

# EXCELLENCE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY - GENERAL SANTOS CITY



## UNIVERSITY STRENGTHENS PURSUIT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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## MSU-GSC signs MOU with Al-Zuhri Institute Singapore

Anderson V. Villa, Ph.D.

MSU-General Santos Chancellor, Dr. Anshari P. Ali, agreed to strengthen mutual cooperation as well as mutual exchanges with Institut Pengajian Tinggi Al-Zuhri (Al-Zuhri Institute Singapore) by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the latter. Al-Zuhri Institute was officially represented by its Director, Dr. Abdullah Othman during the 1st International Symposium on Islamic Education held at the Graduate School AVR at MSU-CETD Campus on July 25, 2019. Both institutions agreed that their cooperation will cover the promotion of Islamic education programs of Al-Zuhri and its affiliate

institutions for the Philippine community, especially the SOCSARGEN service areas. The MOU will cover cooperation activities in the areas of Islamic studies and da'wah. Recently, both parties have discussed the following plans: 2nd International Symposium on Islamic Education; Syllabi development and textbooks on Islamic Education (in English) for Madrasah in the region; to explore the proposed Annual Qurban project where Muslims in Singapore perform their obligations in General Santos City; and to seek international support for the proposed Mosque at MSU-GSC Fatima campus and the Madaris education.

## MSU-GSC inks MOU with UNISSA Brunei Darussalam

Anderson V. Villa, Ph.D.

MSU-GSC Chancellor, Dr. Anshari P. Ali, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on August 29, 2019. Rector Dr. Haji Norarfan Bin Haji Zainal signed the MOU on behalf of UNISSA. Both parties declared their respective intentions to establish basis of direct cooperation and collaboration in the field of research,

education, and training programs of mutual interest. The agreement covers the following areas: student exchanges, joint workshops and training programs, joint research and development projects, joint education programs, exchange of staff and personnel (both academic and non-academic members), publication exchanges, and other areas mutually agreed by both parties.

## PIDS, MINDA, MSU-GSC collab for Policy Forum on New Globalization

Jaydee G. Paid, LPT

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA), and Mindanao State University – General Santos City (MSU-GSC) collaborated in conducting the 5th Mindanao Policy Research Forum (MPRF) focusing on the New Globalization held on September 10, 2019 at the MSU-GSC Graduate School AVR. With this year's theme "Navigating the Challenges of the New Globalization: Local Actions for Mindanao," the forum, attended by academics, researchers, and representatives from government, business sector, and other organizations in Mindanao, discussed the challenges of the New Globalization, its potential impacts on Mindanao, and how Mindanao and the whole country can take advantage of it.

Sec. Emmanuel F. Piñol, Ph.D., MinDA Chairman together with Dr. Anshari P. Ali, MSU-



GSC Chancellor opened the event with their welcome remarks while Dr. Celia M. Reyes, PIDS President, gave her keynote address. On the other hand, PIDS Senior Research Fellow, Dr. Roehlano Briones, talked about "Understanding the New Globalization: Implications for the Philippines," while Dr. Celia Reyes shared about her research entitled, "Inequality of Opportunities Among Ethnic Groups in Mindanao." Started in 2015, the MPRF is organized annually by PIDS and MinDA as part of the celebration of the Development Policy Research Month (DPRM) held every September.



## MSU - General Santos City partners with the University of Sharjah

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

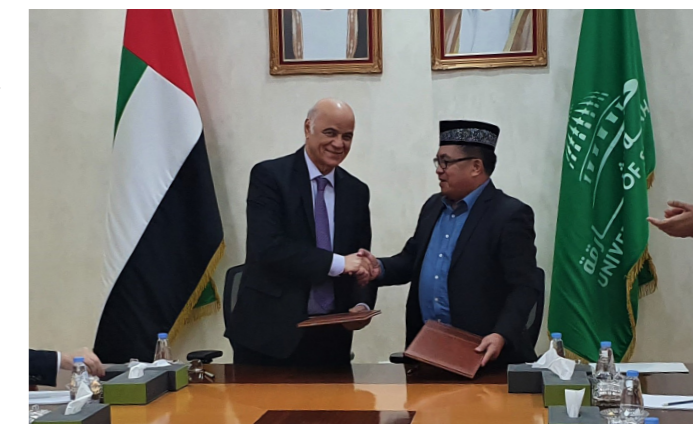
With a fervent desire to explore opportunities of collaboration abroad, Dr. Anshari P. Ali, Chancellor of Mindanao State University-General Santos City signed Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Sharjah which was duly represented by His Excellency, Chancellor Hamid M.K. Al Naimiy. Present also were the Vice Chancellors and Directors of Sharjah University including Dr. Mesut Idriz. The signing of the MoU was held at the Office of the Chancellor of the University of Sharjah, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates last December 23, 2019.

The Memorandum of Understanding aims to explore opportunities for cooperation and collaborations in academic and research programs of mutual interest as well as the possibility of signing a memorandum of understanding to promote international linkages between the two institutions. It was a mutual desire between Mindanao State University-General Santos City and the University of Sharjah to set out opportunities for collaboration and positive academic engagement.

The parties, subject to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, will endeavor to establish, promote and develop on a basis of direct cooperation and collaboration in the field of research, education and training programs of mutual interests. Further, the parties will endeavor to take necessary

steps to encourage and promote cooperation in the following areas: (a) Exchange of researchers; (b) Exchange of students; (c) Exchange of scholarly and pedagogical materials; (d) Exchange of publications; (e) Joint education programs; (f) Joint research and development projects; and, (g) Joint workshops and training programs. Furthermore, the parties agree to develop cooperation in education, researches, scientific publications, and other activities viewed to be potentially beneficial.

It is with high hopes that the five-year term of the said memorandum helps in the realization of the university's mandate that is to produce globally competitive graduates along with its aspiration to strengthen and expand its extension services to its stakeholders.



# MSU-GSC hosts 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Islamic Education

Anderson V. Villa, Ph.D.

The Office of the Chancellor organized the 1st International Symposium on the Philosophy of Islamic Education and the Muslim Contribution to Science and Development at the AVR Graduate School Building, MSU-CETD Campus on July 25-27, 2019. This initiative brought together distinguished scholars, academicians and educators and engaged in a knowledge-sharing platform and discussed the significant contributions of Muslims to the dynamic landscape of Science and development. The symposium was a multi-disciplinary avenue for the participants to reflect on the appropriate mechanisms endeavored by the communities in some parts of the world to respond to Muslim educational needs as ground for developing culturally-appropriate, policy-driven and relevant education for the Muslims in the Philippines.

Sarangani Provincial Governor Hon. Steve Chiongbian-Solon and Hon. Datu Pax Ali Sangki Mangudadatu, Municipal Mayor of Datu Abdullah Sangki graced the event with their message of support and inspirational talk. Hon. Rosalita T. Nuñez represented Mayor Ronnel Rivera of General Santos City, while Dr. Lili Nurlaili, Education and Culture Attaché, gave a talk on behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia. All the keynote speakers spoke about the importance of promoting inter-religious dialogue and mutual respect for sustainable peace and development in Mindanao.

More than 200 participants from all over Mindanao representing various universities and government agencies were appreciative and more than obliged by the international speakers, here and abroad, who are renowned experts in the field of Islamic studies, Halal education, Islamic banking and

finance, as well as challenges to Islamic education in the Philippines. Dr. Nurdeng Deuraseh, Director of Halal and Thayyiban

Center, Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA), Brunei Darussalam, talked about his research entitled “Halal Education for Global Reach: New Discipline with Great Opportunity.” On the other hand, Dr. Mesu Idriz, Acting Director of Sharjah International Foundation for the History of Arab Muslim (SIFHAM), University of Sharjah (UAE) spoke about “Revisiting the Islamic Educational Tradition of Ijazah: Reflections to the Modern Applied Systems in Higher Learning Institutions,” while Dr. Abdullah Othman, Director of Al-Zuhri Institute of Higher Learning, Singapore gave a talk about “Brief Historiography of Islamic Education for the Indigenous Muslim Minority in Singapore.” During the plenary forum, the other delegates from Singapore also shared about their experience as Muslim scholars in a multi-ethnic country including Professors Fathurrahman Dawoed, Masudin Syarifudin, Roselinah Rasiman, and Dr. Siti Maryam Malinumbay who talked about “Sharing Islam to Converts and Non-Muslims: Singapore Experience.”

Finally, Chancellor Dr. Anshari P. Ali delivered a speech on “The Basic Elements and Objectives of Islamic Education and the Philippine Secular Education: A Comparative Analysis.” Dr. Ali also expressed his thanks to all the participants for their role in realizing this endeavor, as well as the organizers of the symposium under the Office of the Chancellor, headed by Dr. Anderson Villa, SHS Director Sheila Loable, and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Mishell Lawas.





## MinDA holds Education Caravan on BIMP-EAGA at MSU-GSC

Anderson V. Villa, Ph.D.

The Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) in partnership with the Office of the Chancellor and the Department of Political Science organized the BIMP-EAGA Cum Mindanao Development Corridor (MinDC) University Education Caravan at the MSU-GSC Library AVR, Fatima campus, on October 29, 2019.

The Education Caravan is part of MinDA's information campaign with different key public and private universities in Mindanao and Palawan. The activity aims to provide a platform for students, faculty, and researchers to gain better and deeper understanding of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines-East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) as an international cooperation, and MinDC as part of the overall national and international thrust of President Rodrigo Duterte towards Mindanao's development.

The speakers and participants of the said event were officially welcomed by Dr. Anderson V. Villa on behalf of the Chancellor, Dr. Anshari P. Ali. Guest speakers from the International Relations Division of

MinDA offered insightful talks related to BIMP-EAGA. Mr. Sylvester Sales gave a message of thanks on behalf of MinDA Secretary Hon. Emmanuel F. Piñol and spoke about the topic "A Global Mindanao and Palawan: Participation to the BIMP-EAGA Sub-Regional Cooperation." On the other hand, Ms. Ana Marie Labor discussed her presentation entitled "Integrating Mindanao: The Mindanao Development Corridor (MinDC) Strategy." Meanwhile, Mr. Jimmy Musa facilitated questions and answers during the open forum.

The caravan was well attended by faculty and students from various colleges including the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, College of Agriculture, and the College of Business Administration and Accountancy. Prof. Maulawi Calimba, CSSH Dean, closed the event with an inspirational message and hopeful remarks for more collaborative engagements with MinDA in the future.

The education caravan was made possible in collaboration with the Political Science Students' Organization (PSSO).



## DBP sets Orientation, Contract Signing for MSU-GSC Scholars

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

The Development Bank of the Philippines held an orientation among the second batch of DBP qualifiers and grantees from Mindanao State University-General Santos City and the Ceremonial Signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DBP and MSU-GSC for the implementation of DBP Resources for Inclusive and Sustainable Education (RISE) Program for A.Y 2019-2020 at the Conference Room, Y Bldg., MSU-GSC Campus last January 10, 2020.

DBP RISE invests in the country's human capital by enabling promising but underprivileged high school graduates to pursue higher education in support to the National Government's poverty reduction initiatives. Moreover, the orientation discussed the scholarship provisions in detail, terms and conditions stipulated in the contract, including their duties, responsibilities and privileges as scholars.

Included in the primary objectives of the program are (1) provision of financial support to indigent high school graduates and financially challenged college students who wish to pursue a degree course in DBP accredited educational institutions; and (2) provision of continuing access to education for the socio-economic upliftment of the best and brightest but disadvantaged Filipino youth and their families. Moreover, the DBP RISE, the second tranche of DBP Endowment for Education Program (DEEP), is another DBP flagship CSR program for Education. Qualified and deserving high school graduates are given scholarships in DBP RISE-accredited schools to provide educational opportunities to the best and brightest but marginalized high school graduates while strengthening institutional relationship with

Program partners. In creative collaboration with selected partners, our youth are molded into honest, responsible, empowered, productive and competitive global citizens. On the premise that labor is the most important asset of the poor, DBP RISE shall produce a pool of qualified and highly skilled professionals to serve the needs of the local and global job markets (DBP, 2020). The DBP RISE Batches 1 and 2 already have a total of 19 partner schools (11 SUCs and 8 Private HEIs). It is now serving 719 scholars in total.

According to Ms. Merly J. Nonoy who heads the Scholarship Program and lead coordinator from CSR Unit, Corporate Affairs Department of DBP main branch in Makati, the orientation would ensure that the scholars are well versed with the provisions of the contract before they sign. A total of fifteen (15) students belonging to the Blaan community were able to qualify for the scholarship. This opportunity is also a result of the initiative of Chancellor Ali's current administration to provide assistance to Indigenous students whose status are considered economically marginalized.





## 11 MSU-GSC Programs Accredited by AACCUP

Rodel A. Mohamad

In the Accreditation Survey Visit conducted by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP), Inc., on October 21 – 24, 2019, nine (9) programs were subjected to Level II Accreditation Visit while two (2) programs were subjected to Level I Accreditation Visit. This is in line with the thrust of Mindanao State University – General Santos (MSU-GSC) to embrace the challenges of internationalization and internalization of quality assurance system in order to enhance its ability to fulfill its constitutional mandate to provide quality education.

Sixteen (16) AACCUP Accreditors from different State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in Mindanao were welcomed by Dr. Anshari P. Ali, MSU-GSC Chancellor, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, along with the faculty and staff during the opening program of AACCUP Accreditation Survey Visit on October 21, 2019 at the New Library AVR, MSU-GSC. The four-day assessment took place in the Working Area of the Quality Assurance Management Services Office (QuAMSO) 2/F, Y-Building, MSU-GSC. It was actively participated by the faculty from College of Agriculture, College of Engineering, College of Fisheries, Graduate School, and Islamic Studies Department as well as the staff from various offices of MSU-GSC. An ocular inspection in the whole university was also done during the said assessment.

On November 4, 2019, Dr. Manuel T. Corpus, President and Executive Director of the AACCUP, awarded Level II Re-accredited status to four (4) programs of the College of Engineering, namely BS in Civil Engineering, BS in Mechanical Engineering, BS in Electrical Engineering, and BS in Electronics & Communications Engineering. The same award was conferred to three (3) programs of the College

of Agriculture, namely BS in Agriculture (Majors: Animal Science & Agronomy), BS in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, and BS in Agricultural Business Management. In addition, the BS in Fisheries program of the College of Fisheries and AB in Islamic Studies program of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities were also conferred with the Level II Re-accredited status.

In addition, Level I Accreditation status has been awarded to Master in Public Administration program of the Graduate School Studies and BS in Accountancy program of the College of Business Administration and Accountancy.

The result of the survey visit highly favored the hard work and effort of the university administration as the accreditors pointed out strengths highlighting the robust professionalism and high qualifications of the deans, department chairpersons, faculty and staff. The academic and scholarship programs offered by the university were commended for being substantial to the holistic development of the students. The university institutional buildings such as the library, lecture halls, general education laboratories, residence halls, and student centers were also praised for their good maintenance and orderliness. Moreover, the accreditors also acclaimed the research results of the university being published in national and international journals.

Currently, the Mindanao State University – General Santos has a total of 90% Level II Accredited Programs and 10% Level I Accredited Programs. Six (6) programs, namely Bachelor of Elementary Education, Bachelor of Secondary Education, BS in Biology, BS in Mathematics, BS in Information Technology, and Bachelor of Arts in Filipino are now gearing up for Level III Accreditation scheduled in the next academic year.

## MSU-GSC advances to ISO 9001:2015 Certification

Jeanette B. Madas and Rodel A. Mohamad



With a deep conviction to advance and create a niche in the global market and in conformity to Executive Order 605 of 2007, that is “Institutionalizing the Structure, Mechanisms and Standards to Implement the Government Quality Management Program (GQMP),” Mindanao State University – General Santos City (MSU-GSC) is adopting International Organization Standards 9001 series of 2015 for its Quality Management System (QMS) or the MSU-GSC ISO QMS 9001:2015.

Aside from international commitments, statutory requirements and regulations, MSU-GSC ISO QMS 9001:2015 also revolves on identified risks associated with the university’s operation and production, peoples’ awareness, and customers’ satisfaction. Systems for Training, Advocacy and Deployment, Risk Management, Document Control Management, and Internal Audit, are put in place to ensure that these principles are interwoven across organizational structure and processes.

The university has always been consistent in providing quality service that constitutes the requirements and satisfaction of its stakeholders. Therefore, the management system that had been running the university for decades underwent redesigning and reconstruction in cognizance of ISO requirements. Policies, guidelines, and standard

operating procedures are currently being developed to address the call for excellent and quality products and services.

Furthermore, an interim organizational structure, comprised of ISO Core Teams, ISO Secretariat, and ISO Technical Working Group, was created to execute mandatory processes of the QMS. Instrumentations to promote good governance, effective management, efficiency, consistency and continuous improvement across organizational hierarchy, processes and products were established and institutionalized.

With the systems in place, an internal quality audit will determine the university’s readiness for first stage audit by a third party, a requisite for ISO 9001:2015 Certification. While preparation and groundwork activities have started as early as 2017, it was on July 2018 that MSU-GSC ISO 9001:2015 QMS was formalized and it is via this instrument that certification be achieved.

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step,” and as the university advances and directs its goal to a higher level, it calls for a substantial hard work and thorough commitment. As it envisions to compete and keep pace to the global standard, the university endeavors to ensure the quality of service that guarantees a feather in one’s cap.



## MSU-GSC hosts 4<sup>th</sup> Research and Innovation Summit

Epimaco A. Cabanlit Jr., Ph.D.

The Department of Research of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension hosted the Research and Innovation Summit last December 9-11, 2019. The participants of the said event were the different campus winners in the oral and poster papers, together with their research directors, coordinators and Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension Dr. Edna Oconer.

In this summit, the outstanding young scientists from the National Academy of Science and Technology shared their research outputs, accomplishments and experiences. Dr. Anshari P. Ali, the Chancellor of MSU-GSC gave the welcome address and the opening remarks. He emphasized the importance of the network and connection of the academe and the industries. Mr. Elmer V. Catulpos, President of the General Santos City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc., pointed out the need for the collaboration and partnership

between the academe and the Industries. Secretary Usman Aragasi of the MSU System Board of Regents relayed the message of President Macaayong for the immediate rescue of the environmental degradation, the tendency to consumerism and exploitation of the natural resources. He is very grateful to the organizers and host in recognizing the MSU Outstanding Young Scientists.

Aside from the experiences shared by the young scientist, Dr. Elmer P. Dadios, an International Scientist from De La Salle University talked on how to manage traffic problems with the aids of robots and drones. Likewise, a very important common note emphasized by the young scientist is maintaining a sense of humility.

Closing the event, the Research Director of MSU General Santos advocates to maximize in loving one another and minimize loving another one.





## Dr. Cabanlit presents Papers in Five Research Conferences

Cathy Mae D. Toquero

Research Director, Dr. Epimaco A. Cabanlit, Jr., presented two papers in two international conferences and two papers in three national conferences in 2019.

Last August 17-23, 2019, Dr. Cabanlit presented a poster presentation entitled “On the Mixture of Two Power Function Distributions” at the 2019 World Statistics Congress in Kuala Lumpur Convention Center, Malaysia. The paper was co-authored with his advisee, Ms. Mycah Nailon, and focused on the important summaries of the mixture of two power function distributions. In the said congress, Dr. Cabanlit advocated that: “When there is peace, there is growth, when there is hope, there is development and when there is love, there is development.” Dr. Cabanlit is now an elected member of the International Statistical Institute that administers the World Statistical Congresses. It is a very prestigious organization of prominent and dignified statisticians with integrity all around the world.

Last October 17-19, 2019, Dr. Cabanlit presented his paper entitled “Digraph as a model for Peace Key Players in Muslim Mindanao” at the International Conference on Multicultural Education, Linguistics, Counseling and Social Sciences which won the Best Paper in Counseling and Social Sciences. The said paper presents different models by using digraphs on the different scenarios of peace in Muslim Mindanao. He emphasized and advocated that Filipinos shall love one another and stop corruption in the Philippines.

Last May 27-29, 2019, on the 2019 Mathematical Society of the Philippines Annual Convention at GreenleafHotel, General Santos City and on September

13-15, 2019 on the 2019 Mathematical Society of the Philippines CARAGA Chapter at Balanghai Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City, Dr. Cabanlit presented another paper entitled “Some Malpractices on the Regression Analysis,” which discussed some of the malpractices committed by thesis and dissertation writers in using regression analysis. He suggested that the Commission on Higher Education shall impose a policy that a prominent statistician shall sit as a member for quantitative researches. Moreover, every state university and college must have a Center for Statistics. Dr. Cabanlit is also developing a paper on some malpractices in estimating the measures of central tendency.

Last December 9-11, 2019 on the 4th Mindanao State University System Research Summit and Innovation, Dr. Cabanlit presented another paper entitled “Mathematical Cliques in the Mindanao State University System Board of Regents,” which discussed a model by using digraphs to determine the most powerful member in the Board of Regents. Dr. Elmer Dadios of the De La Salle University (DLSU) commented that MSU has almost all of the courses offered and needed by the country such as College of Agriculture, College of Fisheries and College of Forestry.

Currently, Dr. Cabanlit is one of the nominees for the Nobel Peace Prize for his book “Mathematics of Peace, War and Terrorism.” He remarked that the highest level of satisfaction and happiness of a scholar is when he can share his outcomes and discoveries to the community.



## GAD celebrates Success of Three Programs

Monlouie M. Sorzano, LPT

MSU-GSC Gender and Development Committee culminated three of its programs, namely: GAD Corner, Zumbalicious: The Biggest Loser, and GAD Film Festival by giving awards to participating university constituents. The event was held along the Year-end Thanksgiving Party on December 9, 2019 at Phela Grande Convention Center.

The awarding was led by the chairperson of the GAD Committee, Dr. Precy M. Regalado along with the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Edgardo A. Dazo, J.D. and Chancellor Anshari P. Ali, Ph.D.

First of the programs initiated by the committee is the GAD Corner. The activity is designed to offer an opportunity to creatively raise awareness on various issues on GAD. The participating offices have allotted a space to decorate based on the monthly theme. Evaluations were conducted monthly to check-up the sustainability of the GAD Corners. The judging was concluded on the month of November to announce the annual winning offices. The College of Agriculture was hailed as Best GAD Corner, followed by the University Library and College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics taking 1st and 2nd runner-up respectively.

Zumbalicious: The Biggest Loser, an activity aimed to improve the physical and social well-being of the university constituents, was also pioneered by the GAD Office. The activity was made possible with the cooperation of the Administrative Staff and Support Services Association (ASSSA) and Medical Services Office of the university. Monthly Zumba sessions were attended by faculty and staff members as well as students from different colleges. The activity also awarded its biggest weight loser, dubbed as The Biggest Loser, at the end of the year. Prof. Catherina Cunanan of the Senior High School Department was awarded with the

recognition after successfully losing a couple of pounds and for her consistent attendance in the Zumba sessions.

Film-making was also among the activities that helped GAD Committee set forth its pursuit for gender empowerment in the university. Different colleges and departments were invited to gather their promising film-makers to create a 15-minute short film tackling the theme of “Gender and Development Issues of the People of SOCCSKSARGEN”. Film entries for the 1st GAD Film Festival were the following: “Per” of the College of Agriculture, “Balot” of the College of Education, “Marilag sa Pinilakang Tabing” of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, “Iska: Babae sa Laylayan ng Magna Carta” of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, and “Kama o Sopa” of the Senior High School Department. The films were publicly screened at the Regional Science Research Center (RSRC) and viewed by college and high school students on December 2-3, 2019. The following awards were given to the film entries: College of Agriculture’s “Per” received Best Film and Best Screenplay, Senior High School Department’s “Kama o Sopa” received 2nd Best Film, Best Trailer, Best in Editing and Best Director, College of Social Sciences and Humanities’ “Iska: Babae sa Laylayan ng Magna Carta” received Best in Cinematography, Best Actress and People’s Choice Award and College of Education’s “Balot” received Best Actor.

The first half of the Academic Year 2019-2020 saw the success of the implementation of GAD programs participated by various colleges, departments, and offices. As the committee pushes forward with its agenda in the coming year, different programs and projects were planned and green-lighted through the full support of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, Dr. Edna P. Oconer and the participation of GAD representatives of the university.



## Peace Advocates, FPE101 Teachers Participate in Peace Workshop

| Cathy Mae D. Toquero

Peace Advocates and Fundamentals of Peace Education 101 (FPE101) faculty of MSU-GSC attended a Seminar-Workshop on Peace and Global Citizenship Education to strengthen peace pedagogy.

Participants of the seminar-workshop were from different disciplines of MSU-GSC to include faculty members from the English Department, BA&A, Fisheries, Engineering, Agriculture, Senior High School, and College of Education Training Department. Teachers of FPE101 gained critical inputs imbued with the process of introspection on October 28 to 30, 2019 at Sarangani Highlands, General Santos City.

Dr. Jovar Pantao, UNESCO's 2017 Most Outstanding Teacher of the Philippines, delivered the talk on "Understanding Vulnerability and Resilience to Violence." "Truth is simple...then peace is simple but violence is a lie so violence is complex," Dr. Pantao quoted.

The invited speaker, Dr. Swee-Hin Toh, awarded as Distinguished Professor University for Peace Costa Rica Laureate, UNESCO's Laureate for Peace Education, and Professor Emeritus of the University of Alberta-Canada, spearheaded series of topics and workshops on Peace Education and Global Citizenship Education (GCED).

Dr. Toh's topics focused on preparing teachers for Peace Education by embedding GCED concepts, principles, themes, topics, and learning objectives. He also led workshops on conflict resolution and transformation in peace education, education for global/local justice, intercultural education for building a culture of peace, and education for sustainable future. He also facilitated along with Dr. Mario Aguja on the forum on Peace Education for prevention of violent extremism.

Dr. Toh presented scenarios that illustrated the damaging effects of the prevalence of violence locally and globally. He elaborated on the framework of Global Citizenship Education anchored on the Sustainable Development Goals and envisioned the peace advocates of MSU-GSC to contribute to the culture of peace for the entire world.

"Since you are developing FPE, Peace Education, I hope to see the outcomes, results in the years to come," Dr. Toh said.

For teachers to integrate GCED in Fundamentals of Peace Education, Dr. Mario Aguja spearheaded the workshop on the development of an instructional plan. While, Dr. Ma. Theresa P. Pelones, UNESCO's 2018 Most Outstanding Teacher of the Philippines, facilitated the development of an instructional plan by embedding GCED concepts across the disciplines.

MSU-GSC Chancellor, Dr. Anshari P. Ali supported the event and shared insights on Islamic Education as a Remedy for Emergence of Uncertainty Brought by Industrial Revolution 4.0.

UNESCO's APTW funded the workshop after the proposal of Dr. Ma. Theresa Pelones won the grant after competing against 30 Asian countries. Hence, funding was devoted to the second batch of faculty members to integrate GCED in different courses and to train prospective teachers of FPE101.

MSU-GSC has a responsibility to proliferate the essence of peace in the country along with its aim to be a National Peace University. It hopes to achieve this vision through the strength of educating and empowering the youth –students to advocate for peace.



## OPAPP, MSU-GSC partner for PEACE NOW 2.0

| Jovar G. Pantao, Ph.D. and Monlouie M. Sorzano, LPT

The Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) and Mindanao State University-General Santos City (MSU-GSC) partnered in the conduct of PEACE NOW 2.0, a culmination activity for National Peace Consciousness Month, last September 25, 2019.

With the theme 'Tapang at Malasakit para sa Kapayapaan', the month-long celebration was concluded with PEACE NOW 2.0, an activity featuring a tri-people parade, a salubong - a simulation of peaceful coexistence of diverse people in Mindanao, tribal performances, and different artistic outputs in the form of letters, poems, and songs by Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE 101) students of the university. Another significant part of the program was the launching of the University Peace Messaging Hub, a virtual platform that features peace and development efforts in different parts of the region and in Mindanao.

OPAPP Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, Jr. graced the event and shared the message that, "with the strong leadership and political will of the Duterte administration, we will no longer pass on the Mindanao conflict and local communist armed struggle to our future generations." He further remarked that the President Duterte wants to resolve the insurgency problem before his term ends and not pass it on to the next administration.

University administration also showed strong support with the presence of various officials headed by the University Chancellor, Dr. Anshari P. Ali and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas who each shared a message during the event.

PEACE NOW 2.0 aimed to raise the consciousness and understanding of the public on the comprehensive peace process to sustain institutional and popular support and participation in building a culture of peace in the Philippines. The main objectives of the activity are to (1) engage and showcase localized peacebuilding best practices/

platforms from various peace partners towards its sustainability and replication; (2) update the public and generate common appreciation of the state of the comprehensive peace process and the gains achieved in the past year; and (3) gather aspirations and commitments of various sectors and strengthen/sustain popular support for participation towards just and enduring peace achievements.

Along with the culmination of the Peace Consciousness Month is the post celebration of the International Peace Day with theme, "Climate Action for Peace". This year's theme highlights the importance of climate action as way to safeguard the world and promote peace. Drawing attention from the threats posed by climate change, the celebration this year invests on the idea that concrete ecological action is of great help to achieve peace.

PEACE NOW 2.0 is a sequel activity of the university after its last year's active participation in the National Peace Consciousness Month held last September 2018 with a theme "Mithing Kapayapaan: Samasamang Isakatuparan" which successfully raised the level of awareness of the MSU community on peace and development. The university deemed it necessary to sustain the efforts in support of the Proclamation No. 675 issued in 2004 to instill greater consciousness and understanding among the Filipino people. The MSU-GSC lives its mandate in promoting Culture of Peace through its Resolution No. 356, S. 2017 which mandated the offering of a 3-unit course on Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE 101) in all undergraduate courses for students.

The institutionalization of the FPE 101 classes serves as a pro-active response to the pressing need of building peace and harmony in a multicultural Mindanao and promoting appreciation of the value of life, human dignity, and respect for religious and cultural diversity necessary in developing them as peace builders and peace advocates.



# MSU-GSC holds Groundbreaking Ceremony on Construction of STEAMS Building

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

MSU-General Santos officially held its groundbreaking ceremony on the construction of the STEAMS building on February 5, 2020 at MSU-CETD Campus. The said building will house the Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture, Mathematics, and Sustainable Development Studies including the Doctor of Medicine, a four (4)-year post baccalaureate program consisting of basic science and clinical courses.

The event was well attended by multi-sectoral representatives and various officials from the Local

Government Unit of General Santos City including Hon. Congresswoman Shirlyn Bañas-Nogralles, Hon. City Vice Mayor Ton Acharon, Hon. Councilor Lourdes Casabuena, Hon. Councilor Dominador Lagare, Hon. Councilor Blando, and the officials from MSU System including Atty. Siddik Abantas, Director of the Legal Services Department of the MSU System in Marawi City, Board Of Regents Secretary Usman Aragasi, Hon. MSU Faculty Regent Santiago Evasco, and MSU Vice President for Administration and Finance, Atty. Jamaloden Basar representing the

MSU System President Dr. Habib W. Macaayong. Also present were the officers and members of the Philippine Medical Associations (PMA) General Santos City Chapter and representatives from various hospitals in the city. MSU-GSC officials as well as faculty and staff were also in full force giving their all-out support for the said project.

The success of the event was a manifestation of a strong support and commitment from different stakeholders. The establishment of the College of Medicine Extension is pursuant to the mandate of the

university to strengthen and expand its extension services to its stakeholders. Besides this, the call for the offering of the College of Medicine arises from the supportive residents of the city who have long been pushing for the establishment of a medical school in the region.

According to Hon. Lourdes Casabuena, MSU-Gensan has gone far after many years of making a difference. She added that the City Mayor, Hon. Mayor Ronnel Rivera is very supportive of the project along with the members of the local legislative council.





## BoR approves College of Medicine Extension

| Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

Upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposal to open the College of Medicine Extension at MSU-General Santos Campus was approved last December 17, 2019 during the 249th BOR Regular Meeting held in Metro Manila.

The establishment of the College of Medicine Extension is pursuant to the mandate of the university to strengthen and expand its extension services to its stakeholders. In addition to this, the call for the offering of the College of Medicine arises from the supportive residents of the city who have long been pushing for the establishment of a medical school in the region. Hence, in response to the increasing shortage of medical doctors in the region, MSU-General Santos has finally decided to offer the College of Medicine as extension program of the College of Medicine-Marawi City to address the insufficiency. Apparently, Mindanao State University-General Santos has been supportive in addressing the health needs of the medically underprivileged residents in the region; thus, the establishment of the College of Medicine Extension is found to be a significant move to produce competent and committed health professionals to continually promote and help in the development of health care delivery programs in the city and other neighboring areas in Region XII.

The program offers Doctor of Medicine that is a

four (4)-year post baccalaureate program consisting of basic science and clinical courses. As stipulated in the program objectives, the offering of the medical curriculum primarily aims to prepare the students adequately to their role as doctors of medicine. Specifically, the medical degree program aims to (1) provide competent medical practitioners for the under-served areas of the MINSUPALA (Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan) region; (2) build center for medical education and research whose output will primarily geared towards the development and improvement of the standards of medical care in the MINSUPALA region; (3) develop a network of medical and health care delivery systems in the MINSUPALA region in cooperation with the Department of Health and other agencies; and (4) provide opportunities for Muslim students and other members of the MINSUPALA communities, as well as poor but deserving students to become physicians and serve the areas where they come from.

The operation, management and administration of the extension class shall be under the joint supervision of the Dean of MSU-Marawi College of Medicine and the Chancellor of the host-campus and the MSU-General Santos in coordination with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (OVCAA) of MSU-Marawi as per BOR Resolution No. 507, s. 2019.

# UNESCO awards Chancellor Ali as Outstanding Peace Educator

Anderson V. Villa, Ph.D

Dr. Anshari P. Ali, the 6th Chancellor of Mindanao State University (MSU) – General Santos Campus is awardee of the prestigious 2019 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Clubs’ Outstanding Peace Educator in San Fernando City, Pampanga on December 7, 2019. Chancellor Ali is a native of Bacolod Grande, Lanao del Sur, Philippines. He is a member of the Philippine Shari’ah Bar having passed the 1991 Shari’ah Bar Examination. Dr. Ali obtained his Ph.D. in Islamic Civilization at the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC), International Islamic University in Malaysia. He finished his MA in Islamic Studies (MAIS) at the Institute of Islamic Studies, University of the Philippines, Diliman; and his Bachelor of Science in International Relations (BSIR) at the Mindanao State University in Marawi City. Dr. Ali also finished Rabi Thanawi at Ma’had Marawi Al-Islami, Marawi City and learned Arabic language for three years during his doctoral studies in ISTAC, Malaysia. He was one of the students of the renowned New Muslim Philosopher Syed Muhammad Naquib Al-Attas of Malaysia.

Dr. Anshari P. Ali is the author of the book, “The Evolution of Islamic Law in the Philippines: History Texts and Analysis” published by the Mindanao State University, General Santos City (2009). He has authored three articles published internationally which dealt with Islamic Family Law in the Philippines, Secularism in the Application of Islamic Family Law in the Philippines, and Legal Impediments of the Application of Islamic Family Law in the Philippines. Dr. Anshari P. Ali has been with MSU General Santos City since 1992 up to the present as Faculty Member with the current academic rank of Professor VI handling Shari’ah courses in the MSU College of Law Extension and Islamic Studies subjects at the Islamic Studies Department of the College of

Social Sciences and Humanities. Prior to having been elected as Chancellor, he was the Assistant Dean of the College of Law Extension.

Upon assumption of his Chancellorship, Dr. Ali’s administrative framework focused on achieving the vision of MSU-

General Santos to be a globally competitive university while at the same time reaching its mission of becoming a national peace university.



## GenSan LGU awards Special Citation to Chancellor Ali

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

The City Council of General Santos City passed Resolution No. 958, S. 2019 on a motion carried out by City Councilor Vivencio E. Dinopol, duly seconded by City Councilors Lourdes F. Casabuena, Jose Edmar J. Yumang, and Jonathan T. Blando during the 19th Regular Session of the 19th Sangguniang Panlungsod, City of General Santos on December 10, 2019 expressing special citation and commendation to Dr. Anshari P. Ali, 6th Chancellor of MSU-General Santos for having been selected as one of the 2019 Outstanding United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Club Educators of the Philippines in Peace Education Category which was conferred by the National Coordinating Body of UNESCO Clubs in the Philippines (NCBUCP) Incorporated in San Fernando City, Pampanga on December 7, 2019.

The said Resolution puts emphasis on the relevant contributions of Chancellor Ali especially on his efforts of reaching out to various universities in Asia by signing Memoranda of Understanding with institutions that promote Islamic values and peace in the region such as Brunei, Singapore, and Indonesia, as well as in the UAE of the Middle East. He has also recently pushed for the creation of an Office of International Affairs (OIA) while strengthening the collaboration with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) through the university’s Institute of Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM). The resolution also stipulates that this recognition serves as an inspiration to the generals to pursue excellence in the field of the academe and in public service.

# MSU-GSC produces 17 LET Topnotchers

Cathy Mae D. Toquero

The College of Education of MSU-General Santos City has produced 17 topnotchers in the recently concluded September 2019 Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET).

Twelve of these topnotchers came from the Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEED) Department and five were from Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSED) Department.

Dr. Maria Theresa P. Pelones, Dean of the College of Education, said that the 17 topnotchers is the largest ever that the university produced in any board examination.

“This is the first in our history. Previously, we only produced up to three topnotchers but now it’s

totally different,” said Dr. Pelones. She added that the support from the administration, faculty members, partner review centers, and the strong efforts of the students were the keys to the remarkable success.

The college also garnered a passing rate of 92.53% (elementary level) and 81.11% (secondary level) for first-time takers. Based on national rating, PRC announced that out of 94, 440 examinees, only 28, 973 (31.34%) successfully passed the elementary level while out of 136, 523 takers only 54, 179 (39.68%) passed for the secondary level.

The LET was administered by the PRC Board of Professional Teachers at different test centers in the country on September 29, 2019.

## LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS September 2019

BACHELOR IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



**JOSHUA S. CANSECO**  
1st Place - 92.60%



**NOVALYN D. BARTE**  
2nd Place - 91.60%



**DIMPLE B. MANGALON**  
5th Place - 90.80%



**DARLENE JANE B. NAVARRO**  
5th Place - 90.80%



**ROSELLE MAE R. MONDEJAR**  
6th Place - 90.60%



**JESSA T. BALCOS**  
7th Place - 90.40%



**JULEAN QUEFANNIE FAITH  
V. FEDERIZO**  
2nd Place - 92.60%



**MARCHEE KAREN P. DIAZ**  
5th Place - 91.60%



**NASSER M. SABANDAL**  
6th Place - 91.40%



**NADJA RUSAIMA NAWA DINGLI**  
7th Place - 90.40%



**KARLA D. QUIMSON**  
7th Place - 90.40%



**GEORGE NICOLE P. ROJAS**  
7th Place - 90.40%



**EFREN NICOLAS ANDRAQUE JR.**  
10th Place - 90.60%



**JOEY C. MARAVILLAS**  
10th Place - 90.60%



**MA. SHEKINAH GRACE CABUNILLAS**  
8th Place - 90.20%



**JULLYMAE S. DELGADO**  
8th Place - 90.20%



**SITTI ZHAIRA K. SABINULA**  
10th Place - 89.90%

BACHELOR IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

# MSU-GSC goes on Air!

Mario J. Aguja, Ph.D.

Pananaw sa Kalinaw, Kalinaw sa Pananaw is a public affairs radio program that airs every Friday from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m on DXCP-cmp khz 585 and also live streams at its facebook page DXCP Radyo Natin. It is hosted by several volunteer faculty of the Department of Sociology, MSU-General Santos City. This radio program is an extension program of the Sociology department, with the support of the current administration of the Mindanao State University-General Santos City in line with its vision to be an educational institution that promotes peace. This is the first program in the SOCSARGEN area where a radio station formed a partnership with the academe to foster peace in Mindanao. The program was formally launched on November 29, 2019 with the DXCP station manager Danny Sabino and the program's first host Dr. Mario Aguja of the Department of

Sociology with his co-host Najifah Macaraya, a Philosophy instructor.

The said radio program is a conversation-oriented type of program which tackles topics on different aspects of peace-related issues. The Sociology department aims to bring intellectual academic discourse outside the premises of the university campus. As Dr. Mario Aguja said during the launching of the program, "there are a lot of discourse inside the classroom that we would like to bring to the community especially those important issues related to peace." Thus, the main goal of the program is to enlighten the community with ideas (mostly related to peace) from academic experts on the different fields. Professors from this University will be invited as guests for them to impart their knowledge related to peace and other topics of utmost relevance to the community. Moreover, this radio program also

aims to tap the different talents of MSU'ans especially those students of indigenous origin to showcase, among others, the uniqueness of MSU as a multicultural university. Students will also be invited in the program and this will hopefully serve as their training ground in molding them as an agent of peace.

To show his support to the program, the Chancellor Dr. Anshari P. Ali of this University was also interviewed through phone patch about the status of peace programs in Mindanao and the importance of education as a medium in promoting peace.

With the gradual increase of the ratings of the radio program, the Sociology department plans to maintain and improve the same with the view that hopefully it can raise the awareness of the community to help them see beyond the horizon.



## College of Fisheries strengthens Culture, Development of Pacific White Shrimp

Ariel Ortiz, MS

Pacific white shrimps (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) are species that have a high economic value and are national superior commodities largely produced by Asian countries. As a matter of fact, Indonesia and the Philippines are considered as the largest shrimp producers in Asia. The Philippines is known to the world for producing shrimps around 8,278MT per year. Pacific white shrimps are excellent as they can live with a range of salinity ranging from 0.5 to 45 ppt, have a high stocking density of more than 150 head/m<sup>2</sup>, have resistance to a low environmental quality, and need more maintenance time per cycle at around 90-100 days.

In light of these positive

attributes, the College of Fisheries during this cycle is culturing the Pacific white shrimp (*L. vannamei*). MSU-GSC Chancellor Dr. Anshari P. Ali, assisted by Dean Ariel Ortiz of the College of Fisheries (v), spearheaded the seeding of the Pacific white shrimp *L. vannamei* fry at the COF Laboratory and Research Station (CFLRS) facility last January 30, 2020 for the purpose of production and culture of these species. The seeding will enhance intensively the learning of the students in the Fisheries program as well as develop and improve the income generation of the university. This was done in one of the production ponds of the College. The fry will be allowed to reach Average

Body Weight (ABW) of twenty grams (20g) within 90-100 days before harvest time for income generation, and repeat the process in the second prepared production pond. Since the COF has four (4) massive production ponds as well as 12 smaller experimental ponds intended for culturing different species such as Bangus (*Chanos chanos*), Golden Tilapia (*Oreochromis mossambicus*), Pangacius (*Pangasius burchanani*), and the Japanese colored Koi (*Cyprinus rubrofasciatus*), it is more than capable of maintaining and culturing Pacific white shrimp species.



## MSU-GSC COF, APPP conduct National Mass Oathtaking and Induction

Colin Ibañez

The College of Fisheries, Mindanao State University-General Santos City, in coordination with the Asosasyon ng mga Propesyonal sa Pangisdaan ng Pilipinas, Inc. (APPP) conducted a National Mass Oathtaking and Induction for new members of the association. The event took place last February 5, 2020 at the Phela Grande Convention Center and was participated by 84 passers all over Mindanao, including Marawi, Naawan, Maguindanao and General Santos City campuses of Mindanao State University. The chairman of the Board of Fisheries who is the center chief of BFAR-NIFTDC, Dr. Westly R. Rosario, administered the mass oathtaking and shared his inspirational message to all newly licensed Fisheries Technologists.



Concurrently, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) recognized the Mindanao State University-General Santos City as the 3rd top performing fisheries school nationwide after UP Visayas and Iloilo State College of Fisheries (ISCOF). Mr. Amiel Jay Socorro, a BS Fisheries alumnus of the MSU-

GSC COF who ranked 7th in the October 2019 licensure exam for fisheries technologist, also gave his insights about passing the exam and hitting the ranks. The College earned an overall passing of 71.93%, way above the 37.79% national passing rate.

## MSU CETD Stude grabs National Champ

Ederlina M. Acedo, LPT

A Grade 10 CETD student, Dexter S. Alcarde brought home a sizzling win for the CETD and General Santos City as well, for Diwa Pasiklaban sa Paaralan Nationwide competition, the only ICT-Integrated Quiz show in the country held at SMX Convention Center, SM Mall of Asia last February 10, 2020.

On his way to the national championship competition, first, he bested from among the high school division qualifiers held at NDDU, Espina Campus last November 11, 2019, followed by a regional online championship win last November 27.

This coming March, he and the other CETD individual year level representatives from Grade 7- to Grade 10 are joining another Science Quiz, ECOSCILYMPICS - national competition in Baguio City.

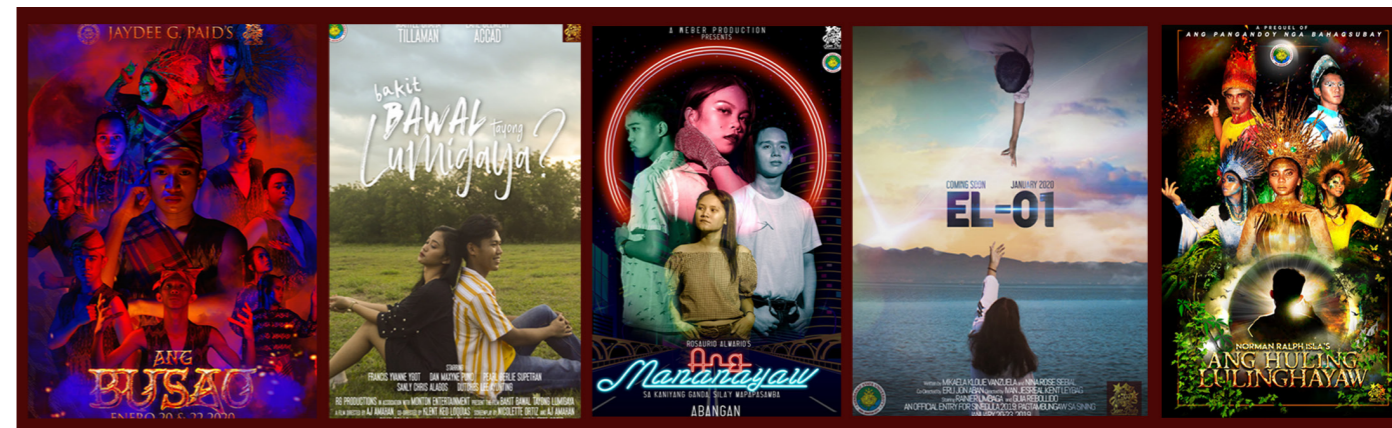
Mrs. Ammabel O. Alza, his coach and Science mentor is amazed to find such a student with multifaceted talents and skills to get inside his class unnoticed but delivers even more whatever is asked of him in return.

A complete package of good attitude and



awesome ability, he has impressed not only his classmates but more so his mentors especially.

Asked what motivated him to soar higher, he answered using a favorite quote: “At the end of the day, let there be no excuses, no explanations, no regrets. If you see a chance to excel and be happy, you must fight for it, so that later, there would be no reason for regrets.”



## MSU-GSC SHS promotes Theatrical Feat

Jaydee G. Paid, LPT

In response to the call for the promotion of local artistic activities, the Mindanao State University Senior High School conducted the 1st Sine-Dula: Pagtambungaw sa Sining, last January 20-23, 2020 at the University Library and Gymnasium.

Spearheaded by the over-all director Rodel T. Pareñas, the Sine-Dula stressed the development of the creative expression and skills of the students. The celebration

highlighted performance art— theatrical and film adaptations to holistically evaluate the favourable outcome of SHS subjects specifically 21st Century Literature from the Philippines and the World and Contemporary Philippine Arts from the Regions.

Three plays, Norman Ralph Isla's “Ang Huling Lulinghayaw”, Jaydee Paid's “Ang Busao” and a modern take of Rosauro Almario's “Ang Mananayaw”; and two films,

“EL-01” and “Bakit Bawal Tayong Lumigaya?” were featured in the said event.

The success of the 4-day program was verified by the reception of the wide audiences from various institutions and local schools in the city.

Along with this effort is foregrounding the artistry of Kabpapagariya Ensemble and the genius of faculty and student writers.

## MSU-GSC SHS Stude hailed Youth Achievers Awardee

Monloiue M. Sorzano, LPT



A Grade 12 Senior High School student of Mindanao State University-General Santos City, Roana Mae C. Caguliodo, received the General Santos City Youth Achievers Award (GSCYAA) for High School Category on December 6, 2019 at Veranza Mall.

GSCYAA honors young Generals who served as model to the youth in bearing excellence and goodwill in the city. The program aims to increase youth visibility and participation in the projects and programs of the city. It also helps the youth become the prime movers of change and encourages them to reach their full potential for the betterment of the city.

After a rigid selection process, Roana was hailed as the lone recipient of the award for the said category. Roana's dedication to the causes she has engaged with made the achievement possible. Her passion for policy-making, environmental conservation and activism has fitted her the position of Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Environment at One Mindanao Youth Parliament. She is also a member of Kidlikasan, a youth organization which has a mission of changing the world through teaching the youth and kids on how to take care of the environment. Roana serves as an inspiration for the youth to be the best version of themselves.



## MSD hosts HIV Symposium

Sheila Marie Esmá Madriaga, RN, SHC

According to the Department of Health Epidemiology Bureau, there were 840 newly confirmed HIV-positive individuals reported to the HIV/AIDS & ART Registry of the Philippines (HARP) in April 2019. Apparently, ninety-four percent (94%) of the reported victims were males. In the same month, there were 38 newly diagnosed adolescents who were 10-19 years old at the time of diagnosis. Sexual contact continued as the predominant mode of transmission.

As one of the crucial goals of the Medical Services Department of the Mindanao State University- General Santos City, an HIV symposium was conducted for the CWTS students of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities last December 4, 2019. The event was initiated in collaboration with the Family Population Organization of the Philippines (FPOP) and Rainbow Center for Revitalization of the city local government.

The program was well attended through the support and cooperation of the College Dean, Prof. Maulawi Calimba who was represented by Prof. George Gunay.

Moreover, it was made possible through the sponsorship from various private individuals and groups. Ms. Janice Vicente of the Jaja's Charity from Chicago, Illinois, USA and Ms. Desha Pelayre, an HIV advocate from Singapore expressed their support to the Medical Services programs. Mel's Catering Services and Kopiko Philippines also conveyed their interest in supporting the advocacies to promote HIV Awareness.

Dr. Usman stresses that academic institution plays a vital role in addressing health problems affecting the youth. The symposium is said to jumpstart series of similar lectures to be conducted in the different colleges of the campus until the end of the year 2020.



## MSD joins DOH Sabayang Patak Kontra Polio

Usmáima Fatima Usman, MD

After the re-emergence of Poliomyelitis in the Philippines, the Department of Health launched the Nationwide Sabayang Patak Kontra Polio last October 14-27, 2019 as one of its essential measures in strengthening immunization for preventable diseases such as poliomyelitis. Poliomyelitis is a viral infection that affects the central nervous system and may cause paralysis and even death. The said nationwide drive is geared towards vaccinating children aging less than 5yrs old which started in the National capital Region and in some areas in Mindanao such as Lanao del Sur, Davao City and Davao del Sur.

The Rural Health Unit of Barangay Fatima through Dr. Karl Ivan Igrobay has collaborated with the Mindanao State University Medical Services to be a fixed post for the Round 2 of the said activity which was scheduled last November 25 until December 7, 2019. Fifty-five (55) children were given a dose of the Oral Polio Vaccine OPV. The number of children given with the vaccine was said to have successfully



exceeded the expected target population in the area. Dr. Usmáima Usman-Naga of the Medical Services considers this as an opportunity to reach out to the community and to uphold the department's mandate in taking part in public health.

## MSU GSC-MPC, MSD hold Lecture on Most Common Medical Problems

Usmáima Fatima Usman, MD



The MSU GSC Multipurpose Cooperative in collaboration with the Medical Services Department conducted a "Lecture on Most Common Medical Problems" last December 4, 2019 which was well

attended by the university staff from different offices and colleges. Dr. Analyza Del Mundo Galia, excellently delivered and discussed the lecture. Dr. Galia is a Diplomate and Fellow of the Philippine Society of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism and of the Philippine College of Physicians. She is currently the Chief Training Officer of the Residency Training Program in Internal Medicine of St. Elizabeth Hospital.

The initiative to conduct such activity is rooted from the census presented by the Medical Services Department that shows that among the cases that are frequently encountered, Hypertension, Diabetes Mellitus, Bronchial Asthma and Arthritis are the most common medical problems of the university faculty and staff.

Prof. Lourdez Hena Sechong, the General Manager of MSU-GSC MPC, maintains her support in all activities that particularly promote the health and welfare not only of the cooperative's members but also of the whole MSU constituents.

## PTC-WEN awards

# Dr. Lawas as Inspiring Filipina Engineer

Jorgelyn C. Rivera, LPT

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mishell D. Lawas was awarded as one of the Inspiring Filipina Engineers during the 4th Philippine Technological Council Women Engineers Summit (PWES4) held at the Royce Hotel Clark last August 22-24, 2019.

The Professional Regulation Commission which has a mandate to develop a corps of globally competitive professionals, commends the initiative of the Philippine Technological Council-Women Engineers Network (PTC-WEN) as a fulfillment of the advocacy to promote lifelong learning and continuing professional development. With the solid reputation that the Filipina engineers have built both locally and abroad, it is all more important to assert their global

competitiveness through their enthusiastic participation in the said Summit.

Dr. Lawas, along with other awardees, is an inspiration to the youth around the country to follow academic interest and career in engineering. She has been in the academe for 20 years. She is an accomplished academician, accreditor and administrator whose passion and dedication for education has accorded her the designation as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of Mindanao State University-General Santos City. She acquired the degree of Doctor of Engineering at MSU-IIT in Iligan City, and she earned both her undergraduate and master's degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering at the University of Southern Philippines in Davao City. Outside the academe, Dr. Lawas serves as a professional consultant on various local and national Electronics Engineering projects.

In addition, Dr. Lawas was one of the co-founders of IECEP-SOCSKSARGEN Chapter when it was constituted in 2009. She had served as the IECEP-SOCSKSARGEN Chapter Governor for four (4) years from 2014-2017. Currently, she is the IECEP-National Vice President for Education and Student Affairs. In her service as a Governor for IECEP-SOCSKSARGEN Chapter, she was awarded the meritorious Outstanding Service Award. Lastly, apart from her engagement in engineering work and services, Dr. Lawas has also been actively involved in social, civic, and service organizations in the region. She is the SOCSKSARGEN Coordinator of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and is an active member of the Rotary Club of Gensan Tuna Port.

According to Commissioner Yolanda D. Reyes, gone are the days when the engineering practitioners are dominated by male professionals. Through the active involvement of the PTC-WEN as the country's representative to the Women Engineers of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organization (WEAFO) and the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES), the lady engineers have helped in demonstrating the value of diversity and creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for women to continue in the practice, promote greater contribution in industry, and provide overall support to women engineers and leaders.



## MSU-GSC awards Faculty, Staff, Retirees for Exemplary Service

Rosel Audencial

Mindanao State University-General Santos gave due recognition to 25 faculty and staff who have rendered service in the University for 40, 35, 30, 25, and 20 years as well as 17 faculty and staff who are retiring for the year 2019. This awarding was the highlight of the Employees' Night and Thanksgiving event held on December 9, 2019, at the Phela Grande Convention Center, General Santos City. The awardees received plaques of recognition and cash gifts from the University as handed by Chancellor Ali and VCAA Dr. Lawas.

The following were the awardees for the years of service rendered:

<b>40</b> Years of Service	<b>Abiera, Mary Lynn</b> Faculty <b>Galagala, Maria</b> Faculty <b>Lumawag, Efen</b> Faculty <b>Punla, Maria Amelia</b> Faculty
<b>35</b> Years of Service	<b>Espinosa, Remy</b> Admin. Asst. II <b>Espiritu, Nelia</b> Faculty <b>Galia, Maria Lourdes</b> Faculty <b>Narvaez, Romeo</b> Faculty <b>Niñofranco, Ruth</b> Admin Officer I
<b>30</b> Years of Service	<b>Asparin, Wilfredo</b> Admin. Aide I <b>Descallar, Ramon</b> Faculty <b>Ilisan, Nerio</b> Admin. Asst. II <b>Niñofranco, Eufemio</b> Faculty <b>Oconer, Edna</b> Faculty <b>Olaer, James</b> Admin. Aide VI <b>Otacan, Cesar</b> Admin. Aide I <b>Pelayo, Ireneo</b> Faculty
<b>25</b> Years of Service	<b>Aguja, Alma Celestia</b> Creative Arts Specialist <b>Betorin, Roberto</b> Admin. Aide I <b>Celda, Betty</b> Librarian III <b>Cunanan, Catherina</b> Faculty <b>Juaman, Norberto</b> Admin. Aide I <b>Mission, Leonardo</b> Admin. Aide I
<b>20</b> Years of Service	<b>Delambaca, Ricardo</b> Faculty <b>Martin, Lorie</b> Faculty

The following are the retirees for the year 2019:

<b>44</b> Years of Service	<b>Adajar, Arturo</b> Admin. Aide VI
<b>41</b> Years of Service	<b>Sechong, Lourdes Hena Celesti</b> Faculty <b>Quimosing, Epifania</b> Chief Admin Officer
<b>40</b> Years of Service	<b>Cuaton, Mansueto</b> Faculty <b>Salut, Edgardo</b> Faculty
<b>39</b> Years of Service	<b>Mission, Luz</b> Admin. Asst. V <b>Subiere, Mely</b> Faculty
<b>38</b> Years of Service	<b>Robles, Milagros</b> Admin. Asst. III
<b>37</b> Years of Service	<b>Laroco, Lorenzo</b> Faculty
<b>36</b> Years of Service	<b>Boltron, Ireneo</b> Security Guard III <b>Salarda, Peelbar</b> Faculty
<b>34</b> Years of Service	<b>Donesa, Marina</b> Admin Officer I <b>Salnungan, Zosima</b> Admin Asst II
<b>31</b> Years of Service	<b>Badilla, Victor</b> Admin Aide I
<b>30</b> Years of Service	<b>Otacan, Cesar</b> Admin Aide I
<b>28</b> Years of Service	<b>Tingson, Alfredo</b> Admin Aide I
<b>15</b> Years of Service	<b>Sumndad, Omar</b> Security Guard I

Source: MSU-GSC HRMO





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