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CNSC College of Education Graduates Excel in 2024 Licensure Exam for Teachers



A total of 71,429 out of 130,744 (54.63%) successfully passed the Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET) held in at least 36 test centers across the country on March 17, 2024. The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) officially announced this on Friday, May 24, 2024. PRC named 20,890 elementary teachers out of 44,764 examinees (46.67%) and 50,539 secondary teachers out of 85,980 examinees (58.78%) who successfully passed the exams.

Among the passers were the

graduates of the Camarines Norte State College – College of Education. Three of them topped the national examination for professional teachers!

Bachelor of Elementary Education:

- Top 6: Bontile, Mylene E.
- Top 8: Jalimaor, Ciara B.

Bachelor of Secondary Education:

- Top 8: Orolfo, Pamela May S.

The CNSC - College of Education has achieved an outstanding performance rate of 98.44% in elementary and 82.99% in the secondary level for first-time

test takers. The pre-service teachers and educators at CNSC-CoEd have demonstrated exceptional dedication and hard work in attaining such remarkable accomplishments.

In the previous 2023 September LEPT examination, Ruffa Mae M. Imperial, a graduate of CNSC – College of Education with a degree of Bachelor of Elementary Education, also topped the national examination bagging the 9th place.

- Aldrin Jake C. Asis

CNSC Inaugurates QRPDI



Camarines Norte State College unveils the Queen Pineapple Research and Development Institute Laboratory situated at the College of Agriculture and Natural

Resources at Sitio Sierra Bros Talobatib, Labo, Camarines Norte held on April 18, 2024.

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University Bound: CNSC's Innovative Strategic Planning Workshop



Camarines Norte State College concluded a comprehensive 7-day Strategic Planning Workshop titled “Revisiting Strategic Excellence 2032: SWOT and Gap Analysis Workshop.” The primary goal of this initiative was to review CNSC’s strategic plan, refine its vision, mission, and core values, and establish actionable steps towards achieving its objective of transitioning to university status. This significant event was led by Planning and Development Director Emmalyn C. Guavez, Sustainability and Resilience Director ENP Ronaldo P. Dando, DM, under the supervision and guidance of President Dr. Marlo M. De La Cruz, PECE.

The workshop spanned all six campuses of CNSC, namely the Main Campus, College of Education, Institute of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Trade and Technology, and the Retired Judge Antonio C. Entienza Campus. Participants included office heads, deans, directors, campus designees, and representatives from various stakeholders.

Day one of the workshop took place at the Institute of Fisheries and Marine Sciences, under the leadership of Campus Supervisor Jefferson T. Dacer. Discussions centered around identifying potential improvements to the IFMS facilities and processes. The second day was hosted by the Retired Judge Antonio C. Entienza Campus, headed by Dr. Fernando H. Coratchea. Key highlights included the Pan de MCDAI extension project and the flagship “LEAP” (Literacy Enhancement and

Assistance Program).

On the third day, the focus shifted to the College of Education, led by Dean Dr. Edgar P. Aban. Participants examined the challenges facing the college and proposed strategies to address them. The fourth day saw the workshop at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, where Campus Director Dr. Arden L. Ezaki facilitated discussions on proposed facility upgrades and new program opportunities.

The fifth day’s session took place at the main campus, with participation from the College of Arts and Sciences headed by Dr. Jocelyn E. Trinidad, College of Computing and Multimedia Studies headed by Dr. Danil E. Maligat Jr, College of Engineering led by Engr. Airen M. Babagay, and College of Business and Public Administration headed by Dr. Gehana C. Lamug. The workshop addressed various issues and explored possible solutions. The sixth day was dedicated to the College of Trade and Technology led by its director, Lovewiserlyn O. De La Cruz, and dean Dr. Jerome H. Baldemoro where the focus was on enhancing the college’s facilities and processes under the guidance of the Campus Director and Dean.

This strategic planning workshop exemplifies CNSC’s commitment to academic excellence and its proactive approach to achieving university status. The collaborative effort across all campuses highlights the institution’s dedication to fostering a unified and progressive educational environment.

-Ayessa Jane B. Acal

Capacity Training for S.U.C.C.E.E.D. Livelihood Program



On May 28, 2024, the Camarines Norte State College – College of Business and Public Administration (CNSC-CBPA) Extension Services, in collaboration with the Camarines Norte Persons with Disability Affairs Office (CN PDAO), conducted two vital sessions

aimed at enhancing knowledge in basic bookkeeping at Camarines Norte State College. These sessions were specifically designed to empower individuals with disabilities under the SUCCEED Livelihood Program by equipping them with essential financial management skills, thereby

fostering greater financial independence and inclusion.

These training sessions are held every semester as part of CNSC-CBPA Extension Services' commitment to capacitate the PWD members of the SUCCEED Livelihood Program. This initiative is part of a memorandum of agreement with the college's Extension Services Director, Dr. Girly H. Naval, and facilitated by CBPA faculty members Dr. Angeles Asay Jr. and Ms. Malyn Manalo-Asay.

PDAO Head Dr. Rex Bernardo concluded the session by emphasizing the importance of acquiring bookkeeping knowledge and announced the launch of the SUCCEED program's own kiosk. This initiative aims to meet the needs of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) by providing them with opportunities for sustained livelihood.

-Ayessa Jane B. Acal

ELead Extension Project Kicks Off



(Upper Photo) These photo features the captured moments in 3 out of 8 parallel storytelling sessions; (Lower Photo) The student facilitators and daycare pupils during the distribution of gift packs consist of school supplies/ learning materials & From Left to Right: Dr. Rose Ann Aler (CAS Extension Coordinator), Dr. Jocelyn Trinidad (CAS Dean), Hon. Punong Barangay Samuel Zaldua, Ms. Russel Reyes (Child Development Worker of Brgy. San Isidro), Ms. Marianne Jalgalado (ELead Extension Project Implementer, ELS Program Chairperson, and AEM Adviser), Mr. Neal Armario (AEM President), and Mx. James Lamadrid and Ms. Aisle Angara (event hosts).

After the successful MOA Signing between CNSC and the Barangay Council of San Isidro in Daet on March 15, the BOT-approved extension project of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) English Language Studies (ELS) Department dubbed as ELead officially kicked-off on May 10 through the ENGdali.

With the tagline "Learning English is fun and easy," ENGdali: English delights aspiring learners' interests is a gender-inclusive story-telling activity for the preschoolers of the Lovely Angel Child Development Center at Brgy. San Isidro, the partner community of CAS. During the story-telling, the

pupils were taught of the appropriate English terminologies for the different places in the community, along with its respective community helpers. This featured the stories titled "A Trip to Barangay HappyTopia" and the "Little Wanderer and the 5 Secret Heroes" which were written by Mr. John Mark Oliver Nagera and Ms. Remalyn Balmeo, respectively, who are students of the Instructional Materials Development and Evaluation class of the AB ELS program, with Ms. Marianne Jalgalado as instructor. Fifteen (15) students from the said class and an officer of the Alliance of English Majors (AEM) served as storytellers, while the remaining students of the said class served as creative staff.

Hosted by Mx. James Lamadrid and Ms. Aisle Angara of AEM, the activity was also marked by fun-filled games and distribution of school supplies. The prizes and gift packs are outcomes of the Bayanihan spirit among ELS students through the program's academic organization, AEM.

The storytellers, AEM officers and volunteers, and Ms. Jalgalado as ELead Extension Project Implementer were also joined by faculty facilitators, namely Dr. Jocelyn Trinidad (CAS Dean), Dr. Rose Ann Aler (CAS Extension Coordinator), Ms. Margie Agawa (ELS Faculty), and Ms. Ria Morales (Sociology Faculty).

Also, highlighted in this event is the official turnover of the notarized ELead MOA to LGU-San Isidro. In his message, Hon. Punong Barangay Zaldua expressed his gratitude to the College, particularly to the ELS Department, for strengthening the extension thrust for their community.

Aside from ENGdali, the other components of ELead are ELite (a lecture series for the youth sector of Brgy. San Isidro) and ENGgaling (the culminating activity for all ELead beneficiaries). - *Marianne Mae I. Jalgalado*

CoEd Launches Faculty Capacity Enrichment in Writing Extension Proposals



With the theme “Building Bridges: Enhancing Community Engagement through Gender-Based Extension Services”, the College of Education (CoEd) launched the faculty capacity enrichment in writing extension proposals leading to extension initiatives.

Extension Coordinator Madelene Grace G. Rocas spearheaded the 2-day undertaking on May 29 to 30, 2024 held at the Quality Assurance Office, Main Campus. The event was graced by Dr. Girly H. Naval, the CNSC Director of Extension Services, and Dr. Rosalie A. Almadrones, the VP for Research and Extension who delivered the Opening Remarks, and the Inspirational Message respectively.

Prof. Edgardo L. Besmonte from Bicol University, Legazpi City showed his expertise in Theoretical and Practical Aspects

of Proposal Development for Research and Extension. It was followed by a workshop where participants presented their respective output, and was critiqued by the resource speakers.

Dr. Edwin R. Ichiano started the second day with a recap of what transpired on the first day. Ms. Hazel M. Bermundo, the Director for Community Involvement of UST-Legazpi explored the Best Practices on Sustainable Extension Projects sharing their institution’s Project REAP Program: The University of Sto. Tomas Expertise. Asst. Prof. Joan P. Rojas facilitated the open forum.

Dr. Eduardo M. Abad, Graduate School Dean, and CoEd extension project leader helped in planning how to conduct the extension initiatives in the near future. **-Dr. Nemia C. Puse**

CNSC Mercedes Campus Holds Job Clinic Program for Future Blue-economy Professionals



All speakers, organizers, and participants gathered for a group photo to celebrate the successful completion of the job clinic.

On May 31, 2024, the CNSC-Mercedes Campus held a job clinic program, aptly titled “From Classroom to Catch: A Job Clinic for Future Fisheries Professionals,” at the CNSC Main Campus Amphitheatre. This event was the result of the collaborative effort between the Mercedes Campus Guidance, Testing, and Admission Office (GTAO) and the Office of the Student Services and Development (OSSD), with significant

support from faculty members, non-teaching staff, alumni, and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

The program began with a warm welcome from Ms. Shena Mae Opeda, GTA In-Charge, followed by an inspiring address from Mr. Jefferson T. Dacer, the Campus Supervisor. This set the stage for a day dedicated to enhancing the skills and career readiness of BS Fisheries students. The job clinic featured a series of informative talks delivered

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CNSC Champions Women's Rights and HIV Awareness in a Landmark Seminar



Camarines Norte State College, in a collaborative effort with the Commission on Human Rights Region V, hosted a regional seminar on May 8, 2024, under the banner "Empowering Women: Combatting Sexual Abuse in Schools and Raising Awareness on HIV and AIDS." The event took place at the CNSC Student Center and delved into critical issues such as mental health, the pervasive challenge of sexual abuse in educational settings, and the crucial need for heightened HIV/AIDS awareness.

Distinguished guests graced the seminar, including Dr. Marlo M. Dela Cruz, who delivered an insightful welcoming address. Joining him were Dr. Delma Jean V. Abad, CEID Director; Dr. Rosalie A. Almadrones, Vice President for Research and Extension; Ms. Geneve J. Avila, Information Officer II of CHR, and Atty. Arlene Q. Alangco, Regional Director of CHR V.

The event was further highlighted by a significant ceremonial MOA signing, symbolizing a renewed and steadfast commitment to work in close alliance with the Commission on Human Rights. The enlightening seminar witnessed a robust participation from students across various colleges and delivery units, accompanied by their respective Gender and Development (GAD) and Office of Student Services and Development (OSSD) coordinators, showcasing the community's united stand against gender-based violence and its dedication to health education. *-Ayessa Jane B. Acal*

CNSC's Vibrant Pride Parade and Seminar Advocates Workplace Equality



The Center for Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity (CEID) in collaboration with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Business and Public Administration, College of Education, College of Computing and Multimedia Studies, and Disability Inclusion Office held its first celebration of Pride Month 2024 with a seminar titled Embracing Unity, Creating Actions for Right Against Sexual Abuse in the Workplace last June 26, 2024 at the CNSC – Labo Campus.

The seminar kicked off with a pride parade participated in by

the teaching and non-teaching personnel of CNSC to symbolize the solidarity and support of the LGBTQIA+ movement. Topics covered in the seminar were SOGIESC (Sexual Orientation, Gender Equality, Gender Expression, Sex Characteristics) and Women's and LGBTQIA+ Rights Against Sexual Abuse in the Workplace and Community.

Pride Trivia and Pride Kwentuhan, organized by the GAD coordinators, were also conducted as part of the Pride celebrations. *-Ayessa Jane B. Acal*



106 Graduates Earn Latin Honors at CNSC's 32nd Commencement Exercises

The Camarines Norte State College (CNSC) marked a significant milestone with the celebration of its 32nd Commencement Exercises on June 28, 2024, held at the CNSC Entrance Pavilion. This year's ceremony, themed "CNSC: Elevating Academic Excellence and Service Towards Universityhood," brought together a distinguished gathering of administrative officials, heads of offices, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and proud graduates from CNSC's ten colleges and delivery units.

The commencement exercises was a grand event that showcased the academic achievements and milestones of CNSC's students across its six campuses. This year, CNSC proudly produced over 1,726 graduates, a testament to the institution's commitment to academic excellence and its dedication to providing quality education. Among these graduates, 106 earned the prestigious Latin honors, reflecting their outstanding academic performance and dedication. Specifically, 73 students graduated magna cum laude, and 33 students graduated cum laude.

A highlight of the ceremony was the recognition of Miss Miriam Joyce S. Bongat, a standout student from the Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management program. Miss Bongat not only graduated magna cum laude but also topped her graduating class, exemplifying the high standards of academic achievement upheld by CNSC.

In addition to the Latin honor recipients, the commencement exercises also celebrated the achievements of the UniFAST Academic Excellence Awardees. This prestigious award is given to students who have demonstrated exceptional academic prowess and have achieved the highest General Weighted Averages (GWA) in their respective colleges or campuses. The five awardees honored this year were Miriam Joyce S. Bongat, Richelle J. Camilo, Angela Mae B. Fortez, Shane Ivan M. Fallar, and Rachel L. Valenzuela. These students are beneficiaries of the Free Higher Education under RA 10931, further highlighting the impact of the government's support in nurturing academic excellence.

The commencement exercises was not just a celebration of the graduates' academic achievements but also an affirmation of CNSC's unwavering commitment to elevating academic excellence and service. The theme "CNSC: Elevating Academic Excellence and Service Towards Universityhood" encapsulates the institution's vision and strategic direction as it strives towards achieving university status. This vision is grounded in a commitment to providing top-tier education, fostering a culture of excellence, and serving the community with integrity and dedication.

The ceremony concluded with a sense of pride and accomplishment, as graduates, faculty, and families celebrated the culmination of years of hard work and dedication. The 32nd Commencement Exercises of CNSC not only highlighted the academic achievements of its graduates but also reinforced the institution's role in shaping future leaders and professionals. As CNSC continues to elevate its standards and aspire towards universityhood, it remains steadfast in its mission to provide quality education and foster a culture of excellence and service.

Overall, the event was a resounding success, leaving an indelible mark on all attendees and setting a high benchmark for future commencements at Camarines Norte State College.

-Ayessa Jane B. Acal



CAS Students, Faculty Present Research in an International Conference



(1) From Left to Right: Ms. Malong, Ms. Bermejo, Ms. Jalgalado, Prof. Julie A. Calma (Conference Chair and ASIAN Intellect President), Mr. Raviz, and Mr. Bacurin during the first-day of the IRFESSP 2024.; (2) Photo taken during the courtesy call of the CNSC delegates with the CAS Dean, Dr. Jocelyn Trinidad, after attending the international conference.

For the first time, the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) through its English Language Studies (ELS) Department sent student delegates to an international research conference.

Accompanied by their thesis adviser who also presented an institutional research study, the student delegates presented their recently completed undergraduate thesis. Being more than an academic requirement, this milestone has set a new trend for the college.

With the theme, “New Age of Research Dawning in the Neo Normal,” the 5th International Research Forum in Education, Sciences, and the Social Praxis (IRFESSP 2024) which was held last April 20 to 22 at the Crown Legacy Hotel, Baguio City, was participated by more than a hundred academicians and researchers from the USA, Malaysia, India, and the Philippines. Among them are four graduating AB ELS students -- Gabriel Bacurin, Jomelyn Bermejo, Niñalyn B. Malong, and Francisco Raviz Jr. -- and their thesis adviser and ELS Program Chairperson, Marianne Jalgalado.

The student delegates presented their recently completed undergraduate thesis titled *Genre Analysis of Inaugural Speeches of Vice Presidents in the Philippines: Basis of a Guide in Writing Persuasive Speeches*, while Ms. Jalgalado

presented the institutional research titled *Employability and Competencies of the AB English Language Graduates: Implications to Instruction and MA English Offering*, with Ms. Jeselle Hernandez-Manuguid and Ms. Pearly Beth Ogayon as co-researchers.

Aside from the paper presentations, also highlighted in this conference are the discussions from international speakers, namely Dr. Trellys A. Riley (an associate professor from Troy University, Alabama, USA), Dr. Muleta Husein Sadeto (a researcher from Oromia State University, Ethiopia), Mr. Praveen Abraham (an assistant professor and research scholar from REVA University, India), and Dr. Carol Linda Kingston (an assistant professor from Spicer Adventist University, India). Their discussions emphasized the (1) introduction of a new education landscape which benefits for scholars and researchers include an innovative and high-tech education system, and the (2) impact of artificial intelligence on research undertakings.

This international conference was organized by the Asian Intellect for Academic Organization and Development Inc., a SEC-registered professional organization.

- *Marianne Mae I. Jalgalado*

CNSC Inaugurates QRPDI

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Gracing the ceremony were Dr. Juanito T. Batalon, the Deputy Executive Director for Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development and Director Leilani D. Pelegrina, the Crop Research Division Director of DOST – PCAARD. Also present were the CNSC Administration headed by Dr. Marlo M. De La Cruz, SUC President III; Dr. Rosalie A. Almadrones, VP for Research & Extension; Dr. Arlene C. Alegre, the Queen Pineapple Research and Development Institute (QRPDI) Director; Dr. Arden Peejay L. Ezaki, CNSC-CANR Director; CNSC QP Team; and other persons who are advocates of research and development.

-*Ayessa Jane B. Acal*



ISO Corner: CNSC Successfully Completes Internal QMS Audit



In an impressive showcase of commitment to quality and standards, Camarines Norte State College has recently marked a significant achievement by successfully completing an exhaustive internal Quality Management System (QMS) audit. This initiative is a testament to CNSC's relentless pursuit of excellence, aligning with the ISO 9001:2015 standards, and underscores the institution's dedication to ensuring the highest level of operational efficacy and readiness for external evaluations.

Under the adept leadership of Jeanny A. Nagrampa, the Lead Internal Quality Auditor, the comprehensive audit spanned CNSC's expansive network of six campuses, including the Main Campus, Institute of Fisheries and Marine Sciences (IFMS) – Mercedes Campus, College of Education – Abano Campus, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) – Labo Campus, College of Trades and Technology (COTT) – Jose Panganiban Campus, and the Retired Judge Antonio C.

Entienza Campus. Additionally, the internal audit was executed by a composition of 7 specialized teams, each delving into distinct operational domains to provide a comprehensive assessment.

The audit showed outstanding results with 194 Positive Findings, 605 Observations, and 701 Areas for Improvement alongside 7 Non-Conformities, demonstrating a path to fostering excellence within CNSC. These insights not only attest to the institution's strengths but also illuminate pathways for ongoing enhancement and readiness for future challenges and third-party assessments. As the institution moves forward, it remains firmly grounded in its commitment to continuous improvement, ensuring its readiness to meet and exceed standards, embodying its dedication to fostering a thriving academic environment. *-Ayessa Jane B. Acal*

BCAARRD Strengthens ERCP Monitoring

The Bicol Consortium for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development (BCAARRD) recently conducted a comprehensive monitoring session for the Enhanced Regional Collaborative Program (ERCP) at the Camarines Norte State College (CNSC).

Key attendees included Dr. Rosalie Almadrones, Vice President for Research and Extension, Dr. Girlie H. Naval, Extension Director, and Dr. Arlene C. Alegre, Director of the Queen Pineapple Research and Development Institute (QPRDI). CNSC's cluster coordinators also participated in the session, which took place on May 15, 2024, at 9:00 AM in the New OP Board Room.

The meeting focused on several pivotal topics, including the Queen Pineapple FIESTA (Farmers and Industry Encounters for Science and Technology Agenda), the RAISE Project, and the Institutionalization of the Pili NICER Project. These discussions underscore BCAARRD's commitment to advancing agricultural research and development in the region.

-Ayessa Jane B. Acal



Steering Towards Excellence: *LAYAG MerCNSCedes*

A leader who embodies vision, competence, dedication, and heart—the newly designated Campus Supervisor of Camarines Norte State College- Mercedes Campus, takes the challenge of steering the campus forward.

Mr. Jefferson T. Dacer, known as “Sir Jeff”, a proud Mercedeno, currently serving as the CNSC Chief Administrative Officer, has always been an epitome of excellence and integrity. Despite the demands of his role as CAO, he has graciously accepted the additional responsibility of Campus Supervisor, driven by a profound commitment to steer Mercedes Campus toward a brighter future. He was designated by the president of the institution, Dr. Marlo M. Dela Cruz, PECE, effective April 25, 2024.

With an impressive academic background, holding a Master’s degree in Business Administration (Merit), being a Certified Public Accountant, and an incoming 4th year Juris Doctor/ Law student, he is undoubtedly qualified to take on the post of Campus Supervisor. He manages mostly all the offices under General Administration and Support Services (GASS) and oversees a number of roles and functions, including Personnel Selection Board (PSB), Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), Disposal Committee (DC), and Internal Control (IC), among others. In addition, he worked as the overall ISO Coordinator and Internal Lead Auditor for the institution’s implementation and upkeep of the Quality Management System as well as other management systems. He received the CNSC Presidential Gintong Award in CY 2018 and the Manager of the Year for Administration in CY 2020 as a result of his relentless pursuit of system improvement.

He also works as a professorial lecturer/faculty at CNSC Graduate School and CBPA, an accreditor of AACCUP, and an active member of various civic and professional organizations, to name a few: Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Camarines Norte Chapter, Junior Chamber International (JCI) Kabihug Chapter, Provincial Advisory Group for Police Transformation and Development (PAGPTD). Prior to CNSC, he worked as the Pioneer Accountant of the Philippine Competition Commission

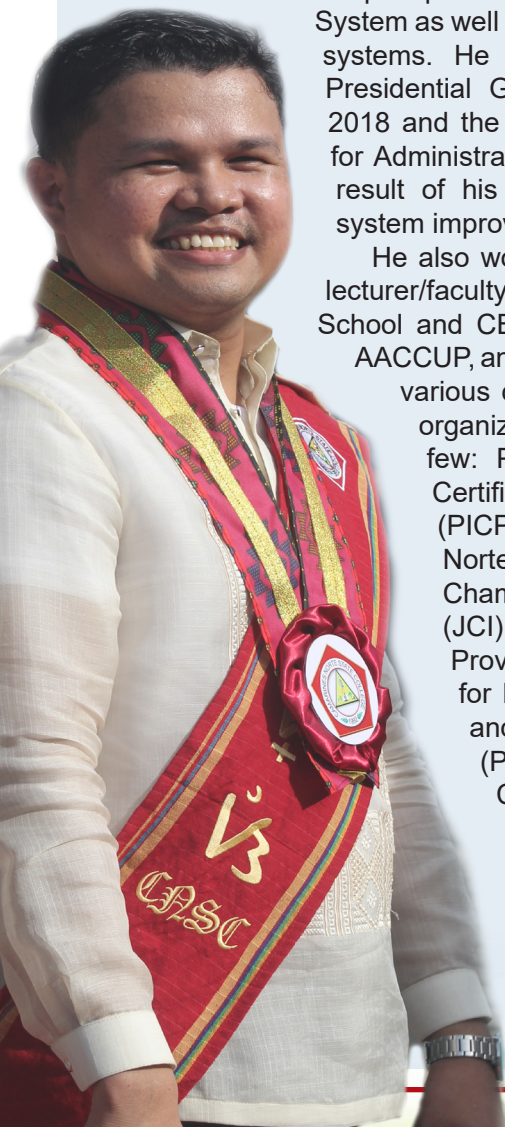
(PCC). He was affiliated to the Central Office of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and served as concurrent Lead Accountant of the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) - the consultative and advisory body to the President of the Philippines. Before entering the government service, he worked as an Associate of Sycip, Gorres, Velayo and Co. (SGV). These fruitful experiences have equipped him for his new roles and responsibilities.

He has made significant contributions to CNSC, particularly in policy and program implementation. Among his accomplishments are the successful decentralization of fiscal management, streamlined Learning and Development initiatives, and standardized operational policies. His efforts in human resources alignment and augmentation have strengthened the team and his commitment has ensured compliance to statutory and regulatory requirements.

His leadership is characterized by a strategic vision and dedication to excellence, qualities that have earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues and students alike. Under his stewardship, the BS Fisheries program, a cornerstone of the campus, is dignified for significant advancements. Sir Jeff envisions *LAYAG MerCNSCedes*, where “Layag” symbolizes “sail,” as a hub of innovation and academic excellence. Here, students will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to excel in the fisheries sector and make them blue-economy professionals, sailing their way to success like skilled sailors charting new waters. As a loving and devoted father to his daughter Liya, he knows how important it is to raise not just his own daughter but the entire Mercedes campus community. He shows his love for the staff and students on campus just as he would his own family.

His approach to leadership is unifying and holistic, blending professional rigor with a compassionate understanding of individual needs. This balance is what makes him a remarkable leader and an inspiring figure on the campus. Leading with a clear vision, Sir Jeff has always aimed to create an environment where both staff and students thrive. His tenure as Chief Administrative Officer has been marked by improvements in operational efficiency and staff morale. Now, as Campus Supervisor, he is set to extend this positive impact across all facets of campus life. “As we aspire for CNSC Mercedes Campus to become Center of Excellence in Fisheries and Marine Sciences in the Bicol Region, being the captain of the ship, we will sail forward guided by the principles of *LAYAG*: Leading to Excellence Altruistic Character Yielding and Generating Resources and building partnership Allegiance to Alma Mater Giving guidance to all stakeholders”, Sir Jeff shared in a recent interview.

As Mercedes Campus welcomes him to his new role, the faculty, staff, and students are confident that the campus is in capable hands. His leadership promises a future where *MerCNSCedes* not only meets but exceeds its aspirations, fostering a community of learning, innovation, and excellence. -*Shena Mae D. Opeda*



BITSCON 2024 Promotes Technological Innovations at Assemblage at CNSC



From 24 universities and colleges in the Bicol region, IT students assembled at the Bicol IT Students Congress (BITSCON) 2024 last April 25-26, 2024, at the CNSC Covered Court to discover the innovative developments of technology and empower collaboration within the IT community in the region.

The Council of Deans for Information Technology Education, Inc. Region V (CODITE - V), alongside the CNSC Institute of Computer Studies, played a pivotal role in orchestrating this annual event. Under the leadership of Dr. Daniel E. Maligat, Jr., the Director of the CNSC Institute of Computer Studies (ICS), the conference shone with the theme, "Digital Horizons: Navigating the Future of Technology." This theme underscored the event's focus on forward thinking and innovation, laying

down a roadmap for navigating the ever-evolving technological landscape.

During the two-day congress, participants engaged with university instructors and distinguished IT specialists from around the region, who presented a series of 10 thought-provoking topics and 3 sponsor talks. These sessions covered a broad spectrum of subjects such as Cloud Infrastructure, generative A.I, game development, Blockchain technology and robotics to name a few. Remarkably, the event saw the participation of 1,167 students, with over half hailing from CNSC itself. This impressive turnout highlighted the students' keen interest in tech innovations and their commitment to driving forward the future of technology in the Bicol region and beyond. -Ayessa Jane B. Acal

Bridging Distances: Guidance Counselor Makes a Difference



When you catch sight of the curly-haired woman in a patterned blouse with dainty dangling earrings matching the color of her top, you have found Ms. Moll. There is no need to hide what you are feeling at the moment because just by looking into your eyes, she knows. Ms. Michelle D.L. Moll is one of the guidance counselors of Camarines Norte State College who is dedicated to her work. Her original mother unit is the College of Arts and Science (CAS) but she extends her services to the other campuses that are still in the process of finding guidance counselors. Her schedule is tight! She makes a monthly itinerary of her campus visits to reach a wider range of students.

On the first Friday of each month, she starts with the College of Education (CoEd), where she meets the basic education and tertiary students who schedule a meeting with her. The second Wednesday brings her to the Institute

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Bridging Distances... *from page 11*

of Fisheries and Marine Sciences (IFMS), where she offers individual and group counseling. Every third Tuesday, her guidance lights the path for the students at the College of Trades and Technology (COTT), empowering them through her words and works. One day after her visit to COTT, she collaborates with her co-guidance counselor, Mrs. Arlane Lo, bringing their expertise to the students of College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) to ensure that they receive the support they need. As the month draws to a close, her dedication knows no bounds. Every last Wednesday or Thursday of the month, she travels the distance from the Main Campus to the Ret. Judge Antonio C. Entienza Campus. There, her presence offers solace and direction, affirming that every student, no matter how far, benefits from her

invaluable guidance and counseling services. She conducts seminars for the students of Entienza since not everyone can attend the face-to-face activities in the main campus due to distance.

Ms. Moll is an energetic and on-the-go guidance counselor who skillfully addresses serious topics like mental health and general well-being in a light and non-intimidating manner. She sets a welcoming and caring tone that the students appreciate in their sessions. Her visits from one campus to another bridge gaps and foster a sense of oneness and belongingness in CNSC community. Her efforts not only guide students through counseling and support but also help them navigate personal and social challenges, contributing to their growth as well-rounded, resilient, and empowered individuals.

- *Agnes B. Abunio*

CNSC Mercedes Campus hold... *from page 4*

by IFMS faculty members and guest speakers, focusing on both technical knowledge and essential soft skills. Ms. Monicalyn V. Borlagdan, Institute Secretary, began the series with "Bakit Fisheries? Accepting the Call: Fisheries Appreciation," emphasizing the value and opportunities within the fisheries profession. Mr. Darwin C. Biag, Program Chairperson, followed with "Research in Fisheries, Continuing Education, and Professional Development Opportunities," offering insights into ongoing learning and advancement in the field. Ms. Sheena F. Furio, L&D Coordinator, discussed the potential for entrepreneurial ventures within the industry in her talk "Fisheries Industry Insights and Entrepreneurship Opportunities in the Fisheries Sector." Ms. Alyssa U. Melendrez, Pollution Control Officer, provided guidance on presenting oneself professionally in the job market with "Personality Development, Proper Dress Code & Decorum for Job Applicants." Finally, Ms. Shena Mae Opeda rounded out the talks with "Importance of Soft Skills in the Fisheries Industry and Effective Communication Strategies for Fisheries Professionals," focusing on critical non-technical skills needed for career success, including cover letter and CV

writing, as well as interview techniques.

Contributions from BFAR and IFMS alumni further enriched the event. Ms. Bianca Lizly B. Enverga, Community Development Officer of BFAR Camarines Norte, shared her expertise on "Building Professional Networks and Industry Connections: Work Opportunities in BFAR," highlighting the importance of networking in securing employment. Mr. Jheyson Duga delivered a message on behalf of Mr. Rolando P. Tiam, Provincial Fishery Officer of BFAR Camarines Norte, and Mr. Joshua Jireh Zabala, an IFMS alumnus, provided a heartfelt testimonial about his career journey. The event concluded with the awarding of certificates to the participants and a closing message from Ms. Ma. Elezabeth B. Fuentes, OSS Coordinator.

The successful execution of the job clinic set a strong precedent for future initiatives aimed at empowering and equipping fisheries students for their professional careers. This event demonstrated the institute's dedication to the overall development of its students, making sure they are well-prepared for the possibilities and difficulties in the fisheries sector, in addition to highlighting the extensive educational assistance offered by the campus. - *Shena Mae Opeda*

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ABOUT THE LOGO



SPECTRUM is a condition that is not confined to a specific set of values but can vary infinitely within a continuum; thus, its colorful depiction in this logo, which ultimately forms the CNSC pentagon. The wide array of colors represents the different campuses and their programs and activities; all within the pentagon, which contribute to the holistic image of CNSC. The paper, pen and camera icons represents the identity of this publication – clear and honest reporting.

Regardless of the color, the College's undertakings will be reflected in this paper. Hence, the name, CNSC Spectrum.