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Defying Gravity

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About the Cover

This theme is derived from the year of Transformation Season 2 of the college. To simply put, when something is transforming, it is simply progressing and elevating, thereby defying the figurative force of gravity that acts upon it. Moreover, it is also a theme that best captures the symbolic emblem of the college which is the magical Phoenix—from how it has risen from ashes to becoming the legendary bird—signifying strength, resiliency and toughness, a perfect metaphorical comparison of the history of the college and the college itself.



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"Crab Mentality: A Pull of Insecurity"

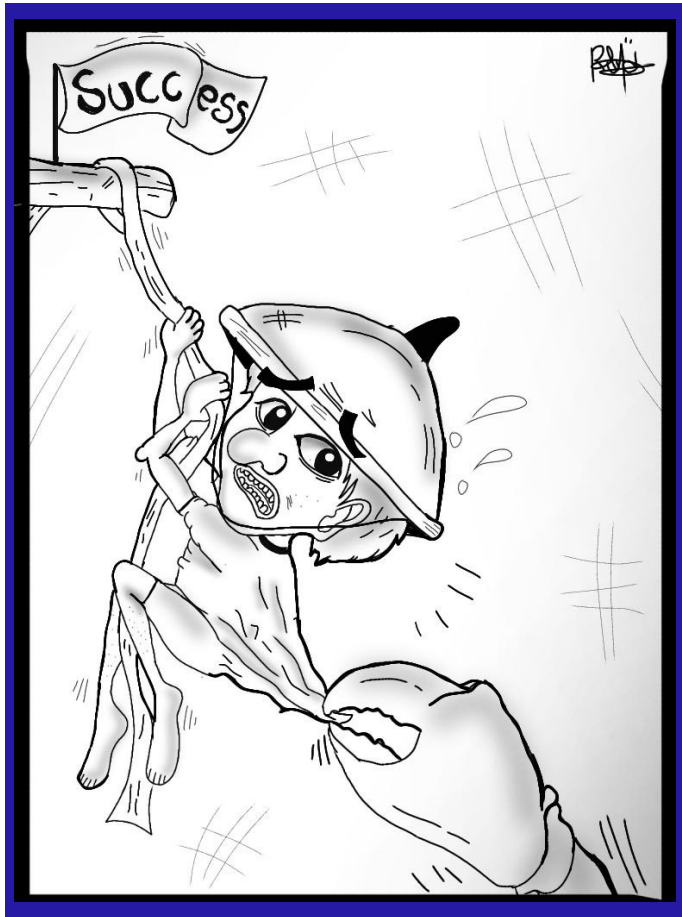
Hospitable, resilient, and cheerful — these are Filipinos in times of mishaps. Our hearts melt with compassion and pity seeing our fellowmen struggling in times of calamity, but on the contrary, why do our hearts oftentimes fill with envy and resentment when we see them in times of prosperity? Is it because we Filipinos do only want to hear news of struggles as it makes us feel high and mighty when we donate to help, but never the news of victory because it makes us feel low and defeated? Sadly, this mentality has been incorporated into the Filipino culture for quite some time now. In fact, it is called Crab Mentality for a reason.

Crabs are Filipinos favorite seafood next to fish, but some take it not only as a meal but made it a character, impacting the lives of people around them. Have you ever witnessed crabs being placed inside a bucket, trying to escape? Notice that when others almost succeed to get out, others will try pulling them down to be in the very situation again. This is the analogy behind the concept of crab mentality which as defined by Psychology Today as "someone's tendency to pull down people around them who they consider are better than them in any aspect." People with crab mentality do accordingly think that if they cannot have something they wish for, then no one can have it, too.

This selfish mentality seriously affects people around in one way or another. Those who only wish to achieve something out of passion and tenacity would find themselves engulfed with shouts of criticisms and whispers of manipulations, making them feel that their achievement is invalidated.

People with this mindset, however, can feel jealous of anyone whom they think are their competitors in life. It could be in school where a teacher who gets promoted, earns backlashes from her colleagues, saying that it is her connection and privilege that led her to her promotion when in fact it was his skills and accolades that made him achieved the milestone. It could be in a business world where a thriving store is subjected to fabricated stories from nearby stores for selling stale and unhygienic foods just to get back customers. Or it could also be celebrities, making damaging scandals to ruin one another's image just to earn more fame and following.

Moreover, this mentality allows someone to be less empathic of others. It robs a person the ability to care and respect because all he thinks about is himself. It turns someone cruel, making him rob others the opportunity to grow and transform with



his destructive words and actions that rather reflect who the crabs are instead of their victim. Indeed, it is in their inability to rise that led them to pull people down since they are simply far behind. The very fear, hesitation, and insecurity they try to burden their victims are the exact apprehension, doubt, and defect they have within them which they want others to have so they cannot achieve the very dream they have wanted for themselves.

Life seems to be a race for people today, and having this mentality is what people develop in order to make the race even for everyone. Crab mentality is both an excuse and a weapon of weak and incapable. They are those who cannot win their own battles, so they want others to have the same misery, too. Remember, a crab is dish to enjoy, not a mentality to adopt. Why drag others down on their glorious moments when we can just wish them more success while patiently waiting for our turn?



Lousy Filipino Culture: Its Detrimental Effect to Improvement

By Alkhamar L. Saddalani

Philippines is a well-loved country by most tourists due to the fact that it offers best spots in the world. The crystal clear beach of Boracay, the breathtaking landscapes in Baguio, and the picturesque sceneries in Palawan. But if there would be one factor that adds more beauty to this country is its people. As what Miss Universe Philippines 2023 Michelle Dee put into words, "We are the reason why the world keeps coming back for more."

Filipinos are often dubbed as the happiest people in the world because we remain steadfast and cheerful despite the calamities that often cause disturbance to our lives. But despite these positive traits, Filipinos are also tagged as toxic and irresponsible individuals because of the lousy culture we have practiced over the years which includes the concepts of 'Filipino Time', 'Mañana Habit', and the 'Bahala na si Batman Mentality' which seriously affect our individual growth and the growth of our nation as a whole.

Filipino Time is a negative practice of Filipinos of coming up late or showing up beyond the given time. It is the inability of some Filipinos to be punctual. If the call time is 7:30 A.M., most will show up an hour after or so. This is because people who are meeting up tend to anticipate that everyone would show up late or the event would start beyond the given time, making the majority of members to arrive late, hence, a delay in everything. Sadly, this practice has already made an identity for Filipinos, and we are often stereotyped because of it. For this reason, Filipinos tend to meet difficulty in finding a job abroad because companies think that we are disrespectful of time.

The next practice is the Mañana Habit. This habit is a Filipino practice of setting aside tasks to later time. It is the inability of Filipinos to be active and disciplined. If we have a task that needs to be done ahead of time, we choose to procrastinate now and do irrelevant things and would cram later for submission, hence, a poor quality of work.

Finally, the Bahala na si Batman Mentality. This mentality tells something about a Filipino trait of trusting luck over hardwork and effort. It is the inability of Filipinos to be persistent enough over something they want to achieve. Oftentimes, we Filipinos rely on the concept of fate being in control of everything without an ounce of our intervention. With this, we often entrust everything to the unknown rather than on our own skill which would at least determine what kind of fate we will have. For instance in a taking an exam, because most students entrust everything to luck, they no longer prepare for this written work and will go on with an idea in mind that luck will miraculously do its thing and make them pass.

I myself is not a saint for not observing these practices. Because I hate waiting, I tend to show up late in a meeting. Because I am complacent of time, I tend to do things late. Because I calculate circumstance on my own, I tend to rely to Batman rather than on myself. And I have to admit that these practices hinder me to achieve progress all the time as punctuality, discipline and persistence are key factors to improvement. Their absence became my gravities in reaching for my ultimate.

Culture, no matter how we are used to it, must always be evaluated. When it is no longer productive and shapes us already into a person that we should not be, then it has to be dismantled. We have to build a culture that would inspire us to do more, not a culture that would drag us down into a puddle. Most importantly, let us build a culture that would make us proud to be called Pinoy.



Opportunity Gaps: Emphasizing the Affluent and Impoverished Strata

By Radeeya S. Sencio

There is a stark contrast between the upper and lower classes in today's generation: the former were able to easily learn, explore, and improve themselves because opportunities were knocking on their door, while the latter struggled to improve due to impoverished circumstances, ultimately forcing one person to swim across an ocean in search of opportunities and climb on the peak of a mountain to obtain them. There are numerous factors that contribute to a person's ultimate metamorphosis. One of these aspects is the environment, where poverty is indeed the problem. The transformation of an individual who's financially unstable can be caused by an environment where opportunities are limited and, in most cases, become a hindrance for an individual to succeed, yet it can also be their driving force to strive harder and reach their desired destination. This impacted everyone differently—negative or positive.

The impoverished see these conflicts from distinct perspectives. It may turn into an asset or, regrettably, a liability. One of the biggest conflicts people experience is being financially incapacitated, thus making education inaccessible to them. Education is highly sought in life; without it, only a few opportunities will come our way. Yet, there are people. Consider the tale of Henry Sy, the wealthiest man in the Philippines. Sy was a poor guy who began with a little sari-sari store company that aided them in their daily lives. Their store burned down during World War II, when the Philippine economy collapsed. He later established his own successful shoe company. He did not become successful immediately. Problems would never be an excuse for Sy to give up; rather, they were a reason to look for chances, come up with solutions, and put in more effort. He would contend that hard labor has no replacement. "I do my usual work in good times, but I work harder in bad times," Sy famously remarked. We also have Manny Pacquiao. As a child in the Philippines, Manny Pacquiao's family was so poor that he had to drop out of school at age 14 and move to Manila in hopes of making money to support his mother and five siblings. He spent time living on the streets, but eventually found his way onto the Philippine national amateur boxing team and was regarded as one of the greatest professional boxers of all time.

On the other hand, there are also people who were born with a silver spoon but are faced with financial problems later in life. It may be destiny, for we all have our own paths to go through, and our actions have impacted the lives we have as well. However, those who became poor doesn't mean that they can no longer dream or lift themselves up, or be how they used to be. You should always remember that when there's life there's hope.

Due to the significant duties put on them, children from low-income families may appear to mature more quickly. Nonetheless, some wealthy individuals still desire for their name to be associated with their own achievements. This simply serves to highlight the fact that you should be the ones to build your own success, regardless of the financial hardship you are experiencing or the type of life you lead—luxury or otherwise. Use this as inspiration to turn things around in your life and compassion, patient, trust, and perseverance to improve upon yourself. Though our circumstances may differ, a lack of opportunities in life is never a good reason to give up on your aspirations. Ultimately, the road to success is always under construction.



Society's Influence on Personal Transformation: A Feminist Perspective

By Arnalyn A. Sawadi



Doubt; An Impediment to our Triumph

By Nurmela H. Pandi

In our journey through life, personal transformation is inevitable. This process, however, is not just shaped by our internal aspirations but is significantly influenced by the societal standards and expectations around us. When examined through a feminist lens, we can see how these socially imposed norms, especially gender norms, play a pivotal role in either fostering or hindering one's ultimate transformation.

From the moment we are born, society begins to mold us according to specific gender norms. These norms dictate what is considered appropriate behavior, interests, and roles based on one's gender. For women and girls, these standards often emphasize qualities like nurturing, beauty, and passivity. Boys, on the other hand, are encouraged to be assertive, competitive, and strong. This early socialization impacts our self-perception and the choices we make throughout our lives.

A critical aspect of personal transformation is the development of one's identity. Societal expectations significantly influence this process. For example, girls are often taught to prioritize relationships and caregiving roles. They may receive dolls and kitchen sets as toys, subtly indicating their future roles as mothers and homemakers. These early messages can limit their vision of who they can become, often discouraging them from pursuing ambitions outside of these traditional roles.

The media is a powerful tool that perpetuates societal norms. The representation of women in media often reinforces stereotypical roles. Women are frequently portrayed in secondary roles, focusing on their appearance rather than their skills or intelligence. These portrayals shape public perception and self-esteem. When young girls and women do not see themselves represented in diverse and empowering roles, it limits their aspirations and reinforces the idea that their value is tied to their looks and their ability to support others, rather than their achievements.

Beyond cultural and media influences, systemic barriers play a significant role in shaping personal transformation. The gender pay gap, unequal access to education, and discrimination in the workplace are just a few examples. These systemic issues are rooted in historical inequalities and continue to restrict women's opportunities for advancement. For instance, women are often underrepresented in STEM fields due to both overt discrimination and subtler biases, such as the lack of encouragement from teachers and mentors.

It's crucial to recognize that not all women experience these societal pressures in the same way. Intersectionality, a concept introduced by Kimberlé Crenshaw, highlights how various forms of oppression intersect. Women of color, and women with disabilities often face compounded discrimination. For example, a black woman might face racial biases that white women do not, in addition to gender biases. These intersecting oppressions create unique challenges that can further hinder personal transformation.

Despite these challenges, many women resist and redefine societal expectations. Feminist movements have been instrumental in challenging traditional gender roles and advocating for equality. Through activism, education, and policy changes, feminists have worked to dismantle systemic barriers and create more inclusive environments. This collective action has led to significant progress, such as increased representation of women in leadership positions and greater awareness of issues like sexual harassment....*Continuation at page 15*

Self-Doubt, Fear of failing, fear of being not enough and the feeling of having the nickname "pabida"—these are hindrances to one's transformation; a mindset that has a huge impact to someone's growth. Having this mentality may alter your goal, your dream and your future.

Self-doubt plays a pivotal role in your downfall. It is indeed scary knowing that there is no assurance to success and you do not have a secured spot in victory. However, the only thing you have along the journey to success is your commitment, hope and faith that everything is possible.

Quick trivia, we have something called Atchyphobia the intense fear of failure. It may cause you to put off or avoid any activity or scenario that has the potential for an unsuccessful outcome. Someone with this condition may be scared to try new things, take risks or embrace growth for fear of failure. Phobias are extremely distractive, you will be consumed by fear, you will feel like there is a lump on your throat that will cause you to have difficulty of breathing, also known as dyspnea medically, and may strike intense pain in your heart that will eventually make you question your worth and your capacity. This may look like a panic attack that, no doubt may affect your change.

Believe it or not, everyone has their own personality trait that stops one's advancement. Hoarded by shyness, doubt and toxic thoughts our skills and intelligence will surely be put to waste.

We easily believe what other people tell us, "dih kaw mayngat" or "dih mo san kaya" are words that come out of people's mouth, giving their judgmental minds satisfaction. If we place these unpleasant words in the depth of our brain then this with no hesitation will make us doubt our selves.

I, myself fears failure. I am afraid that I might fail and that My skills are not enough, I doubted myself every time I have something important to do. By having this thoughts I end up cramming and do it last minute, which deeply affected my performance.

Bound by this personality traits that sometimes we are unaware of affected me bigtime. Be it in academic, extracurricular activities and even my day to day routine. It incapacitates us as a human being and may damage us in no time. It will pull down our confidence, influence our mental health and may cause us to act out. As it prevails, it will unfalteringly counterfeit someone's metamorphosis.

Filipinos were exceptionally known to be showered with talents, we have proved the world our abilities, a push is what we actually lack. If no one will give you that push, do it yourself with your head held high, a curved smile on your face and a confidence like no other.

Before setting a goal, set your mind first. Empty the negative thoughts, acquire dedication within yourself and focus your vision. You have a brighter future ahead of you, start coming out of the comfort of your boxes. Good luck on your next journey, stalwarts!

Stalwarts enroll for second semester, academic year 2023-2024

By Radeeya Sunga Sencio



Students lining up for the fifth step of enrollment process

From January 4 to Jan. 10, 2024, first year, second year, third year, and fourth year students enrolled for the second semester over a six-day period on the Sulu State College main campus

The first three days of enrollment were scheduled for first and second-year students, starting on Jan. 4 to 7. On Jan. 8 marked the beginning of enrollment for 3rd and 4th year students and took three days as well.

The first and second days of enrollment for all levels were crowded with students displaying hope, enthusiasm, and determination who looked forward to another thrilling semester at the college.

The final day of enrollment for the 1st and 2nd year levels only took half a day. There were only a few students left in school. Other students who have started enrolling but were not able to finish are allowed to proceed on Monday, when another year level is scheduled to enroll.

Various schools were filled with enrolling students who were ready for the new semester. Moreover, a large number of students were gathered outside the cashier building for step 5 of the enrollment process. This is the hardest step of the enrollment process for students.

SSC triumphantly completes three-day training workshop on Project Development, Evaluation, and Behavioral Event Interviewing

By Maryamarzahra Jalaidi

Within the collaboration of National Economic and Development Authority IX (NEDAIX) Sulu State College had successfully wrapped up a three-day training workshop on Project Development, Evaluation, and Behavioral Event Interviewing. This insightful event took place from Jan. 9 to 11, 2024, at the Function Hall, SSC Hostel, Capitol Site, Jolo, Sulu.

Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum CESE, the college president, graced the event with her opening remarks, extending her appreciation to every individuals who took part and to the lecturers from NEDA IX who, under the supervision of RD Phlorita A. Ridao, Regional Director NEDA IX; Ms. Karyl Kristal M. Villejo, CAO NEDA X; Ms. Leticia O. Lobren, CEDS, NEDA IX; Ardi Abril T. Layugue, Acting CEDS, NEDA IX; Ms. Divine Grace P. Dequito, CPA Senior EDS, NEDA IX; Dr. Ceselle C. Harina, DPA Senior EDS, NEDA IX and Daryll L. Cabico, EDS, NEDA IX.

The training workshop consisted of a synchronized event focusing on project development and evaluation, and behavioral event interviewing. During the said event, numerous subjects were discussed including the project development cycle, project identification, logical framework analysis, market analysis, technical analysis, financial analysis, economic analysis, institutional analysis, social analysis

and gender responsiveness, environmental analysis, and monitoring and evaluation system. Moreover, the behavioral event interviewing track included 1 module on overview, 2 skills-building activities, 3 preparing for the interview, opening the interview, 4 conducting the interview, and closing the interview.

These initiatives are in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) 4 and 17, which aim focus on improving skills related to project development and evaluation, as well as fostering partnerships to achieve the sustainable development goals through capacity building and knowledge sharing.



Prof. Ututalum handing the speakers and lecturers plaque of recognition.

Signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Sulu State College and Notre Dame of Jolo College

By Nurmalyn Jumali



(L-R): Asso. Prof. Daud, Prof. Ututalum, Fr. Santoyo, and VPAA Julhamid

Photo source: SSC FB PAGE

On Jan. 12, 2024, Sulu State College (SSC) signed a memorandum of agreement with Notre Dame of Jolo College (NDJC) held at SSC, Office of the President.

SSC, represented by Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, signed the said agreement with the NDJC president, Fr. Eduardo M. Santoyo, OMI, Ph.D. It was witnessed by SSC officials namely VPAA, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., and Asso. Prof. Frissida Daud.



In action photos of Prof. Ututalum signing MOA with Fr. Santoyo

Photo source: SSC FB PAGE

Prior to that, MOA encompassed the fact that both parties have agreed to have joint collaboration in the conduct of the Inter-Nursing Schools' Research Forum (INSRF) as host partners.

Furthermore, this endeavor is aligned with UNSDG's 4, 17, quality education, and partnership for the goals that signifies joint efforts to foster educational excellence and exemplifies commitment to fostering collaboration between educational institutions. Sulu State College is looking forward to the positive outcomes of this partnership and the collective impact towards more sustainable development.

SSC initiates first flag ceremony for 2024; kicks off year of transformation, season two

By: Radeeya Sunga Sencio

The 15th day of January 2024 was a special event for the whole Sulu State College



The School of Education family along with Prof. Ututalum

as the first flag ceremony for the current year was successfully initiated. It marks the commencement of the year of transformation, season 2 in the institution.

The ceremony was emblazed by the College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, together with the college officials and the host of ceremony directed by Assoc. Prof. Patricia I. Amilhussin, Ed.D.

The said event also included the awarding ceremony for the teachers in the School of Nursing and School of Education to acknowledge their devotion and determination to excellence in education as well as their role that served as an instrument in the elevation of students' passing rates during the recent board examinations for nursing and professional teachers.



Photo opportunity of Criminology students with Prof. Ututalum

The presentation for certificates of commendation to the instructors of both schools was spearheaded by Prof. Ututalum, and was assisted by VPAA, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., and Ms. Ayesha Rema Tan, the Board Secretary.

SSC to participate in Sulu Sahaya Eco-hub

By Sharefa Muayadi

On Jan. 17, 2024, The Sulu Sahaya Eco-Hub has initiated a community-wide campaign involving the public, private sectors, and academic institutions to address the plastic waste issues. Academic institutions will serve as official collecting hubs for plastic bottles, with weekly collections every Friday that will be brought to Barangay San Raymundo.

Sulu State College will participate in the said campaign as one of the official collecting hubs. These initiatives reflect the UNSDG's 12 and 13, which are responsible

consumption and production and climate action, as they involve a campaign to reduce plastic waste for a more environmentally sustainable community, mitigating environmental impact, and promoting sustainable practices.

This will help the community devote more on cleanliness and provide a safer way to prevent further garbage hassles. As exclusive encouragement, employees and students contributing three (3) kilograms of plastic waste will receive one (1) kilogram of rice. And

to ensure a steady supply, the Eco-Hub commits to providing 100 kilograms of rice weekly to the collecting hubs.

Sulu Sate College, led by the college president, Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, and the entire SSDC community, is honored for the collaborative effort between stakeholders, LGUs, and especially the Sulu Sahaya Eco Hub to create a greener environment for the Bangsa Sug.

TESDA-Sulu Team visits SSC President and bookkeeping NC-III ocular site inspection

by Maryamarzahra Jalaidi

A courtesy call to the College President's Office made by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) - Sulu led by the OIC Provincial Director Mr. Glenn A. Abubakar and accompanied by Dr. Hartini D. Saradi, Dean of School of Business Administration and Management fell on January 17, 2024. Some crucial issues concerning the Status of the Bookkeeping NC III Course at the College was discussed inside the respective office of the President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

Through the School of Business Administration and Management (SBAM), the



Having their photo opportunity

Sulu State College provides a TESDA Vocational course, Bookkeeping NC III. Subsequently, on the same date at the SBAM building, an ocular site of inspection was carried out by the TESDA-Sulu team guided by the

Dean of SBAM Dr. Hartini D. Saradi herself together with Ms. Fatima Reiza J. Hassan, the Bookkeeping NC III trainer.

SSC ratifies partnership with DXSM Radyo Pilipinas through signing of MOA

By Radeeya Sunga Sencio



Photo opportunity of Arts and Sciences faculty with the college president Prof. Ututalum

The signing of Memorandum of Agreement for the partnership of Sulu State College and DXSM Radyo Pilipinas took place at the SSC Office of the President on Jan. 22, 2023. For the students of SSC School of Art and Sciences, this formal agreement aims to strengthen the commitment of both entities to join forces on the programs of internship as well as on-the-job training initiatives.

This collaborative endeavor is in agreement with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) 4 and 17 which is the focal point for quality education and the necessity of partnerships to effectuate sustainable development.

Present during the signing ceremony were the College president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, along with the Station Manager of DXSM Radyo Pilipinas, Nashra G. Anni. Furthermore, VPAA, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D.; Dean of SSC Office of Student Affairs, Mr. Saurajan S. Darawi; Ms. Emilda Paraja; GAD focal person, Assoc. Prof. Venjilyne Alian; A.S Dean, Assoc. Prof. Patricia I. Amilhussin; and Mr. Kaizar Barrie also attended the event.

SSC Tech4ed victoriously initiates Digital literacy program; sails partnership with Parang National High School

By Radeeya Sunga Sencio

On 25th and 26th of January, the Sulu State College Technology for Economic Development, in collaboration with Parang National High School initiated a two-day Digital Literacy Program for the students and teachers of Parang National High School.

Entrenched on its theme "Navigating the Digital Horizon: Empowering Teachers and Students for the future". 45 teachers and selected students were given the opportunity to train in computer basics and the internet, its uses, applications, and advantages

to the public.

SSC Tech4ed expedited the program. It was spearheaded by Mr. Benhamer S. Majan, PCpE and the opening program was graced by the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum. Mr. Hitler Allama, Mr. Nadzfar A. Nasir, Mr. Julkifar J. Usban, and Ms. Farmyuzli K. Majan, PCpE, in partnership with DICT Sulu represented by Mr. Lowenfeld S. Tan, ITO were also in attendance.

Moreover, a memorandum of agreement was signed as a sailed partnership the same day by SSC and PNHS. The attendees were the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, together with VPAA, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, and Dr. Almashin S. Lipae, which are the key officials, and the school head of PNHS Main Campus, Mr. Narjerson A. Kuhutan led the MOA.

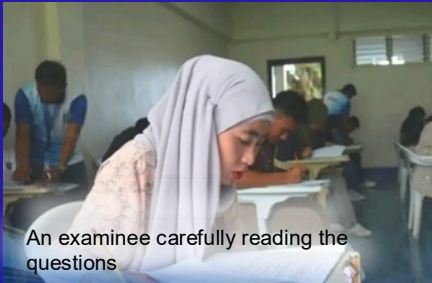
The program was successfully conducted as it relates to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) 4 and 17 which exhibited the quality education as well as the collaboration for the that guarantee the inclusivity and fairness of quality education, and it accentuates the necessity of partnerships to effectuate sustainable development.



Mr. Kuhutan signing the Memorandum of Agreement with SSC

SSC holds CET for aspiring students

By Radeeya Sunga Sencio



An examinee carefully reading the questions

The first batch of College Entrance Test (CET) takers took the examination on 27th day of January 2024 at Sulu State College (SSC), School of Education building. The examination will take place every weekend until February 25, 2024.

The applicants' examination results will determine the courses that would suit them best. This is the first battle they should combat to become a Stalwart and be part of the institution. Furthermore, CET is the start of thrilling journey in college.

Human Resource Management initiates on board re-orientation on HRIS

By Radeeya Sencio and Maryamarzahra Jalaidi

The on-board re-orientation on Human Resource Information System (HRIS) and other HR matters was launched on Jan. 23, 2023 at Multimedia Center and SSC Gymnasium.

Both teaching and non-teaching personnel were mandated to attend the session. The event for non-teaching personnel transpired in the morning at the SSC Multimedia Center, SSC main campus. Whereas, the session teaching personnel was held in the afternoon at SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The event was organized by the Office of the Human Resource Management with the objectives of enhancing the processing of data, improving the skills in the operation of HRIS, and guaranteeing the compliance with the revised HR policies.

Ms. Sherryl Kathleen S. Muddasil, RN, and her team headed the event. It was graced by College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

Further, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. Almashin S. Lipae, DPA, Chief Administrative Officer; Ms. Ayesha Rema Tan, Board Secretary; Mr. Antonio Pescadera, Planning Director; and Ms. Lyn D' Amor Moreno, Supply Officer, were also present during the program.

Stalwarts exhibit oneness through clean and green activity

By Radeeya Sunga Sencio



Education students actively participate in clean and green activity

On Jan. 27, 2024 at Sulu State College main campus, Stalwarts from different schools exhibited their diligence and teamwork through a clean and green activity themed, "Let's Work Hand-in-Hand Through NSTP" initiated by the National Service and Training Program (NSTP) of Sulu State College.

Mr. Almashin S. Lipae, the Chief Administrative Officer, spearheaded the event

which was also attended by college officials and faculty.

The event marks the commitment of the college towards cleaner and greener community. This event was also an opportunity for students to transcend boundaries and live up to the mantra of the institution — the ONESSC.

SSC students attend Bangsamoro Peace Forum; Prof. Ututalum serves as resource speaker

By Nurmalyn Jumali

On the 23rd of January 2024, the Ministry of Public Order and Safety organized the Bangsamoro Peace Forum with the theme: "A Journey Towards Mutual Understanding, Peaceful Co-Existence, and a Shared Future in the Bangsamoro", at Sumadja Hall, Sulu Provincial Capitol, Bangkal, Patikul, Sulu.

During the event, everyone in attendance, including the Sulu State College students, was in high spirits as the resource speaker, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum CESE, representing the academic sector, gave her opening address, where she shared profound insights and lessons from the academic realm, underscoring the pivotal role of education and the power of collaborative efforts across all sectors to achieve enduring peace and sustainable development in the region and the nation.

According to Prof. Ututalum, "If we do not have peace, it only means that we have forgotten that we belong to each other." This emphasizes the purpose of connection between peace and a shared sense of humanity and promoting peace and prosperity to the Bangsamoro region. And she concludes her message, "Lastly, may I whisper this to your hearts. Nothing is impossible with a willing mind. We do not need guns and bombs to

achieve peace; we need love and compassion." Prof. Ututalum, the college president, strongly advocates for the transformative power of love in fostering peace, highlighting the belief that genuine understanding and compassion are the key ingredients for achieving lasting harmony among the Bangsamoro people.

Meanwhile, this initiative aligns with several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), primarily UNSDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. It reflects UNSDG 16 by contributing to peace and promoting inclusive societies for sustainable development.



Prof. Ututalum while giving her opening address, representing the academic sector

Photo source: SSC Fb page



The rise of SSC band corps; SBC steps up their musical proficiency

by Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula

SSC band corps together with the admin and trainer's having their photo opportunity

Sulu State College Stalwart Band Corps, a newly established organization in SSC, held their first ever Band Corps Training Workshop which took place from Feb. 01-04, 2024 at SSC Covered Court. It was attended by 152 band corps members in their distinguished categories, namely — Lyrist, Drummers, Bass Drummers, Quadro Drummers, Cymbalists and Flaglets. The training was conducted to provide the members invaluable opportunities to learn and develop their skills as well as to enhance the overall performance of the band corps.

Invited band corps educators were Ms. Marinela I. Masinsin,

Rema Tan, DPA; and College Registrar, Mr. Kaisar Sakiran, RN.

Zamboanga State College Marine Sciences and Technology College Band Adviser and Fredd Rose V. Mijares, ZSCMST College Band President. In attendance were the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE; Chief Administrative Officer V, Mr. Almashin Lipae, DPA; Board Secretary V, Ms. Ayesha

The workshop did not just hone the knowledge and skills of the students, it also built their character, developed and strengthen their bond and camaraderie.

SSC recognizes importance of non-teaching personnel during NTP day celebration

By Adzrina Sadikal and Lija Sayyari

Sulu State College recognizes the importance and contribution of its non-teaching personnel (NTP) in a two-day NTP Day celebration with the theme: "Making Difference for 2024: The Year of Transformation (Season 2)" which officially started on Feb. 5, 2024.

The first day of the event kicked off with parade from SSC main campus to SSC gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu. Afterwards, the preliminary activities were held where the newly-established Stalwart Band Corps had given melodies to the singing of SSC Hymn.

Mr. Almashin S. Lipae, DPA, Chief Administrative Officer V and the head organizer of the event, delivered the welcome address. It was followed by the message from College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, who was also celebrating her birthday. Further, Stalwart Drum Corps and Stalwart Performing Arts rendered performances during the event.

Moreover, the NTP of SSC were divided into six teams which are the Orange Cerberus headed by Engr. Abdul Rani M. Sahirani; Violet Amethyst headed by Moh. Al-Aiban S. Hassan; Red Aces headed by Sherryl Kathleen S. Muddasil; Green Griffins headed by Lyn D' Amor E. Moreno, RN; Yellow Panthera Pardus headed by Raiza M. Carpizo, and Blue Paladins headed by Surfina M. Caluang. A number of competitions was already competed the said teams namely flag raising and group dance. The morning activity



Torch lightning

ended with a photo opportunity.

In the afternoon, sports games were the subject of competitions among the NTP teams. Games such as Skills Challenge (Mix), Volleyball (Mix), Pickle Ball and Basketball were spearheaded by Nurvin J. Bara, SSC PESS Director.

The day two of the event highlighted not only the showcase of talent but of compassion of the non-teaching personnel. In the morning, the NTP conducted an outreach program for 70 pupils in a daycare center at Barangay Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The afternoon, however, was

highlighted with different contests namely, Song Vocal, Contemporary Dance, Singing Duet, Doble Kara, Group Impersonation, Group Dance Showdown of the Red Aces versus Green Griffins, and the most awaited part, the announcement of winners. Other activities also added fun to the last day of the event that include parlor games and gift of love.

The event ended successfully with the said personnel having renewed sense of value, sportsmanship and solidarity as the event signifies the love the institution has for them, allowing them to display their other abilities in a two-day break from work, and be able to create bonds while preparing and practicing for their performances.

4 Sihntag staffers partake in training hosted by IDEALS; officially onboard as Matla' Sin Sulu patrollers

By Arnalyn Sawadi

In a bid to contribute to amplify the voices of the youth and foster positive change in Sulu through journalism and advocacy work, four Sihntag staffers partook in the training organized and hosted by Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services (IDEALS), Inc. on February 12-13 at Al-Mali Pizza Hub, Jolo, Sulu.

The two-day training titled: "Salsila Kahanungan: Promoting Peace Through Community Media and Alternative Positive Messaging Training" brought together 25 students from various institutions including Notre Dame of Jolo for College (NDJC), Mindanao State University (MSU)-Sulu, and Sulu State College (SSC).

The first day of the training kicked off at 9:00 AM with opening remarks from Mr. Joey Faustino, Board President of IDEALS. Participants then introduced themselves, setting the environment open for a comprehensive lecture on "Peace, Conflict, and Violence: A Bangsamoro Situation" given by Ms. Rosemain Abduraji, Executive Director of Tumikang Sama-sama and a prominent peace advocate. Ms. Abduraji emphasized, "We are Moros, but not morons," shedding light on the current situation faced by Bangsamoro people.

Following a lunch break, Ms. Marian Louise Abio, Media & Communications Officer at IDEALS, delved into "Journalism 101" and provided insights into the Philippine media landscape. The afternoon session had been completed with engaging breakout sessions on news writing supervised by Ms. Yasmeena Asanji, Media and Communications Officer of IDEALS, and radio broadcasting by Hja. Nashra Anni, DXSM RP Jolo Station Manager, allowing participants to experience firsthand the intricacies of journalism field.



Sihntag Staffers

The second day of the training began with the recap of first day's lessons where participants shared few words resonated in them. Lessons titled, "Community Media for Peacebuilding" by Ms. Sasha Dalabajan, IDEALS Program Coordinator, and "Communicating for Social Change and Human Rights" shared by Mr. Faustino highlighted the morning session, bringing up the importance of previous lessons by providing clearer contexts, citing local and concrete examples.

Meanwhile, the afternoon session accommodated another breakout sessions, dividing the participants into two groups. The Visual Journalism was led by Ms. Dada Grifon, and Digital Media Advocacy by Ms. Dalabajan, both seasoned experts on their fields. The session helped the participants get accoutered with needed skills and knowledge to maximize their potentials and interests.

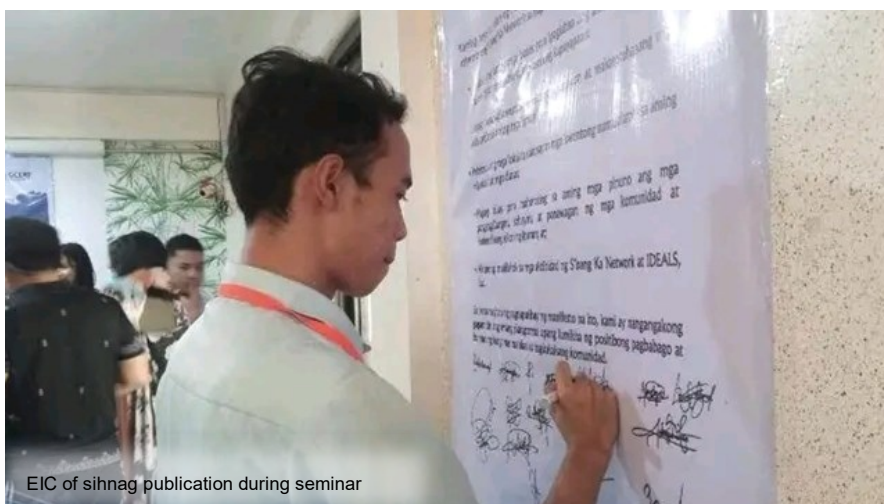
IDEALS, known for its commitment to upholding human dignity and facilitating access to justice and rights for the poor and marginalized, has successfully established

community media platforms in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Examples include "S'bang Ka Marawi" in Marawi City, and "S'bang Ka Maguindanao" in Maguindanao.

With their track record of success, IDEALS is now expanding their community media initiative in Sulu through the platform "Matla'sin Sulu", a platform aims to provide a space for the youth to share accurate narratives from their community and for their community, guided by principles and advocacy.

Consequently, as the training reached its conclusion, the 25 participants were officially onboarded as Matla' Sin Sulu patrollers. They will take on the role of contributing to the overarching mission of promoting understanding, peace, and empowering the youth to be positive changemakers in their communities through journalism.

IDEALS expansion to Sulu marks a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and empowered media landscape in the region, a contributory factor to fight misinformation, long accepted and believed by people in the nation.



EIC of sihntag publication during seminar



43 graduating students reap pins in 1st Pinning Ceremony of School of Agriculture

By Albenhasadedson J. Hussin

Photo Opportunity of the 4th year students during the 1st Pinning Ceremony of School of

43 graduating students reaped their pins in the first ever pinning ceremony of the Sulu State College School of Agriculture (SSC) held on Feb. 13, 2024 at SSC Gymnasium with the theme "AGGIE: Sowing the Seeds of Change in the Year of Transformations 2.0."

17 Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Major in Crop Science and 25 Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Major in Animal Science had received their pins, signifying their formal induction to their respective fields of study.

The half-day ceremony began with the processional of the graduating students with their parents and guardians, followed by the faculty members, administrative officials, and guests.

The ceremony was led by Mr. Jack Ryan A. Isahac, MAED, as the master of ceremony. The preliminary activities followed with Panatang Makapalay recited by

Mr. Mar-wan A. Omar, Agriculture student.

The opening address was given by the Acting Dean of School of Agriculture, Mrs. Malikha J. Ilupa, L. Agr. The inspirational message by Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, was delivered by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, PhD. He left the audience with the words, "The survival of our nations rest upon on agriculture."

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of pins where the 43 graduating students received theirs together with their parents or guardians on stage. Mrs. Sitti Kauzar S. Ayup, LPT, Research Coordinator, assisted by Faculty President, Alnadzma U. Tulawie, EdD., Acting Dean of Schools of Agriculture, Malikha J. Ilupa, L. Agr., and OJT Adviser, Sherlyn P. Sampang, MSA, did the presentation.

Subsequently, the SSC School of

Agriculture and the Ministry of Agricultural Fishery and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR-Sulu) also signed a memorandum of agreement with the objective of forming a collaboration for students' on-the-job training. Dean Ilupa and Engr. Alfie U. Iribani led the signing which was witnessed by college key officials.

Furthermore, a keynote speech was delivered by Sarha A. Sangkula, RPAE, Supervising Agriculturist - AMAD, giving an insight about what the kind of future that lies ahead of the graduating students. Afterwards a plaque of appreciation was presented to Mrs. Sangkula by VPAA Prof. Julhamid. The student testimonial message was delivered by Jessamaye K. Muharrani, fourth year student.

To mark the end of the event, closing remarks were given by Sherlyn P. Sampang, MSA, followed by photo opportunities of the graduating students and attendees.

SSC Multi-Purpose Cooperative convenes members for 29th annual assembly

By Albenhasadedson J. Hussin

On Feb. 17, 2023, Sulu State College Multi-Purpose Cooperative successfully held its 29th annual assembly with the theme: "SSC Cooperative: Partners for Building Resilient Communities and Connectivity for a Better Sulu," spearheaded by Prof. Mary Ann G. Lim, SSCMPC Chairperson, and her team, which took place at SSC covered court, SSC Main Campus.

The said assembly was graced by the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, along with Hja. Shermahal M. Salam, CDS-I CSEA Sulu; Hji Omar A. Sagkula, SPCO; and Dr. Patricia I. Amilhussin,



Prof. Ututalum gracing the event with her message

Source: Sulu State College Page

SSCMPC Vice Chairperson. The college officials and members of the SSC Multipurpose Cooperation were also present during the celebration.

This event marks another milestone of Sulu State College Multipurpose Cooperative. This has shown that the commitment was strong in providing services to the community, and it has set a positive example for everyone.

CHED, SSC holds SMART scholarship disbursement at Luuk, Sulu

By Fatimah Shaqueena Isnijul

On Feb. 17, 2024, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) represented by Regional Director Dr. Rody Garcia and other CHED officials, along with Sulu State College president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, successfully held the disbursement of the CHED SMART Scholarship for the academic year 2023-2024 at Municipality of Luuk, Sulu.

The said disbursement was in line with UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) 1, 4, 16, and 17: No Poverty, Quality Education, Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions, and Partnership for the Goal. It positively influences students' lives by addressing their educational needs.

The disbursement was facilitated by Prof. Ututalum, along with RD Garcia, CHED officials, and the representative from the office of Congressman Munir Arbison.



CHED Chairman, J. Prospero E. De Vera III at the monitor, delivering his speech and message to the grantees

SSC partakes in national training workshop for directors, coaches, trainers for 2024 NCAF

By Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula



SSC representatives together with the resource speaker

Photo source: Sulu State College Facebook Page

Sulu State College (SSC) participated in the National Training Workshop for Directors, Coaches and Trainers for 2024 National Culture and Arts Festival (NCAF) fronted by the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) at Batangas State University (BSU) on Feb. 13-15, 2024.

The three-day training workshop was conducted to equip the participants with the development and preparations for the 2024 National Culture and Arts Festival on April at Philippine Normal University (PNU) in Manila. Mr. Almashien S. Lipae, DPA, Chief Administrative Officer V, Ms. Arlen Riza Lay, College Cultural Director, Mr. Hamdani S.

Sabaddin, Mr. Juliusking Vivas and Mr. Amilhamja Attan were the representatives of SSC.

More than 300 participants from state universities and colleges in the Philippines attended the event. PASUC President, Tirso A. Ronquillo, graced his message during the opening program. Dr. Lordinio A. Vergara also raised his support for the arts promulgation in the country, citing laws and national mandates in pursuant to 2024 NCAF.

The national technical secretariat and the regional cultural directors discussed the rules and guidelines for the event during the technical meeting and orientation.

Speakers of the event, Dr. Baby Boy Benjamin D. Nebres III, President of Bicol University and Chairperson of the 2024 NCAF, and Dr. Herbert Glenn Reyes, Vice Chairperson of the Technical Secretariat, discussed the Science of Coaching— uncovering techniques and strategies of coaching for an excellent performance. Dr. Reyes also opened the discussion about the updates of the revised rules of the 2024 NCAF and the training workshop.

Commissioner Arvin Manuel Villalon of the Commission of the National Culture and Arts was also one of the speakers who discussed the challenges and Filipino mantra in terms of performing arts.

To have a thorough discussion about effective methods in training and coaching for the preparation of 2024 NCAF, participants were grouped according to their categories and had their break-out sessions with their respective resource persons.

Asst. Prof. Mark Emmanuel S. Magsino, Director of Culture and Arts at BSU hosted the plenary session.

The event ceased with sharing of insights and feedbacks by the participants during the plenary session and it was followed by a unity dance joined by everyone.

BEE PSTs attend orientation organize by MBHTE-Sulu

By Lija Sayyari

In order to prepare the Pre-Service Teachers (PSTs) of the Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEE) on their internship, the Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education (MBHTE)-Sulu organized an orientation to the fourth year of the said program held on Feb. 24, 2024 at Sulu State College (SSC) covered court.

The orientation was made possible through the MBHTE- Sulu personnel namely; Mrs. Dolores B. Gonzalo, Curriculum and Instructional Division Chief; Mr. Jayton A. Jama, Division Reading Coordinator; Dr. Suaiba I. Suaib, Division Planning Officer; and Mr. Alharib G. Mariwa, Division Kindergarten Coordinator.

Topics on Deped order No. 42 series of 2016, Classroom Management, different School Forms, and Explicit Teaching were discussed during the orientation, equipping the PSTs the necessary knowledge as they set to fulfill the responsibilities of a teacher.



Mrs. Gonzalo during the orientation with BEE PSTs

The said orientation was also attended by Asst. Prof. Marivel T. Sarabi, EdD, Dean of School of Education; Dr. Rasmil Abdurasul, BEE Chairperson; Prof. Fatma Anang Jawali, EdD, BSE Chairperson; and Dr.

Rania Abduraup, BEE Intern Supervisor.



SSC Scholarship Office, CHED UNIFAST Region 9 BARMM - A conduct orientation to students

By Albenhasadedson J. Hussin

SSC Scholarship Office and CHED UNIFAST Region 9 BARMM-A successfully conducted its 1st Quarter Orientation and Monitoring for BARMM - A HEIs on Feb. 26, 2024 at Sulu State College SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The orientation was led by Mr. Ahmed Zhedriq U. Bandahala, SSC Scholarship Staff, as the host of the event.

The orientation started with a prayer, followed by the singing of the Philippine National Anthem and SSC Hymn

and recitation of the SSC Quality Policy.

The welcome message was given by college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, where she acknowledged the SSC Scholarship staff and mentioned that she was proud of how the population of grantees increased. Another message was also given by Melizah A. Jalmaani-Lerios, UniFAST BARMM-A Lead Regional Coordinator. It was followed by the photo opportunity.

The program orientation was given

by Denmar B. Libre, UniFAST R9/ BARMM-A Accountant, where he discussed about the difference between UNIFAST and CHED Scholarship and also about UNIFAST Program, RA 10931 Programs (Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education) which tackles about the Free Higher Education, Free Tech - VOC Education & Trainings, Tertiary Education Subsidy and Student Loans Program. He also showed videos about the process and steps on how to apply for a scholarship. After his discussion, it was followed by an open forum regarding the scholarship matters.

The purpose of the orientation was to address the current issues about the UNIFAST scholarship and as well enlighten the students of the UNIFAST scholarship process and what the UNIFAST Scholarship is all about.

To mark the end of the orientation, closing remarks were given by Sharifa D. Anjirani, Scholarship Director.

SSC strengthen community ties through MOA signing with Barangay Bakung, Patikul, Sulu

By Arnalyn Sawadi



Prof. Ututalum with other key officials

In a significant step towards community development, Sulu State College (SSC) officially sealed a partnership with Barangay Bakung, Patikul, Sulu, through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on March 1, 2024, at the SSC Office of the President.

The MOA signing ceremony marked the collaboration between SSC, led by Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, with Dr. Sherha Baybayan, SSC Extension Director, and the Barangay Bakung, represented by Hon. Sahina A. Anuddin. The event was also witnessed with the presence of Dr. Almashin S. Lipae, Chief Administrative Officer, Asst. Prof. Marivel D. Sarabi, Dean of School of Education, and other key officials from both parties.

The agreement solidifies the

commitment of SSC and Barangay Bakung to work hand-in-hand on various community development programs.

This collaboration is aligned with the global vision outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), specifically focusing on Goal 4: Quality Education and Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Goal 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, fostering lifelong learning opportunities for all, while Goal 17 emphasizes effective collaboration for sustainable development objectives.

As SSC and Barangay Bakung embark on this collaborative journey, both communities anticipate positive transformations through shared commitment in building a brighter and more prosperous future.

SSC Research office conducts general orientation on implementation of SRM 2023

By Bennajar M. Angsa

Sulu State College Research Office successfully conducted the first ever general orientation on the implementation of the SSC Student's Research Manual (SRM) 2023 held at SSC Center for Culture and Arts (CCA) on Feb. 29, 2024.

The orientation was graced by the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, who also stood to deliver her a message.

The presentation on the implementation of the SRM 2023 was made by Assoc. Prof. Frissida A. Daud, MAN, PhD, SSC acting Research Director.

Assoc. Prof. Daud enlightened the selected instructors as participants coming from different programs about the significance of the research manual and its impact to the institution.

Moreover, the participants were given a chance to have an open forum to raise their queries and questions. It followed with the closing remarks by Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, PhD, Vice President for Academic Affairs. The event ended with photo opportunity.

Continuation from page 5....

Feminist theories emphasize the importance of empowerment, autonomy, and self-actualization. Empowerment involves challenging internalized oppression, fostering critical consciousness, and building supportive networks. Women who engage in feminist consciousness-raising often experience transformative shifts in their self-perception. They begin to see themselves as capable and deserving of equality, which empowers them to pursue their goals and aspirations.

In conclusion, societal standards and expectations profoundly influence personal transformation, especially when viewed through a feminist lens. Gender norms, media representations, systemic barriers, and intersectional identities all shape individuals' experiences and opportunities for growth. However, through resistance, empowerment, and collective action, women can challenge these constraints and embark on transformative journeys that reflect their true potential and aspirations. By understanding and addressing the complex dynamics of societal influence, we can foster a more equitable and just society, allowing everyone to achieve their fullest potential.

Sulu State College conducts voter education and registration fair

By Nurmela Fahma H. Pandi

On Mar. 26, 2024, Sulu State College conducted a voter education and registration fair at SSC Center for Culture and Arts.

Around 9:00 AM, the event started with the invocation led by the master of ceremony Aurie A. Ibba, Election Officer III of Panamao, followed by the singing of the National Anthem headed by Acting Election Officer III of Patikul, Sharifa H. Jalmaani - Lim. Meanwhile, Ms. Lilia Ali Gaspar, Election Officer III of Maimbung, made the welcoming and opening remarks.

The voter education and registration fair was presented by Atty. Mohammad Nabil M. Mutia, Acting Provincial Election Supervisor IV, Sulu. It was then followed by the open forum led by the moderators, Sajid-Khan A. Irilis, EO II, and Ms. Jalmaani-Lim, EO III.



Students trying the ballot machine

The event ended with a closing remarks from Mr. Ibba. A photo opportunity of the participants with the COMELEC personnel followed.

Sulu State College Hosts Inaugural Book Fair: A Literary Extravaganza

By Arnalyn Sawadi and Arvi Marajan

Sulu State College successfully organized its first-ever book fair on Mar. 6 to 8, 2024, at SSC Stalwart Library in Patikul, Sulu. The theme of the event, "Read, Learn, Grow at Your Transformational Stalwart Library," resonated with the college's commitment to academic excellence.

The book fair aimed to provide students from various schools in the college to access a diverse range of books tailored to their respective courses. Faculty provisions played a pivotal role in ensuring that students could avail these valuable resources, contributing to the continual enhancement of the library's reading materials.

Under the event's banner, the book fair created a dynamic platform for book enthusiasts to immerse themselves in literary exploration. Attendees had the opportunity to peruse a wide array of titles, engage in thought-provoking literary discussions, and connect with the rich world of literature.

The success of the book fair was evident as publishers, authors, and booksellers converged to showcase and sell their literary offerings. Notable figures in the literary



industry, such as Mardan D. Dawaling (Serv Enterprises, Marketing Executive), Danilo A. Dionson (F&J de Jesus, Inc., Sales and Marketing Manager), and Lani Sasabo Kalaw (New Century Books, Marketing Executive), shared their expertise and provided attendees with valuable insights.

Mr. Dawaling, representing Serv Enterprises, emphasized the importance of marketing in making educational resources accessible to students. Mr. Dionson, from F&J de Jesus, Inc., highlighted the role of distribution in ensuring that learning resources

reach every corner of the educational landscape. Ms. Kalaw, the Marketing Executive from New Century Books, showcased the importance of direct importing, distributing, and wholesaling reference books, multimedia, and textbooks.

Highlighting the Grand Finale: Sulu State College 42nd Founding Anniversary, Centennial Celebration concludes with unexpected performances

By: Rohilyn U. Taji



The final day of the 42nd Founding Anniversary celebration of Sulu State College and its centennial as an academic institution was highlighted with unexpected performances as the college organized "The Greatest Showdown," a variety show held on Mar. 9, 2024, at the SSC Multi-purpose Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The competition presented a plethora of categories including group choir, group impersonation, rap battle, hip-hop, and more. Participants from each school delivered show-stopping performances that commanded the audience's attention.

The event was graced by the CHED Secretary, Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, and the CHED Region IX team. Other attendees included College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, and other college officials.

In a romantic twist of the event, CHED Secretary De Vera serenaded his wife with the song "Wonderful Tonight", commemorating the celebration of National Women's Month 2024. The highlight of the night was when Prof. Ututalum took the center

stage and performed Taylor Swift's the "Eras Tour" song, adding a memorable touch to the evening.

Further, as the event came to conclusion, the SSC Laboratory High School was hailed as the champion in this year's variety show contest with a total score of 96.58%, making them earn their back-to-back championship title.

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SSC inaugurates new Mac Computer Laboratory with CHED Secretary De Vera

By Sharefa Muayadi



Prof. Ututalum and Chairman De Vera, during the ribbon cutting for the new Mac computer laboratory

The Sulu State College, headed by the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, together with CHED Secretary Prospero E. De Vera III, DPA, and other dignitaries gathered during the inauguration and ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new Mac Computer Laboratory on Mar. 7, 2024, at SSC MIS Building.

Adorned with the institution's symbolic colors, the laboratory was met with a warm welcome from the students by showing the gratitude and gratefulness for the new encounter of Mac computers and other inclusions. Prof. Ututalum expressed her heartfelt gratitude to all those who supported bringing the project to reality. It was followed by a message from CHED Secretary De Vera who emphasized his

desire to experience first-hand visit to the Province of Sulu.

The ceremony also featured the nursing students having their room review with their national reviewer from Ifugao Province. De Vera had the opportunity to have a short conversation regarding the success of connections with regards to the signals for the computers and felt satisfied to witness it himself.

The new computer laboratory stands as a testament to the institution's commitment to progress, excellence, and dedication in serving its community.

Chairman of CHED, Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, Engages with Sulu State College Community

By Arnalyn Sawadi

Bringing a wave of inspiration and insight, Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, the esteemed Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), graced Sulu State College with his presence at the recent 'Meet and Greet: A Talkscape with Chair Popoy' event. Held on March 7, 2024, at the SSC ground main campus, the event aimed to delve into the theme of "Pioneering Educational Transformation: Connecting Hearts and Minds with the Chairman."

Under the adept hosting of Engr. Firash Zhed Ututalum and Dr. Adawia Jamasali, the session provided an invaluable opportunity for the college community to engage directly with Chair Popoy. In a dynamic exchange, students posed thought-provoking questions, and Chair Popoy responded with his trademark enthusiasm, sharing valuable insights and perspectives on the future of higher education.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the CHED Smart Scholarships, totaling an impressive P25,000.00, to deserving beneficiaries. Ms. Sharifa Anjirani, Head of the SSC Scholarship Office, orchestrated the award ceremony, acknowledging the academic excellence and dedication of the recipients.

As the event unfolded, the atmosphere was infused with energy and camaraderie, heightened by Chair Popoy's spontaneous participation in singing the popular 'Buwan' song. The collective spirit of joy and excitement underscored the significance of fostering connections within the academic community.



Ched Chairperson De Vera with SSC students

In closing, the Sulu State College community expressed deep gratitude to Chair Popoy for his invaluable presence and commitment to advancing educational excellence. The 'Meet and Greet' session served as a testament to the college's dedication to innovation and collaboration in shaping the future of higher education.

Padyak: A ride to transform Stalwarts' lives

By Hadija J. Hadjirul and Shaqueena Isnijul

On Mar. 8, 2024, the Sulu State College together with the Commission on Higher Education headed by Sec. J. Prospero "Popoy" De Vera III pedalled in a bicycle throughout Patikul to have a one-on-one talk with the scholars of Sulu State College.

The team was also joined by the Philippine Army led by Major General Ignatius N. Patrimonio, Commander of Jolo Task Force, 11th Infantry Division, and the Sulu Bikers Team who took part in this symbolic ride.

The Padyak team assembled at its starting point at Camp Teodolfo Bautista, Bus-Bus, Jolo, Sulu, where they conducted a warm-up exercise first before cycling.

The first destination was at Barangay Umangay, Gandasuli where Sec. Popoy with Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, interviewed Ms. Nur-Aisa Bahjin, a 3rd year student from School of Agriculture. Ms. Bahjin shared how the scholarship helped her and her family.

After the interview, the trip continued to Brgy. Kan Ague, Patikul, Sulu, where they engaged with two more grantees: Ms. Fatima Sheshara S. Jauhari and Ms. Reaza J. Jauhari, both taking up BS Agriculture at Sulu State College. In their talk, they discussed the impact of CHED scholarship particularly the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP) on their studies and lives highlighting the importance of education. The scholars expressed their gratitude after the Interview.

Upon arriving at Timpook Lake, the Sulu State College hosted a brief program to honor the bikers who participated in padyak. Sec. Popoy, together with Prof. Ututalum and Maj. Gen. Patrimonio, gave the award and gift to those who were selected as winners.

The padyak ended with a photo opportunity for all the participants of the activity.



Chairman De Vera and his team, at Timpook Lake, Sulu.



SSC, CHED sign MOA with LGU-Patikul, AFP to pave way for agricultural project

By Shaqueena Isnijul and Nurmela Fahma Pandi

On Mar. 8, 2024, Sulu State College (SSC) headed by the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, together with Commission on Higher Education (CHED) led by Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, formally sealed partnership with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) represented by Major General Ignatius N. Patrimonio PA, and the ten barangays from the Municipality of Patikul led by Hon. Kabir Hayudini.

The signing was held to pave way for the conduct of a project entitled "Establishing of Nursery and Demo Farm for Fruit Bearing Trees, Cereal, and Vegetables Production in SSC School of Agriculture for Community Technology Transfer of Balik Barangay Patikul" at Barangay Pangdanon, Patikul, Sulu, headed by

the project leader Malikha J. Ilupa, Lic. Agr., who also affixed her signature during the signing.

The event was witnessed by other CHED Region IX attendees and other officials. This collaboration was directed its purpose to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger — aiming to address the problem of hunger whilst also promoting sustainable agriculture and improve the nutrition of the community where the land is fertile but not used that much in cropping and livelihood as what Prof. De Vera described.

After the signing of agreement, the attendees had a photo opportunity showing the papers as proof of their partnership.

Sihmag Adviser Dr. Jamasali imparts expertise in campus journalism to Agong Publication staffers

By Sharefa S. Muayadi

On Mar. 9, 2024, the Sihmag Publication adviser Dr. Adawia Jamasali imparted her expertise in campus journalism as she joined the Agong Publication Seminar-Workshop on Campus Journalism as a lecturer at Audio Visual Room, Notre Dame of Jolo High School - Kasulutan.

The event commenced with a solemn invocation, setting a tone of reverence and anticipation. Br. Dionesio D. Acosta, Jr., FMS, Director, assumed the role of the event's orchestrator, extending a warm welcome to speakers, staff, and campus journalists. The opening address was then followed by an activity overview by Ms. Rahsa Dewee A. Abdulgafur, LPT, Moderator, as well as the introduction of the speakers by Ms. Edmarlyn M. Lee, Asst. Moderator.

Dr. Jamasali, who serves as the adviser of Sihmag Publication for four years already, talked about the 'Basics of Campus Journalism'. She was joined by Mr. Alkeyzer S. Alih who discussed 'Principles of Graphic



Dr. Jamasali while giving lessons to the campus journalists

Design' and Mr. Roswell John Ngo who lectured about 'The Art of Photojournalism'.

The atmosphere within the Audiovisual Room became a cauldron of excitement and intellectual curiosity as journalists, representing various gallantry, presented their perspectives with amusing imaginations, broad thinking, and showcase talents that breathed journalism into life.

The seminar showcased not only the writing and capturing prowess of the participants but also their ability to articulate thoughts and ideas with finesse.

Top three works per category were then chosen by the resource speakers and were awarded to honor their effort and talent. The commitment to excellence and the pursuit of quality journalism echoed through the hallways, inspiring both participants and spectators to strive for greatness.

SSC commemorates 42nd Founding Anniversary and 100 years centennial celebration as an academic institution

By Jerryaya Abdulla and Nurmela Fahma H. Pandi

Sulu State College celebrated another milestone as it reached its 42nd founding anniversary with the theme "METAMORPHOSIS OF EXCELLENCE: Enhancing Transformation and Advancing the Groundwork for Sustainable Programs", which took place within the timeline of March 7- 9, 2024, giving three-day splendid celebration. This 2024, the institution also celebrated its 100 years as an institution of empowering the minds of the Tausug people through education. The event formally started at 8:30 AM with the Parade and Float Contest starting from Sulu State College Gymnasium, Walled City going to school's main campus.

The event commenced with a solemn invocation followed by singing the National Anthem and the Sulu State College Hymn lead by the Stalwart Band Corps. Afterwards the Welcome Address by the woman behind the milestone and sustainable excellence, the light in our hope, knowledge and innovation who poured there heart and soul into the school development most specifically into a magical transformation of our institution. Like an infinite love, her dedication and commitment to excellent is unwavering and unbind. Our ever active, ever supportive and visionary college

president none other than Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE for giving her opening remarks. She highlighted this statement saying that " Metamorphosis is a profound change associated with distinct transformation and development, that transformation is a never-ending process. In 2018, when I assume as a president I marked the years of transformation in the years of 2018, so I carried the vision and the hopes of changing the narratives and landscape of excellence and progress, despite the obstacles and circumstances that we faced. The valuable lesson that I cherished is that we can strive inspirations in the most unexpected places and strength from the aspirations of the people we valued the most. All of the experiences we'd history added up to the rich layers of progress and development to which the College is standing at the present, we are now the beneficiaries after cultural legacies that allows to thrive and make sense of our being. This 2024, I have marked it the year of transformation season 2. This is to signify that excellence has no limit." such as beautiful opening remarks. Afterwards a speech coming from our most generous guests from Hon. J. Prospero E. De Vera III chairman of Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and

to Hon. Abdusakur M. Tan the Governor of the province of sulu. And to end the morning event an intermission number from Stalwart bandcorpd and Stalwart performing art.

The whole afternoon was filled with deafening laughter as we, the Sulu State College hosted a 'Meet and Greet: A talk show with Chair Popoy,' featuring the Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education, Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera III at SSC ground main campus.

The event, hosted by Mr. FirashZhed Ututalum and Ms. AdawiaJamasali, provided an opportunity for the college community to engage with Chair Popoy. During the session, Chair Popoy enthusiastically answered questions from Sulu State College students and awarded the CHED Smart Scholarships, totaling P25,000.00, to deserving beneficiaries.

And loud cheers of the different competing schools as they released their energies in cheering their own candidates for the afternoon event in which is the cultural competition the acoustic singing competition. Each department vied for victory in a melodic acoustic singing contest. Here are the results from the acoustic singing competition:

Category	2nd Runner Up	1st Runner Up	Champion
Female Tagalog Song	School of Business Administration	School of Nursing	SSC Laboratory High School
Male Tausug Song	School of Education	SSC Laboratory High School	School of Business Administration

When night time arrives, the whole Sulu State College enjoyed the breathtaking fireworks display while listening and dancing to the rhythm of music featuring the Stalwart Band.

MARCH 08,2024

The second day of the founding anniversary was more intense than we have ever imagine. The battle of each school's wittiness from academic to literary contest. Triumph of Intellect: Stalwarts vie in Academic and Literary

Competitions.

The event commenced with a solemn invocation, setting a tone of reverence and anticipation. Ms. Raina A. Sappayani, DPA, Supervising Administrative Officer, assumed the role of the event's orchestrator, extending a warm welcome to judges, participants, and the engaged audience. Ms. Sappayani's opening address was followed by the introduction of the panel of judges, each an expert in their field, and a comprehensive overview of the criteria and

mechanics that would govern the competition.

The atmosphere within the Hostel Function Hall became a cauldron of intense excitement and intellectual curiosity as participants, representing various disciplines, presented their perspectives with amusing advocacies, creative thinking, collaborative group discussions, and a showcase of talents that breathed life into words.

Below are the results of the different contests held:

Category	2nd Runner Up	1st Runner Up	Champion
Extemporaneous Speech	School of Nursing	SSC Laboratory High School	School of Arts and Sciences
Essay Writing	School of Nursing	SSC Laboratory High School	Senior High School
Storytelling	School of Education	School of Nursing	Senior High School
DagliangTalumpati	Senior High School	School of Nursing	School of Nursing
Pgakukuwento	School of Education	School of Nursing	SSC Laboratory High School
Sanaysay	School of Education	SSC Laboratory High School	School of Nursing
Quiz Bowl	SSC Laboratory High School	School of Nursing	Senior High School

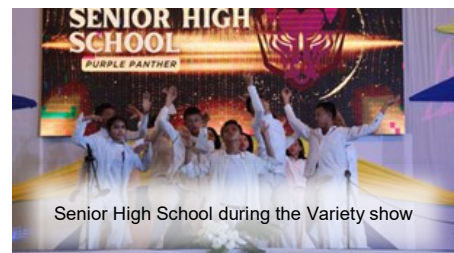
academic prowess of the participants but also their ability to articulate thoughts and ideas with finesse. The winners, adorned with medals, stood as symbols of academic achievement. The atmosphere buzzed with conversations as participants and attendees reflected on the day's events, discussing the memorable moments and the impressive displays of intellect and creativity.

When afternoon come, SSC community jams with Stalwart Band; fuels fun in LarongKalye. The entire community of Sulu State College went united as they sang along to the satisfying performances of the Stalwart Band at the SSC open ground.

Stalwarts enjoyed as their voices went sync with the band's. Apart from this, Stalwarts were

also given time to be with friends to compensate the hectic schedules and stressful days. In addition, LarongKalye was also put up in the afternoon. Random students from different schools joined the play. They laughed and bonded as if channeling and pampering their inner child. When the competition finished, winners claimed their 3,000 pesos cash prize given by the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

And when the night comes, the nerve wrecking and heavy pressure is in the air. Stalwarts united in the SSC open ground and witnessed the group dance competition contested by different schools. The participants had shown how competitive and talented Stalwarts are in front of the prodigious crowd. Amidst the circle of audiences, colorful lights



Senior High School during the Variety show

and meticulous judges, the whole SSC community enjoyed the enthusiastic moves, bounding rhythms as well as the blowing expressions of the dancers'. The event turned to be more intense and interesting but there's always be one winner to be name and below is the result of the group dancers competition:

2nd Runner Up	Senior High School
1st Runner Up	School of Nursing
Champion	School of Education

The result is out and the crowd went wild as they heard the result. It is an spectacular, memorable and enjoyable event for whole SC Community. The success of this event underscored the college's dedication to fostering

an environment that nurtures intellectual growth and encourages students to become agents of positive change.

The 42nd anniversary served not only as a celebration of past achievements but also as

a promise for a future where education continues to be a catalyst for metamorphosis and sustainable progress.

SBAM undergoes level II re-accreditation

By Amalyn Sawadi, Nurmela Fahma H. Pandi and Sharefa S. Muayadi

The Sulu State College (SSC) had once again embarked on a significant milestone as it commenced the online accreditation process for the School of Business Administration and Management (SBAM) seeking Level II re-accreditation. The event, slated from Mar. 13 to 15, unfolded at the SSC Hostel Function Hall.

The day one of the event commenced with solemnity as attendees gathered for an invocation, followed by the rendition of the national anthem, SSC hymn and Quality policy. Prior to the official commencement, participants were treated to an intermission number featuring an engaging SSC promotional video, setting the stage for what promises to be a transformative journey for the institution.

Assoc. Prof. Delfina A. Ampung, DPA, Director of the Quality Assurance Office, set the tone with her insightful opening remarks, emphasizing the significance of the accreditation process. The College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, graced the event with her inspirational message, underscoring the institution's commitment to excellence in education.

Mr. Saurajan Darawi, MAED, the Dean of Student Affairs, then introduced the administrative officials, highlighting their commitment to upholding SSC's standards of quality education. Asso. Prof. Hartini D. Saradi, DPA, Dean of the School of Business Administration and Management, presented the local committee of SBAM, highlighting their pivotal role in the accreditation process.

The presentation of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP) accreditors, headed by Dr. Mae Flor G. Posadas from Central Philippine State University, followed. The team included Prof. Crisalyn T. Pascual from Cagayan State University and Prof. Maria Pretty Lay T.



Mr. Darawi with SBAM faculty members

Abdala, the librarian accreditor from Bulacan State University a team of diverse and experienced panel committed to excellence in education. The event culminated with the viewing of another promotional video of SBAM, reinforcing the institution's commitment to innovation and progress. Assoc. Prof. Ampung delivered the closing remarks, expressing gratitude to all participants for their unwavering support and dedication.

The launch event was hosted by Dr. Adawia Jamasali, who ensured the smooth execution of proceedings towards Level II re-accreditation of the said school.

Moreover, the second day of the accreditation was headed by Assoc. Prof. Saradi. The program flowed smoothly under the direction of Assoc. Prof. Ampung. Their focus was the preparation of the requirements for the accreditation.

Virtual presentation was also provided by Mr. Andrew P. Penafiel, NTTC, and Mr. Ahmed Aziz D. Alawan. The students cooperated with

their different tasks and were advised by their instructor, Mr. Randil V. Kadil, MPA, MBA. The routine was the same in the afternoon.

The day three of the accreditation was hosted by Dr. Jamasali, kicking off with an invocation and introduction of the accreditors.. The last day was highlighted with the AACUP accreditors' impression regarding the projects and activities. Meanwhile, Prof. Ututalum responded to the speakers, followed by the statement of commitment from the Dean of SBAM, Asso. Prof. Saradi.

In closing the program, virtual awards were given as an appreciation for attending the online accreditation. The event officially ended with closing remarks from the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid Ph.D.

Empowering Communities: Sulu State College Gender and Development Office's Outreach Program leaves lasting impact

By: Rohilyn U.Taji

Sulu State College Gender and Development (GAD) Office community extension, in collaboration with the School of Arts and Sciences, launched a community outreach program on Mar. 30, 2024 at Brgy. Bakung, Patikul, Sulu.

The initiative, themed "Rebuilding Resilience: A Community Outreach for Gender Equality, Empowerment, Environmental Awareness, and Well-Being," was led by the GAD Director, Assoc. Prof. Venjilyne I. Alian, Ed.D, and the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Assoc. Prof. Patricia I. Amilhusin, Ed.D.

The program commenced at 9 AM, hosted by Ms. Imelda A. Paraja. It included an invocation and a welcome address by the GAD

Director, Assoc. Prof. Alian. Meanwhile, Hon. Sahina A. Anuddin, the Brgy. Chairperson, expressed her gratitude for the initiative.

The event featured lectures on Basic English Literacy by Ms. Adawia Jamasali, Ed.D and Mr. Ajuridan L. Iron, LPT; Basic Islamic Literacy by Asst. Prof. Abdulkadil N. Tutong, MAED, and Mr. Junnizar K. Sahisa, MAIS. Ms. Dared Mailiza A. Alih, RSW, GM, LPT, RN, MAN, the Chairperson of BS Social Work, together with the BS Social Work students, assessed the Psychosocial Well-Being of the children through art therapy and a short story telling focusing on their fear to combat Post Traumatic stress syndrome on the conflict or troubles their community has experienced.

The program concluded with a

feeding program and distribution of school supplies to children, and of paintings made by the SSC students which were given to the parents.

Also in attendance and participation were the students from BS Social Work, D'Ars Club officers, BEED 1A, 1B, 2nd year BSED Major in English and Filipino, and BSCS 1B, under the guidance of Dr. Alian, faculty members from BAELS and AB Islamic Studies.

A plaque of appreciation was presented to the chairperson of Brgy. Bakung. The day concluded with preparations for a free iftar in the said barangay, marking a successful day of community outreach and empowerment.

Sulu State College conducts Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill with DRRM-Sulu

By Nurmela Fahma H. Pandi



Evacuees performing the duck and Cover technique while the Instructors

On Mar. 25, 2024, the Sulu State College conducted an Earthquake Drill with the SSC Office of Disaster Risk Reduction Management led by Mr. Marhide H. Ladjahali, JD.

The drill started at exactly 9:00 AM with the bell as the cue for everyone to perform the Duck, Cover and Hold Procedure. After the bell rang, the students, faculty, staff, and other personnel proceeded to the ground for evacuation and safety purposes.

The instructors then performed the head count as part of the drill.

SSC CSE students partake in National CpE Challenge 2024

By Nurida Salip Julkiram



SSC Participants' together with their teacher

Photo source: ICpEP BARMM

The Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) students from Sulu State College participated in the National CpE Challenge hosted by the Institute of Computer Engineers of the Philippines (ICpEP) on Apr. 18-20, 2024 held at Adamson University, Manila.

The said competition is an International Research Conference on Computer Engineering and Technology Education or IRCETE 2024. Mr. Jeryan R. Abdurahsi

bagged the 6th Placer in Python Programming and Mr. Nurtazar J. Abraham got the 7th placer in C++ Programming

This event was organized by the ICpEP Inc., and participated by 15 regional members of the organization.

Sen. Imee Marcos, DSWD dole out cash support to 1, 200 indigent students

Radeeya Sencio

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) facilitated a ceremonial distribution of P5,000 worth of financial assistance to a total of 1,200 college students from various schools, and it was graced and spearheaded by Senator Imee R. Marcos on Apr. 18, 2024 at the Provincial Multi-Purpose Gymnasium, Capitol Site, Bangkal, Patikul, Sulu.

Among the beneficiaries were the students from Sulu State College, Hadji Butu School of Arts and Trades, Sulu College of Technology, Mindanao State University, and Notre Dame of Jolo College. The attendees during the program were 19 municipal mayors, LGUs, GOs, and line agencies.

Governor Abdusakur M. Tan graciously gave his welcome message, highlighting how the provincial government prioritizes youth by providing full support for the educational system. It was followed by Sen. Marcos who reminisced about how her father, former president Marcos Sr., worked hard to establish schools in Sulu in 1982 and mentioned how she had pushed Senate Bill 3129, which had been filed in June, to make this college a full-fledged university, allowing more industrious and intelligent students to pursue their education and earn a degree.



Students lining up for registration

Sen. Marcos also shared the reason behind the gratitude she felt for the Muslim sisters and brothers, and it was because everyone turned their backs when they were in the middle of falling, yet the Muslims from other countries did not hesitate to help the Marcos family. She further stated that despite the free tuition from other schools in elementary, high school, and college, there is still a lot to pay on a daily basis. Thus, she hopes this cash assistance will somehow help the eligible and indigent students with their everyday expenses. She finally said that if there is anything she could do to help Sulu; she would do it because she was taught by her father to always give back what has been given to her.

Moreover, the grantees from different sectors warmly welcomed the honorable senator and asked Sen. Marcos for a picture. They

enthusiastically received the financial assistance granted to them. The event for registration commenced at 6:00 in the morning, and the ceremonial distribution transpired at 12 p.m. which ended at around 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

SSC conducts Satellite Voter Registration

By Nurida Salip Julkiram



Student Interns from Sulu State College, together with the voter registrants

Sulu State College, in partnership with the Commission on Elections headed by the Election officer III, Mr. Shariff Ututalum, successfully conducted a satellite registration.

The event was held on Apr. 24, 2024 at SSC covered court and facilitated by the school personnel and Dean of Student Affairs and Services, Mr. Saurajan Darawi, together with their student interns.

Students and employees who were not yet registered to vote were invited for this registration.

Sulu State College hosts Job Preparation 2024 for graduating students

By: Rohilyn U. Taji

The Sulu State College Office of the Guidance and Placement Center, under the leadership of Ms. Fhadzra Aisha Sabdani, organized the Job Preparation 2024 on May 27, 2024.

Held at the SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu, this event themed "Career Catalyst: Job Preparation Essentials," was designed to equip graduating students with the skills and knowledge necessary for an easy transition into the workforce.

Aimed at empowering students with

essential professional skills applicable to various work environments, the event featured lectures from the esteemed speakers including Mr. Al-dimar D. Taha, LPT, SSC Alumnus; Ms. Janice A. Jalali, Director of HRMO NDJC; Mr. Khaizar H. Barrie, Chairperson of the English Language Department at the School of Arts and Sciences; and Asst. Prof. Immir S. Juhudi, faculty member at School of Education.

Aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education), the Job Preparation 2024 underscored the importance of providing inclusive and equi-

table quality education. By offering essential job preparation skills and knowledge, the event played a crucial role in bridging the gap between education and employment, thereby enhancing the students' prospects for successful integration into the workforce.

The Office of the Guidance and Placement Center, along with designated Guidance Coordinators from different schools within Sulu State College, facilitated and organized the event. The initiative received significant support from the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

Stalwarts showcase talents in 2024 PASUC National Culture and Arts Festival

By Hadija Hadjirul

The Sulu State College, representing the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), participated in the exhibition of talents in 2024 Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) National Culture and Arts Festival on the 23rd to 25th of Apr. 2024 at Philippine National University in Manila City with the overarching theme, "Bidsiliw: Paghilom, Pagbangon, at Pagsulong".

Selected students from the college represented the SSC who showcased their talents in various competitions like visual arts, music, dance, and theater arts. They were accompanied by their coaches alongside the college president herself, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, together with the administrative staff.

Mr. Bhonzar J. Jainatul, 2nd year BS-Tourism and a Stalwart performer, successfully entered the semi-finals and eventually ranked 8th place in the pop solo category.

Finally, this event not only celebrated the talents of the students but also highlighted the importance of culture and the arts in fostering unity and growth among the participating academes.



SSC, UP, other SUCs sign MOU

By Ferawna Julhasan



Prof. Ututalum and other SUCs presidents during the MOU signing

Sulu State College, along with the University of the Philippines (UP) and other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in Mindanao, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on various academic initiatives. The signing ceremony was attended by the presidents of each institution, including Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, of Sulu State College.

The MOU covers several key areas of cooperation, such as research consultation, curriculum development, and internationalization efforts. This partnership aims to enhance the quality of education in Mindanao and provide students and faculty with more opportunities for growth and collaboration.

Sulu State College is excited about the potential benefits of this collaboration and looks forward to working closely with UP and other SUCs in the region.

SSC SAS celebrates 10th AS Week

By Nurida Salip Julkiram and Hadija Hadjirul



Dr. Amilhussin (left) and Mr. Iron (right) giving the plaque of appreciation to Asso. Prof. Mohammad

The Sulu State College School of Arts and Sciences celebrated their AS Week 2024 on Apr. 25-27, 2024 with a theme: "Celebrating Resilience, Embracing Transformation; Harnessing the Power of the Arts and Sciences".

The 1st day highlighted the presentation of emblems and Zumba Dance competition in the morning.

In the afternoon, academic and sports competitions were held on AS building and SSC covered court and ground.

The competing teams are composed of four levels in the department which are the Level I - Leopard Legend, Level II-Wild Cat, Level III-Dynacats, and Level IV- Warriors. Each team roars their best in every contest they joined.

On the 2nd day, an Academic Competition was held, selected students from each level joined and showed their skills and talents on various contests like Extemporaneous Speech, Oration, Interpretative Reading, and Essay Writing. The contest was divided into two categories: The Filipino and English entries. Moreover, political speech was centralized on

unique culture of Tausug People where in contestants were donning native attire and speaking Bahasa Sinug as medium of speech.

Following the contest, the distribution of certificates for the board of judges and canvassers took place, extending gratitude and recognition for ensuring the integrity and fairness of event.

The event was marked by a momentous finale as the winners for Dagliang talumpati and Political speech were officially unveiled. It was announced by Asso. Prof. Abdullah I. Mohammad, PhD who served as the chairman of the panel of judges.

The 3rd day celebration highlighted the cultural competitions. The venue was filled with excitement from the audience as the different competitions were held such as Singing Solo Competition, Duet with the Student and Teachers, Pangalay, and Modern Ethnic.

After the showcase of different entries, the judges and canvassers were awarded with certificate of appreciation.

The program concluded with the most anticipated part of the event—awarding the winners for each competition.

Sulu State College shines at the 40th International Conference: wins Best Research Paper award; establishes partnership with Royal Institute Singapore

By Mohammad Maani Hassan

Sulu State College proudly participated in the 40th International Conference and Conferment Ceremony organized by the Royal Institution Singapore. The conference, held in Manila, Philippines on April 26, 2024, focused on the theme "Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Education, Business and Industry, and Public Administration for Enhancement of Quality Services."

During the event, Assoc. Prof. Frissida Daud, Acting Research Director, presented her research paper on the Sustainability Governance Implementation of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Sulu. Her outstanding work earned her the prestigious "Best Research Paper" award from the Royal Institution (RI).

In addition to the recognition, the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, and Assoc. Prof. Daud participated in the RI Conferment Ceremony. Prof. Ututalum was conferred as a fellow, while Assoc. Prof. Daud was conferred as a member of the Royal Institution.

Sulu State College and RI Singapore forge partnership for future collaborations

Photo source: SSC



Furthermore, an important milestone was achieved as Sulu State College and the Royal Institute Singapore established a memorandum of agreement. This agreement

aims to foster future international collaborations, research development, and memberships between the two institutions.

Old staffers undergo Sihmag qualifying exam for A.Y. 2024-2025

By Fatima Rihana Habibon



Staffers who took the qualifying exam for lay out category

about 1:00 P.M. and concluded atalmost 3:00 P.M.

The said activity was facilitated by the senior staffers and was supervised by the Sihmag Adviser Dr. Adawia Jamasali, and the Dean of Student Affairs, Mr. Saurajan S. Dara-wi.

The Sihmag Publication's junior staffers took the publication's qualifying exam for the academic year 2024-2025 on Apr. 27, 2024. Four categories were included in this qualifying exam: writing, photojournalism, cartooning, and layout. The writing segment, alongside the photojournalism, started at eight in

the morning culminating at 11:00 A.M. It was held at the SSC hostel's Hermes room. Conversely, the layout category began at 10:00 A.M. and took place at the Digital Transformation Office's I-LAB. That came to an end at noon.

The cartooning category, meanwhile, was conducted at the Sihmag office. It started

Sihnag pays tribute to its graduating staffers through farewell party

By: Albenhasadedson J. Hussin and Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula



Sihnag senior and junior staffers, together with Dr. Jamasali, in a photo opportunity

Sihnag Publication gathered for a farewell celebration honoring the Sihntag senior staff members on May 5, 2024, at Tanduh Beach, Parang, Sulu. With the theme “A Moment of Love and Gratitude” and the pink-and-white motif, the occasion was organized by the junior staffers, supervised by the adviser Dr. Adawia Jamasali.

Everyone convened early, at 6:00 a.m., and finally arrived at the venue around 8:30 a.m. Rudzmal Ganih, a Sihntag staffer, led the convocation at the beginning of the event. Dr. Jamasali then gave the opening remarks, stating that this was not just a party but also a tribute for the senior staffers who are preparing for life after college. Gift giving eventually followed and the seniors appreciated the tokens prepared for them.

Individual messages were delivered and everyone reflected on the inspirations. Alkhamar L. Saddalani, the outgoing Editor-in-Chief, emotionally thanked his batch mates for being his strong support system during his two-year consecutive reign in the publication. The rest of the senior staffers sentimentally reminisced their memories and experiences in Sihntag and they affectionately shared pieces of advice to their junior staffers.

The celebration ended with photo opportunities and joyful moments in the tranquil

water of the beach.

In a heartwarming gesture of appreciation and recognition, Sihntag Publication bid farewell to its graduating senior staffers during the second part of surprise farewell party held at the Graduate Studies Building, Amphitheater Room on Sunday, May 12, 2024. The event served as a touching tribute to the dedicated individuals who have contributed significantly to the publication and are now preparing to venture into new chapters of their lives.

The event commenced at 2:30 pm with a surprise welcome for the seniors, marked by the joyful popping of confetti and the symbolic gesture of adorning them with sashes. It formally started by a prayer led by Mr. Alkhamar L. Saddalani, Editor-in-Chief, setting the tone for a day filled with heartfelt emotions.

One of the highlights of the event was a heartfelt video presentation prepared by junior staffers, showcasing the seniors' memorable moments and achievements during their time at Sihntag Publication. The emotional intensity arose as emotional video messages from their loved ones were shared, evoking tears and deep sentiments among the attendees.

Awarding of certificates of

recognition to the seniors supervised, followed by a special song number performance from junior staffers dedicated to their seniors. Furthermore, heartfelt messages of thanks and advice exchanged between the junior and senior staffers came after. Dr. Adawia Jamasali, Sihntag Adviser, delivered a touching closing remarks, expressing gratitude for the seniors' contributions and offering well wishes for their future endeavors as they set out on new paths in life.

The event was concluded with a photo opportunity and a shared meal. As these talented individuals embark on their next journey in life, they carry with them the cherished memories and profound relationship forged during their time at Sihntag Publication. This celebration truly crafted bonds and memories that will forever endure.

Sulu State College Celebrates Leadership Training Milestone at AIM

By: Rohilyn U. Taji



College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE together with the SSC key officials

Sulu State College proudly acknowledges the achievement of twenty of its personnel who have successfully completed a five-day Bridging Leadership and Project Management workshop at the prestigious Asian Institute of Management (AIM).

This intensive workshop was designed to equip the college's leaders and managers with the tools to understand and address systemic challenges, engage collaboratively with diverse stakeholders, and foster innovative, sustainable solutions.

The college extends its heartfelt gratitude to President Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, whose steadfast support and visionary leadership continue to inspire and propel the institution towards excellence and meaningful change.

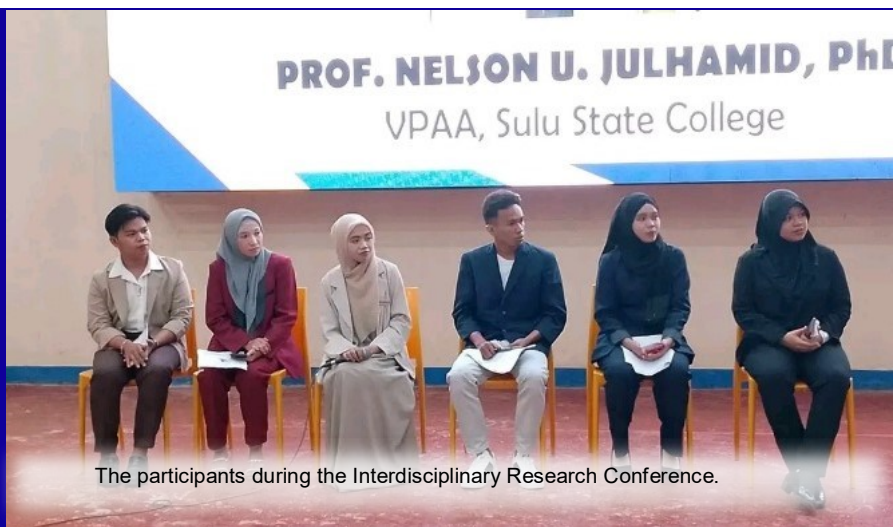
SSC holds 1st Interdisciplinary Research Conference

By: Radeeya Sunga Sencio

On May 28, 2024, at the SSC Center for Culture and Arts, the SSC's first interdisciplinary research conference was conducted. Students from various schools in the SSC participated in the said event and successfully presented their research studies in their respective fields. The theme is centered on "Fostering Educational Inclusivity, Sustainability, Advancement, and Innovations through Research," with the purpose of exhibiting the wealth of research that Sulu State College undergraduate students from many disciplines have undertaken.

The event was illuminated by the presence of college president Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, and was hosted by the SSC research office, which was spearheaded by Assoc. Prof. Frissida Daud. The attendees of the event were the SSC faculty, staff, advisers, and students.

This event is a manifestation of UNSDG 4: excellent education. Through the presentation of inclusive and egalitarian student research and opportunities for lifelong learning for all, the



The participants during the Interdisciplinary Research Conference.

conference promotes high-quality education. They are essential components of a long-term learning environment because they stimulate creativity and knowledge expansion.

The following are the winners of the Best Research Poster Category:

1st Place: Senior High School

"Impact of Career Guidance on Career Preferences among Grade 12 Students at Sulu State College Senior High School"

2nd Place: Senior High School

"Role of Peers on Students's Academic Performance at Sulu State College Senior High School: An Analysis"

3rd Place: School of Nursing

"Knowledge and Attitude on Cervical Cancer among Selected Women in Jolo"

Award winner for Best Research Paper:

Winner: Senior High School

SSC-SBAM hosts its 14th Ring Hop Ceremony to celebrate Batch Semper Doctrina

By: MaryamarzahraJalaidi and Radeeya Sunga Sencio



The SSC School of Business Administration and Management (SBAM) recently had its 14th Ring Hop Ceremony which transpired on May 29, 2024, at the SSC Gymnasium. The festivity was anchored on its theme, "Batch Semper Doctrina: Cultivating Transformation, Shaping Future Professionals in Today's World."



The entrance and ring-putting ceremony were filled with enthusiasm for all graduating SBAM students which were attended by their proud parents.

The ring-hop ceremony symbolizes the transition of SBAM graduates, honoring their successes and the years of arduous labor they exerted to get a degree.

The celebration was emblazed by president Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE and

Ms. Rehamna M. Espinosa, Manager of DBP-SULU and the guest speaker. College officials were also present along with the dean of the BSBA, Ms. Hartini Saradi, faculty and staff, and the graduating students of the said program

SSC officially pins 87 student nurses during 3rd pinning ceremony

By Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula

The candidates for the 3rd pinning ceremony of school of Nursing after being officially pinned and awarded.



Sulu State College School of Nursing successfully concluded its 3rd Pinning Ceremony on May 31, 2024, Friday at the SSC multi-purpose gymnasium. The ceremony, themed: "Embracing Resilience and Unwavering Commitment Through Lifelong Learning," aimed to officially recognize and pin 87 graduating student nurses from the Batch Défendrons 2024.

The prestigious event, attended by parents, school faculty, administrative councils, and distinguished guests, including Dr. Nadia Pescadera, Sulu Provincial Women Council Vice President for Internal Affairs, representing the First Lady Hja. Nurunnisah A. Tan, RN, President of the Sulu Provincial Women Council as the guest speaker, marked a momentous occasion for the aspiring nurses.

The event commenced with a grand procession of candidates, faculty, administrative councils, and guests, followed by invocation, rendition of the Philippine national anthem, and SSC Hymn. Mrs. Wahida T. Hasan, RN, clinical instructor, warmly welcomed all attendees with her address. Assoc. Prof. Alijandrina T. Jalilul, RN, MAN, Ed.D, dean of the School of Nursing, presented the 87 candidates, comprising 75 females and 12 males, with acceptance and approval from College President Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE.

The pinning ceremony, where candidates were pinned with their parents present, came after. Ms. Marwati J. Mudjasam, student nurse of the batch Défendrons 2024, led the Nightingale's pledge, accompanied by the batch's song performance. Subsequently, an awarding ceremony supervened, recognizing students who excelled in academics, sports, and cultural activities.

Moreover, the keynote address by Hja. Tan was delivered by Dr. Pescadera. In her message, she shared, "The lamp that Florence Nightingale held century years ago is still shining bright up to this day. Our nurses should be acknowledged and appreciated for their sacrifices and hardwork... Sana magbunga ang lahat ng inyong mga sakripisyo at serbisyo para sa Sulu at sa Inang Bayan."

Mr. Amilkhan I. Marajul, student nurse of the batch Défendrons 2024, expressed gratitude to his batchmates, clinical instructors, school dean, and as well as parents in his inspirational response speech.

Prof. Ututalum also shared words of inspiration with the graduating batch. In her words, she emphasized, "As you have done your pins today, let them serve as a symbol of your resilience, commitment and dedication to lifelong learning... And always remember, you have named yourselves as Défendrons, may you continue to be kind, to defend yourselves, to defend each other and to defend your Alma Mater, Sulu State College as a Stalwart, to the outside world."

As the event approached its conclusion, Mrs. Nurima A. Usman, RN, MAN, clinical instructor, delivered her closing remarks. The ceremony ended with a touching dedicatory hymn performed by the batch, evoking emotional sentiments as they reunited with their parents. Finally, everyone gathered for a meal, marking the end of a memorable and inspiring event.

Sulu State College held its Pre-Graduation Rites

By: Fatimah Shaqueena, Merhama Manalas, and Hassan Moh. Maani

On the 2nd and 3rd day of June 2024, the Sulu State College held its separate Pre-Graduation Rites for the 42nd commencement exercises with a theme "Metamorphosis of Excellence: Embracing Transformation and Advancing the groundwork for Sustainable progress" at exactly 8:00am at the SSC Gymnasium Walled City. The undergraduate students held their Pre-Graduation Rites on the morning of June 2, 2024, while the School of Graduate Studies held its Pre-Graduation Rites on the 3rd day of June 2024 at exactly 1:00pm in the afternoon.

Together with the presence of College President, Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, the administrative council, faculty members, and staff were in attendance. The event started with invocation, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, and the recital of the Quality Policy of the school.

Afterwards an inspirational message was delivered by the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE. For the Graduate Studies on the other hand,



Unfading smiles of the graduates during their Pre-Graduation Rites

Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, PhD, Vice President of Academic Affairs, set the tone for the event with insightful opening remarks, highlighting the significance of the occasion.

The focal point of the ceremony was the hooding and conferral of diplomas to the deserving graduating students, symbolizing their academic accomplishments and readiness to embark on new journeys.

Right after the message, the distribution

of the diplomas for the graduating students started. The distribution was led by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid together with the college registrar Mr. Alkhaisar P. Sakiran and the Chief Admin Dr. Almashien S. Lipac.

After the distribution of the certificates to the graduating students, photo opportunity was held showing everyone's joy as their journey begins to unfold new adventures right after graduation.

Sulu State College Held Its 42nd Baccalaureate Service 2024

By: Fatimah Shaqueena I. Isnijul

Sulu State College successfully held its Baccalaureate Service for the Class of 2024, with the theme "METAMORPHOSIS OF EXCELLENCE: Embracing Transformation and Advancing the Groundwork for Sustainable Progress," on June 4, 2024, at the SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The event started with an invocation led by Asst. Prof. Abdulkadil N. Tutong, MAEd, faculty from School of Arts and Sciences, followed by the singing of the national anthem conducted by Ms. Sherinata I. Ibrahim, faculty from School of Agriculture, and the singing of the SSC Hymn together with the recital of the SSC Quality Policy. The reading of Ayat Qur'an also followed, performed by the Chairman of Islamic Studies, Ustadz Al-fadzri B. Moharrani, MAIS.

The offering of tokens of Loyalty and Commitment was also presented during the event as a symbol of commitment to Sulu State College by the selected graduating students from each department. In which, Mr. Omarkhan G. Arajun from School of Agriculture presented

which symbolizes their dedication and hard work all throughout their journey in Sulu State College. Ms. Annajane D. Samlani from School of Computer Studies and Engineering presented a CSG Mobile Voting System developed by the graduating students of batch 2023-2024, in which it symbolizes their commitment to progress, inclusivity and democracy. Mr. Jimhar N. Suhuran from School of Education presented a Book Review, in which he said that this token holds power, inspire, and enlightened the minds of people within its pages. Another token was presented by Ms. Nuraina S. Saradil from School of Business Administration and Management, a Cash Counting Machine that symbolizes efficiency and professionalism. Ms. Nurida I. Salip Julkiram from School of Arts and Sciences presented a Pen as a token of their loyalty and commitment to Sulu State College. And Mr. Amilkhan I. Marajul from School of Nursing presented a penlight that shows how a simple light can light up the world of thousands of people.

Right after the Offering of the Tokens of Loyalty and Commitment, Mr. Gerry S. Isnaji, LPT faculty from School of Agriculture introduced the Guest Speaker.

The esteemed guest of honor, Prof. Nagder J. Abdurahman, Chancellor of Mindanao State University-Sulu, graced the event. In his keynote address, he emphasized the importance of "The Three Twins: Excellence, Persistence, and Performance," which was the

highlight of his speech.

After it, a Nasihat from Sheikh Abdurahman Alhari, the Deputy Mufti of Sulu followed. Wherein he encouraged the graduates to nurture and share the knowledge they have acquired throughout their academic journey.

The event ended with a photo opportunity where the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, along with the esteemed guests, college officials, faculty, staff, and the



Selected graduating students who presented the tokens together with Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE.

graduating students of the Class of 2024 have joined.

SSC 42nd Commencement Exercises 2024:

The end is only the beginning

By: Hadija J. Hadjirul

“Let us not fear the unknown but instead let us embrace it with courage and a sense of purpose.”

The Sulu State College has successfully conducted its highly anticipated 42nd commencement exercises on June 5, 2024 at SSC Multi-Purpose Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu with the theme: METAMORPHOSIS OF EXCELLENCE: “Embracing Transformation and Advancing the Groundwork for Sustainable Progress” with a total number of 1,469 graduates from the different colleges of the school.

The welcome address was given by Mr. Jimhar N. Suhuran, a graduate from the School of Education, Magna Cum Laude, formally greeting the graduates and highlighting the journey as a student. He also congratulated his fellow graduates and shared an advice to welcome the future with optimism. He relied his thanks to the administration who have poured their efforts in providing a quality education.

Then, presentation of candidates for graduation grazed by deans of different department; a total of 142 graduates from School of Graduate Studies; 124 from School of Agriculture; 379 from School of Computer

Science and Engineering; 344 from School of Education; 185 from School of Business Administration; 206 from School of Arts and Sciences; 87 graduates from School of Nursing. Prof. Charisma Ututalum, CESE., accepted and conferred the degrees and titles of the graduates.

Although he was not able to physically attend the program, an inspirational message was given by the Secretary of Commission on Higher Education and a chairperson of SSC Board of trustees, Hon. J. Prospero E. De Vera III, DPA., through a video message. He highlighted the importance of education and showed praises to graduates and their parents. “I congratulate the more than 1,000 new Filipino graduates today, kayo ang mukha ng bagong Pilipinas. Sa inyong tagumpay nakasalalay ang tagumpay ng ating bayan.” he said.

Hon. Maria Imelda Josefa Remedios Romualdez Marcos, Senator of the Republic of the Philippines served as the commencement speaker. Her message, “Embrace the thrilling possibilities that lie ahead and continue your pursuit of excellence.” serves as a reminder to never lose hope and always be confident in pursuing your dreams.

Eventually Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, PhD., Vice President for Academic Affairs presented the academic awardees from the different colleges. Leadership award were also given to Mr. Mar-wan A. Omar as a President of Central Student Government and a graduate

of BS Agriculture for his invaluable contribution during his time.

Nurida I. Salip Julkiram, a graduate of BA in English Language Studies, Magna Cum Laude, delivered an address of thanks saying “Let us not fear the unknown but instead let us embrace it with courage and a sense of purpose.” After that, pledge of loyalty took place led by Raina H. Saharani, a graduate of BS Agriculture, Magna Cum Laude.

Moreover, Prof. Jehana Muallam-Darkis, Ed.D., Curriculum Director, formally inducted the new graduates into SSC Alumni Association. Further, the graduates sang Long Live by Taylor Swift marking the end of the program.

Finally, this event not only marks the end of a journey as a student of the institution, rather it marks the beginning of a new chapter as they embark on a new voyage towards success, new opportunities, and changes awaiting for them

SSC unveils revamped main gate in inauguration and ribbon-cutting ceremony

By: Yeshamae Haiber

On June 6, 2024, Sulu State College (SSC) recently held a momentous ceremony to officially open and celebrate the completion of several improvements to the SSC main gate.

These improvements include:

1. Repairs to the main gate
2. Addition of a new parking area
3. Installation of a new LED wall display
4. Installation of a turnstile entrance gate

The ceremony commenced with a warm welcome address delivered by Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, the esteemed college president. Prof. Ututalum expressed heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful completion of the project. The event also featured inspiring messages from Regional Director Rody P. Garcia and Sulu Governor Abdusakur M. Tan, both of whom emphasized the importance of the newly repaired main gate in advancing SSC's mission and vision.



Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE and Gov. Abdusakur Tan on the cutting of ribbon of the SSC gate 2

The revamped main gate holds profound symbolic significance for SSC, serving as gateway to excellence and tangible representation of the college's ambitious vision to evolve into a university and symbolizes its commitment to providing quality education and fostering a culture of excellence.

Beyond its symbolic value, the newly-repaired main gate also offers functional and representational benefits to the college community. With enhanced security features, the gate not only ensures the safety of students, faculty, and staff but also contributes to the overall beautification of the campus

environment. This enhancement underscores SSC's dedication to creating a conducive learning environment that inspires growth, development, and academic achievement.

The ceremony concluded with a sense of optimism and excitement for the future, as SSC continues to strive towards greater heights of academic distinction and societal impact.

Sulu State College holds Training Workshop "KAWANI NG SULU STATE COLLEGE, MAY DATING AT MAY GALING"

By Rohilyn Taji

On June 20, 2024, Sulu State College held a training workshop titled "Kawani ng Sulu State College, May Dating at May Galang" at the Center for Culture and Arts. The event commenced at 8:00 AM and saw the participation of the college's faculty and staff. The workshop was inaugurated by College President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, who delivered the opening remarks.

Following the opening, the session featured a comprehensive lecture by the guest speaker, Dr. Emily M. Arangote, Ph.D., former University President of Aklan State University. Dr. Arangote's insights and expertise provided



Dr. Arangote, together with the SSC family, in a photo opportunity.

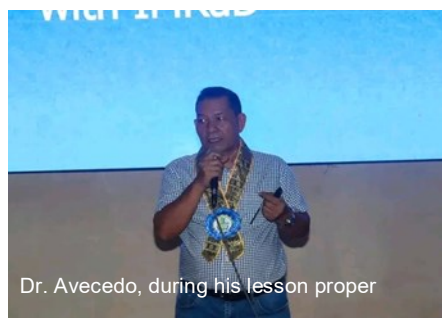
valuable learning opportunities for all attendees.

In the closing remarks, Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, the college's Vice President for Academic Affairs, expressed heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Arangote for her significant contributions and acknowledged the active participation of all attendees.

Sulu State College extended its appreciation once more to Dr. Emily Arangote for imparting her knowledge and skills to the college's personnel, reinforcing the institution's commitment to continuous professional growth and excellence.

SSC holds seminar entitled "Research Made Easy": improves research skills

By Yeshamae Haiber



Dr. Acevedo, during his lesson proper

Through the initiative and collective efforts of the Acting Research Director, Asso. Prof. Frissida A. Daud, RN, MAN, PhD., Sulu State College successfully organized a seminar entitled, "Research Made Easy", held on June 20, 2024, from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at the Center for Culture and Arts (CCA) Building.

Research coordinators and 30 students from each department attended the activity to improve their research skills and prepare themselves on how to make research not only manageable but also enjoyable.

The resource speaker of the event

was Mr. Edgar J. Acevedo, PhD, Director of Research and Development at Notre Dame of Jolo College. He addressed the following topics:

- Conceptualizing a research topic and developing research questions
- Developing research methods
- Scientific writing and publishing with Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion (IMRaD)

Following the lecture session with Mr. Acevedo, an open forum ensued where participants from different departments shared their insights, sought clarifications, and posed questions related to the topic, enhancing their understanding and approach to research which will be invaluable for their academic pursuits.

Finally, plaques and tokens were awarded to the resource speaker, and certificates of attendance were given to the participants. Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Vice President for Academic Affairs, delivered the closing remarks. The event was hosted by the Sihmag Adviser Asst. Prof. Adawia Jamasali.

Joint Closing Ceremony of ROTC 2023-2024

By: Fatimah Shaqueena I. Isnijul

The Joint Closing Ceremony of SSC and HBSAT Basic and Advance ROTC 2023-2024 was successfully held today June 9, 2024 at the SSC Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The ceremony started at 8:00am in which it's commenced with an opening remark delivered by SSC ROTC coordinator, Mr. Renz Michael Usman. At this ceremony, 157 cadets from Sulu State College were presented, and was declared by Maj. Jonathan D. Valenzuela(INF)PA. These cadets have successfully completed their trainings and requirements in the said field.

Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, representing the college president, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, stands to be the keynote speaker. He expressed his gratitude to the cadets and commended their dedication and hard work throughout their training.

As the event approached its conclusion, the cadets together with the officials sang the "Pilipinas Kong Mahal" in unison. After that a photo opportunity was taken.

BAELS undergoes level II re-accreditation

By Radeeya Sencio

The Bachelor of Arts in English Language Studies (BAELS) from the School of Arts and Sciences at Sulu State College (SSC) had commenced the on-site accreditation procedure on July 12-15, 2024 which took place at the Board Room, Administration Building and Hermes Room, SSC Hostel.

It aimed to achieve Level II re-accreditation, marking another noteworthy accomplishment for the institution.

The program drew its end with the presentation of accreditation findings which was spearheaded by the team leader, Dr. Arnel B. Millesea, President of Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology (DEBESMSCAT), together with the team members; Dr. Lawrence Anthony U. Dollente from University of Southern Mindanao, and Dr. Benhur A. Asid, Librarian from Western Mindanao State University.

Stalwart pickleball team aces triumph in pickleball pre-qualifiers tournament

By Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula

Sulu State College emerged victorious as Stalwart Pickleball Team aced numerous awards during the conduct of Pickleball Pre-qualifiers Tournament that took place on July 12-14, 2024 at Zamboanga City.

Moh. Kabir Saji-in, Stalwart athlete, snatched the gold medal in Men's Singles Open Category. He, together with a local player, also competed in Mixed Doubles Category and emerged as gold medalist that landed on champion.

Moreover, Mr. Alsalliazar S. Isirani and Mr. Saji-in got the first runner-up as they vied together in Men's Doubles Open Category.

Mr. Saji-in is now qualified to compete in the upcoming Pickleball Inter-region Tournament which will be held on July 25-27, 2024, at Davao City.

Stalwart Pickleball Team had truly shone bright and has always been bringing honor

and pride to the institution with their remarkable achievements.



SSC delegation attends SUC fair 2024; hails 2nd placer in booth exhibit

By Radeeya S. Sencio

The Sulu State College participated in a three-day event of State Universities and Colleges (SUC) Fair 2024, conducted by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in partnership with Western Mindanao State University (WMSU), which took place at KCC Mall de Zamboanga from July 9–11, 2024.

The 2024 SUC fair was anchored on the theme, "Weaving Culture and Innovations for Transformative, Resilient, and Globally- Recognized Philippine Schools in the SUC's." Numerous activities were featured in the event, unveiling the goal of the fair which is to showcase the accomplishments and innovations of various SUCs in the Philippines.

The Stalwart Performing Arts (SPA) successfully highlighted the rich cultural heritage and artistic prowess of the Tausug tribe at "Bailes y Canciones: Cultural Show" by exhibiting their exceptional flair and slayed their performances in traditional Tausug dance called Pangalay ha Patung and martial arts dance Kuntao during the first day of the event.

Moreover, the ceremony was enhanced by the participation of CHED Secretary, Prof. J. Prospero E. De Vera. Prof. De Vera visited all of the booths, including the BARM stand, highlighting and admiring the variety of items from each region.

The following day, the "SUC Presidents and Moda: A Cultural Fashion Show" was held. SSC president, Prof. Charisma Samparani Ututalum, CESE, shared the spotlight with other presidents.

Prof. Ututalum emphasized the special elegance of Tausug clothing as the designer, Mr. Denar Bangaha, dressed her in modernized Tausug local clothing known as "Kuput Batawi," combined with traditional "Birino" slacks decorated with gold buttons. A traditional handwoven pis siyabit malong rounded out the set.

The BARM region, represented by SSC, in collaboration with Tawi-Tawi Regional Agricultural College and Adiong Memorial State College, spearheaded by the SSC President, Prof. Ututalum, bagged the second place in the booth exhibit. Present in the ceremony were SSC and AMSC officials. Dr. Almashien S. Lipae, Dr. Alnakier Sarabi, and Ahmad Safrie, along with the officials from AMSC, were the pioneers of the BARM exhibit.

The fair's triumph highlighted the crucial role of these kinds of gatherings in fostering excellence and allowing students to see a variety of cultures across state universities and colleges around the country. It is evident that we can still transcend boundaries and come together despite our varied cultures, customs, and viewpoints.

SSC ROTC takes part at 2nd Regional Annual Administrative and Tactical Inspection (RAATI)

By: Fatimah Shaqueena I. Isnijul

On June 1, 2024, the Sulu State College Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), together with the 1603rd (SULU) Community Defense Center, had successfully held its 2nd Regional Annual Administrative and Tactical Inspection (RAATI). It was held at the Sulu State College Main Campus.

The RAATI just brought together cadets from the two different institutions from Sulu State College and affiliated cadets from Hji. Butu School of Arts and Trades (HBSAT), who showed their dedication and impressed everyone with the discipline they have on themselves as they undergo numerous training.

The event began with an opening remark from Mr. Renz Michael Usman, ROTC Coordinator, followed by the Turn-Over of Command and Control of the Corps of Cadets, led by Maj Jonathan D. Valenzuela (INF, PA) and Col Jose Emmanuel L. Mariano, MNSA (INF, PA).

During the event, the cadets participated in a series of assessments in which it is designed to test their proficiency in many ways. Including the different activities, drills, and weapon handlings.

SSC President Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, delivered her closing remarks wherein she commended the cadets for achieving a total of 97 points in the evaluation. In which it contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) by promoting high standards of education and training, fostering discipline, and surely enhancing the skills and capabilities of young individuals through structured military training programs.

Prof. Ututalum continues commitment to excellence as PASUC-BARMM regional chairperson

By Hadija J. Hadjirul



Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE has been re-elected as Regional Chairperson of the Philippine Association of Universities and Colleges (PASUC) for Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) during the recently concluded 2024 PASUC Annual Convention and General Assembly that happened on July 15, 2024, held at the SMX Convention Center, Pasay City, Manila, Philippines.

Her continuous service as the Regional Chairperson of PASUC-BARMM indicates that her continued work and dedication have impact on the minds of young people she inspires.

SSC holds stress management workshop

By Hadija J. Hadjirul

The Division Integrated Counselling Office, led by Chief Maj. Pedro Michael Jr. R. Millares, LPT, RGC, and in partnership with Sulu State College, administered the Stress Management Workshop held at SSC Centre for Culture and Arts building earlier today, July 29, 2024.

Present during the program were the Faculty President, Asso. Prof. Alnadzma U. Tulawie, who represented the SUC President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE; and the Dean of School of Teacher Education, Asso. Prof. Marivel T. Sarabi, Ed.D.

The incoming fourth year students of the Teacher Education Department were the participants in the event as they are particularly susceptible to stress due to the demanding nature of their academic and professional preparation.

The sole purpose of this program is to enhance the understanding of effective stress management techniques, which are crucial for maintaining a healthy and balanced life.

Sihmag magazine is now ISSN-approved

By Fatima Rayhamn S. Sangkula

Sihmag Publication magazine has officially been approved by the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) network on July 17, 2024 with the assigned ISSN 3028-1946. With this prestigious recognition, it marks a significant milestone for the publication as it is now successfully accepted as ISSN-approved magazine.

Congratulations on this landmark moment! The publication would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to the SUC President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE; ISSN National Centre of the Philippines; National Library of the Philippines - Bibliographic Services Division; and to Mr. Joel P. Lascano. Thank you very much for being the bridge to this milestone!



CHED Region X conducts iLAB project 2024 at SSC

by Maryamarzahra Jalaidi



Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Region IX visited Sulu State College on July 24, 2024, headed by the Regional Director Dr. Rody P. Garcia, along with Atty. Lily Freida M. Milla, OIC, Deputy Executive Director, International Affairs Service, and Dr. Michelle Aguilar-Ong, President of Mabalacat City College.

The objective of the said visit was the conduction of the program entitled, "iLAB project 2024: Integrating COIL into the Philippine Educational System". The college, being one of the iLAB beneficiaries, was appointed as the venue for such meaningful event.

The Stalwart Performing Artists

(SPA) showcased the Pangalay Cultural Dance and vocal performances at the SSC Center for Culture and Arts as part of the entertainment presentation to the visitors.

Moreover, at the SSC iLAB office, the iLAB grantee orientation and introduction were carried. The convention was facilitated by Dr. Erwin Faller, Mr. Eldrin Delgado, and the included participation from representatives of different HEIs, both virtually and in person, along with SSC officials and students.

The event emphasized the importance of internationalization and enhancing collaboration in education through COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning).

Ms. Hadjula topped the SPLE (LET) 2024: A fruition of beautiful patience

By Fatima Yeshamae I. Haiber

The path towards our dreams is not linear. It fills with hurricanes and cyclones that might detour us. Could you muster the patience to chase your dreams, even when the universe gives no signs of assurance for you to achieve them? In this unfathomable life, waiting can be frustrating, especially when things don't happen according to your plan. But isn't it astonishing how beautiful things in life require time, patience, and persistence to develop? Just as the flower blooms through seasons, seeds take years to grow into a sturdy tree, and brightest stars emerge only after the longest night, our dreams often develop through a beautiful patience to come to fruition.

Settle in and enjoy the ride as we explore through the journey of Ms. Jihada M. Hadjula, a graduate of Bachelor in Elementary Education, batch 2014, from Sulu State College who recently topped the June 2024 Special Professional Licensure Examination for Teachers. Let's get inspired from her story and learn how to turn the stumbling blocks into stepping stones through steadfastness.

Just like many college students, Ms. Hadjula also experienced being skeptical about her chosen field. It was not her plan to study and pursue the program of Teacher Education, but due to certain circumstances, she found herself enrolling in this program. Fortunately, along her journey in BEE, she learned to love it. The idea of being an educator started taming her skepticism and ignited her interest and love for her chosen field. This was the moment where she started building a legacy for future generations. She aspired to become a Licensed Professional Teacher (LPT) with an aim to plant seeds of knowledge that will grow into a forest of wisdoms in the young minds.

After she graduated, her dream of becoming a teacher seemed to be out of reach due to financial crises. But, this didn't hinder her from reaching her dream. She went abroad and worked as an Overseas Filipino worker (OFW). During those days, time management loomed as her greatest challenges for she rarely had days off. But as an aspiring educator, she remained persistent with her dreams. She used some of her vacant time to read and watch online review videos. She spent an hour studying what she had learned in her college days before going to work and another hour before bedtime. She also spent her break time watching online review videos. On her very rare days off, she usually spent at least 3–4 hours a day on self-evaluation. She also read and answered some possible LET questions whenever she had a chance. When she heard that the SPLE would be held in the Middle East and Singapore, she grabbed this opportunity and took the exam with so much faith. After days of



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To become a Licensed Professional Teacher someday is one of my dreams and it took me 10 years to achieve it. Humbly speaking, it wasn't my aim to become one of the topnotchers of SPLE held in the middle east and Singapore, but Allah has a different plan for me, and it is way grander than I prayed for.

Alhamdulillah! Do not be afraid of failures! Because those were part of the process to mold your personality, your dreams and whatever you may become. Always dream big no matter how long and rocky the road is. Know your stance, motivate yourself! and lastly, always pray for your success and happiness, and put your trust in Allah for he is the best planner.

JIHADA M. HADJULA, LPT

TOP 3 (SPLE)

Sihnag Publication

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waiting for the result, she was left in awe when she spotted her name among the passers, and she was more astonished when her friends tagged her that her name was one of the topnotchers! For years, she patiently used her time to review and pray to pass the board exam but she had never expected that the outcome of her patience and hard work would be much bigger than what she prayed for.

"To become a Licensed Professional Teacher one day is one of my dreams, and it took me 10 years to achieve it. Humbly speaking, it wasn't my aim to become one of the topnotchers of SPLE held in the Middle East and Singapore. My only goal was to pass the board exam, but Allah has a different plan for me, and it is way grander than I prayed for. Alhamdulillah! So, do not be afraid of failures! Because those are part of the process to mold your personality—your dreams and whatever you may become. Always dream big! No matter how long and rocky the road is. Know your stance, motivate yourself!

And lastly, always pray for your success and happiness, and put your trust in Allah (SWT) for He is the best planner.", Ms. Hadjula shared her words of wisdom.

This unique story of Ms. Hadjula tells us that the path towards our dreams may not be linear and is winding, but each step we take brings us closer to our goals. We may wonder how some people reach their goals effortlessly, but know that there's always a hidden struggle behind closed doors. In reality, everyone carries their own burdens and these require beautiful patience for them to develop into fruition. Just as Ms. Hadjula waited for one decade before seeing her dreams come true, which was grander than what she prayed for, our dreams must also remain alive despite delays. We must keep pushing forward no matter how long it takes! When it's our time to finally reach our goals, we will be amazed by the results, for it is far exceeding than our expected outcome.



A kick of leadership: SSC joins 2024 Saceda Youth Lead International Program in Asia (SIPA) at Brunei

By: Fatima Shaqueena I. Isnijul

Leadership plays a crucial role in shaping and making everything possible where everyone is a beneficiary. It is everywhere — for a leader can also be a teacher, listener, warrior, speaker, and anything great. But literally speaking, leadership is everywhere for leadership can happen at home, at school, or even at Brunei where a leadership training was held and participated by Sulu State College.

The Saceda Youth Lead International Program in Asia (SIPA) recently held a leadership training program at Bandar Seri Begawan, Negara Brunei Darussalam. It started on February 22, 2024 that lasted until February 25, 2024. The program was organized by the Saceda Youth Lead School founded by Mr. Dave G. Saceda, MIR, Ph. D.

With an aim to improve their leadership skills, Mr. Saurajan S. Darawi, the Dean of Student Affairs and Services of Sulu State College, together with Mr. Marwan A. Omar, CSG President, and Mr. Ameer-Khyzer C. Pelayo, and Mr. Mahir I. Jul-ahmad, who are both student leaders from Sulu State College Laboratory High School represented the institution on the said training.

The training hopes to empower teachers and students to become more effective citizens of the country by allowing them to have an opportunity to dive more into leadership, cultural differences, and promote peace and understanding through traveling and exchange.

During an interview with Mr. Darawi, he made mention that the SIPA Brunei is just one of the agreements between Sulu State College and

Saceda Youth Lead (SYL), wherein the SYL will provide at least two international training programs where the Sulu State College could participate, and this one was just the beginning.

SIPA-Brunei was participated by 39 participants who came from different parts of the Philippines — from Southern Leyte in Visayas, and Basilan, Lanao del Sur and Sulu from BARMM.

As the interview went on, Mr. Darawi, Mr. Omar, Mr. Pelayo and Mr. Jul-Ahmad had shared their experiences during their visit to Brunei. They were accordingly amazed with the environment in Brunei to which Mr. Darawi described as the cleanest place he had witnessed. The Bruneian people were accordingly so approachable and kind, and that they really loved how these people showed hospitality to them, and did not make them feel discriminated. Mr. Darawi also added that attending the SIPA Brunei 2024 had strengthened the connection of Sulu State College with other schools, not just here in the Philippines but also international landscape.

Talking about the lessons that the participants had learned, they shared that it was fun attending the training. They had learned new things including the Brunei's language, the lives

of its people, the culture, and most especially, on how does education really work in there. They had mentioned that they witnessed how youth were given fair treatment including those with disabilities, and how free the youth are to know and enhance their skills.

In the last part of the interview, we asked each of the SSC participants to give their message to their

fellow Stalwart leaders. Mr. Omar stated, "Be kind and patient. Always show love to other people. And that you only start learning when you know nothing". Mr. Pelayo also wanted to express the same when he said, "Love yourself and be patient. Because if you have this attitude, your work would be easier." He ended his message with a quote that goes, "Good people love themselves, but great people love others." While Mr. Jul-ahmad had shared, "Don't judge the book by its cover. A person shouldn't be defined on how they look because behind someone's appearance and actions, you will see how nice and trustworthy they are once you start to approach and socialize with them."

Furthermore, Mr. Darawi emphasized the importance of trust, because when they were accordingly in a foreign country, he said that they know nothing and did not have anything to do than just to trust the people in there.

Lastly, the participants wanted to express their heartfelt gratitude to the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, for her support and the opportunity given to them. They would also like to thank Mr. Saceda for the wonderful experience and learnings they got during the SIPA-Brunei 2024.

Seeds of new leadership and bright futures: Malikha J. Ilupa, L.Agr. is the newly acting Dean of School of Agriculture

By Nurmalya Jumali

School deans undoubtedly play a crucial role in shaping the future of their respective schools, impacting the academic and professional journeys of the students and the faculty under her guidance. And just recently, the School of Agriculture had its new acting dean — marking a new era of leadership, bringing in fresh perspectives and ideas.

She is none other than Mrs. Malikha J. Ilupa or often called as "Ma'am Kwini" by her colleagues and students. A licensed agriculturist, she graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture at Sulu State College. She is also a former editor-in-chief of the Sihmag Publication. Now, as she embarks on this new chapter of her life, Dean Ilupa armed with her passion for academic excellence will undoubtedly bring significant transformations in the School of Agriculture.

In my interview with Dean Ilupa, she shared that she never imagined herself of becoming a dean or a faculty. "I just tried to look at on the brighter side than the real. Most of the time, sabi nila kung ano ang nangyari sa buhay mo is because of Qad'r, might as well panindigan ko to, because of the trust given by the President is mahalaga yon sa'kin, plus the supports of faculty, and staff here are so overwhelming." She further shared her story during her first day as a dean, "First day of my service as dean nakapasok ako na wala man lang pulbo, natatakot akong ma late, and then di ko alam paano siya haharapin, parang andon pa rin ako sa stage na cloud nine dahil sa hindi ako makapaniwala na ito na magiging trabaho ko. So, with the proper guidance of the Almighty, and of course the President herself, my mentors, and faculty, just like what I always said I treat them as my family. It was not really that hard to adjust."

"It was not really that hard to me to adjust, although nandon yong struggle, workload is there pero as what I said, kung may teamwork, makes the dream work. Infact, the mutual trust is there. I've always also acknowledged all help because in one way or another, wala ako dito pag wala sila," Dean Ilupa when asked about the weight of fulfilling the responsibility. (It was not really that hard to me to adjust, although the struggle is there, the workload but as what I said, if there's teamwork, makes the dream work. In fact the mutual trust is there. I always acknowledge helps because in one way another, I am not here if it is not because of them.)

Moreover, the School of Agriculture is breaking new ground in research and extension to the school's commitment to advancing knowledge in agriculture. When asked, about her plans to improve this school and the things she would like to focus on, Mrs. Ilupa shared, "When I first came in, the President actually informed me, para di ka mahirapan kung ano ang gagawin mo sa agriculture try to look at it, as if ngayon mo pa lang siya papatayuin as school." She elaborated, "First thing, INSTRUCTION, make sure the subject that you are teaching is up-to-date. Next

is RESEARCH because in academe we are all required not to stop from learning, not to be confined within the four corners of the room. We have to expand our knowledge, little by little we are trying to incorporate this. As of today, we have two projects that entered, so that's already an accomplishment. And thirdly, EXTENSION. We are required to make a positive impact to the community, resolving such issues like poverty, in our case we need to incorporate research into extension. In that way, we are not that just helping the community but the whole country itself when it comes to economy."

Then, in the area, we are trying extension to incorporate by teaching them to plant, sustaining plants and how to be financially literate. For 13.8 hectares we wanted to maximize by doing the arts and science of Agriculture. Just like here we have plantation of crops like Niyog. So we want to maximize the area by inter-cropping different products like Cassava, one time big time of harvest but actually really income generating. Just so you know, in agriculture we generate income through the vegetables we plant, and also in plantation crops. So, we really work hard here. But sadly, we are really struggling when it comes to licensure examination, maybe because the review is not so much sufficient. I planned to hone first year and second year but we really cannot be strict because we are also aiming for the population, but as I said to the students, for 4 years, you are not allowed to relax, without really realizing the hardship of board exam. In my leadership, we are planning, to hone the student learnings more. Sabi ko nga sa mga bata, hanggang sa walang nakakapasa sainyo, di ako magiging effective na mastal, kaming lahat na instructors niyo." (as what I said to the students, if no one will pass the board exam in you, I will never be effective instructor, all of your instructors here)

How far would you like to take the School of Agriculture under your leadership?

- "Little by little I just want to take agriculture to take the lead step by step, cause many are discriminating agriculture, some of them believe na walang pera sa agriculture so maita kaw mag iskul pa, if you will not walk the talk, you will really struggle and encouraging the student to take agriculture and I just really want the student to see na may trabaho, for them to be competitive, self-sufficient, and at the same time sana sa batch nila na ito, sa fourth year sana ma realize na there's really a gem in agriculture. So we have to walk the talk, otherwise walang mangyayari. Our campus is really homiee. If there are staffers of student organizations come here I want them feel they are welcome and really accommodated."

How do you differ the responsibility from instructor to becoming a dean?

"I haven't really moved on from becoming a faculty. Because for me, being a dean is just a name but it's actually hard, you're not just dealing with students alone, you are



Malikha "Kwini" J. Ilupa
Acting Dean, School of Agriculture

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Sihmag Publication

dealing with a lot of people, you have the faculty, staff, students, and the administrative works. Plus, the struggles, because I was once a student here I haven't really overcome the overwhelming factor na "Dean ka na talaga" ang sakin di naman siya nabago dahil nung faculty pa ako di naman sa pagbubuhay ng sariling bangko nag trabaho kasi ako dito buhos talaga ako, Mondays to Sundays I can really work overtime. Because for me, if my work is not done I will never go home. Becoming a dean sobrang doble kayod lang, now my meetings were left and right, projects yon lang nagbago, since faculty ako nasanay na ako so, it's not really hard to adjust. Sabi nga sa tagalog "kayod kalabaw,"

How would you like to be remembered as the dean of School of Agriculture?

"Not just a dean, but simpleng tao lang na may puso, as someone who has caught so many hearts". (I would like to be remembered, not just a dean, but a simple person, as someone who had caught so many hearts.)

When asked if there is anything you would like to impart or say to the students and instructors in the School of Agriculture, she answered "when it comes to the faculty, I just want them to know that there's always hope, no matter what we pray there's always a rainbow after the rain. When it comes to students I just want to instill in them the values that they have learned here, I hope they will bring all that even after graduating. I want them to realize that taking agriculture is one of the most noble professions that they could ever have and if there's no agriculture involved, there will be no food in our plate. When asked if she has any favorite quotation, she said, "kung ayaw mong gawin sayo, wag mo gawin sa iba, kung masakit sayo, masakit din sa iba, kung gusto mo mag excel you have to work hard." (Don't do unto others what you don't want others to do unto you, if it hurts on you, then it is also hurt to them too, if you want to excel you have to work hard for it.)

In the realm of agriculture, with her passion and unique visions, Ma'am Kwini is poised to bring about positive changes and drive the students, faculty, administration and the whole School of Agriculture toward excellence and it will be interesting to see the impact of these leadership changes in the coming years.

A lift of hope: The Arvin Jul-asiri's motivational narrative

The journey through college is invigorating yet, is often grueling. Every student is going through a rough patch in life. Among the common obstacles being faced are time management, procrastination, low motivation, loneliness, and the greatest of them all, the financial problems.

"If there's a will, there's a way", an old saying goes, and for this student of Sulu State College who exhibited a strong dedication and commitment to pursue study despite being financially incapacitated, if you are courageous enough to overcome it, no mountain is insurmountable. This lad is Arvin Undog Jul-asiri, the son of Jul-asiri Judain and Langka Undog Judain.

Mr. Jul-asiri, born on September 15, 1999, is the fourth child among six siblings. He lived in 477 Upper Asturias, Jolo, Sulu, and is currently in his 2nd year of college pursuit, taking up a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, major in Human Resource Management under the School of Business Administration and Management (SBAM).

Mr. Jul-asiri is known to many for being a hardworking student, walking around the campus, lifting an ice chase to sell his refreshing juice — juggling academic and personal responsibilities. Accordingly, during his first year in college, he was already thinking of how he could earn money, and the plan only came into existence before the first semester of the second year. He shared that when he began selling at school, some teachers thought that it was part of their activity in class since he was from business administration. "In kaybanan saukat in program ko BSBA, [pangannal] project namuh ha school or activity. Mataud magpakaiyan kakuh, in mga mastal mag-asubu ha mga iban ku," he said.

[Just because my chosen program was BSBA, some people think that it was my project or activity at school. Many people, usually teachers, used to ask where my companions are.]

On the day of our interview, he was supposed to get some clothes around town. We asked him about it, and he shared with us that he is also venturing into selling outside the campus every weekend. He goes to his hometown and sells clothes to the neighborhood; he also helps his father in their place. As hardworking as he is, he also helps with household chores whenever he can.

Moreover, Mr. Jul-asiri shared that it was not his first time peddling around the school to earn extra income. At such a young age, he was able to earn money by selling honey-mee (ice cream) when he was in his second year of primary school. They would peddle from town to Tiptipun, and he would use his earned money to buy fish or help with finances. It stopped only when he was diagnosed with malnutrition, a condition that refers to deficiencies or excesses in nutrient intake, imbalance of essential nutrients, or impaired nutrient utilization. Even without receiving treatment, he recovered and was able to work only every Saturday and

Sunday from junior high to senior high school.

This diligent lad told that he grew up understanding that they are not rich; they cannot afford to buy their whims and caprices. And accordingly, his family may not be loaded with money, but what is essential is it is loaded with love. Love taught them to respect their parents and earn money for themselves instead of depending on their them. Mr. Jul-asiri shared in Bahasa Sug that not even once has he ever asked for money from his parents; if his mother gave her money, he would be thankful. But if she does not have any, he will not ask from her for he knows the struggles of his mother in making a living.

"Subay mo pag-agarun in tuyoh mo iban sin dayaw mo. Misan kaw matuyoh bang kaw bukon marayaw in sabbut kaimu sin tao mangih kaw."

Mr. Jul-asiri stated that his parents are the main reason why he wants to earn a degree, for accordingly, his parents did their best to ensure they would have a brighter future ahead of them. According to Mr. Jul-asiri, "Wayruun na panalih ko mag school balik. Dimidtu na ako ha gimba. Sah kiyawah ako hi inah, enroll ako balik ha school." [It no longer crossed my mind to go to school again. I stayed in the suburb. Yet my mother took me again and enrolled me in school.]

This became his motivation to start studying again. During the enrollment process for college, he did not know the program he would take. Thus, he chose whatever was on the table at that time, and he never regretted it because his course taught him to become even more business-minded. He also shared that he had experienced being bullied for being a working student, yet did not pay attention to it because despite the negative words he received, there are people out there who encouraged him that being a working student is never shameful.

At first, his mother accordingly refused when he asked for permission to sell inside the campus: "Dih tuud aku, indah, mabayah magdagang siya. Pasal laung ku, "Utuh, diha kaw maluman? Nagsusuat kaw sin uniform mu ubus nagdara kaw sin ice box." Sah pasal sin bayah niya tumabang, nagdagang pa rin siya," his mother explained. [I am definitely not in favor of him selling. I told him, "Son, aren't you ashamed? You are in your uniform while holding an ice box with you." However, because of his desire to help, he still chose to sell.]

Mr. Jul-asiri's determination to help his family pushed him to pursue selling, saying that he did not mind being called a working student. His parents and family are immensely



proud of him. His mother further stated, "Anduh magsukul tuud aku, ma'am, kanya yan pasal bukon da biyah mga bulaug ba in mga batah yan." [I'm really grateful to him because he is not a truant kid.]

When we asked him what lessons we could get from his life, he Mr. Jul-asiri told in Bahasa Sug what his mother always tells him that students should study no matter what the situation is. Your parents went through difficulties in life that no one can imagine. It would be better if we do not go through what our parents had experienced. He further emphasized, "Subay mo pag-agarun in tuyoh mo iban sin dayaw mo. Misan kaw matuyoh bang kaw bukon marayaw in sabbut kaimu sin tao mangih kaw." [You have to combine diligence and kindness. Even if you are diligent but lack manners, people would still describe you a bad person.]

He clearly admitted that he never had any romantic relationship because he perceived it as a hindrance to study. He had accordingly seen a lot of people fighting, discussing, and even losing their minds. To him, he is still not yet capable of handling such a situation, and still wants to remain steadfast in his dream to finish studying despite lacking financial stability.

Mr. Jul-asiri's story serves as a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of tenacity and dedication to succeed against all odds. Being a working student is undoubtedly a challenging journey, but it is also filled with valuable lessons, personal growth, and unwavering determination. It also goes to every student going through obstacles in life which are not known to many. We are having our own silent battle, yet we should always remember that each battle is an opportunity to become stronger.

The life of Mr. Jul-asiri is an example of how you do not wait for people to give you the best life; instead, you strive to carve out a brighter future for yourself. Moreover, no matter what comes your way, engraved in your mind that there are people out there facing problems bigger than yours, you should always be grateful, cultivate good thoughts, and invariably look on the brighter side despite all the bad things and be hopeful — for indeed, a lift of hope could raise big difference.

SSC, Kahanungan foundation ,MSA-SSC organize Islamic symposium featuring Ustadz Barcelon

By Bennajar M. Angsa

Sulu State College (SSC), in partnership with Kahanungan Foundation under the leadership of Mr. Jhepedy S. Hayudini and Muslim Student Association - SSC Chapter supervised by Office of Student Affairs and Services, organized an Islamic symposium dubbed: "Da'wa Tour With Ustadz Ahmad Barcelon" held at SSC gymnasium on February 12, 2024.

This religious event was sponsored



by Sulu Vice Governor, Hon. Abdusakur "Toto" Tan II. The program started with the reading of holy Qur'an rendered by Mr. Jalsar A. Jalaide, SSC Islamic Teacher, followed by the opening remarks given by Mr. Al-fadzri B. Moharrani, AB Islamic Studies Program Chairperson. College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, was represented in her absence by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Prof Nelson U. Julhamid who delivered an inspirational

message.

The first lecture entitled, "The cure of the Hearts" was presented by Ustadz Admier U. Karim. Meanwhile, the second lecture entitled, "The Beauty of Islam" was delivered by Ustadz Ahmed L. Barcelon, a former pastor who converted to Islam, who also shared his sentiment towards Muslims who accordingly observe the beliefs and practices the converted Muslims like them have abandoned.

The event ended with the distribution of plaque of appreciation presented by VPAA Prof. Julhamid to the said lecturers.

Moreover, various guests were also present during the event namely Mr. Alnajib B. Mawjon, Sheikh Ahmad T. Mandangan, and Sheikh Abdurahman Alhari among others.

Stalwart Grand Iftar 2024: Fostering Connection among SSC community

By Morsalyn Harun

In a display of unity and shared values, the Sulu State College (SSC) community joined together for a grand Iftar on Apr. 8, 2024, at the Sulu State College covered court. Led by the Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS), Central Student Government (CSG), and Muslim Student Association (MSA)-SSC Chapter, in collaboration with various clubs including the Sihmag Publication, Stalwarts Performing Arts, PencakSilat, Association of Agricultural Students, Filipino Club, Language and Literature Society, Supreme Student Government of Senior High School (SSG), Supreme Student Council of Laboratory High School (SSC), the event started with a registration from 8:00am - 11:00am at the CSG office along with the preparation of foods.

The said event was graced by the participation of the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. AlmashienLipae, DPA, Faculty Association President, Hja. AlnadzmaTulawie, Mr. Sharif Ututalum, SSC

employees, and the students. The grand iftar formally commenced with a solemn reading of the Qur'an by Mr. MurshaibAbdulajid, Vice Ameer, MSA-SSC chapter, setting a serene atmosphere of spiritual nourishment and contemplation. Following this, Mr. Al-fadzniMoharrani, MAIS, MSA-SSC Adviser, formally opened the program and followed by a dua led by Mr. Sattal Ammar, MSA-SSC President.

As the clock ticked the exact time to break the fast, attendees shared the food being served while listening to the messages from key individuals who added depth and meaning to the occasion. Mr. Mar-wan Omar, CSG President, Ms. JehanaJakiran, SSG Senior High School President, and Mr. Ameer KhyzerPelayo, SSC Laboratory High School President, shared their experiences and realizations as part of the organizing teams of this event and other Ramadhan-related activities prior to this. As the program progressed, token of appreciation was presented to Prof. Ututalum in recognition of

her unwavering support on the endeavors of the different clubs and organizations. In a moment, President Ututalum delivered her inspirational message, sharing her story, and commending the organizers for their initiatives.

For the closing remarks, the Dean of the Student Affairs (DSA), Mr. SaurajanDarawi, echoed the sentiments of gratitude and solidarity expressed throughout the event. He commended the efforts of all involved in organizing the event and urged attendees to carry forward the spirit of fellowship. The entire event was hosted by Mr. AlkhamarSaddalani, Editor-in-chief of Sihmag Publication.

As the evening drew to a close, everyone gathered for a photo opportunity, capturing the memories of a truly memorable and meaningful event. The Stalwart Grand Iftar 2024 served as a poignant reminder of the power of community and the strength that lies in coming together as one.

MSA-SSC, CSG successfully conduct series of Ramadhan Symposia

By Fatima Yeshamae I. Haiber and Arnalyn Sawadi

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) - Sulu State College Chapter, in collaboration with the Central Student Government (CSG), successfully orchestrated the second, third and fourth Ramadhan symposia. Themed "RAMADHAN: Nurturing the soul, strengthening belief, and cultivating compassion through faith and action," the said events both took place at Sulu State College Gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

On March 27, 2024, the second run of the Ramadhan symposium was held. It welcomed Sheikh Altadir S. Dammang, a respected member of the Sulu Ulama Council for Peace and Development, who delivered a thought-provoking lecture titled "Pagsaddiya ha kamatay" (Preparation for death). His discourse encouraged attendees to contemplate the transient nature of life and the importance of spiritual readiness.

Following this enlightening discourse, Sheikh Abdurahman S. Alhari, Executive Director of SUCPD and Deputy Mufti of Sulu, shared insights on "Kabuhih Masanyang" (Life at peace). Sheikh Alhari underscored the significance of inner tranquillity and righteous living according to Islamic principles.

The third Ramadhan symposium was held on the April 3 which featured two distinguished speakers: Sheikh Nassal A. Adul who explained the significance and abundant rewards during the Laylatul Qadr (Night of Decree), and Sheikh Margani A. Abdulganih, whose topic, "Paglanuh ha Pangatayan" (Cleansing the Heart), prompted deep reflection on spiritual faith among the audience.

Meanwhile, the fourth Ramadhan symposium took place on the April 5. It was graced by the esteemed lecturer Sheikh

Al-Fadzri B. Moharrani who delved into the topic "Madrasa Ramadhan iban haylaya," highlighting the importance of seeking Islamic education. His lecture served as a thought-provoking exploration for the audience.

After each speaker concluded their lectures, an open forum was held for attendees, allowing them to pose questions and exchange thoughts with the speakers, fostering a deeper understanding of the topics presented.

The said symposia culminated with the presentation of token of appreciation to the speakers and a photo session to commemorate the program.

The conduct of these Islamic events only exemplified the college's commitment to nurturing faith and fostering unity among its community. Events like these serve as valuable opportunities for personal growth and communal enrichment. The spirit of unity and enlightenment ignited by this event is expected to resonate throughout SSC and contribute to the broader cultural fabric of Sulu.

BS Bio holds a seminar-workshop on biodiversity

By: Adzrina Sadikal



Prof. Ututalum with Engr. Pao while awarding the lang of title

The Bachelor of Science Major in Biology (BS Bio), under Sulu State College (SSC) School of Arts and Sciences, held a seminar-workshop on Biodiversity on Feb. 23, 2024, at the Center for Culture and Arts.

The program started with the preliminary activities, followed by the opening remarks given by Ms. Mailiza Dared in the absence of Asso. Prof. Patricia I. Amilhusin, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Before the seminar proper, the awarding of land title to the SSC and giving a plaque of appreciation to the special guest, Engr. Al-Padzri S. Pao, Provincial Environment Natural Resources and Energy Officers (PENREO) of Sulu transpired first. Engr. Pao gave a short message which was followed by a message from the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE. The first lecturer was Ms. Bairaya Salipada, the Focal Person of the Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Energy, and she tackled the protected areas ecosystem management. The second lecture was delivered by Mr. Andrew Ross Tse Reintar, Field Operations Officer and Research Monitoring Program Head of the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, to which he discussed the topic entitled, "Philippine Biodiversity: What Make Sulu, Sulu? The lecturers were both introduced by Ms. Soraya B. Sala, BS Bio faculty.

Afterward, certificates were given to the two lecturers, presented by Prof. Ututalum, and assisted by Prof. Nelson U. Julhamid, Ed.D, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Mr. Almashin S. Lipae, Chief Administrative Officer. Eventually, the closing remarks were given by Asst. Prof. Arsanial Sappayani, Science and Mathematics Department Chairperson. During the seminar, the key administrative officials, faculty members of Arts and Sciences, and fourth-year students of the said program were present. The event ended with a photo oppor-

SSC School of CSE displays variety of creative innovations in 2nd Technological Exhibit

By : Merhama A. Mañalas



Photo opportunity with CSE faculty and students

On Feb. 29, 2024, the School of Computer Studies and Engineering displayed creative innovations in the field of technology as it held its second technological exhibit at Sulu State College Multi-purpose gymnasium, Walled City, Jolo, Sulu.

The exhibit was headed by Assoc. Prof. Aldaruhz T. Darkis, DPA, Dean of the said school, along with Prof. Jehana Muallam-Darkis and the chairpersons of BS Computer Engineering, BS Computer Science, and BS Information Technology.

Anchored on the UN Sustainable Developments Goals such as UNSDG 9: highlighting the technological innovations and advancements of the technologies that contributes and promote the sustainable industrialization, innovation, and infrastructure development; and UNSDG 4: Quality Education, the event aims to enhance the quality of education of the said students by

allowing them to showcase their outputs as a tangible proof of their application of their learned skills in the field of technological advancements.

The said exhibit featured different varieties of technological innovations and program systems that students, faculty and exhibit visitors could inspired also to showcase the style of advancements in technology to create strong innovative and collaboration between students and faculty in the field of computer studies and engineering.

Also present during the exhibit was the College President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, who delivered an inspirational message.

Gearing Up Nursing Innovations: SSC, NDJC conduct 2nd Inter-Nursing Schools' Research Forum in Sulu

By Fatima Yeshamae I. Haiber and Nurida Salip Julkiram

The Sulu State College School of Nursing, in partnership with the Notre Dame of Jolo College Nursing Department, successfully conducted the 2nd Inter-Nursing Schools' Research Forum on Apr. 13, 2024 at SSC Center for Culture in Arts (CCA).

This research forum was participated by different Nursing Schools in Sulu namely: the Mindanao State University (MSU)-Sulu, Southern Mindanao Islamic Institute (SMII), Sulu College of Technology (SCT), Notre Dame of Jolo College (NDJC) and Sulu State College (SSC).

The 2nd INSRFS aims to present the researches of the different Nursing Schools in Sulu, and to highlight their dedication, showcase their willingness and capabilities to serve the province through research study. This event was facilitated by the INSRFS organizers, Assoc. Prof. Frisida A. Daud, MAN, Ph.D., and Prof. Fatima I. Abubakar, MAN, Ph.D.

Themed: "Gearing up and Advancement of Nurses towards Evidence-Based Practice through Research", the morning program kicked off with registration of the guests and presenters, program preliminaries, and acknowledgement of the guests and presenters.

The welcome address was warmly delivered by Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, via video presentation who wished the best of luck to the presenters.

Before the researchers presented their study, the INSRF guidelines were introduced by Prof. Abubakar, INSRFS organiser.

Meanwhile, Asso. Prof. Nelson S. Julhamid, SSC Vice President for Academic Affairs, served as the panel in the morning program.

The first presenter was from Mindanao State University-Sulu, Ms. Fatima Zharhada S. Requejo, BSN-IV, who presented the research entitled, "Lived Experience of Possessed students in Mindanao State University-Sulu". She discussed the definition of Spirit possession, its nature of possession in terms of manifestation felt by the participants and reasons why were those people were inflicted.

The second presenter was from Notre Dame of Jolo College, Katherine Shane D. Usman, with a research title: "The level of Awareness on the Negative Effects of Vaping Health among NDJC Senior High School Students". Usman emphasized the negative effects of vaping to its users in her research, and left a powerful saying, "Choose to live healthily. Breathe air, not vape."

The third presenter was from Sulu College of Technology, Walna S. Yail, with her research title: "Factors Affecting Compliance of Mothers Antenatal Care at Barangay Bus-bus, Jolo, Sulu". Her research highlighted the Antenatal Care at Brgy. Bus-bus, Jolo.

As the program became more and more interesting, snacks were served to the guests and presenters for a health break.

After the break, the fourth presenter from Sulu State College, Fat. Marwati I. Mudjasam, proceeded with her presentation entitled, "The Link Between Knowledge and Attitude of Parents Towards their Children's COVID Vaccines in Jolo". Her research was conducted in eight barangays in Jolo.

Fifth presenter was from Southern Mindanao Islamic Institute. Farhana J. Arabbi presented her research entitled, "Factors Influencing the Non-Adherence of Caretakers in Newborn Screening at Barangay Bus-bus, Jolo, Sulu". In her research, Arabbi elaborated the significance of newborn screening in the province.

Furthermore, sixth presenter from Mindanao State University, Mr. Yusop Tangkaan, also presented his study entitled, "Body Image Satisfaction and Its Effects to the Level of Self-esteem Among Junior High School Students of Mindanao State University - Sulu". He revealed the results of his research of the body image satisfaction in his study.

Moreover, the seventh and the last presenter for the morning program, Fatima Xenaleen K. Hajiron from Notre Dame of Jolo College, highlighted the factors that affect sleep deprivation and their academic performance in her research entitled, "Most Significant Influence in Sleep: Determining the Relationship Between Factors Affecting Sleep Deprivation and Academic Performance Among Students".

After the all the seven presenters successfully presented their study, an open forum was made. Questions, comments and suggestions were given by Asso. Prof. Julhamid. He first congratulated all the presenters for the powerful and significant research studies they have presented. His only question was 'How does nursing intervene in the research that they have presented specially in the Nursing Agenda and National Health Issues' which successfully answered by the first presenter from MSU-Sulu, Ms. Requejo and a participant from Sulu State College School of Nursing Student, Mr. Amilkhan Marajul.

Before concluding the morning's program, a Plaque of Appreciation was given to Asso. Prof. Julhamid. It was followed by a photo opportunity and an intermission number given by a nursing student from Sulu State College.

On the afternoon program, following registration and invocation, Fr. Eduardo M. Santoyo, OMI, Ph.D., President of Notre Dame of Jolo College, delivered his inspirational message.

The eight presenter of the day, Nurmaly H. Jumali from Sulu State College, presented her research paper entitled, "Knowledge and Attitude on Cervical Cancer among Selected Women in Sulu". She discussed the importance of raising awareness about this issue in Sulu communities.

The ninth presenter, Fatima KysaRuhisa J. Padjiri from Notre Dame of Jolo College, presented her research paper entitled, "Perceived Effects of Smoking Addiction on Physical Health Among College Students". She discussed the physical damage caused by smoking and highlighted risk factors to health.

The 10th presenter, Sherhana A. Arula from Sulu College of Technology, presented her research paper entitled, "Level of Awareness on Malnutrition in Children Under 5 years Old Among Parents at Brgy. Bus-Bus, Jolo, Sulu". She discussed impaired nutrient utilization among parents in the community.

The 11th presenter, Ahmad Ali M. Aggong from Mindanao State University - Sulu, presented his research paper entitled, "Level of Competency on Surgical Hand

Scrubbing Among Level 3 and Level 4 Nursing Students in MSU- Sulu". His study focused on assessing the proficiency of nursing students in performing surgical hand scrubbing procedures.

The 12th presenter, Sheril-Ann D. Hassan from Southern Mindanao Islamic Institute, presented her research paper entitled, "Level of Compliance Towards Covid-19 Vaccination among Selected Mothers in Barangay Tanjung". Her study aimed to assess mothers' willingness to comply with Covid-19 vaccination recommendations.

Lastly, the 13th presenter, Fatima Noraine S. Ahrin from Sulu State College, presented her research paper entitled "Over the Counter Medications: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices among Selected Residents of Barangay Bus-Bus". She discussed understanding, beliefs, and practices regarding OTC medication usage among residents.

Participant from Sulu State College and Notre Dame of Jolo College gave a break and refreshments to the audience by showcasing their talents.

After the seven presenters successfully presented their research papers, a panel for the afternoon program, Prof. Raymond R. Delos Reyes, Ph.D., engaged in an open forum. Before offering comments, questions, and suggestions, Prof. Delos Reyes congratulated the presenters for their commendable presentations as well as the advisers for developing research projects. Tokens, plaques, and certificates were then presented with assistance from Ms. Fainda M. Asiri, RN, MAN.

The program concluded with a closing message from Assoc. Prof. Daud who commended the level 4 researchers from different nursing schools in Sulu for their perseverance in their respective research journeys.

SSC Health Services, RHU-Jolo inoculate SSC community with Anti-flu, Pneumonia Vaccine

By: Radeeya Sunga Sencio and Maryamarzahra Jalaidi

Sulu State College (SSC) Health Services, in affiliation with Rural Health Unit (RHU)-Jolo, inoculated the SSC community in an Anti-flu and Pneumonia Vaccination Program which was held free for the SSC employees and students on the 23rd day of January 2024, at SSC Main Campus, Covered Court.

The said event commenced at 8:00 in the morning and was spearheaded by the SSC President, Prof. Charisma S. Ututalum, CESE, along with Ms. Ayesha Rema Tan. Meanwhile, the program was ushered by Ms. Alfrida Abbang, School Nurse, who facilitated the activity, together with the Nursing personnel of the college.

A number of 72 students from various schools and two faculty employees were vaccinated in the morning. In the afternoon, there were 180 students, 32 Non-Teaching Personnel, and six faculty members who got inoculated.

Overall, a total number of 252 SSC students, 32 NTP, and eight Faculty members were successfully vaccinated. The vaccination for PPV23 lasts for 5 years while for flu lasts a year. The program ended at 5:00 PM.

Rising Against Gravity

By Arnalyn Sawadi

In shadows cast by doubt, she stands alone,
A woman forged in fire, flesh and bone.
Her dreams, like whispers, dance within her
mind,
Yet gravity, a weight, her soul confined.

She hears the voices—murmurs of despair,
They weave a cage from strands of midnight
air.

But deep within her heart, a spark ignites,
A beacon bright against the darkest nights.

No chains can hold the spirit wild and free,
She lifts her gaze, her eyes like storm-tossed
seas.

Each step she takes defies the earth's em-
brace,
She soars above, in her, the stars find grace.

Her past, a shadow, tries to pull her down,
Yet wings of will she wears, a radiant crown.

With every breath, she casts the doubt
aside,

A phoenix rising, on the winds she'll ride.

She charts a course through tempest, storm,
and gale,

Her inner strength, a force that will not fail.
Against the tides of fear, she breaks away,
A constellation in the break of day.

In her defiance, she becomes the sky,
A woman soaring, destined to fly high.
For in her heart, the universe unfolds,
Defying gravity, her story told.

Shining Light in the Shadows

by Mohammad Maani

In the busy city, where stories happen,
There is a journalist, brave and strong.
With a pen and eyes that see well,
He finds truths that want to be told.

In the middle of noise, he stands tall,
Hearing voices, big and small.
His words are a light in the dark,
Showing what's right and what's stark.

Through the chaos and the mess,
He looks for facts, no more, no less.
A protector of truth, a seeker of light,
In the dark world, he shines bright.

So here's to the journalist, with courage so
true,

Whose stories matter, clear and new.
In the world's hustle, he finds his way,

A Mother's Love

By Morsalyn Harun

In the quiet of night, beneath starry skies,
I whisper to the heavens, where my mother
lies.

Though unseen, her presence I feel near,
Her love, her essence, forever dear.

In the album of my memories, I trace her
smile,

A beam of light, even from afar's mile.
Her laughter echoes in the chambers of my
heart,

A melody of love, never to depart.

But oh, how I miss her gentle touch,
Her warmth, her kindness, I miss so much.

Her absence, a void, too deep to fill,
A longing, a yearning, that time cannot still.

Each passing day, the ache grows strong,
Yet in my soul, her love lives on.

Though parted by fate, our bond remains,
In cherished memories, love sustains.

So here I am, with tears in my eyes,
Missing my mother, under celestial skies.
But in my heart, her love will forever reign,
Until we reunite, in heaven's domain. Until we
meet again...

To My Prince Cat, Amie

By KittyCat

In the boundless expanse where stars align,
There shines a love so rare, so divine.
To thee, my heart extends its deepest grace,
In every moment, in every place.

Your smile, a beacon in the darkest night,
Guides me through shadows with its gentle
light.

In your embrace, I find my sweetest rest,
Where all my worries fade, and I am blessed.

With every word, a symphony unfolds,
In melodies of love, our story's told.
So here I vow, in verse and rhyme anew,
My love, my life, forever I choose you.

Through every trial, through every blissful
day,

Together we'll walk, come what may.
For in your arms, my soul finds its home,
Forevermore, with you, I'll roam.

Beautify Yourself with Silence

by Onlyam

We stand, we fight,
It's thanks to human rights,
Let the voices be heard, let the mouth speak,
For we have the freedom of speech

Voices are free,
Say anything you want,
But sometimes to be silent is better,
For too much words could put you in danger

Learn to be silent when the words you utter
could provoke someone's anger,
Do not put fuel to the fire, hence,
Beautify yourself with silence

Learn to be silent when the jokes you crack
are insecurity attacks,
Do not instill any sort of pain, hence,
Beautify yourself with silence

Learn to be silent when the words you say
are misleading in any way,
To cause fitnah is a sin, hence,
Beautify yourself with silence

Learn to be silent when the words you utter
comes from your anger,
You don't know what comes out of the mouth
when angry, hence,
Beautify yourself with silence

The way you speak describes the beauty within
you,
And perhaps, with silence, there is beauty
outgrew
"Unutuq jamālan aw tajammil bissukuwn"
hence,
Talk with beauty or beautify yourself with
silence.

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In every moment, in every place.

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In your embrace, I find my sweetest rest,
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Mission

The Sulu State College is committed to develop academic stalwarts and globally competent professionals, producing cutting-edge research, engage in partnership and viable resource generation programs

Vision

The Sulu State College as Center of Excellence in BARMM, producing globally competitive graduates and as institutional stewards in the development of the region

Core Values

S-SOLIDARITY
P-PROFESSIONALISM
I-INTEGRITY
C-COMMITMENT
E-EXCELLENCE

Congratulations!

Sihnag Jewels

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