



PRESIDENT'S Timeline

Official Publication of the Activities and Milestones of the Mindanao State University System President
December 2025 Special Issue (Volume 1 Issue 1 - 2025)



Acta Non Verba

Acta Non Verba: MSU System President Tago Delivers 100-Day Performance Report

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MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered a compelling performance report marking his successful first 100 days in office on October 13, 2025. This report showcases tangible progress across his Nine-Point Agenda. Since officially assuming the presidency on July 4, 2025, following his appointment on June 27, 2025, President Tago's tenure has been characterized by a commitment to rapid action—a true embodiment of his guiding principle, "Acta non verba" (Actions, not words). His results-oriented leadership has already yielded significant outcomes in enhancing student welfare, academic quality, and global engagement, realized through key infrastructure projects, strategic alliances, and crucial governance reforms.

A core focus of the first 100 days has been enhancing the student experience and academic quality, aligning with the agenda points on Student Welfare and Quality Assurance and Global Competitiveness. In a strong move toward institutionalizing academic excellence and efficiency, the administration organized and facilitated both the SASE Review (System Admission and Scholarship Examination Review) to better prepare aspiring students for entry into the MSU System and the CSC Review (Civil Service Commission Review) for personnel, highlighting a commitment to professional development and strong governance.

Immediate steps were also taken to address comfort and health. This included the provision of essential supplies to MSU-Main Campus dormitories, prioritizing the rest and welfare of students from remote areas. Beyond comfort, the administration prioritized campus health and environment by launching OPLAN Linis and holding a Grand Medical Mission, ensuring a cleaner campus and providing essential health services to the community. This commitment to well-being was further demonstrated by the provision of new equipment to the University Medical Services and Hospital. Furthermore, the administration successfully launched the inaugural "Walk for LIFE (Lifelong Involvement in Fun and Exercise)" in October 2025, a wellness initiative now held every Friday after the flag retreat, alongside a Sportsfest for the Faculty and Staff, to foster health and camaraderie across the institution.

The President's commitment to Infrastructure Improvement and Development and Digital Transformation was evident through a series of rapid campus inspections leading to immediate, ongoing, and future projects. Completed projects that immediately enhanced the campus environment include improving Campus Lighting with the installation of high-intensity lighting at the Grandstand, OVAL field, and Covered Walk (Dimaporo Gymnasium to CBAA), the prompt renovation of CHTM comfort rooms, and securing the fencing of the Golf Course, sponsored by the MSU Golf Club, showcasing strong stakeholder engagement.

The administration is also actively pursuing several ongoing initiatives, such as the widespread modernization and repair works across critical facilities—including the comfort rooms at the International Convention Center and Raja Dumduma Hall—the general repair and renovation of the University Library, White House, and the Office of the President, the construction of a 229-meter covered pathway, the installation of trash cans across campus, and the procurement of equipment for the Sambatan Legal Aid Office. Looking ahead, the administration's future plans include developing state-of-the-art facilities, modernizing student dormitories, and creating a comprehensive "smart campus" system featuring unified digital platforms across the System.

President Tago's administration has actively pursued strategic alliances to elevate MSU's status as a National Peace University and enhance its global standing. These efforts directly support the agenda's emphasis on Peace Education and Quality Assurance and Global Competitiveness. The President has engaged in crucial meetings with high-level diplomats, including the Malaysian Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino Anthony, and the Turkish Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Niyazi Evren Akyol, along with Deputy Chief of Mission Okan Erkan, for possible collaborations. Furthermore, the administration has fostered partnerships with international institutions, including Universitas Padjadjaran (UNPAD), Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY), and Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) of Indonesia, as well as local partners like the University of the Philippines, TESDA, and GCash.

To ensure Institutional Alignment and Governance and extend the university's reach, President Tago has proactively engaged with local government units and campus units. These engagements reinforce the commitment to solidify the System's support infrastructure and promote a unified MSU System. This proactive approach is vital to aligning MSU's strategic plans with regional (BARMM) and national development goals.

The first 100 days have established a strong, action-oriented foundation for the full implementation of the Nine-Point Agenda. The administration plans to rehabilitate and preserve cultural and religious heritage, notably the repair and repainting of the King Faisal Mosque and the restoration of the Aga Khan Museum. Furthermore, significant curriculum enhancements are underway, which include institutionalizing relevant courses like Halal 101 and ensuring COPC compliance for all programs. President Tago concluded his report by inspiring the university community to "keep moving forward" for Mindanao and the nation, signaling a proactive, results-oriented leadership poised for significant, lasting transformation. These initiatives were just the initial stepping stones as the University pursues its vision of transforming into an inclusive, world-class institution.





The PRESIDENT's Significant MILESTONE



AUGUST 31, 2025

President Tago Kicks Off MSU's 64th Anniversary with Historic First-Ever Walkathon

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, officially took his championing of unity and wellness to the frontlines by personally heading the MSU community in its first-ever Walkathon on August 31, 2025. The historic event served as a symbolic preparatory activity for the university's 64th Founding Anniversary. President Tago walked side-by-side with university officials, staff, and members of the Marawi community, traversing an eight-kilometer route that began at 5:30 AM at Ground Zero and concluded at the Old Administrative Building inside the campus. His active participation transformed the event from a standard fitness activity into a powerful statement of solidarity, with the President marching alongside participants from all sectors to embody the administration's commitment to inclusivity. Participants hailed the President's initiative as a representation of strength and resilience, signaling a new era of progressing forward together.



AUGUST 31, 2025

MSU Alumni Celebrate Excellence at the 2025 Rawaten Awards

The Mindanao State University (MSU) community celebrated a night of exceptional achievement and service at the MSU Alumni Rawaten Outstanding Alumni Awards 2025, held on August 31, 2025, at the International Convention Center. Organized by the Alumni Participation Committee chaired by Office of Alumni Relations and Career Center (OARCC) Director Hanimah Salic-Lao, RN, DPA as a major highlight of the 64th MSU Founding Anniversary Celebration, the event paid tribute to alumni who have demonstrated remarkable excellence and commitment to service, thereby embodying the university's spirit of "*Inklusibong Pamantasan*." The ceremony recognized distinguished graduates who have made significant impacts in their respective fields,

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

President Tago Leads MSU's 64th Anniversary Celebration, Champions Inclusivity in Historic Fete

Leading the MSU into its 64th year, System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, personally spearheaded the grand founding anniversary celebration on September 1, 2025, at the MSU-Main Campus. Anchoring the festivities on the theme "MSU@64: *Inklusibong Pamantasan*" (Inclusive University), President Tago's active presence at the forefront of the civic parade and cultural showcases underscored his administration's hands-on commitment to unity across the Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan (MINSUPALA) region. His leadership set the tone for the day as he joined thousands of students, faculty, and staff in honoring the legacy established by the late Senator Domocao Alonto in 1961, marking the institution's evolution into a premier multi-campus system dedicated to peace and development.

Under President Tago's stewardship, the commemoration served as a powerful display of institutional solidarity, with the President overseeing a vibrant lineup of events that highlighted the diverse talents within the system. He presided over the high-energy College Yell competition and the Sigaw Kalye contest, while notably spotlighting the contributions of supervised institutions like MSU-LNCAT, MCEST, and MSU-SND to reinforce the spirit of system-wide inclusivity. By standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the academic community throughout the festivities, President Tago affirmed that the 64th anniversary was not merely a retrospective celebration, but a renewed pledge to steer MSU toward a future defined by resilience, cultural harmony, and shared academic excellence.



SEPTEMBER 2-3, 2025

President Tago Hosts Successful MSU Sportsfest for 64th Anniversary

Under the leadership of System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, MSU successfully hosted its Sports Fest 2025 for administrative personnel on September 2-3 at the Dimaporo Gymnasium and University Tennis Courts. President Tago steered this event, themed "*Palarong Pasiklaban ng Diwa at Talento*," as a cornerstone of the 64th Founding Anniversary celebration. His objective for the Sportsfest was to reinforce the university's commitment to holistic education, community building, and fostering sportsmanship among its staff. President Tago featured prominently in the opening ceremony at the Dimaporo Gymnasium. Following welcome remarks and messages of support from other university officials, he delivered the presidential address to the participating personnel. To formally launch the athletic competitions, President Tago led the declaration of the games, emphasizing the values of fair play and excellence. He then signaled the start of the festivities by performing the ceremonial serve alongside Assistant Vice President for Planning and Development Dr. Oding L. Ma-amor, JD officially kicking off the two-day event.



notably honoring individuals like Dr. Romeo S. Magsalos, DPSSG, MPSA, a College of Agriculture graduate, who was among the first recipients of the MSU Rawaten Most Outstanding Alumni Award 2025, reaffirming the vital role of MSU alumni in national development and their continuous contribution to the legacy of the university.





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SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

President Tago Spearheads Launch of Marawi's Best Trade Fair, Pushes for Permanent Economic Hub at MSU

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led the official opening of "Marawi's Best Trade Fair 2025" on September 2 at the MSU Peace Plaza. As the focal point of the university's 64th Founding Anniversary, President Tago utilized his keynote address to unveil a strategic vision: upgrading the Peace Plaza into a permanent fixture for commerce and innovation rather than a temporary event space. He emphasized that this development is crucial to providing student entrepreneurs and local businesses with a sustainable platform to showcase their products year-round. The President specifically lauded the fair's 57 exhibitors for keeping goods affordable, underlining his administration's priority to ensure practical support for student welfare while fostering a vibrant community marketplace.

President Tago's initiative to integrate the university's academic mission with the local economy drew immediate backing from key stakeholders, including Lanao del Sur Vice Governor Mohammad Khalid "Mujam" R. Adiong, who reaffirmed his continued partnership with the MSU leadership. Expanding on the President's directive, Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development Dr. Fema M. Abamo articulated the administration's goal of identifying a "signature product" to position Lanao del Sur as a hub of innovation. Organized by the university's entrepreneurship offices (ETPO and TIC), the two-month fair runs until October 31, serving as the tangible realization of President Tago's resolve to transform the campus into a lasting engine for business and cultural growth in Marawi City.



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SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

President Tago Drives Infrastructure Upgrade at MSU Main Campus Infirmary

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, championed a major infrastructure and wellness initiative, successfully securing the delivery of much-needed equipment to the MSU Medical Services and Hospital Division (Infirmary). This essential upgrade, which arrived on September 4, 2025, reflects the President's commitment to enhancing patient care and fulfilling the health and welfare objectives of his Nine-Point Agenda.

The initial shipment significantly boosted the infirmary's capacity, including 20 hospital beds (complete with bedside trays and tables), two split-type air conditioners, and five window-type air conditioners. This prompt action in facilitating the procurement has inspired the medical team. Director Sohra Nuska-Bato of MSU-MSHD expressed her gratitude, stating, "Alhamdulillah! We are overwhelmed with excitement to receive these much-needed equipment. These are more than just equipment; they are symbols of care, progress, and commitment to the health and welfare of our patients." Reinforcing President Tago's dedication, the infirmary is expecting an additional shipment of 17 sets of beds and electric fans, further ensuring the MSU community receives quality healthcare services.



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President Tago Convenes Advisory Council in Manila, Rallies MSU Leadership on System-Wide Compliance

Strategically rallying the university's top leadership ahead of crucial Board meetings, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, convened the President's Advisory Council (PAC) on September 4 at the City Garden Suites in Manila. President Tago utilized the high-level gathering to personally assess the status of the entire university system, establishing a direct line of communication with chancellors and campus heads. Setting a tone of transparent governance, he opened the floor by explicitly inviting counsel from the body, fostering a collaborative environment where the new administration could align its vision with the realities on the ground across all MSU campuses.

Under President Tago's direction, the council tackled pivotal operational mandates, with a sharp focus on securing the Certification of Program Compliance (COPC) for all academic offerings and addressing compliance issues within the College of Law and similar units. He oversaw the presentation of comprehensive campus reports, which highlighted financial statuses, accomplishments, and alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By steering discussions toward these critical metrics—and reviewing upcoming initiatives like the Research Conference presented by Vice President for Research and Extension Dr. Glen Lorenzo—President Tago successfully unified the diverse campus administrations, ensuring a cohesive strategy to support the System's academic and operational goals.

President Tago Steers Strategic and Fiscal Direction at Consecutive BOR Committee Meetings in Manila

Demonstrating hands-on governance over the university's future, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, successfully steered a series of high-level deliberations during the Board of Regents (BOR) committee meetings held at the City Garden Suites in Ermita. President Tago first presided over the BOR Finance Committee Meeting on September 5, 2025, where he guided the rigorous review of fiscal allocations and budgetary priorities. His leadership during this session was pivotal in ensuring that the university's operational roadmap is backed by sound financial planning, strictly aligning resource management with his administration's vision for a sustainable and globally competitive university system.

Building on this fiscal foundation, President Tago convened the BOR Executive Committee Meeting the following day, September 6, to tackle critical administrative and academic policies. By facilitating a holistic dialogue across both days, the President championed a collaborative yet prudent approach to governance, ensuring that key resolutions—ranging from financial vetting to policy frameworks—were meticulously refined prior to their presentation to the full Board. His decisive engagement across these consecutive sessions underscored a commitment to streamlining system-wide operations and securing the university's stability for the upcoming academic year.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

MSU and TESDA Partner to Expand Technical Training in Mindanao

On September 8, 2025, MSU System and TESDA signed an MOU to strengthen technical-vocational (TechVoc) programs across MSU's 11 campuses. Led by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and TESDA Secretary Jose Francisco Benitez, the partnership will expand training in fields from digital literacy and healthcare to halal industries and renewable energy. The collaboration also aims to provide skills development for former combatants and marginalized communities to boost global competitiveness.

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SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Malaysian Embassy Honors New MSU President, Strengthens Educational Ties

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA was honored at a prestigious dinner hosted by the Malaysian Embassy on September 7, 2025 at Rumah Malaysia, Makati City. The Malaysian Ambassador to the Philippines, He Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino Anthony, extended the invitation to President Tago and members of the Board of Regents and system officials to mark this significant leadership transition at MSU. The gathering served as a platform to strengthen ties and foster collaboration between the Malaysian Embassy and Mindanao State University. Discussions also took place to facilitate MSU's connections with additional Malaysian universities.

The dinner, hosted at the Malaysian Embassy, was attended by MSU TCTO Chancellor Dr. Mary Joyce G. Sali, MSU System Board of Regent Gracita R. Jacinto-Ali, the President's wife, Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA, and other System Officials, including Executive Vice President Dr. Abdulcader M. Ayo, Vice President Soraida A. Esmail, Vice President Rodrigo S. Baid, and Vice President Glen A. Lorenzo.



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SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

MSU System Charts Strategic Course for the Academic Year during the 272nd BOR En Banc

The Mindanao State University-Board of Regents (MSU-BOR) convened its crucial En Banc session on September 9, 2025, marking a significant gathering of the university system's highest governing body. The meeting was instrumental in discussing and approving key policies and strategic directions essential for the academic year and the university's overall development.

The high-level session was actively participated in by the MSU System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, alongside the other members of the Board. As the executive head of the system, President Tago presented updates and proposals covering vital areas such as budget allocation, infrastructure projects across the MSU campuses, and the accreditation status of various academic programs.

The BOR En Banc—the full assembly of the Board—holds the authority to set institutional policies, confer academic degrees, and manage the university's properties and finances. The outcomes of this September 9th session are expected to directly impact the operations, academic quality, and long-term planning for all MSU campuses across Mindanao.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

President Tago Visits AFAB

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. Tago, CPA paid a courtesy visit on September 11 to Mr. Hussein P. Pangandaman, Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan. He was accompanied by First Lady Sittie Norhaya A. Tago, CPA, and MSU Chief of Staff Abdul Aziz M. Pangandaman. The Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB) is a government-operated economic zone that plays a pivotal role in promoting trade, commerce, and industrial development in the region. As a key component of the Philippine government's efforts to attract both local and foreign investments, AFAB offers various incentives to businesses and serves as a catalyst for job creation and economic growth.

The visit aimed to explore potential avenues for partnership and collaboration between MSU System and the Freeport Area of Bataan. Key discussions centered on opportunities for mutual cooperation, including the provision of employment prospects for MSU graduates within the Freeport Area. The dialogue also focused on strengthening ties between the two institutions to promote regional development, educational advancement, and economic growth. Both parties expressed their commitment to fostering a productive and lasting relationship that would benefit their respective sectors and the broader community.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

President Tago Confers Honorary Doctorate on BARMM Interim Chief Minister Macacua

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA presided over a historic conferment ceremony on September 15, 2025, at the MSU-Maguindanao Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium. In a momentous tribute, President Tago formally conferred the degree of Doctor of Public Administration (*Honoris Causa*) upon Hon. Abdulraof A. Macacua, the Interim Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). President Tago led the university system in recognizing Macacua's profound contributions to public service and his transformative impact on the Bangsamoro region.

During the ceremony, President Tago delivered a powerful address illuminating the recipient's exemplary journey. "Macacua's life journey, from revolutionary leader to statesman, is a testament to his unwavering commitment to public service," President Tago proclaimed. He further stated that Macacua's leadership has "inspired generations of Bangsamoro leaders and served as a model for transformative leadership in post-conflict societies." By conferring this prestigious degree, President Tago solidified the university's role in honoring leaders who have demonstrated an extraordinary dedication to peace, governance, and societal advancement.



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SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

President Tago Enhances Student Dormitory Facilities

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, spearheaded an initiative to enhance student well-being by distributing essential dormitory provisions—including foams, pillows, and steel double decks—to the MSU-Main Campus dormitories on September 16, 2025. This project, executed through the Housing Management Division headed by Director Nagaranao A. Sangcopan, MPA as part of the "Comforting Students in Need" program, directly addresses the need for improved comfort and rest, which are crucial for academic focus and success.

This strategic upgrade is a tangible demonstration of MSU's commitment to a holistic approach to student support, extending beyond academic instruction to include fundamental aspects of student life. By ensuring students, especially those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, have access to secure and comfortable housing, the university is actively working to mitigate barriers to educational attainment, thereby enriching the overall campus experience and positively impacting student academic performance.





MSU System President Conducts Inaugural Visits to MSU-Wao and Siawadatu Community High Schools

Reinforcing his commitment to the university's external units, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, conducted inaugural visits to the MSU-Wao and the MSU Siawadatu Community High Schools, both operating under the MSU-Marawi Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. The tour began at the MSU-Wao CHS campus, where President Tago engaged with students, faculty, and staff, marking his first official dialogue with the community. Following this engagement, the President proceeded to the MSU Siawadatu CHS to continue his inspection and interaction with the constituents. These back-to-back visits provided a vital platform for the external high school communities to connect directly with the university leadership, aimed at strengthening institutional relationships and ensuring robust support for MSU's educational extensions.



MSU Hospital Receives New Medical Equipment and Furnishings

Mindanao State University Hospital marked a significant milestone on September 16, 2025, with a turnover ceremony of essential medical equipment and patient-care furnishings. The event highlighted the unwavering support and commitment of MSU System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, to advancing healthcare services within the university. President Tago's dedication was recognized as instrumental in making this transformative step possible. The new equipment and furnishings are expected to enhance the quality of medical services provided to the MSU community and beyond.



SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

President Tago Welcomes COA, Affirms Partnership for 2025 Audit

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led the MSU administration in formally commencing the Audit Entrance Conference for Calendar Year 2025 on September 17 at the Kalimudan Hall of the MSU Meranaw Cultural Heritage Center. President Tago welcomed the Commission on Audit (COA) BARMM team led by Regional Director Rasdy M. Guiling to establish the objectives, scope, and methodology for the upcoming audit of the university's financial and operational activities. By initiating the conference, President Tago reaffirmed his administration's steadfast commitment to financial probity, transparency, and a collaborative engagement with the state auditors.

Stressing the importance of accountability, President Tago emphasized the imperative of checks and balances, positioning the COA as a crucial ally rather than an adversary. "The COA is a partner to all government agencies," President Tago declared, noting they are "here to protect the funds that pertain to our people," not to halt programs. This cooperative tone was reinforced by COA officials, who described their role as "co-pilots," and the conference concluded with President Tago overseeing the ceremonial signing of the engagement letter, formally beginning the audit process.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

President Tago Rallies Researchers to Save Lake Lanao Cyprinids, Directs Focus on Invasive Species during DOST-PCAARRD Visit

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, reaffirmed the university's strong commitment to conserving Lake Lanao's endemic cyprinids during a high-level meeting with a monitoring team from DOST-PCAARRD. The team, led by Dr. Adelaida T. Calpe, visited the campus to evaluate a DOST-funded conservation program. President Tago assured the delegation of MSU's full support, emphasizing the need for research and extension projects that protect native species from invasives and support the communities relying on the lake for their livelihood.

Moving beyond general support, President Tago issued specific directives to the university's researchers, charging them to thoroughly investigate the causes of the endemic species' decline and develop actionable conservation strategies. He specifically highlighted the critical threat posed by the proliferating invasive goby, locally known as "Katulong," and tasked the researchers with formulating targeted management and mitigation measures. This directive aims to ensure the strengthened partnership between MSU and DOST-PCAARRD yields high-impact results for the lake's entire ecosystem.



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SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

MSU and UP Presidents Meet for Collaborative Partnership on Library Resource Sharing and Digital Learning

In a significant move towards enhancing educational resources, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and UP President Atty. Angelo A. Jimenez held a collaborative meeting on September 19, 2025, at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City. Through MSU-BOR Regent Hon. Grace J. Ali, who facilitated the said meeting, this convergence focused on a partnership aimed at sharing library resources and advancing digital learning tools between the two prestigious institutions. The discussions, held at UP's renowned campus, underscored a mutual commitment to broaden access to educational materials and leverage digital platforms for more effective learning experiences. This initiative is expected to benefit thousands of students and faculty members, fostering a more integrated academic environment.

Both presidents expressed optimism about the partnership's potential to enrich the academic landscape and set a precedent for future collaborations among Philippine universities. The agreement signifies a step forward in utilizing shared resources to enhance educational quality and accessibility. The meeting was attended by officials from the MSU System and Campus, including Regent Grace J. Ali, EVP Dr. Abdulcader M. Ayo, VCAA Dr. Minerva-Saminah Mambuay Naga, and Chief of Staff Abdulazis Pangandaman. They were also honored by the special presence of UP University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz.



SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

President Tago Spearheads SASE Booster Review

Directly operationalizing the "Inclusivity" and "Academic Excellence" pillars of his 9-Point Agenda, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, instituted and oversaw the comprehensive execution of the MSU SASE Booster Review Classes from September 23 to October 4, 2025. President Tago framed this intensive two-week initiative not merely as a tutorial service, but as a strategic intervention designed to democratize access to quality higher education for students from MSU Community High Schools and various public schools. By mobilizing the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs under Dr. Samsia M. Paitao-Dumrang to facilitate the rigorous curriculum, President Tago ensured that underserved students were equipped with the competitive edge necessary to navigate the System Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE), effectively leveling the playing field and bridging the gap between student potential and university admission.

President Tago further demonstrated his commitment to the "Student Welfare" component of his agenda by ensuring the program provided holistic support beyond classroom instruction. He directed the provision of free hospitality and accommodation for participants in the newly inaugurated BARMM-donated dormitories, effectively removing financial barriers to create a conducive learning environment. Addressing the cohort during the closing ceremony at the International Convention Center on October 24, President Tago urged the aspirants to approach the upcoming examination with confidence and focus. His leadership in executing this booster review stands as a concrete testament to his vision of the university as a vehicle for social mobility, ensuring that the path to leadership and professional development is open to all deserving students regardless of their economic background.



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SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

President Tago Leads MSU-UPLB HELMS, Cites Universities as "Drivers of Nation-Building"



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led Mindanao State University in hosting the Higher Education Leadership Mentoring Seminar (HELMS) on September 29, 2025, in a significant collaboration with the University of the Philippines – Los Baños (UPLB). President Tago set the seminar's ambitious tone in his opening address at the CHTM Pavilion, stressing that the initiative serves as a "platform for exchange of knowledge, building of partnerships, and co-creation of strategies." He emphasized to the assembled leaders that universities must evolve beyond instruction to become "active drivers of innovation, public service, and nation-building."

This high-impact seminar, which focused on digital transformation, research governance, and public service, represents one of the first major outcomes of a partnership President Tago helped secure through a Memorandum of Understanding signed with UPLB in Bangkok last July. By spearheading this event, President Tago is actively positioning MSU to lead regional efforts in developing progressive governance. His actions underscore a clear commitment to forging a future where higher education leadership is defined by resilience, innovation, and a direct contribution to national development.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

MSU System President Tago Visits MSU-LNCAT Campus

MSU System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, conducted an official campus visit to the MSU-Lanao National College of Arts and Trades (MSU-LNCAT) on September 30, 2025. The occasion featured an elaborate welcome ceremony, serving as a platform for the President to express his profound institutional appreciation for the host campus's preparations. The MSU-LNCAT community, led by Superintendent Cairany D. Dia-Gandamra, JD, RN, MPA, mobilized its faculty, staff, and students to host a lavish and meticulous program. President Tago specifically commended the campus for its vibrant display of unity and commitment. His remarks underscored the value of mutual respect and cooperation, affirming the importance of a strong, harmonious relationship to achieve the university's mission.

In his Inspirational Address, President Tago primarily extended his deep gratitude for the warm and ceremonial welcome prepared by MSU-LNCAT. While expressing thanks, he also affirmed the System's continued commitment to development and academic excellence across all MSU units. The formal acknowledgement included diverse cultural and student presentations and a Pagana Meranaw that provided a celebratory backdrop to the day's proceedings. This visit was strategically designed to reinforce existing relationships and strengthen the System's support structure, including the external community high school campuses. The successful engagement effectively solidified a shared institutional purpose and reaffirmed the MSU System's dedication to educational outreach and development.

OCTOBER 1, 2025

President Tago Strengthens MSU's Academic and Cultural Ties with Türkiye

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led a strategic delegation on October 1, 2025, to meet with Turkish Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Niyazi Evren Akyol, in a successful visit to reaffirm and strengthen collaboration. President Tago initiated the high-level discussions, which also included Deputy Chief of Mission Okan Erkan, to prioritize forging stronger academic linkages, fostering deeper cultural understanding, and exploring new opportunities for joint research and student exchange. Accompanied by the First Lady Sittie Norhaya A. Tago, CPA and key university officials, President Tago underscored MSU's serious commitment to its international partnerships. The productive meeting concluded with President Tago presenting Ambassador Akyol with a special handcrafted token from the university, a gesture symbolizing MSU's profound appreciation and the enduring friendship between the institution and the Republic of Türkiye.

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OCTOBER

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OCTOBER 2, 2025

President Tago Tours MSU-UTC, Reaffirming Unit Commitment

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA continued his institutional tour on October 2, 2025, visiting the MSU-University Training Center (UTC). Accompanied by First Lady Sittie Norhaya A. Tago, CPA, and key System and Campus Officials, President Tago was warmly received by the MSU-UTC community, led by Director Edenairah Panbangan-Esmail, Ph.D. The reception included energetic performances by campus bands and a vibrant cultural presentation by the UTC Lawanen Dance Troupe. This visit, following an engagement at MSU-LNCAT the previous day, highlights the administration's dedication to direct engagement and grassroots development across every MSU unit, reinforcing the crucial importance of maintaining quality education throughout the system.

President Tago articulated his vision for a unified and thriving MSU System during the visit, expressing gratitude for the ceremonial welcome which culminated in a powerful performance of the MSU-UTC campus song, "Home of Champions." His ongoing campus visits strategically underscore the administration's commitment to strengthening the System's support infrastructure, particularly across its external community campuses. By consistently reinforcing existing relationships and solidifying a shared institutional purpose, the tours reaffirm the MSU System's dedication to coordinated educational outreach and unit-level support.



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OCTOBER 3, 2025

Walk for LIFE: MSU President Tago Promotes Wellness Initiative

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, successfully led a campus-wide wellness activity on October 3, 2025, with the inaugural "Walk for LIFE (Lifelong Involvement In Fun and Exercise)". Held at the MSU Main Campus following the Flag Retreat ceremony, the event demonstrated President Tago's clear commitment to institutionalizing health and well-being as a core component of the university experience. The walk saw enthusiastic participation from members of the MSU community who joined the President in a refreshing and fun-filled activity around the campus grounds. The wellness program, a key initiative reflecting the President's vision for a healthier university, emphasized the importance of Lifelong Involvement In Fun and Exercise for achieving general well-being, camaraderie, and lifelong fitness. The event underscored the institutional priority of promoting wellness and inclusivity in the workplace, as outlined in the President's Nine-Point Agenda, particularly his sixth agenda item, which focuses on Human Resource Development and Culture Building, setting a positive precedent for health-focused engagement within the MSU System.

OCTOBER 5, 2025

President Tago Lights Up MSU Oval, Drives Upgrade for Nighttime Campus Safety and Activity

Prioritizing the modernization of campus infrastructure to boost student safety and engagement, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, successfully directed the installation of new high-intensity lighting systems at the MSU Oval and Grandstand. President Tago's initiative directly addresses the need for improved visibility during evening hours, effectively transforming the university's premier sports facility into a safer, more accessible hub for students, faculty, and the community well after sunset. By overseeing this upgrade, the President has ensured that the campus remains a conducive environment for sports, recreation, and gatherings around the clock, significantly enhancing the overall university experience.

This significant infrastructure improvement stands as a tangible result of President Tago's persistent leadership and his broader vision for a vibrant, modern Mindanao State University. By focusing resources on the illumination of the Grandstand, he has turned a physical renovation into a critical measure for campus security and community well-being. Through his decisive action, President Tago has not only revitalized a key university landmark but has also reinforced his administration's pledge to provide a safe and dynamic learning environment for the entire MSU constituency.

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OCTOBER 7, 2025

MSU Main Campus Becomes Institutional Member of ASEAN FEN

The Mindanao State University – Main Campus was officially accepted as a member of the prestigious ASEAN Fisheries Education Network (FEN) during the opening program of the 13th International Fisheries Symposium 2025 held at Universitas Diponegoro in Semarang, Indonesia, on October 7.

University President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA formally accepted the Certificate of Membership from the ASEAN-FEN Board Chairperson, Prof. Mohammad Amin Alamsjah, Jr., M.Si., Ph.D. and the Dean of the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science of the Universitas Diponegoro, Prof. Agus Trianto, S.T., M.Sc., Ph.D.

On its website, the ASEAN Fisheries Education Network describes itself as a consortium of university-based institutions dedicated to fisheries and aquaculture across the Southeast Asia region. Its mission is to support and enhance the fisheries and aquaculture sector through education, research, and public outreach.

The ASEAN-FEN plays a vital role in supporting and facilitating the efforts of educators, scientists, and agencies addressing local, regional, national, and international challenges related to fisheries and aquaculture.

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President Tago Secures First International MOU for MSU System, Deepens ASEAN Ties with Indonesian University

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA, marked a significant milestone for the MSU System by securing his first international agreement, signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Indonesia's Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) on October 7, 2025. President Tago personally led the formal signing at the UNDIP Rector's Office, symbolizing a new era of global engagement under his leadership. This strategic move, co-signed by UNDIP Rector Prof. Dr. Suharnomo, fulfills Tago's agenda to expand MSU's international footprint and strengthen ASEAN ties through academic excellence, research collaboration, and robust human resource and student exchanges across all MSU constituent universities.

The signing, held in conjunction with the 13th International Fisheries Symposium (ASEAN-FEN), highlights President Tago's focus on fostering regional cooperation in critical areas like sustainable fisheries and marine biodiversity conservation. To ensure system-wide implementation, President Tago was accompanied by key MSU chancellors from the TCTO, Sulu, and Buug campuses, alongside the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the College of Fisheries. This Tago-led initiative positions the MSU System as a key academic partner within the ASEAN network, ready to address shared regional challenges.

OCTOBER 9, 2025

President Tago Cements MSU Law Partnership in Indonesia, Eyes System-Wide Agreement

On October 9, 2025, President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, personally led the signing of a historic Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the MSU College of Law and the Faculty of Law of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. This significant step for Mindanao State University's (MSU) internationalization drive saw President Tago, alongside MSU Law Dean Prof. Norhabib Bin Suod S. Barodi, formalize the partnership at the UMY campus, signaling his administration's strong support for the collaboration. The agreement establishes a framework for student and faculty exchanges and explores the development of joint degree programs, particularly benefiting future Sharia legal professionals in both nations.

Highlighting his broader strategic ambitions, President Tago used the ceremony to announce his intention to expand this single-college agreement into a comprehensive, MSU system-wide partnership with UMY. To underscore this system-wide commitment, President Tago was accompanied by a delegation of top MSU officials, including the Chancellors of MSU-TCTO, MSU-Sulu, and MSU-Buug. This move aims to leverage the new relationship with one of Indonesia's leading universities, opening doors for expanded academic and research opportunities across all MSU constituent campuses under President Tago's leadership.

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UMY UNIVERSITAS
MUHAMMADIYAH
YOGYAKARTA



PPT: Acta non Verba

Photo Collage by Mohammad Jamsed T. Bantog

OCTOBER 10, 2025

President Tago Seals Strategic Alliance with Universitas Padjadjaran, Expands MSU's Reach in Southeast Asia

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, personally secured a strategic partnership with Universitas Padjadjaran (UNPAD) in Bandung, Indonesia. On October 10, 2025, President Tago led the MSU delegation to UNPAD's main campus, where he formalized the collaboration through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). By driving this initiative, President Tago has opened critical avenues for faculty and student exchanges, joint research initiatives, and collaborative academic projects, effectively positioning MSU as a key player in strengthening educational ties between the Philippines and Indonesia.

President Tago officially cemented this cross-border cooperation after months of productive coordination, demonstrating his administration's resolve to build sustainable and impactful global partnerships. Flanked by his key academic officials—Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga and King Faisal Center Dean Atty. Jashim A. Abdulrahman, MAIS—President Tago utilized the visit to operationalize his vision of academic solidarity. Through his direct leadership in sealing this agreement, he has not only expanded the university's network but has also committed MSU to the broader goal of international cooperation, ensuring that the institution remains at the forefront of higher education development in Southeast Asia.

OCTOBER 13, 2025

President Tago Delivers 100-Day Report, Cites Rapid Progress in Welfare and Infrastructure

MSU System President Tago delivered a compelling 100-day performance report on October 13, 2025, detailing how his administration rapidly translated its Nine-Point Agenda into tangible results since taking office on July 4. President Tago highlighted immediate, high-impact strides in student welfare (SASE and CSC Reviews, "Walk for LIFE" wellness initiatives, and new dormitory supplies) and campus modernization (installation of high-intensity lighting, golf course fencing, and ongoing renovations of the University Library and International Convention Center). These efforts serve as concrete evidence of a results-oriented leadership committed to creating a safer, more conducive environment for the MSU constituency.

Beyond internal developments, President Tago emphasized his administration's aggressive pursuit of strategic alliances to elevate MSU's standing as a National Peace University and a global academic contender. He outlined successful diplomatic engagements with high-level envoys from Malaysia and Turkey, formalized partnerships with international institutions (like Universitas Padjadjaran in Indonesia) and national entities (UP and TESDA), and planned institutional reforms such as the rehabilitation of cultural landmarks and the institutionalization of curriculum enhancements like Halal 101. By securing these governance reforms and external partnerships in just three months, President Tago signaled a tenure defined by proactive transformation and a clear vision for an inclusive, world-class institution.

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OCTOBER 14, 2025



MSU System President Atty. Tago Conducts Comprehensive Visit to MSU Marawi Offices and Units

In a bid to strengthen the university's support infrastructure and promote a unified MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA paid a visit to various offices and units at the MSU Main Campus. Accompanied by key officials, President Tago's visit aimed to reinforce existing relationships and solidify the System's commitment to educational outreach and development. The President's tour included stops at the Antonio Isidro Building, University Library, Aga Khan Museum, Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM), and the ongoing Student Center building construction site. At each location, President Tago engaged with faculty, staff, and students, listening to their concerns and sharing his vision for a thriving MSU System. He emphasized the importance of maintaining quality education across all campuses and expressed gratitude for the warm welcome he received.

The visit also took him to the College of Public Administration and the MSU Grandstand of the College of Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation (CSPEAR), where he checked the building issues and lighting projects. By engaging directly with the MSU community, President Tago's visit underscored the administration's commitment to grassroots engagement and development, aligning with the university's mission to provide quality education and promote peace and progress in the region.

OCTOBER 15-17, 2025

President Tago Extends Comprehensive Campus Tour of MSU Marawi

Mindanao State University (MSU) System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, continued his intensive, hands-on inspection tour of the MSU Marawi campus. This thorough assessment was designed to underscore the administration's top priority of Infrastructure Improvement, Development, and Digital Transformation. On October 15, President Tago continued his rigorous assessment, extending his comprehensive inspection to several key academic units. This second day included visits to the MSU-Integrated Laboratory School, the College of Hospitality and Tourism Management (CHTM), the College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH), and the College of Engineering (COE).

Accompanied by a delegation of administrators, President Tago's objective was to personally evaluate the current status of the buildings and infrastructure. He utilized these stops to foster stronger ties with the constituents, holding open dialogues to attentively listen to feedback and concerns raised by the faculty and staff. During these exchanges, President Tago reaffirmed



15-17



his administration's unwavering pledge to equitable resource allocation and further infrastructure development, assuring the community that the insights gathered would directly inform future improvements for the university.

The campus engagement continued on October 16, the third day of the tour, as President Tago pressed forward with outreach to a diverse array of academic and specialized units. This phase of the itinerary focused on strategic dialogues and on-site assessments to reinforce integrated support systems and commitment to holistic development across the MSU System. Key stops included the College of Information and Computing Sciences (CICS); the Panginam Healing and Wellness Center (PHWC); the International Convention Center (ICC); the College of Business Administration and Accountancy (CBAA); the College of Education (CED); the College of Law (COL); and the College of Agriculture (COA).



In each unit, President Tago actively solicited input on challenges and aspirations from faculty, staff, and students, assessing all necessary infrastructures that need rehabilitation or further repairs in alignment with the MSU's overarching goals of educational equity, peace promotion, and regional empowerment.

President Tago concluded his comprehensive campus inspection tour on October 17, dedicating the fourth day of his visit to critical health and medical units to assess and identify areas for immediate improvement. This focus aligns perfectly with his recent address, where he explicitly emphasized that the enhancement of health services is a paramount objective of his administration. The President visited the College of Health Sciences (CHS), the



Medical Training Hospital, and the College of Medicine (COM). Accompanied by key System officials, President Tago's hands-on approach aimed to personally inspect the existing facilities within these crucial units. The objective of this detailed inspection was to determine specific needs and formulate concrete plans for rehabilitation, modernization, and necessary repairs to enhance the quality of education and healthcare services. These visits underscore the administration's commitment to ensuring that MSU's future medical professionals train in leading-edge facilities and that the university's hospital provides optimal care to the community.



OCTOBER 16, 2025

President Tago Graces Musical Extravaganza, Highlights Harmony in Diversity

Mindanao State University (MSU) System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, was among the esteemed officials who graced the Musical Extravaganza 2025 held at the Dimaporo Gymnasium on Thursday, October 16, 2025. His attendance underscored the administration's support for campus cultural life and student talent.

The event was a vibrant part of the celebrations for the 64th Founding Anniversary of MSU-Main Campus. The Extravaganza was themed "Inklusibong Pamantasan" (Inclusive University), a theme that resonated deeply with the university's commitment to unity amidst diversity. Dr. Henry P. Aringa, Overall Coordinator of the event, emphasized that music serves as a way for students across the university to unite, regardless of their ethnicity or beliefs.

President Tago was present during the morning's activities, where he witnessed the gathering of students, faculty, and participants from various colleges who came to cheer on their representatives. The event featured beautiful performances, including a highly praised Acapella Segment, successfully uniting the MSU community in a spectacular showcase of artistry and inclusivity. President Tago's presence signaled the administration's encouragement for activities that foster peace, unity, and a celebration of the rich, diverse talents within the MSU System.



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OCTOBER 18, 2025

President Tago Graces 2025 Dance Extravaganza, Witnesses Display of Inclusive Unity

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, joined the university community at the Dimaporo Gymnasium on October 18, 2025, to observe the 2025 Dance Extravaganza, a flagship student event that brought his administration's vision of diversity to life. Centered on the theme "Inklusibong Pamantasan ng Mindanao," the President witnessed a vibrant showcase of cultural pride and artistry organized by the College of Business Administration and Accountancy (CBAA). His attendance underscored the administration's commitment to student activities that foster unity, as he watched the gymnasium transform into a theater of movement where traditional heritage and modern expression seamlessly converged under the leadership of event chairman Dr. Hanafi Abdulmalik.

The event served as a tangible manifestation of the "Inklusibong Pamantasan" spirit that President Tago champions, proving that the university's strength lies in its diverse student body. By gracing the event, President Tago affirmed the importance of creating safe, joyous spaces for student expression, a goal Dr. Abdulmalik highlighted as the organizers' priority. As the lights dimmed on the performances, the President's presence left a lasting message that academic excellence and cultural vibrancy go hand-in-hand in building a unified MSU-Main campus.



OCTOBER 21, 2025

President Tago Frames Fisheries Symposium as an Urgent Mission for Filipino Families

Mindanao State University (MSU) System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, set a powerful and urgent tone for the Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium (PSSFNS2), which officially launched at the MSU-Main Campus International Convention Center (ICC) on October 21, 2025. President Tago welcomed a convergence of national leaders, academic experts, and global representatives to the Bangsamoro region, immediately framing the symposium's core theme, "From Recognition to Action: Advancing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Philippines," as a call to real-world impact. He emphasized that the gathering transcends mere policy discussion, stating, "It reminds us that beyond research and policy papers lies the real and continuing mission: to protect the livelihoods of millions of Filipino families who depend on water for food, income, and identity." His message highlighted the administration's deep commitment to leveraging the university's academic and research strengths to support the most vulnerable coastal communities and ensure food security for the nation.

President Tago's emphasis on the social and cultural importance of small-scale fisheries resonated with the symposium's venue and the messages from other key leaders, reinforcing the sector's vital role as the "backbone" of the national fisheries sector. The location of the symposium in the Bangsamoro region was particularly significant, with speakers noting that fishing in Mindanao is deeply tied to identity, memory, and belonging. While other presenters detailed the sector's contribution of 26.6% to the total national fisheries production and its support for approximately 2.19 million livelihoods, President Tago's opening statement focused on the foundational moral imperative: turning scientific recognition into practical action that secures the future of these families. The symposium, which transitioned into working sessions and parallel discussions following the formal launch, began under the clear mandate established by President Tago to move resolutely from recognizing the problem to actively protecting the nation's coastal lifelines.



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OCTOBER 22, 2025

President Tago Calls for Holistic Reform

In a proactive step toward enhancing campus mobility and safety, MSUS President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA convened a supervision meeting on October 22, 2025 for the Campus Traffic Management Committee, together with Land Use Committee and some members of the Transition Committee to discuss comprehensive updates to traffic management rules. The said meeting focused on the enhanced traffic management and safety using the current one-way route and new directives; parking designations and expanding covered walkways, aiming to foster a more conducive and accessible environment for students, faculty, and staff. President Tago emphasized the need for a "holistic approach" to campus infrastructure, highlighting how outdated traffic protocols have contributed to congestion and pedestrian challenges, especially during peak hours. Central to the discussions was the introduction of new parking designations. These changes are designed to reduce vehicular clutter in high-traffic student zones, creating a more serene atmosphere conducive to focus and collaboration. Additionally, the meeting addressed the expansion of covered walkways across campus. Implementation timelines were outlined, with initial surveys and pilot designations. As the institution evolves, these traffic and infrastructure enhancements promise a smoother, more vibrant path forward for the entire community.





NOVEMBER 6-7, 2025

President Tago Elevates Mindanao Sports Summit, Citing Marawi's Resilience

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, provided a powerful commencement to the Mindanao Sports Summit 2025, held on November 6-7, 2025, at the International Convention Center (ICC) in Marawi City. His address highlighted the profound symbolic significance of hosting the major two-day event in Marawi, transforming the city from a symbol of conflict into a beacon of resilience and recovery. President Tago underscored that the summit was more than just a meeting of minds on sports development; it was a "movement toward a resilient, peace-driven sporting future" for the region, strongly advocating for the unifying power of athletics.

President Tago articulated a clear goal for the gathering: to harness the unifying power of sports to bridge divides, empower the youth, and strengthen vital collaboration. The summit, a partnership between MSU, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), and the Bangsamoro Sports Commission (BSC), aimed to strengthen ties between educational institutions, local governments, and the national sports body. By hosting the event, MSU, under President Tago's leadership, affirmed its role not only as an academic center but also as a key catalyst for peace and development, using the universal language of sports to ignite hope and nurture talent across Mindanao.

NOVEMBER

6-7

NOVEMBER 6, 2025

President Tago Extends Aid to Fire-Affected Students, Inspects Key Campus Offices

On November 6, 2025, Mindanao State University (MSU) System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, personally visited students displaced by the recent 3rd Street fire, who are now temporarily housed at the BARMM Dormitory on the MSU-Marawi Campus. During his compassionate outreach, President Tago distributed cash donations to the affected students, providing immediate financial relief to help them purchase necessities lost in the blaze. His visit also included key inspections of facilities like the MSU-ISED (Institute of Science Education) led by Dr. Salamah M. Basher and the Mamitua Saber Institute of Research and Creation (MSIRC) headed by Dr. Mahid M. Mangontarum, emphasizing his dedication to both student welfare and crucial infrastructure development across the MSU System.



NOVEMBER 7, 2025

President Tago Champions Unity and Inclusion at University Intramural Games Opening

On November 6, 2025, Mindanao State University MSUS President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, took center stage at the University Grandstand on Friday, November 7, to officially open this year's University Intramural Games (UIG), framing the event as a powerful cornerstone of the university's identity. Addressing a vibrant crowd of officials, faculty, and spirited athletes who had paraded to the beat of drums and cheers, President Tago emphasized that the competition extends far beyond athletics. He highlighted the administration's vision of an *Inklusibong Pamantasan*, stating, "The games we open today are more than just competitions... they are a testament to our continuing commitment to build an *Inklusibong Pamantasan*." President Tago reinforced that the event serves as a living tradition where inclusion and unity are practiced daily, a sentiment echoed by guest speaker Hon. John Patrick C. Gregorio, Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission, who lauded the event as a celebration of camaraderie and life.

Under President Tago's leadership, the ceremony transitioned into a spectacle of school pride with the ceremonial lighting of the urn and the launch of the official theme song, "One MSU, One Spirit." The kickoff featured dynamic performances by the CSPEAR Bangkalo Creatives, MSU-Dakila Streetdance Club, and varsity athletes, setting a high-energy tone before the focus shifted to the bench cheering competitions and sports matches across campus.



7 to 12

NOVEMBER 7-12, 2025

President Tago Leads Strategic Financial Overhaul for MSU System in CDO Workshop

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, spearheaded a major administrative initiative this week, leading unit heads, college deans, and secretaries in an intensive five-day financial strategic planning workshop at Chali Beach, Cagayan de Oro City. Through this event, which runs from November 7 to 11, 2025, President Tago aimed to decisively resolve persistent financial process bottlenecks and enhance university-wide efficiency. He guided the group through foundational planning sessions before directing a critical diagnostic on November 9, where he encouraged a data-driven approach; utilizing Google Forms, his team successfully identified the specific root causes of delays in travel and reimbursement transactions, moving the university past anecdotal complaints to actionable data.

Converting this data into solutions, President Tago fostered a high-level collaborative environment where attendees addressed these systemic issues head-on, resulting in the creation of new, simplified forms and standardized processes. His leadership focused on ensuring the workshop moved quickly from analysis to tangible reform, with the specific goal of making financial transactions faster and more accurate. As he concludes the sessions on November 11, President Tago is determined to send every unit back fully equipped with the practical tools and confidence needed to immediately implement these changes, securing a more agile and responsive administrative environment for the entire MSU System.



NOVEMBER 13, 2025

President Tago Renews Key Scholarship Protocol with Turkey

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led the renewal of the YOK scholarship implementation protocol with Prof. Dr. Naci Gündoğan, Vice President of the Turkish Higher Education Council (YOK), on November 13, 2025, in Ankara, Türkiye, to ensure the continued professional advancement of MSU's academic staff. Fully supported by President Tago to maximize benefits for MSU and the BARM, the renewed agreement—witnessed by the Philippine Ambassador and the MSU Vice President for Academic Affairs—provides faculty members with a comprehensive package covering tuition, stipend, housing, and health insurance. This strategic partnership builds on the program's prior success, which saw 25 MSU scholars pursue PhD, MS, and undergraduate studies in Turkish universities between 2019 and 2023, and has already added six new scholars under the current renewal, bringing the total number of MSU beneficiaries to 31.



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NOVEMBER 16, 2025

President Tago Meets MSU Scholars in Türkiye

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, along with Vice President Minerva-Saminah Naga, devoted time on November 16, 2025, to meet and personally greet the Mindanao State University (MSU) scholars studying at Kastamonu University in Türkiye. President Tago made this visit as Kastamonu University currently hosts the largest cohort of MSU students—a total of 27 scholars pursuing 13 Master's, 5 PhD, and 8 undergraduate degrees through the support of the Council of Higher Education of Türkiye (YOK) and the Türkiye Burslari Scholarship (YTB). During his interaction with the students, President Tago personally emphasized the critical importance of hard work and persistence as non-negotiable ingredients for success, acknowledging the particularly challenging endeavor of taking courses conducted in the Turkish language.



NOVEMBER 17, 2025

President Tago Benchmarks Early Childhood Education for MSU-Marawi

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, alongside Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah Naga, led a focused benchmarking visit to the early childhood educational schools at Kastamonu University to directly observe Turkish standards and curriculum for early learners. This effort by President Tago is a step toward fulfilling the desire to introduce a globally informed early childhood education program at the MSU System, beginning with MSU-Marawi. Given her background in the College of Education, VP Naga was able to easily compare and understand the Turkish system relative to the traditional Philippine nursery and kindergarten educational models, building upon preliminary exploration done by former VPAA Professor Alma Berowa. Following the visit, President Tago secured an agreement in principle with Kastamonu University on November 17, 2025, to enter into deeper exploratory discussions before formalizing an agreement that would establish the program, including plans for faculty mobility and exchange to ensure the adoption of Turkish best practices.



NOVEMBER 17, 2025

President Tago Deepens MSU-Kastamonu University Collaboration

On November 17, 2025, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA met with Rector Ahmet Hamdi Topal at Kastamonu University, where President Tago reaffirmed his full support for the substantial and deepening partnership between Mindanao State University (MSU) and the Turkish institution, which began in 2015. President Tago's support covers programs already formalized through four BOR-confirmed agreements, including the establishment of an International Joint Master's Degree Program with Thesis in Forest Engineering (BOR Res. No 174 s 2025).

Furthermore, President Tago and Rector Topal agreed to advance key initiatives, specifically supporting the ongoing joint MS degree program in forest engineering, establishing a tropical and subtropical forest research center, initiating joint research projects in areas like biomass energy and essential oils, and developing an early childhood education program at MSU-Marawi. President Tago also expressed his commitment to extending collaboration to the newly established Bangsamoro Turkish Education Academy. To date, President Tago's sustained effort has helped the partnership achieve notable outcomes, including approximately 25 joint articles published in Science-Index Journals, the benefit of the Erasmus+ mobility program for 17 faculty members, and scholarship support for 53 students across various Turkish universities.



NOVEMBER 18-21, 2025

President Tago Keynotes Conference, Championing Nature-Based Solutions

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered the keynote message at the 6th International Conference on Environment and Forest Conservation (6th ICEFC) in Türkiye, focusing on "Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience." President Tago leveraged the global forum, which MSU co-founded in 2018, to highlight the Philippines' extreme vulnerability to climate change and emphasized that solutions relying solely on engineering infrastructure are "cosmetic and short-lived." He strongly advocated for adopting nature-based solutions instead, arguing that "Nature is smarter than any of us" when it comes to long-term environmental restoration and protection. President Tago reaffirmed his commitment to the collaborative efforts between MSU and Kastamonu University, noting that such international partnerships are crucial for finding effective, science-based strategies to address global environmental challenges, especially since the conference attracted papers from eight different countries.



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President Tago Drives Partnership with Ankara University

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, accompanied by Vice President Minerva-Saminah Naga, took the initiative to meet with Prof. Dr. Harun Tanrivermis, Vice Rector of Ankara University, and Prof. Dr. Hasan Huseyin Atar, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, to significantly strengthen the existing partnership agreement. This meeting, held at the Vice Rector's Office, focused on enhancing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that MSU signed with Ankara University



on September 19, 2022. President Tago explored potential academic and research engagements, specifically discussing the development of an international joint graduate degree program in biology and a short-term training program in agricultural production and technology. To move these proposals forward, President Tago arranged for an online follow-up meeting to be scheduled soon, ensuring a more in-depth discussion on the specifics of the new collaborations.

President Tago Commends Erciyes University Scholars

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA ensured he met with MSU-Marawi's three highly accomplished YOK scholars—Naima Serad, Mariam Kabirun, and Nor-aima Serajan Saro-Dilna—during his trip to Ankara for the scholarship protocol signing with the Turkish Higher Education Council (YOK). These scholars, who are all pursuing PhD programs at Erciyes University, have already cleared their coursework and comprehensive exams. President Tago expressed his pride and anticipation for their return, emphasizing that they are expected to utilize their advanced knowledge in Microbiology and Public Administration to significantly enhance the research and academic strength of the MSU-Marawi campus.



President Tago Explores Collaboration with Bangsamoro Turkish Educational Academy

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, making a strategic visit to Ankara, accepted the invitation of Rector Mehmet Oruc Sasa and visited his law firm office on the 27th Floor of the Next Level building. During this high-level meeting, President Tago engaged in a substantive discussion with Rector Sasa regarding potential collaborations between Mindanao State University (MSU) and the Bangsamoro Turkish Educational Academy (BTEA). Rector Sasa also used the opportunity to demonstrate to President Tago how the law firm leverages technology to operate, specifically showcasing synchronous virtual court hearings and the process for acquiring ISO certification. This meeting lays the groundwork for future cooperation, as Rector Sasa is scheduled to visit MSU in December to advance these discussions.



NOVEMBER 26, 2025

President Tago Sponsors 'Pagana Meranaw' to Foster Cultural Exchange and Scholarly Networking

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA sponsored the 'Pagana Meranaw' as the culminating event of Day 2 at ASPAP 2025, highlighting his dedication to regional cultural heritage. The event, characterized by displays of Maranaw tradition and hospitality, was held at MSU-IIT, transformed to evoke a traditional ambiance through the use of woven mats and ceremonial dining arrangements, specifically dulang and tabak. Authentic Maranaw cuisine, prepared by communities from across the thirteen municipalities of Lanao del Sur, offered participants a genuine cultural experience. Performances by MSU-IIT's Kalimulan and IPAG showcased Mindanao's rich ethnic dance traditions, further enriching the cultural narrative.

President Tago, accompanied by his wife, external team, and transition team, underscored the integration of leadership and community engagement during the evening. Beyond its significance as a highlight of ASPAP 2025, the event also marked a milestone for MSU-IIT, as Chancellor Alizedney highlighted that the ASPAP assembly facilitated President Tago's inaugural visit to the campus. The 'Pagana Meranaw' served as a platform for the MSU System to celebrate and share Maranaw culture with national academic leaders, championed by President Tago.



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NOVEMBER 26, 2025

President Tago Convenes Key Committee Chairs for Progress Review

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, recently presided over a critical meeting of key committee chairpersons to receive updates on high-priority institutional projects. The meeting, held on November 26, 2025, gathered leaders responsible for implementing major reforms and essential operational tasks across the system. The committee reports spanned a broad range of responsibilities crucial to MSU's current development and long-term stability. This included updates on Governance and Personnel Reforms, such as the reconstitution of

the Personnel Selection Boards (PSB) for all position levels and the review of the Code of Governance. Progress was also presented on processes related to the Board of Regents Meeting, the investigation into alleged System Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE) irregularities, and the crucial evaluation of Contract of Service personnel performance.

Other vital areas reviewed involved enhancing the physical and academic environment of the university. Committees reported on the establishment of the Infrastructure Planning and Design Committee (IPDM) and the Inspectorate Team for Modernization Projects to ensure efficient capital development, alongside updates on the Traffic Management and Asset Management Committee. Academically, reports covered the Campus Quality Assurance Board (CQAB) and the Campus Academic Promotion Panel (CAPP), essential for maintaining standards and faculty progression, as well as the implementation of the HAL 101 Course Offering. The President also received status reports from the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat for procurements, the MSU-Marawi Disposal Committee, and the specialized teams handling the Civil Service Review Program and the Search for Outstanding MSU Alumni. The comprehensive review reflects President Tago's hands-on approach to ensuring accountability and accelerating the implementation of his strategic agenda.



NOVEMBER 27, 2025

President Tago Attends APC Meeting to Chart Academic Policy Direction

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, recently participated in a key meeting of the Academic Policies Committee (APC), highlighting his administration's direct engagement in shaping the quality and global competitiveness of the University's educational offerings. This vital gathering focused on reviewing and recommending crucial academic policies, curriculum enhancements, and the establishment of new programs. President Tago's presence underscored a commitment to the Curriculum Enhancements and Quality Assurance pillars of his Nine-Point Agenda, with discussions aimed at standardizing academic processes across the system, ensuring compliance with national and international education benchmarks, and advancing MSU's unique mandate as a National Peace University. Key strategic areas of deliberation included reviewing policies related to faculty evaluation, research, and extension services to foster excellence, and integrating contemporary courses like Halal 101 and enhanced Peace Education into the core curriculum to ensure the University's offerings remain relevant and unified across all diverse MSU System campuses.

President Tago's active role in the APC meeting emphasizes his dedication to a results-oriented leadership, guided by the principle "Acta non verba" (Actions, not words). By engaging directly with this critical governance body, the administration reinforces its focus on delivering quality education that is consistently applied and responsive to the needs of the MINSUPALA region, positioning the MSU System for greater regional impact and global recognition. The successful deliberation and implementation of the policies discussed are essential steps toward maintaining high academic standards and securing the long-term success and relevance of the university's diverse programs and academic centers.



Editor's Note

Welcome to the maiden issue of The President's Timeline, a special annual publication dedicated to documenting the remarkable journey and transformative leadership of President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA across the MSU System. This inaugural issue captures a momentous period marked by innovation, inclusivity, and progress, reflecting the initiatives under his Nine-point agenda.

Within these pages, readers will find a rich tapestry of milestones: from the historic first-ever Walkathon kicking off MSU's 64th Anniversary, to strategic international partnerships strengthening MSU's reach in Southeast Asia, and from infrastructure upgrades to initiatives promoting student welfare, research, and sustainability. President Tago's leadership demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence, cultural harmony, and system-wide growth, all while fostering collaboration and nation-building at every level.



Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph".

PROF. SORHAILA L. LATIP-YUSOPH, PhD
The Editor-in-Chief

About the Cover

The cover features a striking image of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, symbolizing the tangible progress and key accomplishments delivered within his initial 100 days as System President. This visual is a testament to the administration's results-oriented approach, driven by the Nine-Point Agenda and the principle of "Acta non verba" (Actions, not words). The accompanying report details the significant steps taken to advance the vision of MSU as both a National Peace University and an "Inklusibong Pamantasan" (inclusive university).



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to get the E-copy.

Comments and suggestions on the President's Timeline and articles and submission of other manuscripts for possible inclusion in future issues are welcome. Please feel free to visit us at the office located at the first floor of the MCHC building in the front of the College of Engineering, or contact us:



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The President's Timeline is an annual publication dedicated to documenting the journey and transformative leadership of President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, within the MSU System. It is published by the Office of the President through the MSU-Main Campus's Office of Information, Press and Publication (OIPP).

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Disclosure: We are leveraging AI tools to enhance efficiency while maintaining human editorial oversight and quality.

Inklusibong Pamantasan

