

# HERALD

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**A SMILE OF A CHAMP.** CatSU student-athletes are all smiles as they pose for the camera during the motorcade honoring their impressive feat at the regional SCUAA.

## Empowering the Heritage of Greatness

# President Azanza leads motorcade honoring CatSU athletes

Anjo G. Tugay

**President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza** led a lively motorcade honoring the university's accomplished athletes, September 11.

The event recognized CatSU's remarkable achievement as the 3rd Runner-Up in the recent Regional State Colleges and

Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) event.

Dr. Azanza, at the forefront of the motorcade, took the opportunity to pay tribute to the dedicated delegates who contributed to Catanduanes' impressive medal haul of 13 Golds, 47 Silvers, and 34 Bronzes

at the regional SCUAA.

The president extended his gratitude to the donors and partners who have been instrumental in the success of CatSU athletes. He specifically thanked E-Crown Hotel and Resort, among others, for their support and generosity.

The university community, along with the local residents, turned out in full support, as they gear up for the forthcoming National State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (NSCUAA) event in Tarlac.

## CatSU clinches 13 gold, 47 silver, 33 bronze medals at Bicol SCUAA 2023

Albert G. Clemente

**Catanduanes State University** (CatSU) has soared to victory at the Bicol State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) 2023, amassing an

impressive medal tally that includes 13 gold, 47 silver, and 33 bronze medals.

CatSU secured gold medals in Basketball (Men), Athletics

(Men), and Swimming (Men).

Moreover, CatSU's athletes showcased their skills, earning silver medals in Futsal, Volleyball (Men), Baseball (Men), Softball

(Women), Swimming, and Athletics.



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# Championing the AI Impact CatSU, BU, NU join forces for AI-NLP advancement

Anjo G. Tugay



**FORWARD THINKING FOR INNOVATION.** Catanduanes State University President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza (center) leads the signing of Memorandum of Understanding with Bicol University and National University, forging partnership in leveraging the power of AI.

**Catanduanes State** University (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on September 12 to form a partnership with Bicol University and National University, solidifying their commitment to the “eParticipation 2.1: Harnessing Natural Language Processing (NLP) for Community Participation” project, which has secured funding and approval from CHED.

This partnership, scheduled to last until September 2024, represents a major milestone for the universities as they unite

to leverage the capabilities of Artificial Intelligence-Natural Language Processing (AINLP) technologies.

One of the cornerstones of this partnership is the inclusion of CatSU in the AINLP training and capacity-building initiative, aimed at enhancing the capabilities of higher education institutions in the Philippines.

Dr. Azanza expressed his excitement for the collaboration, highlighting its potential to transform community engagement and problem-solving using advanced technology.

## CatSU's staffing boost

### 56 new positions approved by DBM

Anjo G. Tugay

In his Facebook announcement, Catanduanes State University's President, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, shared a whopping 56 new staff positions approved by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

DBM Secretary Amenah F. Pangandaman has given the green light 56 new positions approved

by DBM CatSU's staffing boost for staffing modifications for CatSU, effective no earlier than September 4, 2023.

DBM's Notice of Organization, Staffing, and Compensation Action (NOSCA) includes one Instructor II and 55 Instructor I slots approved for the University.

September 4, 2023

**Dr. PATRICK ALAIN T. AZANZA**  
SUC President III  
Catanduanes State University  
Virac, Catanduanes

Dear **President Azanza:**

We are issuing Notice of Organization, Staffing and Compensation Action (NOSCA) No. **0502023-08-058** to effect the approved staffing modifications of Catanduanes State University (CatSU), effective not earlier than September 4, 2023, as follows:

CREATION			
Position	SG	No. of Positions	Deployment
Instructor II	13	1	Higher Education Services
Instructor I	12	55	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>56</b>	

## Empowering the Youth

### CatSU, PH Air Force team up to empower youth on campus security

Darwin M. Bongon

**Catanduanes State** University (CatSU) and the Philippine Air Force have united in a joint effort to educate and empower youth about campus security and national development in a Campus Peace and Development Forum, held on September 12 at the university auditorium.

The forum was attended by the National Service Training Program (NSTP) students and the Catanduanes National High School Organizations' Officers.

In his talk, Mario John D. Gonzales, OIC Provincial Officer, DICT Region V-Catanduanes, stressed the importance of cybersecurity awareness. "Our identities are stolen

because tayo rin ang nagpopost. Minsan IDs, address, email address cbsd, kahit nga pictures natin. Take care po. Kayong mga nakakatanda, i-guide niyo ang mga kapatid niyo sa paggamit ng cellphones," he said.

Moreover, Angel Trinidad, RTFS SARM Representative, and Subject Matter Expert, discussed 'Communist Terrorist Group Recruitment and Infiltration,' emphasizing the vulnerability of young individuals.

Meanwhile, 2 LT. Feliciano Jose A. Millado provided insights into the Philippine Air Force (PAF) Recruitments and Benefits, highlighting opportunities within the armed forces.

# IOM Philippines collaborates with CatSU to empower communities, advance renewable energy

Anjo G. Tugay

**Consultants from the** International Organization for Migration (IOM) Philippines met with Catanduanes State University (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza to discuss project updates and opportunities for strengthening their collaboration, particularly in renewable energy solutions, September 13.

IOM's initiatives in Catanduanes encompass a wide range of critical areas, including comprehensive skills training programs, campaigns promoting safe migration practices, and the construction of robust and typhoon-resilient safe houses strategically located across the province.

These projects are aimed at uplifting local communities and enhancing their resilience to environmental challenges.

As a testament to their commitment to these projects, IOM plans to conduct extensive site visits to witness the direct impact of their initiatives and extend their courtesies to the recipient's offices, including the



**CHAMPIONING ENERGY SOLUTIONS.** Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza bares plans for community sustainability programs during a meeting with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Philippines.

Catanduanes State University.

During the meeting, Dr. Azanza provided an overview of the university's people-centric projects.

These initiatives include EduKain, an educational empowerment program, and

robust Typhoon response protocols designed to prioritize community safety.

Dr. Azanza also emphasized the innovative Solar Farm initiative, which shows CatSU's initiative to sustainable energy solutions and environmental

stewardship.

Following the productive meeting, several IOM representatives, including their experts in Solar Grids and related technologies, visited the Solar Microfarm on the university campus.

## CatSU EduKain Mobile Kitchen nears completion

Anjo G. Tugay

**Catanduanes State University** (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza took to Facebook on September 2 to announce EduKain Mobile Kitchen which is nearing its completion.

President Azanza expressed his gratitude to College of Industrial Technology (CIT) Dean Dr. Edwin T. Romero and the faculty for supporting the EduKain Project at CatSU.

The initiative was spearheaded by College of Education faculty Jane Rose C. Azanza in 2022 to provide students with hot meals during enrollment.

This time, the EduKain project has gained support from some Australian and US-based donors.

With plans for expansion in all colleges, the EduKain Project is poised to become an integral part of the university's efforts to cater to its 14,000 students.

This expansion will be made possible through generous sponsorships and support for the program, the university president said, who is at the forefront of this initiative.



**COOKING UP EXCITEMENT.** The Mobile EduKain Kitchen is almost underway from serving CatSU students with hot meals to contribute to their overall wellbeing.

# CatSU pre-service teachers boost prep with 'Paggiya' seminar

Darwin M. Bongon

In preparation for the Licensure Examination for Teachers, pre-service teachers from the College of Education actively participated in the "Paggiya: Preservice Teacher Development Seminar" at the university auditorium, September 6.

The seminar serves as a recollection of previously taken courses, aiming to stimulate minds and refocus students' efforts.

Professor Eleanor G. Osido, the first resource speaker, highlighted the importance of decision-making and prioritizing studies over personal matters during her lecture on 'Understanding the Self.'

"Kaya ngani asa itaas ang payo kaysa sa puso. dae muna ma-fall in love. It is nice to fall in love, pero mag-aral muna," she advised.

She also emphasized the power of prayers and hard work, which are the two most important things to consider when preparing for the board examination.



**CLARIFYING WHAT MATTERS.** "Paggiya" Seminar Emcee (above left) handed out the mic to his fellow student, raising a question on the seminar's subject matter.

"As you work, you pray. Kasi, kahit mag-pray ka nang mag-pray, kung hindi ka naman nagreview, wala rin."

The seminar agenda also included sessions with Dr. Joel Jordan, who discussed Art Appreciation, while Ms. Ma.

Nena T. Vital covered Readings on Philippine History and The Contemporary World.

## Boosting livelihood opportunities:

# ₱500k-1.5M grants up for CatSU's assisted orgs

Albert G. Clemente

**Catanduanes State University** (CatSU), in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), organized a livelihood workshop to more than hundred Catandunganon families on Monday, September 11.

Gracing the event, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza pledged support, through its Technical Assistance Program for Local Government Units (TAP-LGU), in facilitating the participants to qualify for and avail the DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program.

"Tutulungan sila ng CATSU na ihanda ang business proposal upang makakuha ng pampuhunan sa DOLE sa halagang P500K hanggang P1.5M depende sa



**MANIFESTING DREAMS.** A participant during the livelihood workshop earnestly writes their group's business name with hopes to manifest it into reality.

kanilang proposal," the president stated.

DOLE explained that the

amount of livelihood grant to be availed will depend on the number of members of the registered

association and the business' budgetary requirement.

# Academia, industry unite in Biotech-UPLB event at CatSU

Darwin M. Bongon

In a two-day event titled “Bridging RD and E Programs of BIOTECH-UPLB to State Universities and Colleges: Introduction to Biotechnology Research on Industry, Energy, and Environment,” academia met industry head-on at the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Auditorium on September 7-8, 2023.

The event drew attendees from the College of Science faculty, researchers, staff, and students.

Dr. Francisco B. Elegado, the training coordinator, and Research Professor from the University of the Philippines-Los Baños (UPLB), delivered a lecture emphasizing the importance of industrial biotechnology in converting agricultural materials to high-value products.

He also discussed the applications of nanobiotechnology for the rapid detection of environmental contaminants.

Furthermore, Dr. Ronilo P. Violanta presented BIOTECH innovations for agriculture, food, and feed industries, while Dr. Silvino D. Merca, a seed pathologist, addressed Human



**ENRICHING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE.** Researchers, students, and faculty members from Catanduanes State University (CatSU) and University of the Philippines-Los Baños all come together for a photo after a fruitful exchange of ideas on Biotechnology.

Factors in the Environment and Socio-Economic Changes.

On the other hand, University Researcher, Dr. Kristine Rose M. Ramos shared strategies for screening and characterizing microbes for heavy metal bioremediation, and Dr. Richard D. Tambalo explored the microbiological degradation of

plastics and bioplastics.

Technical insights into the screening of enzyme-producing microbes were also provided by University Researcher Johnry S. Maloles while Irene G. Pajares, another University Researcher discussed the latest methods for isolating and screening yeasts with the potential for bioethanol

and biodiesel production.

The event also featured pre-lab lectures and hands-on laboratory activities, applying the concepts learned during the symposium, and enriching participants’ understanding and practical skills.

## CatSU hosts pre-registration seminar on the proposed cooperative

Rochellee Jane C. Idanan

To facilitate the registration of Catanduanes State University (CatSU) job order employees as members of a cooperative, the university, in partnership with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), hosted a Pre-registration Seminar on the Proposed Cooperative on September 15.

Addressing the 137 participants, together with their relatives and family, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza noted that this seminar gives the option to the JOs of the university to register with the CDA or the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)

to benefit from the programs of the agencies.

“Ma-discuss kamo as group kung madagos kamo as cooperative. If mag-decide kayo na maging cooperative, mamimeet niyo na ‘yong requirements which is this 5-hour seminar,” the president explained.

Joining the president, Cooperative Development Specialist III Ophar June V. Dy was glad about the number of attendees. “First time [ulit] na ganito karami ang attendees sa preregistration seminar, last [time] sa Pandan na nasa 300+ participants,” he stated.



**FORMING COOPERATIVES.** Ophar June V. Dy, Cooperative Development Specialist III, orients the participants on the requirements needed to register as a cooperative.

# ACEF-GIA scholars of CatSU get 27k cash aid

Darwin M. Bongon

The 92 scholars of the Academic Competitiveness Enhancement Fund-Graduate Education Programs-In-Aid (ACEF-GIA) gathered at the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Main Lobby to receive their 27k payouts, September 1.

During the payout event, CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza urged the scholars to be open with their families about the financial support they received. "Dapat ipaisi sa magurang, tanganing mai-share niyo man sa magurang niyo ang nakua niyo," highlighting that involving parents is a gratifying gesture.

The President also stressed the need for scholars to coordinate with the alumni office to explore job opportunities, especially for those who have yet to find employment.

He introduced the "Padagos Na Patanos Movement," an initiative aimed at addressing employment concerns by creating job opportunities within Catanduanes.

Recognizing the potential for international job placements, Dr. Azanza generously offered assistance saying, "So mga dae pang work siguro, pwede kong iforward sa counterpart ta sa Taiwan, ta gahagad nin referral."

He pledged to utilize his connections in Taiwan to help scholars secure jobs abroad,



**GRATITUDE IN EVERY SMILE.** Student-beneficiaries, showing their bright smiles, pose for a group picture with Dr. Patrick Alin T. Azanza and scholarship office staff after cash payout on September 1, 2023 at the university lobby.

a valuable opportunity for the graduates.

He encouraged those interested to provide their biodata for potential job referrals.

Furthermore, the CatSU President advised scholars on the prudent use of their payouts.

"Gamiton sa marinas ang imu, kung pwede niyong ibangko,

o kaya ipahunan sa negosyo," he said underscoring the importance of financial responsibility and wise investment.

# CatSU successfully secures full budget for 2024

Anjo G. Tugay

In a recent announcement, Catanduanes State University (CatSU) President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza revealed that CatSU will not experience a budget cut, securing its financial stability in 2024.

Dr. Azanza attributed this positive outcome to the university's diligent efforts in justifying its budget to both the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the

Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Furthermore, President Azanza explained that CatSU's commitment to efficiently utilizing its resources played a critical role in avoiding budget cuts.

It is worth noting that the university achieved a remarkable 100% implementation rate for 19 infrastructure projects valued at 800 million in the previous year, demonstrating its absorptive

capacity.

In addition, CatSU has filled all vacant plantilla positions, generating hundreds of new jobs, and has achieved a noteworthy 98% promotion rate among its faculty members.

Meanwhile, the top 3 among the 30 SUCs out of 117 facing budget reductions for 2024 are the University of the Philippines (UP) System, which will experience the most substantial

cut of 2.9 billion pesos, followed by Mindanao State University with a 2.3 billion peso reduction, and Mariano Marcos State University with a 1.5 billion peso budget cut.

# 20k cash aid received by 250 CHED-TES grantees in CatSU payout

Darwin M. Bongon

**Two-hundred-fifty students** of the 471 CHED grantees under the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Program receive their P20,000 cash grant each for the 2nd semester of the academic year 2022-2023, today, September 15 at the CatSU Main Lobby.

The said recipients constitute the first batch of the grantees, where CatSU disbursed a total of 5 million today, from the P9,420,000.00 of the CHED TES Program allocation.

In his message, CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza pinned on the importance of sharing the blessings with the grantees' families.

"Pirmi ko po na biga taram sa mga kaakian paggarelease sinda nin imo sa subsidy na kun pwede man ipaaram ninda sa magurang... importante na nashishare man an biyaya sa bilog na pamilya," the President said.

Dr. Azanza further advised the recipients to connect with the university's Alumni Office for possible job referrals.

This initiative aligns with the ongoing "Padagos na Patanos Movement," championed by the President himself, which aims to extend the university's reach into the community and provide job opportunities for the people of Catanduanes.



**ACCURACY IN TRANSACTIONS.** Chief Cashiering Services, Ms. Elsie Rojas, facilitates the release of the 20,000 cash grant for the 250 student-beneficiaries of the TES program.



Taking on the Vessel of Hope

# President Azanza urges CatSU students to embrace 'Padagos na Patanos Movement'

Anjo G. Tugay



**THE PADAGOS NA PATANOS FEVER.** Students, faculty members, and CatSU key officials all unite in raising their hands during the General Orientation for all students, signifying their support for the Padagos na Patanos Movement, championed by the university president.



In a recent General Orientation event organized by the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Office of the Registration Services, President

Azanza emphasized his rallying cry, "Padagos na Patanos Movement," as he encouraged students to unite and actively engage with their community and province, September 11 at the university gymnasium.

He stressed the significance of CatSU's participation in the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) free education program, urging the 4,201 first-year students to proudly carry the title "Iskolar" and represent the university with honor.

"Dapat an saindong isipon paka-gradwar iyo an kun painano kamo makapay-forward sa satuyang isla," President Azanza underscored the importance of giving back to their island community.

Meanwhile, Ms. Marilyn G. Tejada, University Registrar III, expressed her enthusiasm for the

orientation's success, highlighting the importance of students being well-informed about key members of the university's divisions and departments, including Central Management, Admin and Finance, Academic Affairs, Research, Extension and Production, and Panganiban Campus.

"Importante na an satuyang mga estudyante ay well-informed, in any aspect dapat may idea sila how to communicate with the people within CatSU," Ms. Tejada stressed.

This year's General Orientation aimed to empower and inform the student body about the university's structure, resources, and commitment to community service.



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER



## President Azanza lobbies for Med infra funding in Congress

Anjo G. Tugay

### While actively participating

in and providing support to the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) delegates at the Regional SCUAA 2023, Dr. Patrick Alain T.

Azanza managed to make time for a visit to Congress on September 5 to lobby budget allocation for the construction of Medical Arts Building for the College of Medicine.

Taking to Facebook, Dr. Azanza shared, "Nasa Congress tayo ngayon upang idulog ang budget ng ating Medical Arts Building para sa ating College of Medicine," noting he found a staunch ally in TGP

Partylist Representative and Deputy Majority Leader Jose "Bong" Teves Jr., who pledged support for CatSU's initiative.

President Azanza expressed, "Nagbigay ng assurance ang ating kaibigan na si TGP Partylist Representative at Deputy Majority Leader Cong. Bong Teves na susuportahan ng TGP ang initiative na ito ng CATSU para sa Isla."

Undeterred, President Azanza further declared his intention to champion the same cause before Catanduanes Lone District Congressman Leo R. Rodriguez, stating, "Ilalapit din natin ito kay Cong. Leo Rodriguez para mas madami ang ating kasama sa pagkamit ng adhikaing ito para sa Isla."

Dr. Azanza also lobbied Hon. Elizaldy S. Co, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, through AKO BICOL Partylist Representative Hon. Raul Angelo D. Bongalon.

In a formal letter, he expressed his "keen interest in availing the P90 million fund" for the Medical Arts building, as CatSU has completed its proposal in its application for Doctor of Medicine and BS Medical Technology Programs.

The president emphasized that this funding is essential to ensure that students have access to the necessary facilities required for these academic programs.



**SEAL OF APPROVAL.** CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza pay a courtesy visit with Deputy Majority Leader Cong. Bong Teves.

#CatSUpgrade

# CAMPUS NEW

# LOOK

## LADIES DORMITORY

Rochellee Jane C. Idanan

With the institution's commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities that will serve as a catalyst for student's personal growth and academic success, a new wave of transformations has taken place at the heart of Catanduanes State University (CatSU).

Having been established in 1978, the old CatSU Ladies dormitory, which once played a pivotal role in turning small dreams into explosive triumphs, has been revamped into a new, two-story building with modern, inclusive, and highly functional living space that offers students a home away from home.

Expanding to 4,767.97 sq.m., the new dormitory is

designed to accommodate more than 150 students, including 14 rooms for visitors- a far cry from the previous dormitory which can only house 120 students and eight rooms for visitors.

The new Ladies' dormitory also offers a flexible room configuration, allowing students to choose from four, six, or eight-person room occupancy. Each room is equipped with ergonomic bunk beds, large windows for ventilation, and a study table to suit the students' needs and enhance their living experience.

Ample bathroom space has also been added to the new facility to reduce congestion and long queues during peak usage time. The four comfort rooms,

with one on the ground floor and three on the upper floor, pose a large contrast to the previous dorm, which only offered one bathroom space.

Staying true to its vision of providing equal opportunities to all, the new ladies' dormitory offers a living space for differently-abled students to ensure that they are given the extra care and comfort they need. A large and spacious study lounge is located at the center of the new ladies' dormitory to foster greater social interaction, creating a sense of community and camaraderie among student diversity.

The ongoing construction of the community kitchen to provide students with a more convenient

and inexpensive living condition is a testament to the university's unceasing dedication to seeking constant improvement in enhancing the overall quality of life of CatSU students.

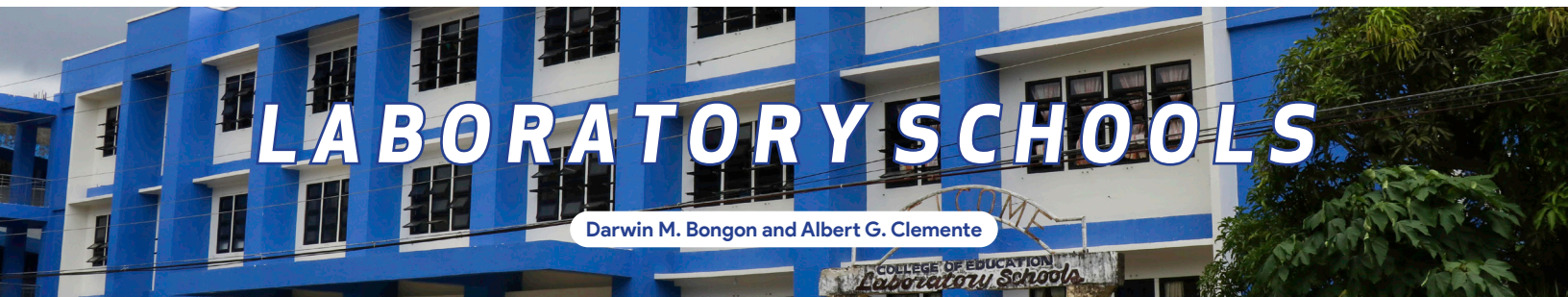
As the university sets out on a transformational journey of becoming a hub of academic excellence and innovation, the new CatSU Ladies Dormitory shall become a home that fosters inclusivity, community-building, and transformative learning experiences. A home away from home, this place shall become the university's new haven of hope and cultivator of dreams.



#CatSUUpgrade

# CAMPUS NEW

# LOOK



**Unveiling the newest** learning space on the campus, the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) - Laboratory Schools is turning up to a new era of unprecedented expansion and transformation to enhance the student experience.

Its legacy of producing globally-competitive individuals dates back to 1961, when it was part of Virac National Agricultural and Trade School (VNATS), and was subsequently converted into the Catanduanes State Colleges (CSC) ten years later.

After being elevated to university status in 2012, the CatSU Laboratory Schools

continued as a center of academic excellence committed to nurturing young minds.

The Laboratory School's remarkable physical breakthrough is designed to serve its growing student enrollment better.

With only 16 rooms before, the three-story Laboratory Schools building now has 23 modern classrooms, bringing together all grade levels under one roof from kindergarten to senior high school.

Featuring its distinct spaces, the new Laboratory Schools has a dance and music studio with a 60-student capacity, a multipurpose hall that can host

around 60-80 students, with a small stage and an adjacent dressing room.

Meanwhile, recognizing the need for further improvement to provide a more conducive learning space, CatSU President Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza has called for donations from benevolent donors as all the classrooms need air conditioning units, electric fans, televisions, projectors, and whiteboards. Other needs are the tiling of all classrooms, laptop provision for every classroom, and the establishment of computer and science rooms as well as home economics rooms.

By addressing the above-cited needs through the collaboration of various stakeholders, the student's academic success and quality education will be ensured.

Beyond the physical transformation, the construction of the new Laboratory Schools building enriches the campus community and sparks innovation, offering a dynamic space for students to learn, live, and interact.





# #CatSUpgrade Chronicles of Campus Life

## CatSU Ladies Dormitory

Rochellee Jane C. Idanan

*At the heart of every transformation taking place at Catanduanes State University (CatSU) is a tapestry of stories that thrive within every corner of the university, waiting to be told.*

*As we continue to highlight the transformational journey of CatSU through the **#CatSUpgrade** series, it is time that we breathe life into the transformations that will leave an indelible mark in our university's history through the **#CatSUpgrade: Chronicles of Campus Life series**, starting with the CatSU Ladies Dormitory.*

**"Thankful po ako kasi big** help po ang Ladies Dormitory sa mga student na gaya po sa amin na parang kulang sa financial."

For Mae Carla Reyes, a third-year Computer Engineering student at CatSU, the Ladies Dormitory is more than just a place to sleep; it is a place that allows students like her to reach for their dreams without being obscured by the shadow of financial constraints.

Having stayed at the CatSU Ladies Dormitory since she was a Grade 11 student at the CatSULaboratory Schools, Carla has already experienced

"Since Grade 11 po nag dorm na ako. Yung environment po talaga 'yong nag-iba kasi parang nilevel up po nila [yung dorm], mas pinaganda. Yung dati po nasa pang-animan ako [na room] tas ngayon nasa pang-apat na [ako], hindi na

masyadong crowded," Carla shared.

Beyond the aesthetics of the spacious dormitory, what Carla likes the most about the new ladies dormitory are the convenient and functional amenities that cater to the student's needs and expectations for a comfortable stay.

"Apart sa C.R. po na nag-level up talaga, like dati tabo [lang] ngayon may bidet at shower na, nagkaroon din po ng laundry area. Kasi dati po sa C.R. kami [naglalaba], ngayon po may labahan na kami sa rooftop at may sampayan na rin po."

"Maganda rin po kasi may sarili kaming study table. Apat po kami sa kwarto, apat din po yung lamesa hindi gaya nung sa luma na isa lang kayabumababa pa talaga ako [sa 1st floor] para mag-aral," she added.

Recounting her experiences

during her stay at an off-campus boarding house, she encouraged her fellow students to stay at the dormitory for its affordable yet unparalleled living experience.

"Naranasan ko rin po na mag boarding house sa labas nung nag pandemic po kasi hindi sila [Ladies Dorm] nagbukas. And sobrang gastos po kasi iba pa yung sa kuryente, tubig, at 'yong mismong rent sa room. Yung iba, kahit hindi naman kagandahan mahal pa ['yong bayad]," she remarked, revealing how she used to pay Php1,850 for the rent, excluding the water and electricity bills.

"Dito po sa dorm, [for] 1 month, 1k lang [yung bayad] tas andun na po lahat at may free wifi pa, tapos maganda rin po yung accommodation, malapit sa school, at secured din po," she continued.

Attesting to the university's

steadfast commitments the best of both the old and new Ladies Dormitory to upgrading the students' campus experience, Carla is thankful for the university's efforts in providing students with facilities that elevate their academic journey and foster personal growth.

**With its remarkable and** expansive transformation, the new Laboratory Schools building has become the latest symbol of an educational upgrade at the Catanduanes State University (CatSU).

After it officially opened, the new building has received positive feedback from both students and teachers, highlighting the sense of community it fosters.

“My experience [in the new laboratory schools] is very fun and exciting. Sa dating lab school po kasi, hiwa-hiwalay. Yung elementary, high school, and senior high school separate po sila. Ngayon po mas maganda na po kasi nasa iisang building na lahat, hindi na mahirap sa students ‘pag naglilipat

ng rooms,” Ahron Joshua I. Tubalinal, Grade-12 Canary student, enthusiastically sharing about his experience in the new Laboratory School.

Echoing Ahron’s sentiments, Prof. Corazon T. Cilot reminisced on how she used to

go from one building to another to attend her class. “The previous one [Laboratory Schools], I had to go from one building to another since students are scattered [around the campus]. We used to have our classes in CIT, COED, at the back of the library, while

the ABM students were at the CBA building. Sa edad ko na dae gatunong nin batlay, [struggle siya], pero okay lang.”

“We are happy that we are in the new building, of course, bag'o, kaya excited. Spacious ang mga room, and we have our own quadrangle to hold our programs. I believe the children are also safe inside this building,” she added, comparing the previous Laboratory Schools to the new one.

While students and teachers are happily settling into the new laboratory building, the challenges of adapting to a new environment still arise, especially proper ventilation due to the lack of electric fans and air conditioning units.

#CatSupgrade  
**Chronicles of**  
**Campus**  
*Life*

**Laboratory Schools**

Rochellee Jane C. Idanan



*We are happy that we are in the new building, of course, bag'o, kaya excited. Spacious ang mga room, and we have our own quadrangle to hold our programs. I believe the children are also safe inside this building.”*



*“My experience [in the new laboratory schools] is very fun and exciting. Sa dating lab school po kasi, hiwa-hiwalay. Yung elementary, high school, and senior high school separate po sila. Ngayon po mas maganda na po kasi nasa iisang building na lahat, hindi na mahirap sa students ‘pag naglilipat ng rooms,”*



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

# CatSU Men's Basketball defends crown, clinches Gold in a tight match SCUAA Championship

Francis John B. Templonuevo, The CatSU Statesman

**Catanduanes State** University's (CatSU) Men's Basketball Team etched their name in history once again by defending their title as the Regional State Colleges and Universities Athletics Association (SCUAA) Basketball Champions in a tight match and exciting championship game. The team secured gold with a 71-65 victory over the defensively adept Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges (CSPC).

The star of the final game was undoubtedly Albert Ticson, who displayed MVP-worthy skills. Ticson led in scoring, masterfully dished out assists, and provided stability in defense. His performance was a masterpiece, particularly in the paint, where he executed a variety of moves, including pull-ups, putbacks, and layups. Notably, he sank all of his throws, showing his composure under pressure.

Albert's elder brother, Alvin Ticson, also made significant contributions, excelling in defense and providing them a scoring boost in the early stages of the game. Earl Andrea, Jan Eric Asas, John Michael Ate, and Marvin Leosala offered vital

scoring support, while Marc Eric Cabrera and Jethro Vargas, stood as a defensive bulwark in protecting the paint.

The fourth quarter saw an intensified effort from the island's cagers, determined not to let CSPC snatch the lead. Their unwavering resolve paid off handsomely, securing the gold and an unblemished 5-0 record in the Regional SCUAA Tournament.

Head Coach Prof. Eric V. Evangelista and Assistant Coach Prof. Jowi Resayaga played pivotal roles in guiding the team to victory. Coach Evangelista expressed his jubilation saying, "Champion naman kita!"

The team's remarkable achievement earns them the honor of representing the Bicol Region in the upcoming National SCUAA Tournament in Tarlac.

The celebration was doubly special with the presence of Provincial Board Member (PBM) Jan Alberto and CatSU President, Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, who joined the team in their joyous victory celebration at center court.



**DRIVES TO THE BASKET.** CatSU Men's basketball player, Albert A. Ticson, shoots in the second half of Regional SCUAA game in Camarines Sur, September 2023.



# CatSU women's futsal team wins silver in championship clash

Anjo G. Tugay and Caroline I. Vecilles

## CatSU's women's futsal

team secured the silver medal in a hard-fought championship battle against Bicol University (BU), September 6.

Just a day after securing their ticket to the gold fight with a stunning 6-3 victory over DEBESMSCAT, the team displayed determination in the title clash.

Coach Arvie Alferez took to Facebook to express his respect and admiration for his players, stating, "It was a grueling three consecutive matches for the team, but these determined women gave their all."

While they narrowly missed the coveted gold, considering it is their first time competing in the regional field, their silver finish is a testament to the potential they hold.



**FUTSAL TEAM.** CatSU Women's Futsal Team posed with their coaches, Niño Dominguez and Arvie Alferez.

# Championship journey marked by challenges, determination - Coach Evangelista

Anjo G. Tugay and Caroline I. Vecilles

**In a candid pre-championship** interview, Head Coach Eric V. Evangelista of the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Men's Basketball team shared the struggles and resolve that have defined their journey to the finals of the Bicol State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA).

The coach began by acknowledging the hurdles they faced, stating, "Our Championship journey was full of challenges."

He elaborated, citing initial difficulties in assembling a complete 12-man team due to scheduling conflicts.

"We struggled to train as a 12-man team at first because of the conflict in their free time in school," he explained.

However, his narrative took a turn towards determination

and dedication as he continued, "But because of our love for the game, we solved the problem by practicing after class hours, 5:30-8:00 p.m. every day."

This solution, born from their shared passion for basketball, saw every team member making significant sacrifices and giving their best.

"Everybody sacrificed and gave their best with only one goal in mind, to win the championship." Acknowledging that their team might not boast the same level of talent as their competitors, he underscored their reliance on determination and hard work, saying, "What we lack in talent, we make up with sheer grit and determination by outworking our opponent."

He emphasized their core belief that championships are not



**REGIONAL SCUAA.** CatSU Men's basketball coach Eric Evangelista shone full support to his team, in anticipation of the championship trophy.

merely the result of talent but the culmination of relentless hard work.

"We believe that talent alone can't win the championship but hard work," he asserted confidently.

In a closing statement, the head coach conveyed his team's commitment, saying, "So we will continue to work hard to bring home the championship trophy to CatSU."



# HERALD

The **HERALD** is the official publication of Catanduanes State University which is produced by Corporate Communications and Multimedia Services (CCMS).

The **HERALD** complements the multi-platform communication arm of CCMS Office which utilizes print, radio broadcasting, and social media, as well as the World Wide Web, in the dissemination of the different milestones, programs, projects, activities and achievements of the University, particularly on areas of Instruction, Research, Extension, Production, Governance and Management, and Student Services.

The **HERALD** exists to advance the interest of development communication in higher education, and to provide another venue in informing, involving, and empowering the stakeholders of the Catanduanes State University.

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**Coach Con Marquez** passionately emphasized to his boys, "Malakas sila, pero mas malakas kayo. Maintain focus, mga anak." With the CatSU Men's Volleyball team's victory yesterday, claiming two sets against BICAST sealing two sets at 25-15 and 25-22, these words carry even more weight as they brace themselves for a highstakes encounter against SorSU's volleyball team.

**Coach Arnel De Guzman** sets the tone for the women's volleyball team's bronze showdown with Camarines Norte State College today, its pre-game mantra:

**'Communicate, Obey, Discipline, Enjoy, and Execute'**



**After CatSU's SepakTakraw** team secured a victory against CBSUA with scores of 22-20 and 21- 19 in 2 sets, Coach Jun Manlangit had this to say to his boys as they prepare for this afternoon's game against BU, empowering the team's morale: "It's normal to feel demoralized at times, but what's important is that we recover quickly. Before we know it, we'll be victorious."