



CSU GOES ASEAN: CSU IS AUN-QA ASSOCIATE MEMBER

The Cagayan State University takes another step towards being a globally recognized institution, as it is now officially an Associate Member of the ASEAN University Network - Quality Assurance (AUN-QA).

Associate membership is the highest status that the AUN-QA can confer to the non-founding member universities of AUN that fully meet the associate membership requirements

specified by the network. After the acceptance of CSU, the University can now request for the assessment of AUN in its programs.

In a Facebook post, Fr. Ranhilio C. Aquino acknowledged President Urdujah A. Tejada's leadership in the conferment of this milestone. Furthermore, the Vice President for Finance and Administration thanked Dr. Leticia Dumlao, Mr. Ramon

Kanapi, and Dr. Narcitas Ouano who served as his fellow trainees in Bangkok, Thailand. The training is part of the eligibility requirements for application, where trainees were expected to act as support for the implementation of the AUN-QA System in the University.

With "A Touch of Quality" as their motto, AUN-QA prides itself as an established ASEAN quality assurance network with the primary aim of promoting

the quality of higher education institutions, raising the quality of higher education, and collaborating with both regional and international bodies for the benefit of the South East Asian community. Its mission is to harmonize educational standards and to seek continuous improvement of academic quality in ASEAN universities. 🇵🇭

CSU JOINS CONVERSATION ON PRIME-HRM

The Cagayan State University subjected itself to the Civil Service Commission (CSC)'s Agency Self-Assessment for the Program to Institutionalize Meritocracy and Excellence in Human Resource Management (PRIME-HRM) as part of enhancing the people management area of the University.

Director Ma. Noemi S. Bustamante from the Civil Service Commission served as the resource speaker for CSU's PRIME-HRM orientation. She was invited to talk to the concerned CSU officials on the process of the assessment last February 15, 2019 at the CSU Andrews' Conference Hall.

Director Bustamante shared that part of CSC's vision is to become a Center of Excellence in Human Resource Development, but this can only be done by the

collective effort of government agencies. She also reiterated that the focal consideration in this evaluation, unlike in other accrediting bodies, is the organization's human resource. "Even the lowest should be able to know how he can contribute towards the vision of the organization", she states.

For the assessment tool, Director Bustamante said that at least a Level 2 is needed to become accredited. She further sights that one advantage that the accreditation can grant is the capacity of the University President to take the final action when issuing appointments. In this case, CSC's only work is to validate.

Director Bustamante also shared the four principal indicators that will be considered for assessment. These are Recruitment, Selection, and

Placement (RSP), Learning and Development (L&D), Performance Management System (PMS), and Rewards and Recognition (R&R). These indicators take its roots from the Investors in People Standards, a national certifying

body that focuses on People Management Practices. After the talk, CSU officials were assigned in groups to serve as the committee that will work on the improvement of each indicator. 🇵🇭



ASEC. BUENDIA ORIENTS CSU ON MECO-TECO INITIATIVES



Dr. Leah J. Buendia, the Department of Science and Technology's Assistant Secretary for International Cooperation, visited CSU to serve as the key resource speaker for the Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO) – Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) Orientation Program that transpired last February 27, 2019 at the CSU-Andrews Conference Hall.

The orientation was held as part of strengthening the research initiatives of CSU. "We would like to strengthen research collaborations with other institutions." Dr. Urdujah A. Tejada stressed during her welcome remarks. The University

President sought to broaden the collaboration efforts of the institution as a medium to reach the full potential of the faculty, students, and the community. Present during the talk were DOST RD Sancho Maborang, the different Campus Executive Officers, university directors, and other campus officials.

As the forefront of the department in International engagements, Dr. Buendia talked about the MECO-TECO's Scientific and Technological Cooperation where three (3) programs are presently in the works. The Joint Research Program (JRP) and Joint Research Initiatives are both in the process of accepting proposals. In these

bilateral joint research, approved proposals will have DOST and Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology to provide counterpart funding for the approved research proposals. The areas for JRP are smart agriculture, point of care for communicable diseases, food safety and security, equipment and devices for ocean research application, and biomedical/diagnostics. While the Joint Research Initiatives (JRI) focuses on researches relating to Volcano, Ocean, Typhoon, Earthquake (VOTE) and Health, Agriculture, and Training (HAT). There is also the Sandwich Scholarship Program that gives a chance for aspiring applicants to receive a scholarship grant in a Taiwan

University.

Aside from Taiwan, Dr. Buendia also proceeded on to divulge that there are also a lot of other available joint research program opportunities in other countries that include Japan, China, Russia, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

Dr. Buendia encouraged everyone to take these opportunities to collaborate with the different countries by highlighting the importance of working together with other institutions to progress in CSU's academic ventures as she ends her talk with the famous proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." 🇵🇭

FORMER ASEC. NUQUE GIVES INSIGHTS ON CSU'S MTDIP – STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2022



Former Assistant Secretary, Eddie M. Nuque gave his recommendations and insights on Cagayan State University's Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) during the "Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Review Integration Workshop" last February 20, 2019 held at the CICS Conference Hall of CSU Carig Campus.

As a response to the demands of time and expectations

of the society, University President Urdujah A. Tejada highlighted in her welcome address, the importance of an external reviewer to gain an outside perspective on the state of the University. After which, she held a comprehensive review on the process of crafting the Medium-Term Development and Investment Plan (MTDIP) – Strategic Plan 2017-2022 that is grounded mainly on performance excellence and global

competitiveness. On the other hand, Dr. Florentina S. Dumlaog, the University Technical Adviser, ushered the plenary on the Technical Description inscribed in CSU's MTDIP – Strategic Plan 2017-2022.

Mr. Eddie M. Nuque, a Professor from De La Salle University and former Assistant Secretary of the Office of the Philippine President, gave a thorough review on CSU's

Strategic Plan 2017-2022. One of the given recommendations was the assessment of the Vision and Mission Statement of the University. This is acted upon by an Integration Workshop in the afternoon session at CSU Andrews' Conference Hall where the crafting of a new Vision and Mission was collectively made by the Campus Executive Officers and other university officials. 🇵🇭

NEW ZEALAND DEPUTY AMBASSADOR GETS UPDATES FROM PROJECT ReBUILD

Tim Stewardson, Deputy Head of Mission and Second Secretary at the New Zealand Embassy to the Philippines, visited CSU last February 13, 2019 for a status update meeting regarding the accomplishments of the Climate Change Commission Project ReBUILD.

Dr. Jose D. Guzman, Program Manager for Climate Change, and Dr. Junel B. Guzman, Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension welcomed Tim Stewardson and his companion, Rune Ylade, the Manager of New Zealand Aid Programme, in the halls of CSU. The deputy ambassador conducted the visit to learn more about the present condition and the established benefits of Project ReBUILD which was launched to be an academic platform in addressing the effects of climate change in the local unit.

During the dialogue, Dr. Jose Guzman shared the advantage of the disaster maps that were produced in the project, as he sights, "There were times when they were planning to turn hazardous areas into commercial spaces but the LGU disagreed because of (its location on) the disaster maps." This is also true for the prediction maps that helped in pinpointing the flood prone areas during typhoons. Moreover, Stewardson acknowledge how local government agencies are now coming on board on Climate Change Adaptation.

The meeting took place in the spirit of camaraderie and continuous partnership of the Cagayan State University and the New Zealand Partnership on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Initiatives in addressing climate change in Region 2. 🇵🇭



CSU HOSTS RESEARCH RESULTS UTILIZATION FORUM AND AGRIBUSINESS LEADERS CONGRESS

Cagayan State University, in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology and the Department of Trade and Industry, conducted the Research Results Utilization Forum and Agribusiness Leaders Congress with the theme, "Popularizing Research and Innovation through Agribusiness Engagement" last February 18-19, 2019.

The activity was geared to create an avenue for the collaboration and convergence of students, researchers, extensionists, possible investors,

and other stakeholders in the region to exchange information and best-case practices on coconut, bamboo, cacao, dairy, high-value crops, food processing, and health.

During the Opening Ceremony, Dr. Urdujah A. Tejada in her welcome remarks emphasized the mission of CSU, to "transform the lives of people and communities" by featuring the different niche programs for each campus as an effort to respond to the realities of the region. Furthermore, President

Tejada, said that CSU promises to be a breeding ground for agribusiness as the institution strives to develop and strengthen its agricultural endeavors.

Mayor Jefferson Soriano highlighted Tuguegarao City as one of the friendliest cities when it comes to business ventures, signifying that the city is ready to engage in commerce. He further added that more than about aiming for investors to come in, the goal is for the development of city governance as he states that, "Each one of us here in Tuguegarao

are all stakeholders. We all play an important role in city building."

Commissioner De Las Llagas, in her talk, foregrounds the importance of research in agribusiness as it translates ideas and concepts to practical applications. She further recognized the role and contribution of CSU in the research field. "Research is the agent of change, and Cagayan State University is an initiator towards this change." A testament to this is the allocation of a financial grant amounting to 58 M



for CSU, the highest grant given by CHED for research in Region 2.

Meanwhile, Fr. Ranhilio Aquino provided the rationale behind the event with a stress on CSU's response to the challenge of rural progress as he states that it is through being a center of instruction, research, development, extension, and serving as a catalyst to production that the University gets to contribute in taking the

lead towards rural progress. As he underscores that "Quality Assurance is the best assurance of a significant contribution to rural progress."

The event was also graced by Senator Sherwin T. Gatchalian, who finds half of his heritage in the province of Cagayan. The senator emphasized the importance of research and innovation in the creation of agricultural solutions for the

country. As the chairperson for the committee on Economic Affairs and Energy, Gatchalian rallies the usage of biofuels by reusing coconut and sugarcane waste into biodiesel and bioethanol. Gatchalian also endeavors to strengthen the research capacity of the University towards agricultural productivity as he pledges to help in the creation of research centers in CSU for the enhancement of its niches.

The 2-day event featured the set-up of booths where each campus displayed their best products and offered these for public consumption. Parallel sessions were also conducted after the opening ceremony where students learned and interacted with experts on the field of agribusiness. 🇵🇭



CSU HOLDS FIC'S FIRST LUZON CLUSTER MEETING

Now being the national leading region for Food Innovation Center (FIC), Cagayan State University hosted the first Luzon Cluster Meeting of the (FIC) last February 7-8, 2019 at the CSU Andrew's Conference Hall.

CSU President Urdujah A. Tejada welcomed the designated representatives from the FIC Luzon Cluster specifically Cagayan State University, Benguet State University, Bulacan State University, University of the

Philippines Diliman, Pangasinan State University and guests from the Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI).

An inspirational message was also given by the Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST 02) Engr. Sancho Mabborang. He mentioned that the development of tools and mechanisms shall address the current and common opportunities for improvement of

all the FICs in the cluster.

The assembly took place to present the accomplishments of each regional branch of FIC in Luzon for the past year, as well as align the targets of the FICs to the over-all national targets set by DOST. The meeting also paved way for the members to address their immediate issues and concerns in their respective centers. Among the common denominator in the problems discussed were manpower,

equipment maintenance, and center sustainability. This was resolved by the joint collaboration of the members towards the creation of an action plan. Meanwhile, RD Mabborang said that a model for sustaining FIC is on the works.

CSU-FIC also conducted a demo-training on the second day of the event. The participants were welcomed in the showroom of the center and escorted through the processing area. 🍌



CSU GONZAGA BOOSTS COMMUNITY-BASED FARMING VENTURE

True to CSU's mission to "transform the lives of people and communities", Gonzaga Campus, in fulfillment to its agricultural nature, strives to engage its community in agribusiness pursuit. Hence, the establishment of its Farm Business School (FBS).

CSU Gonzaga's FBS is a joint effort of CSU, Quirino State University (QSU), and CHED's National Agriculture and Fisheries Education System (NAFES). Now on its second year of implementation, it continuously aims to improve and teach local

farmers, co-operators, and entrepreneurs on sustainable and innovative methods for red rice, vegetable, and poultry farming.

This is done by exposing its stakeholders on four core components which are institutional development, capability building, technology demonstration, and benchmarking tour.

One of the prime advocacies of the campus is the cultivation of red rice, which the campus champions for more farmers to plant and venture on for trade. "We have the technology that

is eager for technology transfer to the community" Dr. Froilan Pacris, the Campus Executive Officer, reiterates.

Aside from red rice, the vast landscape of the campus grows a diverse array of vegetable produce that are also ready for technology transfer. CEO Pacris said that all the vegetable ingredients of the Filipino dish, pinakbet, are grown in the campus as well. On top of that, dragon fruit and strawberry varieties are also being propagated.

Moreover, the campus raises free range layer chicken, pekin

duck, native chicken and pigs, sheep and goat that are utilized for research innovation, technology demonstration, and production.

In accordance to the agribusiness thumbmark of CSU Gonzaga, fresh and value-added products are marketed to generate active income and is used for campus development. CEO Pacris reported that the targeted return of income for the produced products for the campus is 30%, but actual income exceeds this number. This gives the campus a way to be sustainable on its own. 🍌



CSU LASAM SPONSORS ROBOTICS SEMINAR-WORKSHOP

By: Janilete R. Cortez

A breakthrough in its history, CSU-Lasam sponsored the first Robotics Seminar-Workshop held last February 18 to 19, 2019 at the MCL 2 Computer Laboratory.

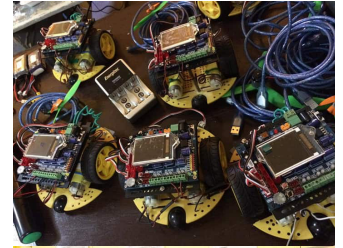
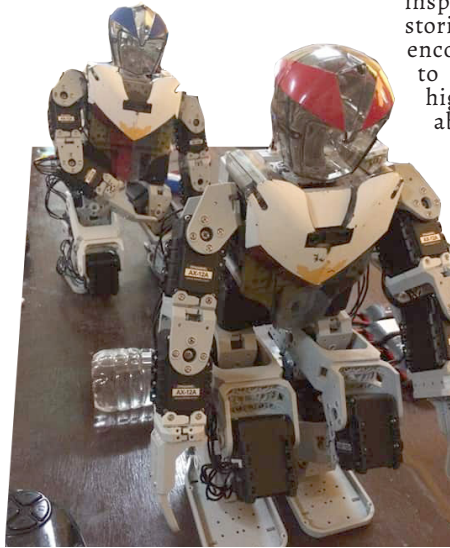
Bearing the theme "Intelligent Machines: GloCal Opportunities and Challenges", the 2-day seminar-workshop featured lectures and exhibitions on robotics by Mr. Nestor Binondo Sienes, LPT, an alumnus of the campus and at present, a Robotics Training Specialist and the Head Coach of the Philippine Robotics Team at Letran Calamba Robotics Academy.

The seminar-workshop was participated by faculty members of CSU-Lasam and other CICS faculty members from CSU Lallo, CSU Gonzaga, and CSU Piat. CICS and CIT students of the campus also participated in the seminar-workshop along with senior high school students of Western Cagayan School of Arts and Trades. Teachers from the Department of Education in

the municipality, both secondary and elementary, also participated and served as guest-participants. The seminar-workshop culminated with a "Battle of SumoBots" which were assembled and programmed by the

participants through the supervision of Mr. Sienes, who in his speech, stressed that students should always be proud that they are from CSU-Lasam, for even if the campus is the smallest satellite, its simplicity was an inspiration behind the success stories of its graduates. He also encouraged the participants to dream big and to dream high, for opportunities are in abound.

During the Closing Ceremony, CEO Florante Victor M. Balatico, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Sienes who showed his commitment to the campus by willingly imparting his knowledge and time on the seminar-workshop. He also thanked the participants who actively joined in the said activity and enjoined their participation to future endeavors of the campus.



CSU OFFICIALS ATTEND LECTURE-WORKSHOP ON PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND COMMITMENT

By: Arlene D. Talosa

Pool of experts worked with focus on a sacrificial holiday break in the name of CSU. Aimed towards strengthening the university's commitment in providing quality education at its best in its four-fold thrusts: instruction, research, extension and production, a lecture-workshop on Strategic Performance Management System and Office Performance Commitment and Review was conducted last February 5-6, 2019 at Apo Idon Savana Hall, Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte.

Thirty-nine university officials which included Center heads, Campus Executive Officers, university deans, and special project leaders attended the two-day workshop. Aware of the indubitable rebound of the workshop on campus and university targets, President Tejada delivered a lecture on the legal bases of SPMS during the first day. She highlighted the role that the university should adamantly work for as a delivering higher education institution for international standards towards the fulfilment of the University's

vision of transforming lives by educating for the best which is congruent to the goal of the Philippine Development Plan. President Tejada further emphasized that collective performance of the reflected targets in the OPCR will bring collective effectiveness.

During the second day of the workshop proper, the staff worked together in committing targets for the Performance Based Bonus - Department of Budget and Management (PBB-DBM); State Universities and Colleges (SUC) Levelling Indicators and CSU Strategic Plan 2019 respectively. Realizing the imminent need to address global competitiveness and the demands of the changes within the educational arena, each indicator in the criteria was clearly articulated emphasizing what it meant and how each would be attained during the open forum. Further, randomly selected heads presented their outputs and were intellectually and constructively critiqued by the University's Technical Expert, Dr. Florentina Dumlaog.

BALATICO, QUEBRAL ORIENT PARENTS AND STUDENT-BENEFICIARIES ON TES

By: Janilete R. Cortez

Dr. Florante Victor M. Balatico, Campus Executive Officer and Dr. Dolores C. Quebral, Campus Academic Coordinator and OSDW Coordinator oriented parents and student-beneficiaries on the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) in a meeting on February 11, 2019.

The endeavor was considered by CEO Balatico as a must as the Lasam Campus has registered the largest number of recipients of the said subsidy, with a total of 102 student-recipients who shall receive a total amount of P20,000.00 each.

With the said grant, Balatico and Quebral comprehensively discussed the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10931 known as the "Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act of 2017" in order to clarify and address the questions of the students, parents, and guardians regarding the matter.



TVET PROGRAMS INCREASE PRESENCE IN CSU CAMPUSES

By: Arlene D. Talosa, Shiela Dela Cruz, & Joselina A. Azucena

CSU widens its horizon in translating the University's vision by opening more Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Programs. A proof to this is the expanding number of available training program registrations and the establishment of new assessment centers in CSU Piat and Aparri Campuses.

Last February 8 2019, an awarding ceremony took place at CSU Piat's Nature Farm. Dr. Romeo O. Talosig, TESDA's Regional Director, presents the certificate of program registration in Agricultural Crop Production NC II to CSU Piat after being able to comply to the requirements set by TESDA to the Unified TVET Program Registration and Accrediting System. Furthermore, Piat was also recognized as an official Assessment Center for Agricultural Crop Production NC I, II, and III.

Around 200 applicants from Sto. Niño National High School, Sampaguita National

High School, and Baggao National Agricultural School are expected to enrol under CSU Piat's Agricultural Crop Production programs.

The Cagayan State University Piat Campus received more than 8 million pesos from the fund of the Office of the Research and Development of the university and is expected to establish the training and assessment center for Agricultural Crops Production NCI, NCII, and NCIII, Animal Production (Ruminants) NC II, Animal Production (Poultry) NCII, Animal Production (Swine), Organic Agriculture Production NC II, and Rice Machinery Operations NC II.

In the same awarding event, CSU Aparri received the Certificate of Registration in Bookkeeping III for its College of Business Entrepreneurship and Accountancy program. This is the third TVET Program in the campus aside from Aquaculture II and Food and Beverage Service II. Aside from this, the Aparri Campus is also a Food and Beverage

Services Training Center and an Aquaculture II Training Center.

This brings new avenues to produce more competent graduates who will be ready for entrepreneurship and the labor market. This is brought to actuality as 20 scholars of Aparri's for Food and Beverage Services National Competency II (FBS NC II) received their certificate of program completion as proof that they have successfully finished the training under CSU-TESDA's wings. The completion rites was attended by CHED's Region 2 Director Julieta M. Paras, last January 10, 2019.

The CHED director promised that she will collaborate with CSU's thrusts. She further said that she will work with the university president assuring that no campus of CSU will be left behind.

Meanwhile, 82 students in aquaculture and 20 from Food and Beverage Service are currently enlisted for the next NC II Assessment. Aiming to produce more training centers as part of the

program development plan of the University President, the Aparri Campus' Executive Officer and the TVET coordinator, Dr. Dietelinda Andres and the Partnership and Resource Mobilization Director, Prof. Minerva Galabay are eyeing for the possibility of making the College of Teacher Education a training center for either NC II in Performing arts specializing in song and or NC II in English proficiency which will be anchored on its curricular program, Bachelor of Secondary Education major in English.

During the Awarding Ceremony at the CSU Farm, Dr. Herbert C. Imatong, the TVET University Dean, regarded the achievements of the TVET program as the continuous adherence of the University in its vision to transform lives by educating for the best. He said that this is through responding to the different strata of students that includes "the academically-oriented to the vocationally-inclined people." 🙌



CSU HOSTS CVIEERDEC'S STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP



The Cagayan State University hosted Cagayan Valley Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development Consortium (CVIEERDEC)'s Strategic Planning Workshop last January 16-17, 2019. The 2-day conference was attended by representatives from all its associates ranging from government agencies (DOST Ro2, CHED Ro2, DTI Ro2, DBM Ro2, & NEDA Ro2) to educational institutions (Nueva Vizcaya State University, Quirino

State University, Isabela State University, St. Paul University of the Philippines – Tuguegarao, St. Louis University – Tuguegarao, & Medical Colleges of Northern Philippines – International School of Asia and the Pacific).

The consortium aimed to specify the organization's objectives, develop requisite policies, and plan for the allocation of resources for the next years to come. As part of the workshop, the participants were divided into the four key features of the consortium

and tasked to develop a strategic plan to improve the area. These aspects include Research and Development, Linkages and Resource Generation, Technology Transfer, and Capability Building.

In line with this endeavor, key resource speakers were also invited to share relevant concepts to set the vision for the consortium. Mr. Ruel A. Pili, the resource person from DOST's Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research

and Development (PCIEERD), talked about the importance of a regional consortia in the realization of national goals and good case practices of PCIEERD that the members can set as a guide for the further operational success of CVIEERDEC. The next speaker, Engr. Ronaldo Q. Dominguez, strengthened his point by discussing the "X-factor" attributes of an outstanding consortia that tackles on concrete and plausible steps to achieve the targets set by the consortium. 🙌

CSU SANCHEZ MIRA PUSHES FOR “KABUTEHAN SA NIYOGAN” PROJECT

By: Elizabeth C. Bautista

Cagayan State University’s Sanchez Mira Campus materialized the research project entitled, “KABUTEHAN SA NIYOGAN: Optimized Utilization of Coconut Waste for Production and Processing of Different Mushroom Species” as part of the pilot project of Academe, Local/National Government and Industry Governance Network for Research and Development (ALIGN-R&D).

The project partnered with five Local Government Units (LGUs) in Cagayan namely: Abulug, Pamplona, Sanchez Mira, Claveria and Sta. Praxedes. This is together with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The research project is anchored in the development trust of the “Ambisyon Natin 2040”, the Regional Development Plan and more specifically in the six-year Development Plan of the Cagayan State University.

The project is expected to spur development in communities through scaling up cultivation of mushroom in the region by creating a coconut-based edible mushroom technology

production to enable culturing of other species of mushroom and the manufacturing of value-added processed food.

At present, the mushroom farming in CSU – Sanchez Mira is just a 4x8 meter mushroom laboratory that is bordered only for the propagation of oyster mushroom. It produces an average of 2 to 3 kilograms per day that can only satisfy the demand of the faculty members and personnel of the campus.

Also, the principal substrate used for mushroom cultivation is sawdust which has a relatively high cost. The lack of supply for sawdust is experienced due to the fact that only few are engaged in woodworking operations, thus, making it imperative for other sources of substrate to be utilized for mushroom cultivation.

Meanwhile, coconut husks are abundant in Sanchez Mira and their disposal is a problem for coco-farmers as it also becomes a source of environmental pollution. Coco coir and coco dust that can be extracted from the husks when decomposed, can be explored as a cheap source of substrate for mushroom cultivation. Moreover,



the coconut substrate that remains after the mushroom harvest forms a good fertilizer for the soil providing an environmentally friendly disposal system.

The inadequacy of facilities, supplies, and equipment for increased and sustainable production, as well as the lack of capacity to culture, cultivate, and process other species of mushroom are also the constraints considered in the expanding and upgrading of the production capacity of the project for the increasing demand of it in the locality.

The said project intends to cultivate three species of edible mushrooms – Oyster (Pleurotus), Ear (Auricularis), and Straw (Volvalliera). The mushrooms will be developed into a variety of finished products -freshly packed mushrooms, dried mushrooms, crunchy mushrooms, pickled mushrooms, and blast freeze fried mushroom.

This economically feasible method of coco-based edible mushroom production will provide a number of opportunities for small farming systems and for rural development.🍄

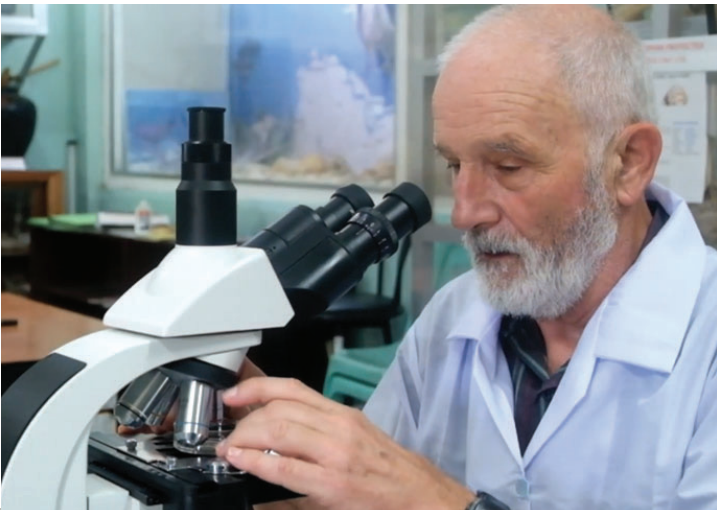
AMERICAN PEACE CORP VOLUNTEER OFFERS EXPERTISE ON EEL RESEARCH PROJECT

By: Arlene D. Talosa

American Peace Corp Response volunteer George Williams is working collaboratively with Eunice Layugan, the COFMS Dean and the concurrent University Dean of Fisheries, for her research on Anguillid Eel Project which was approved for funding by the Department of Science and Technology’s Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD).

The eel project, being a pioneering research study, aims to identify the composition of eel species, their seasonality, and their diversity in the river systems of Northeastern Luzon. Williams who is a scientist with expertise in zooplankton, assists Aparri researchers in determining the abundance of plankton in the project. His presence helps the CSU Aparri Campus to take a step closer to regain its Center of Excellence status through the scheduled Level III AACUP Accreditation this year, paving

a clearer aim to becoming the premier school of fisheries in the north. More importantly, his involvement in research proves that the University’s quest for establishing international partnership is practiced, thereby translating the University’s vision into reality in strengthening the operation of International partnership and linkages. This is envisioned in CSU’s Strategic Plan 2017-2022 as it states to transform the University into a strong research institution by shifting to the Research for Development paradigm.🏫



AACCUP's ACCREDITATION OPENING CEREMONY ONSETS THE REVIEW OF 26 SELECTED PROGRAMS

The Accreditation Opening Ceremony last January 21, 2019 at Pulsar Premier Suites, Buntun, Tuguegarao City marked the start of the week-long evaluation of Cagayan State University's academic programs under the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges & Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) as part of its efforts to assure that the University's mission of delivering high quality instruction is ensued.

In Dr. Urduja A. Tejada's speech during the AACCUP Accreditation Opening Ceremony, she mentioned that she herself is an advocate of accreditation as she believes that "quality assurance and excellence of services are important components of governance."

That is the reason why despite the presence of obstacles that the institution encountered such as the two typhoons that ravaged the province of Cagayan in 2018 which resulted to the eventual damage of academic buildings, agricultural laboratories, and most of the learning facilities of certain campuses, the accreditation has pushed through. Dr. Tejada is confident that accreditors will look pass the physical layers. She states that "we are confident that you will visualize, through these construction sites, a picture of our vision, to transform the

lives of our stakeholders by providing a better learning environment for our students and to afford better prospects for CSU."

In the said event, the University Accreditation Task Force and the members of the AACCUP Survey Teams were presented to formally forge the start of their hand-in-hand work for the successful completion of the accreditation. 32 accreditors from different State Universities in the Philippines were welcomed and dispatched to the five participating campuses (Andrews, Carig, Lallo, Sanchez Mira & Gonzaga) for the extensive review of 26 selected programs.

Andrews Campus had the most number of programs for review with seven undergraduate programs and nine graduate programs. Carig Campus, on the other hand, had five undergraduate programs and one graduate program ready for accreditation. While the Gonzaga Campus puts forward two undergraduate programs for assessment. On the same manner, Sanchez Mira Campus has one graduate program and Gonzaga Campus has one graduate program for evaluation.

The survey visit took place from January 21 to 25, 2019. 🇵🇭



AACCUP CLOSING CONFERENCE CONCLUDES THE ACCREDITATION VISIT



The AACCUP Closing Conference was held last January 25, 2019 at CSU Carig to conclude the end of the Accreditation's Survey Visit. All members of the AACCUP Survey Team and the University Accreditation Task Force gathered for the last time to commence the concluding rites for the week-long evaluation.

In the said event, all the accreditors were awarded their certificate of recognition for being part of the survey teams. Dr. Marina S. Quesada, the Overall Coordinator, expressed her appreciation for the warm welcome they received from the CSU body and assured that they

practiced fairness in assessing the 26 programs that were put forward for evaluation.

In her statement of commitment, University President Urdujah A. Tejada acknowledged the hard work and determination of each and every campus executive officer, dean, and administrative staff who helped in the completion of the evaluation and described them as the "real heroes" of the accreditation. In the same spirit, she extends her gratitude to the accreditors for their valuable insights and points for improvement. She further states that she commits to carry on and oversee the actuality of the recommendations given. 🇵🇭

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