61st Pre-Commencement Speaker (Cluster 2)

MACAPADO ABATON MUSLIM, Ph.D.

Former University President University Professor (ret.) Mindanao State University Marawi City, Philippines



Dr. Macapado Abaton Muslim is a broadly trained scholar, leader and manager. He obtained his PhD and MA in Political Science from the University of Hawaii [UH], Honolulu, Hawaii, USA in 1990; his Master of Public Administration [MPA] from the National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines [UP], Diliman, Quezon City in 1980; and his Bachelor of Science in Public Administration [BSPA] from the Mindanao State University [MSU], Marawi City in 1978. He was an East-West Center scholar at UH, a full scholar at UP, and a full scholar at MSU. Dr. Muslim was President of the 11-campus Mindanao State University from March 5, 2010 to March 10, 2016, after serving as its Acting President from January 4, 2008 to March 4, 2010. A native son of Marawi City and Lanao del Sur (born on July 4, 1956), Dr. Muslim has an interesting professional trajectory. He rose from the ranks, from Instructor in June 1980, to Associate Professor V in January 1986, Professor VI in January 1991, and University Professor in March 2016. Managerially, he had served as Dean of the College of Public Affairs of MSU-Marawi from January 1991 to November 1994, and Campus Chancellor of MSU-General Santos from December 1995 to March 2007 (elected for two five-year terms). He had also served as Vice Chairman of the MSU Board of Regents from January 4, 2008 to March 10, 2016, and a member of the said Board from December 1995 to

March 31, 2007. Moreover, he had served as Vice President of the Philippine Political Science Association [PPSA], Vice President of the Philippine Society for Public Administration, and Vice President of the East-West Center Alumni Association – Philippines.

As MSU President, Dr. Muslim succeeded in regaining the trust and respect that MSU had in the past by ensuring academic meritocracy in many aspects of its governance. He provided strategic and decisive leadership in the strengthening of the instruction, research and public service programs of MSU, aside from spearheading its internationalization efforts, and the spectacular strengthening of its income generation capacity. During his last three years as MSU President, Dr. Muslim was engrossed largely in supervising the planning and implementation of the infrastructure and equipment build up projects for all MSU campuses and the strategic rationalization of their academic programs to make them globally competitive. As a public intellectual, he continued making significant voluntary contributions to addressing pressing national issues through his policy papers submitted to the President of the Philippines (on managing the COVID-19 pandemic, Marawi Rehabilitation, Strengthening BARMM Governance, and Political Leadership in Divided and Unequal Societies).

A scholar-manager, although immersed into the managerial and leadership imperatives of the MSU Presidency, Dr. Muslim continued to be academically productive and relevant. He lectures frequently in national and international conferences. He has about 60 publications and research papers on governance reforms and innovations, political leadership, the Bangsamoro armed struggle, multiculturalism, peace building, regional autonomy, federalism, poverty alleviation, education in Muslim countries, making universities more inclusive and competitive, internationalization, and other higher education issues. Capping his publications are his books entitled The 2018 Bangsamoro Organic Law in the Philippines: Solving the Mindanao Conflict with Autonomy Plus Compensatory Justice (Quezon City: Saniata Publications, 2019), and The Moro Armed Struggle in the Philippines: The Nonviolent Autonomy Alternative (Marawi City: OP and CDPA, MSU, 1994/1997). His current research thrust is on political engineering (constitutional design and innovations) and public governance reforms in divided and unequal countries like the Philippines and several states in Asia. His upcoming book is entitled Political Engineering and Constitutional Design for Good Governance in the Philippines. In recognition of his performance as MSU President, he was recommended by the CHED Chairperson to the President of the Philippines for appointment for a second six-year term in 2014. Moreover, he was conferred the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by the East-West Center Alumni Association-Philippines (2012); the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by the University of the Philippines-NCPAG (2008); and the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by the MSU Alumni Association (2011

Dr. Muslim is a strong advocate of peace and nonviolence, multiculturalism, inter-faith relations, good governance for all, and providing responsive, globally-competitive and inclusive education. He is an associate of the Center for Global Nonviolence founded by the late Dr. Glenn Paige (Dr. Muslim's mentor at UH). He received a "Special Award for Muslim-Christian Understanding" from the Federation of Catholic Schools Alumni Associations [FCSAA] and the Good Citizenship Movement [GCM], March 25, 2011. He is also a recipient of the 1988 Dean Reed Memorial Scholarship Award for "Outstanding Achievements and Future Potentials on Behalf of World Peace", from the Institute of Peace, UH. Finally, he is a believer of the transformative magic of education for societal change, and the indispensability of having morally upright, competent and strategic leadership for ensuring effective public governance that delivers development plus peace for all.





PRE-COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

2ND SEMESTER, A.Y. 2024-2025

1:00 PM, Tuesday, July 22, 2025 Dimaporo Gymnasium, MSU-Main Campus, Marawi City

Theme: "MSU: Sustaining an Equipoise of Technology and Moral-Spiritual Values Amidst Prodigious Change"

CLUSTER 2

College of Hospitality and Tourism Management (CHTM)
College of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (CSPEAR)
College of Public Affairs (CPA)

Cluster 2 Pre-Commencement Speaker:

MACAPADO ABATON MUSLIM, Ph.D.

Former University President University Professor (ret.) Mindanao State University Marawi City, Philippines

61st Pre-Commencement Exercises (Cluster 2)

2nd Semester, A.Y. 2024-2025 1:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 22, 2025 Dimaporo Gymnasium, MSU-Main Campus, Marawi City

PROGRAMME

PROCESSIONAL

University Marshal Candidates for Graduation College of Hospitality and Tourism Management College of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation College of Public Affairs Faculty Members College Officials College Mace Administrative Officials University Registrar with the University Mace University Secretary with the President's Mace MSU System President Pre-Commencement Speaker

> INVOCATION PROF. MOHAMMAD YUSOPH M. MAPIA

> > Faculty Member, Public Administration Department

ENTRY OF COLORS

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM **BARMM HYMN**

University Band

BAGONG PILIPINAS HYMN

DR. AMERKHAN G. CABARO

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

INTRODUCTION OF THE **GUEST SPEAKER**

WELCOME REMARKS

DR. AISAH G. MINUKON

Dean, College of Public Affairs

Chairperson, 61st Pre-Commencement

Exercises (Cluster 2)

PRE-COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

DR. MACAPADO A. MUSLIM

Former MSUS President

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION AND TOKEN

ATTY, PAISALIN P.D. TAGO, CPA

President, MSU System

Assisted by:

DR. ALMA E. BEROWA

Vice President for Academic Affairs Chairperson, Steering Committee 61st Commencement Exercises

DR. AMERKHAN G. CABARO

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

DR. ANSANO M. AMPOG

System University Registrar

College Deans (Cluster 2)

OVERTURE

University Band

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION **Respective College Deans**

ACCEPTANCE OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION DR. AMERKHAN G. CABARO

Vice Chancellor for Acedemic Affairs

DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS. HOODING OF GRADUATES. **AWARDING OF MEDALS AND** CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND OTHER SPECIAL AWARDS

ATTY. PAISALIN P.D. TAGO, CPA President, MSU System

DR. MACAPADO A. MUSLIM

61st MSU Pre-Commencement Speaker

Assisted by:

DR. ALMA E. BEROWA

Vice President for Academic Affairs Chairperson, Steering Committee 61st Commencement Exercises

DR. AMERKHAN G. CABARO

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

DR. ANSANO M. AMPOG

System University Registrar

Respective College Deans

MSU HYMN

University Band

EXIT OF COLORS

RECESSIONAL University Band

MS. AISA L. LANGCO

Faculty Member, College of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Scan to view the list of nominated graduands for MSU Marawi's 61st Commencement Exercises on July 24, 2025. Please note that this list is subject to confirmation and the degrees will be officially conferred during the commencement ceremony.

