

# PSU Echoes


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**PSU is  
PQA LEVEL III  
Awardee**

  
**PHILIPPINE QUALITY AWARD**  
Recognition for Mastery in Quality Management  
in 2020  
**Pangasinan State University**

  
RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
President of the Republic of the Philippines



PSU, UPLB ink MoA for academic collab p6

AACCUP grants PSU-BC IA Level IV  
Re-accreditation Status p14



Let it REIGN p16

**I N F O C U S | PSU is 1st PH Educational Institution to receive PQA Level III**



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## PSU is 1st PH Educ'l Institution to receive PQA Level III

Marking the history of Philippine academia, Pangasinan State University now holds the premier distinction as the first educational institution to be conferred the most prestigious Philippine Quality Award Level III: Mastery in Quality Management during the 23rd PQA Assessment Cycle.

The Philippine Quality Award is the highest level of national recognition for exemplary organizational performance. It is equivalent to the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Performance Excellence Program in the U.S. and other National Quality Awards nationwide. Established through Executive Order No. 448, issued by former President Fidel V. Ramos on October 3, 1997, the award is given to organizations in the private and public sectors that excel in quality, productivity, and business performance.

In the pursuit towards unmatched quality and excellence in management system, PSU has commenced its PQA journey in 2017 where it underwent a series of rigorous training and workshops to get into the stride of the coveted award and its Criteria for Performance Excellence, consisting of seven (7) categories in Leadership, Strategic Planning, Customer Focus, Measurement Analysis and Knowledge Management, Workforce Focus, Operations Focus, and Results.

Since then, PSU had established its 'Arsenal of Champions' led by University President, Dr. Dexter R. Buted arm in arm with the Vice-President (VP) for Academic & Student Affairs Office, Dr. Manolito C. Manuel; VP for Planning & Finance Management Office, Dr. Maria Corazon B. Puzon; VP for Research, Extension & Innovation Office, Dr. Paulo V. Cenas; VP for Administration and Linkages Office, Dr. Elbert M. Galas; VP for Quality Assurance Office and QMR, Dr. Marcelo C. Gutierrez, Jr., and other University Officials to fulfill the requirements in the set criteria.

The PQA as a benchmark for Philippine Industries in bolstering global competitiveness, is in the same league with the Institution's aspirations to infuse all of its programs and activities with a global perspective by utilizing cutting-edge technology for effective instructional delivery and forming connections with prestigious academic organizations.

PSU believes in developing global leaders who positively contribute to the national, global, and civil society economies.

Journeying through the strenuous road of becoming an ASEAN Premier State University, PSU's quest to PQA is an attestation of the celebrated 'Lion Spirit' of determination, courage, and nobility, certainly, destined for greatness.

Pangasinan State University leaves a legacy of greatness as the first Philippine Education Institution and the sole bearer of Philippine Quality Awards Level III: Mastery in Quality Management.



# Right on track



Pangasinan State University has long envisaged itself to carry with pride the banner of quality and excellence in the ASEAN region and beyond. Considering our humble beginning, the challenge to pitch the University to a higher ground is almost an impossible dream given our limited resources. With the culture of indifference predominant in our system back then, it was necessary to sow the seed of quality at that it became the administration's clarion call in 2015.

We believe that mere thriving in this ultra-competitive and sometimes unforgiving sphere of job market we face is never an option. In a world where everyone wants to be the first in everything, we asked ourselves: Where do we exactly want to position PSU in the future? Should we be just spectators of other universities' triumph or should we aspire to become one of the finest? From these, we, in the administration were in a consensus that we ought to do something ambitious, audacious to launch an odyssey where PSU has not ever been, a journey we know less of its real essence—and that is Quality Management System. A new unit in the university—the Quality Assurance (QA) Office was institutionalized as bedrock that will keep the seeds of quality to grow and flourish.

That same unit also took the lion's share as we embarked on multiple QA mechanisms like AACUP accreditation, Institutional Accreditation, Institutional Sustainability Assessment, ISO certification, Prime HRM, Investors in People, to name some. And when we thought we have that level of maturity and experience to upscale our QA, we were decisive to Cross the Rubicon, so to speak and just like Julius Caesar when he crossed the Rubicon bridge in Northern Italy to win a war over Pompey, that was no turning back. It was a crucial attempt to cross the border and take the road less travelled but, again, our resolve was to leverage our platform en route to the journey of the Philippine Quality Awards in 2018 and 2021.

For the information of everyone, the Philippine Quality Award is the highest level of national recognition for exemplary organizational performance. It is equivalent to the very prestigious Baldrige Performance Excellence Program in the U.S. and other National Quality Awards nationwide. The award is given to organizations in the private and public sectors that excel in quality, productivity and business performance.

Today, my heart is full of joy to share with you that all our sacrifices have all been worth it. We may have fallen short to get the award in 2018 due to one noncompliance but we remained relentless and pursued our dream even it means, we have to go back to square 1 of the process. Our trust and faith in our capabilities were unshakable and our heightened confidence in one another that we could do it was crystal clear. That was the constant and fiery spirit that I saw in every PSUnian so off we started all over again in 2020.

According to the award-winning English writer and philosopher John Ruskin, "Quality is never an accident. It is always the result of intelligent effort." and he was right. Everything turned out well and led us to this success because from the start, this is where we wanted to go. We simply had executed what we all together planned. The political will to change old and archaic ways of doing things was a message strongly sent to the community from the start. We may have worked our way hard up to seize this victory with countless of obstacles but this sweetest fruit that we are enjoying now, the product of what we labored on all these years on is more than enough.

Gone are the days when students line up for days just to be enrolled. We provided smart solutions to fix the processes using efficient tools to ensure that the system will run seamless. Gone are the days when the rainwater pours heavily inside the classroom because of the damaged and impoverished roofing. Gone are the days when the bundy clock can be tampered with wrong entries and nobody took notice of it...and gone are the days when PSU is barely heard of as a performing university. That was past and that will never be again. This is the new Pangasinan State University where every employee is responsible for quality management!

This is certainly a very proud and elating experience for me, for the rest of the PSU family. I wish to thank everyone who took part in the realization of this PSU dream. This award would always have a place of honor in our university.



## PSU heralds 42nd Founding Anniversary with week-long activities

The Pangasinan State University celebrated its 42nd Foundation Anniversary with the theme “Sama-sama sa Pag-ahon at Pagsulong”. The week-long slate of activities, most of which done virtually, was headlined by a Misa na Pasasalamat: University-wide Eucharistic Celebration on July 1, 2021, Thursday.

The said Thanksgiving Mass which occurred concurrently all across PSU’s nine campuses, was followed by a simple opening ceremony which started at the façade of PSU Lingayen Campus’ Grand Legacy Building. Here, the whole PSU community comprised of University officials headed by the University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted, the members of the faculty and non-teaching employees took part in the program by signifying their well-wishes, dreams, and aspirations for their beloved institution through a balloon release activity.

Succeeding the ceremonial event was the Founder’s Lecture: *Atuta’y Dila: A Glimpse of the Past*, a confabulation highlighting the amazing and equally memorable experiences of some notable PSU retirees during their service to the institution and shared to all PSUnians first hand by no less than the retirees themselves.

The thought-provoking conversation ended on a lively rendition with the honourable guests and the rest of the PSUnians singing-along to Diana Ross’ *If We Hold on Together*.

Meanwhile, the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Innovation-spearheaded program ‘Saliksikan’, featured the unit’s most notable best practices, programs, and accomplishments throughout the years as well as its future projects in line with the University’s goals and objectives.

Capping off the first day was the launching of the ANACBANUA competition spearheaded by the university’s Public Relations, Publication and Information Office under the directorship of Dr. Randy Joy M. Ventayen. The competition, which was open to PSU students and employees alike, includes VMGO video-making contest, PSU Hymn music video-making contest, PSU corporate video-making contest, and the PSU Dokyu video-making contest.

The launch ended with the viewing of the PRPIO’s *Mapita Dokyu*. Completing the list of activities include: Igniting The Spark (The Art of Teaching in Pandemic Times Webinar Series); Students’ Day SMART Mobile Legends Tournament PSU Converge (Alumni Connect, Career Expo, and Job Fair) PSU Cares IP Community Pantry at Sitio Mapita, Bgy. Laoag, Aguilar, Pangasinan; The Singing Lion (kaSING mukha and SINGing in tandem); PSU Converge (Scholarship Caravan) Pilak: The PSU Open University System 25th Anniversary and the PSU Grand Awards Convocation.





## PSU-UC hailed Top Performing School in 2021 REE, RME Board Exams

Proving dominance once again, PSU-Urdaneta City Campus emerged as the Top Performing School in September 2021 Registered Electrical Engineer and Registered Master Electrician Board Examinations held on September 5-7, 2021.

In the two Professional Regulatory Commission-administered board examinations, PSU-UC racked up passing percentages of 98.08% (RME) and 96.15 (REE).

Out of 1,668 (REE) and 1,506 (RME) board examination passers, three (3) PSU-UC Electrical Engineering graduates notched up the top spots, they are:

### Engr. Sahra A. Vicente

Top 10, 89.10%

September 2021 REE Licensure Examination

Top 6, 89.0%

September 2021 RME Licensure Examination

### Engr. John Michael T. Soriano

Top 9, 87.5%

September 2021 RME Licensure Examination

### Engr. Aira Kris G. Solar

Top 10, 87.0%

September 2021 RME Licensure Examination

  <p><b>ENGR. SAHRA A. VICENTE</b> 89.10% RATING TOP 10 IN SEPTEMBER 2021 REGISTERED ELECTRICAL ENGINEER</p>	  <p><b>ENGR. SAHRA A. VICENTE</b> 89.00% RATING TOP 6 IN SEPTEMBER 2021 REGISTERED MASTER ELECTRICIAN</p>
  <p><b>ENGR. JOHN MICHAEL T. SORIANO</b> 87.50% RATING TOP 9 IN SEPTEMBER 2021 REGISTERED MASTER ELECTRICIAN</p>	  <p><b>ENGR. AIRA KRIS G. SOLAR</b> 87.00% RATING TOP 10 IN SEPTEMBER 2021 REGISTERED MASTER ELECTRICIAN</p>

PSU-UC produced 50 New Registered Electrical Engineers and 51 New Registered Master Electricians based on the PRC results on September 16.

PRC announced that 1,668 out of 2,590 (REE) and 1,506 out of 2233 (RME) takers passed the board exams.

Through the years, PSU has yielded topnotchers and professionals who do not only establish sterling names for themselves but bring great honor to the University, the Region, and the country.



## PSU-OUS marks 25 years

Championing accessibility to higher education, PSU Open University System (OUS) celebrated its 25th year on July 6, 2021 at the Main Campus, Lingayen.

With beaming silver stripes, the jubilee set off with a motorcade and the unveiling of the PSU-OUS History Marker led by Dr. Marie Claire B. Briones (Executive Director, PSU-OUS) with Dr. Phillip G. Queroda (Deputy Executive Director for Academics, Research, and Extension, PSU-OUS), and other university officials.

### *Making higher education accessible*

The PSU-Open University Systems was formally launched at PSU-Lingayen in March 1997, trailblazed by Dr. Alfredo F. Aquino dubbed as the "Father of Pangasinan State University-Open University System."

From its inception, the PSU-OUS showed exceptional performance and commitment to bequeathing legacy among PSU employees, clients, and stakeholders. The PSU-OUS was born out of the need to respond to the unique requirements for

people's further professional and technical development.

The PSU-OUS caters to professionals who are leaders of different agencies/institutions in Pangasinan and other provinces by offering relevant graduate programs at the masterate and doctorate levels.

### *Building a network of excellence*

In recognition of the alumni achievers, Outstanding Alumni Awards highlighted the many achievements of PSU-OUS graduates, both professionally and personally, for outstanding contributions to their profession, community, and society.

### *Among the awardees were:*

Hon. Conrado M. Estrella III (Mdm), Hon. Ariel G. De Guzman (MDM), Dr. Ramon T. Bautista (EdD), Gen. Leonardo A. Espina (Mdm), Lt. Col. Roderick Y. Gonzales, (MDM), Dir. Rosario Segundina P. Gaerlan (MS Aquaculture), Dr. Joseph Roland O. Mejia (MDM), Dir. Wilfredo M. Cruz (MS Aquaculture), Dr. Gloria R. Torres (EdD), Ms. Ma. Criselda G. Ochang (MAEd), Dir. Nonita S. Cabacaba (MS Aquaculture), Dir. Cordelia B. Nipales (MS Aquaculture), Dr. Ryan S. Evangelista (MDM), Dr. Arnel Gerard R. Gazmen (MDM), Dr. Myrna D. Ocampo (EdD), Rev. Fr. Neil Vincentm. Tacbas (EdD), Dr. Renato E. Salcedo (MAEd), Dr. Juliom. Cervantes (EdD), Ms. Evelyn H. Zapra (MS Aquaculture), Ms. Elisa S. Fronda (MDM), Ms. Cathrayn C. Alanon (MDM), Dr. Alvin M. Soriano (EdD), Dr. Julieta Q. Fernandez (EdD), Ms. Shiena R. Suiza (MAEd), Mr. Dan August P. Erfe (MAEd).

PSU-OUS Awards Convocation granted exemplary recognition to Dr. Alfredo F. Aquino and University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted, previous Executive Directors of the department, outstanding professors, and non-teaching staff.

Through the years, PSU-OUS stood strong as the only Open University System in the province, providing practical, flexible, and equal opportunities through distance learning studies to everyone.





## PSU, UPLB ink MoA for academic collab

Grounded on the advancement of higher education in the archipelago, Pangasinan State University signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the University of the Philippines Los Baños on July 5, 2021 at the PSU Main Campus, Lingayen.

The MOA signed by the two HEIs shall set out collaborative opportunities in areas of research and extension, academic programs development, faculty exchange, and leadership enhancement, among others.

University President Dexter R. Buted signed the MOA on behalf of PSU while Chancellor Jose V. Camacho, Jr. represented UPLB Academic and Administrative Councils of both institutions were also present at the event.

The signed agreement coincides with PSU's 42nd Founding Anniversary celebration and PSU-OUS 25th Silver Jubilee, marking the University's decades of exceptional contribution as the leading state university in the region.

PSU's collaboration builds the groundwork in bolstering university thrusts in instruction, research, extension and production while fulfilling its vision of becoming an ASEAN premier state university.

## Reaching the STAR: PSU benchmarks INTI Int'l Univ for QS rating system

In the pursuit of academic excellence and quality performance beyond national standards, the Pangasinan State University engaged in a benchmarking activity for QS STARS with INTI International University and Colleges on November 3, 2021 via Zoom platform.

With its recent feat as the first-ever educational institution to obtain the coveted Philippine Quality Awards Level III: Mastery in Quality Management, PSU, led by University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted, is charged to set about another conquest through the QS Stars.

The QS Stars university rating system was developed to provide universities with another avenue to highlight their strengths publicly, besides the annual QS World University Rankings. The rating system also allows universities to identify and improve upon areas of weaknesses, providing detailed assessments under each criterion. ([www.qs.com](http://www.qs.com))

Having been officially ranked in the 2021 QS World University Rankings: ASIA for the first time in 2020 despite the emerging trials of the pandemic, INTI International University stands as one of the top picks of PSU to obtain significant insights, best practices, and critical areas in the rating system.

"With INTI International University's best practices and expertise in QS Stars, we gear up ourselves with invaluable insights in successfully achieving yet another laurel for our University; the foreseeable future shines bright in PSU," DRB said.

INTI's VP for International Business Development, Jesus C. Tinawin earmarked the Institution's best practices and journey to achieving top marks in the categories of Online Learning, Employability, Facilities, and Inclusiveness that assured INTI's spot in this year's QS World University Rankings.

Transitioning as an internationally recognized academic powerhouse, PSU takes another step towards the stars in the global academia. QS Stars serves not only a moving force in ensuring international recognition, but the University's initiative in realizing that excellence rests in every facet of its service delivery—to employees, students, and community members.

## PSU forges MoA with LPU-B for Ph.D-IHTM program



Making headway for professional advancement, Pangasinan State University inked a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Lyceum of the Philippines Batangas on July 7, 2021 via Zoom platform.

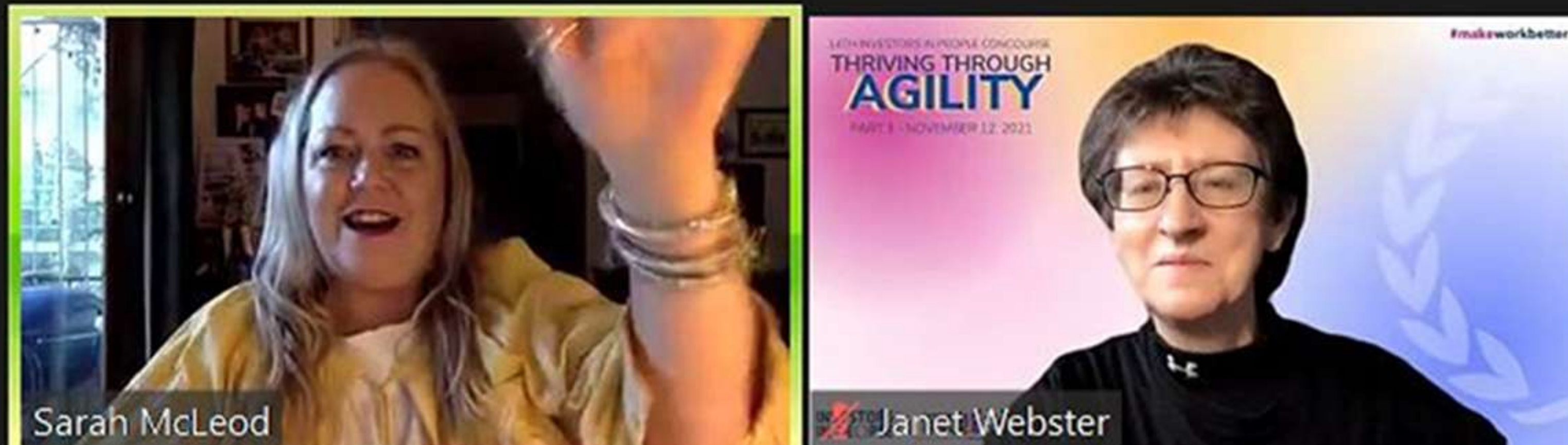
As part of its commitment in ensuring continuous development, the MOA underscores the offering of Doctor of Philosophy in International Hospitality and Tourism Management (Ph.D-IHTM) by LPU-B starting 1st trimester of A.Y. 2021-2022 for faculty members aspiring to pursue further studies in the field.

University President, Dexter R. Buted signed the MOA on behalf of PSU, while Senior Vice President Mr. Frederick Badillo represented LPU-B. Academic and administrative councils of both institutions were also present at the event.

The MOA signing synchronized with PSU's 42nd Founding Anniversary celebration which confers another unassailable proof of commitment on the quest to excellence decades after its inception.



# PSU is first SUC in PH to bag the liP Gold Award



Pangasinan State University (PSU) is officially hailed as an 'Investors in People Gold Awardee' by the Investors in People on Friday, the first State University and College (SUC) in the Philippines to be distinguished with the internationally-recognized award.

The award was conferred to PSU virtually during the 14th Investors in People (liP) Concourse: Striving Through Agility on November 26, 2021 by the European-based Committee themselves including liP International-United Kingdom Director Sir David Yale, and the Chairperson for liP Philippines Ms. Janet Webster, and of course the liP Chief Executive Officer of the Philippines, Mr. Gerry Plana.

University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted expressed his appreciation for receiving yet another major honor this year. He also stated that the University's investment in quality assurance has contributed to improved work ethics in a diverse society.

This historic event was witnessed by all PSU campuses, who applauded everyone's teamwork in achieving this award.

Ms. Webster, in awe, stated that PSU's magical source is more than just quality. "When you go to PSU and talk to people, you get a sense of excitement and 'where we're going there.'"

## *The Midas Touch*

The road to the coveted award, however, was not without difficulty.

It all began in 2017, when the University first became acquainted with the principles of the Investors in People. Since then, the administration has focused on this aspect through the Human Resource Management and Development Office (HRMDO), attending and conducting various seminars, and assessing with the management the answer on how to meet the needs of its workforce and the institution itself through the workforce, in accordance with liP standards.

On May 4, 2018, PSU finally bagged the Investors in People Silver Award at the 10th liP Concourse held at the SMX Convention Center, SM Aura Premiere, Taguig City.

Two years later, PSU signed up once again, hoping to reach a higher level, which it did.

PSU's advancement from Silver to Gold status simply indicates that the university has improved through effective people management. The administration is firmly committed to providing the best practices for the workforce, as defined by its core and leadership competencies.

## *'We Invest in People'*

The Investors in People is an agency based in the United Kingdom that accredits organizations across the globe with a mission to put people and purpose first by highlighting the strength of an empowered workforce through effective leadership.

As for today's concourse, four Philippine organizations made it to the list of awardees: Pangasinan State University, First Balfour, TaskUs Philippines, and Bounty Argo Ventures Inc.



## OSAA ramps up vaccination drive as university eyes re-opening

As Philippine schools start preparing for gradual re-opening of classes next year, the Office of the Students and Alumni Affairs (OSAA) strengthened its campaign on Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Vaccination thru the conduct of massive advocacy campaign for students in the province.

The three-day vaccination drive was in support to Commission on Higher Education (CHED) initiative to pilot ceremonial vaccination among college students as stipulated on their Regional Memorandum No. 30 s. 2021 which encourages students to be inoculated with COVID-19 vaccines to prevent severe infections.

A total of 1,200 slots were given to the University and distributed to four vaccination sites in Lingayen, Alaminos City, San Carlos City and Urdaneta City scheduled on November 12, 22, 23 and 25, respectively, to cater to all nine PSU campuses.

"This coming year, preparing for the opening of the classes means more than just pens and books. Getting vaccinated will prevent infections and help controlling the spread of disease, keeping students, teachers and staff safe," Professor Celeste T. Mercado, Director for SAA, said.

The Director added that the advocacy campaign is a commitment of the university "to educate students about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccines, and to ensure the safety and welfare of all students for the upcoming face-to-face classes."

In the report of the OSAA, there are already 12, 311 vaccinated students or 38.7% of the population. But thru the conduct of this massive advocacy campaign, it is expected that the number of vaccinated will escalate as wider roll-out is also intensified in the country.

Meanwhile, the university, SAA Office and Medical and Dental unit are continuously putting prime in safeguarding a healthy academic environment thru various initiatives like webinars on COVID-19 Updates, Free Flu jabs for employees and COVID-19 vaccination assistance.



## ET makes it official: Madarang is new FSG Prexy

After a vigorous screening and election, the Electoral Tribunal released the roster of newly-elected officers of the Federated Student Government for S.Y. 2021-2022, where Christian Madarang of PSU Infanta won the 54-33-1 presidential race. Following that, Dr. Dexter R. Buted, University President, presided over the oath-taking ceremony.

The electoral was composed of ninety (90) members—ten (10) representatives, from the nine (9) satellite campuses of Pangasinan State University. These appointed/elected representatives were also newly-seated officers of their respective campus' Supreme Student Council.

The Students and Alumni Affairs Office (SAAO), led by Prof. Celeste Mercado, in collaboration with the Electoral Tribunal (ET), organized the day-long event at the Dr. Telesforo N. Boquiren Convention Hall on November 11, 2021.

### Infanta Campus student steals the spotlight

Madarang, student leader of Pangasinan State University-Infanta Campus (PSU-IC) under the banner of ALPHA Party, was hailed as the new President of the Federated Student Government after winning fifty-four (54) votes.

He was also the first from their campus to bring home the bacon for FSG presidency.

As the new FSG President, he is expected to stand for the right and welfare of the studentry at all times, impose policies, and implement projects for the betterment of the University. Moreover, he will automatically be sitting with the Board of Regents of the University as a representative of the student body.

### The beginning of a new era of leadership

Modern leaders are obliged to fulfill their duties and functions in accordance with the Federated Student Government's Constitution and By-Laws.

Dr. Buted advised the students to be firm with their decisions and dedicate their leadership for the students and the University. He hoped that they instill integrity despite the bruising challenge they encountered on the battlefield.

## Installation of MAC Laboratories





## Marking 'one identity': PRPIO launches PSU Brand Standards Manual

Public Relations, Publication, and Information Office (PRPIO) inaugurated the first-ever Pangasinan State University Brand Standards Manual on August 24 via Zoom.

To establish the PSU identity as a top-tier higher learning institution, PRPIO, led by Dr. Randy Joy M. Ventayen, created the Brand Standards Manual containing guidelines and recommendations on the University's standards to all forms of communication, chiefly, those that serve as visual depiction of the Institution's values and ideals.

The manual features PSU's Visual Identity and Graphic Standards concerning the proper usage of the registered seal, logotype configurations, institutional colors, typography, the lion symbol, variations, and multimedia application.

### *More than a 'rule book'*

Fitted to ensuring appropriate and proper execution of University visual elements, the Brand Standards Manual concretizes the larger concept of unity.

As a multi-campus university, PSU adheres to 'oneness' in all its initiatives; to strengthen this, the manual fosters a unified presentation of the time-honored institutional symbols in all transactions.

"This manual signifies our one identity as an ASEAN Premier State University with nine (9) strong campuses. No matter what campus we belong to, we must present PSU as one Institution," Dr. Ventayen said.

### *Towards Standardization and Quality Control*

Standardization of the University's identity is anchored in enabling consistency and policy and protecting its reputation. It facilitates a better connection between offices and units, thus communicating the Institution's integrity and personality more clearly to its stakeholders.

The PSUnian brand of quality and excellence must be uncompromised. Adherence to standardization as a quality control measure efficiently builds a thread to follow in all



efforts to promote the school's identity.

"Our main goal is to cultivate consistency and cohesiveness among PSUnians, stakeholders, and external partners. Thus, making sure that our branding is proudly and correctly represented," Dr. Ventayen added.

### *Groundwork for improvement*

As PSU's first-ever visual identity/graphic standards guide book, the newly-launched Brand Standards Manual, at its 'unfolding' stage and serving a large community, is set to a trail of refinement.

"This manual is the first version and is still subjected to further modifications. One thing is for sure, this will now become part of our mechanism towards continuously achieving quality and unity in PSU," Dr. Ventayen ended.

The virtual launching coincided with PRPIO's monthly meeting with coordinators of the nine campuses. Among the matters underscored were: Reinforcement of PRPIO Key Responsibilities, Anacbanua Updates, Accomplishment Reports, and QMS Manual.

## Best experience awaits for incoming PSUnians even in virtual platform

THE CLASS OF 2025 will miss out many traditional opportunities during their first year because of COVID-19 pandemic, but Pangasinan State University made sure that they will run out the 'best experience' even in virtual platform.

Instead of experiencing a conventional jam-packed student assembly, first year and transferee students were required to begin the transition to college life through a virtual orientation that was aired via Facebook live and Microsoft Teams this September 20 (Monday) simultaneously in the nine campuses.

Marking the opening of the classes, the students were assisted to familiarize themselves with the services offered by the university and most especially, to navigate the know-hows of the learning management system (LMS), the MS Teams.

Even remote, the online learning platform will create best experience regardless of the challenges and limitations while still preparing them for life, according to Dr. Lorna G. Urbiztondo, Campus Executive Director.

Last year, it has been a challenge for the institution to gradually adjust with the new normal set-up bringing in place the flexible learning platform to students and teachers.

Now that another batch of students will come in, the campus is preparing to develop programs to support student learning and achievement.

"On the verge of the pandemic situation, we stand tall in recognizing the process of education in creating positive learning environment where everyone is valued and a strong sense of purpose prevails thru flexible learning," the Executive Director said.

Aside from LMS discussion, the orientation paved way for curricular programs to highlight their achievements and best practices thru department orientations to boost the confidence of the incoming students that they are in good hands.

Retention policies and grading system were also presented.

In account, the remote orientation received a 79% viewer turn-out or out of 1,908 enrolled incoming first year, 1,500 students attended the event.

The campus is still looking forward to host more activities to mount active student participation and engagement in virtual platform.



## First and Unmatched:

# PSU receives PQA Level III

Marking the history of Philippine academia, Pangasinan State University now holds the premier distinction as the first educational institution conferred with the most prestigious Philippine Quality Award Level III: Mastery in Quality Management during the '19-'20 PQA Conferment Ceremony on November 25, 2021.

The Philippine Quality Award is the highest level of national recognition for exemplary organizational performance. It is equivalent to the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Performance Excellence Program in the U.S. and other National Quality Awards nationwide. Established through Executive Order No. 448, issued by former President Fidel V. Ramos on October 3, 1997, the award is given to organizations in the private and public sectors that excel in quality, productivity, and business performance.

Throughout PQA's history, PSU stands as the lone HEI among the six organizations that reached Level III.

Mr. Ruy Moreno, President of Philippine Quality and Productivity Movement commended the University and underscored the award's gravity, "The Recognition for Mastery in Quality Management or Level III is given to organizations who demonstrated—through their practices and achievements—superior results clearly linked to robust management systems."

In the pursuit towards unmatched quality and excellence in management system, PSU has commenced its PQA journey in 2017 where it underwent a series of rigorous training and workshops to get into the stride of the coveted award and its Criteria for Performance Excellence, consisting of seven (7) categories in Leadership, Strategic Planning, Customer Focus, Measurement Analysis, and Knowledge Management, Workforce Focus, Process Management, and Results.

Lilian Salonga, Director of DTI's Competitiveness Bureau, affirmed PSU's dedication in sparking off the culture of quality, "The seal of excellence is awarded to the best of the best, and that's what you are," Salonga said in her speech during the ceremony.

Since then, PSU had established its 'Arsenal of Champions' led by University President, Dr. Dexter R. Buted arm in arm with Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs Office, Dr. Manolito C. Manuel; VP for Planning & Finance Management Office, Dr. Maria Corazon B. Puzon; VP for Research, Extension & Innovation Office, Dr. Paulo V. Cenas; VP for Administration and Linkages Office, Dr. Elbert M. Galas; VP for Quality Assurance Office/QMR, Dr. Marcelo C. Gutierrez, Jr., and other University Officials to fulfill the requirements in the set criteria.

The PQA, as a benchmark for Philippine Industries in bolstering global competitiveness, is in the same league with the Institution's aspirations to infuse all of its programs and activities with a global perspective by utilizing cutting-edge technology for effective instructional delivery and forming connections with prestigious academic organizations.

PSU believes in developing global leaders who positively contribute to the national, international, and civil society economies.

In his acceptance speech, Dr. Buted claimed pride for the unprecedented achievement and offered it to the PSU community as a symbol of an impossible dream now realized with the concerted efforts of every PSUnian who values excellence and embraces quality.

"Quality is never an accident. It is the result of concerted effort. After all the sacrifices. ngayon nagbunga ang lahat nating pinagpaguran. No matter how hopeless, gaano man kabigat, lahat napagtagumpayan sapagkat tayo'y nagtulungan, walang nag-iwanan, lahat nag-ambagan," Dr. Buted added.

DTI's conferment of the awards was led by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and attended by various stakeholders physically and virtually.

Journeying through the strenuous road of becoming an ASEAN Premier State University, PSU's quest to PQA is an attestation of the celebrated 'Lion Spirit' of determination, courage, and nobility, certainly destined for greatness.

Pangasinan State University leaves a legacy of greatness as the first Philippine Education Institution and the sole bearer of Philippine Quality Awards Level III: Mastery in Quality Management.







## PSU-Bayambang's Galsim hailed 2021 Pinakanatatanging Mag-aaral

In its seventh year, Pangasinan State University bestowed its most prestigious award for outstanding students, the Gawad Parangal 2021, with the theme, “Pagsusumikap sa Gitna ng Panibagong Hinaharap”, on December 10, 2021, at the Dr. Telesforo N. Boquiren Convention Hall and was streamed live via Facebook.

Taking pride in its time-enduring legacy—the students, Pangasinan State University honors exemplary students who epitomized admirable qualities of a true-blooded PSUnian—excellence in academics and notable contribution in school engagement, community development, and nation-building.

Rising from the grueling screening process and claiming the coveted title for the third consecutive year for PSU-Bayambang Campus was Reymark M. Galsim, a fourth-year Bachelor of Science in Business Administration student.

In his message, Galsim shared his journey in reaching his dreams with all the hard truths and debacles of life he braved upon fulfilling his studies.

“Upang simulan ang unang hakbang sa pag-abot ng aking pangarap, ako ay nag-aral mabuti. Naranasan kong madapa, ngunit sa kabila nito, ako ay nanatiling matatag, hindi ako sumuko at hindi ako nagpatalo,” he said.

Galsim, a breadwinner, urged his fellow students to endure and learn from the challenges they face, “Sa bawat pagsubok na dumarating sa ating buhay, kapulutan po natin ito ng aral, at ang bawat karanasan na idudulot nito ay magpapalawig sa ating kaalaman upang matuklasan natin ang tunay na mithiin at layunin natin sa buhay.”

In a deeply felt parting shot, Galsim offered his victory to the other awardees and students who brawl on their uphill battles and reminded them to cling to their goals and believe in the power of their dreams.

He also expressed boundless gratitude to everyone who lent a hand and stood behind his back throughout the journey—his family, confidants, teachers, and campus community.

The roster of equally commendable students across the nine (9) campuses included: Rosemarie C. Caranay (Alaminos City Campus), Christine Joy D. Carrera (Binmaley Campus), Je-Ann Z. De Vera (Lingayen Campus), Roel G. Agonias (Sta. Maria Campus), Bill Kimpert Pacleb (Urdaneta Campus), and awarded “Natatanging Mag-aaral” Ronald Macaraeg (San Carlos City Campus) and Melissa C. Castillo (Asingan Campus).

Reymark Galsim now joins the previous Gawad Parangal awardees: Menard Nava (2015), Mark Marlon de Vera (2016), Mohammed Ardaniel Swandi (2017), Patrice Flores (2018), Adrian Veloso (2019), and John Joseph Zarate (2020).

Serving a paramount purpose, the “Pinakanatatanging Mag-aaral” personifies the Golden Lion Spirit of determination and courage despite all odds and uncertainties and stands as a symbol of inspiration to the PSUnian community.





## PSUnian alum named 'ASEAN Engineer' by PTC

A graduate from PSU Urdaneta City Campus was bestowed with a coveted award in the 2021 ASEAN Engineering Register Conferment by the Philippine Technological Council (PTC) on July 17, 2021.

Engr. Manny Boy N. Cabalse was among the selected Filipinos to be named as "ASEAN Engineer" after a thorough assessment of academic credentials and professional experience supporting the training/workshop held by PTC.

Before earning the global acclamation, Engr. Cabalse had already made a series of titles.

After earning his degree at PSU Urdaneta City Campus, Engr. Cabalse immediately passed the Board Examination in 2014 as a Registered Electrical Engineer.

He was certified as a Registered Grade A Electrical Engineer in Qatar in 2014, then as a Professional Electrical Engineer last year by the Philippine Regulatory Commission.

To be an ASEAN Engineer, however, is a distinction and a privilege for Filipino engineers. Members will join the ASEAN Engineers Working group in 'collecting, tabulating and disseminating information on the education systems, engineering curriculum, recognition of degrees and qualifications, accreditation of qualifications and requirements for achieving professional engineer status of each ASEAN Institutions.'

The Philippine Technological Council is the appointed organization to create standards in attaining such professional status with an adequate



level of competence.

PSU is proud to have produced alumni with persistent efforts and achievements.

Congratulations Engr. Manny Boy Cabalse!

## The Golden Lion Hotel



## Distribution of Financial Assistance to DA-ACEF-GIAHEP Grantees

As the saying goes "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world", indeed it is! In relation to that, Dr. Dexter Buted stated that the Pangasinan State University is focusing on quality education to be provided to the students which will be a great contribution to their success.

Therefore, as an exemplary institution, the PSU in partnership with the Department of Agriculture distributed Stipend to students which was organized by the student services headed by Prof. Celeste T. Mercado, the Director for Students & Alumni Affairs, held at the Audio-Visual Room Main Campus on December 11, 2021.

On behalf of Hon. William Dar the Department of Agriculture Secretary, Undersecretary Cheryl Marie Natividad Caballero the Undersecretary for Agriculture Industrialization and for Fisheries gave an inspirational message highlighting the phrase "Give your dedication and passion to be

successful, it is not a one size fits all".

It served as an eye opener for every student that success doesn't come from anywhere at any time rather it is achieved by hard work and determination.

The said event was also attended by the Regional Executive Director of the Department of Agriculture and a member of PSU Board of Regents Hon. Nestor D. Domenden, Chief Administrative Officer and Campus Executive Director of Infanta Dr. Ian D. Evangelista, Campus Executive Director of Sta. Maria Dr. Elmer C. Vingua, and PSU Student Regent Mr. Christian Madarang.

The scholarship given to students was of great help and in addition to that, the Department of Agriculture also offers agriculture activities which assist students to earn and generate income while studying to finance their needs.

The event was ended by words of gratitude from a student of Sta. Maria and his parent.



## Exceeding Quality Standards: AACCUP grants PSU-BC IA Level IV Re-accreditation Status



*“First in the Philippines with Tarlac State University.”*

The Accrediting Agency for Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) has granted Institutional Accreditation Level IV Re-Accredited status to Pangasinan State University Bayambang Campus. The said award was received by Dr. Dexter R. Buted, University President, during the AACCUP 35th Annual National Conference and 2nd Virtual National Conference on March 11, with the theme Trends and Directions in Accreditation in Pre-and Post-Covid Stretch.

PSU-BC went through a week-long assessment in nine areas for quality assurance namely: (1) Governance and Management, (2) Teaching-Learning and Evaluation, (3) Faculty and Staff, (4) Research, (5) Extension, (6) Support to Students, (7) Library, (8)-Infrastructure and Other Learning Resources, and (9) Quality Assurance on December 13-17, 2021.

Dr. Buted personally believes that the findings and recommendations after going through these assessments are much more important than the award itself “...from here on, we move forward to greater heights ushering our university to take the path of continuous improvement...”

This amazing feat can be attributed to all the mighty

men and women of Bayambang Campus whose zeal for quality and excellence is unparalleled. It is worth mentioning that Dr. Maria Glenda O. de Lara of Philippine Normal University and lead accreditor for the area assessment for (2) Teaching, Learning, and Evaluation, (3) Faculty and Staff, and (6) Support to Students, commended Dr. Liza L. Quimson, Campus Executive Director for her exemplary leadership. “The top-secret in an organization lies in the leadership; when the leader is inspiring [and] admirable, he/she can make things happen. When the subordinates are inspired, they will work voluntarily towards the achievement of [the] common goal,” said Dr. de Lara.

The Institutional Accreditation of an institution by a reputable organization is a huge undertaking as its success bears a telling for the further endeavors of the institution. After passing the dire AACCUP institutional accreditation, PSU-BC has now earned the stamp of approval not only of the accreditors but the entire Higher Education Institutions across the country.

PSU-BC's hard-earned Institutional Accreditation level IV Re-Accredited status is a testament that PSU is the Region's Premier University of Choice.

## PSU-BC secures 100% COPC Compliance

After months of preparations and assessments, 10 academic programs of Pangasinan State University-Bayambang Campus (PSU-BC) have been awarded the Certificate of Compliance (COPC) from the Commission on Higher Education Region 1 (CHEDRO I), the first campus to claim 100% COPC compliance.

The said academic programs are the following: Bachelor of Information Technology (BSIT), Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (BECED), Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEED), Bachelor of Physical Education (BPED), Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSE), Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education (BTLED), Bachelor of Arts in English (ABEL), Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA), and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA). The COPC is awarded to each of these academic programs which have fully complied with the policies,

standards, and guidelines of CHED stated in the CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 14, series of 2019 or the “Policies and Guidelines in the Issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs)”.

COPC is a requirement for the provision of financial assistance for capacity building of LUCs or SUCs under RA 10931 known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education. SUCs or LUCs were given two years upon effectivity of the said memorandum to comply with CHED requirements on the issuance of COPC. Failure to comply with CHED minimum requirements within two years, the Board of Regents (BOR) may decide whether to continue offering the programs or not.

Before the submission of the requirements for the COPC, the ten college programs of PSU-BC have been subjected to local assessment by the university assessors to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the documents required for the said application at the DIVTC Library of the university's main campus on May 4-14, 2021.





## “I can. The Pangasinan State University can.”

The University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted delivered his State of the University Address (SUA) during the 6th PSU Special Board of Regents' Meeting on December 21, 2021 at the CSI Stadia, Dagupan City.

Dr. Buted presented the accomplishment report of the University under his leadership. The momentous year-end event was witnessed by the faculty, staff, and student leaders as well as members of the Board of Regents. Students and other stakeholders also participated through Zoom and Facebook Live. The said event was presided virtually by Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Commissioner Dr. Ronald L. Adamat who is concurrently the Chairperson of the University's Board of Regents.

The highlight of the president's report is the University's endeavour for quality and excellence in service delivery with its journey towards AACUP SUC Level 2, International Organization for Standardization (ISO 9001:2015) Certification, Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) certification, CHED Centers of Excellence for Fisheries and Teacher Education, Prime HRM Bronze Award, Investors in People Gold Award, and finally, the Philippine Quality Award

-Level III Recognition for Mastery in Quality Management for the past seven years of his unrivalled tutelage.

Another notable accomplishment presented by Dr. Buted is the University's coping mechanisms during the pandemic and its transition to flexible learning and more advanced technological platforms used by the institution.

Moreover, the year 2021 is also dubbed as the “Year of Topnotchers” as PSU produced eight A-list students from PSU Urdaneta, Binmaley, Lingayen and Bayambang Campuses that landed in the Top Ten of the Registered Master Electrician (RME) Examination, Registered Electrical Engineering (REE) Board Examination, Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) and Fisheries Technology Board Examination. Prior to the president's address was a motorcade in the municipalities and cities of the topnotchers' campuses in honor of their hard work in garnering such accolades, and for bringing the name of the University to light. These students were also given cash incentives approved by the Board of Regents in recognition of their respective feats.

The University President also presented his plans for the succeeding year as he embarks with his last year in

office. “This is only the beginning, and now, history poses a challenge to us to continue the transformation, so that it may bring about even more opportunities for the future of PSU”, said Dr. Buted.

PSUnians who were present in the venue were also given a token of appreciation for their persistent dedication and support to steering the wheel to total quality management and excellence in the four-fold functions of Pangasinan State University.

Moreover, the Faculty Association led by Prof. Ruby Amado, the Faculty Regent; Federated Student Government under the leadership of the Student Regent Mr. Christian Madarang; and the Non-Teaching Association led by Mr. Melvin Santos, presented Dr. Buted with plaques of recognition in gratitude of his exemplary service and visionary leadership.

The University President manifested that with the commitment, integrity, and teamwork, PSUnians can achieve their goals more than what they had expected.

As 2021 ends with a blast, may PSU and its people be filled with more grace and prosperity in the years ahead.



## CSC to PSU: A future-ready institution

Pangasinan State University celebrated the 121st Civil Service Commission (CSC) Anniversary in light of the foundation of CSC and laudation of the nation's public servants

This year's commemoration holds the theme "Transforming Public Service in the next decade: honoring agile and future-ready leaders."

Cognizant of the theme, the PSU personnel were given jam-packed activities for the whole month of September such as ZOOMba dancing and Webinars on Mental Health and Leadership, orchestrated by the Human Resource Management and Development Office (HRMDO).

The event concluded with a Thanksgiving Mass and a program to which the traditional re-stating of the Panunumpa ng Kawani ng Gobyerno was led by Dr. Maria Corazon B. Puzon, VP for Finance and Planning Management.

Mr. Romel S. Rivera, Senior Human Resource Specialist of CSC Field Office in Western Pangasinan, commended PSU with its groundbreaking university achievements and programs for its workforce and said PSU is "geared towards a future-ready institution."

Indeed, PSU is true to its transformative aspirations thorough its committed workforce and leadership of its potent officials. Thus, the administration continues to sharpen the capabilities of its human resources and shall always support their personal progress in and beyond the borders of the university.



## Let it REIGN

The Pangasinan State University held its five-day program in celebration of the REIGN week with the theme: Innovative and GAD Responsive Research for Extension Highlighting Collaboration Toward IR4.0. The said event was held at the Dr. Telesforo Boquiren Convention Hall and virtually via Zoom from November 29, 2021 – December 3, 2021.

Through the leadership of Dr. Paulo V. Cenas, the Vice President for Research Extension and Innovation; Dr. Larry Santos, Director of Research and Development Office; Prof. Francis Albert Argente, Director for Extension Services Office; Dr. Catalina Platon, Director for Innovation Support Office and Dr. Gilbert Moralista, Director for Gender and Development with the assistance of the REIGN center and unit heads.

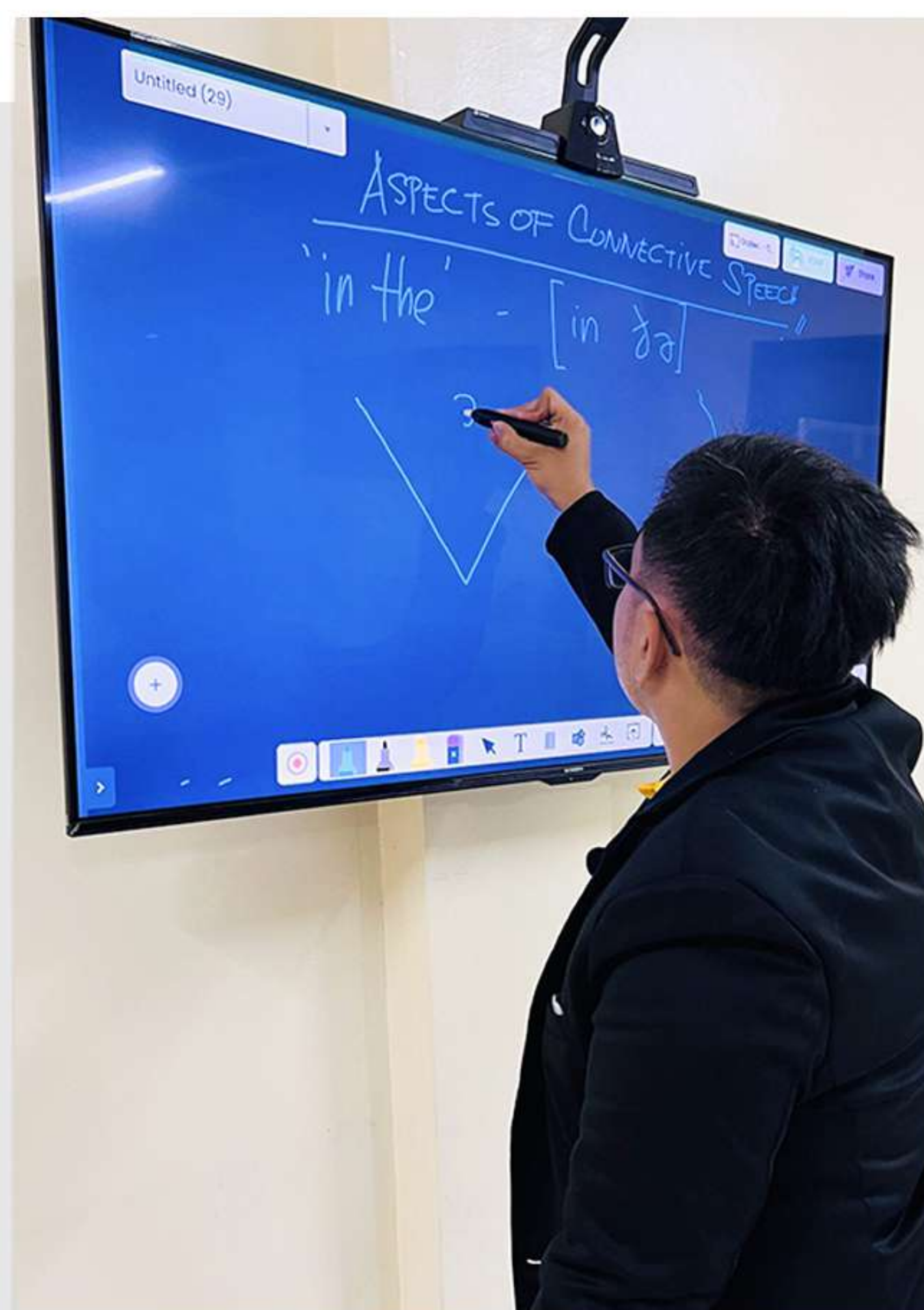
This weeklong celebration was a series of activities conducted to

celebrate the PSUnians' victories in the journey towards excellence. The REIGN week aims to direct on working smarter not harder to achieve outstanding outputs and to provide quality services to the stakeholders who have contributed to the realization of the Pangasinan State University REIGN initiative.

In line with the celebration of the REIGN week, institutionalization of fair system of rewards and incentives are introduced. Hence, it also initiates the promotion of internal and external collaborations to uplift the quality of services of the university.

With industry 4.0, the Pangasinan State University as a Level IV institution will continuously improve the efficiency, flexibility, profitability, agility, and productivity of the university; because in PSU we believe that little improvements day by day will lead to remarkable results at the right time.

## Installation of Speech Laboratories





# Shooting Stars

Just before the sun sets, Pangasinan State University launched the QS Stars Rating System, in line with the Christmas Lighting Ceremony at the PSU Legacy Building Façade on December 6, 2021.

The QS Star Rating System is a widely used rating system by institutions of higher learning worldwide. This signifies the excellence of performances in terms of Research, Teaching, Employability, Internationalization, Facilities, Online/Distance Learning, Innovation, Culture, Access, Engagement, and Specialist Criteria.

The Rating System denotes what institution has exemplary achievements that aids the students in choosing a university that will provide them the best education.

In line with that, the University President Dr. Dexter R. Buted started the launching by a chain breaking ceremony. This marks the beginning of a new and enhanced institution in reaching for the stars.

As PSU targets the four-star badge, the Director for International Linkages Dr. Sally Jarin introduced the working committee who will be leading and administering the shooting for the stars. She also announced the turnover of the QS Star Badge same as through with the signing of the pledge of commitment headed by the University President and immediately followed by the Vice Presidents and Campus Executives.

It is time to do the impossible. Why be ordinary if PSU can be EXTRAORDINARY!

## Once Upon a December: Fairy lights on a Cold Night

The night sky was illuminated as the Pangasinan State University community celebrates another Christmas Lighting Ceremony with the theme: Reaching for the Stars, together with the Launching of QS Stars Rating System held at the PSU Legacy Building Façade on the 6th day of December 2021.

The cold evening was started by an awe-inspiring Christmas prayer, followed by the QS Star Rating System launching by Dr. Sally Jarin. Moreover, Prof. Marinelle Aquino introduced the PSU Career Portal.

Afterward, the University President, Dr. Dexter R. Buted gave his appreciation and acknowledgment to the crowd and everyone who made the event possible. Then, the president led the way in the chain-breaking ceremony in front of the PSU Christmas Tree, that symbolizes an exceptional performance and quality standards of a university.

To top it all, the most awaited part of the event begins with a countdown, and as it comes to one, the Christmas Tree and all Light decorations flooded the heavens with colorful and dazzling lights, which mesmerized each and every one in the crowd. Hence, other campuses also held their Christmas lighting ceremony in their areas.

It was a wonderful and joyful night indeed, for Christmas reminds us how much God loves where it makes us feel that there will always be Hope, Love, and Light in our lives.





## PSU - Protection, Security, Unity

Being an extensive institution, the PSU - HRMDO has conducted a Workforce Training entitled “Workplace Security: Upskilling a Responsive Security Personnel” which was attended by all University Guards at the Dr. Telesforo Boquiren Convention Hall this 26th day of November 2021.

The objective of this seminar was to provide the University Guards of the needed awareness, recognition, additional information, and understanding in their work which will improve their productivity. It is also another way of motivating them to love and appreciate their work, for they are one of the essential assets of the institution.

As Police Lieutenant Colonel Kimberly E. Molitas, the speaker, stated that “Hindi lang ang trabaho niyo” which is a great insight since most of the security guards think of their profession as less integral. She has also pointed out that in terms of security, if not manpower is added therefore technologies should be, or the other way around.

The Training Engagement was intended to aid the Security Guards to connect, build alliances, and familiarize themselves with the agencies where they are appointed. The speaker had great interactions with the University Guards whereby concerns were raised and given importance.

As an SUC Level IV institution, the Pangasinan State University will keep on aspiring to become a better institution as a center of excellence.

## Buckle up! Shifting into the next gear

Pangasinan State University once again conducted a workforce training engagement entitled “Workforce Transport Safety Reinforcing Standards in Driving” organized by the Human Resource Management & Development Office headed by Dr. Lorena B. Echalar on December 1, 2021 at the Audio-Visual Room.

This seminar aims to educate drivers on the updated Land Transportation Office (LTO) Rules and Regulations which includes the safety driving practices ensuring zero incidents inside and outside the school premises. It also involves the Basic Safety Checks which discussed the

process of Reporting Defects.

An advanced driver with the benefits of training has great advantages which may save thousands of lives. These safety precautions and knowledge of the law is one of the most important tools to be acquired before navigating the wheel.

Therefore, the PSU HRMDO in cooperation with Mr. Charlie Apolinario A. Del Rosario the Chief Transportation Regulation Officer under Field Force Division who have instructed and educated the University Drivers and will continue to prepare and enhance the work force of the institution.



## Empowered Workforce: Orientation for New and Promoted PSU employees

The newly-hired and promoted personnel of Pangasinan State University were given an orientation on the run-through of the university at the Dr. Telesforo Boquiren Convention Hall on Monday.

Dr. Loren B. Echalar (Director of Human Resource Management and Development Office) and Ms. Liezel Del Castillo (Head of Learning and Development Unit) led the said event to fulfill their PSU’s objective on its human resource; to provide a culture that empowers and builds the capabilities of the workforce.

This event was a positive motivation scheme for PSUnians for it allowed them to be acquainted with their fellow employees and for them to be aware of the performance management process, taxation guidelines, and policies and procedures on compensation and benefits.

Said employees were formally designated in their respective positions

on July 2, 2021, in an oath-taking ceremony.

With this year’s mantra, “moving forward together,” the administration pursues more platforms in fortifying the professional development of its workforce for progressive accolade of the university.





## PSU FOR ALL: Making education more inclusive for indigenous peoples



Education is a significant initiator of community development.

It is an everyday battle for a dreamer like Jessica Nisperos, a member of Kankanaey tribal group in Sitio Mapita, Aguilar who aspires to become a teacher—that she might face difficulties in her studies and be “left behind” as she enters the collegiate arena.

With the onset of the pandemic, she and other tribe members could not shake off worries this coming school year in coping up with the online platform especially that they are situated in a farflung area of Barangay Laoag.

This story of Jessica is not far from other marginalized sectors of student population who feel that inclusivity fades away in the academic air—a dream known as ‘Education for all’.

With the inspiring story of Jessica, reality comes close as Pangasinan State University (PSU) crafted an institutionalized guideline to provide special assistance on student services for marginalized sectors specifically for Indigenous people (IP) group members, Persons with disabilities (PWDs) and Out-of-School Youths (OSYs).

Based on the data of the University Admission and Guidance Office, there are 462 students who are within these classifications and 162 of which are among the members of Indigenous groups.

With the new set of guidelines, the members of the above-mentioned groups are automatically admitted but are still required to undergo admission and enrolment procedures both for board and non-board programs.

In Lingayen Campus, there are already seven incoming students who were accommodated from admission to interview to enrolment and one of those students is Jessica.

“Magkahalong emosyon po ang

nararamdaman ko. First, I am so blessed that I will now be part of PSU. I feel nervous at the same time because this is a new journey in my life,” said Jessica, who enrolled in Bachelor in Secondary Education in English program.

On May 22, the campus, led by the Guidance Office, reached out to the Kankanaeys to conduct career guidance to orient young tribe members about the curricular offerings and student services.

“For us, it is like a new door of opportunity that opens wholeheartedly,” the Kankanaey youth said.

Republic Act No. 8371 or the Indigenous Peoples Right Act (IPRA), developing tailored and culturally appropriate educational programs for indigenous learners should be a priority—so that for Jessica and other members of marginalized groups, they will not worry anymore.

In the university, community projects like putting up community pantry, tablet and sim card donation for students and livelihood programs were some of the set agenda to make sure that the institution addresses the pressing challenges of communities like the Sitio Mapita.

For Jessica, Beverly Garcia (BSBA), Mylene Temario (BIT GFD), Jordan Lomboy (BIT Electrical), Michael Mangaliag (BIT Electrical), Jessica Nisperos (BSE English), Mary Joy Garcia (BS Math CIT) and Meraly Marian (BS Math CIT), they had already taken their first step on their dreams as they become true-blooded PSUnians.

Recalling that education is a fundamental right for all people, women, and men, of all cultures, it is just right to note that quality education should always be partnered with inclusivity. Thus, PSU-Lingayen Campus is always committed in making sure that no learner is left behind—Education for all, PSU for all.

## Boosting education beyond borders

Amplifying globalization tied with quality education, PSU partnered with three foreign universities: Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha, Universitas Muhammadiyah Pontianak, and Pangkep State Polytechnic of Agriculture for academic cooperation and mutual interest through a virtual MOA/MOU signing ceremony.

By supporting educational professionals and activities between the institutions, the agreement aims to promote international understanding, scholarly collaboration, cultural interaction, and friendship.

The scope of the agreement includes faculty exchange, student exchange, visiting lecturers, joint research activities, participation in seminars, academic material exchange, and the provision of special short-term educational programs.

On November 3, 2021, a virtual awarding ceremony and signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Pangasinan State University and the aforementioned international partners were held via the Zoom platform, organized by the Linkages Office led by Dr. Sally Jarin.

Alaminos City Campus, Bayambang Campus, San Carlos City Campus, and the School of Advanced Studies are the primary campuses involved in the student and faculty exchange.

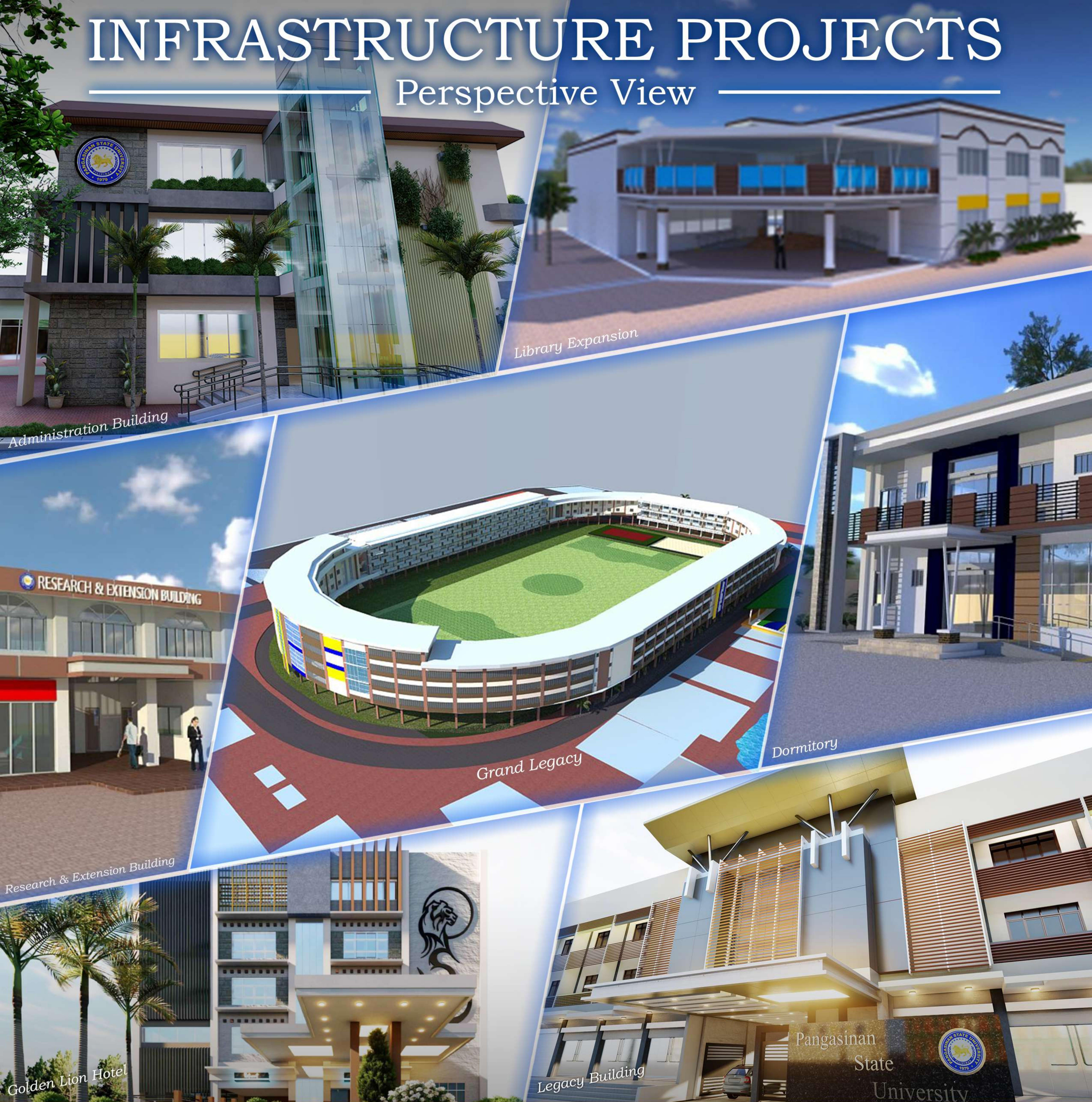
Dr. Dexter R. Buted, PSU's University President, and other university officials extended their warmest welcome to the new international students as they embark on a new journey in a different cultural setting.

Anent to the ‘education for all’ philosophy, Pangasinan State University has expanded its capabilities to several international institutions and agencies in recent years, paving the way for instructional, research, and management information expansion, as well as a stronger bond between them.



# INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

## Perspective View



### VISION

To become an ASEAN Premier State University in 2025.

### MISSION

The Pangasinan State University, through instruction, research, extension, and production, commits to develop highly principled, morally upright, innovative, and globally competent individuals capable of meeting the needs of industry, public service, and civil society.

### CORE VALUES

A - Accountability and Transparency  
C - Credibility and Integrity  
C - Competence and Commitment to Achieve  
E - Excellence in Service Delivery  
S - Social and Environmental Responsiveness  
S - Spirituality

### QUALITY POLICY

The Pangasinan State University shall be recognized as an ASEAN premier state university that provides quality education and satisfactory service delivery through instruction, research, extension and production.

We commit our expertise and resources to produce professionals who meet the expectations of the industry and other interested parties in the national and international community.

We shall continuously improve our operations in response to the changing environment and in support of the institution's strategic direction.