

## URS Celebrates 4,539 Graduates

The University of Rizal System (URS) marked another milestone by celebrating the graduation of 4,539 students across its 10 campuses.

All events were graced by University officials who gave their congratulatory messages, including Dr. Nancy Pascual, University President; Dr. Allan Conde, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Marvin Amoin, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Dr. Marites Rio, Vice President for Research Development, Extension, and Production; and the 10 Campus Directors, namely, Dr. Norma Elvina, URS Angono; Dr. Danilo Pascual, URS Antipolo City; Dr. Joanne Concepcion, URS Binangonan; Prof. Enrique Villones, URS Cainta; Dr. Juan Abarro, URS Cardona; Dr. Xenia Canale, URS Morong; Dr. Ariel Plantilla, URS Pililla; Dr. Florante Mercado, URS Rodriguez; Dr. Namerod Mateo, URS Tanay; and Prof. Janice Hilao, URS Taytay.

This year's graduating class was composed of 399 doctorate graduates from Antipolo City, Binangonan, Morong, Pililla Rodriguez, and Tanay campuses; 3,966 undergraduates of all colleges from the 10 campuses; and 174 graduates from the senior high school and laboratory schools from Tanay and Morong campuses.

Batch 2024 graduates produced two summa cum laude, 49 magna cum laude, 399 cum laude from the colleges, 157 honorees from the senior high school and laboratory schools, six academic research excellence and two research excellence awardees from the graduate schools, and 371 special awardees from all the university levels.

The graduation ceremonies were held in different venues and dates with their specific commencement speakers. URS Antipolo City campus held its graduation at the Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Tanghalang Sining (EARTS) on June 10 with Dr. Freddie Bulauan of the Commission on

## PASUC-NCAF 2024 Prize Captured

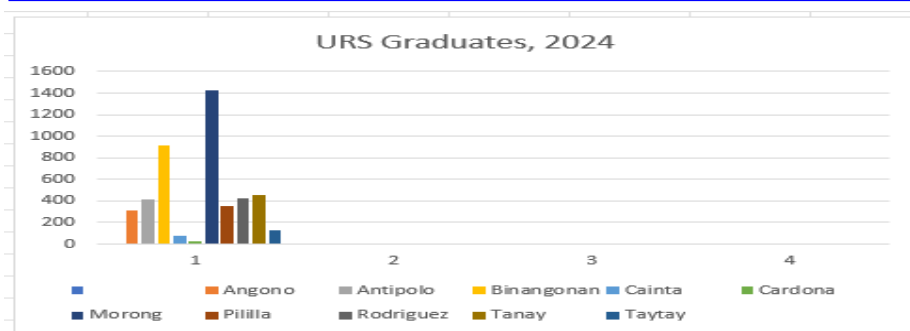
The University of Rizal System, led by Dr. Nancy T. Pascual, together with other university officials, joined and supported the celebration of the 11th Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges – National Culture and the Arts Festival (PASUC-NCAF) 2024, which was held at the Philippine Normal University on April 23-25.



NCAF. Sanvictores and Panguito represent Region IV at the 2024 PASUC National Culture and Arts Festival. Sanvictores wins.

Two students from the University competed as representatives of Region IV. Jan Christian Panguito from URS Angono competed in the Instrumental Solo-Guitar category with his coach, Prof. Melvic Atienza. Dwight Frederick Sanvictores won the Silver Medal in the Instrumental Solo-Violin category with his coach, Prof. John Vincent Guillermo.

Region IV, which includes CALABARZON and MIMAROPA, won the Overall 1st Runner-up award during the event. //



Higher Education Regional Office IV-A (CHEDRO IV-A) as commencement speaker. Angono Campus had its graduation at the EARTS on June 13 with Dr. Heracleo Lagrada, former president of Rizal State College, as speaker. Meanwhile, Cainta, Cardona, and Taytay campuses celebrated their graduation at the EARTS on June 13 with Hon. Nelson Sarmiento, Civil Service Commission Regional Office VI - Iloilo (CSCRO VI) as speaker.

Rodriguez Campus held its commencement ceremonies at the Rodriguez Municipal Gymnasium on June 15 with Hon. Gov. Nina Ricci Ynares as guest speaker. Also, the Pililla and Tanay campuses held their commencement rites at the EARTS on June 18 with Hon. Marita Canapi, CHED commissioner; and Hon. Ronald Barcena of the Social Housing Finance Corporation as their speakers, respectively. Morong Campus celebrated its graduation at the EARTS on June 19 with Regional Dir. Agnes Tolentino of the National Economic Development Authority Region IV (NEDA RO IV), and Sen. Francis Escudero, Philippine Senate President, as its speakers. Lastly, the Binangonan campus held its graduation rites at the Casimiro Ynares Sr. Auditorium on June 26 with Dir. Vazir Joshua Querol of the National Government Portal, Dir. Marissa Argente of the Department of Trade and Industry-Regional Office IV-A (DTI-RO IV-A), and Dir. Cleotilde Duran of DTI-Rizal as its set of commencement speakers. //JFa/abc



# THE PRESIDENT'S POST

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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## URS Joins Rizal - Calabarzon RDP Roadshow

The University of Rizal System (URS) Morong Campus co-hosted the CALABARZON Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2023-2028 Rizal Provincial Roadshow at the Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Tanghalang Sining (EARTS) on May 29.



REGIONAL COLLABORATION. Participants to the CALABARZON - Rizal RDP talk on the agenda for the region's growth over the next five years.

The CALABARZON RDP 2023-2028 is the regional counterpart to the Philippine Development Plan, outlining an ambitious agenda for the region's growth over the next five years. A key feature of the RDP is its Communication Plan (CommPlan) 2023-2028, which lays out effective dissemination and advocacy strategies. The CommPlan ensures coordinated and consistent communication efforts, engaging public and private stakeholders.

A ceremonial turnover of the RDP and the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) between Rizal Gov. Nina Ricci Ynares and NEDA Regional Dir. Agnes Tolentino symbolizing the

collaborative effort between the provincial government and NEDA was held.

The roadshow also featured a talk show titled "CONVOCALABARZON: Bridging Progress, One Province at a Time," by NEDA IV-A and URS which focused on the collaborative efforts and progress being made across the provinces within the region.

The event concluded with a closing message from Dir. Tolentino who reiterated the importance of community involvement and the role of educational institutions like URS in fostering regional development.//

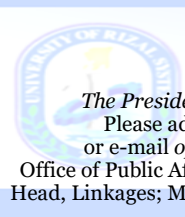
## 4 Gets Professor Items



Four former associate professors got their full-pledged professorship promotion after a series of evaluations led by the local and national committees to screen applicants using the DBM-CHED Joint Circular No. 3, S. 2022 also known as Cycle 9 NBC 461 Guidelines on the Position Reclassification of Faculty Positions in State Universities and Colleges.

Dr. Marlon Bautista of the College of Engineering – Morong Campus rose from Associate Professor V to Professor IV; Dr. Marvin Amoin, VP for Administration and Finance; Dr. Niclie Tiratira, Director for Research Development; and Dr. Jocelyn Gagalang, Director for Office of Public Affairs, made it from Associate Professor V to Professor III.

The final interview with the Commission on Higher Education representatives was held in February. The appointment was released on April 3. //



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Please address all communications to the Office of Public Affairs; Audio-visual Education Center, URS, Morong, Rizal or e-mail opa@urs.edu.ph. Dr. Nancy T. Pascual, President, University of Rizal System; Dr. Jocelyn L. Gagalang, Director, Office of Public Affairs; Prof. Arminda B. Campo, Head, Publication, and Editor, The President's Post; Mr. Renato Allen A. Casas, Jr., Head, Linkages; Ms. Janelle L. Faulve, Ms. Ella Mae B. Ramos, Mr. Marlon L. Alquiza, Information Officers; Mr. Kevin P. Aquino, Staff; Mark Joseph C. Acbangin, Contributor.



## First Extension AIHR Done

The Office of the Vice President for Research Development Extension, and Production organized the 2024 first Agency In-House Review (AIHR) of extension projects, which took place on June 25 through the Google Meet platform.

Nine new project proposals and six completed projects were presented. A panel of invited experts evaluated these projects. They are Dr. Almira Magcawas from Cavite State University, Dr. Reneecilia Paz de Leon, a retired professor from the University of Rizal System, and Prof. Angela Reginaldo from Laguna State Polytechnic University.

## OPA Virtual Office Opens

To extend the information-dissemination services in general, the Office of Public Affairs (OPA) Information Unit proposed the establishment of the URS Virtual Office.

This project aims to extend the information-dissemination services and accommodation of stakeholder inquiries virtually; enhance the University's online communication presence; promote efficient, effective, and harmonious communication with the community; stay relevant; uphold practices in line with Education 5.0; and intensify the image-building efforts of the University.

The virtual office, being held via Google Meet opens from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The stakeholders may join in case they have inquiries relative to University operation matters. An information officer shall be attending their queries.

To avail of the URS Virtual Office service, please log in via <https://meet.google.com/zqz-dauh-ahq>

## IPO Pitch Day Highlights Faculty Researches, Innovations

The Project Management Team of the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) of the University of Rizal System conducted the URS Technology and Innovation Pitch Day 2024 on March 31.

The Project Management Team managed to gather eight pitchers and their team of student researchers. The pitchers proudly presented their technologies ranging from products to services together with their industrial capabilities, marketability, and commercialization potential.

The students were able to ask questions, with the pitchers satisfying their curiosity regarding the industrial capacities of the innovations and the research in general.

In the latter part of the activity, the top three winning technology pitchers were declared: Prof. Yolanda Vistal, Prof. Marthea Andrea Daluyon, and Engr. Francisco Culibrina.



Other pitchers were awarded the certificate of appreciation for their efforts to showcase their technologies.

The IPO Pitch Day aims to highlight R&D and Non-R&D-based research outputs and innovative products and technologies of each campus to promote them to prospective adopters or investors. ~MJCA

## Arbor Day Celebrated

In celebration of the Philippine Arbor Day, the University of Rizal System through the Environmental Education and Biodiversity Research Center (EEBRC) participated in the Nationwide Tree Growing Activity initiated by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at the YES City, Brgy. Cuyambay, Tanay on June 25.



The activity aimed to develop public awareness and appreciation of the roles and importance of forests in maintaining ecosystem services and of protecting and rehabilitating denuded forest lands for a greener and healthier Philippines. It also sought to actively involve the stakeholders in protecting and conserving the country's environment and natural resources.

A similar activity joined by the Lalawigan ng Rizal, Municipality of Morong, Morong High School Alumni Association, Inc., and Morong High School Batches 1972 and 1979 representatives was held in the URS Morong Campus. //

## Job Fair Held

The University of Rizal System (URS) hosted Jobs Fair 2024 on May 24, under the theme "Talent Branding: Packaging Skills for the Global Market." This event, organized by the University Office of Student Development Services (OSDS) in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment-Public Employment Service Office (DOLE-PESO), was held at the Function Hall, URS Morong, drawing a diverse group of participants eager to explore new career opportunities.

The jobs fair was participated in by 30 companies from various industries, offering many employment options for fresh and soon-to-be graduates.

## DICT, URS First ICT Confab Happens

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Rizal, in partnership with the University of Rizal System – Binangonan (URSB) Campus, College of Computer Studies, marked a significant milestone with the Rizal ICT Conference (RICTCON 2024). Themed "Navigating Digital Frontier: Innovate. Integrate. Inspire," the conference was held at the URS Morong Campus, on April 25.

As the first-ever ICT Conference of DICT Rizal in partnership with URS, RICTCON 2024 aimed to foster connections with digital service providers, meet training providers for professional development support, network with startups, and delve into breakout sessions covering a range of cutting-edge topics essential for digital transformation.

Moreover, RICTCON 2024 provided a platform for networking and collaboration, enabling participants to forge meaningful partnerships with industry stakeholders and explore opportunities for digital advancement in Rizal. //



The event was attended by 62 graduates and 333 graduating students from URS, alongside 37 visitors from outside the University who were also seeking job opportunities.

One of the event's highlights was the on-the-spot job interviews conducted by several participating companies. This provided an excellent opportunity for students to immediately apply what they had learned in the workshops and potentially secure job offers on the same day. The interactive nature of the event fostered a dynamic environment where students could network directly with employers and gain valuable insights into their desired career paths. ~JFa

## STAARRDEC Jingle-Making Bout Won

The URS contingent won the grand prize for the Jingle-Making Contest during the 36th Southern Tagalog Agriculture Aquatic and Resources Research, Development and Extension Consortium (STAARRDEC) Anniversary Celebration and Regional RDE Management Seminar held at Hotel Dominique in Tagaytay City on May 15.



WINNER. Dr. Leo Rio champions the STAARRDEC jingle-writing contest.

Titled "STAARRDEC, Sama-sama sa Paglalakbay," the URS Jingle entry to the STAARRDEC contest won the Best Jingle.

The jingle was composed and musically arranged by Dr. Leo Rio, performed by Mr. Christian Russel Rones, and backed up by Ms. Danica Robles, Mr. Marc Joseph Acbangin, and the Young Mission Apostles (YMA) members.

Included in the criteria are originality - 40%; musicality (melody, arrangement, instrument/ accompaniment, tone) - 40%; and relevance and

appropriateness to STAARRDEC's anniversary - 20%. The jingle will be used as the official jingle of STAARRDEC.

The award was given during the 36th STAARRDEC Anniversary Celebration and Regional RDE Management Seminar at Hotel Dominique in Tagaytay City on May 15. Dr. Marites Rio, VP for RDEP, attended the event with Dr. Niclie Tiratira, Director for Research Development, on behalf of URS President Nancy Pascual. ~EMBR