU to serve as a one-stop-shop for processing important documents needed to be able to study, work, travel, and for other purposes," the president recounted on how it has started.

"Surely, this is going to help many Catandunganons and I wish to congratulate Cong. Leo for having turned this into reality during his term of office," he added.

The said one-stop-shop facility in the island province will help Catandunganons to efficiently secure pertinent documents from the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)



CAPSULE-LAYING CEREMONY. (left to right) Congressman Eulogio 'Leo' Rodriguez, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Assistant Director Max Eleda, CatSU President Patrick Alain T. Azanza, represented by CatSU EVP Bernardino C. Abundo and VP-AFA Benjamin Hannycel Nuyda led the groundbreaking and capsule-laying ceremonies of the Catanduanes People's Center inside the university campus on August 11.

for clearances, Philippine Regulation Commission (PRC) for identification cards and other certifications, and passports to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to name a few.

It can be remembered that in 2022, CatSU offered at least 1,000 square meters of its lot under a usufruct agreement with the congressional office in order to house the facility.

Joining the event was Vice President for Administrative and Financial Affairs Engr. Benjamin Hannycel Nuyda, and other officials.

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techniques to study the language development and use of emergent multilingual children. The Hawai'i-based linguist likewise pledged to come back to the island next year to

conduct a seminar-workshop on language documentation and its methodologies.

Zubiri was invited to serve as the speaker on the above-cited lecture which was spearheaded by the CatSU Research and

Development Services (RDS) in collaboration with the Center for International Relations and Continuing Professional Development Services (CIRCPDS).

Presently, he is also a

Visiting Research Fellow for Summer 2023 at his alma mater school, UP Diliman, where he completed his BA and MA in Linguistics.

Over 60 Catandunganon youth leaders convene at YouthLed assembly in CatSU

Albert G. Clemente

More than 60 Catandunganon youth leaders have come together at the Catanduanes State University Auditorium for the 'Local Youth Assembly' to exchange ideas, foster collaboration for civic engagement, and strengthen participation in Democratic Governance.

Organized by Siklab Pilipinas, in collaboration with the Local Youth Development Office of Catanduanes, USAID, The Asia Foundation, CatSU, and other stakeholders, the one-day forum united a diverse group of passionate youth leaders from different organizations throughout the province.

As a former youth leader himself, during his time as chairman of the University of the Philippines - Los Baños (UPLB) Student Council, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza threw his full support to the activity and looked forward to the Catandunganon youths' participation.

"I hope that the youth from the island province of Catanduanes will actively participate in identifying and exemplifying the importance of youth leadership and civic engagement in addressing pressing community issues," Dr. Azanza said in a video message on Tuesday, August 1.

YOUTH ARE NOT PASSIVE BYSTANDERS

As the keynote speaker in the kick-off ceremony of the activity, Gov. Joseph C. Cua, represented by Sangguniang Bayan Secretary Susan Isidoro, recognized the activity as a transformative platform that enables the Catandunganon youth to engage in youth-led initiatives.

"Always remember, the youth are not passive bystanders; rather, you actively shape the world you desire," the governor stated.

Meanwhile, introducing the goal and objectives of YouthLed, Senior Youth Leadership Development Specialist Emil Tapnio discussed the various programs and activities of the organization, which involve leadership development, coalition-building, and civic education and engagement.

Following the opening program, Gemar Moreno, the moderator, facilitated a discussion with the dynamic speakers: Legal Assistant Officer James Nathaniel Refugio, from Naga City Planning and Development Office, and Sagguniang Kabataan (SK) Federation President of Sipocot, Masbate Mary May Loria.

SERVE AND LIVE BEYOND

Believing in the power of youth, Refugio urged the youth participants to challenge the status quo and be agents to solve the long-standing problems of their communities.

"We are called to serve and live beyond," he added.

A series of focused-group discussions followed, which tackled on understanding the various issues in the community; sharing youths' learning experiences; and the journey of an empowered community leader.

Taking part also at the event were CatSU student affair's newly-appointed Director Francis John B. Templonuevo, who extended his gratitude to the organizer for taking the lead to empower young leaders in the province; Siklab Pilipinas Consultant Samantha Sadorra; National Youth Commission Commissioner Reena Pineda, who expressed her full support through a video message; and other YouthLed officials, together with the facilitators.



EMPOWERED YOUTH LEADERS IN ONE FRAME. Catandunganon youth leaders posed after exchange of ideas, fostering collaboration for civic engagement, and strengthening participation in Democratic Governance during the Local Youth Assembly on August 1, 2023 held at the Catanduanes State University Auditorium.

President Azanza unveils exciting new courses at CatSU

Albert G. Clemente

In a recent Facebook post, President Patrick Alain T. Azanza has shared exciting news that promises to shape the future of education and creativity at Catanduanes State University (CatSU).

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has officially given its approval for the addition of the Bachelor of Science in

Entertainment and Multimedia Computing (BSEMC) to CatSU's comprehensive range of courses.

Set to take effect from the Academic Year 2023-2024, this cutting-edge program introduces two majors that will empower students to venture into digital entertainment and technology - Digital Animation and Game Development.

With the gaming and animation industry continuing to flourish, CatSU aims to position itself at the forefront of innovation, fostering talented individuals who will redefine the rapidly evolving digital landscape and nurturing the next generation of animation visionaries.

Anticipation is high as the BSEMC is expected to attract

aspiring animators, game developers.

The College of Information and Communications Technology (CICT) has announced that enrollment starts on Monday, August 7.

Mainstreaming of culture and arts, and literature

Prof. Yapo launches book in CatSU with featured artwork

Albert G. Clemente

One of the 'best selling' authors from the University of the Philippines - Los Baños, Prof. Jerry R. Yapo, launched a landmark book about his personal life experiences with featured artwork in every narrative.

Yapo on Monday, August 14, unveiled his 12-essay book 'Artfully Speaking and Other Essays' along with the students, faculty, and officials of the Catanduanes State University.

The book was published by San Anselmo Publication Inc., and the launching was held at the university lobby and graced by CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza.

"We always wanted to balance the sciences, and the culture and arts, and that is actually what brought us here in CatSU," the CatSU president stated, recognizing the support of his former professor from UPLB.

Addressing the participants, Prof. Yapo advised aspiring writers that 'writing is not a 100m dash, it is a marathon, be patient'.

"You need to read to breathe in, write to breathe out," he explained.

Following the book launching and signing ceremony, the publisher, through Prof. Yapo, handed copies of assorted books to Dr. Azanza, for the university library.

Meanwhile, commissioned paintings that were included in the book are presently displayed in the lobby for a week-long Art Exhibit, from August 14-17.



BEAMING WITH PRIDE. Prof. Jerry R. Yapo presents the artworks incorporated in his book 'Artfully Speaking and other Essays' to CatSUans.

As one of the requirements to offer JD program Dr. Azanza gets law book aid, support from Rex Education

Albert G. Clemente

In a bid to offer a Juris Doctor program, Catanduanes State University (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza has secured assistance from Rex Education, formerly known as Rex Bookstore, to comply with the law book requirements set by the Law Education Board (LEB).

The availability of an extensive collection of law books is among the requirements of LEB for a university that plans to offer a law degree program in the Philippines.

This requirement was able to manage by Dr. Azanza after securing the approval and support of Rex Education's Chief Executive Officer, Don Timothy Buhain.

CatSU president expressed gratitude to Rex Education as a partner in fulfilling the university's need for law books.

"Dios Mabalos tabi kay Don Buhain and sa Rex Group of Companies, and to all who helped me make this thing happen. Our lack of law books to meet the

LEB requirement is now solved," the president proudly shared in his Facebook post on August 11.

The president also shared that upon compliance of the university with the necessary documents, the law education board will schedule a review by the end of October 2023. Following the evaluation, they will conduct an ocular visit to the university campus to check its classrooms and facilities.

The partnership between

CatSU and Rex Education, the country's leading educational publisher, demonstrates the positive outcomes that collaboration can yield in the education landscape.



PRESIDENT'S



CORNER

CatSU's Free Zone Policy Fosters Cooperation, Public Service for the Benefit of All, Says President Patrick Alain T. Azanza

Anjo G. Tugay

Catanduanes State University (CatSU) takes a significant step towards enhancing public service and community welfare with the adoption of its "Free Zone" policy.

Spearheaded by CatSU SUC President III Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, this policy fosters a collaborative approach to address people's problems and prioritize the community's benefit.

President Azanza firmly believes that when

leaders work together, solutions to people's issues become attainable, and the community becomes the primary beneficiary.

In a heartfelt statement, he explained, "'Yan ang dahilan kaya I adopted the policy for CatSU to serve as a Free Zone. Meaning bukas sana ang CatSU na magtabang sa gabos na gusto magtabang. Ta pag arog kita kaan, ang magana pirmi an mga tawo... That is what public service is all about..."

The "Free Zone" policy

aims to create an environment where CatSU is open to assisting anyone in need.

The university seeks to contribute to the well-being of the entire community by actively addressing their concerns and offering support to those who require it the most.

In line with this commitment, Congressman Leo Rodriguez has collaborated with the Department of Health (DOH) to address the medical expenses of CatSU students availing themselves of

vital tests, such as the Complete Blood Count (CBC) and x-ray examinations.

Through the Medical Assistance to Individuals Program (MAIP) Funds, facilitated by Congressman Leo, students can have their bills covered for essential medical procedures at partnering hospitals, including Immaculate Heart of Mary Hospital, Eastern Bicol Medical Center (EBMC), and Catanduanes Doctors Hospital Inc. (CDHI).

Pres. Azanza urges Catandunganon youth leaders to embrace ethical governance, commitment to clean campaigning

Anjo G. Tugay

In a transformative event spearheaded by the Young Catandunganon Leaders Institute and Catanduanes Knowledge Pantry, 50 youth leaders from Catanduanes attended the SKale UP! 2023 conference, August 5.

Catanduanes State University (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, instilled a deep understanding of power and its ethical use, while providing invaluable insights into the dynamics of local politics affecting the youth.

During his session, Dr. Azanza shed light on four crucial keypoints of power: Opportunity, Resources, Authority, and Sympathy/Support.

Emphasizing the significance of leveraging these aspects responsibly, he urged the aspiring leaders to uphold ethical governance and refrain



from resorting to vote buying tactics.

Drawing from his extensive experiences, Dr. Azanza illustrated the challenges and complexities of local politics, underscoring the vital role that youth leaders play in effecting positive change within their communities.

Reminding the participants that public service is not without

its thorns, Dr. Azanza offered a glimpse into the realities of serving the people.

He encouraged the young leaders to embrace these challenges with determination, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to their constituents. He also encouraged everyone to join the #PadagosNaPatanosMovement.

CatSU's female cadet ranks 2nd out of 328 participants in Advance ROTC Academic Phase Training

Anjo G. Tugay and Albert G. Clemente

First Class Cadet Gemma Rose T. Basallote of Catanduanes State University, has achieved a remarkable distinction after graduating second out of the 328 participants in the Advance ROTC Academic Phase Training.

Participated by all ROTC Units across the Bicol region composed of 198 males and 130 females, the training started last July 28 and commenced on August 10 in Tabaco City, Albay.

Cadet Basallote, 21 years old, hailed from Timbaan, San Andres, is a third-year student taking Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Notably, she is one of the four female ROTC Corps

Commanders in the history of CatSU.

In an interview, Cadet Basallote attributed her success to discipline, stating, "Importante po ang disiplina para maachieve ang excellence and success... dapat din po continue lang to push forward." Reflecting on the challenges she faced as a female commander, she confidently stated, "May mga doubts po from others na kakayanon ko kasi babae ako... but I choose to rise above these challenges."

She continued, "Dai man po naging madari ang gabos, actually during the formation,

nahimatay pa po ako kasi anemic po ako, but I've learned to transform itong challenges into motivation." Offering advice to her fellow students, Cadet Basallote emphasized, "Tiwala lang sa sarili and sa mga capabilities. Stay focused, work hard, and never lose sight of your goals."

The said training was organized to cultivate the interests, enhance the military knowledge skills, and develop the leadership potential of the cadets, wrote by the 5th Regional Community Defense Group on its Facebook page.

UPLB Professor Jerry R. Yapo and CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain Azanza envision future collaborations:

spotlight on abaca creations and cultural preservation



EduKain program expands university-wide:

CatSU's holistic student support initiatives gain momentum



HERALD

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