



## TSU ME grad ranks 6th in Master Electrician boards

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY LICENSED TSUAINS!**

APRIL 2022 REGISTERED ELECTRICAL ENGINEER AND REGISTERED MASTER ELECTRICIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION

## TOP 6

**ENGR. BENIGNO P. YEBES, RME**  
Registered Master Electrician Licensure Examination

	REE	RME
FIRST TIME TAKERS	76.00%	76.00%
INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE	68.42%	73.33%
NATIONAL PASSING RATE	54.21%	46.26%

The TSU community is very proud of you!



An alumnus of Tarlac State University placed 6th in the April 2022 Registered Master Electrician (RME) Board Examination with an average of 89%.

Engr. Benigno P. Yebes, a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 2006, is also a licensed mechanical engineer after passing the October 2006 Mechanical Engineer Licensure Examination.

In 2019, he was also one of the

guests invited by the Mechanical Engineering department to conduct a seminar on engineering, procurement, construction, and commissioning (EPCC) as a way to motivate and inspire engineering students to work hard and to give a glimpse of a possible future in the industry.

Currently, he is a senior engineer at Mitsubishi Power Philippines.

Yebes took the Electrical Engineer

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## TSU and TAU sign Memorandum of Understanding



Tarlac State University and Tarlac Agricultural University inked a partnership for the cooperation of both universities in internationalization, research, and instruction through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) last May 4, 2022 at the Alumni Center of TSU Lucinda Campus.

The collaborative activities stated in the MOU include internationalization endeavors, joint research activities and publications, benchmarking, sharing of best practices, flexible learning initiatives relative to CHED's Bayanihan Program, and exchange of academic resources and other information. These will

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# TSU Concepcion Campus model classrooms officially launched

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

The local government of Concepcion and Tarlac State University led the blessing and launching of the TSU Concepcion Campus model classrooms at Brgy. San Nicolas Poblacion of Concepcion town on May 6, 2022.

The new TSU campus stands on a 9,000-square meter lot of Concepcion LGU. It houses 25 classrooms fully furnished with air-conditioning units and Smart television sets.

Furthermore, its buildings are shaped like a pair of eyes which symbolize the town's bright vision for its culture and history.

Aside from the model classrooms, the campus also has a lobby where students can hold activities, study, or rest.

This LGU-funded campus is aimed to ease students' transportation and other living expenses, especially for those living in remote areas.

"The goal is to bring the school closer to the students. [When students travel to TSU], whether you [students] like it or not, they will need to spend for transportation and allowance. Establishments like this will make much of a great difference and



impact. It will provide easy access to education," Concepcion town Mayor Andy Lacson said in an interview.

It is considered the "legacy project" of the legacy team led by Mayor Lacson.

By August 2022, this will open opportunities to around 500 students of Concepcion.

The Concepcion Campus is the third campus to be put up by another Tarlac LGU, following Capas and La Paz towns.

During the January 2020

groundbreaking ceremony for the campus, Mayor Lacson said the LGU allotted 75 million pesos from their local funds to construct the lecture rooms. The barangays also gave 20% of their respective budgets to the campus.

Mayor Lacson previously shared his plan to have a passageway that will connect the TSU Concepcion Campus to the Benigno S. Aquino National High School grounds and nearby sports complex as shared facilities where students can hold their P.E. classes and other recreational activities.

Meanwhile, Dr. Lino Dizon, retired TSU professor and Commissioner of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, relaunched the 2nd edition of his book "Kasalesayan" with a foreword from Mayor Lacson.

"Kasalesayan" features Concepcion town's history and culture.

The event was attended by some TSU officials led by President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, former TSU president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari, Vice Mayor Joey Baluyut, other LGU officials, and teachers and officials from DepEd Concepcion.



## TSU ME grad ranks 6th in Master Electrician boards

■ Judith Muan [OPA Intern]

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and Master Electrician boards because of his plan to upgrade as a professional electrical engineer. In the meantime, he plans to work in Bangladesh as construction and commissioning engineer at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Engineering.

According to the topnotcher, discipline is an important aspect of reviewing for the board exam. During the review, no games were installed on his computer and mobile gadgets to help him focus.

Furthermore, despite challenges in managing time with his work, Yebes said that the review center he enrolled in significantly contributed to his more than one month of preparation. He encouraged future board exam takers to find review centers that would help them.

When the results were released, the review center notified Yebes that he had landed 6th place in the RME boards.

He immediately informed his wife, also an engineer, about the good news. Yebes further shared that his wife is his greatest inspiration.



“Higit sa lahat, kay God talaga ako nagpapasalamat, dahil nga nakaupo ako sa harap noong exam at ako pa ang nag-lead ng prayer bago kami mag-start. Inisip ko rin noon na mukhang para sa akin nga ito kasi alam ko ‘yong sagot sa mga questions, ilan o lima lang yata ang hindi ko alam,” he said in an interview with the Office of Public Affairs.

“Mas prepared ako ngayon unlike noong nag-take ako ng Mechanical Engineer [Licensure] Exam, kaya mahalaga talaga ang preparation,” he added.

Yebes said that his first dream was to travel the world.

“I want to go all over the world at sakto naman po na employed ako sa isang malaking company na Misubishi Hub

Industries – we are extracting large scale of chemical plants like fertilizer plants or ‘yung abono. We are all over the world. Galing na ako ng Japan, Middle East; galing na rin ako ng Russia for free. Nakakatuwa that my dream actually na nangyayari,” Yebes said.

Along with Yebes, TSU produced 39 new Registered Electrical Engineers (REE) and 21 RMEs in the said board exams.

TSU attained a remarkable 76% passing rate for its first-time takers in REE and RME.

Moreover, the institution achieved an overall performance of 68.42% for REE and 73.33% for RME.

Both are above the national passing rates of 54.21% for REE and 46.26% for RME.

## URO holds 1st TSU Research Bootcamp 2022

■ Remar Salvador [URO]

Fifty-four faculty members from different colleges of Tarlac State University joined the first TSU Research Bootcamp 2022 organized by the University Research Office last May 5, 6, 12, and 13 at the Alumni Center, Lucinda Campus.

Themed “Sama-sama tungo sa isang Maginhawa at Matatag na Komunidad,” the activity aims to provide intensive training for faculty members to encourage them to engage in multidisciplinary research aligned to the least prioritized research agenda of the university.

Attendees of the Bootcamp are expected to produce research proposals to be presented and evaluated by the Research Evaluation Committee on June 1, 2022.

The first day was graced by Dr. Nilo T. Bugtai, a full professor at the De La Salle University, who talked about conducting multidisciplinary research on responsive health system and exhibited their works focusing on biomedical

engineering.

On the same day, Dr. Noralene Uy, a faculty member of the Ateneo de Manila University, discussed environmental management and disaster risk reduction in multidisciplinary research.

Meanwhile, the topics research methodologies and logical framework were presented by Dr. Marie Paz Morales of Philippine Normal University and Dr. Dennis Cantre of the University of the Philippines-Los Baños.

Other topics of the Bootcamp were tackled by some TSU researchers.



# TSU and TAU sign Memorandum of Understanding

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

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be carried out through physical and virtual modalities.

Led by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and TAU President Dr. Max P. Guillermo, both presidents expressed their eagerness to form a partnership focusing on various areas for the fostering and development of the two institutions' mutual relationship.

In his message of commitment, President Velasco said he looks forward to the reunion of TSU and TAU and eventually become top universities in the country.

“We solely pledge and vow our total and unconditional commitment and dedication to the success of this partnership which we formally signed. And the partnership between TAU and TSU is a rough start in a long and lasting relationship [between] our institutions which could make us one. And as I've said, number one not only in Central Luzon but throughout the Philippines,” he said.

Likewise, President Guillermo said he is hopeful and excited about this significant collaboration.

“To our partner, TSU, rest assured that we will make every effort to make our partnership meaningful and functional. We perfectly hope that this activity for partnership development will stimulate the promotion of academic, research culture, as well as knowledge network with TSU,” President Guillermo said.



The MOU, which is not legally binding, will last for five years and will be renewable for another period at the parties' option. It signifies the two institutions' recognition of common interests and goodwill.

According to Dr. Myrel M. Santiago, Unit Head for Academic Programs of the TSU International Affairs and Linkages Office (IALO), their office virtually benchmarked TAU's External Linkages and International Affairs (ELIA) Office and invited their director, Dr. Christine Ferrer, as a speaker for a mentoring workshop on internationalization last year.

“From those initial discussion and activity, proposed na magkaroon tayo ng partnership. It was also last year when our MOU with them was presented and approved by the BOR

(Board of Regents),” Dr. Santiago said in a message.

As shared by Dr. Santiago, both TSU and TAU are currently part of the Philippine-Canada Higher Education Institutions Mission, together with six other higher education institutions (HEIs), organized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) where they will be working together with Universities Canada and Colleges and Institutes Canada to engage in academic and research partnership, cultural collaboration, and promotion of professional development.

The signing event, attended by the administrative councils of both universities, was spearheaded by TSU IALO director Dr. Jasper Jay Mendoza and TAU ELIA's director, Dr. Ferrer.

TAU was once known as Institute of Agriculture under Tarlac College of Technology (now TSU) through Republic Act No. 4337 (An Act Establishing the Tarlac College of Technology). However, on December 18, 1974, by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 609, the institute was established as a separate state college – the Tarlac College of Agriculture. Eventually, on May 10, 2016, the college was converted into Tarlac Agricultural University through Republic Act No. 10800.



# TSU SOL honors Bar passers of 2020-2021

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Tarlac State University's School of Law (SOL) held a testimonial dinner to honor its Bar exam passers of 2020, 2021-2022, and other passers from its refresher program on May 13, 2022 at the Bella Plaza, Tarlac City.

The 27 new TSUian lawyers of 2020-2021 gave the university its highest number of passers since the SOL's establishment with a 65.38% passing percentage for first-time takers and an overall passing rate of 58.70%.

This batch is led by exemplary passer Atty. Michael John O. Dimarucut



who shared his success story during the program.

SOL Dean Atty. Jose Dela Rama, Jr. congratulated the new lawyers with references from Dr. Jose Rizal's *Noli Me Tangere* and posed a challenge to the new lawyers.

"Outside the portals of our beloved law school, there are so many Basilios out there. Outside the portals of TSU Law, there are so many Crispins out there. Outside the comfort of your

home and classrooms, there are so many Sisas out there. My challenge to you, my dear students... Are you willing to help the people for their fight and quest for justice?" said Dean Dela Rama.

He also re-echoed the SOL motto of honor, integrity, and nobility in his message.

"In your quest for truth and justice, always maintain your honor. Always respect and maintain your integrity for the nobility of your profession," he added.

Moreover, Executive Judge to the Regional Trial Court Branch 11 of the Family Court Hon. Joefferson B. Toribio graced the gathering as the guest of honor and speaker. He also reminded the passers



about the nobility of law practice.

"So as a young practitioner, always keep in mind that your fidelity is to the court as to your clients. Thus, work hard to win your cases on the merits and shun corruption. Always remember that the practice of law is a noble profession and not a business," Judge Toribio said.

"We should not measure the

success of our law practice by the wealth we have acquired, but rather it should be measured by the good name and reputation for fairness and integrity we have earned for ourselves in the service of our countrymen," he added.

The event was well attended by the SOL faculty, officers and members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), and TSU officials led by University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco.

President Velasco's presidential



address focused on the story of national hero and patriot Apolinario Mabini who was also a lawyer.

"With the new 27 lawyers whom we are honoring tonight and those multitudes of the School of Law that graduated [sic], become the modern 21st century, 4th Industrial Revolution lawyers who are not physically [disabled] like Mabini, but multi-talented, abled, and ready to flex, the TSU brand of graduates

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who are competent, industrious, and people-oriented,” President Velasco said.

He emphasized that quality law education can also be received within the country, particularly in the Tarlac province.

“Like Atty. Apolinario Mabini, we need not get out of the country to study law and be an exemplary jurist; one need not get out of Tarlac to find a good law school. It is right here at Tarlac State University which has the best, the brightest faculty of a school of law led by Dean Peng,” he added.

Among the honored guests who delivered congratulatory messages are Central Luzon IBP Governor Atty. Peter Paul Maglalang and Tarlac 2nd District Representative-elect Hon. Christian Tell A. Yap who was joined by his wife, TSU Board of Regents member Hon. Melissa Yeung-Yap.

Towards the end of the program, Dean Dela Rama released a dove, a symbol of sending off the new lawyers into the field. Plaques and monetary incentives amounting to 30,000 pesos (each passer) from the university were also awarded to the passers.



## TSU execs join Provincial Government in celebrating Tarlac Province founding anniversary, National Flag Day

■ Jazzel Llaneli M. Manabat

In line with the celebration of Tarlac Province’s 149th founding anniversary and the National Flag Day, Tarlac State University President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and some executives attended the flag-raising ceremony hosted by the Provincial Government of Tarlac on May 28, 2022 at the Tarlac Capitol grounds.

According to Tarlac Province governor-elect Hon. Susan Yap, this year’s founding anniversary celebration, which coincides with the National Flag Day, is a kick-off for the sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary of the province in 2023.

“Kailangan nating sariwain at matandaan na nakasama ang Tarlac sa ating bandila. Isang ray [sa bandila] ay ang ating probinsya diyan kung saan pinaglaban ng ating mga ninuno ang liberasyon natin from foreign invaders. Dapat natin ‘yan ipaglaban at isapuso na napakahalaga ng naging role ng ating lalawigan sa lahat ng laban at digmaan na nangyari dito sa Central Luzon,” Gov. Yap said.

She also recalled facts about the province from National Historical Commission of the Philippines Commissioner Dr. Lino L. Dizon’s lecture from previous years about the history of



Tarlac.

“[May] dalawang reasons kung bakit nabuo ang ating lalawigan. Napakahalagang alam natin kung bakit Tarlac is Tarlac and where it is now. He (Dr. Dizon) said that Tarlac was carved out of two provinces ‘di ba, kinuha mula sa Pangasinan at kumuha rin po sa probinsya ng Pampanga,” she said.

“But for very specific reasons, because of its situation in Central Luzon, it was carved out dahil, number one, for military reasons kaya mapapansin niyo dito nakabahay ang karaming ng malalaking kampo, NOLCOM, TRADOC, Armored Brigade, Air Force, nandito po sa ating probinsya, so safe tayo. Pangalawa, economic reason, because it is in the heart

of Central Luzon. Kung mapapansin niyo [ang Tarlac] talaga ang crossroad going north and south, east and west dito sa Luzon,” she added.

After the flag-raising program, the TSU Center for Tarlaqueño Studies held a lecture via Zoom in anticipation of the sesquicentennial celebration of Tarlac as a province with Commissioner Dizon as the resource speaker. This event was organized in partnership with the NHCP, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, and MAHARLIKA student organization of the College of Teacher Education.

Meanwhile, the TSU Performing Arts Dance Troupe also performed their signature folk dances during the flag-raising program.



## TSU celebrates CHED's 28th Founding Anniversary and the 2nd National Higher Education Day

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Tarlac State University joined the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in celebrating its 28th founding anniversary and the 2nd National Higher Education Day (NHED) through a hybrid and limited in-person program on May 24, 2022 at the TSU Gymnasium.

Themed “Claiming Victory for Quality Higher Education: Dekalidad na Edukasyon, Karapatan ng Mamamayan,” the kick-off program featured a short lecture delivered by Dr. Lino L. Dizon, National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Commissioner, retired TSU professor, and former director of the TSU Center for Tarlaqueño Studies.

His lecture centered on the Commission’s history and some historical trivia about TSU.

“Let these twin events or commemorations be also an opportunity to reflect on the growth and development of our beloved institution, Tarlac State University. In it, we actually see the workings and role of tri-focalization of education with the present CHED, DepEd, and TESDA – starting out with the offering of [an] elementary trade course in 1906 of the Tarlac Provincial School, which eventually became the Tarlac High School; the Manual Training School in 1909; the Tarlac School of Arts and Trade in 1959; the Tarlac College of Technology in 1965; and the Tarlac State University in 1989,” Dr. Dizon said.

He also shared about the two historical markers found at TSU – one at the Engineering grounds which was

once known as Casa Real de Tarlac where President Emilio Aguinaldo held office, while the other is by the flagpole in front of the Administration Building.

Meanwhile, TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco reiterated the importance of education in today’s society in his inspirational message.

“Whether a person is living in poverty or among the wealthiest in the world, education is necessary to advance in any situation. I don’t know how I will inspire these people, particularly ang ating mga estudyante, but I really want you to remember this: the greatest gift that you can give sa sarili niyo bilang mga estudyante ay ang makatapos sa pag-aaral,” President Velasco said.

He also shared that with his limited means and without his wife’s knowledge, he has sponsored students who have graduated this year. He appealed to the faculty to help deserving students to finish their studies.

“Nalulungkot po ako sa mga estudyante, particularly iyong mga mahihirap ng katulad ko, na hindi nagtatapos dahil sa kahirapan... May



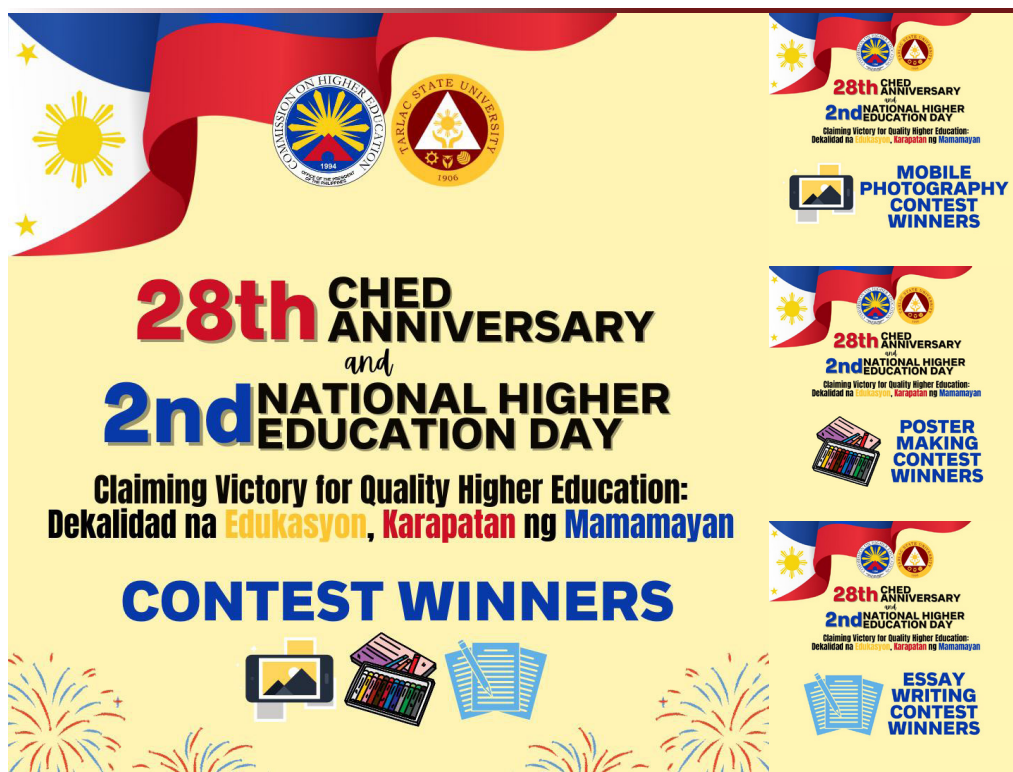
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karapatan din po silang makapagtapos, at may karapatan din silang ma-enjoy iyong mga nae-enjoy po natin ngayon na comfort of life. So, I encourage you to please, if you have the opportunity, help students who really deserve to be having this education,” he added.

To involve students in the celebration, the program was also streamed live via the TSU Office of Public Affairs (OPA) Facebook page.

Aside from the program, the university also organized competitions for students in line with the celebration such as the mobile photography contest, essay writing contest, and poster making contest.

Winners of the contest were announced last May 31, 2022 and were awarded cash prizes – Php 2,000 for the 1st place, Php 1,000 for the 2nd place, and Php 500 for the 3rd place.



**28th CHED ANNIVERSARY**  
and  
**2nd NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION DAY**

**Claiming Victory for Quality Higher Education:  
Dekalidad na Edukasyon, Karapatan ng Mamamayan**

**CONTEST WINNERS**

**MOBILE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS**

**POSTER MAKING CONTEST WINNERS**

**ESSAY WRITING CONTEST WINNERS**

	Mobile Photography	Poster Making	Essay Writing
1st	Lawrence T. Francisco (CBA)	Myjo Maj R. Perez (CAFA)	Mary Joyce P. Balot (CTE)
2nd	Danilo G. Diaz Jr. (CASS)	Jackie D. Galario (CAFA)	Jamaica Codillo (CBA)
3rd	Alvin D. Grospe (CTE)	Mervin C. Rivera (CoEng)	John Vincent A. Quijano (CoEng)

## Pres. Velasco meets with Tarlac leaders, Board of Regents

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

As the newly installed president of Tarlac State University, Dr. Arnold E. Velasco paid a courtesy visit to Tarlac City mayor Hon. Maria Cristina Angeles and Tarlac Province governor Hon. Susan Yap, while TSU Board of Regents members Hon. Gina Gacusan and Hon. Dennis Norman Go personally met with the new president in May 2022.

The provincial and local governments are institutional partners of the university in providing quality education to young Tarlaqueños, whereas the BOR is the highest governing body of TSU.



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**Visit to Tarlac leaders**

President Velasco attended the Tarlac City government’s flag-raising ceremony at the KAISA Convention Hall as a courtesy visit on May 2, 2022.

In Mayor Angeles’ welcome message during the program, she showed appreciation to the 6th TSU president.

“Tarlac State University President, we would like to welcome you, Dr. Arnold E. Velasco. Sir Arnold, ang support po ng City Government of Tarlac ay tuloy-tuloy pa rin po – ang support namin for Tarlac State University (sic),” Mayor Angeles stated.

Meanwhile, President Velasco and the university’s vice presidents also paid a visit to the office of Gov. Yap on May 26, 2022.



This was the first time President Velasco met with the city mayor and provincial governor as the university head.

In an interview, he shared that both political leaders were very approachable and hospitable.

“Comfortable ka agad, tsaka ramdam mo na hindi ka mahihiya. They’re very motherly in their approach. Hindi ako nahihiyang magsabi – na feeling kapamilya ka na,” he said.

When asked about his response to the city government’s continued commitment to help and support TSU, President Velasco expressed his sincerest gratitude.

“I’m very thankful. Iba na kasi ‘yung [administration], and I know how close Madam Cristy is with the previous administration. Pero



still, nandoon pa rin ‘yung kanyang commitment to continue supporting the university and na-appreciate ko iyon. And with that, of course we will always be supporting also that administration of Madam Cristy (sic),” he said.

Likewise, he shared the same sentiments to the provincial governor.

“As a governor, nakita ko ‘yung sincerity niya na tumulong. Marami siyang plans for the province, and I believe kasama na doon ang Tarlac State University,” he added.



**Regents Gacusan and Go visit TSU**

National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Director and TSU BOR member Hon. Gacusan visited TSU for the first time on May 11, 2022.

She briefly met with President Velasco and the vice presidents at the Main Campus.

Afterwards, some TSU officials led by the university president

toured Regent Gacusan around the Lucinda Campus to showcase the new infrastructure, grounds, and facilities. Joining the campus tour is former TSU president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

Hon. Gacusan was appointed as NEDA Regional Office III Director in 2021.

On the other hand, BOR member and Tarlac 2nd District Board Member-elect Hon. Go paid a visit, also at the Main Campus, on May 27, 2022 to meet President Velasco personally.

Regent Go discussed with President Velasco and other university officials some updates on the Laboratory School and the possible offering of the School of Medicine.

He is the representative of Hon. Mark O. Go, House Committee Chairperson on Higher and Technical Education, to the TSU BOR.



## EDITORIAL

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered people's lifestyles as well as the conduct of day-to-day events. Most transactions and happenings are now done through a combination of online and in-person activities, like orientations and graduation ceremonies of universities and campaign sorties of the national and local elections.

Even before the campaign commenced, netizens have been engaging in online and offline conversations and debates to promote the candidates they are supporting. Schools, universities, and national survey groups are also publishing online surveys, which have become avenues for politically colored conversations. Because of these political exchanges, new friendships are formed while other relationships are strained.

It is not actually new that politics is a cause of divisiveness. Etiquette in conversations tells us not to open politics as a topic since people have varying opinions about it. Political affiliations are also protected as sensitive personal information under the Data Privacy Act of 2012. This means people are not compelled to divulge their political preferences. But people are innately opinionated, and some cannot control the urge to be vocal about their choices, especially on social media.

Because of the pandemic, most Filipinos are glued to their social media accounts. Those who are still reluctant to immerse themselves in big crowds opt to join campaign rallies via live streams. Owing to the popularity and convenience of the web and the internet and the hype of the elections, a lot of people are encouraged to voice out their opinions on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, TikTok, and others, may it be on the live comment section or their timelines. Seemingly, because of the immense emotions, the "right to free speech" tends to be "abused," and the feelings of those on the other end of the communication line are somewhat invalidated. This is where social media toxicity is bred and, in

## Politics and social media toxicity

some cases, tolerated.

In this election season, the internet world has been filled with misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation, or what is commonly known as "fake news." Likewise, these types of information disorder are given the thumbs up through echo chambers and filter bubbles where opposing views are disregarded with the belief that "my opinion is more valid than yours." No one wants to get trampled on because everyone wants their political candidates to win and their political opinions to be heard and appreciated. Such is the beauty of democracy, yet this democracy also has limitations and boundaries. An uncontained practice of democracy, especially on social media, breeds toxicity.

Filipinos have the constitutional right to free speech, but it must be noted that the right to privacy also exists. An exercise of one kind of freedom ends if it violates the essence of another type of freedom. Moreover, all individuals are now taught to protect their mental health from harmful words and people. Disengaging from any conversation that might impact one's mental health, especially in this toxic political environment created by social media, is valid. It will not make a person less of a Filipino if they choose peace of mind over "debates" with another person purportedly blinded by their perceived truth.

There is a biblical duty to look after one another as brothers and sisters of varied faiths. Still, there is also a natural inclination to self-preserve, especially when danger looms. There is always a right time to make a stand, whether for politics or one's wellbeing. Deep down, a person knows when is when.

Toxicity does not only exist in social media; it has been making rounds even before the 2022 Philippine elections. This toxicity has been overcome by a majority of people, even without them knowing it. Maybe you have already tried overcoming this obstacle, too.



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## Two TSU officials complete DAP-FOI certificate course

■ Franc Lewis R. Juanatas

Vice President for Research and Extension Services Dr. Murphy P. Mohammed and Office of Public Affairs Director Ms. Jazzel Llanelli M. Manabat graduated from the Certificate Course for Information Officers organized by the Development of Academy of the Philippines and the Presidential Communications Operations Office.

The ceremony was held in Ermita, Manila on May 19, 2022.

During Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari's term, the Office of the University President recommended Dr. Mohammed and Ms. Manabat to attend the three-month course as scholars. Both officials are members of the university's Freedom of Information (FOI) Committee, where Dr. Mohammed is the current committee chairperson and one of the FOI Decision Makers, while Dir. Manabat is the FOI Receiving Officer.

They are part of the 94 graduates from the two batches of the short certificate course, which is aimed to delve deeper into the concepts, principles, and theories of FOI practice. The course also professionalizes the role of information officers in government agencies.



"E.O. No. 2 is implementable [and] executable, but that is easier said than done. That is the reason why we have the course... because answering requests for information is not just a [routine] act. It requires discerning. It requires skill. It requires knowledge. And that's what we've been hopefully trying to do for the past 2 to 3 months – honing your skills in answering requests for information," PCOO Undersecretary and FOI Champion Kristian Ablan said in his inspirational message.

FOI implementation across government agencies in the executive branch is covered by Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016 signed by President Rodrigo R. Duterte. The FOI Project Management Office and the Philippine

Congress are currently working to pass the FOI bill for full implementation in all branches of the government.

Aside from completing the certificate course, Dir. Manabat was also awarded as salutatorian for the second batch after garnering a 96.9-percent



average equivalent to an excellent rating. She also received the Best in Asynchronous Activities Award and is part of the group that produced the best policy paper.

Dir. Manabat shared how the course can help in the smooth FOI implementation at TSU.



"We have been implementing FOI at TSU since 2017 through Ma'am Vicky Seguirra (Assistant FOI Receiving Officer and Records and Archives Unit Head). Through this certificate course, participants' knowledge in maintaining FOI implementation has been widened because of the discussed subject matters concerning data privacy, records keeping, national security, and how these are tied with the right to information," she said.

For two consecutive years, TSU has been compliant with the requirements of FOI. These requirements are part of the university's compliance with the Performance-Based Bonus or PBB.



Photo Courtesy: Presidential Communications Operations Office







**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
NEWLY LICENSED TSUIAN ENGINEERS!**

<b>MAY 2022 CIVIL ENGINEER LICENSURE EXAMINATION</b>	<b>FIRST TIME TAKERS 42.11%</b> <b>INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE 35.50%</b>
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*The TSU community is very proud of you!*

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
NEWLY LICENSED TSUIANS!**

**APRIL 2022 REGISTERED ELECTRICAL ENGINEER AND  
REGISTERED MASTER ELECTRICIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION**

**TOP 6 ENGR. BENIGNO P. YEBES, RME**  
*Registered Master Electrician Licensure Examination*

	<b>REE</b>	<b>RME</b>
<b>FIRST TIME TAKERS</b>	<b>76.00%</b>	<b>76.00%</b>
<b>INSTITUTIONAL PASSING RATE</b>	<b>68.42%</b>	<b>73.33%</b>
<b>NATIONAL PASSING RATE</b>	<b>54.21%</b>	<b>46.26%</b>

*The TSU community is very proud of you!*



## TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY

### Vision

Tarlac State University is envisioned to be a premier University in the Asia Pacific Region.

### Mission

Tarlac State University commits to promote and sustain the offering of quality and relevant programs in higher and advanced education ensuring equitable access to education for people empowerment, professional development, and global competitiveness.

### Towards this end, TSU shall:

- 1.) Provide high quality instruction through qualified, competent and adequately trained faculty members and support staff.
- 2.) Be a premier research institution by enhancing research undertakings in the fields of technology and sciences and strengthening collaboration with local and international institutions.
- 3.) Be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals

### Quality Policy

Tarlac State University is committed to continuously strive for global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of instruction, research, extension (training and consultancy), and administrative support services, compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers while ensuring safe and healthy working conditions for its students, employees, clientele and reducing environmental impact of its operations.