



# TSU advances to IPOPHL's highest clustering distinction for 2023



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Tarlac State University received its first Platinum Award for the 2023 ITSO 2.0 Clustering during the 2024 President's Summit at Dusit Thani Hotel in Makati City on March 18, 2024.

The university leaped from Bronze in 2022 ITSO Clustering, awarded in

March last year, to Platinum for 2023 clustering, the highest clustering distinction conferred by the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL).

The IPOPHL grants these awards to the country's top-notch Innovation and Technology Support Offices

(ITSO) that measure up in the innovation scene.

Among 16 higher education institutions, TSU has secured the spot for the said status.

The Office of Technology Development, Transfer, and Commercialization facilitated

the fulfillment of clustering requirements by rendering services to internal clients and external partners as an ITSO franchise.

Determined to outperform the previous achievement in 2022, the OTDTC reinforced its

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## TSU's Records-Archives unit, Tarlaqueño Studies to publish first university historical book

Mary Joy B. Manalo

To preserve the rich history of Tarlac State University, its retired key officials convened with the Records Management Improvement Committee (RMIC) to discuss its book project on March 7, 2024 at the TSU Hotel, Lucinda Campus.

The creation of the university's historical book is through the collaborative effort of the Records and Archives Unit (RAU) and the Center for Tarlaqueño Studies (CTS), which will document the university's developments via digitized archival collections and research.

Retired key officials, also known as some of the institution's pillars, served as consultants during RAU Head Ms. Victoria G. Seguira's presentation of the digitized

materials.

During the meeting, Dr. Lino Dizon, National Historical Commission of the Philippines Commissioner and former Center for Tarlaqueño Studies Director of TSU, shared his inputs on some of the materials presented as these were mostly from his historical collection of the university.

Resources contributed by Comm. Dizon, the project's overall coordinator, are available at the RAU and will be used in the book project that the Office of Public Affairs will package.

Apart from Comm. Dizon, other retirees who served the university's previous administrations shared recommendations and critiques in the presented historical book concept. These retired pillars



include former administration and finance vice presidents Dr. Lorna Dimatulac and Dr. Dalisay Rigor, former academic affairs vice president Dr. Lolita Sicat, former Tarlaqueño Studies director Dr. Rodrigo Sicat, and TSU alumnus Engr. Jose Dimatulac.

The past administrators also showed their support by sharing their personal collections of university mementos, such as documents and photos.

Furthermore, Dr. Sicat, the former CTS director, suggested including the RAU's history, including its former officers.

Meanwhile, the retired vice presidents volunteered to

share photos during their tenure at the university, like previous annual planning sessions and activities of the College of Education and the Tarlac College of Technology.

Engr. Dimatulac will also provide his 1971 collection of photos of the Tarlac School of Arts and Trades and The Work, the university's official student publication.

The target completion of the historical book is in September 2024.

As the representative of TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, Presidential Assistant Dr. Brigido Corpuz attended the meeting to bolster the present administration's approval of the activity.

## 171 TSUians benefit from Sen. Legarda's Tulong Dunong Program for SUCs

Mary Joy B. Manalo



The first batch of TSUians received their stipend from Senator Loren Legarda under the Commission on Higher Education's Tulong Dunong Program for SUCs on March 11, 2024 at the TSU Gymnasium.

Through the initiative of Senate President Pro Tempore Legarda, 171 scholars each received 7,500 pesos of cash assistance through a one-time payout for the first semester of the academic year 2023-2024.

"Hangad ko na ito ay makatulong sa inyong pang-araw-araw na pangangailangan. I always viewed investing knowledge as a key to unlocking doors of opportunity for you and for filling your potential," Sen. Legarda said in a video message.

"Tutulungan ko kayo na maabot ang antas ng sigasig at pagkauhaw sa kaalaman katulad noong ako ay bata pa rin noon," she added.

Meanwhile, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg anchored the university's core values in her

message to the scholars.

"T is for truth – we need to put that into action. Dapat tayo ay magpakatoto in providing S – service of excellence and compassion. Give service to your family, community, and TSU by studying hard and showing love to them, so we can say that, true to form, we are U – united in diversity," VP Macaraeg said.

"Let us serve as a tool or an agent to all our students to make love and peace and provide true service to TSU," she added.

In an interview, Melanie D. Gagarin, 48, a solo parent, said that the stipend would significantly help her children with their transportation allowance since they are on different TSU campuses.

Melanie and her daughter Paulene traveled from La Paz town to receive the stipend.

Paulene is a second-year BEEed student at the TSU La Paz Campus, while her brother Benjamin is a third-year BSEd

student at the Lucinda Campus. Both would travel from La Paz to their campuses daily to attend classes.

Melanie, a suman (Filipino rice cake) vendor, thanked Sen. Legarda and TSU, as the stipend will help her make ends meet for her children.

Another stipend recipient from CoEd, Princess C. Chavez, a graduating BEEed student, resides at Sitio Calangitan in Capas town of Tarlac.

Like the Gagarin siblings, Chavez will use the money for her transportation needs to help her parents, a farmer and a housewife.

Recipients of Sen. Legarda's CHED TDP for SUCs were selected by the university's Scholarship and Financial Assistance Unit (SFAU) through the following criteria: students should not have an INC and a failing grade, and they should not be a recipient of any scholarship.

Meanwhile, the second batch of Sen. Legarda's CHED TDP SUCs scholars is expected to receive their stipend in the second semester of the present academic year.

According to the SFAU, this CHED TDP for SUCs from Sen. Legarda differs from the CHED TDP scholars from the

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## 86 faculty members claim promotion via JC 3

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Eighty-six Tarlac State University faculty members took oath on March 8, 2024 at the TSU Hotel in Lucinda Campus for their position reclassification under CHED-DBM Joint Circular No. 3, s. 2022.

This is the first roll-out of the JC 3, which prescribes and establishes the rules and regulations governing the implementation of the guidelines for reclassifying faculty positions in state

universities and colleges.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco presided over the oath-taking of six Professor VI, two Professor V, six Associate Professor I, five Associate Professor II, nine Associate Professor III, two Associate Professor IV, eight Associate Professor V, 13 Assistant Professor I, eight Assistant Professor II, three Assistant Professor III, 10 Assistant Professor IV, three Instructor II, and 11 Instructor

III.

“Ulitin ko po sa mga nasa mababa, hanapin po natin ang kiliti ng mga boss natin; sa talamapakan, sa kilikili o saan man yan. And to those Professor VI na nandito, be considerate sa ating mga nakababata para maging katulad ninyo, ma-promote din sila as Professor VI. Walang mahirap sa taong may pangarap,” Pres. Velasco said in his speech.

“Have (a) positive

attitude while you are in TSU. Walang hindi magagawa sa taong may magandang puso at magandang kalooban. Sana po maging masaya tayo sa mga ibang napupromote,” he further said.

Meanwhile, School of Law Dean Dr. Jose I. De La Rama Jr. took his oath as Professor VI last March 6 after the Administrative Council meeting at the College of Engineering AVR.



## TSU concludes 2-week ELPP with Osaka University of Economics

Office of International Affairs and Linkages

Tarlac State University culminated its English Language Proficiency Program (ELPP) for 13 Japanese students from Osaka University of Economics (OUE) with a ceremony held on March 8, 2024 at the TSU Hotel.

The event, organized by the Office of International Affairs and Linkages, marked the completion of the two-week intensive language program.

Representing OUE, Prof. Daisuke Fujii thanked TSU for providing the Japanese students with an "enriching experience" of studying English while learning and embracing Filipino culture through the university's faculty, whom

he described as "dedicated" in supporting the students throughout their academic journey.

On behalf of the OUE students, Mr. Sota Yamaguchi also thanked TSU for their cultural and academic experiences and acknowledged their teachers' commitment.

Part of their showing of gratitude is the ELPP students' performances blending Filipino and Japanese cultures, followed by TSU's cultural presentations by the TSU Performing Arts groups and MAHARLIKA Performing Arts under the College of Education.

Certificates were awarded to the Japanese students who completed the



program and to the TSU faculty for their services.

Moreover, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco acknowledged Mr. Ryosei Oishi and Ms. Janet Oishi for facilitating the international collaboration with OUE.

He also highlighted the value of global connections and knowledge exchange, citing the successful ELPP as a testament to TSU's commitment to international education.

In addition, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg emphasized the importance of continued academic partnership and friendship between the institutions as she thanked

and bid farewell to the OUE participants.

College of Arts and Social Sciences Dean Dr. Aloysius T. Madriaga also noted the significance of English proficiency in international opportunities.

OIAL Director Dr. Maria Vanesa P. Arador signified that such an initiative supports the university's internationalization roadmap.

Meanwhile, recognitions were extended to the TSU Hotel management through Mr. Von Rex Reyes, general manager, for accommodating the international students and Prof. Douglas C. Ferrer and Prof. Marcelino P. Balanquit for their contributions to the program.



## TSU strengthens partnership with San Clemente LGU for Aeta skills training

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University entered into three agreements with the local government of San Clemente for skills training and product development for the Aeta members of DREAM as primary beneficiaries.

Titled "Project EXCELLENTE," this collaborative partnership for DREAM (Dueg Resettlement Entrepreneurs and Marketing Association), involving the College of Business and Accountancy, College of Industrial Technology, and Office of Gender and Development, was inked on March 19, 2024 at the TSU Main AVR.

With a two-year partnership, CBA will provide seminars and workshops on entrepreneurial mind-setting, product formulation, financial literacy, marketing, fundamentals of a social enterprise, and the like.

Meanwhile, CIT and the

Center for Solar and Emerging Technologies will assess the facilities and equipment provided by the DOST-Tarlac, such as the pulverizer machine and dehydrators.

With these at hand, GAD will provide the DREAM members with additional seminars and training about gender sensitivity and gender inclusivity in the workplace.

"This partnership is a significant turning point, representing TSU's dedication to advancing extension services for the community. The College of Business and Accountancy and the College of Industrial Technology are known to have impactful activities for the benefit of the community. Hence, this collaboration will serve as a solid foundation for professional growth in the academe and LGU San Clemente," TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco said in his speech.

Currently, DREAM members sell and produce turmeric powder, a product of the university's eCEST, doughnuts, and buchi.

To add more products, CBA's Hospitality Management Department will teach the members how to make innovative ube or purple yam products, like ube chips and ube halaya (Philippine dessert).

These will be sold to locals and tourists at a cafe situated at the view deck of Sitio Dueg in San Clemente.

Overall, the project could form a cooperative for the Aetas in the long run.

Aside from the Aetas, the opportunities for this project will also be extended to the residents of San Clemente town.

"I, therefore, signify the intent of LGU San Clemente and commit and pledge with various programs, projects, and activities in the municipality of

San Clemente for the successful implementation of the project and to enhance our collaboration towards our mutual resolve to improve the lives of our constituents and communities," San Clemente Mayor Elma Macadamia said in her message of commitment.

"San Clemente is a fifth-class municipality, and [with] our partnership with TSU, we will make a big difference in our community," she added.

In 2023, the DOST hailed San Clemente town as the first runner-up in the Best Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) in Central Luzon, where they were also awarded 200,000 pesos worth of projects.

Ms. Karen Danez, Provincial Science and Technology Director of DOST-Tarlac, also attended the event.



## 171 TSUians benefit from Sen. Legarda's Tulong Dunong Program for SUCs



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three congressional districts of Tarlac, who receive stipends every semester.

### Values Enrichment Seminar for Scholars

The SFAU, in collaboration with the Office of Gender and Development, organized the second leg of the values enrichment seminar themed "Developing Inner Self: Selfless Love and Service to People."

Through the seminar, both offices aim to equip scholars with personality development and the importance of selfless love and service to others.

"This is our way of reaching out to the scholars dahil it's really important na ma-impartatin 'yung positive values sa kanila," SFAU Head Dr. Niña G. Valentin said.

SFAU personnel and values restoration officer Ms. Sarah T. Gonzales was the speaker for the first session. She focused on nurturing empathy

and compassion to strengthen relationships and foster a thriving community.

She also advised the scholars to build a legacy of goodness to initiate positive impacts.

"Spread kindness and be of service to others. May the kindness of Sen. Legarda inspire you to do the same. Pay it forward," Ms. Gonzales said.

Meanwhile, in the second part of the program, Dr. Oliver G. Cura, Guidance and Counseling Unit Head, emphasized the importance of self-awareness for personal growth and explored the role of values as guiding principles in the decision-making process.

The first leg of the activity was held last February 19, with scholars coming from different private providers as the audience.

The program is a reactivation of the 2018 project between SFAU and GAD.



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## CASS celebrates psychometrician boards high passing rate

Mary Joy B. Manalo



Tarlac State University's newly licensed psychometricians gathered at the Alumni Center of the Lucinda Campus on March 8, 2024 for a testimonial dinner hosted by the College of Arts and Social Sciences' Psychology Department.

This batch of 84 passers from the August 2023 Psychometrician Licensure Examination gave the university the highest passing percentage (79.25%) since the psychology graduates' first time taking the board exam in 2014.

The event, themed "Psych-cess! Honoring Hard-work and Celebrating Success," served as an avenue for the passers' testimonies on how the university contributed to

their success, particularly the department's in-house review and retention policy.

"Isa sa mga naging aspects ng program na nagustuhan namin is 'yung in-house review. Since half ng OJT namin is in-house review, 'yun 'yung naging pinaka-helpful sa amin kasi it gave us a preview on how to be in a review center and helped us choose kung saan kami mage-enroll," Stephanie Joyce T. Melegrito from batch 2022 said.

The new psychometricians also shared that the retention policy motivated them to do their best despite the pressure it brought.

Moreover, the passers suggested some improvements to the department to better its

services to the students, such as continuing the rewards given to board toppers and increasing funds for board exam takers.

To honor the passers' success, Mr. Rhyan E. Tolentino led the "Psych Toast" on behalf of the psychometricians.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg congratulated the board exam passers with a message anchored on the university's core values.

"In providing service to your clientele out there, carry with you T – truth in words and action; we need to walk our talk. And since you are dealing with people with hearts and minds and never with machines, always S – serve the people with utmost

care and compassion. Lastly, U – unity in diversity that despite people's differences, let us still serve them with utmost care and understanding," VP Macaraeg said.

Furthermore, she asked the psychometricians to look back and be grateful to the people who supported them throughout their journey, especially their parents and professors.

Meanwhile, CASS Dean Dr. Aloysious T. Madriaga re-echoed the department's values – integrity, passion, service, and excellence.

"May you always strive for excellence, act with integrity, and remember the importance of passion in your hard work. As you embark on this next phase of your professional lives, remember that you are not just observers of human behavior but also advocates of change," Dr. Madriaga said.

Towards the end of the program, certificates and tokens were awarded to the psychometricians.



## TSU, Philippine Aquatics Inc. collaborate for sports development

College of Education



Photo Credits: College of Education

In a significant stride towards fostering cooperation and promoting sports excellence, Tarlac State University and Philippine Aquatics Inc. (PAI) sealed a memorandum of understanding on March 5, 2024 at the New Clark City in Capas Tarlac.

This MOU marks a pivotal step in enhancing the sports landscape in the Philippines that outlines a comprehensive framework for cooperation between TSU and PAI, focusing on volunteer mobilization and training in line with the 11th Asian Age Group Championships (AAGC).

TSU pledged to nominate qualified volunteers, while PAI will train and deploy

them to various event venues.

Through this partnership, TSU students will gain valuable hands-on experience in sports management, event coordination, and community engagement.

Moreover, the MOU is part of the College of Education's strategy and initiatives toward providing students with holistic learning experiences beyond the classroom.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco expressed full support for the collaboration, emphasizing its significance in producing high-class athletes and contributing to community development.

PAI Secretary General Hon. Eric Buhain also vowed to

support the MOU, envisioning a long-term partnership that will benefit both parties, promote sports development in the Philippines, and provide opportunities for Filipino youth to participate in international sporting events.

Apart from Hon. Buhain, AAGC President Mr. Joseph Alcazar also plays a pivotal role in the partnership.

Under the leadership of COED Dean Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza and Associate Dean Prof. Elizabeth P. Balanquit, along with the faculty members of the Physical Education Department led by Dr. Zuriel Ross Tabian, the college seeks to expand its collaboration with other sports organizations.

Initiatives with the Philippine Judo Federation, led by Mr. David Carter, and the Triathlon Association of the Philippines, led by Ms. Sarita Zafra, are already in the pipeline, further solidifying TSU's commitment to sports development.

Dean Mendoza envisions these partnerships as essential components of the university's community sports and wellness program under a tripartite MOA with the Provincial Government of Tarlac and the Commission on Higher Education.

Originally published at the TSU College of Education Facebook page



Photo Credits: College of Education

## TSU hip hop, contemporary dance teams dominate national stage

Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat



Tarlac State University's Performing Arts Hip Hop Dance Group and Contemporary Dance Team reigned supreme at the National Dance Championship Finals Season 17 as they returned to the national stage this year.

The university's Hip Hop Dance Group emerged as the national champion in the college mixed hip-hop division, besting last year's winner, the University of the Philippines Street Dance Club, with an 11.5-point difference.

Meanwhile, the Con-

temporary Dance Team placed second in the college mixed contemporary division next to the University of Santo Tomas Salinggawi Dance Troupe.

The competition proper and awarding ceremony took place at the PhilSports Arena in Pasig City on March 22, 2024.

Prof. Joseph Melegrito and Mr. Daniel Dizon worked as the coaches of the said groups, with Mr. Dan Suarez as the hip-hop trainer and Ms. Lea Angelica Alhambra as the contemporary dance choreographer.

In a Facebook post,

Mr. Dizon celebrated the two groups' triumph amid challenges, especially the hip hop team, who has been joining the national competition for 12 years.

"Although it took (us) 12 years before the golden trophy is in our hands, each passing year was a blessing because we were given those opportunities to step [onto] that national arena despite the limitations," he said on social media.

Mr. Dizon thanked the group's alumni and former coaches who were instrumental in building the skills and confi-

dence of the dancers, whom he dubbed "young dreamers who were once 'you.'"

He was the hip hop group's coach for several years before handling the contemporary dance team.

The team first joined the national dance competition in 2012, placing third.

TSU's participation in the National Dance Finals was spearheaded by the Office of Culture, Arts, and Languages through Prof. Marcelino Balanquit, office director.

## TSU advances to IPOPHL's highest clustering distinction for 2023

Engr. Yvy Clydylynn T. Rabara | OTDTC

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mechanisms to advance the university's innovation and intellectual property landscape by filing eight patents and five utility models, conducting 13 intellectual property awareness activities, and debuting commercializing two protected technologies.

The group, led by OTDTC Director Atty.

Wilmark J. Ramos, commits to maintaining this status by continuously delivering innovative works to the university clientele and contributing to the economic development in the region through the transfer, commercialization, and incubation of technologies produced by the university.



## EDITORIAL

## When sharing leads to grander things



Topping a licensure exam is challenging, yet it is more difficult to manage a batch of board exam takers and usher the entire university to become a top-performing school in the country. Moreover, to become a top-performing university for several years is a feat that is even harder to topple. Tarlac State University's College of Criminal Justice Education exemplifies this after topping the Criminologist Licensure Examinations of 2017, 2018, 2022, and 2024. And the college does not hesitate to share its best practices with fellow state universities and colleges.

The accomplishments of the CCJE in board exams are not new to the TSU community. In fact, all eyes are on them whenever their board exam season is up. This ensued when the university first entered the criminologist boards in 2016, landed as the third out of ten performing criminology schools

in the Philippines, and a graduate claimed the sixth spot among the top ten board exam passers. The BS Criminology program, which was then under the College of Arts and Social Sciences, started strong and continued the successive triumphs in the following years, even when it was proclaimed a separate college by the TSU Board of Regents in 2016. The college's administration, faculty, and students immensely bear the weight of the pressure to continue putting their best foot forward, and it seems they are always up to the challenge.

Apart from hard work, luck, and blessings, the CCJE is practical. Anchoring its successes to the vision of TSU to be recognized for excellence, the college secures its flourishing academic performance through its in-house policies, however harsh or rigid they may appear to some students and parents. Their



rigorous admission requirements, retention policy, battery exams, practical exercises, and weekly board exam reviews have proven effective in sustaining their stature as a pride of TSU.

Adding to the practicality of the college is their generosity. Other state and local universities and colleges offering criminology programs, like Laguna State Polytechnic University, Bohol Island State University, and Benguet State University, visit CCJE for benchmarking activities. They willingly share their best practices to help other criminology schools improve. Moreover, the CCJE's board exam reviews are open to graduates from other local schools. These SUCs, LUCs, and private schools may be regarded as competitors in this game. However, in education, and when considering the quality of learning Philippine education

institutions can potentially provide, gatekeeping is not the best answer to the game of who will emerge at the top.

In hindsight, not all "trade secrets" must be disclosed. Just like in businesses, what they treat as the "secret formula" remains within the walls of the CCJE. Retaining crucial aspects of any plan, strategy, and the like is essential in sustaining what the college has started. Not everything can be shared, but the basics of striving for excellence are never kept in the dark.

The secret to the top goes both ways – securing internal matters and helping the external to rise alongside each other. Indeed, it can be lonely at the top. Assisting these other criminology schools can help them jump to the country's prestigious "top-performing schools" and upgrade the professional field of criminology.



TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY  
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**FEBRUARY 2024 LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR CRIMINOLOGISTS**

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INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	<b>100%</b>	<b>TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY</b>
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**TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Vision**

A globally competitive university recognized for excellence in sciences and emerging technologies.

**Mission**

TSU shall develop highly competitive and empowered human resources fostering responsive global education, future-proof research culture, inclusive and relevant extension programs, and sustainable production projects.

**Core Values**

- T-ruth in words, action and character
- S-ervice with excellence and compassion
- U-nity in diversity

**Quality Policy**

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.