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OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION PUBLICATION
OF CATANDUANES STATE UNIVERSITY



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HERALD



Tie-Up between Catanduanes State University and National Dong Hwa University Firmed Up in MOU

The MOU covered the feasibility of student exchanges and programs.

The Catanduanes State University (CatsU) and National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan forged a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in examining a framework for educational and research cooperation for students, faculty, and staff, on November 4, 2020.

Dr. Han-Chieh Chao, President of the National Dong Hwa University, and Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, OIC President of CatSU and CHEDRO-5 Regional Director signed the MOU representing both institutions respectively. The MOU was signed in recognition of the common interests, and both agreed to consult periodically concerning the status of such collaboration.

In preparation for establishing a formal framework for future activities, the parties agreed to explore possibilities for faculty and staff exchanges for research, lectures, and discussions that mutually benefit both institutions.

The MOU covered the feasibility of student exchanges and programs. It likewise seeks support for projects determined as beneficial to both institutions.

The terms of joint activities and arrangement for specific visit, exchanges, and other forms of cooperation will be agreed upon in writing prior to the initiation of any activity. Any commitment of resources, financial or otherwise, in support of these activities must be contained in subsequent specific agreements, the MOU stated.

National Dong Hwa University is an educational institution duly organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan, Republic of China, with principal office at Hualien Country, Taiwan

PCAARRD and CatSU Php5M project for S&T-based rehab

The Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources (PCAARRD) has approved the Catanduanes State University's (CatSU) request of funding assistance for the project "S&T-based Rehabilitation of Damages caused by Super Typhoon Rolly in Catanduanes".

In the letter received last November 23, 2020, the Php5 million project aims to address several agricultural and communal needs that have emerged at the aftermath of STY Rolly, such as securing food packs and hygiene kits, conducting technical trainings on crop production, aquaculture, native animal-raising, and stress debriefing, procurement and distribution of seedlings and other planting materials to affected families.

Mrs. Nena V. Santos, CatSU's Science Research Specialist, is the Project Leader of the S&T based project which will commence on December 1, 2020 until May 31, 2021. The project is expected to be implemented by CatSU in collaboration with local government units and other government institutions.

HERALD

The HERALD is the official publication of Catanduanes State University which is produced by Public Relations and Media Communications Services (PRMCS).

The HERALD complements the multi-platform communication arm of PRMCS Office which utilizes print, broadcast, television, 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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The funding assistance is part of the PCAARRD's S&T Action Frontline for Emergencies and Hazards (SAFE) Program that addresses rehabilitation of areas affected by natural disasters.
#JManlagnit



CHED RO-V conducts Orientation-workshop on Typology-Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA)

In preparation for the Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) set in the first quarter of 2021, the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office V (CHED ROV) conducted the Typology-ISA Orientation-Workshop on October 13-14, 2020 at the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Auditorium.

Dr. Ma. Teresa G. de Alban, CHED RO V Chief Education Program Supervisor, together with other three (3) Education Supervisors, Dr. Jean Paulette S. Go, Dr. Pamela S. Viñas and Dr. Jean E. Cardíño, led the orientation participated by the Vice-Presidents (Area Leaders), Directors (Area Leaders) and faculty members of CatSU.

The two-day orientation-workshop is meant to help university prepare for the assessment of the 5 Key Result Areas: Governance and Management, Quality of Teaching and Learning, Quality of Professional Exposure, Research and Creative Work, Support for Students and Relations with the Community.

The University Officer-in-Charge President and CHED-ROV Director, Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, expressed appreciation for the cooperation extended by the University officials and concerned faculty members during two-day event.

The workshop, held on the second day, was the highlight of the event. The Area Leaders facilitated the competition of the required information in the instrument provided by CHED in preparation for the workshop.

Higher Education Institutions, like CatSU, are encouraged to develop a culture of quality and ISA is one of the ways to achieve it. #JManlagnit

CatSU on relief op in various barangays, extension arm thanks several donors

The Catanduanes State University (CatSU) led by its Officer-in-Charge President and CHEDRO-V Regional Director, Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, conducted relief operations in the different barangays in the province which were severely affected by the onslaught of super typhoon Rolly on November 1, 2020 and tropical storm Ulysses.

Dr. Marilyn B. Panti, CatSU's Extension Services Office Director in whose office all relief assistance from various donors were either solicited or channeled, led the University's provincewide relief operations in the aftermath of Rolly's devastation.

Dr. Panti reported that leading the list of donors to the CatSU's relief operations is Vice-President Leni Robredo in her official capacity. Overall, Dr. Panti reported that the University received cash assistance from 9 outside donors worth P855, 846.00, 3,204 food packs and several other goods like blankets, trapal, mineral water, and flashlights canned goods, face shield/ mask, shirts, umbrella nail and sacks of rice. There were 28 barangays served with 3, 332 families benefitted in the relief operations of the University. Recipient municipalities were Virac, San Miguel, San Andres, Bato, Panganiban, and Viga.

The donors of the University's relief operations, aside from the Office of Vice-President Leni Robredo were the following: Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA) International, Japan; Asian Medical Students Association (AMSA); Buhay-buhay sa Amerika through Ms Tess Bongon, BSN 1980 who interviewed via Stream Yard live on Youtube the CatSU's Extension Services Director, Dr. Panti; CSU Nursing Alumni International through Ms Evelyn Beltran; Ms Lourdes Cueva, BSN 1976; UP Hamilia Sisterhood and UP Hamilia Brotherhood (UP Visayas); and an Anonymous donor of 10 sacks of rice and food packs. Upcoming ones are UP Visayas through Dr. Ric Babaran; Ateneo de Manila University; the Ambassador of Taiwan; and the Masters in National Security Administration (MNSA).



The CatSU towards its golden year: Sustaining pathways of excellence in the new normal

By:

Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, Ph. D., CESO III

OIC President, CatSU

Regional Director, CHEDRO V

(In the occasion of the 2020 Founding and Charter Anniversary of the Catanduanes State University, October 19, 2020)

Fellow workers in the academe, ladies and gentlemen:

Good morning and my greetings of a grand blissful day to all of you. Happy founding and charter anniversary to each one of us. We have journeyed on our 49th this year, a prelude to our golden anniversary next year as an institution. We have also crossed the 8th milestone year as a university since its conversion from then Catanduanes State Colleges into what it is now, the Catanduanes State University. It is to the credit of the former Congressman of Catanduanes, Hon. Cesar V. Sarmiento when he authored Republic Act No. 10229 on October 2012 the conversion of CSC to a university. It is a leap forward to greater challenge when it was first established as a college through RA 6341 authored by the late Congresssman of Catanduanes, Jose M. Alberto. This day, we extend and re-affirm our words of appreciation and gratitude to them and for their visionary efforts as we bask in the glory of what our beloved Catanduanes State University has been today.

As we start with the celebrations this week where most of which shall be done through virtual mode under the present circumstances obtaining in the new normal; we must, however, go on with equal vigor and enthusiasm despite the limitations of space and proximity because our Alma Mater, our University, deserves no less except our unwavering love, devotion, and commitment that it owes in our heart.

At this juncture, let me take this opportunity to thank all of you present here today; to our Board of Regents, school officials led by our Vice-Presidents, Deans of the different Colleges, Directors, Chiefs of Offices, Faculty members, Non-teaching staff and employees both regular and temporary, the different working committees, the students and alumni, for your show of support and cooperation to make this annual event happen, despite the deviation from the usual set up that we were accustomed to because of the pandemic. This too will pass, and what is indeed important is the burning faith in us that God's providence rules everything, while nothing at the very least happens without a purpose. It is just our joyful surrender to that purpose that we let go and we let God, while we do the best we could with a faithful devotion to duty. Thus, for all your efforts and commitment done or those which still need to be done for the good of this annual event, and for the good of the University, I extend my deep appreciation and thanks. Keep up the good work and keep safe always.

Also, we remember our colleagues who were once part of this institution for their faithful service and commendable contribution to this institution. They remain as our guiding light and inspiration for all of us who are yet within the frontlines of keeping the pace to excellence of this institution. Their footprints and legacy should never go in vain indeed. Noteworthy to mention at this point is my sincere and profound appreciations and gratitude to my predecessor, then

SUC President III, Dr. Minerva I. Morales. She was at the helm of this institution as its 6th President in 2011 and the first University President since 2012 until August of 2020 when I took the reign of the University on August 1, 2020 as Officer-in-Charge President, while at the same time performing my duties as current Regional Director of CHED in Bicol. Undeniably, I reiterate my warm recognition to my predecessor, Dr. Morales at this most opportune time for instilling vitality and creating new pathways of excellence to the institution as a University. Her works of distinctions for the University through the decades deserve my utmost recognition as your new OIC President. Again, thank you very much Dr. Morales for the leadership legacy to the University to what it is now today.

Along with that, we express with equal appreciations to those past Presidents of this institution the faculty and non-teaching personnel, both living and dead for their selfless dedication and commitment to their tour of duty when they were once in this institution. We remember them too with fond memories and appreciations.

As your Officer-in-Charge President, I personally feel the warmth of your welcome, and yet still, much more await every one of us, so that I take this responsibility with much enthusiasm to serve and work with you, because I love working for my fellow Catandunganons especially you now who are the present strong constituents of the University, and I love even more, working for the Catanduanes State University, my Alma Mater. Let us walk a new and dynamic pathway of excellence attuned to the global parameters of quality, relevant, responsive and development-driven higher education agenda. As your CHED Regional Director, a fellow Catandunganon and OIC President, you have a special part in my heart in helping you walk that extra mile, and I believe all of us will join me in that meaningful journey that we are starting now. Let us join hands and keep the faith and passion for the good of the University.

And so, it is but fitting that our theme of this year's founding and charter anniversary, "The CatSU towards its golden year: Sustaining pathways of excellence in the new normal" comes to light as a challenge and hope for everyone to reflect as part of the Catanduanes State University family.

There has never been more or less in anyone of us. For there has never been one as a matter of universal truth, except that each is given a unique share to make this world a beautiful place to live. Pretty much the same with every one of us now who are still within the fold of the Catanduanes State University. Make every moment of your presence in the University a beautiful encounter with the norm of genuine public service anchored on public responsibility whether officials or rank-in-file, temporary or regular. It is not being in authority or having none at all. It is instead a commitment to achieve a goal serving the public good in a way that can stand the way of both lawful and moral scrutiny. When in conflict of what is lawful or moral, the option is clear. Always stand in the way of moral order no matter how narrow the road is, and sometimes painful. As your new OIC President, I will always join you in your rightful journey, as long as it is in accord with what our theme expects us to do: to sustain the pathways of excellence, no matter how rough the edges may be.

In this celebration that we are starting today, let us re-affirm that commitment with a new resolve. All for the good of our beloved Catanduanes State University. And the time is now. Together, let us walk as one in this new, meaningful journey of the University.

Dios mabalos po saindo gabos.

Long live Catanduanes State University.



6th BIOME web conference conducted

The Catanduanes State University (CatSU)- Research and Development Services together with the Nutrition and Dietetics Department of the College of Health Sciences spearheaded the 6th BIOME (Biodiversity meeting) through a web conference on Research and Creative Works on Food, Health and Environment with the theme, “Impacts of Covid-19 Pandemic on Society, Education, Environment and Development (S.E.E.D.)- Ageing happily and living sustainably with healthy diets and functional local food systems” on October 22-23, 2020.

The three-day web conference was in collaboration with the Pacifictech NGO, Inc. and Hechanova & Co. Inc and The International Union for the Conservation of Nature- Commission on Education & Communication (IUCN-CEC) Switzerland.

Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, CatSU Officer-In-Charge and CHED and Regional Director ROV gave his welcome message to the guests, presenters/lecturers and participants present and extended his great appreciations to the organizers of taking such initiative to conduct the event in which he said, “...a timely and relevant one because as the theme suggests, it touches the base of our current situations mired and yet unbowed by the privations of worldwide pandemic.” He further said that research as hallmark of a university, plays a very pivotal role in making it more relevant and responsive over cross –cutting issues and addressing various societal concerns. Also present

as keynote speakers are Hon. Joseph “Buboy” Cua, Provincial Governor and Hon. Hector Sanchez, Congressman of Lone District of Catanduanes.

Topics discussed by respective competent lecturers and speakers were presented during the program proper. Plenary sessions and research talks regarding Research & Innovation at CatSU, Biodiversity and Food, Mangroves and Ocean Science, Agriculture, Agro-forestry & Fisheries, Food and ABACA production, Research Management, Technology and Covid-19 pandemic were given as well.

Invited keynote presenters who delivered their presentations during the second day of the event were Hon. Felizardo “Sarge” Colombo, Vice President of AMA University and Former Regent of Catanduanes State University, with his topic on challenges and prospects of blended learning. Atty. Editha R. Hechanova, President/CEO of Hechanova & Co. Inc. who talked about Intellectual Property and Technology Licensing in SUCs. Dr. Custer C. Deocariz, Philippines Nuclear Research Institute (DOST) had his topic on Organ Bioprint and Human Immortality and lastly, Dr. Efren Abueg, Writer and Professor at De La Salle University- Manila who discussed about Ageing Happily and Living Sustainability during Covid-19 pandemic.

The 6th BIOME which tackles the link of Biodiversity with Food, Health and Environment during the Covid-19 pandemic was facilitated by Research and Development Services Office led by then Research Director, Dr. Jimmy Masagea, the convenor of the research conference, under the Research, Extension and Production Affairs Division headed by Vice-President Lily Custodio.

The event primarily aimed to drive sustainable solutions through leading communication, learning and knowledge management to prepare more inclusive, environmentally sustainable and resilient food system, and to ensure no one is left behind.

New officers elected to CatSU Federated Alumni Association



The Catanduanes State University (CatSU) Federated Alumni Association, in cooperation with the University’s Alumni and Placement Services Office facilitated the election of the new set of

Federated Alumni Association officers on October 9, 2020 at the CatSU Covered Court. Mrs. Thelma T. Sosito, former Alumni Relations Officer, spearheaded the election proceedings.

Lawyer Ramil Joselito B. Tamayo of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) batch '94 got elected as President of the Federation and that entitles him a seat in the CatSU Board of Regents (BOR) representing the Alumni Sector. He was once the President of the College of Arts and Sciences Student Body Organization (CASSBO) and is currently a managing partner of Tamayo, Agunday & Zuniega Law Offices.

Tamayo will lead the FAA Board as it embarks on a strategic planning process to ensure strengthened spirit of collaboration of all alumni, and the revitalization of partnership between alumni organization, bigtime establishments in the major cities and successful alumni abroad. Alongside this platform of Tamayo is also the application, accreditation, approval and operation of the College of Law in the University.

With Tamayo in the Alumni Association were other officers that were elected, namely: Fidel A. Vegim (Vice-President), Eulalia T. Talaran (Secretary), Nestor Sr. Robles, Jr. (Treasurer), Jonathan B. Capsa (Auditor), Eduardo D. Peña (Public Relations Officer), Eddie S. Millon, Erickson T. Salazar, Joel T. Olfindo (Board of Directors). #JManlagnit



Catanduanes State U celebrates this year's founding and charter anniversary

The Catanduanes State University (CatSU) celebrates its 49th foundation anniversary this year as a public higher educational institution in Catanduanes. It started its operations in 1971, while it is on its 8th year now since it was converted from then Catanduanes State Colleges (CSC) to Catanduanes State University (CatSU) in 2012.

This year's theme is, "The CatSU towards its Golden Year: Sustaining Pathways of Excellence in the New Normal." The activity started October 5, 2020 with a Holy Mass officiated by Most Rev.

Manolo A. de los Santos, Bishop of the Diocese of Virac. Later, a motorcade around the poblacion followed with University officials and regular faculty members and non-teaching personnel in attendance. In observance of the current health protocols, students' physical presence in the mass and the motorcade were spared.

On October 19, starts the week-long celebration to be held at the CatSU main campus grounds with the following slated activities, such as: Raising of the National Flag and the CatSU flag, ceremonial flying of the 49th CatSU banner and balloons, photo-op of all CatSU workforce, declaration of the official facebook page for the virtual ceremonies intended for employees and students, and the message of the OIC-President, Dr. Freddie T. Bernal. In the virtual contests featuring online entries for singing and dancing, an entry for each college, unit or office will be solicited while on poster making, it should focus on the best practices in the new normal. For students, essay writing, poster making and slogan making will also be conducted with the theme, "Students in the New Normal: Challenges and Coping."

On October 20 at 1:00 p.m., the annual Paggawad ng Parangal, this time by virtual mode, will be held for those awardees in service, COPC, and research publication, the scholarship and extension benefactors. The following day, October 21 at 8:00 a.m. will be the tree planting in designated sites led by university officials, Deans and chiefs of offices.

The first day of the web conference on research and creative works on food, health, and environment will also be conducted on October 22, 2020 which will be spearheaded by the University's Research and Development Services Office led by its Director, Dr. Jimmy T. Masagca under the Research, Extension and Production Affairs Division headed by Vice-President, Dr. Lily P. Custodio.

The next day, October 23, 2020 will be the Family Day starting 7:30 a.m. which will be done by unit or office in deference to the strict new normal protocols, while in the afternoon of same day at 4:00 p.m. will be the second day of the web conference of the Research Office. The following day, October 30, 2020 will be the announcement of winners that will be done in the virtual mode through the official facebook page as host of the uploaded online entries in the contests.

The institution as it boasts another milestone year this 2020, recalls with pride that it has evolved from simple beginnings to where it is now when it finally joined the ranks of universities when former Catanduanes Congressman, Hon. Cesar V. Sarmiento authored RA 10229 on October 19, 2012 which made possible the institution's conversion as it is now the Catanduanes State University (CatSU); with Dr. Minerva Isorena-Morales, serving as its first University President thereafter, having likewise assumed its sixth post of the Presidency in 2011 when it was still a College from her predecessor, the late Dr. Asuncion Vera- Asetre.

It can be recalled that the CatSU first operated as an institution on June 19, 1971 when then Virac National and Agricultural Trade School (VNATS) was converted as Catanduanes State Colleges (CSC) through RA 6341 authored by the late Catanduanes Congressman, Hon. Jose M. Alberto. The university has its annex campus in Panganiban since its integration on October 1999 to CSC, the former Catanduanes Agricultural and Industrial College (CAIC) which would become later as CSC-Panganiban Campus by virtue of Board Resolution No. 15 passed in 2003. The institution has become the province's premier higher educational institution served by six Presidents and two Officers –in-Charge (OIC) since 1971 starting from its first President, the late Mr. Pedro G. Tabuzo.

The university's current Officer-in-Charge (OIC) President and Regional Director of Bicol's Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Regional Office No. 5, Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, took the reign of the university on August 1, 2020 from his predecessor, Dr. Minerva I. Morales, who was its sixth College President in 2011, and first University President as well in 2012 when the CSC was converted as a University. OIC President, Dr. Bernal in his latest Board report message, said that his current leadership of the University affords him a mission and challenging task in this transition when we are met at the crossroads of the global pandemic. "Yet, determined and unperturbed, this Management aims to settle the groundwork of sustained and growth-responsive higher education agenda for the province of Catanduanes," Dr. Bernal said.

Catanduanes State U seals agreement with UMAP on student international mobility

Taking on another step to boost internationalization efforts of the Catanduanes State University (CatSU) under the leadership of its Officer-in-Charge (OIC) President and Bicol CHED Regional Director, Dr. Freddie T. Bernal, is the university's sealed agreement with UMAP International Secretariat based in Japan on October 8, 2020 paving the way for multilateral student exchange program.

Dr. Joseph G. Zafe, CatSU's Director for International Relations and Continuing Professional Development Services (CIRCPD) revealed that the university has been entered in the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) Multilateral Student Exchange Program (UME) through its UMAP International Secretariat (UMAP IS) represented by Dr. Etsuko Yaguchi, its Secretary General in Tokyo, Japan.

The UMAP will implement exchanges of undergraduate or graduate students in participating universities. Founded in 1991, it is a voluntary association of government and non-government representatives of the higher education (university) sector, particularly countries and territories in the Asia-Pacific region. Its number of full members has increased from 9 to 22 since Tokyo University took on the role of UMAP IS in 2016, allowing even broader student exchange mobility. Thailand is its current Chair country through Chairperson/ Secretary General, Dr. Sumate Yamnoon, having taken the role from Malaysia which was Chair country in the past four years from 2015 to 2018.

The agreement stated that all participating exchange students should be currently enrolled students from participating universities; however, their selection is subject to the discretion and authority of each host university where the maximum number of inbound and outbound exchange students for each university will not exceed two per semester under Program A. The CatSU will participate in Program A, but it does not prevent its students from participating in Program B and/or Super Short-Term Programs (Program C) before the university hosts or participates in Program A.

Dr. Zafe said that under the pledge of agreement signed by CatSU OIC President Dr. Bernal and UMAP IS Secretary General Dr. Yaguchi, exchange students shall be permitted to stay at the host university not longer than one year and will not be subject to fees for examinations, admission

and tuition at the host university but they will be notified of VISA application for a length of time equivalent to the exchange term in the country where the host university is located.

Under this term, exchange students may enroll into any courses or classes offered by the host university, except courses with specific requirements determined by the university, while the latter shall provide the students with accommodation or help them acquire their own accommodation. The agreement likewise noted that all participating universities agree to accept credits and to transfer credits earned by students from the exchange program via the UMAP Credit Transfer Scheme (UCTS), subject to the regulations and procedures of the respective universities. The agreement signed by CatSU with UMAP started at the date of its signing on October 8, 2020. UMAP currently comprises 35 countries /territories with over 570 member universities. Its membership is open to countries /territories in the Asia-Pacific region.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Greetings of peace and love!

Christmas season unfolds once again with a two-fold milestone: an end to the year that was, and a prelude to the coming new year. It bridges between the old and the new chapters of time, the wearing-off of the past, and the blossoming of a hopeful beginning. To the Christian faithful, it is beyond transition of time or a customary tradition. It is deep within the history of joy of Christ's immersion into the world of men, such being a redemptive episode of God's immeasurable love that the "Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Hence, this season is a triumphant reminder for all of us of Christ's being born to man in Bethlehem, an Advent of hope, of new life and salvation from man's slavery from sin, and a selfless love of joyful surrender of God's giving His only begotten Son to redeem men from the wages of sins and henceforth attain for them the rewards of eternal life.

Today as we celebrate Christmas and end the year 2020 that certainly marked historic episodes of worldwide pandemic brought by Covid-19, and the local devastation of so-called fiercest typhoon Rolly that hit our region, indeed at the hindsight, this year appeared tremendously catastrophic when it challenged the strength of our character and faith.

However, as the number suggests, "20-20" lends implication of a "clear vision" which invites everyone as well this Christmas, the seal of God's everlasting love, to see very clearly the reign of light and the dawning of a brighter tomorrow after the dark and the pit of night. Christmas tells us to continue seeing and seeking the light, the flicker of starlight that only Christ's being re-born in our heart could give during the most distressful darkness around us.

This year 2020 marked by deepest challenges of the pandemic and the super typhoon, is a great opportunity to each one of us to "look clearly" instead towards the light of God's love and move on with a faithful heart to become sharers and channels of that love to others who need them most in their dire moments of need and misery.

Merry Christmas everyone!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Freddie T. Bernal". The signature is stylized and fluid.

FREDDIE T. BERNAL, Ph. D, CESO III
OIC President, CatSU and
CHEDRO-V Regional Director