



# UNIVERSITY Newsletter

Official Newsletter of the Mindanao State University - Marawi City

June 2026 (Volume 4 Issue 2- 2026)



## Unity in Motion: President Tago Sports Cup 2026 Fosters Peace and Youth Leadership

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## MSU and IBP Presidents Welcome Senior Justice Leonen

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and First Lady Sittie Norhaya Ambar-Tago, CPA, hosted a reception at the Presidential House on May 23, 2026, to welcome Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen. The welcoming delegation included Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) President Atty. Allan G. Panolong, local IBP members from Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur, Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, and the deans of the College of Law and the King Faisal Center for Islamic, Arabic, and Asian Studies.

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## About the Cover

The cover highlights the visit of Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen (center) and Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) President Atty. Allan G. Panolong (left) to the MSU-Main Campus. Welcomed by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA (right), the leaders forged an institutional collaboration to elevate the Shari'ah legal profession through national professional integration.



**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 on the first floor of the MCHC building in front of the College of Engineering, or contact us:



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# Our Newsletter Sections

## *The Story*

**MSU Talents and Beauty:** This section features timeless stories from the diverse perspectives of the university's academic and non-academic communities. It shines a spotlight on feature articles written by and about the extraordinary talents and jewels of the MSU campus.



## *The Report*

**University Activities at a Glance:** Your go-to digest for the latest news, updates, and milestones happening across the entire MSU System. It consolidates major reports and articles from various units, regional campuses, and external units.

## *The Network*

**Networking Means Generosity:** This section highlights the vital collaborations, partnerships, and linkages of MSU. It celebrates the shared generosity and commitment driving our mission to build a more progressive and responsive university.

## *The Policy*

**Policy to Note:** This section encapsulates critical institutional policies, guidelines, and directives that require widespread awareness and serious implementation across the university network.

## *The Display*

**A Picture Speaks a Thousand Words:** A dynamic visual chronicle of university activities both on and off-campus. This section uses powerful photo-essays, infographics, charts, and statistics as primary story-telling mediums to capture the vibrant life of the MSU community.



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*I believe I was destined to stand here, not just to celebrate an achievement, but to share that being a President's Lister from the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies—the first in the 56 years since its founding—is more than a milestone. It is a reminder that years of adhering to the status quo cannot restrain ambition. When we are brave enough to defy the limits set before us, we can create history.*

# Defying the Impossible: The Uncompromising Journey of Orland Philip Salvador

Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez

***How a street sweeper's son defied financial hardships to mark a historic academic milestone at MSU-Marawi.***

Five years ago, Orland Philip L. Salvador faced a choice that defines the boundary between a life dictated by circumstance and one forged by sheer will. Raised in a household sustained by a single mother working tirelessly as a street sweeper and Barangay Tanod, higher education seemed less like a milestone and more like an unaffordable luxury. He watched his siblings sacrifice their own academic aspirations just to keep the family afloat. When well-meaning voices urged him to abandon his books to find immediate work, Salvador chose a different path. He asked himself a question that would alter his family's trajectory forever: *"If not me, then who will I wait to end this cycle?"*

On the 27th of April 2026, at the International Convention Center (ICC), that defiant question found its answer. During MSU-Marawi's prestigious "Crème de la Crème" program—which honors the institution's top academic achievers for the second semester of Academic Year 2025 to 2026—Salvador took the stage not just as an honoree, but as a legend. The fourth-year BS Forestry student achieved a 1.00 GPA, marking an unprecedented academic milestone for the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES). As the first student in the college's history to achieve the prestigious distinction of President's Lister, Salvador did not just break the streak, but redefined what is possible with this remarkable academic merit.

Salvador's rise to the pinnacle of MSU's academic ranks was neither swift nor easy. It was a steady, relentless climb fueled by what he calls a "stubborn ambition." Enrolling at the university required him to "do it scared," confronting the pervasive anxiety of financial insecurity. Yet, semester by semester, his focus never wavered. He systematically advanced from the Dean's List to the Chancellor's List, ultimately reaching the highest academic honor the university can bestow.

Drawing a parallel to his chosen field of forestry, Salvador likens his personal and academic journey to that of a deciduous tree. He describes weathering harsh, unforgiving seasons that force change and adaptation, while remaining deeply rooted, resilient, and ready to thrive regardless of the external environment. For him, the 1.00 GPA and the accolades are merely a welcome bonus; the true reward was surviving the struggle and gaining the profound internal grit required to see it through.

By refusing to back down half a decade ago, Salvador has done more than secure his place in the university's history. He has effectively broken the cycle of poverty for his household, lighting a torch of opportunity that has already paved the way for his younger sister to enter the university. As he eagerly awaits graduation, Orland Philip Salvador stands as a living testament to the MSU community that history does not belong to the hesitant, but to those possessing the courage to rewrite the rules.



Orland Philip Salvador takes the stage to receive his historic academic distinction as the very first President's Lister hailing from CFES.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA during the ceremonial basketball tip-off, indicating the start of the play.

# Unity in Motion: President Tago Sports Cup 2026 Fosters Peace and Youth Leadership

**Nasimah R. Sampaco-Fayez**

When young athletes gather under a shared purpose, a sports tournament becomes more than a series of games—it becomes a bridge for community connection. This was the defining atmosphere at the MSU-Main Campus as it hosted the opening ceremony of the President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA Inter-High School Sports Cup on May 11, 2026. Organized by the MSU-Marawi Senior High School Sports Track in coordination with the MSU College of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (CSPEAR) Extension Department, the multi-day event was held under the theme, “Uniting Young Athletes Towards Peace and Prosperity.” Now in its fourth year, the annual competition functions as a framework for youth development, utilizing physical education and structured sports to foster mutual respect among student-athletes from various schools.

This year's tournament held particular significance as the inaugural edition named in honor of University President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, aligning with his institutional vision for an inclusive campus (*inklusibong pamantasan*). In his keynote address, President Tago noted that gathering young people in the spirit of excellence, unity, and healthy competition underscores the broader social utility of sports. He emphasized that these activities extend beyond showcasing athletic talent, serving to build foundational skills in discipline, confidence, and leadership. Identifying the participants as active contributors to contemporary nation-building, President Tago reminded the competitors to focus on personal growth, stating, “To all participants, may you enjoy, learn, and give your very best. Win or lose, what truly matters is the character, respect, and sportsmanship you bring throughout this event.” He then initiated the tournament with the traditional ceremonial toss.

The university administration supported the event by providing trophies and cash incentives for top performers across all divisions. Key administrators—including Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, Senior High School Director Dr. Rohanie M. Sultan, and Executive Vice President Dr. Abduldader M. Ayo—collaborated to oversee the tournament from its launch through to its conclusion on May 15, 2026. The competition featured a diverse roster of public and private institutions, including MSU-University Training Center (UTC), MSU-Integrated Laboratory School (ILS), MSU-Lanao National College of Arts and Trades (LNCAT), MSU-Marawi Senior High School (MSHS), and various MSU community high schools, alongside private schools including Ibn Siena Integrated School (ISISF), RC-AI Khwarizmi International College Foundation-Science Laboratory School (AKIC-SLS), Philippine Integrated School (PIS), Philippine Engineering and Agro-Industrial College, Inc. (PEACI), and Abedin Memorial National High School (AMNHS).

Following days of scheduled games across basketball, volleyball, and badminton categories, the tournament concluded with distinct divisional winners. In the Senior High School basketball division, ISISF secured the championship, while the MSU-UTC won the Junior High School bracket. The volleyball divisions saw MSU-LNCAT secure the men's title, while host school MSU-MSHS claimed the women's volleyball championship, led by tournament MVP Fatmah S. Etado. MSU-MSHS also recorded podium finishes in badminton, earning first runner-up in Mixed Doubles and second runner-up in Women's Doubles.



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



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



Dr. Rohanie M. Sultan  
Senior High School Director

The operational execution of the tournament was managed by the Sports 12 students, who handled daily logistics under the supervision of Tournament Director Alibasher H. Esmail and Sports Track Chairperson Prof. Lowelyn L. Mabandes. Institutional support from the Physical Plant Division, medical personnel from the MSU Hospital, and technical oversight from the CSPEAR Extension Department established a regulated and safe environment. Student volunteers and local sports clubs also assisted throughout the elimination and final rounds to maintain operational efficiency.



Volleyball Male Champion from MSU-LNCAT



MSU-SHS participants, Volleyball Female Champion

Sittie Ayyenah B. Batua-an, a student facilitator and secretary from MSU-Marawi, provided perspective on the administrative demands of the event. She noted that the student staff faced notable pressure managing an event of this scale, particularly one bearing the University President's name. According to Batua-an, resolving daily operational challenges required consistent teamwork, initiative, and resourcefulness. She also observed an elevated level of competition this year, attributing it to the participation of new student-athletes from Cagayan de Oro City. Batua-an concluded by expressing gratitude for President Tago's unscheduled attendance, which the organizing committee noted as a significant point of encouragement for the student staff. Ultimately, the 2026 Sports Cup highlighted grassroots athletic talent while reinforcing community cooperation and teamwork among the participating schools.



Ibn Siena Integrated School Team, Basketball Male Champion (Senior High School Category)



MSU-UTC participants, Basketball Male Champion (Junior High School Category)

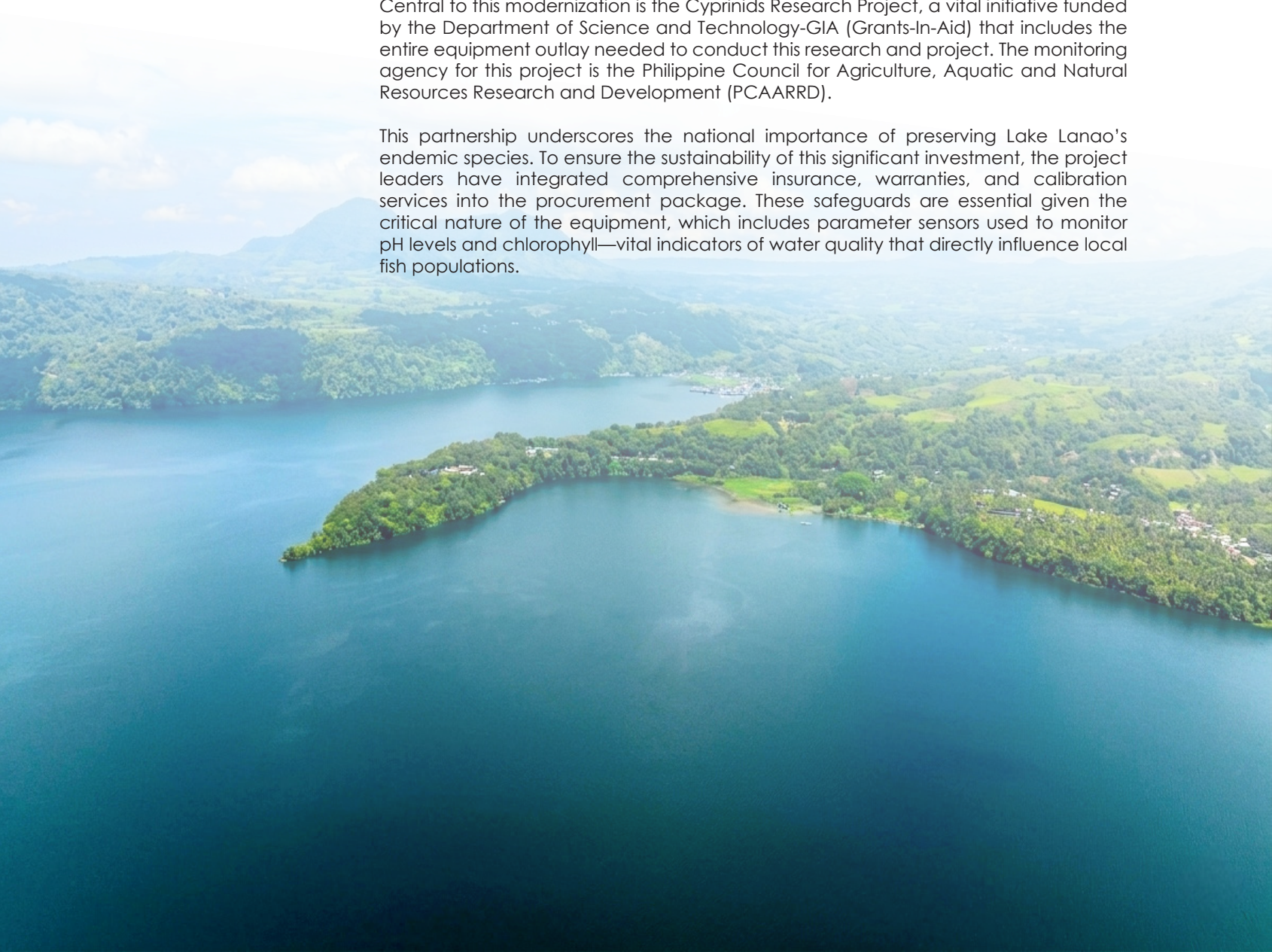
# Charting New Depths: MSU Upgrades Lake Lanao Research with Equipment Outlay

**Mohader D. Gandamato**

The waters of Lake Lanao hold secrets vital to both the environment and the local economy, and Mindanao State University is diving deeper than ever to uncover them. This past February, the MSU-College of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (MSU-CFAS) officially modernized its research capabilities following the full delivery of an almost PhP3.85-million equipment outlay. The procurement features high-specification tools designed for the “current profiling” and bathymetric mapping of Lake Lanao. Among the new assets are echo sounders, an underwater camera unit, three complete sets of professional scuba diving gear, and many more—all of which have undergone rigorous inspection and orientation in collaboration with the university’s Property and Budget divisions.

Central to this modernization is the Cyprinids Research Project, a vital initiative funded by the Department of Science and Technology-GIA (Grants-In-Aid) that includes the entire equipment outlay needed to conduct this research and project. The monitoring agency for this project is the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD).

This partnership underscores the national importance of preserving Lake Lanao’s endemic species. To ensure the sustainability of this significant investment, the project leaders have integrated comprehensive insurance, warranties, and calibration services into the procurement package. These safeguards are essential given the critical nature of the equipment, which includes parameter sensors used to monitor pH levels and chlorophyll—vital indicators of water quality that directly influence local fish populations.





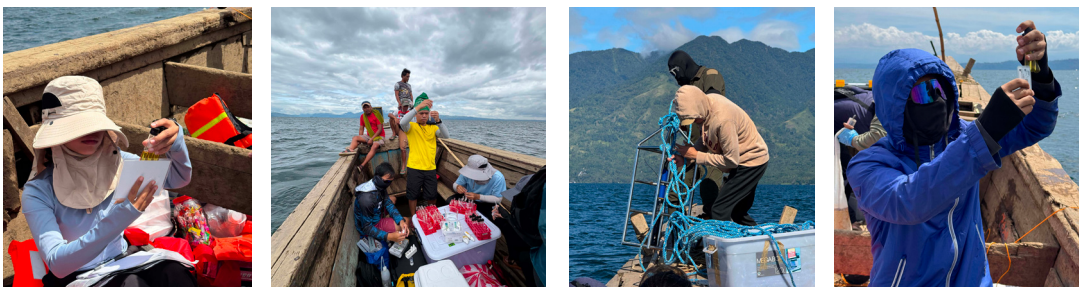
Procured equipment for Lake Lanao research project (Photo by CFAS)

Prof. Jollymar M. Capistrano, MFM, RFP, who is instrumental in the realization of this project, emphasized that these high-spec tools are already being deployed, with “refresher” training sessions underway to ensure all data collected remains accurate and scientifically sound.

Beyond faculty-led research, the new laboratory and field tools are being positioned as a resource for the entire university community. It was announced that the equipment is open to thesis advisees, graduate students, and even collaborators from any entities it can and should cater to. By opening access to these specialized tools, MSU aims to foster an interdisciplinary environment where students and researchers from various relevant fields can contribute to the preservation of the region's aquatic resources.

The ongoing assessment project is scheduled to span two years, reaching its conclusion in February 2027. Researchers, supported by the data and technical oversight provided by Prof. Capistrano, stressed that the project follows a strict “due process” that cannot be rushed, as the ultimate goal is to provide data that benefits the local economy and society without causing adverse harm to the environment. This methodical approach ensures that the final results will offer a reliable blueprint for the sustainable management of Lake Lanao's delicate ecosystem.

With the full backing of the University President, the MSU Lake Lanao Project Team faculty expressed deep gratitude for the support that has allowed them to finalize their inventory. “Finally, we can now proceed to assessment with full gears,” the faculty representative shared, expressing total confidence in the project's success. As the college moves forward with its fieldwork, the local community can expect guaranteed, evidence-based results that prioritize both environmental health and regional economic stability.



The team is assessing Lake Lanao's water quality by monitoring critical parameters, specifically pH and chlorophyll levels. (Photo by CFAS)



The Project 5 Current Profiling Team conducts a week-long SCUBA refresher and technical training activity at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-National Mariculture Center (BFAR-NMC) in preparation for the current profiling component of Lake Lanao research initiative, “Limnological Profiling of Lake Lanao towards Characterization of Endemic Cyprinids Habitat.” (Photo by CFAS)

# MSU-Main Campus OTC Unit Excels in RAATI 2026, Achieves Excellent 99.43% Rating

*Sittie Al-Jannah L. Imam*

The Mindanao State University-Main Campus ROTC Unit once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to excellence, discipline, and service during the conduct of the Regional Annual Administrative and Tactical Inspection (RAATI) 2026, held on May 21, 2026. The highly anticipated annual inspection served as a comprehensive assessment of the unit's administrative efficiency, military competence, and overall preparedness, bringing together cadets, officers, and training staff in a display of unity and professionalism. Guided by months of intensive preparation and training, the cadets showcased not only their technical skills but also the values of leadership, patriotism, and dedication that define the ROTC program.

The activity formally commenced with preliminary ceremonies that included arrival honors, a courtesy call on university officials, the Commandant's Unit Briefing, and the inspection in ranks. The program proper featured an invocation led by Major Ayonan D. Dagoroan PA (Res), Tactical Officer of the MSU-Main Campus ROTC Unit, followed by welcome remarks from Professor Abdulrasid T. Lucman, NSTP Director. A message of support was also delivered by Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, President of the MSU System, emphasizing the importance of programs that cultivate responsible and principled leadership among the youth, especially in a region striving for enduring peace and meaningful progress. He highlighted that the ROTC plays a vital role in shaping young leaders who recognize that true strength is reflected through service, integrity, and accountability to the community. Addressing the cadets, he reminded them that excellence is not attained overnight but is achieved through consistency, discipline, and strong character. The ceremony further included the formal turnover and assumption of command and control of the ROTC Unit between Colonel Tante D. Angagao INF (GSC) PA, Commandant of the MSU-Main Campus ROTC Unit, and Colonel Ian Noel P. Ignes MNSA (INF) PA, Chairman of RAATI SY 2025–2026. Members of the inspecting team were later introduced by Lieutenant Colonel Rodolfo L. Lamban Jr. (INF) PA, Administrative Officer of RAATI SY 2025–2026.

From the early hours of the morning, cadets gathered on the university grounds in complete uniform, carrying with them the discipline and confidence developed through rigorous preparation. The atmosphere reflected determination and focus as each company prepared to undergo one of the most important evaluations on the ROTC calendar.



*Moments during the Tactical Inspection conducted by the inspecting team, led by Col Ian Noel P. Ignes MNSA (INF) PA, ADC, RRA, 1st Infantry (Tabak) Division and Chairman of RAATI.*



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA with the Tactical Inspecting Team



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and MSU-NSIP Director Prof. Abdulrashid T. Lucman

The inspection was divided into two major categories: General Administration and Tactical/Field Test. Under the administrative component, the unit was assessed on records management, official communications, implementation of ROTC advocacy initiatives, compliance with directives, and overall organizational effectiveness. Through systematic coordination and efficient leadership, the MSU-Main Campus ROTC Unit earned a flawless score of 200 out of 200 points, highlighting the strength of its administrative operations and commitment to institutional standards.

The Tactical and Field Test portion of the inspection measured the cadets' military proficiency, discipline, and practical competencies through a series of demanding activities. These included the ceremonial parade, close order drill, comprehensive examinations for basic cadets, evaluation of the commandant and training staff, field stripping of the M-16A1 rifle, map reading and land navigation, platoon unit tactics, and First Aid and Basic Life Support demonstrations. Throughout every phase of the evaluation, the cadets displayed precision, coordination, and professionalism, executing commands with synchronization and discipline. Their ability to work effectively under pressure became especially evident during the military stakes and emergency response demonstrations, where teamwork and quick decision-making were essential.

As a result of their exceptional performance, the MSU-Main Campus ROTC Unit obtained an impressive score of 794.25 out of 800 points in the Tactical/Field Test category. Combined with their perfect administrative rating, the unit achieved an outstanding overall score of 994.25 out of 1,000 points, equivalent to an exceptional 99.43% rating. This achievement reflected the countless hours of preparation, sacrifice, and dedication invested by the cadets, tactical officers, and training personnel. More than a mere inspection, RAATI 2026 became a celebration of service, resilience, and patriotism, reinforcing the vital role of the ROTC in molding disciplined citizens and future leaders committed to the welfare of the nation.

As the event concluded at noon, a strong sense of pride and fulfillment was visible among the cadets and officers of the unit. The successful conduct of RAATI 2026 not only brought honor and recognition to the MSU-Main Campus ROTC Unit but also strengthened its enduring legacy of excellence within the university community and beyond. The remarkable accomplishment stands as proof of the unit's steadfast dedication to leadership, discipline, and service to the country.



Col Ian Noel P. Ignes  
MNSA (INF) PA, ADC, RRA  
1st Infantry (Tabak)  
Division  
Chairman of RAATI



Col Tante D. Angagao INF  
(GSC) PA  
Director of 1602 CDC  
MSU ROTC Commandant



Col Moh-Yusop R. Hasan  
MI (GSC) PA  
Group Commander 16  
RCDG (BARMM)  
Reserve Command  
Philippine Army



Maj Ayonan D. Dagoroan  
(PA) RES  
Tactical Officer

# MSU-Main Campus Graduate Students Trained on Academic Publishing and Global Research Impact

*Prof. Jerryk C. Alico*

The two-day workshop titled "Publishing Graduate Research: Pathways to Scholarly Impact and Global Visibility" successfully gathered graduate students and their mentors on May 15–16, 2026, at the CHTM Pavilion. The event served as a vital platform for strengthening research publication skills and promoting global academic visibility among graduate scholars.

Organized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development, in partnership with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the workshop highlighted the university's continuing commitment to advancing a strong culture of research and publication. The activity opened with a welcome address by Vice-Chancellor Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa, who emphasized the crucial role of graduate students in fortifying the university's research productivity by transforming graduate theses and dissertations into publishable scholarly works.



*Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa with the guest speakers: Prof. Nicanor L. Guinto and Prof. Rey Y. Capangpangan and some participants of the workshop*

The workshop featured distinguished research mentors: Prof. Nicanor L. Guinto, Director of the Office of Research Services at Southern Luzon State University; and Prof. Rey Y. Capangpangan, Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Global Engagement at MSU at Naawan. On the first day, Prof. Guinto facilitated discussions centered on preparing graduate research for academic publication. During the first workshop session, titled "From Thesis to Journal Article: Preparing Graduate Research for Publication," participants learned strategies for revising and restructuring theses and dissertations into publishable journal articles. He also guided participants through the standards and expectations of scholarly journals, emphasizing clarity, coherence, and research significance. Meanwhile, Prof. Capangpangan handled sessions focusing on academic writing quality, research ethics, and scholarly visibility. In his lecture on "Academic Writing and Research Integrity," he emphasized the importance of ethical scholarship, originality, and responsible research conduct.



Prof. Nicanor L. Guinto, Director of the Office of Research Services at Southern Luzon State University



Prof. Rey Y. Capangpangan, Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Global Engagement at MSU at Naawan

On the second day, Prof. Guinto delivered another session on “Journal Selection and Publication,” providing participants with practical guidance on identifying appropriate journals, understanding publication requirements, and navigating the peer-review process. His discussions helped graduate students better understand the realities and challenges of academic publishing in both local and international contexts. Meanwhile, Prof. Capangpangan facilitated the session titled “Research Visibility, Citations, and Academic Profile Development,” where he introduced participants to strategies for increasing the visibility and impact of their research outputs. The discussion covered citation practices, research indexing, academic networking platforms, and the development of professional academic profiles on ResearchGate, Google Scholar, and other platforms to strengthen their scholarly presence in the global research community.

Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, Vice Chancellor/Vice President for Academic Affairs, also graced the event on the second day and delivered an inspiring message encouraging graduate students to remain committed to research productivity and academic engagement.

The two-day workshop was supported by the university administration, led by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago whose continued support for research and graduate education initiatives has contributed to the advancement of the university's academic programs, alongside the event's working committees whose dedication, coordination, and tireless efforts ensured the successful conduct of the event. The activity concluded with active participation from graduate students and their respective thesis and dissertation advisers.



Guests and organizers of the two-day workshop



*From left to right: Dr. Jayeel S. Cornelio, DOST-Science Education Institute (SEI) Director; Dr. Aris Cerbo Larroder, West Visayas State University Research Journal Editor-in-Chief; and Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa, Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development of MSU-Main Campus*

## MSU Hosts Strategic Workshop on Global Research Excellence

**Mohader D. Gandamato**

Mindanao State University (MSU) held a specialized workshop titled “High-Impact Journals: Navigating the Process and Strategizing for Success” to help its staff reach a wider audience with their research on May 11, 2026. Organized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development (OVCREDE), the event brought together faculty and administrative personnel to focus on the goal of getting published in top-tier academic journals.

A highlight of the program was the presence of Dr. Aris Cerbo Larroder and Dr. Jayeel S. Cornelio, an expert mentors who guided participants through the complexities of the modern publishing world. The sessions moved beyond simple writing tips, focusing instead on the strategic side of research. Participants learned how to pick the right journals for their work and how to handle the rigorous standards that international editors look for today.

The workshop encouraged a hands-on approach, using group discussions and active listening sessions to share ideas. This collaborative environment allowed researchers to critique their own methods and find new ways to make their work more visible to the global community.

By hosting this event, the university is making a long-term investment in its academic reputation. The goal is to ensure that the important work being done at MSU does not just stay within the campus but contributes to global knowledge.

The workshop provided more than just information; it built a stronger community of scholars. With these new strategies in hand, the university's researchers are now better prepared to share their findings with the world, ensuring their efforts lead to lasting success and recognition.



Participants of the Basic Security and Military Training Orientation Class 01-2026

## MSU Conducts Basic Security and Military Training Orientation Class 01-2026

Mindanao State University-Main Campus conducted the Basic Security and Military Training Orientation Class 01-2026, a comprehensive program designed to instill discipline, safety awareness, and civic duty among its participants. The training focused on equipping the class with foundational security skills and preparing them for institutional service responsibilities.

In his message, MAJ Jabbar A. Pangandaman (INF) PA, the Security Adviser and Training Director, emphasized the importance of the program in building operational discipline, leadership, and security readiness. Following this, 1LT Rogarciano C. Guinggue III PA (RES), the University Marshall and Course Director, formally presented the trainees and introduced the training staff tasked with supervising the class's development.

Engr. Mohammad M. Mustapha, MPA, Director of the University Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, served as the keynote speaker. He highlighted the vital link between military orientation, disaster readiness, and campus resilience, noting that well-trained individuals serve as critical assets to the community during emergencies.

Throughout the training period, the participants engaged in a series of lectures, practical drills, and performance evaluations. The successful conclusion of the orientation class on May 7, 2026, marks a significant step in strengthening the university's campus security framework and fostering a culture of preparedness and civic responsibility among its personnel and trainees.



Engr. Mohammad M. Mustapha, MPA  
Director of the University Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office



MAJ Jabbar A. Pangandaman (INF) PA  
Security Adviser and Training Director



1LT Rogarciano C. Guinggue III PA (RES)  
University Marshall and Course Director



Taha M. Mandangan  
Director of the Department of Security Services Department/  
Fire Department

# MSU-CHS Upgrades Clinical Training with New Lab Equipments

**Mohader D. Gandamato**

The Mindanao State University - College of Health Sciences (MSU-CHS) recently upgraded its training facilities with the delivery of new medical equipment during the second week of March 2026. A key part of this arrival is the "Super Chloe," an advanced patient care mannequin worth 1.9 million pesos. To ensure the equipment was in perfect condition, a formal inspection was held in the final week of March with officials from the University Property Office, the Budget Office, and the Commission on Audit (COA).

"So, i mentioned to the president that we really need mannequins for the training of our students, since it is a requirement for COPC, the Certificate Program for Compliance, so that our students can take the Nurse's Licensure Examination" Dr. Lawi expressing her gratitude to the MSU-System President. The project was made possible through the support of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago. Following the President's approval.

The Property Division recorded the delivery of 12 mechanical hospital beds with IV poles, 12 bedside cabinets, 12 overbed tables, 12 footstools, and a new delivery bed. These items are essential for the college to meet its accreditation requirements and to ensure that nursing and midwifery students are well-prepared for their board examinations.

"They can be utilized already by faculty members who have undergone training of the Super Chloe advanced adult patient care for the students consumption and learning" Dr. Lawi added.

The Super Chloe mannequin is expensive and needs careful handling, staff from Sterling Scientific Marketing provided special training to the faculty. Professors learned how to operate the mannequin and how to maintain it, only faculty members who finished this training and received certificates are allowed to use the mannequin for student demonstrations and practice.

"We are very thankful, you know, it would be utilized by our students, not only the MSU students but together with the other allied health courses" said the College Dean.

These new tools will benefit both undergraduate students and those in the graduate nursing programs. The university has already approved plans to buy more mannequins in the coming semesters to further improve the college's laboratories. By providing this modern equipment, MSU-CHS continues its commitment to giving students the practical skills they need for successful careers in healthcare.



*Featured above are some of the newly purchased laboratory equipment within the upgraded clinical training facility of the College of Health Sciences.*

# Heads of MSU Cultural Offices Take Oath as NCAA National Committee Executive Members

**Ayesha Merdeka Alonto**



In the photos are the oath taking ceremony of Aga Khan Museum Director Dr. Linang M. Cabugatan (left photo) and MSU-MCHC Head Ayesha Merdeka Alonto (right photo) as executive members of NCCA National Committee on April 14 and 16, 2026 at Metropolitan Theater in Manila. (Photo by MCHC)

Mindanao State University (MSU) continues to affirm its leadership in cultural heritage and governance as two of its distinguished representatives, Ayesha Merdeka Alonto and Dr. Linang M. Cabugatan, formally took their oaths as executive members of national committees under separate subcommissions of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA). These appointments reinforce the university's role in shaping national cultural policy and programs.

At the Metropolitan Theater in Manila, Ayesha Merdeka M. Alonto, Head of the Meranaw Cultural Heritage Center, took her oath on April 14, 2026, before NCCA Chairman and Executive Director Dr. Eric B. Zerrudo. She will serve as an executive member of the Subcommission on Cultural Communities and Traditional Arts (SCCTA) under the National Committee on Southern Cultural Communities for the 2026–2028 term. She serves in this capacity by virtue of her unanimous election as Head of the Meranaw Cluster, reflecting the strong confidence of her peers in her leadership and advocacy for Meranaw heritage.

Meanwhile, on April 16, 2026, Dr. Linang M. Cabugatan, Director of the Aga Khan Museum, took her oath at the same venue before Dr. Zerrudo. She will serve as an executive member under the Subcommission on Museums, specifically on the National Committee on Museums, representing the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

Dr. Cabugatan previously served the NCCA as a member of the National Committee on Monuments and Sites (2024–2026), where she contributed to heritage conservation and policy development. Her continued engagement highlights her expertise in museum leadership and the promotion of inclusive, regionally grounded narratives.



MSU-MCHC Head Ayesha Merdeka Alonto with the other executive members of NCCA National Committee (Photo by MCHC)

The appointments of Alonto and Cabugatan underscore MSU's sustained commitment to cultural stewardship, academic excellence, and public service, ensuring that Mindanao and BARMM perspectives remain integral to the country's cultural agenda.

# MSU, PSNEI Mobilize Mindanao Educators for National Development

*Nasrimah R. Sampaco-Fayez*

From April 9–11, 2026, the CHTM Pavilion at MSU-Main Campus became the focal point for regional civic education as it hosted the 2nd PSNEI Mindanao Trainers' Training Conference-Workshop. In partnership with the Philippine Society of NSTP Educators and Implementers, Inc. (PSNEI), the three-day initiative brought together National Service Training Program (NSTP) personnel from Regions 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and the BARMM. Guided by the theme "Transforming Mindanao Educators and Implementers from Volunteerism to Action Towards National Development," the gathering aimed to realign volunteer efforts into structural civic action.

The conference opened by grounding its objectives in local culture through the MSU Sining Kambayoka Ensemble's performance of the "Bangsamoro Dance," which illustrated the shared pursuit of peace among Mindanao's Muslim, Lumad, and Christian communities. Following an operational overview of the training by Aldrin D. Dais and the introduction of regional delegates, institutional leaders outlined the roadmap for the event. Dr. Abdulkader M. Ayo, representing MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. Tago, CPA, reaffirmed the university's focus on progressive civic programs, while Dr. Carmelo John E. Vidal addressed the mechanics of youth engagement and collaboration.

The core discussions centered on civic responsibility and regional stability. Hon. Jamil Faisal S. Adiong delivered a keynote address focused on community empowerment, which transitioned into a specialized panel discussion titled "Fostering Security Culture: Preventing Extremism in Mindanao." During this session, Dr. Acram A. Latiph and Ustadh Eisa Q. Javier analyzed how peace education, interfaith dialogue, and community resilience serve as direct deterrents to violent extremism, emphasizing that security is a collective educational responsibility.

The daily sessions were organized and moderated by Dr. Cecille D. Quijano, who managed Days 1 and 3, and Prof. Sandie May A. Eguia, who led Day 2. By establishing a practical framework for interregional cooperation, the conference concluded with a clear strategy for participating regions to upgrade their local NSTP delivery. The joint initiative establishes a precedent for how academic networks and regional chapters can collaborate to translate civic volunteerism into measurable national development and sustainable peace.



Some Attendees, organizers, and guests share a photo opportunity during the 2nd PSNEI Mindanao Trainers' Training Conference-Workshop, marking another milestone for the university's commitment to community service and civic leadership.

# MSU Upgrades Campus Covered Walks

Mohader D. Gandamato



Newly renovated campus covered walkway leading to the Annex Buildings

Mindanao State University (MSU) has entered a phase of its infrastructure modernization, with the renovation of university covered walks scheduled for completion this April 2026. Initiated in November 2025 as a pillar of President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago's priority projects, the initiative utilizes a cost-efficient model led by the Infrastructure Planning and Design Committee (IPDC), which undertakes the design and implementation, in close coordination with the Physical Plant Division (PPD), with the budget allocated strictly for materials.



Closer view of the newly renovated campus covered walkway

Following the successful ongoing restoration of the Annex-CPA pathway, the team is now transitioning to the Library-Annex stretch. In a move to harmonize utility with heritage, President Tago mandated the integration of Okir designs into the structures, a distinct Meranaw cultural signature, while maintaining the university's primary colors to reinforce institutional identity. The project has garnered widespread acclaim from the student body, particularly after

recent progress was showcased on social media. AbdulHakem C. Ombar, a third-year Marketing student, emphasized that the renovations provide more than just aesthetic value, citing it increased safety and financial relief.

"It is a huge help, especially during heavy rains, the renovation serves as an assurance against injuries from falling tree branches," Ombar noted. "It's also a matter of convenience, I no longer have to pay pedicab fares because I can walk feeling secure. I want to extend my gratitude to the System President for showing he truly cares about the voices of the students."

With the current renovations nearing their end, the administration plans to pivot toward constructing entirely new walkways to further expand the campus' pedestrian network.

# MSU-Marawi Participates in 39th AACCCUP Annual National Conference and General Assembly

*Ian John Belgira*

The Mindanao State University-Main Campus, Marawi City reaffirmed its commitment to excellence and continuous improvement as it participated in the 39th Annual National Conference and General Assembly of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCCUP) held on March 24 - 26, 2026 at the Century Park Hotel, Manila.

The three-day gathering convened presidents, chancellors, campus administrators, directors, and quality assurance personnel from over 100 state universities and colleges (SUCs) across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. The conference served as a vital platform for dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of best practices in advancing quality assurance systems in Philippine higher education.

Representing the University are UQAO Director, Dr. Richard S. Celeste, together with Special Assistant Mr. Ian John Belgira. Their participation underscores the University's strong adherence to its mandate of ensuring quality, accountability, and relevance in all its academic and administrative processes.

The conference was graced by the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Hon. Shirley C. Agrupis, who delivered a compelling keynote address emphasizing the urgency of developing a unified understanding of "quality" that is responsive to contemporary realities. In the same address, Chair Agrupis introduced the CHED ACHIEVE Agenda 2030, a seven-point strategic framework (2025–2030) designed to modernize Philippine higher education through advanced learning systems, data-driven governance, and strengthened internationalization.

The conference featured a series of high-level discussions led by distinguished experts in the field. Among these was Simon Gathua, who spoke on "Quality Assurance: Harnessing Science and Technology, Learning and Institutional Performance," highlighting the role of innovation in driving institutional excellence. Meanwhile, former CHED Commissioner Hon. Lilian A. De Las Llagas delivered insights on "Building a Framework for Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Engagement and Involvement as Drivers of Excellence," underscoring the importance of stakeholder participation in quality assurance processes.



*MSU-Main Campus delegates alongside other participants during the 39th AACCCUP National Conference and General Assembly. (Photo by UQAO)*



UQAO Director Dr. Richard S. Celeste and Special Assistant Mr. Ian John Belgira (Photo by UQAO)

Further enriching the discourse, Dr. Christine Nabor-Ferrer presented on “Advancing Quality Assurance: Fostering International Collaboration and Partnerships,” emphasizing the need for global linkages to elevate institutional standards. A panel discussion featuring representatives from Visayas State University, Bohol Island State University, Sulu State University, and Bicol University showcased best practices and experiences in advancing quality assurance in research, science, and technology for transformative and sustainable education.

A key highlight of the event was the unveiling of the AACUP Accreditation Instrument Version 3.0, presented by select AACUP accreditors. This new framework aspires to align Philippine accreditation standards with global benchmarks, signaling a progressive shift toward international competitiveness.

Anchored in the 9-Point Agenda of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA, MSU-Main Campus' active participation in such national and international platforms reflects its steadfast commitment to institutional excellence. The University recognizes that quality assurance is not a solitary pursuit but a collaborative endeavor that necessitates external validation, benchmarking, and continuous learning.

Guided by its mandate, UQAO continues to advance initiatives that strengthen institutional systems and processes, ensuring that the University delivers responsive, relevant, and high-quality services to its constituents and broader spheres of influence. As MSU aspires to be at par with leading global universities, engagements such as the AACUP conference provide valuable opportunities to align its standards with international best practices.

As aptly emphasized by Chair Agrupis, “If higher education is the ecosystem, then quality assurance is what keeps it aligned, accountable, and ultimately, transformative.” Indeed, for Mindanao State University-Main Campus, the pursuit of quality remains an ongoing journey - one that calls for stronger collaboration, deeper reflection, and sustained commitment. There is, without doubt, more work ahead.



MSU-Main Campus representatives, UQAO Director Dr. Richard S. Celeste and Special Assistant Mr. Ian John Belgira, share a table with chancellors and representatives from various MSU campuses. With them are Chancellor Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan (MSU-IIT), Chancellor Dr. Mary Joyce Z. Guinto-Sali (MSU-TCTO), Chancellor Dr. Nagder J. Abdulrahman (MSU-Sulu), and Chancellor Dr. Shiela G. Magolama (MSU-Zamboanga Sibugay). (Photo by UQAO)



# THE PRES

## Significant

MARCH  
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### MARCH 23, 2026

#### President Tago Leads Audit of MSU Office Issued-Vehicles

Demonstrating a hands-on approach to administrative oversight, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA recently initiated a comprehensive inspection and inventory of university-issued vehicles stationed outside the Administration Building.

The activity, conducted by the Property Office, focused specifically on vehicles assigned to various administrative and academic offices. By personally overseeing the inspection, President Tago underscored the administration's commitment to accountability and the systematic management of government-owned assets.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA personally oversees the audit of office issued vehicle to ensure administrative accountability.

### MARCH 27, 2026

#### MSU System BOR Executive Committee Meets in Manila to Tackle Key System-Wide Issues

The Executive Committee Meeting of the MSU System Board of Regents was held at the Grand Westside Hotel in Aseana City, Manila, Philippines. The meeting focused on discussing important system-wide matters, including issues raised by the student, faculty, and alumni sectoral representatives. Participants also thoroughly reviewed financial and fiscal concerns, academic, research, extension, and administrative matters, as well as the President's Quarterly Report presented by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA.

The gathering served as a key preparatory session for the full Board of Regents En Banc meeting, allowing university officials, regents, and representatives to align on strategic priorities, address stakeholder concerns, and ensure sound financial management across the MSU System. Outcomes from these discussions are expected to shape important policies and decisions in the upcoming plenary session.



A photo opportunity with the members of the MSU System BOR Executive Committee during their meeting at the Grand Westside Hotel in Aseana City, Manila.

# PRESIDENT'S Milestone



# 31

**MARCH 31, 2026**

### **MSU System Holds 274th BOR Meeting**

The MSU System held its 274th Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting on March 31, 2026, at the CHED Conference Room, HEDC Building, UP Diliman, Quezon City, to discuss policies and strategic matters concerning the university system. MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, attended the BOR En Banc meeting, which was presided over by Hon. Shirley C. Agrupis (MSU-BOR Chairperson).

Joining the President were Campus Chancellors Hon. Alizedney M. Ditucalan, Hon. Mary Joyce Z. Guinto-Sali, and Hon. Shidik T. Abantas; Sectoral Regents Hon. Samuel B. Sabenecio, Hon. Norhayna Eryll D. Madale-Unte, and Hon. Humphrey L. Ducalas; other Regents from various national and regional offices, including Hon. Amina Rasul Bernardo and Hon. Gracita R. Jacinto-Ali; and University and BOR OIC Secretary Atty. Norajannah D. Lantud, SCL.

Several regents were represented by their proxies: Hon. Loren C. Legarda (by Atty. Asmenah M. Barambangan), Hon. Rolando U. Toledo (by USec. Wilford Will L. Wong), and Hon. Arsenio M. Balisacan (by USec. Carlos Bernardo O. Abad Santos). This high-level gathering underscores the continued commitment of national and regional leaders to the development and governance of the MSU System, with major financial, fiscal, and academic matters given utmost priority during the deliberations.



Hon. Shirley C. Agrupis (CHED and MSU-BOR Chairperson)



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA shakes hands with USec. Carlos Bernardo O. Abad Santos.



Some MSU officials, led by System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, gather to celebrate the 57th Anniversary of the Aga Khan Museum.

## APRIL 6, 2026

### President Tago Graces Aga Khan Museum's 57th Anniversary Celebration

Honoring over five and a half decades of dedication to preserving and promoting the rich cultural legacy of the Bangsamoro people, the Aga Khan Museum of MSU-Main Campus celebrated its 57th Founding Anniversary on April 6, 2026. The event, held at the Aga Khan Museum Lobby, was themed: "Aga Khan Museum at 57: Celebrating the Timeless Influence of the Museum as a Steward of Culture and Heritage."

In her welcome address, Dr. Linang M. Cabugatan, the Museum Director, set a proud and celebratory tone, stating that fifty-seven years is not just a milestone of time, but a testament to resilience as guardians of Bangsamoro identity. MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, graced the event and delivered an insightful inspirational message highlighting the museum's enduring impact.

A key part of the program was the acknowledgment of the museum's dedicated workforce, where a special recognition was given to the Top 5 Regular Employees and the Top 5 Contractual staff, commending their tireless efforts.



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



Dr. Linang M. Cabugatan  
Aga Khan Museum Director



Dr. Ibrahim H. Aliponto  
Senior University Museum Researcher



From left to right: Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development Dr. Oding L. Maamor, JD; MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA; and University Registrar Dr. Ansano M. Ampog

## APRIL 15, 2026

### President Tago Presides Over Council Meeting En Banc at CHTM Pavilion

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, spearheaded the MSU Council Meeting En Banc on April 15 at the CHTM Pavilion, leading university officials and college deans in addressing key academic updates. President Tago directed the primary focus of the session toward the official presentation and review of the candidates for graduation for the current semester. Under his leadership, the council verified these lists to ensure all students met the necessary institutional requirements to receive their diplomas and participate in the commencement exercises.

Beyond graduation preparations, President Tago guided the council through deliberations regarding proposed new program offerings aimed at expanding the university's curriculum and addressing regional professional needs. His oversight allowed the council to thoroughly review the merits of these courses before they advanced further into the administrative process. Ultimately, President Tago's leadership during this vital en banc session served to uphold MSU's high academic standards, safeguard institutional integrity, and support the university's continuous pursuit of excellence.



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



From left to right: CFAS Dean Dr. Ma-an M. Camarin; MSU-ISED Dean Dr. Salamah M. Basher; and CSPEAR Dean Dr. Mirian P. Aman

**APRIL 27, 2026**

**Crème de la Crème: MSU-Main Campus Celebrates Academic Achievers and Faculty Oath-Taking in Joint Ceremony**

MSU-Main Campus highlighted its commitment to academic excellence and unified governance on April 27, 2026, as the MSU International Convention Center hosted back-to-back ceremonies for its top student achievers and faculty members. MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA, took center stage throughout the day, personally officiating the institutional milestones and challenging both scholars and educators to use their roles to uplift the nation.



MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA with some university officials and Crème de la Crème honorees

The day commenced with the Crème de la Crème 2026 recognition program, an annual event organized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. The ceremony honored Dean's Listers, Chancellor's Listers, and President's Listers for the second semester of Academic Year 2025–2026. Among the standout honorees was Orland Philip L. Salvador, a BS Forestry student who achieved 1.00 GPA and delivered the response speech on behalf of the student body. The ceremony recognized the collective efforts of the student awardees alongside the university administrators, college deans, faculty, staff, and parents who supported them.

During her address, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga reminded the students that academic success is a continuous commitment rather than a final destination. She noted that the award is a challenge to aim even higher, emphasizing that being an achiever extends beyond a single semester or academic year and requires a dedication to lifelong learning and continuous improvement.



President Tago commends the student honorees, emphasizing that as *Iskolar ng Bayan*, their education is a direct investment made by the Filipino people.



Outstanding student achievers ascend the stage to receive their certificates of recognition and medals in celebration of their dedication and hardwork.



Vice Chancellor Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga reminds the students that academic success demands continuous commitment.



University leadership stands alongside newly appointed and promoted faculty members representing various external campuses during their special oath-taking ceremony.



Faculty delegates from across the external campuses raise their hands in unison to take their solemn oath of office, ushering in a new chapter of collaborative growth and educational excellence.



Newly appointed and promoted faculty members from different MSU campuses

President Tago directly addressed the student honorees, reminding them that as *Iskolar ng Bayan*, their education represents a significant investment by the Filipino public. He stressed that academic performance and medals must be paired with a genuine commitment to serve the community. President Tago stated that talent and recognition are not enough, emphasizing that the country requires individuals who are willing to use their knowledge, skills, and privilege to serve, lead, and sacrifice for the benefit of others.

The event also served as the venue for a Special Oath-Taking Ceremony for faculty members who traveled to Marawi City from various external campuses, including MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology, MSU-General Santos, and MSU-Zamboanga Sibugay. President Tago personally administered the oath to the faculty members, emphasizing the centralized leadership and solidarity of the MSU System. The induction was witnessed by campus chancellors Atty. Alizedney M. Ditucalan, Atty. Shidik T. Abantas, and Dr. Sheila G. Magolama, who stood alongside their respective faculty members.

By simultaneously celebrating the "Crème de la Crème" student achievers and hosting the official faculty oath-taking under the leadership of President Tago, the MSU System reaffirmed its mission to maintain high scholastic standards. These consecutive programs strengthen the university's academic foundation and foster a campus culture centered on regional development, social responsibility, and public service across Mindanao.

**APRIL 28, 2026**

**President Tago Leads Release of CHED-TDP Grants to 658 MSU-Main Campus Students**

On April 28, 2026, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA personally awarded financial grants to 658 qualified students during the distribution of the Commission on Higher Education – Tulong Dunong Program (CHED-TDP) at the International Convention Center. This benefit economically disadvantaged but academically deserving grantees from the first semester of Academic Year 2024–2025. His direct involvement highlights the administration's commitment to supporting inclusive and accessible higher education by easing the cost of tertiary schooling for MSU scholars.

To ensure the orderly release of the checks, President Tago was assisted by Atty. Jayneveb A. Recentes-Magolama, Director of the MSU-Main Campus Scholarship Center, alongside the Cashier's Office headed by Muhammad Zuhair L. Gani, CPA. The collaborative effort allowed the university to efficiently process the financial aid, reinforcing the institution's mandate to support its students.

Through President Tago's leadership in facilitating these national programs, MSU-Main Campus continues to secure vital financial pathways for students striving to complete their degrees.



President Tago stands with the CHED-TDP grantees who received their financial stipends during the distribution ceremony.

**President Tago Champions Community Collaboration in Kumustahan sa mga Ka-Barangay Dialogue**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led top university officials in a direct community dialogue during the “Kumustahan sa mga Ka-Barangay” event held at the College of Public Affairs (CPA) Amphitheatre. Actively driving the university's engagement with its surrounding host communities, President Tago used the platform to hold open discussions with barangay leaders and residents regarding local needs, livelihood opportunities, and shared campus concerns. His presence underscored an ongoing administrative effort to transform the university's relationship with its immediate neighbors into a proactive partnership for mutual progress.

In his address, President Tago emphasized that genuine grassroots engagement is central to MSU's broader mission of inclusive development, peacebuilding, and quality education across Mindanao. He noted that the university must look beyond its academic functions and serve as a reliable partner in community progress. This perspective was echoed by CPA Dean Dr. Aisah G. Minukon, who highlighted the university's institutional commitment to aiding its host communities through targeted instruction, research, and extension services.

To formalize this shared vision, President Tago joined the barangay representatives and university officials in a symbolic commitment signing organized by the Community Relations Office (CRO). By signing the official commitment wall, all parties pledged to maintain this dialogue as a regular platform for cooperation. Through this initiative, President Tago solidifies the university's role as an active, responsive institution dedicated to the long-term development of its host barangays.



President Tago with other resource persons during the Kumustahan sa mga Ka-Barangay Dialogue

**APRIL 30, 2026**

**MSU System Officials Convene for Policy Harmonization Meeting**

Officials and representatives from the MSU System gathered at the Mallberry Suites Business Hotel on April 30, 2026, for a System-Wide Policy Harmonization Meeting. The event focused on aligning policies, systems, and institutional practices across all campuses within the MSU System.

The meeting was attended by various system and campus officials headed by System President, Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA. The primary goal was to establish a structured pathway toward harmonization to ensure university policies remain coherent and reflective of the institution's collective direction.

Discussions were organized into five major policy clusters. The Administrative cluster, led by the Executive Vice President Prof. Abdulcader M. Ayo, PhD, JD, ShL, reviewed governance and operational policies. Topics included the signing authorities of campus heads, strategic planning for ISO certification, internationalization, and the development of safety and anti-sexual harassment codes. The cluster also introduced the establishment of a unified IPDM standard and the Panginam Healing and Wellness Center.

The Planning and Development cluster was facilitated by the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Planning and Development. This session addressed organizational structures, staffing patterns, and the Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP). A key priority identified was the standardization of nomenclature for officials, offices, and academic units across the system to maintain consistency.

Academic policies were presented by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, headed by Prof. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, PhD. This cluster focused on the System Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE), faculty workload, thesis guidelines, and the creation of unified manuals for both students and faculty. The discussions emphasized the use of data-driven approaches to meet national education priorities.

The Financial cluster, overseen by the Office of the Vice President for Administration and Finance, led by Soraida A. Esmail, CPA, DM, addressed financial governance and literacy. The discussions highlighted the standardization of finance manuals and the preparation of financial agendas for BOR meetings. Coordination with oversight agencies, specifically the Commission on Audit (COA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), was also a point of focus.

The Research and Extension cluster was led Vice President for Research and Extension Engr. Glen A. Lorenzo, PhD. Officials reviewed policies concerning research productivity, incentives, intellectual property, and publication systems. The group worked toward harmonizing research manuals and guidelines for authorship to support faculty and student engagement in research activities.

The meeting concluded with an open discussion where campus representatives shared insights and raised concerns regarding the proposed unified framework. This harmonization initiative is part of the university's effort to improve institutional effectiveness and deliver consistent services across the entire MSU System.



Delegates and key stakeholders of the MSU System, led by President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, convene during the policy harmonization initiative to deliver consistent services system-wide.



President Tago engages in an open discussion with the Chancellors of MSU campuses to share insights and align operational guidelines.

**MAY 7, 2026**

**President Tago Presides Over Faculty Oath-Taking for MSU-LNCAT and MSU-SND**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led a formal ceremony at the ETC Café on May 7, 2026, to administer the oaths of office to faculty members from MSU-LNCAT and MSU-SND. The event marked the official confirmation of permanent tenure, probationary appointments, and promotions for the teaching staff of both campuses. President Tago was accompanied by First Lady Sittie Norhaya Ambar-Tago and other university officials, signaling the central administration's direct involvement in finalizing these personnel actions.

The approval of these appointments strengthens the local leadership of MSU-LNCAT Superintendent Cairany D. Dia Gandamra and MSU-SND Superintendent Dr. Indhira D. Tawantawan. By securing these official designations, President Tago has enabled both campuses to stabilize their academic workforces and focus on delivering educational services to students across Lanao and neighboring regions. This joint milestone reflects the system's current efforts to prioritize the professional security and advancement of its educators.



Newly appointed and promoted faculty members from the MSU-LNCAT and MSU-SND campuses officially take their oath of office before University President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA.

**MAY 11, 2026**

**President Tago Leads Inter-High School Sports Cup 2026 for Peace and Unity**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, championed youth leadership and regional unity by launching the Inter-High School Sports Cup 2026, held from May 11 to May 15 at MSU-Main Campus Under the theme "Uniting Young Athletes Towards Peace and Prosperity," the fourth edition of the tournament marked the first time the event was named in honor of the President, directly reflecting his *inklusibong pamantasan* (inclusive university) agenda.

President Tago delivered an inspiring keynote address, reminding student-athletes that they are active partners in nation-building and emphasizing that character, respect, and sportsmanship matter far more than winning, before performing the ceremonial toss to open the games. Demonstrating his concrete support for youth development, his office provided trophies and cash incentives for all major placement winners across the basketball, volleyball, and badminton categories, driving a successful five-day competition that brought together private and community schools in the spirit of peace and camaraderie.



MSUS President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, with Vice Chancellor Dr. Minerva-Saminah Mambuay-Naga, MSU-SHS Director Dr. Rohanie M. Sultan, and the organizers of Inter-High School Sports Cup 2026



The fresh cohort of newly appointed permanent employees of MSU-Main Campus stand alongside university leadership following their official oath-taking.

### President Tago Administers Oaths to Newly Appointed Permanent Employees at MSU-Main Campus

Continuing his proactive drive to fortify the university's workforce, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, officially administered the oaths of office to a fresh cohort of newly appointed permanent employees at the MSU-Main Campus. The mass oath-taking ceremony was held on May 11, 2026, at the CHTM Pavilion.

It was noted that during his first few months in office, President Tago has consistently emphasized that regularizing the university workforce is a vital step toward ensuring long-term institutional stability. He always highlights that providing job security to deserving personnel rewards their hard work and elevates the overall quality of educational and administrative services. During the ceremony, he challenged the new appointees to maintain high standards of professionalism and to remain dedicated to the core mission of the institution.

This mass regularization highlights President Tago's ongoing commitment to employee welfare and workforce stabilization. By prioritizing the security of its educators and support personnel, the administration continues to build a stronger, more motivated community dedicated to serving Marawi City and the surrounding regions.



President Tago addresses the new appointees, challenging them to maintain high standards of professionalism and remain dedicated to the university's core mission.



President Tago congratulates the newly regularized personnel, reinforcing the administration's commitment to employee welfare.

**MAY 13, 2026**

**MSU Officially Reopens Renovated Dimaporo Gymnasium**

MSU-Main Campus held a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 13, 2026 to mark the official reopening of the Dimaporo Gymnasium. The rehabilitation project, which began in April 2025 under the administration of the late President Atty. Basari D. Mapupuno, was formally turned over by Engr. Salic Mangotara of DCM Construction. The turnover followed a thorough review process to ensure the gymnasium met high-quality standards.

Comprehensive upgrades include the repair of the leaking roofing system, interior and exterior repainting, and the modernization of the holding area, audio-visual center, and athletic sections. The project also included the refurbishment of all restrooms, the installation of two water tanks, new windows and grills, a replacement main entrance gate and repair of some side gates, and the addition of two hostels situated below the stage.

In his message, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA announced that additional improvements are planned, including the installation of electric fans for better ventilation, upgraded lighting, and a modern sound system. He emphasized that the gymnasium is a vital asset designed to benefit the public, particularly the faculty and students.

CSPEAR Dean Prof. Miriam P. Aman accepted the facility on behalf of the college, expressing her gratitude to the President and the administration.



CSPEAR Dean Prof. Miriam P. Aman (second from right) accepts the official documents for the newly renovated Dimaporo Gymnasium from Engr. Salic Mangotara of DCM Construction during the turnover ceremony, alongside MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA and Property Office Director Dr. Juhary Pangandaman.

“As the primary end users of the facility, we will be taking care of this facility to the best purpose of its potential. The gymnasium will serve its purpose in all physical activities and sporting endeavors,” Dean Aman stated.

The event marks a significant step in the university's commitment to providing high-quality infrastructure. The administration confirmed that the facility is now open for use, subject to established university guidelines. This renovation reflects the university's efforts to support the academic, physical, and wellness needs of its constituents through improved campus facilities.



Interior upgrades of the Dimaporo Gymnasium rehabilitation project, showcasing the newly refurbished restroom facilities (left), the fully renovated indoor court and bleachers (middle), and the newly installed hostel accommodations below the stage (right).

**MAY 13-14, 2026**

**President Tago Champions Academic Excellence and Upgrades Facilities at MSU-Main Campus Sindangan Extension**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, accompanied by a delegation of university officials, graced the celebration of academic achievers at the MSU-Main Campus Sindangan Extension on May 14, 2026, during the Crème de la Crème recognition ceremony at the Sindangan Cultural and Sports Complex in Zamboanga del Norte. President Tago delivered a powerful keynote address to the institution's top-performing students—specifically those named to the President's and Chancellor's Lists, alongside successful board exam passers—emphasizing that academic honors represent the discipline to persevere through pressure and fatigue. He challenged the awardees to look beyond their grades, reminding them that true excellence is ultimately measured by a graduate's commitment to principled service and nation-building. His presence, alongside Campus Director Dr. Florencio D. Recoleta Jr., and Sindangan Mayor Hon. Glona G. Labadlabad, underscored the vital partnership between the university and the municipal government in keeping quality education accessible to local families.



From L to R: MSU-MCSE Campus Director Dr. Florencio D. Recoleta Jr., MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and Sindangan Mayor Glona G. Labadlabad

President's Lister Danfe Lean Grace R. Elopre (left) and Chancellor's Lister Jan Mari Duhaylungsod (right) receive honors from MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA

Following the recognition ceremony, President Tago actively transitioned from honoring academic success to evaluating campus development by conducting a comprehensive tour of the MSU-Main Campus Sindangan Extension (MSU-MCSE) facilities. Guided by Dr. Recoleta and other local campus officials, the President personally inspected the infrastructure and reviewed the extension's day-to-day operations. This hands-on engagement allowed President Tago to secure a firsthand assessment of the campus's immediate resources and challenges, reinforcing his administration's concrete commitment to upgrading the quality of education and infrastructure across all campuses within the MSU System.

President Tago's collaborative visit also provided a meaningful backdrop for the awardees and alumni who shared their testimonies during the program. High achievers like Chancellor's Lister Jan Mari Duhaylungsod (3rd Year BS Mechanical Engineering) and President's Lister Danfe Lean Grace R. Elopre (2nd Year BS Psychology) spoke about overcoming complex coursework and financial hurdles, while graduate board passers Engr. Aaron A. Mateo, Engr. Joseph Tulabing, and Prof. Ronnie Bandivas Jr. offered proof of the campus's high academic standards. The event, which concluded with a charge to lead and serve from Batch Lawig 2025 Valedictorian Prof. Decee Montilla Jr., highlighted a successful day of administrative oversight and academic celebration driven by the President's vision for regional development.



Above are moments from the welcome dinner (left) and campus tour (middle and right) of the MSU System President and university officials at the MSU-Main Campus Sindangan Extension.



President Tago with the faculty, staff, and students of MSU-Lopez Jaena Community High School during his campus visit

**MAY 15, 2026**

**President Tago Connects with Community Campuses During Surprise Visits to MSU-Lopez Jaena CHS and MSU-MCEST**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, accompanied by a delegation of high-ranking university officials, made an impromptu series of campus stops on May 15, 2026, reinforcing his administration's active interest in the welfare of all MSU units. The unplanned visits provided the system administration with a spontaneous, firsthand look at the daily operations and environments of the university's community campuses. This casual approach allowed the President to engage directly with the grassroots components of the MSU System outside the structure of a formal inspection.

The delegation first stopped at the MSU-Lopez Jaena Community High School, where they were warmly received by the students, faculty, and staff under the leadership of Principal Gladys Balancar, MSCI Ed. Despite the surprise nature of the visit, the school quickly organized a reception program, which featured a vibrant dance intermission performed by both students and school personnel. The enthusiastic interaction served to strengthen the bond between the system administration and the school, proving that the needs and morale of the community campuses remain a constant priority.

Following this stop, President Tago and his delegation made another spontaneous visit to the MSU-Maigo College of Science and Technology (MSU-MCEST). The group was warmly welcomed by Campus Head Atty. Jamaloden A. Basar and local campus officials, who quickly put together a brief reception and provided refreshments for the visiting dignitaries. This unexpected stop allowed the President to converse with local leadership and observe the campus atmosphere in its usual day-to-day state, highlighting a leadership style dedicated to the continuous support of every unit under the MSU umbrella.



Gladys Balancar, MSCI Ed  
MSU-Lopez Jaena CHS Principal



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



Campus Head Atty. Jamaloden A. Basar welcomes MSU officials during a luncheon hosted for their campus visit at MSU-MCEST.

**MAY 20, 2026**

**MSU-ILS Holds 61st Graduation Ceremony and 11th JHS Completion Ceremony**

MSU-Integrated Laboratory School (ILS) hosted its 61st Elementary Graduation and 11th Junior High School Completion Ceremony on May 20, 2026, at the International Convention Center. Anchored on the theme “MSU-ILS@61: Empowering Learners through Inclusive Education for Peace and Shared Futures,” the dual-event celebrated the academic progress and character development of its students. The morning elementary ceremony featured Piagapo Mayor Hon. Engr. Ali S. Sumandar as guest speaker, who urged graduates to remain resilient and curious. Highlights included a tribute performance of “Handog” and the recognition of top achievers, led by Class Valedictorian Princess Hannya M. Jalil with high honors, alongside Salutatorian Akifah A. Maruhom and eight other honor students.



Left Photo: Piagapo Mayor Hon. Engr. Ali S. Sumandar as the guest speaker alongside the elementary graduates of MSU-ILS during its 61st Graduation Ceremony



Right Photo: Piagapo Mayor Hon. Engr. Ali S. Sumandar with Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Minerva-Saminah Mambuy-Naga, CED Dean Dr. Rohanifa Mama-Marohombsar, and MSU-ILS Assistant Dean Prof. Intesar T. Aba-Condong

The afternoon session shifted to the junior high school completers, featuring inspiring addresses from MSU System President Atty. Palsalin P.D. Tago, CPA and Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, who praised the students' academic perseverance and core values. Guest speaker Dr. Moamar M. Casim emphasized the vital intersection of self-discipline, a positive mindset, and physical well-being, warning completers against the dangers of over-studying and sleep deprivation. Academic distinction was awarded to top completers Athna Juhaisie M. Tanog (First Honors) and Mohammad Sufflan M. H. Edres (Second Honors). Ultimately, the joint ceremony reaffirmed MSU-ILS's six-decade legacy as a cornerstone institution in Marawi City, successfully preparing the youth to become responsible, value-driven citizens and future professionals.



A photo opportunity with the completers, featuring MSU System President Atty. Palsalin P.D. Tago, CPA and the guest speaker Dr. Moamar M. Casim.



Presentation of token of appreciation to the guest speaker Dr. Moamar M. Casim

**MAY 21, 2026****President Tago Inspires Cadets at RAATI 2026, Emphasizes Youth Leadership for Regional Peace**

Reaffirming his commitment to youth development and regional progress, MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, attended the Regional Annual Administrative and Tactical Inspection (RAATI) 2026 on May 21 to deliver a powerful message of support to the university's ROTC cadets. Speaking during the ceremony, President Tago emphasized the indispensable value of the ROTC program in shaping the next generation of principled leaders, framing the core values of discipline, resilience, and civic responsibility as vital pillars for pursuing lasting peace and development within the Bangsamoro Region. He reminded the audience that true strength is best expressed through service, integrity, and community accountability, offering a grounding charge directly to the formation of young leaders: "To our cadets, may this inspection remind you that excellence is not achieved in one day, but through consistency, discipline, and character." His presence and address underscored the university administration's view of the cadet corps not merely as student trainees, but as active, vital partners in regional nation-building.



*MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, delivers an inspiring address to the ROTC cadets, emphasizing discipline, leadership, and national service during the RAATI 2026.*

**MAY 22, 2026****President Tago Champions Inclusivity at 11th MSU-UTC Completion Ceremony**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, led university officials at the International Convention Center on May 22, 2026, to grace the 11th Completion Ceremony of the MSU-University Training Center (UTC). Aligning with his administration's vision, the event was centered on the theme "Celebrating dreams through Inklusibong Pamantasan," where President Tago delivered an inspirational message dedicated to the future societal contributions of the completers from Batch Tadman. In his speech, the President emphasized the vital role the youth play in fostering regional peace and meaningful progress, encouraging the completers to be active drivers of growth.

Led by UTC Director Dr. Edenairah Panbangan-Esmail, President Tago joined guest speaker Dr. Melhammad C. Tomawis, MD, MHM, DPCAM (Chief of Hospital III of the DOH-Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Center), in honoring the students. Dr. Tomawis echoed the President's sentiments, charging Batch Tadman to pursue excellence, leadership, and service in their future endeavors. The ceremony concluded with the formal presentation of certificates, marking the successful completion of the batch's training program as they prepare to apply their education toward promoting inclusivity and development in the community.



*MSU-UTC Completers with the System President and the guest speaker, Dr. Melhammad C. Tomawis, MD, MHM, DPCAM*

**MAY 23, 2026**

**MSU and IBP Presidents Welcome Senior Justice Leonen**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, and First Lady Sittie Norhaya Ambor-Tago, CPA, hosted a reception at the Presidential House on May 23, 2026, to welcome Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen. The welcoming delegation included Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) President Atty. Allan G. Panolong, local IBP members from Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur, Academic Affairs Vice Chancellor Dr. Minerva-Saminah M. Naga, and the deans of the College of Law and the King Faisal Center for Islamic, Arabic, and Asian Studies (KFCIAAS).

The official visit and subsequent welcome lunch centered on vital institutional collaborations aimed at strengthening the Shari'ah legal system, enhancing professional integration, and aligning the practice with broader national legal standards.

During the productive discussions, university and judicial officials highlighted upcoming initiatives, including the first-ever national convention of Shari'ah counselors scheduled to bring approximately 300 practitioners to the campus on September, alongside IBP plans to integrate Shari'ah counselors as special members. Senior Associate Justice Leonen emphasized the beauty of Shari'ah law within the country's plural legal system, suggesting that its expertise in Marawi could advance Shari'ah finance law and serve as an institutionalized tool for community mediation to resolve traditional *rido* (clan feuds) in harmony with Meranaw culture.

To address the demand for specialized practitioners, Justice Leonen praised MSU, especially KFCIAAS, as topnotcher-producing institutions and proposed introducing Shari'ah course units into regular College of Law curricula, creating pathways to encourage regular bar passers to qualify for the specialized Shari'ah practice.



From left to right: IBP President Attorney Allan G. Panolong, Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen, and MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA



President Tago presents a token of appreciation to Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen as he welcomes him during his campus visit.



IBP President Attorney Allan G. Panolong and Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen with the MSU officials

**MAY 24, 2026**

**MSU Law Honors New Graduates and 2025 Bar Passers**

The MSU-College of Law (COL) held its Purple Hood and Bar Passers 2025 Testimonial on May 24, 2026, at the Ranaw Business Hotel. The event honored the current graduating class alongside the university's newly licensed lawyers, featuring addresses from university officials, student representatives, past valedictorians, and the Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.



Keynote speaker Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen receives a token of appreciation from MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA

In her message, OIC Dean Atty. Annabelle B. Cañazares-Mindalano reminded the honorees that the law is a profound responsibility to act as an instrument of justice. MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, emphasized that the *sablay* (academic sash) symbolizes public trust, challenging the new professionals to prioritize integrity over technical competence alone.

Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen served as the keynote speaker. He stated that a legal career must be measured by its contribution to a dignified society and calling for a collective pact never to fail the public.

As a response, Class Valedictorian 2026 Hanna Nasriah C. Sansarona expressed gratitude for the shared resilience of the graduating full-time, working, and student-parents, while Atty. Moh'd Nor A. Ibrahim (Class Valedictorian 2025) noted that bar preparation begins on day one of law school, outlining discipline, rest, honesty, practice, and prayer as his core principles for success.

Furthermore, Atty. Sittie Hedaya S. Pansar (Class Valedictorian 2024) shared how overcoming an initial setback taught her that resilience defines a lawyer and that delayed success is still success, a sentiment echoed by Atty. Dayamon P. Macalnas-Bubong (Rawaten Elite Awardee), who credited the faculty with teaching endurance and urged the new lawyers to use their words to defend and inspire. Finally, Atty. Aniah D. Dumpa (First Honorable Mention 2023) discussed navigating major surgery and isolation during her review, emphasizing that a flawless preparation does not exist and that the exam ultimately serves as a deep test of character and faith.

A major highlight of the ceremony was the symbolic passing of the key of responsibility, marking the transition of leadership from the outgoing student government to the incoming leaders. The ceremony represents not just academic achievement but a solemn commitment to fair governance, integrity, and responsibility.



Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen



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



Hanna Nasriah C. Sansarona (Class Valedictorian 2026)



Atty. Moh'd Nor A. Ibrahim (Class Valedictorian 2025)



Atty. Sittie Hedaya S. Pansar (Class Valedictorian 2024)



President Tago shares a moment with some MSU officials during the Purplehood and Bar Passers 2025 Testimonials.



A lively selfie captures the joy of MSU-College of Law graduates celebrating their milestone.



The symbolic turnover of the key and responsibility from the outgoing COL Student Government President to the newly elected president.

**MAY 25, 2026**

**President Tago Announces Eid Holidays and Office Reforms**

MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA led the weekly flag ceremony on May 25, 2026, where he announced the suspension of classes and regular office operations from May 26 to May 28, 2026. During this period, offices delivering essential services will temporarily transition to a skeletal workforce. This schedule is in observance of the upcoming Eid al-Adha and the final days of Dhu al-Hijjah 1447 AH, specifically the Day of Arafah and the first day of Tashriq. He also noted that regular university operations will resume strictly on a standard Monday-to-Friday schedule after the holidays.

During the address, the President also assured the campus community of the ongoing appointment of deserving and qualified staff. He connected this initiative to Islamic principles, reminding the faculty and staff to follow the right and narrow path and to consistently practice goodness in their professional duties.

Additionally, President Tago directed offices to continue upgrading their facilities and reforming administrative habits, stating that inefficient practices within the university must not be normalized. He concluded by reminding the attendees that government institutions are established to properly regulate the public and strengthen the rule of law, urging everyone to maintain standard procedures and accountability.



President Tago urges faculty and staff to maintain standard procedures and professional accountability during his address at the university's weekly flag ceremony.

**MAY 27, 2026**

**MSU-Main Campus Celebrates Eid Al-Adha 2026**

The MSU-Main Campus community came together in a vibrant celebration of Eid Al-Adha on May 27, 2026. Led by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the observance united university administrators, faculty, staff, local residents, and students in a powerful display of faith, gratitude, and community spirit.

The spiritual celebration commenced early in the morning with the congregational Eid Prayer at the university grandstand, where thousands of worshippers gathered in solemn reflection. Following the prayer, the solemnity transitioned into joyful camaraderie as the community gathered near the gymnasium for a traditional boodle fight. Sharing this communal meal fostered a deep sense of fellowship, breaking down barriers and uniting the diverse campus family.

In the evening, the university observed the sacred tradition of *Qurban* (ritual sacrifice). Embodying the core Islamic values of charity and selflessness, the meat from the sacrifice was distributed to MSU constituents and campus residents. Special care was taken to ensure that students staying in the university dormitories received their shares, bringing the warmth, comfort, and blessings of home to those celebrating away from their families. Through these meaningful activities, MSU-Main Campus not only honored a sacred tradition but also reinforced its commitment to inclusivity, cultural preservation, and mutual support.



The first family joins the MSU community in marking the sacred tradition of Eid al-Adha.



Shown in the photos above are the Imam delivering a sermon following the communal Eid prayer (left), a communal boodle fight meal shared after the prayer (middle), and President Tago arriving to oversee and join the festivities (right).



The first photo captures the freshly packed portions of meat from the university's *Qurban* event, while the second and third photos show students in dormitories receiving their portions.

**MAY 30, 2026**

**MSU SUC Convenes, Approves Key Curricular and Academic Policies**



Members of the MSU System University Council (SUC), led by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, during its session at the CHTM Pavilion

The MSU System University Council (MSU SUC) convened its latest session on May 29, 2026, at the CHTM Pavilion, MSU-Main Campus. Presided over by MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, the meeting brought together chancellors and system executives to approve pivotal academic policies and curriculum updates. A major highlight of the session was the system-wide omnibus approval of graduation candidates across all campuses, which included adjusted figures for MSU-Main Campus, General Santos, and Naawan.

On the curricular front, the Council approved several strategic academic advancements aimed at regional development and strict regulatory compliance. Most notably, the session marked the historic introduction of the BS Oceanography program at MSU-Tawi-Tawi. This first-of-its-kind, 171-unit curriculum is aligned with international sustainability goals to leverage the region's unique marine location.

Additionally, the Council approved the expansion of the MSU-College of Law's Juris Doctor framework, extending admission test exemptions and rolling out the standard four-year track to all five extension campuses. These approved proposals, policies, and alignments will be forwarded for final approval at the upcoming 275th MSU System Board of Regents meeting.



Above are some highlights from the MSU SUC meeting as officials collaborate on pivotal academic policies.

# MSU-Main Campus OVCRE Strengthens Partnerships Through Benchmarking and MOU Revisiting with UPLB, DLSU, and UP Diliman

OVCRE



*Representatives from MSU-Main Campus OVCRE, headed by Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension and Development Dr. Annie Mae C. Berowa, during their benchmarking and partnership engagement visit at De La Salle University. (Photo by OVCRE)*

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension, and Development successfully conducted a series of benchmarking visits and partnership engagements with leading higher education institutions in the country from May 20–22, 2026.

On May 20, the delegation visited the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) and met with Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension Dr. Nathaniel C. Bantayan, the UPLB OVCRE team, the Office for Institutional Development in Higher Education, and the UPLB Technology Transfer and Business Development Office. The benchmarking activity focused on best practices, programs, and initiatives related to research, extension, and innovation management. The discussions provided valuable insights on strengthening institutional mechanisms, enhancing research productivity, expanding extension services, and boosting innovation and commercialization initiatives.

On May 21, the team visited the Southeast Asian Research Center and Hub (SEARCH) of De La Salle University (DLSU) and met with its Director, Dr. Fernando A. Santiago, Jr. The engagement focused on research prospects, regional collaboration, and opportunities for future research and development initiatives that may further contribute to research excellence and community engagement.

On May 22, the delegation proceeded to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development of the University of the Philippines Diliman (UP Diliman) and met with Vice Chancellor for Research and Development Dr. Carl Michael F. Odulio and the UPD OVCRE team. The benchmarking activity centered on research governance, innovation, and enterprise programs, and strategies for fostering interdisciplinary collaborations.



MSU-Main Campus OVCRED and UPLB officials commemorating their partnership engagement. (Photo by OVCRED)

Aside from the benchmarking activities, the visits also served as an opportunity to revisit the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the universities and to discuss prospective areas for future collaboration. Among the matters explored were joint research initiatives, faculty and student exchanges, capability-building programs, extension projects, and other academic partnerships that will mutually benefit the participating institutions.

These engagements reaffirm MSU-Main Campus' commitment to continuously strengthening research, extension, and development initiatives through meaningful partnerships and collaborative networks with premier academic institutions in the country, aligning with the 9-Point Agenda of MSU System President Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago, CPA.

The MSU delegation expressed appreciation to Dr. Nathaniel C. Bantayan, Dr. Fernando A. Santiago, Jr., Dr. Carl Michael F. Odulio, and their respective offices and institutions for accommodating the visit, participating in productive discussions, and showing openness to future collaborations. This initiative also received full backing from the University System President and the MSU-Ceramics Development Center and Fablab Marawi Director Engr. Johari M. Raki-in.



MSU-Main Campus OVCRED delegation engages in a productive dialogue with UP Diliman officials regarding research governance, enterprise programs, and interdisciplinary collaborations. (Photo by OVCRED)

# Approved Resolutions during the 274th BOR Meeting

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

## MSU System

- Resolution No. 1, S. 2026** Approval of the Minutes of the 273rd Board of Regents Meeting, subject to a five (5) day period for Regents to submit formal comments and corrections
- Resolution No. 2, S. 2026** Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board of Regents Meeting, subject to a five (5) day period for Regents to submit formal comments and corrections
- Resolution No. 3, S. 2026** Approval of the grant of authority to Atty. Paisalin P.D. Tago, CPA, to travel to Hong Kong on official business from April 22-24, 2026, with all applicable travel expenses to be charged against university funds, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules
- Resolution No. 4, S. 2026** Approval of the travel authority for President Tago to Times Higher Education Global Sustainable Development Congress in Indonesia on June 22–25, 2026, including all necessary travel expenses and fees, in accordance with standard government auditing rules
- Resolution No. 48, S. 2026** Approval of the Guidelines for Student Travel Assistance on Official Trips and Fund Allocation of MSU-IIT
- Resolution No. 51, S. 2026** Approval of the the Policy on Student Financial Assistance and Immediate Calamity Response Fund of MSU-IIT
- Resolution No. 170, S. 2026** Approval of the Collaboration between EDCOM II and MSU in support of BARM Education
- Resolution No. 156, S. 2026** Confirmation of 18 Special Orders

### Notation of the Actual Number of Graduates of MSU System for the First Semester, AY 2025 – 2026

### Notation of the Various Matters from the Student Regent

- Conduct of a Campus-Based Status Check on the Distribution of UNIFAST Financial Assistance and a Comprehensive Evaluation on the Distribution Status, Transparency, and Accessibility of Scholarships
- 
- Resolution Commending MSU at Naawan, Office of the Student Development, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Services and the Officers of the Supreme Student Council – MSU at Naawan as Host Campus
- System-Wide Student Welfare Resource Bank (SWRB): A Unified Stockpiled Emergency Supply and Assistance Mechanism for Disasters and Student Crisis Situations
- Establishment of the Committee on Sustainability within the Office of the Student Regent and to Provide for the Creation of Campus-Level Committees on Sustainability in All Student Governments of the MSU System
- Joint Position Paper in Support of House Bill No. 11343, with Proposed Revisions, "An Act Strengthening the MSU System and Appropriating Funds Therefor"

- Joint Position Paper in Support of the EDCOM II Report "Turning Point"
- Proposal for the Strengthening of a System-Wide Drug Awareness and Preventive Program at MSU
- Resolution Adopting the Reports, Proposed Amendments, Positions, and Recommendations of the FEMSUSSCO MSU Code Student Convention, and Urging the BOR to Urgently Amend the MSU Code of 1976

## MSU-Marawi (Main Campus)

<b>Resolution No. 5, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the Program of Receipts and Expenditures for Free Higher Education (FHE) for the Second Semester, AY 2025-2026, in the amount of PhP80,162,745.00
<b>Resolution No. 11, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the budget utilization of the realized income for the specified period to support the priority projects and operational needs of the MSU-Marawi Campus
<b>Resolution No. 20, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the grant of authority to MSU-Marawi to implement the locally funded projects under the Capital Outlay of the FY 2026 GAA in the amount of PhP14,000,000.00
<b>Resolution No. 44, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the request to purchase two (2) modern E-Jeepney vehicles for MSU-Marawi for the total amount of PhP8,000,000.00
<b>Resolution No. 47, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the MSU-Marawi Campus Extension Project/Program Financial Grant, which shall be sourced from the University's Internal Funds, subject to availability of funds and to standard government accounting and auditing rules
<b>Resolution No. 55, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the CLOSURE of some identified academic programs due to a recent study showed that these programs have very low enrollment and are no longer meeting the needs of the industry and the University needs to focus its budget and resources on more successful and high-demand programs
<b>Resolution No. 68, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the consolidation of all research-related resolutions and policies into one Official MSU Research Handbook of MSU-Marawi
<b>Resolution No. 77, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the promotion or reclassification of the six faculty members
<b>Resolution No. 86, S. 2026</b>	Approval of the grant of TENURE to eight faculty members of MSU-Marawi
<b>Resolution No. 95, S. 2026</b>	Approval and adoption of the Strategic Internationalization Plan of MSU-Marawi
<b>Resolution No. 157, S. 2026</b>	Confirmation of 88 Special Orders

### Notation of the Action Plans to Address COPC Deficiencies

# Newly Installed Officials



**DR. WARDAH D. GUIMBA**  
*Officer-in-Charge, Institutional  
Research and Evaluation Office*  
Per Special Order No. 407-OP,  
Series of 2026



**DR. MAIMONA M. ASUM**  
*Director, Admissions Office*  
Per Special Order No. 406-OP,  
Series of 2026



**MUHAIMEN C. UMPAT, MPA**  
*Officer-in-Charge,  
Cashier's Division*  
Per Special Order No. 405-OP,  
Series of 2026



**RASID B. SALIC, MPA, JD, ShL**  
*Officer-in-Charge, Human  
Resource Development Office*  
Per Special Order No. 404-OP,  
Series of 2026



**PROF. NAIDA U. RAMOS, LPT**  
*Officer-in-Charge Principal,  
MSU-Balindong Community High School*  
Per Special Order No. 314-OP,  
Series of 2026



**SADRUDDIN A. MUTI, JD, MPM**  
*Head, University Business Office*  
Per Special Order No. 313-OP,  
Series of 2026



**ATTY. ANNABELLE B. CANAZARES-  
MINDALANO**  
*Officer-in-Charge Dean, College of Law*  
Per Special Order No. 312-OP,  
Series of 2026

# 2026 Topnotchers



**JASMINE D. ALIMOSA, LPT**  
**TOP 3 (94.60%)**  
March 2026 Licensure Examination for  
Professional Teachers (LEPT)  
Secondary Level



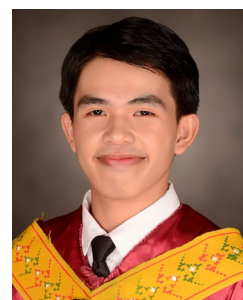
**NAHIDA G. ANSARI, LPT**  
**TOP 5 (94.20%)**  
March 2026 Licensure Examination for  
Professional Teachers (LEPT)  
Secondary Level



**EIDREFF P. MENDOZA, LPT**  
**TOP 9 (93.40%)**  
March 2026 Licensure Examination  
for Professional Teachers (LEPT)  
Secondary Level



**SITTIE JAINAH M. DISUMIMBA, LPT**  
**TOP 8 (93.20%)**  
March 2026 Licensure Examination for  
Professional Teachers (LEPT)  
Elementary Level



**YAHYA G. DOMAUB, LPT**  
**TOP 10 (92.80%)**  
March 2026 Licensure Examination  
for Professional Teachers (LEPT)  
Elementary Level

# MSUans Worldwide

When I graduated my Bachelor's degree in Tourism from the then College of Hotel and Restaurant Management (CHARM), now College of Hospitality and Tourism Management (CHTM) in April 2014, I knew Mindanao State University had given me an education. What I didn't realize then was that it had also given me the exact map and compass I would need to navigate the world.

Today, I travel the oceans as a Restaurant Supervisor for the Royal Caribbean International Cruises. Managing high-stakes dining operations at sea means interacting with thousands of people from completely different backgrounds. Whenever the pressure mounts, my mind immediately wanders back to my alma mater, because the values that keep me grounded today were forged right there on campus.

MSU taught me the art of *pagiging matipid* and advanced thinking—ensuring that everything is “*planado*” before I take further steps.

More than professional strategy, MSU also taught me true humanity. Living and studying in such a diverse campus bred a deep respect in me for others, regardless of their religion, tribe, or personal beliefs. The long walks to class, the shared struggles, and the vibrant campus life taught me to widen my perspective and anchored me with the kind of deep patience you can only find in someone who survived and thrived in MSU.

To the students walking those familiar halls today: **I know that many of you might be afraid to take risks because you feel you aren't good enough, or perhaps you are simply terrified of failing. But always remember that you are good enough. Go out there, embrace the unknown, and learn new things. Once you realize your own worth, you won't be afraid to fail, and you will no longer need the approval of the people around you.**



**RHINA ROSE J. CAROMBANA**  
Bachelor of Tourism (CHARM, Class of 2014)

Ontario, Canada



### CHIVER MEGALBIO

*AB Com Stud major in Development Communication (CSSH)*

MSU-Marawi is known as the melting pot of the South, and it lives up to that name. Studying Development Communication there meant sitting beside people from different tribes, faiths, and backgrounds, and learning that understanding someone is always the first step. That stayed with me.

After graduation, I wrote for a living. Then I moved into Human Resources, and later into the Learning and Development section of DSWD Region 10. Looking back, the thread was always the same. Whether crafting a story or designing a training program, I was always trying to reach people in a way that actually meant something to them.


In 2023, ten years after graduation, I came to Canada as an international student. It was humbling in ways I did not expect. But MSU had already taught me how to walk into an unfamiliar room and find my footing.

Today I work as a caregiver while also taking book editing on the side. One asks me to be present with a person in their most human moments. The other asks me to honour someone's story and help it find its voice. MSU prepared me for both, not because it handed me a formula, but because it trained me to listen before I speak, and to care about the person in front of me.

That is the thing about a good education. You don't always know what it's building until life calls on it. MSU-Marawi built my foundation quietly and steadily, through every classroom debate, every community immersion, every moment of learning to see the world through someone else's eyes. It shaped not just my career but my character.

**The writer, the HR professional, the person who showed up in a foreign country and refused to give up, all of that traces back to a university on the banks of Lake Lanao that taught me, above everything else, how to be genuinely human.**



Saudi Arabia 



**NOR ADSLINA SALI**  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing (CHS)*

I am Nor Adslina Sali, an Alumna from MSU-CHS, graduated last August 2021. Aside from being a scholar in the university, I am also a scholar in CHS.

Due to poverty, I worked hard to earn my licensed in the same year that I graduated from the university. With the Alumni helped, I was able to become of who I am today. I worked for 31 months as a staff nurse in one of the prestigious hospitals in Northern Mindanao.

Moreover, by God's grace, I was given a chance grow in my career by pursuing another Nursing License in another country which is Saudi. It's been my 21 months working here in Saudi German Hospital-Makkah Branch particularly as an OR staff nurse. While working in this institution, I received an Award last November 2025 as Employee of the Month. And I become a Coordinator of Magnet Well-being Council. In which, this council hold a very important responsibility in the lives of the nurses and patients in this hospital.

I am so grateful for this life because despite of all the challenges/poverty that I encountered since my parents were separated, God never leave me nor forsake me. He used MSU, my Alma Matter, the Joshua Family, classmates, Professors, that I am so proud of, in molding me into someone who I am today.

**The different values that I learned while studying in MSU become my guidance while I am working in this foreign country. These includes, respect other faith/religion, nationality, culture, or any social status. Being compassionate to others by showing kindness, empathy, patience, and understanding of who they are. Embracing professionalism by being accountable in every action that I will make. And lastly, by being flexible and adaptable to the new environment that I am with and to be resilient in every challenge that I will encounter. With these values, I was able to invest property for myself, not abruptly but gradually.**

I always believe in this Proverb, "Delay Gratification for the fruit comes in a proper season." And this is my message to the students of MSU nowadays especially those who are struggling from poverty while achieving their dreams in life.



## MARCH 2026 PHYSICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

1. Abdul Baari' M. Guma-os, MD
2. Abegail Q. Catli, MD
3. Arrah Giene G. Alcuizar, MD
4. Aslainie P. Macabanding, MD
5. Augie Remon B. Caliguind, MD
6. Axle Brent A. Dayocv, MD
7. Dan Tristam B. Micabalo, MD
8. Eiman Nurhidaya J. Abubakar, MD
9. Estrelle Anne D. Tacbas, MD
10. Fatima Irene O. Abilul, MD
11. Hebah D. Ampuan, MD
12. Julius Ceasar J. Dela Cruz, MD
13. Kaye Shaira C. Reyes, MD
14. Kristine Camille G. Castro, MD
15. Labib S. Cabili, MD
16. Leah Celine T. Verde, MD
17. Mary Ruth S. Achazo, MD
18. Owen Paul T. Tagarda, MD
19. Paladan A. Badron Jr., MD
20. Princess Haniefma Mae K. Ayunan, MD
21. Reham P. Macataman, MD
22. Rizwanah D. Tanggol, MD
23. Sittie Najmah C. Acraman, MD
24. Vincent Paul L. Mantoya, MD

**93.33%**

**First -Time Takers Passing Rate**

**82.76%**

**Overall Passing Rate**

**70.26%**

**National Passing Rate**

### Message

It is with great honor and immense pride that we congratulate the 24 newly licensed physicians from the MSU-College of Medicine.

Your journey—from your early years in school, through the challenges of medical education, countless hours of study, and mastery of essential clinical skills—has led you to this remarkable achievement. Passing the March 2026 Physician Licensure Examination is a milestone that reflects your dedication, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to your calling.

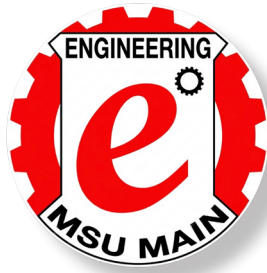
Your license is more than a credential; it is a testament that you are now worthy to be called "Doctor." Carry this title with honor, always remembering that it comes with the responsibility to heal with competence, compassion, and humility.

Congratulations, and may you continue to be a source of hope and service to the community.

*Mabuhay ang mga bagong Doktor Para sa Bayan!*



**HAYDEE Z. GATCHALIAN-CABILDO, M.D.**  
Dean, College of Medicine



## MARCH 2026 CIVIL ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Engr. Abdul Mujib T. Pangadapun    | 24. Engr. Justin Roy M. Responte     |
| 2. Engr. Ahlam G. Cairoden            | 25. Engr. Love Frances S. Artiaga    |
| 3. Engr. Al-Haddei A. Abdul           | 26. Engr. Moh'd Ismael M. Muti Jr.   |
| 4. Engr. Amer M. Hadjiamen            | 27. Engr. Mohamad Zohair M. Macapodi |
| 5. Engr. Amerhassan H. Mapupuno       | 28. Engr. Mohammad Sany L. Pangcoga  |
| 6. Engr. Andrea Nicole G. Ruda        | 29. Engr. Omelhaya S. Sultanmasanang |
| 7. Engr. Arnold G. Deloso             | 30. Engr. Rachel Mae J. Kusain       |
| 8. Engr. Aron O. Mateo                | 31. Engr. Ria Mae A. Cortes          |
| 9. Engr. Asnor A. Macadato            | 32. Engr. Roniel LLOYD L. LLorag     |
| 10. Engr. Christian Abe M. Montenegro | 33. Engr. Rufaidah D. Jamal          |
| 11. Engr. Dan Paulo A. Nepomuceno     | 34. Engr. Salahy P. Rasul            |
| 12. Engr. Diane Rose B. Toledo        | 35. Engr. Salman S. Ameril           |
| 13. Engr. Hamdun S. Noor              | 36. Engr. Seane Lhister P. Toledo    |
| 14. Engr. Hannah Yashmen T. Minodar   | 37. Engr. Settie Nehaya G. Bala      |
| 15. Engr. Hazel Arbutante             | 38. Engr. Sittie Maidah T. Macaya    |
| 16. Engr. Hosny A. Maruhom            | 39. Engr. Wahid D. Racman            |
| 17. Engr. James Thomas S. Alcala      | 40. Engr. Yashnur Jassem B. Ala      |
| 18. Engr. Janima C. Pangcatan         | 41. Engr. Yasrib U. H. Aiman         |
| 19. Engr. Jiffyme N. Catamco          |                                      |
| 20. Engr. Jobeelyn B. Galido          |                                      |
| 21. Engr. Jomana M. Cairoden          |                                      |
| 22. Engr. Jude Ace O. Aves            |                                      |
| 23. Engr. Justin Leonard B. Tayabas   |                                      |

**80.39%** *First -Time Takers Passing Rate*  
**77.36%** *Overall Passing Rate*

### Message

Congratulations to the newest batch of engineers and technicians who passed the recent Civil Engineers, Electronics Engineers, Electronics Technicians, Electrical Engineers, and Chemical Engineers Licensure Examinations!

The MSU-Marawi College of Engineering is immensely proud of you for raising the banner of the MSU–Main Campus. May you become valuable members of society, and may the favor of the Almighty continue to be upon you as you pursue your dreams.



  
**ENGR. KARLA M. MADRID-KHALID**  
Dean, College of Engineering

## MARCH 2026 ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

1. Engr. Mohammad Aly Bih Mama, ECT
2. Engr. Rayyan B. Gutoc, ECT
3. Engr. Saimah S. Cosain

**60.00%** *First-Time Takers Passing Rate*  
**61.62%** *Overall Passing Rate*

## MARCH 2026 ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

1. Abdulazis P. Lintasan, ECT
2. Armelyn P. Verallo, ECT
3. Nisar A. Malic, ECT

**75.00%** *First-Time Takers Passing Rate*  
**78.16%** *Overall Passing Rate*

## APRIL 2026 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

1. Engr. Abdulhalim H.Y. Macalampa
2. Engr. Heart Well S. Sumalinog
3. Engr. Jun Paul Philip L. Mutia
4. Engr. Aia Marie B. Arado
5. Engr. Al Jadid B. Amenoding
6. Engr. Bea Marie M. Maurecio
7. Engr. Clifford Khims H. Jungoy
8. Engr. Ernie D. Rongo
9. Engr. Jade Albert G. Fallado

10. Engr. Jahnvi R. Macatipon
11. Engr. Joseph E. Tulabing
12. Engr. Kent Mark J. Bulos
13. Engr. Nur-alдин M. Pangilamun

**92.86%** *First-Time Takers Passing Rate*  
**92.86%** *Overall Passing Rate*

## MAY 2026 CHEMICAL ENGINEERS LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASSERS

1. Engr. Fatima Ayessa D. Arsenal
2. Engr. Gilayka Mae P. Espinosa
3. Engr. Je Catherine T. Berondo
4. Engr. John Bryan A. Moreno
5. Engr. John Orland G. Omac
6. Engr. Joscel Ijurpe
7. Engr. Justine Ellaine M. Lomonsod
8. Engr. Lonie Mae T. Luspe
9. Engr. Marjun M. Lagbang

10. Engr. Rennete Joy B. Relativo
11. Engr. Ricky A. Mira
12. Engr. Robert John G. Cabanda
13. Engr. Wafa S. Omar Al-Hanafie
14. Engr. Ybonnie Mae T. Lapinig

**77.78%** *First-Time Takers Passing Rate*  
**73.68%** *Overall Passing Rate*



# Editor's Note

As we welcome the month of June, we extend our warmest greetings of Eid al-Adha to our entire Mindanao State University (MSU) community. This sacred occasion of sacrifice, faith, and obedience serves as a profound reminder of the values that bind us together. It invites us to reflect on the importance of selflessness and community spirit, encouraging each of us to contribute meaningfully to the welfare of those around us. In the spirit of this blessed feast, let us renew our commitment to unity, compassion, and mutual support, fostering an environment where peace and understanding thrive across all our campuses.

Find your reason to read this June newsletter as we combine the beauty of the academic, research, and extension programs and community affairs of the University through the leadership of the System President, Atty. Paisalin P. D. Tago. This edition highlights Mindanao State University's (MSU) continued efforts to support its autonomous campuses and supervised institutions to ascend in global rankings, and achieve top national recognition for the different programs. From exemplary research in the social sciences through the newly launched Ongangen journal of the College of Social Sciences to impactful extension projects enhancing community resilience in Lanao del Sur, this issue reflects our unwavering commitment to academic excellence and regional transformation.

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*

# GHF University Excellence National Research Awards Philippine 2025



**MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology**



**MSU-Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography**



**MSU-Marawi Main Campus)**



**MSU-Naawan**

Mindanao State University (MSU) has achieved a major milestone on the national stage as four of its strategic campuses were officially recognized at the prestigious GHF University Excellence National Research Award Philippines 2025. This exceptional achievement stands as a powerful testament to the unwavering commitment of the university's faculty, researchers, students, and administration to academic rigor, scientific innovation, and impactful discovery. The GHF University Excellence National Research Award is a highly coveted national distinction that recognizes Philippine Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) for producing high-impact research. The evaluation process specifically prioritizes Scopus-indexed publications, highlighting institutions that demonstrate strategic growth in research intensity, global academic publishing, and peer-reviewed excellence.

## IPOPHL Gold Cluster Award

Mindanao State University-Main Campus received the Gold Cluster Award from the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) during the 2026 ITSO Presidents' Summit and General Assembly. The event was held on March 25–26, 2026, in Iloilo City. Despite its recent establishment as an ITSO, the university earned the distinction for its progress in strengthening intellectual property management and fostering institutional innovation.

Sarifa Sofia A. Macarambon – Ali, J.D., Director of the Technology and Innovation Center (TIC), represented MSU at the event. She stated that the achievement reflects the institution's commitment to growth and continuous improvement in research and development, while crediting the award to the consistent support of the university leadership and the collaborative efforts of its researchers, innovators, and support teams.



## Ongangen Research Journal

Ongangen Research Journal is now online! It is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary publication. Named after the Meranaw word for "wisdom," the journal is produced by the College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH) and serves as its official research publication.

Ongangen (ISSN 0118-4512) is a biannual, open-access journal that welcomes high-quality submissions from scholars, researchers, faculty, and students both within and outside MSU. It focuses on interdisciplinary research in the social sciences, humanities, and related fields, with an emphasis on original studies that address relevant issues in Mindanao, the Philippines, and the global context.

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# *Inklusibong Pamantasan*

