CHED DESIGNATES 4 COEs 8 CODs IN MSU-IIT

MOBILE MUSEUM BOXES ARRIVE IN IIT

What’s Inside

GK FOUNDER ANTONIO MELOTO ADDRESSES 553 GRADS

3 NURSING GRADS TOP 2015 BOARD EXAM
Dear Readers,

We welcome 2016 with a renewed sense of vigor. The year 2015 was a most rewarding year for OPI having kept a steady stream of issues coming, a total of 10 in full color. Over the MSU-IIT’s presence in the internet in its official webpage and in the social media, FB and Twitter, it is still important to have hard copies of the Gazette as many still prefer to hold the copy, the smell or smear of ink as it were, perceptible to the touch.

In 2015, the Gazette morphed from a black and white, tabloid format published once every three months to a newsletter/newsmagazine format in color published each month — a decision to keep up with the times in this digital age.

Another important thing is the acquisition of an ISSN from the National Library for both our print and online editions, the online edition soon to be realized.

We have faithfully recorded what events had been significant to the Institute: first in the hosting of an international conference such as the Gendered Development Intervention International Conference; the national conferences in Sociology, on the Badjau; regional conferences in language and literature and the TEDxMSU-IIT; the passing and topping of our graduates in the Nursing, Engineering and LET Board Exams; scientific discoveries such as the Stonefly and the Mayfly, one species of mayfly named after MSU-IIT, the Afrosurus aymite, sp. nov.; the Natural Museum exhibits with the National Museum; the participation of our faculty and students in various national events; lectures of faculty members here and abroad; serial reports about our Colleges; the reading of papers by the faculty in international conferences; cultural exchanges such as the First Korean Cultural Festival, extension services to the general community such as for the Badjaus and in Bayug; trainings in journalism, branding and power point presentations; the basics of research and the writing and publication of researches; Peace Initiatives; and, sports activities of our athletes and sports enthusiasts among our faculty, staff and students.

We likewise covered student achievements in the making of projects (Tarintik), varsity debates, and the first win of AB English alumna Lynrose Genon as one of 2015 Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines; the Arts & Culture scenes starting with the celebration of the National Arts Month in February to the Cultural Development Office’s regular feature, Gabi ng Sining and the various other artistic-cultural activities such as film showings, painting exhibits, theatre performances of our resident cultural groups; and, dance and musical concerts featuring homegrown talents.

Of course we highlighted the Institute publication of our journals and books by our faculty, as well as the Commencement Exercises and Midyear graduation with guest speakers, now a presidential candidate and Davao City Mayor Rodrigo R. Duterte, and Gawad Kalinga Founder Antonio Meloto.

We are glad to face more challenges this year and the Gazette looks forward to cover more events with your help in promoting the MSU-IIT in order for it to achieve its goal of becoming a research university in the future.

- Christine

Gazette

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Contributions are welcome. Send articles written in simple, correct English; photos with captions to: opi@g.msuit.edu.ph

Photos and captions must be separated from the text. The Editors reserve the right to choose the articles and photos that appear in Gazette.

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Cover Photo: At the 6th Midyear graduation with (left): MSUS President Dr. Macapado A. Muslim and the Guest Speaker, Gawad Kalinga Founder Antonio Meloto.
CHEd designates 4 COEs, 8 CODs in MSU-IIT; extends validity of COEs, CODs in eng’g, teacher education

The Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) recently released the list of Centers of Excellence (COE) and Centers of Development (COD) in various disciplines for 2016-2018 in en banc resolution number 709-2015 on December 1, 2015 and banc resolution number 766-2015 on December 14, 2015 upon the recommendations of the different Technical Panels.

MSU-IIT’s four Centers of Excellence (COE) are in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and in Physics.

The Centers of Development (COD) for MSU-IIT are in Ceramics Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Information Technology, Marine Science, Statistics, Filipino, History and Sociology.

The designations for COE and COD take effect January 1, 2016 and will be from 2016 to 2018 based on a CHEd Memorandum Order (CMO) no. 38 Series 2015 signed by CHEd Chair Patricia B. Licuanan on December 23, 2015.

The CHEd Memo Order no. 38 said in part, “the designated COEs and CODs may avail of financial assistance on a project proposal basis geared towards the development of improvement of the programs, particularly cutting-edge technology in the different disciplines, provided that the implementation of the project should conform to the policies stipulated in the respective CMOs”.

The list of CMOs as basis for the COE and COD designations accompanied the list of COEs and CODs released by the CHEd.

Meanwhile, pending the completion of evaluation of applications for COEs and CODs in Teacher Education and in some Engineering programs, the validity of programs previously designated COE or COD status in Teacher Education and in some Engineering programs such as in Agricultural Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Metallurgical Engineering and Sanitary Engineering have been extended from January 1, 2016 to March 16, 2016.

But CHEd will not grant financial assistance to new project proposals during the extension period of the above existing COEs and CODs in Engineering and in Teacher Education according to the CHEd Memo Order no. 37, Series 2015 signed by the CHEd Chair Licuanan. – by Christine F. Godinez Ortega, OPI
Nepalese Math Prof keen on ties with IIT
by Ian Embradura, Office of Publication and Information

Academic conferences convene researchers together as a venue for knowledge sharing. It is also an opportunity for peers, former classmates, to meet again and plan collaborations and linkages. This was the case with the Mathematics Department’s Dr. Gaudencio C. Petalcorin, Jr. and his classmate both taking up post graduate studies at the UP Diliman, Dr. Hira Bahadur Maharjan.

From January 13 to 15, Tribhuvan University’s Maharjan visited MSU-IIT after attending the Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Applications where Petalcorin was also a participant.

Initially, the only plan was to have Maharjan as an external adviser for one of Petalcorin’s doctorate student. But since the Nepali professor and former Vice Chancellor of Tribhuvan University has never been outside of Manila, Maharjan extended his trip up to Iligan City.

Maharjan was showed around IIT, beginning with the different departments of College of Science and Mathematics. He said he was specifically impressed with the efforts of Chemistry’s Tuklas Lunas and the research of Physics’ Dr. Mark Nolan P. Confesor on predicting the occurrence of earthquakes, especially because Nepal was devastated by an earthquake on April 2015.

What started only as a brewing linkage between the Department of Mathematics of Tribhuvan University and MSU-IIT grew into talks of collaboration for the other colleges. Maharjan is looking forward to signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Institute.

Aside from the thriving research environment in IIT, the former Vice Chancellor was also impressed of how IIT, despite its humble and manageable size, has quite the number of Centers of Development and Centers of Excellence.

According to Petalcorin, Tribhuvan University shares the same vision with IIT: transcending from a teaching university into a research university.

But even before MSU-IIT signs an MOU with Tribhuvan University, both institutions are partnered with University of Kaiserslautern in Germany for a collaborative program on Graph Theory and Optimization with Applications in Industry and Society. A linkage between Tribhuvan University and IIT would then close a triangulated linkage.

Tribhuvan University is among the largest universities around the world, with a population of almost half a million students. It is the first higher education institution in Nepal. Moreover, there are 38 central departments and four research centers in the university.
The College of Arts and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, Dr. Akira Matsuda and his wife, Dr. Ayumi Terada, both from the University of Tokyo (UT), Japan, met on January 20, 2016 at the CASS Conference Room and discussed on chances of having academic collaborations between CASS, MSU-IIT and UT.

Present during the informal dialog at CASS were Dr. Steven Patrick C. Fernandez, proponent of the Culture and Arts program of the graduate school, Dr. Christine F. Godinez-Ortega, Office of Publication and Information Acting Director, Dr. Nimfa Bracamonte, the Department of Extension Acting Director, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, and Dr. Maria Cecilia Ferolin, Program Coordinator of Volunteerism in Community Engagement Program.

Topics discussed included the new education landscape, exchange of academic programs and scholarship grants offered, organizational structure, research interests, and experiences in cohesion of a culture that is both traditional and international.

Dr. Akira Matsuda is a faculty of the Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology Cultural Resources Studies of the University of Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Ayumi Terada is an Affiliate Assistant Professor of the Intermediatheque Department, University of Museum, University of Tokyo. The couple came to MSU-IIT to attend the launching of The Mobile Museum Boxes of which they are project members.
Mobile Museum Boxes Arrive in IIT
by Michelle Jeanne C. Caracut and Maria Theresa B. Panzo
Office of Publication and Information

Supported by The Toyota Foundation, the first mobile museum, The Mobile Museum Boxes began its tour at the MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology on January 18. The Mobile Museum Boxes is a collaborative project of the Institute, the National Museum of the Philippines, and The University of Tokyo’s university museum.

The traveling project focuses on Mindanao’s diverse natural history and is displaying 10 different specimens of four categories: terrestrial plants, terrestrial animals, aquatic animals, and geology of Mindanao at the lobby of the College of Science and Mathematics (CSM).

Project members are Dr. Ayumi Terada, an Assistant Professor, the University Museum, the University of Tokyo), Dr. Luisito T. Evangelista (Curator, Botany Division, National Museum of the Philippines), Mr. Emerito B. Batara (Laboratory Technician, Natural Science Museum, Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology), and Dr. Akira Matsuda (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, University of Tokyo).

In an interview with OPI, Evangelista explained that the project started from their dream to promote Mindanao and to erase the negative connotation it currently has. Terada added that the mobile museum boxes “can go anywhere without specific museum spaces [for] people to get opportunities to see [the] exhibit more without [the] intention to visit a [real] museum.” She thought that “if people know the natural history of Mindanao, they will love their own natural heritage more.”

During the opening ceremony held at the CSM lobby on January 18, Jeremy R. Barnes, director of the National Museum of the Philippines shared that this project is “much more sophisticated and richer in the sense that there are more information effectively packed into these boxes.” He also expressed optimism that this project will “spark the curiosity of people” and will lead them to discover and appreciate the knowledge that the museum has in store in all fields through its collection.

The exhibit went on display for two weeks, from January 18-29 and travelled to Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro City in February.

The Mobile Museum Boxes was launched in December 2015 at the National Museum of the Philippines, Manila.
Clockwise: (a) National Museum Director Jeremy Barns, Deputy Director Ana Maria Theresa Labrador, and CSM Asst. Dean Sasha Anne Valdez

(b) MSU-IIT Natural Science Museum Lab Technician Emerito Batara and Dr. Luisito T. Evangelista of the National Museum

(c) Dr. Ayumi Terada of the University Museu, University of Tokyo.

(d) Chancellor Sukarno Tanggol and Director Barns view the exhibits at the CSM Lobby.
Dr. Olga M. Nuñez, a faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences, receives the best paper award for her paper “Species Richness and Endemism of Anurans in Mt. Matutum Protected Landscape, South Cotabato, Philippines” presented at the International Conference on Environmental Science and Development (ICESD) held on December 23, 2015 at Crete, Greece.

The conference which was organized by Academics World is a non-profit organization that promotes discussion on Engineering, Technology, Science and Medical-related latest developments and issues through interactions among the world’s researchers and academicians.

Keren Jollia M. Nuñez, an undergraduate student of the Department of Biological Sciences, on the other hand, also presented her paper during the same conference.

Her paper was on “Species diversity of Lepidoptera in Bega Watershed, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur, Philippines”. The conference in Greece was Keren Jollia’s 3rd international paper presentation. She has previously presented her paper on “Antibiotic phenotypic profiles of fecal Escherichia coli from institutionalized pediatric patients of Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital, Iligan City Philippines” at Colombo, Sri Lanka during the International Conference on Environment and Energy 2013. Her paper was published in an ISI-indexed journal, Advances in Environmental Biology.

Her second paper presentation was during the International Journal of Arts and Sciences’ conference in Vienna Austria in April 2015. She presented a paper on “Species diversity of Odonata in Bega Watershed, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur Philippines” which has also been published in the Journal of Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences.
Increase in funding to boost construction on campus
by Rex Godinez Ortega, Office of the Chancellor

Looking upbeat on the first day of work in the new year, Chancellor Sukarno D. Tanggol announced to Institute officials the increase in MSU-IIT’s Capital Outlay under the National Expenditure Program (NEP) to P211 million.

In a hastily-called meeting held at the Institute boardroom on January 4, Tanggol said that the increase in the Capital Outlay would finally allow MSU-IIT to start planning the construction of three new buildings and the expansion of another this year.

The Capital Outlay is the fund from which money for the Institute’s infrastructure projects are to be sourced.

The buildings seen to rise on campus in 2016 are the Dormitory Building; the Technology Application and Promotion Unit (TAPU) and Intellectual Property Unit – Innovation and Technology Support Office (IPU-ITSO) Building; and the New CASS Building.

The increase in funding will also enable the Institute to finish the expansion of the College of Engineering Building, particularly its left wing.

Tanggol said that Senators and Congressmen he visited in October (2015) seemed to have agreed with him when he told them that it was “wise to invest in MSU-IIT”.

Biology students present winning papers in Jakarta
by Rex Godinez Ortega, Office of the Chancellor

At the International conference on Health and Life Sciences Research in Jakarta, Dr. Cesar Demayo’s three graduate students won the Best Presenter awards.

(left to right):
Mr. Mark Lloyd Dapar, an MS Biology student who presented the research paper comparing the faces of homosexual and heterosexual males using the tool of landmark-based geometric morphometrics;

Mr. Junnasir Sakilan, an MS Environmental Science student presented the paper on Indoor pollutants in selected homes; and,

Mr. Cordulo Ascano, a PhD Biology student who presented his paper on the diversity of reptiles within and outside of a mining area.
The 46th Commencement Exercises and 6th Midyear Graduation speaker was the Gawad Kalinga (GK) Community Development Founder, Antonio Meloto. He addressed 553 graduates from 9 different colleges and schools on January 21, 2016 at the Institute Gymnasium.

Meloto hails from Bacolod City. He attended the De Anza High School in Richmond, California as an American Field Service Scholar. He later qualified as a full scholar at the Ateneo de Manila University finishing with a degree in Economics in 1973. After graduation, his first job was as purchasing manager of Procter & Gamble Philippines.

Meloto’s other awards include the Ateneo de Manila University Ozanam Award in 2003; the Outstanding Filipino Awarded (TOFIL) Award for Community Service in 2006, the Humanitarian Service Award of the Philippine Heritage Institute in 2009; the Nikkei Asia Prize for Regional Growth in 2011; and, the Social Entrepreneur of the World-World Entrepreneurship Forum in 2012.

Meloto addresses a total of 553 graduates of eight academic programs. Floraime O. Pantaleta an AB English major who is graduating at the top of this year’s Midyear graduation as magna cum laude leads the rest of 14 other honor graduates.

Without a prepared speech for wanting to speak from the heart, he began extemporaneously by thanking the academic institution and the parents for having graduated young “nation-builders, poverty-busters, wealth creators that will build a prosperous Philippines”. He congratulated the graduates for having joined in the 20% that have received college
education which he considers as the poverty that the nation has.

Coming from a poor family and from a province where extreme disparity in equality and wealth distribution exists, he said that the source of the country’s poverty is the loss of its human capital where majority of the people who are intelligent and hardworking are not given the opportunity to have a college degree. Meloto added that lack of confidence and timidity are also problems but with education, students are given the confidence as well as competence.

He further encouraged the young crowd to be first-class Filipinos in the Philippines as the global economy is moving to emerging economies like the Philippines which means a lot of career and business opportunities will be created and the capital outlay will be flowing in the country. Getting a response with less conviction from the audience, he attributed this to years and years of colonial brainwashing deeply embedded in the Filipino hearts. He exemplified this by tracing back his generation’s history during the Martial Law in 1971 and that these were the times when Filipinos aspired to work abroad. He added that during this time, most Filipinos deemed anything coming from the Philippines was second-class, and that they built an exclusive culture of the elite which was thought of as first class. However, he said that the colonization prepared the Filipinos to understand the new world because of their connection to European and American roots. He prodded the graduates by saying that it’s time to build a new Philippines with every Filipino as first-class asserting that the global brand

Some members of the 2015 class
of the Philippines is the Filipino.

“Iligan is a land of opportunity, as Philippines is the land of opportunity in Asia," Meloto said. With the country as the world’s second fastest growing economy in 2015 by Bloomberg, the Ramon Magsaysay awardee for Community Leadership urged the audience to strengthen the existing solidarity among GK and other foundations, the national and local government, business industries and academic institutions, and build inclusive prosperity not just in Mindanao, but in the nation as well.

Consequently, Meloto invited graduates to try out social entrepreneurial work and help GK help the poor and build better lives for everyone, “…to create wealth that will not leave the poor behind…” so as not to perpetuate poverty and conflict. He ended his speech by convincing the graduates to love the Philippines, to stay and work, and continue develop the already rising economy of the country, to claim the nation’s heritage and finally to claim each of their destiny.

After his speech, the Social Entrepreneur of the World Awardee met and interviewed ten BSBA-Entrepreneurial Marketing students who will be graduating this June at the backstage dressing room about their future plans. The students were accompanied by their adviser, Prof. Milagros Marohombsar, and a faculty member of the Marketing Department, Prof. Marlo Novino. Earlier that same day, while taking his breakfast at the HRM Coffee Lounge, he met and spoke with the new Campus Ambassadors of the Institute, together with Chancellor Dr. Sukarno D. Tanggol and Office of Publication and Information Acting Director Dr. Christine F. Godinez-Ortega.

The 6th Midyear Graduation class was led by Floraine O. Pantaleta, an AB English major, Magna Cum Laude with a GPA of 1.44937, followed by 14 Cum Laudes in other degree courses, and one With Honors in the two-year diploma courses. Three students are recipients of Co-curricular Leadership Awards, namely: Malou N. Restauro (CBAA), Institute Leadership and College Leadership Award; Japhet C. Canumay (CED), College Leadership Award; and Elizabeth T. Herbito (CASS), Institute Sikap Award.

This year’s midyear graduation included students who completed their program at the end of the first semester, 2015-2016 (December 2015), and the end of the First Summer, 2014-2015 (May 2015) and Second Summer, 2014-2015 (July 2015). The School of Engineering Technology (SET) posted the highest number of graduates at 108, then followed by the College of Education (CED) at 95; 87 from the College of Science and Mathematics (CSM); 86 from School of Computer Studies (SCS); 74 from the College of Engineering; 38 from the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS); 35 from the College of Business Administration and Accountancy; and 30, from the School of Graduate Studies.

MSU System President Macapado A. Muslim conferred the various titles and degrees on the 2016 graduating class in the presence of the members of the Board of Regents, MSU System Officials, MSU-Naawan Chancellor Proserpina G. Roxas, and MSU-IIT Chancellor Sukarno D. Tanggol.
Three nursing graduates of the MSU-IIT College of Nursing (CON) topped the 2015 Nursing Board Exam given on November 28-29, 2015, Dean Clowe Jondonero confirmed to the Office of Publication & Information (OPI).

The recent feat by the CON makes the MSU-IIT one of 5 top performing schools in the country.

Only 76 IIT graduates out of 78 passed the Nursing Board Exam. The MSU-IIT garnered 97.44 per cent passing rate against the national passing average of 49.26 per cent or out of 18,500 examinees, 9,114 passed the board exam.

Stephanie A. Pangilinan, took the 4th slot with 85.60 per cent; Joahna Jean B. Jabao was in 7th place with 85.00 per cent; and Krishia Kamilla D. Tan was in 9th place with 84.60 per cent while Ms. Maybelle M. Abraham of the MSU main campus took 3rd place with 85.80 per cent.

IIT’s 78 nursing grads took the board exam in Cagayan de Oro City and Davao City but the rest of the 18,422 examinees took the board exam in the cities of Manila, Bacolod, Baguio, Cabanatuan, Cebu, Dagupan, Iloilo, Laoag, Legazpi, Lucena, Pagadian, Tacloban, Tuguegarao and Zamboanga.

In an interview with OPI, Pangilinan and Tan both said that they experienced the usual jitters before taking the board exam. The two described the exam questions from “weird, easy to confusing”.

Pangilinan who graduated magna cum laude would like to proceed to medicine. The smart and articulate twenty-year-old laughed at some of the board exam questions saying that there were “grammatical errors”.

Tan, 20, who graduated cum laude confirmed the grammatical errors of the questions and said that the exam proved difficult because of the illogic in the choices for answers.

“I had to make many guesses” in my answers. She said that only about 10 per cent of what she had studied in college came out in the board exam.

But both are appreciative of their college training and the way their mentors had pushed them to study on their own in order to develop their critical thinking that had equipped them in taking the exam. Tan pointed out that it was her ‘faith in God’ that also enabled her ‘to make it.’

Tan and Pangilinan will proceed to medicine at the MSU College of Medicine. The other board top-notcher, Jabao could not be reached for comment.

The top performing schools in Nursing around the country with 50 or more examinees with at least an 80 per cent passing rate are: 1) University of Santo Tomas, Mariano Marcos State University – Batac, Xavier University; 2) Cebu Doctors University; 3) Saint Louis University; 4) San Pedro College-Davao City; 5) MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology; 6) Central Philippine University; 7) Mountain View College 8) Saint Paul University-Tuguegarao; and 9) University of San Agustin.

By Christine F. Godinez Ortega
Give the kudos to Dean Clowey Jondonero and his six years of deanship that has propelled the College of Nursing (CON) to a higher plain.

Proof of this is that 2015 has been one of the remarkable years for the CON. Its Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has been granted Level II Accreditation status by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities (AACCUP) in the Philippines.

The college, in addition, has been consistently displaying academic excellence as evidenced in its performance in the licensure examinations. In the November 2015 Nursing Licensure Exam (NLE) for instance, CON ranked as 5th Top Performing School with 76 passers out of 78 takers.

Three nursing students made it to the Top Ten Passers: Stephanie A. Pangilinan (4th), Joahna Jean B. Jabao (7th), and Krishia Camille D. Tan (9th). In the year before that, CON ranked 3rd with 113 passers out of 116 takers (see related story on page 13). In the 2014 Nursing board, Lady Aizahlyn Indoc Angod placed 7th.

What's keeping CON busy

This year 2016 is a busy year for the CON as faculty and staff have been meeting the targets they have set from 2015.

Working in a research-driven educational institution, Dean Jondonero emphasizes the role of faculty in conducting research and generating research-related revenues. He has been strongly encouraging his faculty members to proceed with their research proposals especially those with approved funding to increase their number of research outputs and publications. Furthermore, the college has continuously worked with their extension programs under the WE CARE framework of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension. CON has been in partnership with the Life Project for Youth Foundation (LP4Y), the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Iligan City and Barangay Tibanga. This year, CON’s program with LP4Y is the sign language training which formally opens on February 21.

Apart from these, one of the major projects being started is the improvement of the college’s infrastructure, which is the entire fourth floor of the School of Engineering Technology building, renovating its classrooms to make these more conducive to learning.

Trends

In the global world of education, CON sees the trends of a dynamic exchange of academic knowledge among universities here and abroad.

At present, CON has partnered with Cebu Normal University (CNU) in which the Institute, through the college, co-hosts the recent International Research Conference held in Cebu City.

Last year in January, CON hosted the 1st International Lecture on Operating Room Nursing and Medical Surgical Nursing at the Institute’s Mini-Theater with Dr. Jonrich Randall Levine from MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, USA as the guest speaker. In December, the Institute co-hosted the 5th Asian International Conference on Humanized Health Care (AIC-HHC) and International Conference of Nurses at Marco Polo Hotel, Cebu City.
Collaboration in the workplace is a key to greater accomplishments and the energetic dean very well knows this. Collaboration provides development as well as access to skills and strengths, solves problems and innovates faster.

In November last year, CON collaborated with the School of Computer Studies (SCS) and the College of Engineering (COE) in co-convening the 1st DOST Balik-Scientist Program Research Symposium featuring Dr. Romulo J. De Castro, an expert on Bioinformatics, Neuroscience and Immunology. The following month of the same year, CON, together with the COE, invited Samdhana Institute Program Manager Joan U. Jamisolamin and Pamalih Community leader Datu Cesar Asapon and two other representatives to visit the university for a round-table discussion on possible research and extension collaboration.

Taking teamwork to a higher level, CON plans to formalize partnerships with Khon Kaen University (KKU) in June 2016 after a previous engagement with the Faculty of Nursing on September 10, 2015. The visit was to initiate the formulation of a Memorandum of Understanding with KKU stipulating cooperation strategies of both nursing education institutions on matters relating to faculty and student exchange program as well as research and extension collaboration.

**Challenges and Promises: the faculty**

The demand for knowledgeable healthcare practitioners continues to grow and CON continues to seek nursing graduates whose skills are aligned with the requirements of the education environment. The greatest challenge of the college, according to Dean Jondonero, is the difficulty to attract qualified nursing graduates willing to serve as college faculty.

Dean Jondonero said in an interview that most nursing graduates from different nursing schools and those who have master’s degrees in nursing prefer to work in hospitals abroad. Moreover, what’s harder is that the Institute has been encouraging the college to hire graduates from universities with Center of Excellence status in the nursing program. However, he said that there are only few Centers of Excellence in Nursing in the country and that these centers are found in Luzon. The dean expressed his doubts whether these nursing graduates would prefer to teach in Mindanao. He also added that about 50% of MSU-IIT nursing graduates opt to pursue medicine soon after graduation and the others prefer to do clinical practice in medical institutions.

Inviting and hiring good clinical instructors from private schools has been done also but was unsuccessful as most are members of the aging nurse workforce and are already comfortable with their current work conditions.

Despite this, Jondonero continues to strengthen and enhance his faculty’s competence and productivity through capability-building trainings with the Department of Research of OVCRE, Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), Philippine Nurses Association, and other health organizations, and participation in national and international conferences. (to be concluded)
The Department of Marketing, in coordination with the Philippine Marketing Association, held the “Mindanao Roadshow 2015” on Nov. 6 at the MSU-IIT Gym. The event was organized by the Junior Entrepreneurial Marketing Students (JEMS) society and attended by more than 500 students from MSU-IIT, MSU Marawi, MSU Naawan, St. Michael’s College, and Iligan Medical Center College.

The activity kicked off with an invitation from Ms. Ann Cristine Palisoc, the Agora Youth Awards Chair and President of Phil Wacoal Corp., for the students to join the annual prestigious Agora Youth Awards. This longstanding national competition is organized by the Philippine Marketing Association in search for the best marketing plans produced by students for household brands such as Sun Cellular and Mang Inasa. This year, the winning entry came from the Institute’s Department of Marketing, which was awarded the “Marketing School of the Year” after besting 9 other universities.

The event’s highlight, however, was the talk on “Creating a Marketing Plan in the Digital Age” by Mr. Albet Buddhahim, Managing Director of IPG Mediabrands and former Agora Youth Awardee. He spoke extensively on the history and development of Marketing, the role of digital marketing in communications, business trends for 2015 and parts of the marketing plan. He also discussed a variety of company cases that capitalize on digital media and social networking to gain a competitive edge in the market. Accordingly, the most popular brands nowadays utilize digital media to reach out and interact with their customers, making their brands meaningful to the market.

The champions

MSU-IIT students won first place in the Inter-school Psychology Quiz Challenge in the recently concluded annual convention of the Psychological Association of the Philippines Junior Affiliates (PAPJA) held on January 22-23, 2016 at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia and Far Eastern University.

The MSU-IIT team, coached by Ms. Jean S. Taypa, faculty of the Psychology Department, is composed of Marie Joy S. Galaletit, Roshe Ana Vina L. Openiano, Kathreena C. Lagura, (4th Year BS Psych students); and Micaella P. Magallanes, (3rd Year BS Psych student). The quiz bowl competition was participated by more than 50 universities and colleges from all over the country. A written elimination round narrowed the participants into ten schools to compete in the final round. Emerging as the clear winner with only two mistakes, MSU-IIT clinched the first place while last year’s champion, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) placed second followed by the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) rounding up the top three. MSU-IIT moved up the rankings from last year’s 4th place performance.

Another source of pride in this year’s PAPJA is the inclusion of an alumna, Miss Katherine D. Pantaleon, as one of only two plenary speakers of the conference. Pantaleon, a B.S. Psychology graduate of the Institute, is now a registered psychologist and registered psychometrician at the New Day Recovery Center in Davao City.

PAPJA, a highly anticipated yearly event for undergraduate psychology students nationwide, is committed to the development of future psychologists.
In line with the thrust of the government to make the Philippines a powerhouse in integrated circuits (IC) design industry, the Microelectronics Laboratory of the Electrical/Electronics/Computer Engineering (EECE) Department conducted a series of trainings to support the said advocacy. With the partnership of Philippine Institute for Integrated Circuits (PIIC) and support from the Institute of Electronics Engineers of the Philippines (IECEP) - Iligan Bay Chapter, the training is now on its 2nd phase (Operational Amplifier IC Design). These continuous efforts were participated by different universities across Mindanao to learn and experience IC Design.

Out of the 135 research presentations from Asia and the Pacific, 16 came from the MSU-IIT.

HNICEM 2010 was held on December 9-12, 2015 at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City. It was organized by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Philippines Section together with the Neuronemec and the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, Philippines Chapter.

One of the HNICEM 2015 plenary speakers was Prof. Carl John Salaan faculty of the Department Electrical, Electronics and Computer Engineering who is now taking up his doctorate at the Tohoku University.

The theme of the conference was “Humanitarian Technologies for Disaster Prevention and Risk Reduction.”

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(contributed news)
The Gazette

First in series of trainings in Journalism for IIT constituents

The first in a series of trainings in Journalism was conducted by the Office of Publication and Information (OPI) on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at the Institute Boardroom.

These trainings are designed to train reporters and editors for the Sub Webpages of the Official Institute Webpage who will operate independently from the OPI the individual webpages for every college/ school and offices of the Institute.

Those submitting articles and photos to the Sub Webpages should send these directly to: webteam@g.msuit.edu.ph.

The OPI however will still continue to monitor these Sub Webpages but will not have editorial control over articles and photos appearing in the college and office webpages.

The participants will also be responsible in identifying and submitting significant news stories and photos that will be submitted to the Gazette and the pages of the Main Webpage, Facebook and Twitter pages.

During the first day of training, the participants chose their own Section Editors and reporters and formulated policies for review in the independent postings and maintenance of quality work in the Subpages of the Institute’s Webpage.

The first participants during this first training session were: Boylie Sarcina and Bainora Amate of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning & Development (OVCPD); Cherly S. Adlawan and Juvy T. Cambaya of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research & Extension (OVCRE); Chanda Pearl B. Simeon and Onnah Pierre P. Talle (College of Arts & Social Sciences); Karen R. Veloso, Geraldine S. Ridad and Leah May P. Madjus (College of Nursing); Giselle O. Dangdang and Sutero Malayao, Jr. (College of Education); and Safa D. Manala-o, Martha Joy J. Abing and Jessa Mae S. Banse (College of Business Administration & Accountancy).

The trainers and their topics were: Rex Sacayan of the Computer Center and School of Computer Science, “Posting texts and Photos in the Webpage”; “Tips in Newswriting” by Rex G. Ortega of the Office of the Chancellor; “Use of Tenses and Common Errors in Grammar” by Michelle Jeanne Caracut, OPI Special Assistant and faculty of the Department of English; and, “Tips in Headlining and the Writing of Captions” by Maria Theresa B. Panzo, OPI Special Assistant and faculty, Department of English.

The next training is scheduled in February this year.

It will focus on “Newswriting” (workshop); “The Use of Prepositions and Idioms”; “Ethics in Journalism”; and, “Culture Sensitive Reporting”. Other trainings are spread out during the rest of the year for photography, layout, writing for Business, writing for Science and Technology, and Broadcast Journalism. – CFGO, OPI
“Reconciliation and Healing” was the focus of the 2015 observance of the Mindanao Week of Peace spearheaded by the Institute for Peace and Development and Mindanao (IPDM). This was to highlight the prime importance of local peace initiatives in community building.

Activities which began during the last week of November included research forum and creative peace building that includes the Mindanao Peace of Art through photography, short films, and music film festival. The research forum, which was held on December 4, featured studies conducted by IPDM and government agencies like the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Agriculture.

Unlike its Lanao peace counterparts which are mostly civic society organizations who focus on communities, IPDM specializes on a young sector – the students.

“For the Mindanao Week of Peace we really celebrate the importance of the youth in the peace process because for participation of the youth in the peace process is very minimal. We wanted to engage them,” shared Dr. Mark Anthony J. Torres, Campus Director of IPDM.

He added that such passive participation may also be attributed to the belief that the peace process is only between the government and the MILF.

“The peace process is not only political… it also includes community level peace building initiatives where students and the youth can participate or contribute. So during the Mindanao Week of Peace we emphasized the different levels of diplomacy and the different tracks in the peace process,” he said.

Another activity, advancing cooperation among security sectors, was held on December 10. This aimed to enhance coordination between the police and the military in Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur especially after the Mamasapano incident. Gaps were identified in the implementation of the coordination mechanism and a workshop was also held to enhance this cooperation.

For its celebration, the IPDM has partnered with the Non-violent Peace Force (the civilian component of the International Monitoring Team), the Lanao Peace Partnership, Pakigdait, Bantay Kalilintad, DTI, TESDA, SEED for Mindanao, and JCI Iligan.

Winners of the various events will be announced in February to coincide with the Love Month.
This issue contains the following:

“The Language of Disaster: Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) and Sendong (Washi) as Cases in Point by Hilton J. Aguja;

“The Effects of Planned FFI on Learners’ Acquisition of Present Perfect” by Fe F. Largo and Daisy Lou L. Polestico;

“The Bioactivities of the Fractions from the Ethanol Extract of Leucohaya capitellata (“Alagasi”) Leaves: Toxicity, Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities by Sheila Mae S. Burgos; and,

“The bioactivity Profile of Ixora chinensis (“Santan-tsina”) Leaves: Toxicity, Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities by Sheila Mae S. Calimpon and Mylene M. Uy;

“Identification of the Fatty Acids in the Leaves of Premna odorata Blanco (Lamiaceae) by Lunesa C. Pinzon, Mylene M. Uy, Shinni Ohta;

“Spectroscopic Assessment of Boric Acid Levels in Samples of Instant Noodles” by Ma. Cecilia V. Almeda and Elvie Grace M. Burgos;

“The buoyicity Profile of Ixora chinensis ("Santan-tsina") Leaves: Toxicity, Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities by Sheila Mae S. Calimpon and Mylene M. Uy;

“Insecticidal Activity Evaluation of Decoctions and Crude Ethanol Extracts from Amnama squamosal Linn., Jatropha curcas Linn. And Lantana camara Linn. Against Sitophilus zeamais (Motschulsky) and Kerstin Rhys S. Pueblos; Mark Tristan J. Quimique, Anelyn P. Bendoy;

“The Bioactivity Profile of the Fractions form the Ethanol extract of Derris elliptica Benth ("Tubil") Leaves” by Rhosa Veca D. Deguino and Mylene M. Uy;

“Phytochemical, Brine Shrimp Lethality Assay, Antibacterial and Antioxidant Activity Screening of Nypa fruticans ("Nipa") Leaf Extracts by Charlie A. Lavilla, Jr and Marvelous Grace L. Villazorada;

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Issue Editor: Metodis M. Trinidad
This issue contains 9 papers by the following authors:

“Upgrading the Purity of Na-Montmorillonite by Electrophoretic Deposition” by Iylyeen C. Bernardo-Aragay, Leslie Joy L. Diaz;

“Optimal Generation Scheduling of the Philippine Power System Grid” by Philip B. Ocang, Noel R. Estoperez;

“Utilization of Crushed Coconut Shells for Green and Light-weight Concrete” by Metodis M. Trinidad;

“An Experimental Investigation on the Reduction of Laterite Ore Using Liquidified Petroleum Gas” by Genelyn B. Itao and Nathaniel M. Anacleto;

“The Effects of Planned FFI on Learners’ Acquisition of Present Perfect” by Fe F. Largo and Daisy Lou L. Polestico;

“Identification of the Fatty Acids in the Leaves of Premna odorata Blanco (Lamiaceae) by Lunesa C. Pinzon, Mylene M. Uy, Shinni Ohta;

“Spectroscopic Assessment of Boric Acid Levels in Samples of Instant Noodles” by Ma. Cecilia V. Almeda and Elvie Grace M. Burgos;

“The bioactivity Profile of Ixora chinensis (“Santan-tsina”) Leaves: Toxicity, Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities by Sheila Mae S. Calimpon and Mylene M. Uy;

“Insecticidal Activity Evaluation of Decoctions and Crude Ethanol Extracts from Amnama squamosal Linn., Jatropha curcas Linn. And Lantana camara Linn. Against Sitophilus zeamais (Motschulsky) and Tribolium castaneum (Herbst) by Quennie Grace N. Malmis and Kerstin Rhys S. Pueblos; Mark Tristan J. Quimique, Anelyn P. Bendoy;

“The Bioactivity Profile of the Fractions form the Ethanol extract of Derris elliptica Benth ("Tubil") Leaves” by Rhosa Veca D. Deguino and Mylene M. Uy;

“Phytochemical, Brine Shrimp Lethality Assay, Antibacterial and Antioxidant Activity Screening of Nypa fruticans ("Nipa") Leaf Extracts by Charlie A. Lavilla, Jr and Marvelous Grace L. Villazorada;

Hong-Yi Huang, Jeprie L. Gultia, Patricia A. Ole, Jr. Rennie E. Miculob;


“Spatial Analysis of Flood Susceptible Areas in Iligan City Using Geographic Information System (GIS)” by Rom Oliver T. Perez, Jhon Eduard C. Obordo, Metodis M. Trinidad;

“Design and Testing of Used Cooking Oil (UCO) Stove For Household Application” by Edwin O. Deiparine;

“Artificial Neural Network (ANN)-Based Shunt Active Power Filter” by Jeprie L. Gultia, Rennie E. Miculob, Chinet O. Mocorro, Noel R. Estoperez, Patricia A. Ole