



Newsletter

Official Newsletter of the Mindanao State University - Marawi City

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A Sacred Legacy: The Historic Ramadhan Celebration at MSU

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MSU-Main Campus Engages in International Academic Benchmarking with Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia

The Mindanao State University (MSU)-Main Campus participated in the International Academic Benchmarking and International Engagement activity at Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia, from January 18 to 24, 2026. The delegation was led by MSU System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and included the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga; the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension and Development, Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa; the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, Dr. Oding L. Maamor; and the Deans of various colleges of MSU Main Campus.

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About the Cover

The cover captures a powerful moment of unity as MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and MSU Senior High School students form a heart hand gesture, symbolizing the university's profound dedication to its learners. This image commemorates the MSU SHS Fee Refund distribution held on March 18, 2026, at the International Convention Center, where the administration took decisive action to reduce tuition to only PhP1,000. By personally leading this initiative, President Tago reaffirmed the university's core mission to ensure that financial constraints do not impede the pursuit of accessible, high-quality education for all.



SCAN ME
to get the E-copy.

Comments and suggestions on the Newsletter 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:



oipp@msumain.edu.ph
msuoipp@gmail.com



@msumain.oipp



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Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph
Editor-in-Chief

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez
Senior Editorial Staff

Hasmin M. Tambidan
Editorial Staff

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez
Layout Artist

Muhammad Tawfiq C. Cali
Mohader D. Gandamato
Mohammad Ali T. Hadji Usman
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Photographers

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Our Newsletter Sections

The Story

MSU Talents and Beauty: This section features timeless stories from different perspectives. From the academic and semi-academic constituents of the University. This will include feature articles and stories written by and about talents and jewels in the university.



The Network

Networking means generosity: This section focuses on the generosity of partners and linkages of MSU that bring commitment for a more responsive university.



The Display

A Picture speaks a thousand words: These are mostly Photo stories of activities happening in and outside the campus. It is a powerful way to capture and present a story, using photographs, graphs, lists and statistics as the primary methods of communication.



The Report

The University activities at a glance: This section is a great way to keep up with the latest news and trends happening in the whole of the System. This includes articles from the different campuses and external units of the University.

The Policy

Policy to note: This section encapsulates policies that need to be popularized and given serious consideration for widest dissemination.

From Full Scholar to Woman Leader:

The Journey of Dr. Perla Pichon-Kwan

MSU-OARCC

In the quiet corridors of Mindanao State University (MSU) in the late 1960s, a young woman walked with a heavy burden but an even heavier resolve. Perla Pichon-Kwan was a student who understood the weight of “humble beginnings.” There was a time when the dream of a degree seemed ready to slip through her fingers, threatened by the harsh realities of financial hardship. Today, that same woman stands as a titan of Philippine education.

Her life is more than a success story; it is a powerful affirmation that poverty is not a ceiling, but a starting point for those with the courage to persevere.

The turning point of Dr. Pichon-Kwan's life came when MSU opened its doors to her. Seizing the opportunity as a full scholar, she did not just pass her classes—she mastered them. In 1969, she walked across the stage as a Cum Laude graduate, carrying with her the MSU “DNA” of excellence, integrity, and a profound commitment to service.

These values became the compass for her professional life. After dedicating 27 years of transformative service to Ateneo de Davao University, she took a leap of faith in 1999 to establish the Precious International School of Davao (PISD).

Under her direct stewardship as President and Principal, PISD has become a beacon of holistic development. Her leadership style is famously “hands-on,” balancing her role as an academic consultant for various institutions with a daily commitment to her own faculty and students.

The results of her dedication are undeniable. In 2024, PISD swept honors at the Pasidungog Awarding Ceremony, recognized by the Department of Education and the City Government of Davao for its prowess in Mathematics, Science, English proficiency, and technology integration. Yet, perhaps closest to Dr. Pichon-Kwan's heart is the school's extensive outreach program, which ensures that marginalized families and learners across the city are never forgotten.

Dr. Pichon-Kwan's shelf is crowded with accolades, but two stand out as a testament to her impact. She was named one of the Ten Most Outstanding Principals in the Philippines, and in 2016, she broke barriers as the only woman to receive the prestigious LEAD (Leaders & Achievers of Davao) award.

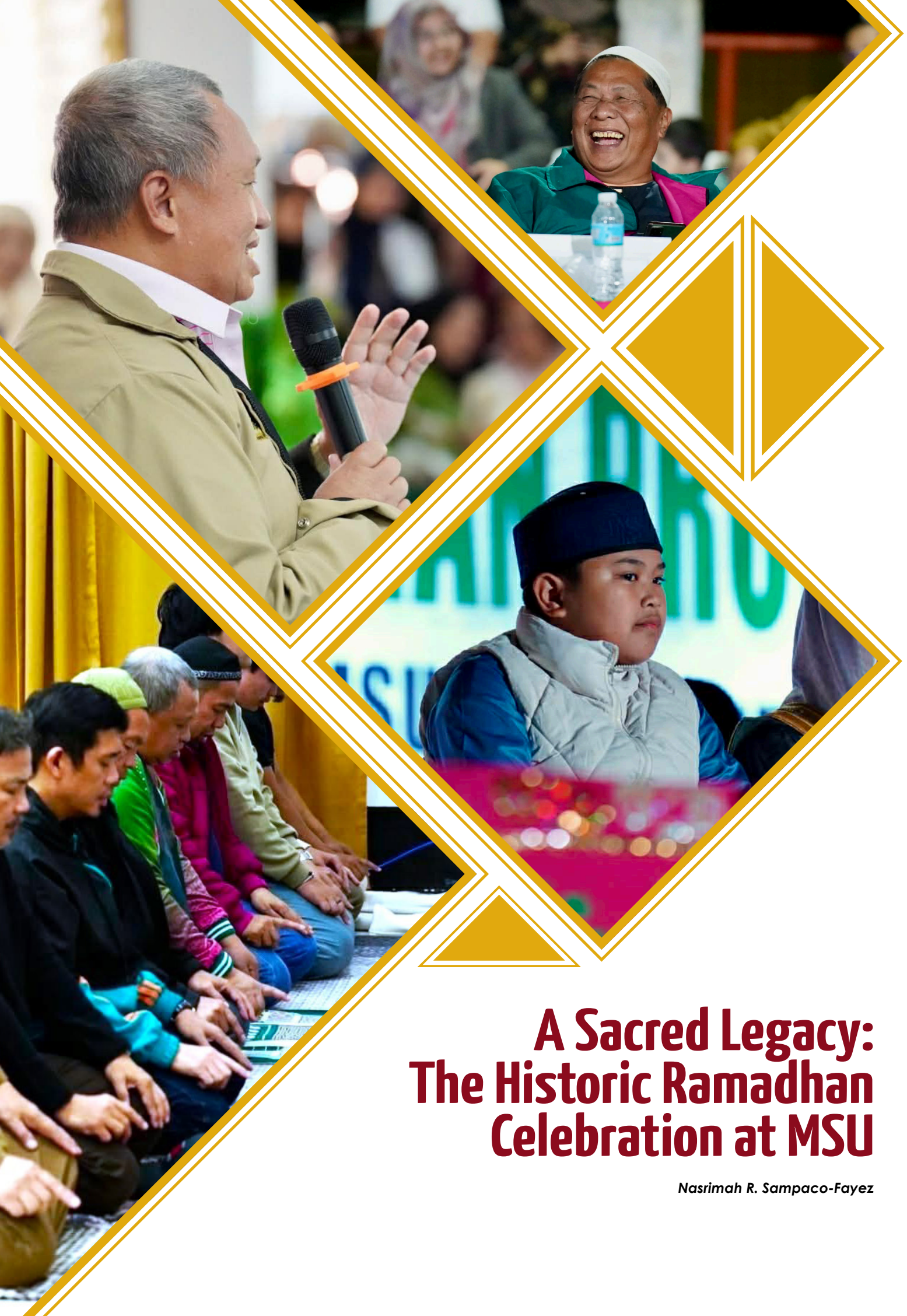
Her journey—from a struggling scholar seeking a chance to a nationally recognized educator providing chances for others—perfectly embodies the transformative power of an MSU education.

As a 2025 Outstanding Rawaten Awardee, Dr. Perla Pichon-Kwan remains a living inspiration. She is proof that when determination and faith meet quality education, no adversity is insurmountable. She is not just an alumna of MSU; she is a testament to its mission.



Dr. Perla Pichon-Kwan is recognized as one of the Asia's Top Women.





A Sacred Legacy: The Historic Ramadhan Celebration at MSU

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez

The Holy Month of Ramadhan in 2026 will be recorded in the annals of Mindanao State University (MSU)-Main Campus as a landmark era of institutional harmony and spiritual renewal. It was far more than merely a period of fasting; it served as a profound catalyst for a historic convergence of religious devotion and administrative innovation. Under the visionary stewardship of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the university pioneered a series of unprecedented initiatives that established a new legacy of communal unity, marking this period as a significant milestone in the university's journey toward a more inclusive and cohesive campus environment.

14-Day Sanctuary: A Revival of Faith and Devotion

The spiritual center of the month was the MSU Grandstand, which served as the venue for the Ramadhan Islamic Program. Beginning February 27, the program spanned 14 days of continuous devotion, marking a dedicated commitment to the university's Islamic heritage.

Under the guidance of President Tago and Committee Chairman EVP Dr. Abdulcader M. Ayo, ShL, JD, the campus hosted nightly recitations of the Holy Qur'an, the resonant Adhan, and insightful Wasyat (oratorical) sessions. This initiative reached beyond the university proper, involving community high schools and residents from neighboring barangays. The series, which included a rigorous Islamic Quiz Bee led by Ihsan M. Amanoddin, culminated on March 13 with an awarding ceremony that recognized the following winners:

Qur'an Reading High School Male Category

- **Champion** : Sahrudden D. Hadji Jalal (MSU-Taraka Community High School)
- **1st Runner-up** : Norhussien B. Bagote (MSU-Masiu Community High School)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Ubaybin A. H. Fahad (MSU-University Training Center)

Qur'an Reading College and Barangay Male Category

- **Champion** : Soraim Abdullah (Barangay Dimaluna)
- **1st Runner-up** : Bin-Hassim P. Macaraya (KFCLIAAS)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Anas T. Baulo (College of Engineering)

Qur'an Reading High School Female Category

- **Champion** : Sittie Hajar A. Abdulbayan (MSU-Malabang Community High School)
- **1st Runner-up** : Lairah D. Samanoden (MSU-Marantao Community High School)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Najma Mampau (MSU-Binidayan Community High School)

Adhan Competition High School Category

- **Champion** : Norhussien B. Bagote (MSU-Masiu Community High School)
- **1st Runner-up** : Nasif Saiben (MSU-Saguiaran Community High School)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Omar Usman (MSU-Binidayan Community High School)

Adhan Competition College and Barangay Category

- **Champion** : Anas Saadudin Asgar (Barangay Dimaluna)
- **1st Runner-up** : Edris Babar (Barangay Cadayonan II)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Amer Husien Tampi (Barangay Banga)

Wasyat Competition High School Category

- **Champion** : Amjad Macaronsing (MSU-University Training Center)
- **1st Runner-up** : Namei Macaumbos (MSU-Siawadato Community High School)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Aslam D. Caris (MSU-Binidayan Community High School)

Wasyat Competition College and Barangay Category

- **Champion** : Nasrodin Bilal (Barangay Banga)
- **1st Runner-up** : Zayyan Abdul Cader (Barangay Cadayonan II)
- **2nd Runner-up** : Hanan Cosain Jabar (Barangay Cabingan)

Students Iftar Drive: Fostering "Home away from Home"

In a move to prioritize student welfare and community spirit, President Tago spearheaded the 1st Ramadhan Iftar Program for dormitory residents. Launched on February 26 at Rajah Indrapatna Hall, this initiative was a collaboration between the Office of the MSU System President, the Botanical Garden Society led by Potremaamor Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA, and various student organizations and volunteers. This campus-wide drive was designed to support dormitory residents (both Muslims and Non-Muslims) through camaraderie and essential provisions.

In every leg of the program, President Tago personally engaged with the students, joined by key officials and personnel to foster a supportive environment. The drive expanded through the Khadija, Zainab, Bolawan, and Torogan residential halls, continuing through March 9 to the Super New Boys, Rajah Solaiman, and Rajah Domdoman dormitories. On March 11, a dedicated session was held at Princess Lawanen Hall, with the university providing bus transportation for female students staying near the Engineering building. Beyond the hearty Iftar meals and grocery packs, each gathering featured engaging raffle draws with prizes and cash gifts, providing a vital morale boost for those spending the sacred month away from their families and transforming the campus into a true "home away from home."



From left to right: First Lady Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA and MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA



The MSU System President and First Lady lead the distribution of Iftar meals during the Ramadhan Iftar Drive at PLH.

Consultative Dialogue: Promoting Participatory Governance

On March 10, the CHTM Pavilion hosted the "Iftar Meet and Talk," a landmark effort to foster transparency and proactive leadership. Organized by the Supreme Student Government (SSG) of MSU-Main Campus, led by Prime Minister Asmana Umpat, under the direction of the Office of the President, the event served as both a spiritual gathering and a high-level consultative assembly. This initiative brought together college representatives and heads of various student organizations, emphasizing a collaborative approach to university governance.

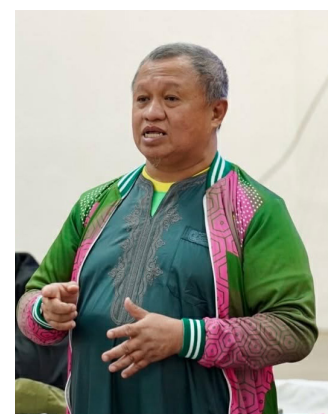
During the dialogue, President Tago and various office directors sat down with student representatives to break fast and directly address pressing campus concerns. The platform allowed student leaders to raise critical issues, including the proposed Ramadhan break, laptop-related academic needs, scholarship updates, and recent hikes in transportation costs. By integrating these insights into the decision-making process, the administration underscored its commitment to the holistic welfare of the MSU community, ensuring that student voices remain a vital part of the university's developmental roadmap.



MSU-Main Campus SSG Prime Minister Hon. Asmana Umpat



MSU officials engage in a direct dialogue with student leaders to address university and student concern during the Iftar Meet and Talk.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA

Grand Iftar: A Landmark Gathering of the MSU Workforce

The culmination of these efforts occurred on March 12, 2026, at Antonio Isidro Hall with the Inaugural Grand Iftar Program. This event stood as a historic milestone, marking the first time in the university's history that the entire workforce—comprising



Anas Saadudin Asgar of Barangay Dimaluna delivers his winning call to prayer during the Adhan Competition for College and Barangay Category.



MSU-Taraka Community High School's Sahrudde D. Hadji Jalal performs Qur'an Reading for High School Male Category, claiming the championship title.



Amjad Macaronsing of MSU-UTC, Champion of Wasyat Competition High School Category, during his powerful performance at the Ramadhan Islamic Program.

all academic, semi-academic, and administrative units—converged to break their fast as a single, unified community. Set against the backdrop of the looming Energy Saving Break, the hall and its surrounding grounds were transformed into a massive gathering space for the university's diverse workforce.

At the heart of the evening was a logistical feat: a "potluck" arrangement where every unit across the university contributed a vibrant spread of dishes, fruits, and refreshments. This informal setting encouraged spontaneous interaction among employees of all professional ranks who rarely cross paths during the busy academic year. As the sun dipped below the horizon, the focus shifted from social camaraderie to spiritual reflection with the performance of the Maghrib prayer in congregation. This joint prayer poignantly illustrated the collective unity of the MSU workforce, with hundreds of personnel praying in unison.

President Tago catalyzed this spirit of inclusive leadership by actively mingling with personnel throughout the evening, reinforcing a sense of equality and shared purpose. Following the prayer, a festive raffle draw provided a moment of appreciation for the staff's contributions. As noted by tenured staff member Ms. Mailon D. Pundamudag (OIPP), the program was a beautiful catalyst for a more cohesive work environment, leaving an indelible mark on the institution's cultural history.

These Ramadhan initiatives serve as a practical application of President Tago's 9-Point Agenda, ensuring that religious observance also meets institutional goals. Through the Consultative Dialogues, the administration championed **Agenda 1: Institutional Alignment and Governance** by showcasing transparent, face-to-face accountability. The Inaugural Grand Iftar for personnel directly served **Agenda 6: Human Resource Development and Culture Building**, fostering a workplace environment rooted in mutual respect and a unified organizational culture. Finally, the Student Iftar Drive and the 14-day Islamic Program perfectly embodied **Agenda 7: Student Welfare and Peacebuilding Initiatives**, providing a supportive environment that nurtures the spiritual well-being of the youth while promoting peace through shared tradition. By aligning these historic "firsts" with strategic vision, President Tago has established a new standard for leadership at MSU, demonstrating that the university can enhance its administrative functions while remaining deeply rooted in the cultural and spiritual values of the Bangsamoro.



MSU personnel join together for congregational Maghrib prayer at the Antonio Isidro Hall grounds during the historic Grand Iftar program.



MSU System President with some university officials and personnel during the Grand Iftar program.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and First Lady Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA with some university officials and the 2025 Board and Bar Passers at Kandori 2025.

Excellence and Triumph: MSU-Main Campus Hosts Inaugural *Kandori* to Honor 2025 Board and Bar Passers

The International Convention Center (ICC) was transformed into a space of profound gratitude and vibrant cultural pride as Mindanao State University (MSU) – Marawi hosted its first-ever *Kandori*—a traditional thanksgiving feast—dedicated exclusively to the 2025 Board and Bar examination passers on December 22, 2025. More than just a victory party, this inaugural event served as a sacred rite of passage, honoring the relentless dedication, sleepless nights, and unwavering spirit that defined the graduates' journey from the classroom to the professional world.

The event was a vivid tapestry of success stories, none more resonant than the keynote address by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA. Speaking to an audience of new professionals, President Tago offered a grounded, sobering reminder about the true nature of their upcoming careers.

“You are entering professional life at a time when speed is rewarded, visibility is exaggerated, and certainty is often assumed,” President Tago cautioned. He urged the new professionals to resist the hollow allure of modern professional vanity, advising them to never “confuse being busy with being useful, or being successful with being fulfilled.”

President Tago's address served as a call to action: in a world that prizes the superficial, true leadership requires the "courage to remain principled even when no manual provides the answers." By prioritizing integrity over mere visibility, he challenged the passers to carry the standard of MSU excellence into every corner of the country.

The ceremony also elevated the voices of those who navigated the grueling path to licensure. Sittie Nor-Ashya A. Aliponto, RN, who secured the 7th spot in the November 2025 Philippine Nurses Licensure Examination (PNLE), spoke of the shared struggle of "showing up even when it was difficult." She challenged her peers to look beyond their individual accolades and view their new roles as a collective mission to uplift communities.

Echoing this sentiment, Abdulrahman D. Madid, RSW—the 9th placer in the September 2025 Social Workers Licensure Examination (SWLE)—shared a deeply personal testimony on resilience. He argued that triumph is not defined by the absence of loss, but by the "courage to keep moving despite it." For Madid, the victory was not just his own; it belonged to his family, whose sacrifices formed the foundation of his career in empathy and service.

Spiritual grounding was provided by Ali H. Y. Batugan, SCL, who placed 2nd in the 2025 Shari'ah Special Bar Examination. Batugan framed the entire experience as a testament to faith and patience, anchoring his message in the divine promise that "with hardship, there is ease." His words served as a poignant reminder that every professional milestone is a sacred victory, built on years of unwavering discipline.

The afternoon's program was further enriched by Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, who officially congratulated the cohort. In her address, she reinforced the university's enduring identity: "MSU continues to serve as a beacon of hope and dreams—a university that believes in success, equity, and excellence. We are a university that molds for diversity, unity, and social responsibility."

Beyond the speeches, the Kandori was marked by a spirit of genuine celebration. Attendees were presented with tokens of appreciation, and a lively series of raffle draws turned the serious tone of the ceremony into an atmosphere of joy and camaraderie.

As the first event of its kind in university history, the Kandori 2025 did more than acknowledge board and bar passers; it signaled a new tradition of recognizing the human cost and the deep, cultural significance of academic achievement. For the passers, the day was a bridge—moving them from the challenges of their past hardships to a future defined by their commitment to serve the people.



In the photo are (from left to right): Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and First Lady Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA.



2025 Board and Special Bar Topnotchers (from left to right): Noraldin C. Norodin, ShL (Top 9 in the 2025 Shari'ah Special Bar Exam), Abdulrahman D. Madid, RSW (Top 9 in the September 2025 SWLE), Sittie Nor-Ashya A. Aliponto, RN (Top 7 in the November 2025 PNLE)



Batch Intan: Over 700 Gems Radiate Hope and Leadership at MSU's 62nd Commencement

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez



The Dimaporo Gymnasium was transformed into a sea of hope and academic triumph on February 10, 2026, as Mindanao State University-Main Campus celebrated its 62nd Commencement Exercises. A striking wave of maroon and gold academic regalia filled the hall, the university's signature colors serving as a vibrant reminder of a legacy built on prestige and perseverance. Over 700 graduates, named as Batch "Intan," officially transitioned from scholars to leaders, marking the successful conclusion of the first semester for Academic Year 2025-2026. Under the poignant theme, "Inclusive University: Education as a Bridge to Peace, Leadership, and a Shared Future," the ceremony served as both a celebration of academic rigor and a profound call to action for the Bangsamoro region's newest professionals.

The moniker "Intan"—a rare and precious jewel—was not chosen lightly, as it represents a luster achieved only through immense pressure and time. For these 700 graduates, the "polishing"



Class Valedictorian Faisal G. Samsodin delivers an inspiring Valedictory Address, urging everyone to turn adversity into triumph.



In a solemn display of commitment, Class Salutatorian Jalaludin D. Macaraya leads his fellow graduates in the Pledge of Loyalty to their Alma Mater.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and Guest of Honor Director General Engr. Mohajirin T. Ali, MNSA stand with the graduates of Batch Intan, marking a milestone in MSU's 62nd Commencement Exercises for 1st Semester, A.Y. 2025-2026.

process involved years of late-night study, socio-political challenges, and the relentless pursuit of excellence that defines the MSU experience. Draped in their ceremonial robes, the graduates stood as a testament to the university's mission; just as a gemstone gains its value through endurance, these individuals emerge with the fortitude and insight necessary to translate the principles of harmony and governance into meaningful action within their respective fields.

The day's keynote was delivered by Engr. Mohajirin T. Ali, MNSA, Director General of the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, who reframed the concept of a modern university. He noted that an inclusive institution is not just a place of study but a blueprint for the society the region aspires to build, challenging the graduates to value diversity of thought and lead with empathy. MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, echoed this sentiment in his welcome remarks, reminding the batch that their graduation is a symbol of a "contract of service" to the Bangsamoro and the nation, rather than just a personal achievement.

The class was led by Summa Cum Laude graduate Faisal G. Samsodin from the King Faisal Center for Islamic, Arabic, and Asian Studies, whose valedictory address focused on the shared identity of the "Iskolar ng Bayan." He spoke candidly about the common struggles of student life and the grit required to achieve excellence under the university's banner. Also recognized at the top of the class was Salutatorian Jalaludin D. Macaraya, a Magna Cum Laude graduate from the College of Hospitality and Tourism Management, representing the university's commitment to producing diverse professional leaders ready to navigate the global stage.

The road to the stage began a day earlier during a pre-commencement ceremony featuring Atty. Dagoroan A. Macarambon II of PhilHealth BARMM, who addressed the graduates as potential "game-changers." He emphasized the power of individual agency, telling the class that their ultimate success would be defined by the choices they make as they exit the university gates. As Batch Intan departs, they carry a legacy that goes beyond academic titles, standing as living proof that education remains the most powerful bridge to a peaceful and shared future.



Atty. Paisalín P.D. Tago, CPA
MSU System President



Engr. Mohajirin T. Ali, MNSA
Director General of the Bangsamoro
Planning and Development Authority
62nd Commencement Speaker

“BATCH INTAN SHINES AS A
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PROVING THAT
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PEACEFUL AND
UNIFIED FUTURE.”



Glimpses of

62nd Commencement Exercises 1ST SEMESTER A.Y. 2025-2026



Prof. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, PhD
Vice President and Vice Chancellor for
Academic Affairs



Atty. Dagoroan A. Macarambon
of Acting Regional Vice President of
PhilHealth BARMM
Pre-Commencement Speaker





KWF Commissioner Atty. Marites A. Barrios-Taran with Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga and some MSU faculty

A New Chapter for the Meranaw Language: MSU–Marawi Formally Adopts the Standardized Sinanadan Orthography

Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph

After years of dedicated consultations, revisions, and advocacy, the standardization of Meranaw orthography has finally arrived. On February 20, 2026, Mindanao State University (MSU)–Marawi formally accepted the Resolution for the Adoption of the Meranaw Orthography (Sinanadan Ko Kazorat sa Basa a Meranaw) from the *Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino* (KWF). This milestone marks a significant new chapter in the preservation, intellectualization, and institutionalization of the Meranaw language within academia and beyond.

The document officially approves this orthography with the clear goal of standardizing the writing system to ensure greater consistency in education and literature. This milestone marks a significant new chapter in the preservation, intellectualization, and institutionalization of the Meranaw language within academia and beyond.

The historic gathering took place at the OVCAA Conference Room, where KWF Commissioner Atty. Marites A. Barrios-Taran personally presented the certification. In her remarks, the Commissioner emphasized that the unified standard will greatly facilitate teaching, learning, research, and publication in the Meranaw language. A major highlight of the approved orthography is the straightforward use of the plain grapheme “e”—without diacritical marks or umlauts—to represent the distinctive pepet (schwa) sound that is central to Meranaw pronunciation. This practical choice eliminates long-standing inconsistencies and allows the language to be written more naturally and consistently.

Representing MSU President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga conveyed the University’s strong commitment to the intellectualization of indigenous languages. She stressed that supporting the Meranaw language is both an academic duty and a profound cultural responsibility for MSU–Marawi as a leading institution in the region.

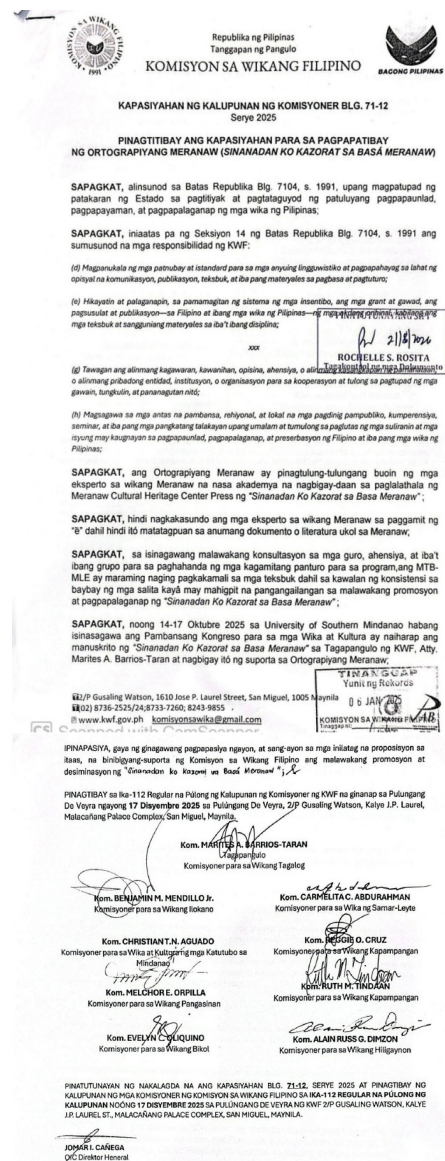
Dr. Johara Alangca-Azis introduced the Meranaw Orthography Committee and presented the rigorous developmental process—from extensive community consultations and scholarly deliberations to the final revisions that received formal recognition from the KWF.

Dr. Almayrah A. Tiburon, Director of the Center for Language and Culture (Sentro ng Wikang Filipino at MSU–Marawi), outlined the concrete implementation framework. This includes faculty training and writeshops, integration of the new orthography into the curriculum, and the establishment of programs to strengthen its use in research and publication. The event was not merely ceremonial but a clear declaration of systematic, institution-wide adoption.

The University extends its deepest appreciation to the *Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino* for its steadfast guidance and official endorsement, and to the *Sentro ng Wikang Filipino sa MSU–Marawi* for its tireless efforts in organizing the meeting and advancing the entire process. Their collaboration has transformed long-held aspirations into reality.

With the final *Sinanadan* Book of Meranaw Orthography now officially adopted, MSU–Marawi will implement this standardized system across all its constituents—students, faculty, researchers, and administrators. This decision represents more than an administrative step; it is a powerful affirmation of cultural pride and linguistic dignity.

The Meranaw language, spoken with such beauty around Lake Lanao, now moves confidently into a standardized future—poised to flourish in classrooms, books, research papers, and the daily written expressions of its people. The entire Meranaw community has every reason to celebrate: at last, its orthography has come home.



MSU Marawi Receives Certificate of Accreditation from NNQAA

Prof. Richard S. Celeste, PhD

The Mindanao State University Main Campus, Marawi City, received certificates of accreditation for its academic programs during the 2nd National Network of Quality Assurance Agencies (NNQAA) Quality Assurance Summit and Conferment Ceremony at The Heritage Hotel, Manila, on March 5–7, 2026.

This milestone underscores the University's unwavering commitment to advance quality assurance and aligns with the University President's 9-point agenda for institutional development and global competitiveness.

Receiving the certificates on behalf of University President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, were Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa, Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development, and Dr. Richard S. Celeste, Director of the University Quality Assurance Office.

Held under the theme "Responsible Future: Quality Assurance in Action," the summit served as a premier gathering of higher education leaders, policymakers, accreditors, and institutional representatives. The event provided a platform for recognizing accredited State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Colleges and Universities (LCUs) whose programs and institutions were certified during the 2022–2025 cycle.

Beyond the conferment of certificates, the summit aimed to strengthen the culture of quality assurance among higher education institutions. Through collaborative dialogue, academic leaders, quality assurance practitioners, and education stakeholders exchanged best practices and discussed emerging trends to ensure institutions remain responsive to the demands of a rapidly evolving academic landscape.

The event was organized by the National Network of Quality Assurance Agencies (NNQAA), Inc., the umbrella organization of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCCUP) and the Association of Local Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation (ALCUCOA).



Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa and Quality Assurance Director Dr. Richard S. Celeste receive certificates of accreditation on behalf of President Tago during the 2nd NNQAA ceremony.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA with the honorees

MSU Main Holds Historic 1st Latin Honors Incentive Ceremony

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez

Mindanao State University (MSU)-Main Campus marked a notable achievement on March 17, 2026, by hosting the 1st Latin Honors Incentive Ceremony at the CHTM Pavilion. The event honored Summa Cum Laude and Magna Cum Laude graduates from board examination programs spanning Academic Years 2022 to 2026. Under the formal implementation of BOR Resolution No. 53, Series of 2004, each qualifying graduate received a PHP10,000 cash incentive in recognition of their exceptional academic performance.

Although the board resolution was established over two decades ago, the current administration under President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, made its implementation a top priority. This initiative reflects a broader administrative commitment to ensure that all university policies designed to support and reward students are fully realized. In a display of the university's enduring impact, graduates traveled from various regions across the archipelago to return to the campus for this historic occasion, marking the moment the university successfully brought this long-standing pledge to life for its highest achievers.

During the ceremony, President Tago emphasized the administration's resolve to honor its scholars, stating that the incentive carries the sincere appreciation and pride of the university. He noted that a primary goal of his leadership is to ensure that institutional commitments are translated into meaningful action for the graduates who earned them. Supporting this sentiment, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga highlighted the community effort behind the success, noting that these achievements represent the "collective strength" of the professors, mentors, and families who supported each scholar's journey.



The honorees receiving their incentive checks.

The honorees also shared the personal impact of the recognition through various testimonials. Bhen Rasid C. Santiago of the College of Health Sciences described the incentives as a significant boost to morale that validates the mental fortitude required to survive demanding academic programs. Similarly, Soraya Hadji Cosain from the College of Business Administration and Accountancy noted that for licensed professionals, the cash incentive is a tangible reward for past battles and a vital financial lifeline. Representing the College of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation, Joe Dave A. Azarcon added that the ceremony recognizes the discipline and teamwork necessary for career success.

The event concluded with remarks from Sittie Nadjerah M. Marohom, CPA, MPA, Director of the University Campus Budget Office, who praised the graduates' dedication as the result of "focus, effort, and an unwavering commitment to dreams." Her address underscored that the release of these funds is a concrete manifestation of MSU's promise to its alumni. By prioritizing this initiative, the university reaffirms its mission as an Inklusibong Pamantasan—a home that actively recognizes excellence and stands by its students as they transition into their professional lives.

MSU Marawi Attends 466th AUN-QA Programme Assessment at MSU-IIT

Mike Ivan B. Siga



MSU-Main Campus delegates proudly wear their cultural attire (left photo) and formal Barong and Filipiniana attire (right photo) as they participate in the 466th AUN-QA Programme Assessment held at MSU-IIT.

The Mindanao State University-Main Campus participated in the 466th ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) Programme Assessment, conducted at the Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) in Iligan City on January 27-29, 2026. The University's participation underscores its continuing efforts to strengthen quality assurance systems and align academic programs with regional and international standards in higher education.

In line with the 9-Point Agenda of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the MSU Marawi delegation was led by Dr. Glen A. Lorenzo, Vice President for Research and Extension; together with Dr. Richard S. Celeste, Director of the University Quality Assurance Office and designated Observer; Dr. Ibrahim H. Aliponto, Director of the Records Management Office; Atty. Jayneveb Recentes Magolama; Dr. Wardah D. Guimba; Dr. Hasmin M. Abdulhalim; Mr. Ian John Belgira; and Mr. Mike Ivan B. Siga.

The AUN-QA Programme Assessment is a structured regional quality assurance mechanism that evaluates academic programs through stakeholder interviews, site validation, and documentary review against ASEAN standards. During the assessment, AUN-QA assessors emphasized key quality assurance principles, including Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), faculty development, and international benchmarking. Discussions focused on curriculum coherence, curriculum mapping, and syllabus enhancement, with particular attention given to the alignment of discipline-specific and General Education Course (GEC) learning outcomes with program learning outcomes. The importance of systematic impact studies involving students, alumni, and employers within an outcomes-based education framework was likewise highlighted.

The assessment was conducted by experienced AUN-QA assessors from Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam, whose collective expertise provided valuable guidance on strengthening program delivery, institutional accountability, and quality assurance practices. MSU Marawi's participation as an observer marked a purposeful step toward institutional improvement, enabling the University to benchmark its systems, identify areas for enhancement, and strengthen its preparedness for future program assessments in alignment with global quality standards.

MSU Research Excellence Recognized at National RDLead Conference and Year-End Assembly



Former Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development Dr. Fema M. Abamo and MSU -Maguindanao representative receive awards from RDLead Conference and Year-End Assembly.



Awards received by MSU-Main Campus and MSU-Maguindanao

Mindanao State University (MSU) achieved a major milestone in research excellence as both the MSU-Main Campus in Marawi City and MSU-Maguindanao were honored by the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) on December 17, 2025. During the RDLead Conference and Year-End Assembly held at the Grand Westside Hotel in Parañaque City, the institutions were recognized for their outstanding performance under the Research and Development Leadership (RDLead) Program.

Specifically, the MSU-Main Campus was distinguished with the Publication Productivity Award for achieving one of the highest numbers of Scopus-indexed publications, while MSU-Maguindanao received the Engagement Achievement Award for its high research index scores and successful project involvement.

MSU-ISED Science High School Earns Silver and Bronze Medals at the 2026 Asian Chemistry Olympiad

Mindanao State University - Institute of Science Education (MSU-ISED) Science High School achieved a significant international milestone at the Asian Chemistry Olympiad (AChO) 2026, held in Bali, Indonesia, on January 17–18, 2026. Representing both the Philippines and the Bangsamoro region, Grade 9 student Muzzammil Uzayr Macarampat earned a silver medal in Category A, while Grade 10 student Mohammad Hafez Lucman secured a bronze medal in Category B. This success underscores the institution's consistent academic excellence, marking the second consecutive year that its delegates have returned with honors from this rigorous competition.

The students' achievements were facilitated by the expert coaching of Professor Norolayn Said and the logistical support of Ms. Novilla Doydora. Furthermore, the school administration, led by Dean Dr. Salamah Basher and Principal Professor Norjanah Hadji Socor, formally acknowledged the vital institutional support provided by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, whose contributions were instrumental in enabling the team's participation and subsequent victory on the global stage.

MSU Campuses Shine in CHED's ICONS Awards 2025 for Global Ranking Achievements



MSU Main Campus, led by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA; MSU-IIT, headed by Chancellor Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan; MSU-General Santos, led by Chancellor Atty. Shidik T. Abantas; Mindanao State University at Naawan (MSUN), headed by Chancellor Dr. Elnor C. Roa, and MSU-TCTO headed by Chancellor Mary Joyce Q. Sali, recognize as 2025 CHED-ICONS Awardees.

Mindanao State University (MSU) System campuses were officially recognized on December 10, 2025 as the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) conferred the Internationalization Champions of Nation-Building and Sustainability (ICONS) Awards 2025 during a gala ceremony held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

The awarded campuses were the MSU Main Campus, led by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA; MSU-IIT, headed by Chancellor Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan; MSU-General Santos, led by Chancellor Atty. Shidik T. Abantas; Mindanao State University at Naawan (MSUN), headed by Chancellor Dr. Elnor C. Roa, and MSU-TCTO headed by Chancellor Mary Joyce Q. Sali.

The awards celebrated Philippine higher education institutions that earned places in globally recognized ranking systems for 2025 and 2026, including Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), Times Higher Education (THE) World, Asia, and Impact Rankings, and the World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI).

The ICONS Awards 2025, the second edition following its successful launch in 2024, honored more than 20 Philippine higher education institutions that appeared for the first time or improved their standing in CHED-recognized international rankings this year. With this recognition, the MSU System has solidified its reputation as one of the most internationally visible state university networks in the country, particularly for innovation, sustainability, and inclusive development in Mindanao and the Bangsamoro region.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA with Chancellor Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan, Chancellor Atty. Shidik T. Abantas, Chancellor Dr. Elnor C. Roa, and other 2025 CHED-ICONS Awardees.



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DECEMBER 3, 2025

President Tago Convenes 49th System University Council Meeting

On December 3, 2025, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA presided over the 49th System University Council (SUC) meeting at the MSU-Main Campus. During the assembly, the council ratified 2,504 prospective graduates for the February 10, 2026, system-wide commencement exercises and approved new academic programs, including the BS in Microelectronics Engineering at MSU-IIT and the BS in Oceanography at MSU-TCTO. The council also authorized the renaming of MSU-Buug to Mindanao State University – Zamboanga Sibugay. Among the other topics discussed were the MSU Law Global Horizons Program, which aims to attract international students, and the status of the investigation into recent System Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE) irregularities, which has been concluded and submitted for further action.



DECEMBER 4, 2025

MSU System PAC Convenes for Strategic Alignment in Marawi City

The MSU System's Presidential Advisory Council (PAC) met on December 4, 2025, at the MSU-Main Campus in Marawi City to prepare for the upcoming Board of Regents meeting. Presided over by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the session gathered the eleven Campus Chancellors, Campus Heads, and key System officials to synchronize regional initiatives with the university's overarching strategic direction. President Tago underscored the PAC's vital role as the primary consultative body, ensuring that all campus-level priorities are harmonized before being elevated for board approval.

During the meeting, the council reviewed comprehensive campus-based reports detailing the achievements of the previous year alongside planned projects for 2026. The discussions focused on strengthening the MSU System's pillars of instruction, research, extension, and infrastructure development. By aligning resource generation and future activities across all campuses, the leadership reaffirmed its commitment to a unified and inclusive approach to excellence in higher education throughout the region.



PRESIDENT'S Milestone



08

09

DECEMBER 8, 2025

MSU System Holds 273rd Executive Committee Meeting in Marawi

The MSU System, under the leadership of President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, successfully conducted its 273rd Executive Committee (ExeCom) Meeting on December 8, 2025, at the MSU-Main Campus. This pivotal gathering served as the culmination of a week-long series of high-level policy discussions, bringing together chancellors and key officials from all constituent campuses.

The ExeCom focused on harmonizing system-wide goals in instruction, research, and resource management to ensure the seamless operation and unified direction of the multi-campus university. It provided a crucial platform for administrative planning, where campus representatives engaged in policy deliberations and reviewed essential system updates ahead of the subsequent Board of Regents meeting. The primary agenda centered on strengthening collaborative initiatives and charting shared strategic goals aimed at advancing the university's academic and operational landscape across the entire System. Through the unified action taken during the 273rd ExeCom, the MSU System reaffirmed its dedication to inclusive governance and continuous institutional improvement.



DECEMBER 9, 2025

MSU System Concludes En Banc Meeting following 273rd ExeCom

Following the 273rd Executive Committee (ExeCom) meeting, the MSU System successfully convened its En Banc Meeting on December 9, 2025, at the MSU-Main Campus in Marawi City. Presided over by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the session served as the formal culmination of a week-long governance cycle, where campus chancellors and university regents deliberated on and finalized key resolutions. The meeting focused on approving strategic policies in academic affairs, infrastructure development, and fiscal management for 2026, ensuring that the collective goals of the constituent campuses remain aligned with the university's overarching mission of excellence and regional progress.



10

DECEMBER 10, 2025

President Tago Attends CHED ICONS Awards 2025 as MSU Campuses Receive Global Recognition

On December 10, 2025, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA attended the Commission on Higher Education's Internationalization Champions of Nation-Building and Sustainability (ICONS) Awards at the Philippine International Convention Center. During the ceremony, several MSU campuses—including the MSU-Main Campus, MSU-IIT, MSU-General Santos, MSU-Naawan, and MSU-TCTO—were formally recognized for their performance in globally respected ranking systems, such as QS, THE World, and WURI. This acknowledgment underscores the MSU System's growing international visibility and ongoing commitment to innovation, sustainability, and inclusive development across the MINSUPALA region.

12

DECEMBER 12, 2025

President Tago Continues Campus Visit at MSU-MCEST

On December 12, 2025, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, visited MSU–Maigo College of Education, Science and Technology (MSU-MCEST) as part of his ongoing initiative to unify the university system. Upon arrival, he was warmly received by the campus community, led by Superintendent Atty. Jamaloden A. Basar, who formally welcomed the delegation and pledged the campus's full support, emphasizing MSU-MCEST's commitment to aligning its local initiatives with the President's broader vision for the MSU System.

The event, which provided a valuable opportunity for the administration to engage directly with campus stakeholders, was highlighted by a special musical tribute featuring a live performance of the President's favorite songs, fostering a spirit of camaraderie among attendees. This visit underscores President Tago's dedication to engaging directly with constituent campuses to strengthen relationships with local officials and staff.



DECEMBER 12, 2025

President Tago Commemorates MSU-Buug's 54th Founding Anniversary

During the celebration of MSU-Buug's 54th Founding Anniversary, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered a keynote address highlighting the campus as a foundational pillar of the university's commitment to community-rooted education in Western Mindanao. President Tago praised the campus for its role in fostering a diverse and inclusive environment where students from various cultural backgrounds—including Meranaw, Subanen, Bisaya, Sama-Bangingi, and Tausug communities—thrive together in pursuit of shared aspirations. Reflecting on the core values of peace and inclusion that define the university's mission, he called for a unified, visionary approach to the system's development, emphasizing that the institution must remain a beacon of hope for the entire country regardless of specific geographic location. By underscoring the strength of the collective MSU network, President Tago reaffirmed his administration's dedication to ensuring the continuous growth and success of every campus across the region.



DECEMBER 13, 2025

President Tago Challenges Future Leaders to Drive Community-Centric Innovation

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered the keynote address at the 12th Young Executives Business Management Convention (YEBMC) on December 13, 2025 at the MSU-International Convention Center, where he challenged future leaders to prioritize actionable, community-responsive innovation.

Grounding his message in the maxim "Acta Non Verba," President Tago argued that true leadership is defined by execution—requiring discipline, coordination, and accountability—rather than mere ideation. He urged the delegates to bridge the gap between Mindanao's high-quality local products, such as organic coffee from Lanao del Sur and handwoven textiles from Maguindanao, and larger global markets by addressing systemic weaknesses in supply chains and management skills.

Emphasizing that innovation must be responsible and sustainable, President Tago highlighted the potential for young managers to uplift local enterprises, such as family-owned rice mills and halal food processors, by modernizing operations and expanding market access. Concluding with the call "Kayo ang pag-asa ng bayan" (You are the hope of the nation), he challenged the assembly to leverage their business acumen to build inclusive systems that integrate local communities into the global economy.



DECEMBER 15, 2025

President Tago Calls for Protection of MSU-Main Campus

During the flag ceremony on December 15, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA issued a strong directive to the community to prioritize the protection of the MSU-Main Campus, describing it as the "campus of the future generation." He urged all employees to ensure the university remains the "safest and cleanest," emphasizing that the community must "show the world that, together, we can do it."

To support this vision of a revitalized university, President Tago announced plans for the intensive improvement of infrastructure, particularly campus facilities and buildings, and the possible creation of a Clean and Beautification Committee. He also noted that designated parking areas are planned for implementation next year to further organize the campus. The event also served as the venue to introduce newly designated officials who will assist in these developments.



President Tago Emphasizes Integrity and Service at Conference on New Procurement Act

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered a compelling message during the first day of the Conference on Republic Act No. 12009, the New Government Procurement Act, held on December 15, 2025 at the CHTM Pavilion.

Addressing the attendees, President Tago stressed that for public institutions like MSU, procurement is a critical function that directly affects the quality of education, facilities, and services it provides. He highlighted that delays or inefficiencies in the process are felt by students and the community. Framing the workshop as more than a compliance activity, he urged participants to view it as an opportunity to strengthen institutional culture, deepen the sense of responsibility, and align daily work with the values of integrity and public service that RA 12009 seeks to uphold.

The conference was organized by the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Marawi City and Lanao del Sur Chapter, in collaboration with the Municipal Treasurers Association and the MSU-Main Campus.



DECEMBER 18, 2025

President Tago Witnesses Turnover Ceremonies for OVCRED, MCHC, and IALO

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA oversaw the turnover ceremonies for new leadership across three vital university offices: the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension and Development (OVCRED), the Meranaw Cultural Heritage Center (MCHC), and the International Affairs and Linkages Office (IALO). The mantle of leadership at OVCRED was passed from former Vice Chancellor Dr. Fema M. Abamo to the newly appointed Vice Chancellor, Dr. Annie Mae V. Cruda-Berowa. At the MCHC, founding director Dr. Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph transferred her responsibilities to Ms. Ayesha Merdeka M. Alonto. Simultaneously, at the IALO, former Director Prof. Melba M. Angni formally handed over the directorship to Prof. Almahdi G. Alonto. President Tago's presence underscored the administration's support for these units.



President Tago Honors Exemplary Service, Reviews Campus Developments at MSU-Naawan

On December 18, 2025, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA attended the Gabi ng Parangal at MSU at Naawan, utilizing the occasion to pay heartfelt tribute to the faculty and staff whose dedication has sustained the institution. During his address, President Tago emphasized that the university's true strength lies not merely in its academic programs or physical infrastructure, but in the people who uphold its mission through unwavering commitment and integrity. "This is a moment to pause and to recognize those who chose to stay, to serve, and to help build this institution through the years," he remarked, lauding the awardees as the backbone of the university's ongoing success.

Extending his visit beyond the ceremonial festivities, President Tago leveraged the occasion to gain a firsthand look at the operational environment of the campus. Accompanied by Frederick B. Cabactulan, the campus Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning and Initiatives, the President conducted a brief tour of key facilities to assess recent developments. This tour provided a valuable opportunity to engage directly with local administrators and evaluate the campus's ongoing infrastructure improvements. By bridging the celebration of institutional personnel with a practical review of campus growth, President Tago underscored a comprehensive approach to leadership that values both the university's human capital and its physical advancement.



22

DECEMBER 22, 2025

President Tago Challenges New Professionals to Prioritize Integrity at Historic 'Kandori'

At the university's inaugural Kandori held at the International Convention Center, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA delivered a poignant keynote address challenging the 2025 Board and Bar examination passers to define their professional success by substance and character rather than speed or visibility. He urged the new professionals to never confuse being busy with being useful, or being successful with being fulfilled, emphasizing that true leadership in a high-pressure world demands the courage to remain principled and to prioritize integrity over accolades.

This historic thanksgiving celebration, which honored topnotchers like Sittie Nor-Ashya A. Aliponto, Abdulrahman D. Madid, and Ali H. Y. Batugan, served as a powerful testament to the resilience and faith required to overcome significant hardships. By uniting the community to celebrate these milestones, President Tago and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga reaffirmed MSU's enduring mission to serve as a beacon of hope, equity, and excellence, encouraging the new professionals to carry their hard-won integrity forward as they transition into roles dedicated to serving the nation.



23

DECEMBER 23, 2025

President Tago Commends MSU-ISED Olympiad Finalists for Academic Excellence

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA welcomed student delegates and Olympiad finalists from the MSU-Institute of Science Education (MSU-ISED) for a courtesy visit on December 23, 2025. During the engagement, President Tago personally recognized the exceptional achievements of these young scholars, who have successfully qualified for prestigious national and international competitions in Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics. Lauding their commitment to academic rigor, he emphasized that their performance on the national and global stages brings immense pride to the institution, further reinforcing the university's standing as a premier hub for science and mathematics education.





JANUARY 12, 2026

President Tago Convenes Unit Heads and Officials to Align 2026 Strategic Priorities

On January 12, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalín P.D. Tago, CPA led a meeting with university officials and unit heads immediately following the resumption of office after the holiday break. The gathering, held at the CHTM Pavilion after the year's first flag-raising ceremony, focused on setting the administrative agenda for the year. Discussions centered on improving university operations through the full implementation of digital systems, including the Human Resource Information System (HRIS) and the Financial Management Information System (FMIS), alongside updates on campus security and traffic management plans.

The meeting also served as a venue to monitor the progress of ongoing infrastructure projects, the reorganization of the Security Office, and the expansion of CCTV networks, and to begin preparations for major institutional events. President Tago and the unit heads discussed the formation of committees for the university's upcoming 65th Founding Anniversary and the 2026 Sportsfest. By gathering the leadership on the first day of work, the administration aimed to ensure that all units are aligned on their departmental goals and that university services continue to function efficiently for the student body and faculty throughout the new year.



13

JANUARY 13, 2026

President Tago Spearheads MSU-Main Campus Revitalization through OPLAN Linisin ang Kapaligiran

On January 13, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA spearheaded "OPLAN Linisin ang Kapaligiran," a massive campus-wide cleanup drive that transformed the MSU-Main Campus through collaborative community action. By rallying university officials, faculty, and staff to revitalize campus grounds, President Tago demonstrated that effective leadership involves hands-on stewardship of the university's shared environment. Through a strategic zonal system that assigned specific sectors to various units, he successfully fostered a culture of shared responsibility and institutional pride. Ultimately, this initiative highlighted President Tago's commitment to aligning academic excellence with environmental sustainability, reinforcing the principle that the pride of a premier university begins with the care of its own surroundings.



14

JANUARY 14, 2026

President Tago Honored with Tribute at MSU Taraka Community High School

In a warm display of solidarity, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA visited MSU-Taraka Community High School on January 14, 2026 to engage with faculty, staff, and students. The visit featured a *Kandori* and a special tribute organized by the campus to honor President Tago's leadership. During the event, the President toured the grounds to assess facilities firsthand and met with campus constituents, who welcomed the delegation with great enthusiasm.

The highlight of the gathering was a traditional Meranaw feast, where officials experienced the community's generous hospitality and local delicacies. This *Kandori* served as a sincere expression of gratitude, celebrating the strong bond between the central administration and the campus while underscoring a shared commitment to unity and institutional development.



15

JANUARY 15, 2026

President Tago Visits MSU-Masiu and MSU-Tamparan Community High Schools

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, accompanied by university officials, conducted an official visit to the MSU-Masiu Community High School campus on January 15, 2026. The event featured a vibrant display of Meranaw heritage, including a formal reception by school officials and a warm welcome address from Municipal Mayor Engr. Romil M. Guiling. The visit included a Meranaw cultural performance, a campus walkthrough, and a fellowship session where officials, faculty, and students engaged over shared local cuisine, reinforcing the administration's dedication to quality education and the preservation of cultural identity.

Following the engagement at MSU-Masiu Community High School, the delegation proceeded to MSU-Tamparan Community High School to continue their campus visit. There, the university officials were also warmly received by the faculty, staff, and students with a similar display of hospitality and academic solidarity. These visits underscore the MSU System's commitment to its external units, boosting morale and ensuring that the needs of community-based campuses are prioritized in the university's development plans.



18-24

JANUARY 18-24, 2026

President Tago Leads MSU Delegation in International Academic Benchmarking with Universitas Diponegoro

From January 18 to 24, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led a high-level delegation to Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia, to conduct a comprehensive international academic benchmarking and engagement activity.

Accompanied by key university officials, including the Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga and the College Deans, President Tago aimed to align MSU's academic programs, quality assurance mechanisms, and research initiatives with global best practices, reinforcing his vision of an Inklusibong Pamantasan.

Throughout the engagement, which featured courtesy meetings with UNDIP leadership and immersive tours of faculty clusters and research units, President Tago explored strategic models for institutional growth, resulting in mutual commitments to initiate undergraduate student exchanges, pursue faculty mobility programs, and conduct collaborative research mentoring.

By spearheading this international effort, President Tago solidified MSU's trajectory toward world-class university status, demonstrating a transformative leadership approach that prioritizes global connectivity and academic excellence to foster long-term institutional advancement.



JANUARY 28, 2026

President Tago Conducts On-Site Inspection of MSU Gymnasium Renovation

On January 28, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing renovation of the MSU Gymnasium to assess the progress of the project and ensure that construction is proceeding according to plan. During the visit, the President emphasized the importance of timely completion and adherence to quality standards to provide a safe and improved facility for students, athletes, and the entire university community.



Leadership in Motion: Wellness at the Heart of MSU

On the night of January 28, 2026, the MSU Oval Track served as more than just a fitness space; it became a silent testament to leadership in action. Under a blanket of evening mist, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, joined by key university officials, turned a routine exercise into a powerful statement of intent.

By embracing the cool, foggy air, the administration moved beyond the boardroom to the pavement, proving that wellness is the heartbeat of MSU community. This was not just a walk; it was a visible reinforcement of MSU's core mission: to foster a culture where physical health and mental clarity are prioritized as the foundation of academic and professional success. Leading by example, one step at a time, the President's presence on the track reminds everyone that no matter how dense the fog or how busy the schedule, the university's commitment to a vibrant, active lifestyle remains unwavering.



29

JANUARY 29, 2026

President Tago Inspects Masjid King Faisal and Cultural Center Renovation following Dimaporo Gymnasium Visit

Following his inspection of the Dimaporo Gymnasium renovation, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA visited the Masjid King Faisal and Cultural Center at the MSU-Main Campus on the afternoon of January 29, 2026, to check on its ongoing rehabilitation. This visit allowed the President to personally review the progress and ensure that the construction meets the university's quality standards for the benefit of the entire community. This initiative is a key part of his 9-Point Agenda, specifically the fifth goal focused on the rehabilitation and preservation of cultural and religious heritage. By overseeing the repairs of these major facilities back-to-back, President Tago highlights the administration's active role in modernizing the campus while protecting the historical landmarks that define the MSU spirit.



30

JANUARY 30, 2026

President Tago Leads Final Flag Retreat for January

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led the MSU community in the final flag retreat for January 2026, presiding over the solemn tradition alongside university officials and personnel to mark the end of the work month.

As the Philippine and Bangsamoro flags were lowered, the President's presence once again underscored the administration's unwavering commitment to institutional unity and the preservation of national traditions. His consistent participation in these weekly rites reaffirms the university's mission as a center of patriotism and a vital beacon of peace within the Bangsamoro region.

The ceremony served as a significant bookend to the month's activities, offering the academic community a moment of collective reflection. President Tago's leadership continues to prioritize these shared values.



FEBRUARY 2, 2026

President Tago Joins First Flag-Raising Ceremony of February

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led the university community in the first flag-raising ceremony of the month on February 2, 2026, at the Antonio Isidro Grounds, MSU-Main Campus. The ceremony served as a platform for President Tago to reinforce the administration's commitment to academic excellence and institutional integrity as the university moves forward with its strategic goals for the year. In his address, he encouraged the MSU workforce to maintain a culture of service and dedication, emphasizing that these collective efforts are vital in sustaining the university's role as a premier institution for peace and development in the region.



FEBRUARY 3, 2026

President Tago Inducts New Faculty and Leadership in Historic Mass Oath-Taking

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA officiated the university's first-ever mass oath-taking ceremony on February 3, 2026 at the International Convention Center, inducting 164 faculty members—comprising 80 promoted, 31 reclassified, 45 newly hired, and 8 awarded items—alongside 100 appointees to various leadership roles, including directors of administrative, semi-academic, and system-wide campus operations, as well as key academic officials.



Aligning with his 9-Point Agenda on Human Resource Development and Culture Building, President Tago challenged the new cohort to view their appointments as a "calling to serve both knowledge and society." Supported by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga and HRDO Director Faisal G. Mangotara, JD, the President emphasized that this unified induction fosters institutional accountability and excellence, positioning these leaders to uphold the MSUan spirit while advancing the university's mandate for transformative service.



President Tago Champions Impact-Driven Research at EFREE Forum 2026

At the Externally Funded Research and Extension Evaluation (EFREE) Forum 2026 held on February 3, 2026 at the CHTM Pavilion, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA challenged the university's researchers to redefine the purpose of their scholarly work.

Accompanied by Vice President for Research and Extension Engr. Glen A. Lorenzo, PhD, President Tago emphasized that "research that ends in reports, shelves, or archives fails to meet its highest purpose," asserting that as a public institution, Mindanao State University must ensure its findings move beyond mere documentation to create real, lasting community benefits. By framing MSU's research, extension, and innovation efforts as essential tools for national development and social transformation, he directed faculty to ensure their output actively informs policy, empowers local communities, and addresses urgent societal needs.

His address resonated with the forum's core objective—convened by OVCRED Vice Chancellor Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa—to evaluate the 2025 impact of projects funded by agencies like DOST-PCHRD, DOST-PCAARRD, and MOST-BARMM, ultimately reinforcing the President's vision that MSU's academic production must always be measured by its tangible contributions to public progress.



President Tago Champions Shari'ah Justice and Bangsamoro Development through New MSU Law Partnership

On February 3, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA attended and expressed his steadfast support for the formalization of a strategic partnership between the MSU College of Law and the Shari'ah Legal Clinic (ShaLeC), a landmark agreement dedicated to advancing accessible justice and Bangsamoro development. This Memorandum of Agreement aligns the university's institutional goals with the Supreme Court's Strategic Plan for Judicial Innovations (SPJI) by integrating students into pro bono legal consultations, street law activities, and the Clinical Legal Education Program (CLEP), effectively bridging academic theory with impactful legal service.

During the ceremony, President Tago reaffirmed the administration's commitment to this vision, stating, "We stand behind ShaLeC's work as it aims to uplift the Bangsamoro people; to ensure our education reflects our community's aspirations, we will also integrate subjects focused on the Bangsamoro—fostering a deeper understanding of our region's history, governance, and vision." With the collaborative endorsement of MSU Law Dean Atty. Norhabib Bin Suod S. Barodi and MSU KFCIAAS Dean Atty. Jashim A. Abdulrahman, this partnership reinforces MSU's role as a vital architect of national integration, ensuring that the next generation of legal professionals is equipped with both the academic rigor and the cultural perspective necessary to serve the nation effectively.



05

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

MSU System President Tago Spearheads 2027 Technical Budget Hearing

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA spearheaded the commencement of the MSU System's 2027 Technical Budget Hearing at the CHTM Pavilion, bringing together campus administrators and finance units to rigorously review and deliberate on proposed budget allocations for the upcoming fiscal year. By actively engaging in this evaluation process, President Tago underscored his administration's unwavering commitment to transparent, accountable, and results-oriented fiscal governance, ensuring that financial plans are strategically aligned with the university's institutional mandates and long-term development goals. This crucial deliberation not only clarifies operational requirements but also solidifies the System's dedication to efficient resource management, ultimately strengthening the university's capacity to deliver quality instruction, research, extension, and public service.



07

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

President Tago Calls for Ummah Solidarity at 2nd Ulama Leaders Summit

On February 7, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA joined a diverse assembly of religious scholars from across the BARMM for the 2nd Ulama Leaders Summit. Addressing the gathered Ulama, President Tago delivered a powerful plea for unity, urging the Muslim Ummah to transcend political and ideological divides. With the holy month of Ramadhan approaching, he emphasized the necessity of setting aside pride (*kibr*) and finding common ground, reminding the participants that regardless of their different affiliations or *aqidah*, the community must remain united under the will of Allah to ensure the region's prosperity.

Reinforcing this message, Sheikh Abdulrauf A. Guialani, Grand Mufti of BARMM, spoke to the "heavy responsibility" placed upon the community of scholars to meet the public's expectations for security and social reform. He called for a unified front under the Bangsamoro Dar al-Ifta to develop religious education that addresses contemporary realities and promotes peace-building. Together, the leaders framed the summit as a historic opportunity for the Ulama of BARMM to lead community initiatives and institutional dialogues that will define the future of the Bangsamoro government.



FEBRUARY 10, 2026

President Tago Serves as the Hooding Speaker during the 22nd CHS Graduate Studies Hooding Ceremony

MSU College of Health Sciences Graduate Studies Department celebrated a significant milestone on February 7, 2026, as it hosted its 22nd Hooding Ceremony at the Ranaw Business Hotel. Anchored by the theme "Empowering Minds, United Paths: Forging Bridges to a Brighter Tomorrow in Healthcare," MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, who served as the hooding speaker, recognized the profound dedication of the graduate students and emphasized how their empowered minds are essential to building the innovative bridges needed to transform the future of the healthcare sector.

He further challenged the graduates by stating, "Today marks an academic achievement, but more importantly, it marks an ethical transition. The standards you uphold from this point forward will define not only your profession, but the institutions and communities you serve."



President Tago Confers Degrees to Over 700 Graduates at MSU's 62nd Commencement

Presiding over the 62nd Commencement Exercises on February 10, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA officially conferred degrees upon more than 700 graduates of Batch Intan, marking their transition from academic life to high-level social responsibility. Highlighting the theme of inclusivity as a bridge to peace and leadership, President Tago underscored that this conferment is not merely a conclusion, but a commissioning for lifelong service to the Bangsamoro and the nation. Under his leadership, the ceremony celebrated the endurance of the graduates—led by Class Valedictorian Faisal G. Samsodin—reminding them that their MSU education equips them to be transformative leaders and "game-changers" in an evolving society.



FEBRUARY 11, 2026

MSU-Main Campus Prepares for Ramadhan with Clean-up and Sanitation Drive

In preparation for the holy month of Ramadhan, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA officially launched the “Clean and Clear” initiative—a comprehensive campus-wide clean-up and sanitation drive designed to revitalize the university grounds- on February 11, 2026.

Demonstrating proactive leadership, the President, alongside a delegation of key university officials, conducted an extensive site inspection across the campus. This walkthrough was aimed at ensuring the highest standards of cleanliness and orderliness, while verifying that all facilities are fully prepared and functional for the weeks ahead.

By personally overseeing these efforts, the President reinforced the institution's core commitment to providing a dignified, pristine, and conducive environment. This initiative ensures that the academic community can observe the season in a space that reflects the university's dedication to excellence and holistic well-being.



President Tago Leads PAC Meeting

MSU convened its Presidential Advisory Council (PAC) meeting on February 11, 2026 at the CHTM Pavilion in MSU-Main Campus, bringing together key university officials to harmonize strategic priorities across the system. Presided over by the University System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the session addressed a robust agenda that included the evaluation of research and extension performance for the past fiscal year and the setting of targets for 2026, alongside updates on the status of MSU Senior and Community High Schools. Significant system-wide developments were also highlighted and campus concerns were also at the forefront. The meeting underscored the university's commitment to academic excellence and administrative reform, ensuring that each campus remains aligned with the system's mission of transformative service and regional development.



FEBRUARY 12, 2026

President Tago Confers Degrees to 362 Graduates at MSU-IIT's 56th Commencement Exercises

A new chapter began on February 12, 2026 as 362 graduands of the MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology marched across the stage for the 56th Commencement Exercises, led by Class Valedictorian Jenny O. Miranda (BS Philosophy major in Applied Ethics). The batch, which boasts 7 Magna Cum Laude and 33 Cum Laude honorees, alongside 16 Sustainable Research Future Awardees and 5 Extra-Curricular Awardees, was officially conferred by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA. Guest speaker Dr. Jonald L. Pimentel, President of the University of Southern Mindanao and a proud MSU-IIT alumnus, grounded the celebration by highlighting the "invisible victories" of the graduates, noting that while the world celebrates their medals, true success is built on the silent battles and the faith held when things felt impossible.



The university's leadership charged the new alumni to translate these honors into ethical leadership and urgent social action. MSU-IIT Chancellor, Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan, LL.D, issued a profound mandate to the graduating class: "Do not wait for better systems to appear-be the better systems yourselves."

This powerful call to action challenges every future professional including engineer, teacher, and public servant to replace convenience with integrity and shortcuts with courage, rooted in the solemn hope that our communal spaces—like the very gymnasium they stand in—will forever be sanctuaries of achievement rather than sites of recovery or tragedy. By urging the youth to embody the ethical standards they wish to see in the world,



the Chancellor reminded everyone that the future they demand is not a distant goal to be reached, but a personal responsibility to be lived out.

MSUS President Tago reminded the graduates that their education was meant to prepare them to confront society's problems rather than distance themselves from them. As they transition to professional life, the 362 graduates depart with a mandate to ensure competence is always matched by accountability, fulfilling the university's hope for a future defined by service, integrity, and excellence.

"Competence must be matched by integrity. Achievement must be guided by accountability. And success must include service. Act not only for personal gain, but with awareness of how your work affects others.

His charge to the graduates is clear: education is not a shield from society's problems, but the very tool meant to confront them.



FEBRUARY 13, 2026

President Tago Attends 25th Integration Day Celebrations at MSU-MCEST and MSU-SND

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA joined the milestone celebrations of two prominent campuses as they marked their 25th year of integration into the MSU System. His attendance at both MSU-Maigo College of Education, Science and Technology (MCEST) and MSU-Sultan Naga Dimaporo (MSU-SND) highlighted a quarter-century of academic growth, unity, and a shared commitment to the "Road to Excellence" within the region.

The President first arrived at the MSU-MCEST, which celebrated under the theme "MSU-Maigo @ 25: A Silver Celebration of Integration, Growth, and Achievements." The festivities began with a grand parade from the campus gate to the gymnasium, led by the Maigo Police, ROTC Colors, and the university band. President Tago participated in a symbolic tree-planting ceremony and joined representatives from the DPWH and KE-DA Construction for the ribbon-cutting of new infrastructure projects. During the formal program, he addressed the assembly regarding the college's vital role in regional education, while Maigo Municipal Mayor Hon. Rafael C. Rizalda offered a message of support. The event also included the distribution of plaques to recognize the dedicated service of university personnel and concluded with vibrant performances by the Indayog Cultural Dance Troupe and the Inno Band.



Following his time in Maigo, President Tago proceeded to MSU-SND to celebrate their 25th Integration Day, themed "25th Anniversary Integration to the MSU System: Road to Excellence." The MSU-SND celebration featured high-energy activities, including a motorcade from Maranding to Kapatagan, a Zumba session, and traditional "Laro ng Lahi" games designed to foster cooperation and school spirit among students and faculty. A major highlight of the afternoon was the recognition of new professionals, where the campus honored recent passers of the Licensure Examination for Agriculturists (LEA) and the Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LEPT). Campus Head Dr. Indhira B. Dimaporo-Tawantawan welcomed the attendees and emphasized the university's commitment to service and excellence. President Tago delivered the Integration Message, reaffirming the System's shared vision of academic distinction and encouraging the MSU-SND community to continue their pursuit of progress.

The President's presence at both campuses underscores the success of the MSU System's integration efforts over the last 25 years. By visiting both MSU-MCEST and MSU-SND, President Tago highlighted the unified spirit of the institution. These celebrations mark a quarter-century of transformation, bringing quality education and unity to the communities of Lanao del Norte.

14-16

FEBRUARY 14-16, 2026

MSU Asset Management Committee Conducts Strategic Planning

Under the leadership of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the Asset Management Committee of MSU–Main Campus convened for a strategic planning session at the Mallberry Suites Business Hotel in Cagayan de Oro City from February 14 to 16, 2026.

Chaired by Housing Management Division Director Nagaranao A. Sangcopan, MPA, the committee addressed critical institutional property issues, including long-standing land disputes and the maintenance of MSU cottages. The three-day event concluded with a technical workshop to formulate actionable solutions for these asset-related challenges.



17

FEBRUARY 17, 2026

President Tago Leads Ramadhan Moon Sighting

Marking a significant moment of spiritual and communal preparation, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led the official moon sighting activities on February 17, 2026, across the municipalities of Libertad and Manticao.

The observation was organized by the King Faisal Center for Islamic, Arabic, and Asian Studies (KFCIAAS), headed by its Dean, Atty. Jashim Abdulrahman, in a collaborative effort with the United Imams of the Philippines Foundation, led by Aleem Saad Amate. Also present at the event were some university officials and unit heads. This mission aimed to observe the Hilal, or the new crescent moon, to determine the commencement of the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

The MSU administration expressed its steadfast commitment to supporting these traditions, highlighting the university's vital role in promoting the cultural and spiritual well-being of the Bangsamoro people and the wider Filipino Muslim community. By spearheading this sighting, the university continues to serve as a bridge between academic institutions and the religious heritage of the region, ensuring that the transition into the sacred month of Ramadhan is observed with both solemnity and precision.



26

FEBRUARY 26, 2026

BGS Hosts Landmark Inaugural Ramadhan Iftar Program

In a significant move to bolster student welfare and community spirit, the Botanical Garden Society, headed by Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA, partnered with the Office of the MSU System President, led by Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, to host its first-ever Ramadhan Iftar Program. Held on February 26, 2026, at the Rajah Indrapatna Hall Dormitory, the landmark event brought students together to break their fast in an atmosphere of spiritual camaraderie, marking a successful collaboration.

Beyond the traditional Iftar meals, the program focused on uplifting the student body through an engaging raffle draw featuring various prizes and cash gifts. These contributions served as a vital morale boost for residents during the holy month, reinforcing the organization's commitment to supporting students' emotional and spiritual well-being. The inaugural initiative establishes a new tradition of campus unity and proactive student service within the university.



27

FEBRUARY 27 to MARCH 12, 2026

President Tago Leads Ramadhan Islamic Program

Under the leadership of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, MSU-Main Campus hosted a landmark series of nightly Islamic programs from February 27 to March 12, 2026. The event, overseen by a committee chaired by Executive Vice President Dr. Abdulkader M. Ayo, ShL, JD, brought together students from various academic units, community high schools, and residents from neighboring barangays at the MSU Grandstand. Designed to honor the sacred traditions of the Holy Month, the nightly sessions featured competitions in Qur'an Reading, Adhan, and Wasyat, alongside raffle draws and spiritual reflections. The program concluded on March 13 with an awarding ceremony that celebrated the participants' dedication to Islamic values and the institution's commitment to cultural heritage.



MARCH 4, 2026

MSU-Main Campus Joins BFAR and OPAMRD to Form Technical Working Group for Marawi Aquaculture Development

MSU-Main Campus Officials, led by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, participated in a strategic collaborative meeting on March 4, 2026 with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Marawi Rehabilitation and Development (OPAMRD) headed by Secretary Nasser Pangandaman Sr., and various local government units and fisherfolk cooperatives to launch the "Building a Better Marawi - Aquaculture Industry Development" (BBM AID) project. The primary purpose of the session was for BFAR to orient the stakeholders on the project's scope and to formally establish a Technical Working Group (TWG), with MSU designated as a key member to provide research-based guidance. This partnership ensures that MSU's academic expertise in monitoring water quality and fish health is directly integrated into the project's decision-making process, helping to create a scientifically sound framework for the region's economic recovery under the coordinated efforts of Secretary Pangandaman's office and national agencies.

A critical component of the meeting involved the coordination of specialized assessments to ensure the project's long-term feasibility and sustainability within Lake Lanao. It was noted that efforts are currently underway with a government agency to deploy divers who will survey the lake to determine if conditions are suitable for the installation of fish cages and the construction of floating houses for caretakers. The meeting concluded with a unified commitment to maintain open communication between the university, government planners, and local cooperatives to ensure the project effectively meets the needs of the Marawi fishing community as it progresses into the implementation phase.



MARCH 5, 2026

MSU-Main Campus Releases TDP Grants to Qualified MSU Students

MSU-Main Campus conducted the releasing of Tulong Dunong Program (TDP) grants at the International Convention Center in Marawi City, on March 5, 2026. Grantees were those in Batches 9.1 and 20.1 for the second semester of of AY 2023-2024.

The event included remarks from Scholarship Center Director Atty. Jayneveb A. Racontes-Magolama, Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, and MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, all of whom emphasized the importance of utilizing the grant for its intended academic purposes. The distribution of checks was overseen by the University Business Office and the Cashier's Division under Director Muhammad Zuhair L. Gani.



09

MARCH 9, 2026

Ramadhan Iftar Program Continues to Boys Dormitories

The spirit of giving and community continues to shine bright this Holy Month as the 1st Ramadhan Iftar Program reached the MSU students staying at the Super New Boys, Rajah Solaiman, and Rajah Domdoman dormitories yesterday, March 9, 2026. Led personally by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the event provided essential groceries and hearty iftar meals to these students, ensuring they feel the warmth of the university's support during this sacred time. This visit follows a series of successful iftar drives conducted over the previous weeks at several other residential halls, including Rajah Indrapatra Hall, Khadija, Zainab, Bolawan, and Torogan dormitories. These efforts highlight a consistent commitment to student welfare across the entire MSU campus, fostering an atmosphere of faith and togetherness. The program also featured an exciting raffle with cash gifts, adding extra joy and excitement to the occasion beyond the traditional iftar feast.



10

MARCH 10, 2026

MSU-Main Admin and Student Leaders Convene for Consultative Iftar

As part of a landmark effort to foster transparency, student leaders from across MSU-Main Campus gathered with university officials for the "Iftar Meet and Talk" on March 10 at the CHTM Pavilion. Organized by the MSU Supreme Student Government (SSG) under the direction of the Office of the President, the event served as both a spiritual gathering and a consultative assembly. University President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, joined by various officials and office directors, sat down with student representatives to break fast and directly address pressing campus concerns.

The dialogue provided a platform for student leaders to raise critical issues, including the proposed Ramadhan break, laptop-related academic needs, scholarship updates, water supply improvement, and recent hikes in transportation costs. By bringing together college representatives and heads of student organizations, the event emphasized a collaborative approach to governance. This initiative underscores the administration's commitment to ensuring that student insights are integrated into the decision-making process to promote the holistic welfare of the MSU community.



11

MARCH 11, 2026

President Tago Spearheads Continuation of Ramadhan Iftar Program for Girls' Dormitories

As a continuation of the Ramadhan Iftar Program, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA spearheaded an Iftar drive on March 11, 2026, at Princess Lawanen Hall (PLH) for the residents of the girls' dormitories. Accompanied by other campus officials, President Tago led the initiative to provide direct assistance to students during the Holy Month and to strengthen the relationship between the university administration and the student body.

To facilitate participation, a university bus transported students from the dormitories near the Engineering building, including the Super New Girls' dormitory, to the venue. The program featured a raffle for cash and prizes and concluded with President Tago overseeing the distribution of Iftar meals and grocery packs to all participants.



12

MARCH 12, 2026

President Tago Champions Unity and Approachable Leadership

During the historic inaugural Grand Iftar at MSU-Main Campus on March 12, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA personified a new era of inclusive leadership by choosing to immerse himself directly within the university community. Rather than observing the festivities from a distance, President Tago spent the evening mingling with faculty and staff from all units, breaking bread alongside his colleagues and reinforcing a sense of equality and shared purpose. His active participation in the communal potluck and the congregational Maghrib prayer served as a powerful catalyst for institutional solidarity, transforming a formal religious observance into a deeply personal demonstration of his commitment to fostering a unified and approachable administration.



MSU-Main Campus Engages in International Academic Benchmarking with Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia

The Mindanao State University (MSU)-Main Campus participated in the International Academic Benchmarking and International Engagement activity at Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia, from January 18 to 24, 2026. The delegation was led by MSU System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and included the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga; the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension and Development, Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa; the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, Dr. Oding L. Maamor; and the Deans of various colleges of MSU Main Campus.

The engagement aimed to benchmark MSU's academic programs, quality assurance mechanisms, and research initiatives against international best practices. It also sought to strengthen institutional dialogue and knowledge exchange, and to explore potential collaborations in instruction, research, and extension, including faculty and student mobility through possible Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and Memoranda of Agreement (MOA), in line with MSU's commitment to global competitiveness and academic excellence.

The activity formally opened with a courtesy meeting on the first day, attended by UNDIP's Vice Rector for Research, Innovation, Collaboration, and Public Communication, Dr. Wijayanto; Deputy Director of Partnerships and Global Connectivity, Prof. Pulung Widhi Hari Hananto; Director for Reputation, Partnership, and Global Connectivity, Prof. Hadiyanto; Deans of the Faculties, and other university



MSU-Main Campus delegates headed by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago with UNDIP's Vice Rector for Research, Innovation, Collaboration, and Public Communication, Dr. Wijayanto and Deputy Director of Partnerships and Global Connectivity, Prof. Pulung Widhi Hari Hananto



MSU-Main Campus delegates pay a courtesy visit to UNDIP, exploring new avenues for partnership and institutional growth.

officials. UNDIP representatives presented the university's background and highlighted strategic initiatives that have positioned the institution as a top-ranked public research university not only in Indonesia, but also in Asia and in the world.

Meaningful discussions continued on the second day, focusing on key areas that further reinforce UNDIP's global standing: quality assurance, research, and community engagement. The day also included campus tours and visits to faculty clusters, research units, and quality assurance offices. These engagements provided valuable exposure to UNDIP's systems and practices, inspiring the delegation to adapt and model these best practices as MSU strengthens its position toward world-class university status.

The activity concluded with mutual commitments between UNDIP and MSU to implement undergraduate student exchange programs within the year, pursue faculty exchange initiatives, conduct research mentoring sessions for faculty members, and strengthen collaboration in research and community services.

The engagement reflects MSU's commitment to global competitiveness and academic excellence, guided by the transformative and globally-oriented leadership of President Tago, and his vision of an Inklusibong Pamantasan (Inclusive University). The MSU delegation likewise conveys its sincere appreciation to Universitas Diponegoro for its warm hospitality, as both institutions promote a shared vision of international cooperation and academic advancement.



Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga



System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and
UNDIP's Vice Rector Dr. Wijayanto shake hands,
symbolizing a commitment to mutual cooperation.



Panamar: The President's Linkages

Sources: Resolution No. 505, S. 2025 and Resolution No. 635, S. 2025



Memorandum of Agreement between the Mindanao State University System and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy and the Commission on Elections – BARMM Regional Office to organize and implement a Political Education Roadshow



Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Mindanao State University System, the Zaid Bin Thabit Riayah Center Inc., and the Zaid Bin Thabit Qur'anic Institute Inc. to undertake the repair and maintenance of the facilities and infrastructure of ZBTQII through the ZBTRCI



Memorandum of Agreement between the Mindanao State University, Philippines and the Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia to establish a basis of cooperation and collaboration



Memorandum of Agreement between the Mindanao State University, Republic of the Philippines and the Universitas Padjadjaran, Republic of Indonesia to collaborate in academics, research, and community service



Memorandum of Understanding entered into by and between the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and the Mindanao State University System to enhance education and skills development in Mindanao through the alignment and strengthening of TVET programs across MSU campuses



Memorandum of Understanding entered into by and between the Mindanao State University and Universitas Diponegoro to develop academic and educational cooperation based on equality and reciprocity and to promote relations and mutual understanding



Contract of Lease entered into by and between Mindanao State University System and the Zaid Bin Thabit Qur'anic Institute Inc. to amend and update the 2001 lease

Contract of Affiliation between the Ospital ng Palawan and the Mindanao State University for the affiliation and training of BS Nursing students of MSU



Memorandum of Agreement entered into by and between the SanteH Aquaculture Science and Technology Foundation, Inc. and the Mindanao State University, Marawi (Main Campus) to set up a SanteH Foundation Academic Study grant



Memorandum of Agreement made and executed by and between the Mindanao State University, Marawi (Main Campus), the Member of Parliament Dan S. Asnawie and the Municipal Government of Al Barka Basilan for the establishment of extension programs of MSU Main Campus in the Municipality of Al Barka Basilan



Memorandum of Understanding between the Al-Madinah International University (MEDIU) and the Mindanao State University Main Campus to establish and develop academic exchange and cooperation in teaching, training, research and development



Memorandum of Understanding made and executed between the Mindanao State University-Main Campus Bataraza Extension (MSU-MCBE) and the Bataraza Rural Health Unit (RHU) to establish partnership



Memorandum of Understanding made and executed between the Mindanao State University-Main Campus Bataraza Extension (MSU-MCBE) and the Chekitelas Restobar to establish a partnership between MSU-MCBE and Chekitelas Restobar for the operation of the university canteen, aiming to provide nutritious, hygienic, and affordable meals to the university community

Memorandum of Understanding made and executed between the University of the Philippines Los Baños and the Mindanao State University – Main Campus to develop academic and educational cooperation and promote mutual understanding



Approved Resolutions during the 273rd BOR Meeting

Source: Office of the University Secretary and the Board of Regents

MSU System

- Resolution No. 493, S. 2025** Approval of the 2,504 candidates for graduation from various campuses of the University for the First Semester of Academic Year 2025-2026
- Resolution No. 494, S. 2025** Approval of the 37 faculty members from various campuses of MSU System with the rank of Associate Professor - Professor
- Resolution No. 495, S. 2025** Approval of the Final Rank of the four faculty members from MSU-General Santos and MSU-Maguindano with the rank of Associate Professor
- Resolution No. 496, S. 2025** Approval of the revised MSU System Curriculum Manual
- Resolution No. 497, S. 2025** Approval of the institutionalization and strengthening of the framework for the operation of the MSU College of Law Extension Campuses within the Mindanao State University System
- Resolution No. 498, S. 2025** Approval of the schedule of the Board of Regents Meeting for 2026
- Resolution No. 499, S. 2025** Approval of the grant of authority to Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, MSU System President, to travel to Indonesia on January 19-27, 2026 for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), benchmarking and networking in Semarang, Yogyakarta, and Jakarta
- Resolution No. 500, S. 2025** Approval of the grant of authority to Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, MSU System President, to travel to Saudi Arabia on December 27, 2025-January 8, 2026 to perform Umrah (pilgrimage)
- Resolution No. 501, S. 2025** Confirmation of the Resolution No. 9-R, S. 2025, the Certification of Non-availability of savings from the FY 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 internally generated income of MSU System to cover the Free Higher Education (FHE) deficiency and requesting that the said deficiency amounting to PhP230,277,742.34 be charged against CHED Higher Education Development Fund (HEDF)
- Resolution No. 502, S. 2025** Confirmation of the Resolution No. 10-R, S. 2025, the various agenda matters that were deferred during the third quarter BOR meeting
- Resolution No. 503, S. 2025** Confirmation of the Resolution No. 11-R, S. 2025, the grant of authority for Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA to travel to Malaysia for personal trip from October 29, 2025 - November 4, 2025
- Resolution No. 504, S. 2025** Confirmation of 25 Special Orders
- Resolution No. 505, S. 2025** Confirmation of seven Agreements entered into by and between the Mindanao State University System as represented by its President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and partner agencies
- Resolution No. 653, S. 2025** Approval of the conduct of a Special Meeting on December 22, 2025, 9am at CHED Central Office

MSU-Marawi (Main Campus)

- Resolution No. 506, S. 2025** Approval of the budget utilization of realized and collected income under fund 05 of MSU-Marawi for the August 8, 2025 to November 4, 2025 amounting to PhP20,004,587.90 to cover the budgetary allotment for the planned programs and activities of the university for the CY 2025, subject to existing rules and regulations on the use of fiduciary and non-fiduciary funds
- Resolution No. 507, S. 2025** Approval of the Program of Receipts and Expenditures for Free Higher Education (FHE) for the First Semester AY 2025-2026 of MSU-Marawi amounting to PhP104, 659,350.00
- Resolution No. 537, S. 2025** Approval of the promotion or reclassification of item of eight faculty members with collegiate rank of MSU-Marawi, subject to availability of funds, and further approval of the Department of Budget and Management
- Resolution No. 538, S. 2025** Approval of the promotion or reclassification of 20 faculty members of MSU-Marawi External Units (High School), subject to availability of funds, and further approval of the Department of Budget and Management
- Resolution No. 539, S. 2025** Approval of the grant of tenure to 16 faculty members
- Resolution No. 540, S. 2025** Approval of the rank conversion/retitling from Teacher Rank to Collegiate rank of five faculty members from MSU-Marawi, subject to availability of funds and approval of the Department of Budget and Management
- Resolution No. 541, S. 2025** Approval of the Mindanao State University (MSU) Law Global Horizons Program, subject to pertinent government rules and regulations
- Resolution No. 542, S. 2025** Approval of the amendment of the Juris Doctor Curriculum of the Mindanao State University College of Law through the inclusion of the elective subject: "Transitional Justice and the Bangsamoro Peace Process", subject to pertinent government rules and regulations
- Resolution No. 613, S. 2025** Confirmation of 141 Special Orders (Academic)
- Resolution No. 619, S. 2025** Approval of the appointments of four (4) administrative personnel of MSU-Marawi whose qualifications were evaluated by the Human Resource Merit Promotion and Selection Board (HRMPSB), subject to Civil Service rules and regulations
- Resolution No. 634, S. 2025** Confirmation of 26 Special Orders (Administrative)
- Resolution No. 635, S. 2025** Confirmation of seven Agreements entered into by and between the Mindanao State University-Marawi City as represented by its President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and partner agencies, subject to pertinent rules and regulations of the government

Newly Installed Officials



DR. ODING L. MAAMOR, JD
*Vice Chancellor for Planning
and Development*

Per Special Order No. 1785-OP, Series of 2025



DR. ANNIE MAE V. CRUDA-BEROWA
*Vice Chancellor for Research,
Extension and Development*

Per Special Order No. 1790-OP, Series of 2025



DR. RICHARD S. CELESTE
*Director, University Quality
Assurance Office*

Per Special Order No. 1786-OP, Series of 2025



PROF. ALMAHDI G. ALONTO
*Director, International Affairs
and Linkages Office*

Per Special Order No. 1142, Series of 2025



MS. AYESHA MERDEKA M. ALONTO
Head, Meranaw Cultural Heritage Center
Per Special Order No. 1792-OP, Series of 2025



PROF. MELBA M. ANGNI
*Focal Person, Gender and Development
Focal Point System*
Per Special Order No. 1794-OP, Series of 2025



MUHAMMAD ZUHAIR L. GANI, CPA
*Officer-in-Charge, Cashier's Office
(Concurrent)*
Per Special Order No. 1812-OP, Series of 2025



ENGR. MOHAMMAD M. MUSTAPHA, MPA
*Director, University Disaster Risk and
Reduction Management Office*
Per Special Order No. 118-OP, Series of 2026



PROF. HASMIN M. ABDULHALIM, PhD
Director, University Library
Per Special Order No. 119-OP, Series of 2026



PROF. ROHANIE M. SULTAN, PhD, RGC
Director, MSU-Senior High School, Marawi City
Per Special Order No. 120-OP, Series of 2026



ATTY. JAYNEVEB A. RECENTES-MAGOLAMA
Director, Scholarship Center
Per Special Order No. 121-OP, Series of 2026



ENGR. JOHARI M. RAKIIN
*Officer-in-Charge, MSU-FFI Ceramics
Development Center*
Per Special Order No. 170-OP, Series of 2026

MSUans Worldwide

Atty. Sahria Lawi-Macabalang is a proud graduate of MSU-Marawi City, where she earned her AB in English in 1998 and her Bachelor of Laws (Juris Doctor) in 2003.

Based in Riyadh, KSA, since 2004, her career spans nine years of teaching in Philippine schools and over a decade as an Administrative Officer at California Resort Riyadh, one of the city's premier Western residential compounds.

Her achievements stand as a testament to the profound impact MSU has had on her life. The university instilled in her the knowledge, wisdom, values, and skills that allow her to remain globally competitive. As an MSUAN, she was raised to be not only intellectually capable but also physically, emotionally, and spiritually strong, independent, brave, and resilient. MSU prepared her for the world long before she faced the realities of life after graduation.

Ultimately, Atty. Lawi-Macabalang attributes her identity and success to her roots, proudly stating that she is who she is today because MSU-Marawi City is in her blood.

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



ATTY. SAHRIA LAWI-MACABALANG



Montana, USA



JERSON AYUNO

Jerson is a passionate educator, musician, and lifelong learner whose journey has been shaped by both challenges and growth. Before completing an undergraduate degree, Jerson struggled with confidence and often felt less than competitive on a global level; however, the experience at MSU transformed that mindset. Beyond academic knowledge and professional preparation, MSU taught Jerson to practice humility at all times. It shaped his character, strengthened his discipline, refined his skills in music and theater arts, and deepened his faith in his abilities.

According to him, MSU brought clarity to his goals and served as a reminder that true success is grounded in humility, perseverance, and continuous learning. Through its training and mentorship, Jerson grew into the professional he is today, serving as a Music and Theater Arts Instructor at a state university in La Union and later as a Music Teacher in Dubai.

Today, Jerson continues to live out the vision that MSU helped him discover. He is currently a Music Teacher at a Christian high school in Montana, USA, where he teaches and mentors students in band, choir, and general music. He strives not only to develop their musical abilities but also to nurture their confidence, discipline, and character—just as his mentors once did for him. From once feeling uncertain about his place on the global stage to now teaching internationally, Jerson has become a more confident and purpose-driven educator who uses music as a powerful tool to inspire, lead, and make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people.

Creme dela Creme



FAISAL G. SAMSODIN

Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Studies
Major in Shari'ah
King Faisal Center for Islamic, Arabic,
and Asian Studies (KFCIAAS)

SUMMA CUMLAUDE
CLASS VALEDICTORIAN

Faisal G. Samsodin, the University Class Valedictorian of Batch Intan (2026), graduates as a Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Studies, majoring in Shari'ah, from Mindanao State University–Main Campus. The son of Ustadha Zolaica Hadji Abdulrahim Guro and the late Ustadh Samsodin Ariman Abinal, Faisal's academic journey is defined by a consistent pursuit of excellence that began at Ibn Siena Integrated School, where he was an Overall Gold Academic Achiever. At MSU, his discipline earned him numerous distinctions, including the Academic Excellence, College Leadership, and Service Awards. Beyond the classroom, he is a multi-talented individual, recognized as the College Artist and Athlete of the Year, as well as a licensed ALIVE teacher under the Department of Education.

A dedicated student-leader, Faisal has held significant roles as the President of the Islamic Studies Students' Association (ISSA) and the Muslim Students' Union of the Philippines, Inc. His commitment to service is rooted in his volunteer work at the Insan Islamic Assembly, where he has taught English and Islamic values since 2022. As the Secretary of the Kapayapaan Philippine Youth Alliance, his leadership extends to peace-building and national youth engagement. For Faisal G. Samsodin, the honor of being named Valedictorian is not just a recognition of his academic success, but a testament to a life lived through the Islamic principles of responsibility and service to the community.



JALALUDIN D. MACARAYA

Bachelor of Science in Tourism
Management
KCollege of Hospitality and Tourism
Management (CHTM)

MAGNA CUMLAUDE
CLASS SALUTATORIAN

Hailing from Upper Igabay, Kapatagan, Lanao del Sur, Jalaludin Dagay Macaraya concludes his journey at MSU-Main as the University Class Salutatorian of Batch Intan (2026), graduating Magna Cum Laude. The son of Bairona D. Disangcopan and Salwa L. Macaraya, his academic path has been defined by a steadfast pursuit of excellence, transitioning from a high school Salutatorian to a six-time Dean's and Chancellor's Lister at the College of Hospitality and Tourism Management (CHTM). Beyond the campus, Jalaludin proved his industry readiness as a Top 10 Recommended Student during his 2GO Apprenticeship and as a Purser's Awardee at Avia Tech International, where he also earned the "Best in Inflight Service" distinction.

His university life was equally shaped by a versatile leadership record, serving as President of the CHTM Les' Turista Society and Audit Commissioner for the MSU-Main Supreme Student Government (SSG). These roles, coupled with his recognition as an Academic Excellence and College Service Awardee, reflect a holistic commitment to both governance and his craft. For Jalaludin, reaching the rank of University Class Salutatorian was not a sudden achievement, but the result of years of diligent groundwork and unwavering dedication. With a decorated portfolio in tourism and student service, he is now officially ready for takeoff.



2025 PHILIPPINE BAR EXAMINATION PASSERS

MSU-MAIN CAMPUS

1. ATTY. ABDULMADID, Sittie Ainah C.
2. ATTY. ABDULMUJIB, Rainisa A.
3. ATTY. ADORABLE, Cyd Charisse A.
4. ATTY. ALA, Aleah Janima M.
5. ATTY. ALI, Lady Alia Sharmina B.
6. ATTY. ALIMODEN, Norhanifah D.
7. ATTY. ALIODEN, Mohammad Muzahim A.
8. ATTY. AMBUNG-MANIRI, Cayasalam C.
9. ATTY. AMPA, Monerah S.
10. ATTY. AMPATUA, Ayeesah-Soraya M.
11. ATTY. BATUGAN, Muhammad R.
12. ATTY. CASAN-MACABANDING, Sittie Hainah
13. ATTY. CUARO, Sahara M.
14. ATTY. DARAGANGAN, Jennan M.
15. ATTY. DATU-DACULA, Nashibah S.
16. ATTY. DATU-DACULA, Suharto D.
17. ATTY. DIMACANGUN, Fairosa E.
18. ATTY. DIMASENDEL, Hazayfa H.
19. ATTY. DISOMANGCOP, Hosam U.
20. ATTY. DITONGCOPUN, Abdul-Hayya M.
21. ATTY. DUMAWAL, Norhata M.
22. ATTY. DUMPA, Aniah D.
23. ATTY. ESMAYATIN, Rohaidah M.
24. ATTY. GUILING, Anna Azrissah S.
25. ATTY. HASSAN, Maslama B.
26. ATTY. H. NOOR, Farhanna U.
27. ATTY. HADJI SATA, Hanan N.
28. ATTY. HADJI SHAEFF, Rohanisah M.
29. ATTY. IBRAHIM, Moh'd Nor A.
30. ATTY. IBRAHIM, Muhammad A.
31. ATTY. ISMAEL, Al Manzour M.
32. ATTY. JAMIL, Najmah M.
33. ATTY. LAO, Norlailah M.
34. ATTY. LOMONDOT, Suhaimen B.
35. ATTY. MACAINDIG, Hassserodin M.
36. ATTY. MACALNAS, Dayamon P.

Message

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.

Praise be to Allah, by whose blessings excellent achievements are accomplished.

On behalf of the MSU System President, all former Deans, the faculty, staff, and students of the MSU College of Law, I wish to congratulate the 197 MSUan 2025 Bar passers for achieving success in one of the country's most difficult licensure tests—the Philippine Bar Examinations.

The 2025 Bar Exam produced a stellar result for MSU Law in its own right. The collective and individual performances of our graduates exceeded our average bar performance from the past years. Indeed, we are in awe!

Your success is a reward from Almighty God for your sacrifice, commitment, and diligent preparation. It also represents a victory over the high expectations of your professors, parents, relatives, and friends, who have always viewed you as deserving sons and daughters of our dear Alma Mater, Mindanao State University. Our proudest salutations go out to you! Congratulations!

To our MSUan warriors who are victors in a different way: hold fast to the ropes of perseverance and hope. Failure in the Bar Examinations is not, and will never be, a bar to success in life. Persistence has always been the path taken by the world's most successful and influential individuals, from Adam (a.s.) to Zuckerberg. *Unitas Per Iustitiam!*



ATTY. NORHABIB BIN SUOD S. BARODI
Dean, College of Law

37. ATTY. MACARAMBON-POLOG, Jamilah D.
38. ATTY. MACAUMBANG, Yasmin G.
39. ATTY. MACAWALI, Nortainie S.
40. ATTY. MAMAINTE, Mohammad Mahid D.
41. ATTY. MAMANGCONI, Abdulcahar S.
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43. ATTY. MAMPAO, Saiben P.
44. ATTY. MANGOTARA, Abdulmajeed O.
45. ATTY. MANTA, Almerah T.
46. ATTY. MASIDING, Abdulazis S.
47. ATTY. MINDALANO, Mailah D.
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51. ATTY. MUSA, Guiazali S.
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68. ATTY. SERAD, Anuar N.
69. ATTY. TIMBAB, Saima B.
70. ATTY. UNDA, Nor-Hannah C.
71. ATTY. UNTE, Sittie Hakima T.
72. ATTY. YAMBA, Maria Cristina B.
73. ATTY. YSMael, Nabila C.

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2. ATTY. AL-OBINAY, Hanifa
3. ATTY. ALONTO, Jamalmalik
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35. .ATTY. MACATOON, Malic Dimaronsing
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59. ATTY. UMPAR, Nasguib
60. ATTY. YU-CRUZ, Orlane

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40. ATTY. MISTULA, ChristinaS.
41. ATTY. NAGAL-PELONES, Jessa N.
42. ATTY. NOEL, Delle Valerie Iris K.
43. ATTY. ODEJERTE, Michael C.
44. ATTY. OPEÑA, Francis De A.
45. ATTY. PIANG, Abdulbaszer A.
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49. ATTY. RADAZA, Faith T.
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51. ATTY. REYES, Marte Angelo L.
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59. ATTY. TOSINO, Karen May Kezia P.
60. ATTY. VALILA, Eros Ethaniel D.
61. ATTY. VILLAFLOL-LAGARE, Hannah M.
62. ATTY. VILLAHERMOZA, Febbie Rhea A.
63. ATTY. VILLARUEL, Japhet C.
64. ATTY. ZAFRA, Lielze J.



Editor's Note

This March edition of the newsletter arrives at a particularly vibrant time for the Mindanao State University (MSU) community, capturing the spirit of unity in Ramadhan that flows from both the ongoing Women's Month celebration and the recent flurry Ramadhan series of administrative activities. Within these pages, we proudly feature poignant articles about the 14-Day Islamic Ramadhan Program on Campus, the Grand Community Iftar and a special opinion and greeting for the Women's month titled "Empowering Women in our Homes from Ramadhan to Eid." All these beautifully tie the universal appreciation of Ramadhan, sharing, leadership and women's strength.

Beyond celebrating this crucial segment of our community, this issue serves as a critical update, offering comprehensive coverage of President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA's recent leadership initiatives and campus-wide activities in Marawi. These stories, along with features on successful MSU alumni who are making waves in their respective fields, showcase the tangible impact and ongoing excellence of our institution.

As always, this newsletter is your essential guide to the happenings within MSU, from standard news stories documenting day-to-day life and achievements to crucial policy updates. A significant highlight within this issue is the formal display of the newly installed officials of the University. More importantly, we have dedicated sections to clearly disseminate key University policies that are vital for the information and adherence of all constituents—students, faculty, and staff alike.

Our Editorial team's commitment remains focused on transparency and connection, ensuring that every member of the MSU family is well-informed and actively engaged in the future direction of our beloved University.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph".

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

THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY

BABAYLANS



From left to right: First Lady Sittie Norhaya M. Ambor-Tago, CPA; Dr. Mary Joyce Z. Guinto-Sali, Chancellor of MSU-Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography (TCTO); Dr. Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona, Chancellor of MSU-Maguindanao; Dr. Elnor C. Roa, Chancellor of MSU-Naawan; Dr. Sheila G. Magolama, Chancellor of MSU-Buug; Cairany D. Gandamra, RN, MPA, JD, Superintendent of MSU-Lanao National College of Arts and Trades (LNCAT); Dr. Indihra D. Tawantawan, Superintendent of MSU-Sultan Naga Dimaporo (SND); Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Soraida A. Esmail, CPA, Vice President for Administration and Finance.

Empowering Women in our Homes from Ramadhan to Eid

Sorhaila L. Latip-Yusoph

As Women's Month unfolds in March and International Women's Day reminds us of the strength and grace of women everywhere, it serves as a beautiful reminder to all: we are blessed with the kindest mothers, visionary women leaders, and dedicated cultural bearers who hold families and societies together with love and wisdom. In Islam, women are not merely empowered—they are honored by Allah Himself through clear guidance in the Holy Quran. This empowerment is timeless, encompassing every role a woman chooses, whether in a high-powered profession or as a devoted housewife. Both are precious gifts from Allah.

As a Muslimah in the University, I cannot help but appreciate how Islam value us women. It even celebrates women in leadership. The story of the Queen of Sheba in Surah An-Naml (27:23) showcases a wise, powerful female ruler. Her intelligence, justice, and consultative style led her people wisely—proof that leadership is not only permitted but exemplified for Muslim women.

This year's Women's Month has beautifully fallen during Ramadhan 1447, adding even deeper meaning. While families fast and reflect, mothers, like me, are often the quiet heroes in the kitchen—preparing suhoor before dawn, cooking nourishing iftar meals after sunset, and managing endless chores with patience and love, all while fasting themselves. Our tireless service during this blessed month is nothing short of worship. As a Meranav and a Muslimah, I am giving a heartfelt salute to all mothers, for this is not just appropriate—it is overdue.

In my own life, I have experienced this divine empowerment firsthand. As a woman leader at Mindanao State University, I have navigated responsibilities with confidence, knowing that Islam equips women to lead with integrity and compassion. At the same time, as a proud mother, I cherish the sacred role of nurturing my family. Both paths—leadership and motherhood—feel like gifts from Allah, each fulfilling and rewarding in its own way. Whether a woman is a professional, an entrepreneur, an educator, or a full-time homemaker, every role carries barakah (blessing) when done for the sake of Allah and family.

To all the wonderful women around the world—Muslim and non-Muslim alike—I send this warm greeting: You are the light of your homes, the strength of your communities, and the heartbeat of humanity. May Allah bless you with health, happiness, and endless opportunities to shine. Whether you lead nations, raise children, preserve cultures, or simply offer a kind word, your contributions matter eternally.

Happy Women's Month and a blessed Eid! Al Fitr to every sister—keep rising, keep nurturing, and keep inspiring. You are truly empowered.

Inklusibong Pamantasan

