



# Tarlac State University Bulletin

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY  
Issue No. 72 ▪ October 2018

ISSUED MONTHLY  
BY THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND  
INFORMATION



## BTS goes to TSU

By Ma. Teresa D. Madriaga

As part of its corporate social responsibility, the Tarlac State University, led by its president, Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, conducted on September 29 a gift giving activity for the benefit of 80 Aeta families living at Sitio Danum Mapali in Barangay Bueno in Capas town.

She was accompanied by Dr. Ronald Adamat, commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED); Dr. Reynaldo L. Catacutan, mayor of Capas town; Dr. Julius Caesar Sicat, regional director of the Department of Science and Technology; and Mr. Adrian N. Elicorico, president of the Supreme Student Council.

Commissioner Adamat is the presiding officer of the TSU Board of Regents while

the rest are members of the BOR.

To reach the site the team rode makeshift wagons pulled by carabaos from the drop off point and across the O' Donnell River, which is 22.5 kilometers away from Capas town.

Bright smiles from the Aeta families welcomed the TSU officials, who brought packs of goods for them.

Commissioner Adamat, who is

himself a member of an indigenous group in Mindanao, told the children how he went to school barefoot. He said he came to have a pair of slippers only when he was about to graduate from the elementary school.

to let their children go to school and finish their studies for them to have a better future.

He did not become what he is today

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#### TSU grad bags 2nd place in Architecture board exam, receives cash award

A 23-year-old graduate of the Tarlac State University ranked second nationwide in the June 2018 Architecture licensure examinations. Ms. Joan Fatima Reyes, who finished the degree Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 2016, passed her board exam with a grade of 83.20 percent.

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#### TSU signs agreement for mutual cooperation with ASEAN legal network

The Tarlac State University and the ASEAN Legal Alliance, a Singapore-based network of more than 150 lawyers in 10 countries in the ASEAN region, have entered into a memorandum of understanding for "mutually beneficial outcome in relation to international arbitration and international dispute resolution."

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# Winners of 2018 research in-house review announced

From an analysis of Tarlaqueño consumers to the mapping of Tarlac province’s seismic hazards, this year’s winners of the Tarlac State University’s Mid-Year In-House Review for Completed Researches held on August 30 are yet again a demonstration of the university’s commitment to the advancement of science and technology in the country.

Leading the 2018 winners is a study by Engineers Mari Wendy J. Frany and Edwin L. Dela Vega titled “GIS-Based Liquefaction Potential Analysis: A Seismic Hazard Mapping of Tarlac Province.” This S&T research won first place in the “Technology Generated” category.

Another first-prize winner, this time in the S&T “Information for Dissemination” category, is

titled “Evaluation of School-Based Feeding Program: Towards the Development of the TRAC Feeding Program.” It was conducted by Professors Alma M. Corpuz, Cynthia G. Quiambao, Julius S. Ganapin and Marivic D. Payang.

Dr. Dexter L. Manzano placed second with his study titled “Ang Programang Filipinong Pang-Estadong Unibersidad at Kolehiyo sa Rehiyon III: Batayang Pag-aaral Tungo sa Isang Akademikong Modelong Pangwika.”

Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza placed third with his research paper titled “Analysis of MAPEH Pre-Service Teachers’ Reflection Logs Using Butin’s Model.”

In the Social Science category, Professors Editha Q. Villavicencio, Laarni T. Capinding and Daniel T.

Dizon landed first place with their study titled “Exploring Mental Health Stigma and Its Relationship to College Students’ Help-Seeking Behavior.”

Dr. Wilmark Ramos’ “Segmenting Tarlaqueño Consumers: An Analysis” placed second while Prof. Douglas C. Ferrer’s “Emergence of New Family Structure: House-Husbands Managing the Home” placed third.

The winners, drawn from 14 entries in three categories, have been awarded certificates of recognition and cash prizes.

The In-House Review is a project of the University Research Office, which is headed by Dr. Leo P. Piao and under Dr. Arme N. Rosel, Vice President for Research and Extension Services.



and Fine Arts, and Ms. Reyes’ mother.

This is at least the third time that TSU landed in the top five of the Architecture Licensure Examination. In 2013, Mr. Eric Yadao ranked third and, in 2015, Mr. Orlando P. Sangalang Jr. ranked second.

To encourage TSU graduates to perform even better in government licensure exams, Dr. Mallari created a committee to review the incentives being given by the university for outstanding performance in these examinations.

In a memo dated August 23, she instructed the committee to do benchmarking activities in other schools and institutions to come up with the most competitive incentive packages.

# TSU grad bags 2nd place in Architecture board exam, receives cash award

By Maria Adelaida D. Calayag and Ma. Teresa D. Madriaga

On September 25, during a flag raising ceremony at the TSU San Isidro Campus, President Myrna Q. Mallari handed her a check amounting to P80,000 as financial incentive from the university.

In her short message to the students who witnessed the awarding rites, Architect Reyes said that she was once like them, attending the flag ceremony, “an ordinary student.”

“You should maximize your capabilities and study harder,” she said.

Also present were Dr. Michaela Sagun, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Architect Marco Bildan, Dean of the College of Architecture

# Prof. Lacandula is “retired but not tired,” vows to go on teaching

By Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

After 36 years of service at the Tarlac State University, Prof. Constancia Mingote Lacandula, 65, said she had enjoyed teaching so much that she would continue doing it even beyond the current semester.

In fact, as if to underscore her intentions, her send-off party, held at the Smith Hall building on September 18, was themed “Retired but not tired.”

“Ma’am Conching,” as she is fondly called by

her colleagues, spent more than half her life teaching at TSU.

Her career began on April 1, 1982 as secretary to Dr. Ernesto Cosme, Vice President of the then Tarlac College of Technology. At present, she is a faculty member of the College of Arts and Social Sciences’ General Education Department.



She teaches Rizal, Philippine Constitution, Sociology, Agrarian Reform and Taxation, and her favorite words to her students: “You sacrifice today, tomorrow is paradise.”

In 2006, she authored two books: Rizal: Pambansang Bayani and Philippine History.

She is married to Mr. Alejandro Dizon Lacandula, and they were blessed with three

children, all of whom are all now professionals. President Myrna Q. Mallari said Prof. Lacandula has always been as source of strength for her.

“Just her message ‘I am always here for you’ can already console me,” she said.



Photos by Alexrael Y. Caculitan

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because of luck but because he was determined to finish his education, he said.

“Everything starts with education,” he emphasized.

President Mallari agreed: “No matter how hard life is, the children must go to school. If you have children who wants to

go to college, let them study at TSU. You can go ask for help from Mayor Catacutan and he will send the information to the university. Parents, you should not stop your children from pursuing their dreams.”

She promised to return to Sitio Danum Mapali in November to distribute slippers to the children.

Three TSU vice presidents -- Dr.

Michaela P. Sagun, Dr. Louella F. Ona and Dr. Arme N. Rosel – also joined the group together with Dr. Erwin P. Lacanlale, dean of the College of Education, and his associate dean, Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza; Dr. Lolita V. Sicat, director of the Office for International Affairs; Prof. Rosalina C. Garcia; and BOR and university secretary Au Valencia.

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# TSU, PAFTI hold medical mission in depressed community



The Tarlac State University Extension Services Office conducted on September 6 a relief operation and medical mission at Sitio Madilap in Barangay Guiteb in Ramos town.

The activity, held in collaboration with the TSU Medical Team and the Tarlac chapter of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians Inc. (PAFPI), is part of UESO's Social Action on Relief and Rehabilitation Assistance Program for Victims of Calamities, also known as the

TSU SARAP Tumulong Project.

Dr. Rommel M. Hernandez, university physician, headed the TSU Medical Team, which was composed of Cherryl M. Abila, Marisol D. Ibarra, Mary Gentes Peña, William D. Salak, Sylyn D. Rico and Teejay B. Jacobe.

Dr. Melody Monson, PAFTI Tarlac president, led the group of Dr. Vivian Ang, Dr. Nenita San Jose, Dr. Jylele Sison, Dr. Melinda Datu, Dr. Cristina Flor Sahagun and Dr. Daisy Espara.

Residents of Sitio Madilap, one of the communities identified by UESO as depressed, received assistance in the form of family food packs, medical checkups, medicines, toys and clothes.

Prof. Redemptor G. Toledano, UESO Director, said the project is in line with TSU's mission to be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals. **[Jay Ann L. Pablo]**

# President Mallari identifies authority to release TSU data

In compliance with Republic Act 10173, or the Data Privacy Act, Tarlac State University President Myrna Q. Mallari has ordered that the release by TSU of "specified data or information which are not intended (for) full public disclosure" should be approved by the Data Protection Officer.

These data "must be protected from unauthorized access, use,

publication, or dissemination," she said in a memorandum order dated September 7.

She said that "data infringement" should be prevented because it "may cause damage, injury or (disadvantage) to the university."

Earlier, on July 10, the president appointed Dr. Grace Ann C. Hasegawa as overall data protection officer.

Dr. Cynthia G. Quiambao of the College of Education and Mr. Winston F. Abalos of the College of Business Administration were also designated data protection officers.

TSU data obtained without authorization from university data protection officers "will be considered unauthorized or coming from an illegal source," the president said.

# TSU alumni director keynotes international conference

By Ma. Teresa D. Madriaga & Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Professor Fabian P. Seguirra, Alumni Affairs Director of the Tarlac State University, was keynote speaker during an international conference held on August 31 inside the campus of the Naresuan University in Thailand.

Aside from his keynote address, Prof. Seguirra, who is concurrently the president and board chairman of the TSU Alumni Association, Inc., also served as guest speaker during the event, which was themed "International Conference on Innovation and Education for Sustainable Development Goals 2018."

In an invitation letter addressed to Prof. Seguirra, Dr. Samran Mejang, Dean of the Faculty



of Education of Naresuan University, said the purpose of the conference was to "create a forum for in-depth discussions on managing changes in educational practices," among others.

Director Seguirra has been teaching at the TSU's College of

Business and Accountancy for 25 years. He handles Economics, Management and Business Administration courses. He is also a faculty member in the Graduate School of the College of Public Administration and Governance.

A day before the conference,

TSU and Naresuan University signed a memorandum of agreement on the exchange of students, exchange of faculty members and researchers, joint research activities, joint organizing of international research conferences and other academic and cultural exchanges.

# Close to 400 join training on use of fire extinguishers



Photo by Ma. Teresa D. Madriaga

By Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Some 400 students, maintenance personnel and office heads of the Tarlac State University underwent a hands-on training on the use of fire extinguishers on September 28.

Spearheaded by the LMS Industrial Trading, a company based in Tarlac City, the trainings were conducted in the three campuses of the university.

Participants took turn in performing the process of putting out fire using a fire extinguisher.

"It is important that we know how to use fire extinguishers, but we should be aware which extinguisher is more suitable for a particular fire," Ms. Honeylyn Eugenio, branch manager of LMS, said.

"Fire extinguishers vary and we all need to be educated about how they are used," she said, adding that "the lives and safety of thousands of students are at risk if there is a fire."

To make it easier for the participants to memorize the process of using extinguishers, they were told to remember two words: RACE and PASS.

RACE, according to Ms. Eugenio, stands for Rescue, Alarm, Contain and Extinguish.

PASS, she said, means: (1) Pull the pin; (2) Aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the fire; (3) Squeeze the handle, and; (4) Sweep the extinguisher from side to side at the base of the fire.

Ms. Eugenio, who has been giving trainings on fire extinguisher use for four years, said "fire should be extinguished within three minutes" and "there should be at least one fire extinguisher in every room and every corner in the hallway."



## TSU signs agreement for mutual cooperation with ASEAN legal network

The Tarlac State University and the ASEAN Legal Alliance, a Singapore-based network of more than 150 lawyers in 10 countries in the ASEAN region, have entered into a memorandum of understanding for “mutually beneficial outcome in relation to international arbitration and international dispute resolution.”

TSU President, Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, and Professor Steve K. Ngo, chair of ALA’s arbitration and international dispute resolution practice group, signed the MOU on September 18 at the TSU main campus in Tarlac City.

The president said the MOU “is a good thing for the university” and expressed gratitude to Prof. Ngo for “considering TSU.”



Atty. Jose I. dela Rama, Jr., the Dean of the TSU College of Law who introduced Prof. Ngo to the university, said that with the MOU signing “we’re making history.”

The MOU aims to establish cooperation between TSU and ALA in terms of joint training programs on international arbitration and dispute resolution, student internships and faculty visits, and research and publication, among others.



The signing was made possible through the efforts of Atty. Dela Rama and Dr. Louella F. Ona, Vice President for International Linkages and External Affairs.

According to its website ([aseanlegalalliance.net](http://aseanlegalalliance.net)), the ALA network has the following members: Cheok Advocates and Solicitors (based in Brunei Darussalam); HML Law Firm & Consultants (Cambodia); Fitriyah Winata



& Partners (Indonesia); Lao Law & Consultancy Group (Laos); Yeoh Mazlina & Partners (Malaysia); U Min Sein Law Offices (Myanmar); Lex Alliance Advisory Limited (Myanmar); De Guzman San Diego Mejia & Hernandez Law Offices (Philippines); Aquinas Law Alliance LLP (Singapore); Apisith & Alliance Ltd (Thailand); and Indochine Counsel (Vietnam). [Jose Russell S. Arador]

## TSU receives CHED’s certificate of program compliance for Nursing program

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has awarded the Tarlac State University a Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) for its Bachelor of Science in Nursing

program.

The COPC certifies that TSU “complies with the prescribed minimum requirements of CHED to offer the (Nursing) program effective

Academic Year 2018-2019.”

The certificate, dated September 17, 2018, was signed by Dr. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, officer-in-charge of CHED.

## Why doing research is important

During the last week of August the Tarlac State University, through the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension Services and the University Research Office, recognized the winners of this year’s In-House Review of University Researches.

This event is important because it is the culmination of long periods of conducting research by faculty members of TSU. Doing research is mandatory for our faculty members, as it is for faculty members in other universities in the Philippines, because their performance in this area of academic activity – the other two are teaching and extension work – impacts on them at many levels.

First is personal. Faculty members often take pride in their academic prowess. How they view themselves as teachers is affected

not only by their skill in teaching but also by their ability to do quality research. “I am a good teacher if I am a good teacher in the classroom and if I am a good researcher,” they tell themselves. This is not surprising because, in the first place, how can one teach if one does not know the latest in his/her field, which is possible through doing research.

Second is economic. Faculty members’ academic ranks (and thus their salaries) depend on an established system of merit. One of the criteria is research performance and publication. If a faculty member does not do research, more likely than not he/she would find it difficult to scale the academic rank.

In addition, if the university wants to become eligible for certain perks, such as the Performance-

Based Bonus, it has to meet a set of criteria that includes the collective research performance of its entire teaching force.

Third is university-wide. If TSU wants to keep its rank in the system of university leveling, then it has to show that its faculty members are indeed performing very well in the area of research. University leveling affects many aspects of university operations, including budget.

Fourth is nationwide. Many world-wide studies have shown that countries that spend a lot on research and on science and technology tend to grow much faster economically than those that do not.

Doing research is important, therefore, not only for our own personal benefit but also for the benefit of our country and our countrymen.

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## Prof. Lacandula is “retired but not tired,” vows to go on teaching

“Those words are enough for me to strengthen me in my work as the president especially when there are problems in the university,” she added.

Among the many memories of TSU that she’s fond of was when she performed during socialization nights of CASS and the College of Business and Accountancy. She even performed in the concert where she gave a production number of “I will survive” by Gloria Gaynor and “Aray.”

“Syempre sumasayaw na ‘ko noon tsaka kumakanta. Talagang sumasali ako,” she said.

She said that during her 35 years of teaching she participated actively in TSU activities and enjoyed every moment of it.

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# TSU Comm students overall champion in 1st Central Luzon COMMvention



Another feather is added to Tarlac State University's cap when its team of 10 students from the College of Arts and Social Sciences' Communication Department was declared overall champion in the 1st Central Luzon COMMvention organized by the Holy Angel University on September 26 in Angeles City, Pampanga.

Ms. Jazzel Llaneli E. Manalo, Communication Department chair, said the group of Mr. Marco Mari Aparte, Mr. Harvy Lagasca and Mr. Ariel Peña won

as champion in the photography category. Their entry also garnered the Best Concept award.

Another team, composed of Ms. Ciara Estigoy Dimarucut, Mr. Alex Cachero, Mr. Jeremie Aguilar Sapla, Ms. Gianna Yturalde and Ms. Grace Asto landed first runner up in the Radio Drama category. They also received another prize as Best Natural Sound Maker.

In the editorial writing competition, she said, Mr. Jejomar Contawe's entry about the excesses and atrocity of the

government's war against illegal drugs was adjudged champion.

In the news writing category, Mr. Rich Cayabyab's entry landed first runner up.

"Thank you so much to the very hardworking Comm Guild officers and the ever supportive Comm faculty members and to our beloved Dean," Ms. Manalo said.

TSU's participation was a project of the Comm Department and the Communicators' Guild led by Mr. Angelo Reyes, a fourth-year student.

## 3 TSU computer wizards make it to TORO finals



Three students from the Tarlac State University's College of Computer Studies have qualified for the final round of the prestigious TORO Inter-School IT

Elite Challenge, a nationwide software development and system administration competition.

In an announcement made on September 27, TORO Limited, a Hong Kong-based software company that organizes the event, said students Carl Joshua Biag, Nomar Lapitan and Ryan Santillana are eligible to participate in the final round of the competition to be held next year.

The contest consists of three categories: frontend, backend

and system administration.

By placing fourth in the frontend category and second in the backend category, Biag has qualified to join the finals in both categories.

Lapitan and Santillana ranked fourth and fifth, respectively, in the backend category, qualifying them to join the finals in that category.

The three category champions will each receive a P20,000 cash prize and a TORO Elite jacket.

In 2017, CCS student Romeo David won the finals championship in the system administration category.

**[Danica B. Reyes]**