

The Official Newsletter of Davao Oriental State University

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## DOSCST metamorphoses to DOrSU

by John Rey Codilla & Myeshaena Marcial

Davao Oriental celebrated a memorable day for a remarkable milestone since the sole state university in the province has come to its full inception. For a significant accomplishment like achieving university status, a day of celebration and recollection of humble beginnings is indeed a must.

Upon compliance to operate as a state university, the Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) proudly celebrated its inauguration on Friday, May 28, 2021, with the theme "Creating a Well-Equipped Responsible Citizenry through a Smart and Future-Ready University of Excellence, Innovation, and Inclusion." On May 28, 2018, exactly three (3) years prior to this celebration, Republic Act No. 11033, an Act Converting the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology (DOSCST) to Davao Oriental State University, was officially signed into law.

The momentous event commenced with a motorcade participated by its employees, students, alumni, and other stakeholders. The motorcade traversed through the major streets of Mati City around 7:00 a.m. and ended up at the DOrSU Campus.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After the successful release of Dagmay's revival issue last March 2021, we received a lot of feedback to sustain the initiative and set a well-documented development trail in the university. The newsletter started as a communication arm of the Research Development and Extension (RDE) Division that released its pioneering issue in March 1995.

With the expansion of the university operations, the University Public Information Office (UPIO) utilizes Dagmay as a medium for immediate dissemination of institutional milestones. The current Editorial Board and Staff (EBS) see it fit to cover not only the RDE initiatives but also newsworthy events in the academic and administrative offices.

In this issue, we highlighted the university's inauguration on May 28, 2021, giving birth to Davao Oriental's first and largest university known as Davao Oriental State University (DORSU). It is necessary to document the transition, thereby setting grounds for a meaningful history and promising future for the university.

We give due credits to the founding members of the Dagmay EBS, namely: Dr. Carmela N. Hadia, Dr. Jessie V. Alzate, Ms. Cheril C. Batad, and Dr. Reynaldo M. Nogodula, Dr. Lea A. Jimenez, Dr. Bernadette J. Nannual, Mr. Janos Xn Yesu Laguion, Mr. Dionesio P. Lera, Ms. Erlinda B. Patosa, Engr. Jovito S. Gambong, Dr. Herminigildo Torreno, and Dr. Julieta I. Ortiz for setting an impressive stature and a bright outlook for Dagmay.

As we embrace to sustain the vision of our founders, we take pride in the dynamic support of Dr. Roy G. Ponce, University President III, for the provisions to enable this meaningful endeavor. We urge the academic community to lend their wisdom for the continuous improvement of this publication.

Thank you very much!



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# Leniency, Academic Integrity and the Pandemic

by John Rey R. Codilla

I used to be strict about students' deadlines and attendance to classes. For every late submission and incurred absences, I always see-to-it that deductions were imposed and even to the point that I failed students who missed a significant number of tasks and requirements. However, this pandemic came.

The present situation prompted me to shift my instructional paradigm, most especially on how I conduct assessment of students' learning. I tried to avoid being the stickler teacher I used to be and embraced an empathetic character in dealing with students' concerns.

## Why do I have to do this?

Since the advent of the blended instructional modality, I tried to monitor students who could not attend synchronous classes or those who missed submitting their outputs on the given deadlines. Another situation is that some only showed up and turned in their works when a particular semester is close to its end. I have found that most of them, if not some, are struggling because of various factors. They are struggling with unstable jobs or, are overwhelmed with household chores in lieu of their parents who are at work, and are confronted with poor or no internet connection.

Above are just some of the factors students are facing while learning during the pandemic. There are more. This pandemic led to a strong reaction among students who experienced anxiety. In fact, 59.25% of students disagreed with the conduct of the Online-Blended Learning Approach (Baloran, 2020). Top reasons include poor/no internet connection (72.29%), preference of learning inside the physical classrooms (61.78%), and lack of budget or finances for an online class and online submissions of requirements/tasks (57.01%) (Baloran, 2020).

These realities urged me to circumnavigate the policies and tasks that put students at a disadvantage while all of us are currently battling a health crisis. I informed students and repeatedly reminded them that as long as they stay in touch with our communication channels and as long as they never surrender from trying, they will at least pass my subject.

Is this leniency? Exactly, yes. Does this mean quality is hampered? Definitely, not!

## Leniency is not jeopardizing quality.

Imposing lenient considerations to students is not setting aside quality instruction. It does not follow.

Since faculty recognize the multitude of constraints and factors confronting students amidst the pandemic, we should employ strategies to help them succeed without jeopardizing the academic integrity of the coursework or

program. Understanding and appropriately responding to student needs is a massive differentiator that can help institutions stand out in the academic crowd.

In a survey of professors, Bay View Analytics released, questions about how instructors changed their requirements for or expectations of students in the shift to remote learning have the most exciting and controversial responses. Almost two-thirds said they changed "the kinds of assignments or exams" they gave to students. Nearly half said they lowered their expectations for the number of work students would be able to do (48%), made it easier for students to take their courses (47%), and "dropped some assignments or exams" (46%). Relatively few, 18%, said they "dropped some of the readings" they had initially expected students to do, but almost a third (32%) said they had "lowered the expectations about the quality of work that my students will be able to do" (Nate Ralph, Bay View Analytics, 2020).

## Resistance to Change versus the Willingness to Embrace It

Not all professors are changing their expectations for students. Some students report that their other professors refuse to shift deadlines or attendance policies for synchronous class meetings. These kind of professors may argue that to train professionals is training them to master hardship and to endure suffering. On the other hand, many professors strongly disagree that now is the time to talk about putting students through an academic crucible.

The University released last June 1, 2020, the Interim Academic Policy Guide in Times of COVID-19 Quarantine. Its declaration of principles recognized that learning is both a right and a privilege, and that students must be provided with inclusive access not just to education but also access to opportunities that allow them to fulfill their academic goals; that all members of the academic community shall demonstrate utmost flexibility and leniency while maintaining academic excellence; and design enabling mechanisms to ensure that the academic community, especially the faculty, will be able to adapt to changes and innovations in the teaching-learning modalities.

Finally, I want to argue that someone should not be prevented from achieving their dream because of the difficulties their life is currently facing. I directed myself towards providing students the opportunity to learn, contrary to making them solely accountable to attain learning outcomes. As equitably as possible, I give my students a chance to keep learning the expected materials they have to learn.

Let us not be stressors, adding to their lives in what is already a challenging moment.





## DOrSU, TESDA-DOPI ink Memorandum of Agreement for Institutional Equivalency System

by Mark Aljen D. Binocal

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority - Davao Oriental Polytechnic Institute has formally signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the institutionalization of the equivalency or credit transfer program on May 5, 2021, at the DOSCST-Main Campus.

Dr. Roy C. Ponce, DOrSU President, and Ms. Cherry Aspiras, DOPI Vocational School Administrator, led the signing of the event.

The four-year agreement is a response to Executive Order No. 358 that aims to design and implement the ladderized technical-vocational education programs to the higher education program. Under this partnership, granting of credit transfer to subjects with the same competencies, subject description, contents, number of units, and minimum hours required will be credited from TESDA-DOPI to DOrSU and vice-versa, subject to a system of assessment to be developed by both parties.

The identified course offerings under the MOA are Agricultural Technology, leading to Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; Livelihood and Technology equivalent to Bachelor of Science in Education major in Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE); Hotel and Restaurant Technology, leading to Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Tourism Management.

"This partnership would facilitate the students enrolled in a non-degree/diploma program covered in the equivalency system, and may proceed to a degree program related to the TVET strand." Dr. Ponce stated.

"Let us help one another in advancing the technical skills of our future skilled workers through this endeavor," he added.

The Technical Working Group (TWG), headed by Dr. Saturnino Dalagan, Jr., VP for Academic Affairs, is assigned to form the guidelines and policies for immediate implementation of the program.

"The collaborative work of DOPI and DOSCST shall encourage the students in case they want to proceed to pursue or level up their degree." Ms. Cherry Aspiras quipped.

The program is set to be implemented on the 1st Semester of AY 2021-2022 once approved by the DOrSU-Board of Regents.

## IETT Faculty bags Global Leaders and Educators Award

by Robie V. Catubigan

Institute of Education and Teacher Training (IETT) faculty and Sentrong Wika at Kultura (SWK) Director Dr. Raymund M. Pasion grabbed the Global Educators Award in the Research Category and Global Leaders Award in the HUMSS and Languages Category organized by Beyond Books Publication last April 10, 2021.

Dr. Pasion is a faculty teaching Filipino subjects in BSED-Filipino program of the Institute of Education and Teacher Training (IETT). He is also a researcher specializing in language and indigenous dialect and a book author. His experiences and dedication paved the way towards this success.

The search for global leaders and global educators is an international event that recognizes the contribution of global leaders and educators in the field of research and social sciences discipline. The selection and screening process took five months to scrutinize the qualifiers. Dr. Pasion was one of the top 10 nominees in both categories and was proclaimed among the qualified winners during the virtual awarding ceremony.

# DOST COMMITS 1.8M PESO GRANT FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

by Paul Mart Jeyand J. Matangcas

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for the program entitled "Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) for Tarragona and Sustain Interventions in CEST Communities in Davao Oriental" last May 18.

This project aims to empower and capacitate grassroots communities in terms of application of appropriate technologies in their livelihood. It

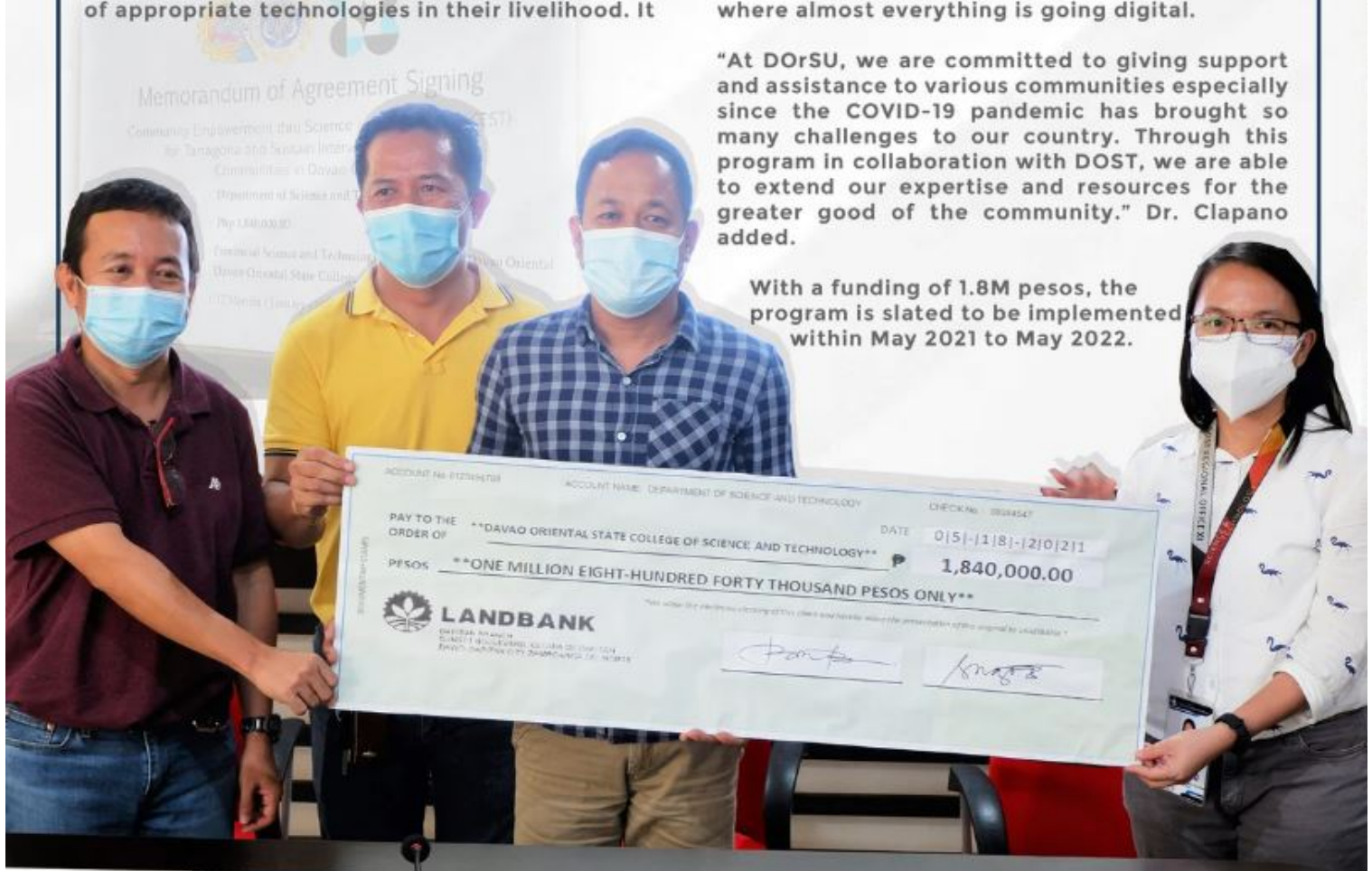
also strives to sustain their progress through science, technology, and innovative mechanisms.

Meanwhile, the identified CEST communities are the economically challenged individuals in the Municipality of Tarragona, Davao Oriental.

According to Project Leader Dr. Misael B. Clapano, this project would be beneficial for the residents of Tarragona to be self-sustaining in a time where almost everything is going digital.

"At DOrSU, we are committed to giving support and assistance to various communities especially since the COVID-19 pandemic has brought so many challenges to our country. Through this program in collaboration with DOST, we are able to extend our expertise and resources for the greater good of the community." Dr. Clapano added.

With a funding of 1.8M pesos, the program is slated to be implemented within May 2021 to May 2022.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THRU SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (CEST) PROGRAM with DAVAO ORIENTAL STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## DOrSU, City Tourism sign hazard-free and inclusive tourism partnership

by Roble V. Catubigan

The Davao Oriental State University and the City Tourism Council of Mati entered into an understanding to provide hazard-free and inclusive tourism through the Tourism Information, Education and Communication (TIEC) Center.

The MOU signing was spearheaded by Dr. Roy G. Ponce, SUC President III, and the Council Chairperson Mr. Stefan Mikhail A. Rabat last April 27, 2021. The activity was graced by CMTP Officer Mr. Dashiell Indelible Jr., Director for Extension Dr. Misael Clapano, TIEC Director Dr. Helina Jean Dupla, Mr. Eric Sarcia (BTLEd Program Head), Jumher Dave Pajarillaga (BSNED Faculty) and Mr. Renante Andrada (BSHM Program Head), together with the members of the City Tourism Council.

In consonance with the University's research development and extension (RDE) thrusts and agenda, DOrSU is committed to be significant in the community by providing relevant research-based information on marine conservation, environmental protection, and hospitality management as well as recommending initiatives to ensure sustainable and inclusive tourism.

The two programs of the Institute of Education and Teacher Training (IETT), namely, Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education (BTLEd) and Bachelor of Special Needs Education (BSNEd) will focus on the capacity-building on occupational safety and hazard-free services that promotes a safe and secure working environment. It also aims to promote inclusive tourism by providing training in accommodating guests with special needs on respective participating resorts. This MOU ensures that no one is left behind in the tourism industry.



## MAYOR YU DONATES 1000 SQM LAND FOR WATER SYSTEM

by Jovanie B. Garay

San Isidro Campus - A deed of Donation and Acceptance was signed by the land donors Feliciano Yu Sr., and Mayor Justina MB. Yu with the DOrSU President Dr. Roy G. Ponce last May 10, 2021.

The ceremonial signing of the document was attested in the presence of the Campus Coordinator, Dr. Roque N. Langcoy II, and the head of the Municipal Planning and Development Office, Mr. Joel D. Orbuda.

The 1000 sq. meter parcel of land will be utilized for the construction of a water system in the campus to support instruction, research and extension and production of faculty, staff and students in San Isidro Campus.

Historically, the Yu family gave birth to the campus by donating 12 hectares of land. Even until today, the family has been unrelenting in serving the general public across its neighboring municipalities.

The DOrSU community has lauded the Yu family for being kind and generous to the University.



# DORSU releases seed fund for KASAMAKA Bugasan Project

By Che Nacion

Davao Oriental State University (DORSU), through the Micro-Financing Program committee, granted recently the loan application of Kahiusahan sa Sanghay nga Mag-uuma ug Kababaihan Association (KASAMAKA) of Barangay Sanghay, City of Mati, Davao Oriental amounting to PHP 50,000.00 payable in one year with a 5% annual interest rate and a 2% service fee.

The Kahiusahan sa Sanghay nga Mag-uuma ug Kababaihan Association (KASAMAKA) of Barangay Sanghay is an organization of farmers and women with 31 active members. KASAMAKA is LGU-accredited and is one of the recipients of the Department of Agriculture's Hog Dispersal Project. The organization has been operating for 7 years with the sari-sari store as its main source of services.

"We encountered challenges in the last few years and were hit by the pandemic," said Ms. Maria Fe Matibo, KASAMAKA President. "But, after each failure, we emerge like a sun, bringing hope. Individuals that want to be a member of the group are welcome to join the organization", Ms Matibo added.

Davao Oriental State University, formerly DOSCST, is recognized to be dynamic in providing services to the community and in subsidizing nation building apart from its quality education to the constituents of the province and beyond.

Through its Research, Development and Extension (RDE) Division, the University is dedicated to establishing a progressive Davao Oriental by developing essential technology and information transfer, and by spreading these to the community in order to alleviate poverty, particularly in the rural areas, and to affect overall human development by responding to the local and global needs of the community.

Granting this seed fund is in accordance with the thrust of the University in assisting the needs of the people's organization, associations, school-based organizations and cooperatives through the Micro-Finance Program. This program started three decades ago and still continues in providing its services to potential beneficiaries especially in the geographically isolated areas.





## Acer Academy, DOrSU partner for ICT infra

By Paul Mart Jeyand J. Matangcas

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU), in collaboration with Acer Philippines, continues the strengthening of its Acer Academy program under the Institute of Computing and Engineering(ICE).

Through this partnership, the University can enjoy the benefits provided to Platinum members from Acer which includes 30,000 pesos worth of school curricular events sponsorship, career development programs, and IT-enablement seminars.

For this year, DOrSU received an Information Kiosk which will serve as a platform that can display school-related information for both students and employees using an interactive menu system.

According to the BSIT Program Head Ms. Lanie Laureano, the Acer Academy program is a product of the Memorandum of Agreement between DOrSU and Acer Philippines signed last August 2020.

"Through the Acer Academy, we can help intensify the efforts of the institution to provide a learning environment that is fully operational in adherence to global standards for all its constituents." Ms. Laureano said.

Since its recent inauguration into full university status, DOrSU has been fast tracking its efforts in becoming a future-ready university equipped with a globally competitive ICT system.

## CHED grants 13M funding for DOrSU's SMART Campus Plan

By Cindy A. Lasco

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) approved Davao Oriental State University's project proposal entitled "ICT Solutions for Transformative Education: A Sustainable SMART Campus Initiative" last April 22 through an online meeting attended by CHED and DOrSU key officials.

This project was the University's response to CHED's call to submit proposals related to the development of SMART Campuses, an emerging trend that allows educational institutions to utilize smart technologies and combine it with physical infrastructures to create better educational outcomes and facilitate operational efficiency and campus sustainability.

Through this act, SUCs shall be given financial assistance to achieve full implementation of flexible learning modalities through the investments in ICT infrastructure, acquisition of learning management systems and other equipment.

The team behind this endeavor is composed of various faculty from different programs of the University led by Project Leaders Dr. Jonathan S. Cabrera and Dr. Asterio G. Olandria, together with Engr. Felix Garde (BSCE), Mrs. Lanie B. Laureano (BSIT), Ms. Cindy A. Lasco (BSIT), Mr. John M. Bagcal (BSBA), Ms. Vanessa Asaias (BSES), Mr. Jhon O. Inoco (BSIT), Mr. Dony C. Dongiapon (BSIT) and Mr. Ar-Jay R. Sacay (BSIT).

A Memorandum of Agreement has already been signed and submitted to the CHED Central Office with the team awaiting feedback and budget release worth PHP 13,574,400 to commence with the project.







# DOrSU unveils IPTBM Marker

By Juvair Labodon

The official inauguration and marker unveiling ceremony of the Davao Oriental State University's (DOrSU) Intellectual Property and Technology Business Management (IP - TBM) Office was held on May 29, 2021.

The ceremony was attended by the USEP KTTD Director and SUSTAIN-IPTBM Project Leader Engr. Filmann T. Simpao, DOST-XI Provincial Director Ms. Sharon M. Alegado, SUC President III Dr. Roy G. Ponce and the Vice President for Research, Development, and Extension Dr. Willanfranco C. Tayone.

The ceremony signifies the University's commitment to become a top-notch research and development institution in the country.

What started as a project component entitled 'Enhancing Technology Transfer through Intellectual Property and Technology Business Management (IP-TBM) in Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology' under the project 'Sustaining University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) IP-TBM Office and Enhancing

IP-TBM Offices among Member Agencies of the Southern Mindanao Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Consortium (SMAARRDEC)' way back 2019 has now been institutionalized as part of the college's organizational structure.

The IP-TBM has been operating under the project since January 2020 under the leadership of Mr. Venson B. Sarita before being institutionalized.

The Intellectual Property and Technology Business Management (IP-TBM) Office has recorded nine (9) approved copyrights and enrolled another nine (9) copyrights, thirteen (13) utility models, and fifteen (15) patent applications with a total number of thirty-seven (37) applications which made the Davao Oriental State University the institution with the most application of Intellectual Property models in Davao Region.



## DNSC models DOrSU's PRIME-HRM Practice

By Juvair Labodon

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) was graced by delegates from the Davao del Norte State College (DNSC) headed by its College President, Dr. Joy M. Sorrosa, last June 3, 2021.

They were welcomed by Dr. Roy G. Ponce, DOrSU President, as they conducted a one-day benchmarking activity. The activity's aim was to take counsel on DOrSU's best practices regarding human resource management as it has been recognized through its remarkable practices of setting goals, planning and controlling the organization, and execution on its implementation of the Program Institutionalize Meritocracy and Excellence in Human Resource Management (PRIME-HRM).

The benchmarking activity also aimed to augment this institution's vision to re-establish and strengthen inter-collegiate partnerships in pursuit of enhanced cooperation between SUCs, thereby promoting mutual support as we take on and adapt to the changing learning environment.



## DOrSU GAD Center conducts Enhanced Capacity Building Program for GreenCom

By Nina Jay M. Lapac

The Gender and Development (GAD) Center and the Institute of Agriculture and Life Sciences (IALS) of the Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU), conducted an Enhanced Capacity Building Program for Green Communities, in partnership with the Office of the City Vice Mayor Glenda Rabat-Gayta and Mati GreenCom last April 28-29, 2021 at the DorSU RIC-XI Conference Room.

During the first day of the activity, GAD Focal Person Dr. Mary Fil M. Bauyot discussed the Gender-Sensitive Field Interview Methods. Additionally, a Faculty of Environmental Science, Ms. Vanessa E. Asaias, discussed the proper use of the KoBo Toolbox in Socio-Economic Profiling and Evaluating Impacts. On the second day Mr. Ricksterlie Verzosa, a Faculty of Environmental Science, discussed the Geographic Information System Applications in GreenCom Advocacies.

The participants in the activity raised questions and clarifications after each topic discussion. They also actively participated in the workshop given by Ms. Asaias using the KoBo Toolbox and Mr. Verzosa in being familiar with the GIS Application.

In 2014, Green Communities, through the initiative of Hon. Glenda Rabat-Gayta was established and organized to equip every household in the entire City of Mati to attain food sufficiency. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Vice Mayor's Office team wanted to take the opportunity to encourage and strengthen the initiative of every Matinian in terms of food security.



# DOrSU bags 2M peso PRDP agricultural project funding

By Paul Mart Jey and J. Matangcas

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) secured a 2M peso funding from the Department of Agriculture - Philippine Rural Development Project (DA-PRDP) for the study entitled "Vulnerability Assessment of Pacific Whiteleg Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) and Associated Species through the Fisheries Value Chain: Enhancing Inclusivity through Social, Economic, Participation, and Sustainability."

*Litopenaeus vannamei* or Pacific white shrimp is a variety of prawn of the eastern Pacific Ocean that is primarily consumed for food usage. Many farmers prefer vannamei due to its faster growth rate of 1.0 to 1.5 grams per week. It is also tolerant of a wider range of salinities making it more amenable to inland areas far from the sea and can also be cultured during the cold season.

This partnership was made possible through a Project Inception and Memorandum of Agreement Signing last May 11 held at the DOSCST Mini Hotel.

The proponents of the said study are Dr. Misael B. Clapano, Mr. Edison Roi D. Macusi, and Engr. France Guillian B. Rapiz.

Project Leader Dr. Misael B. Clapano underscored the need to conduct further research on locally grown products to ensure sustainability and to capacitate farmers as well.

"It is necessary that we venture into studying the properties of vannamei because it holds great promise especially from a socio-economic perspective," he added.

The project implementation for Phase 1 will kickstart in June up until December 2021 while Phase 2 will commence from January to March 2022.



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Prior to the inaugural event, a permit was secured from the City's Incident Management Team to fully comply with the health and safety protocols during the pandemic. In addition, a request was forwarded to the Mati City Police Station for the assistance of the PNP Highway Patrol Group during the motorcade.

A Holy Eucharistic Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. John Villarete as a thanksgiving of the University for all the blessings it has received through the years. Meanwhile, Rev. Father Albert Silagan led the dedication of the university dormitory. This event was followed by the groundbreaking of the new university monument – the DOrSU Helix. Present during the said events were University President Dr. Roy G. Ponce; DOSCST President Emeritus Dr. Edito B. Sumile; DOrSU Officials; Davao Oriental Provincial District Engineer Jane D. Cainhog; and 2nd District Representative Cong. Joel Mayo Z. Almario, the University Founder.

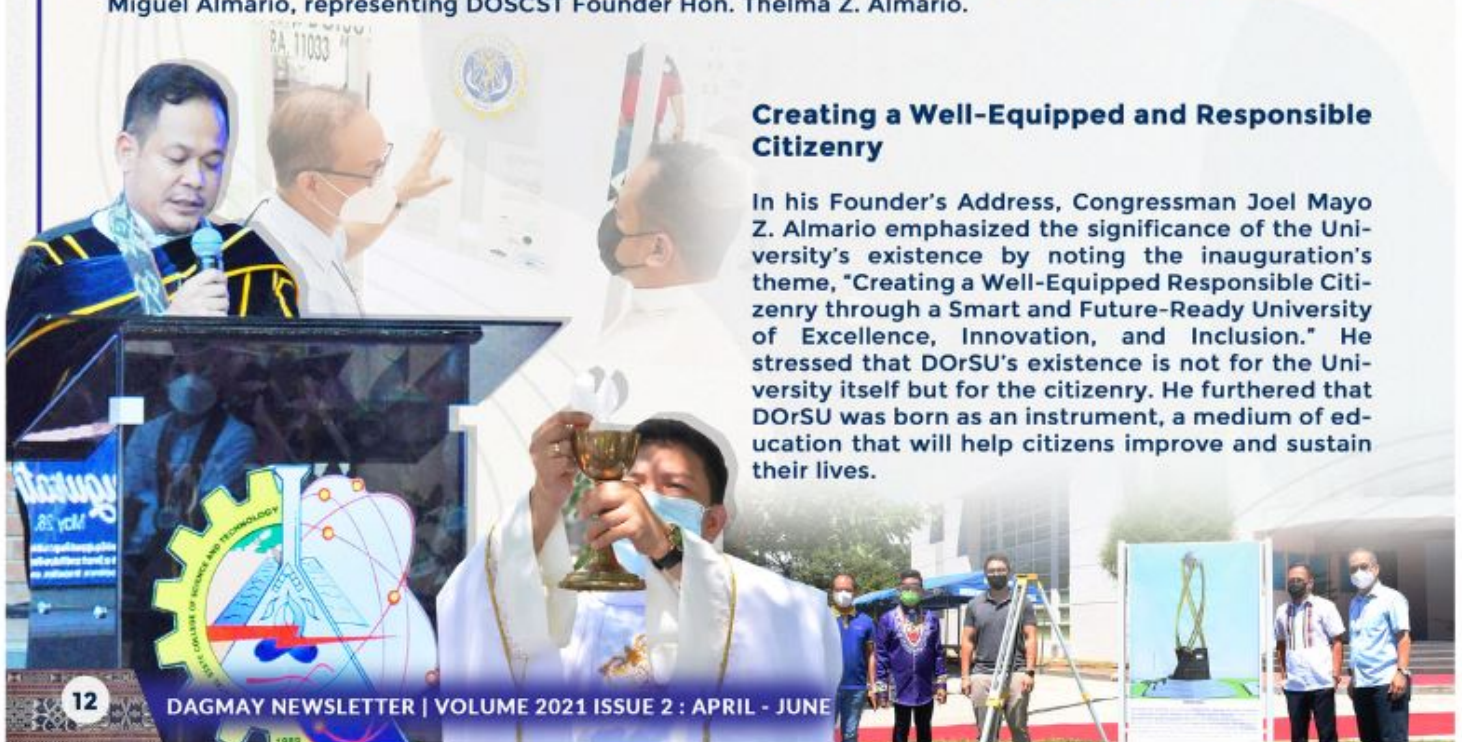
Before the inaugural ceremony officially started, side events continued such as the photography sessions and the University Exhibit. The photography sessions were participated by the University constituents and were scheduled by institute, office, and unit. Simultaneously, the University Exhibit was also staged and showcased at the atrium of the University Library. The institution's humble journey from Mati Community College (MCC), Davao Oriental Stage College of Science and Technology (DOSCST), to now Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) were displayed in various audio-visual formats. The exhibit travels back to the establishment of a community college along with its founders, benefactors, the presidents, the pioneers, and the key people who led the institution to its glorious expeditions. Indeed, the exhibit brought the nostalgic past while at the same time forecasts an exciting future.

The formal inauguration program was held in front of the New Administration Building at around 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. It started with the processional of the members of the school's Board of Trustees, University Officials and distinguished guests. An ecumenical prayer was offered after the singing of the national anthem. The statement of University Compliance was presented by Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera, Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Meanwhile, the Declaration of University Status was delivered live via zoom by Hon. Mark O. Go, Chair of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (CHTE) of the House of the Representatives. Hon. Go likewise extended his gratitude to Hon. Joel Almario, CHed Commissioner De Vera, CHed Commission En Banc, CHed Technical Working Group, CHed Regional Office XI, and the DOSCST Counterparts for the tremendous job they have done and accomplished.

One of the Inaugural Program highlights was the unveiling of the University Mace led by Dr. Roy G. Ponce. He was joined by President Emeritus Dr. Edito B. Sumile, Congressman Mayo Z. Almario, and Hon. Cheeno Miguel Almario, representing DOSCST Founder Hon. Thelma Z. Almario.

### Creating a Well-Equipped and Responsible Citizenry

In his Founder's Address, Congressman Joel Mayo Z. Almario emphasized the significance of the University's existence by noting the inauguration's theme, "Creating a Well-Equipped Responsible Citizenry through a Smart and Future-Ready University of Excellence, Innovation, and Inclusion." He stressed that DOrSU's existence is not for the University itself but for the citizenry. He furthered that DOrSU was born as an instrument, a medium of education that will help citizens improve and sustain their lives.



"You are here because you've got what it takes but your mission is to create a well-equipped and responsible citizenry."

The University founder also expressed the happiness he felt upon receiving the news on DOrSU's compliance. In fact, he said he was 'speechless' after knowing the 'good news'. "I am just so overjoyed because today is another embodiment of my motto 'maayong edukasyon para sa maayong kaugmaon', and I would like to thank all," he added.

### **DOrSU: A Gift to Humanity**

Dr. Ponce, in his Inaugural Speech, considered the ceremony as an exceptional occasion for everyone. He stressed that such celebration is to welcome the dawn of the new age, the dawn of the first state university in the province, the Davao Oriental State University.

"We are here today because we stood on the shoulders of Giants.", borrowing the words of Isaac Newton, Dr. Ponce expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all those who became instrumental to DOrSU's operations then and now. He thanked the founding presidents and the initiatives of Congressman Joel Mayo Almarino and Hon. Thelma Almarino who led the educational blueprint of Davao Oriental, ushering quality higher education to the province's doorsteps.

Further, the first University President emphasized:

"The birth of DOrSU is a gift to humanity. Let us extend the celebrations to the local and indigenous communities of Davao Oriental and beyond so they may emerge more victorious than we are."

He explained that, as a gift, the University promised to vessel social, economic, and environmental sustainability. In this way, DOrSU can foster a well-equipped citizenry in this side of the Philippines.

Dr. Ponce further explained the helix as the new university symbol. The sphere represents human capital, the triple-pillared helixes represent research and innovation, teaching and learning, and engagement and production, while the base represents the multifaceted political, economic, and academic dreams of the institution.

Dr. Ponce is confident that the University and its stakeholders can surpass the hurdles together by embracing a university culture like the Philippine Eagle flapping its wings at the start of its flight, like the sea turtle that swims freely for centuries in one of the world's most beautiful bays, and like the firm stature of Mt. Hamiguitan as UNESCO World Heritage.

In the closing part of his speech, Dr. Ponce asked the unity of one another as he leads the transition towards a smart and future-ready University. He also hoped that the leadership team shall propel as it continues to build an academic stature of excellence, innovation, and inclusion.

Congratulatory messages were also ushered to DOrSU including warm greetings from Dr. Aldrin A. Darilag, Chairperson of the DOrSU Board of Regents; Hon. Thelma Z. Almarino, DOSCST Founder, represented by Hon. Cheeno Miguel Almarino; Hon. Michelle N. Rabat, Mayor of the City of Mati, represented by Hon. Stephen Paul Uy; Hon. Justina MB Yu - Mayor, Municipality of San Isidro; Hon. Adalia C. Lopez, Mayor, Municipality of Banaybanay; Hon. Erlinda Nuñez, Mayor, Municipality of Cateel; Hon. Corazon N. Malanyaon, District I Representative of Davao Oriental; and Hon. Nelson L. Dayanghirang, Governor, Province of Davao Oriental, represented by Hon. Niño S. Uy.

The inaugural program ended with the community singing of the DOrSU Song.

To fully celebrate the inauguration, a solidarity night was also held. Messages were conveyed by the past Presidents of DOSCST, officials of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC), members of the Board of Regents (BOR), and Presidents of the State Universities and Colleges (SUC) in Region XI.

In recognition of their hard work and dedication, the University awarded plaque of recognition to the people who were instrumental of the University's numerous achievements.

The Inauguration Day is merely the first among many other historic events in the institution. The university goal may have achieved, yet it is not the finish line. This just signals a new starting point. This is only the beginning to create more milestones as it tackles the indefinite future—together—as a budding university and a stronger community.

**DOrSU Na Ta!**

A research study titled "Perceived vulnerability and climate change impacts on small-scale fisheries in Davao Gulf, Philippines" was published in the *Frontiers in Marine Science*.

This research was authored by Associate Professor Edison D. Macusi, a faculty member of the Davao Oriental State University - Institute of Agriculture and Life Sciences (IALS), together with Ms. Kezia L. Camaso, Ms. Erna S. Macusi, and Ms. Anna Barboza - a graduate intern from Ghent University.

The study talks about the various levels of climate change impacts that many coastal communities in Davao Gulf are experiencing. It also suggests how those perceptions of ecological change and their socioeconomic impacts as perceived by fishers can assist the local governments in formulating policies that will increase their resilience against the global program on climate change.

According to Professor Macusi, getting this paper published has never been easy. It took them four revisions before it got accepted. "We submitted the article in August 2020 and only got accepted last May 2021", he said. Though it was long and rigorous, learning that their paper finally got accepted for publication just made them happy. "It's worth the wait," he added.

He then urged other researchers to always look forward to publishing their studies in international journals. Finally, for a researcher like him, he hopes that the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) will continue to allot funds for publications and that DOST-funded projects should be open access to all researchers, including teachers and students.

Aside from teaching biology-related subjects, Professor Macusi also trains students and professionals alike for technical and scientific writing.

## IALS faculty leads international publication of climate change impacts study

By John Kenny Rafon



## Regional ICRM Center XI co-invents Speedy Sea Scanner

By Ricksterlie C. Verzosa

In an international collaboration with Japanese agencies, the Regional Integrated Coastal Resource Management Center - XI (RIC XI) of Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) patented a Speedy Sea Scanner (SSS) technology. The patent was awarded by the Japan Platform for Patent Information (J-Plat Pat) last March 22, 2021.

The inventors are Dr. Katsunori Mizuno and Dr. Akira Asada of The University of Tokyo; Kenichi Sugimoto, Toshihiro Ogawa, and Yoshinori Matsumoto of the Windy Network Corporation, Japan; and Dr. Lea A. Jimenez of the DOrSU-RIIC XI. This collaborative project is supported and funded in part by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).

SSS is a towed-type device which consists of an array of optical cameras placed on a platform that records full HD video of the underwater environment. This invention allows researchers to collect information about the seafloor and will help in monitoring the major marine habitats like the seagrass beds and coral reefs.

Prior to its patent grant, sea trials were conducted at the Mayo and Pujada bays of the City of Mati using the device's prototype. Researchers from Japan and DOrSU surveyed the Dugong feeding trails in seagrass beds and the coral cover in the two areas to validate the performance of the equipment. The development of SSS and the results of initial surveys were published in reputable research journals.

As the lead agency in monitoring the Davao Oriental's coastal and marine bionetworks, RIC XI intends to utilize SSS in its research and development initiatives to inform management and conservation decisions.

# DOrSU houses COVID-19 Quarantine Facility, Vaccination Hubs

By Paul Mart Jeyand J. Matangcas

The Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) in partnership with the City of Mati Local Government Unit set up a Quarantine and Isolation Facility inside the campus for COVID-19 patients.

The University converted its newly inaugurated Dormitory to house COVID-19 patients with no to mild symptoms. This is in response to the City of Mati Incident Management Team's call to add more isolation facilities to help decongest the rising number of patients in hospitals.

Aside from the Dormitory, the University Gymnasium and Learning Information and Resource Center are also being utilized as vaccination hubs to cater to the target priority groups A, B, and C.

According to SUC President III President Roy G. Ponce, it is important to exercise the essence of bayanihan especially at a time when the unprecedented impact of the pandemic continues to affect everyone. He also stressed the important role of the academe in aiding the needs of the community.

"In the spirit of the 'We Heal as One' initiative of the government, the Davao Oriental State University commits itself in assisting our hospitals and LGU to unburden them amidst the surge of cases in our City." Dr. Ponce added.





# BSHM Program conducts Hospitality Building by the beach

By Norene T. Maybano

The faculty workforce of the Hospitality Management program conducted its extension activity entitled "Capability Building for Front Line Service Personnel of the different beach resorts along Barangay Baculin, Baganga" last May 25-27, 2021 at Langoyon Beach Resort, Baganga, Davao Oriental.

The aim of this activity is to capacitate the management and its front line service personnel assigned in the different departments of the resort. Through this activity, the management will be able to gain more knowledge and improve its products and services in terms of providing excellent and quality service to their guests and be aware of the current trends in the hospitality industry.

The conduct of the 3-day activity included a series of lectures about Customer Service, Food and Beverage Services, Food Safety, Front Office Services and Housekeeping Procedures by the BSHM Faculty. Participants were very enthusiastic in sharing what they learned through actual demonstration.

## REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER SY 2021-2022



**Pre-Registration for Incoming First Year Students, Transferees and Returnees**

**Regular Registration Period (Undergraduate & Graduate)**

**Start of Classes for Undergraduate Programs**

**Regular Registration Period for Graduate Programs**

**Start of Classes for Graduate Program**



### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

INCOMING FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

- Admissions Profile Form
- Form 132-A with original signature of the School Principal
- Certificate of Good Moral Character
- PSA-Authenticated Birth Certificate
- Certificate of Marriage Contract (for married women only)
- PSA-Authenticated Birth Certificate of Husband (for married women only)
- 8 pcs. recent 2x2 ID picture
- 1 local brown envelope
- 1 long brown envelope
- 1 window envelope with mailing stamp



### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

TRANSFERRERS

- Admissions Profile Form
- Incomplete Copy of the Transcript of Records (TOR)
- Certificate of Transfer Credit/Bit or Incomplete Transcript
- Certificate of Good Moral Character
- PSA-Authenticated Birth Certificate
- 8 pcs. recent 2x2 ID picture
- 1 local brown envelope
- 1 long brown envelope
- 1 window envelope with mailing stamp



### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

RETURNING STUDENTS

- Admissions Profile Form
- Unexpired Clearance
- Report of Grades (RAG) for the last semester attended
- 1 window envelope with mailing stamp



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