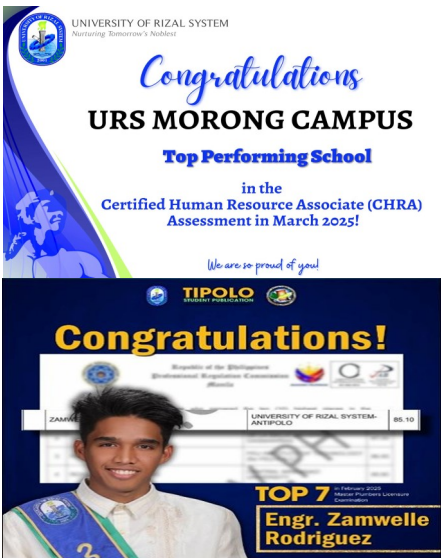


Strong Performance Shown in MELE, MPLE Exams; URS Hailed Top Performing in CHRA Test, Records MPLE Topnotcher

The University of Rizal System (URS) has demonstrated commendable results in the recent licensure examinations for Mechanical Engineers, Certified Human Resource Associates (CHRAs), and the Master Plumbers' licensure test, highlighting the institution's commitment to producing competent professionals.



R4 Women's Month Tackles Gender Equality, Inclusivity

The 2025 Regional Women's Month celebration in Region IV (CALABARZON) culminated in a powerful forum at the Ynares Event Center, Antipolo City, on March 20th, igniting a renewed commitment to gender equality and an inclusive society. Under the theme 'WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society' and the sub-theme 'Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas,' the event served as a platform for insightful discussions and strategic planning for the years ahead.

The celebration consisted of a welcome message from RD Carmel Matabang, Regional GAD Council Chairperson, inspirational messages from Hon. Gov. Nina Ricci Ynares, Rizal Province; and President Dr. Nancy Pascual, URS, and the keynote message from Dr. Amaryllis Torres, professor Emeritus, UP College of Social Work and Community Development (UP-CSWCD). The forum was further divided into three sessions called Advancing Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, Empowering Women through Social Solidarity Economy in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals, and Volunteerism on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, which were discussed by Ms. Nharleen Millar, OIC-Executive Director, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW); Dr. Benjamin Quiñones, Chairperson, Asian Solidarity Economy Council; and Ms. Fely Baday, Supervising Volunteer Officer and Chairperson of Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA). The event was also made light with performances from Hiyas ng Rizal dance troupe and the UCCA singers.

Other highlights of the event are the launching of the CALABARZON Gender and Development Agenda 2024-2030, and the turnover ceremony for the 2026 Regional Women's Month host, which is the Cavite State University.

The forum ended with the closing remarks from Ms. Josephine Parilla, RGADC Co-chairperson.

The R4 Women's Month forum served as a crucial step forward in the region's journey towards a truly gender-equal and inclusive society. With the newly launched GAD Agenda and the commitment of stakeholders, the momentum generated promises a brighter future for women in CALABARZON and the nation. ~

In the Mechanical Engineer licensure examinations held in February, the URS-Morong campus showcased a solid performance with 36 out of 49 examinees successfully passing. This translates to a passing rate of 42.35%, indicating the quality of engineering education provided at the Morong campus. Likewise, URS takes pride in its 14 graduates who passed the Master Plumbers' licensure examinations, with one graduate making it to the Top 7 rank.

The URS-Morong campus further distinguished itself in the March 2025 Certified Human Resource Associate (CHRA) examinations. All four examinees from URS-Morong passed the CHRA exams, achieving a perfect 100% passing rate. This outstanding result positions URS-Morong as one of the top-performing schools in the country for this particular licensure exam.

Beyond the impressive results from the Morong campus, other URS campuses also contributed to the overall success in the CHRA examinations. URS-Binangonan produced 3 successful passers, while URS-Tanay and URS-Rodriguez had 2 and 1 passers, respectively. These results across different URS campuses underscore the university's broader impact in producing qualified human resource professionals across the Rizal province.

Ten other CHRA passers across URS campuses were also recorded in February of this year.~

OURSS Elects Officers

The Organization of University of Rizal System Staff, Inc. (OURSS, Inc.) has ushered in a new era of leadership with the recent election and oath-taking of its officers. On January 13, the newly elected board members formally assumed their roles during a ceremony held before Dr. Nancy Pascual, president of the University of Rizal System (URS).

Leading the organization as President is Ms. Anna Minia Lourdes Martinez, bringing her vision and experience to the forefront. Supporting her in this endeavor is Ms. Grace Ann Faulve, who will serve as the Vice President.Ensuring the financial integrity of the organization, Ms. Anna Gefreliz Erpelos has been elected as the Treasurer. Overseeing the organization's accounts and ensuring transparency is Mr. Riomar Resurreccion, who will serve as the Auditor. Completing the executive board is Ms. Jessica Cristorum, who will take on the crucial role of Secretary, responsible for the organization's official records and communications.~

URSAC CoE Wins CHED EQUATE Awards; Ranks as Top Performing School

Testament to the goals and objectives of the College of Education in the University of Rizal System to hone future teachers is its recent accolade awarded by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) April 2 at the Manila Hotel, Rizal Park, Ermita, Manila.

The College of Education (CoE) of the University of Rizal System, Antipolo City Campus received the “Excellence in Quality Assurance in Teacher Education (EQUATE) Awards” from CHED for satisfying the consistent standard in the delivery of services in its teacher education programs.

The Commission recognized those high performing teacher education institutions (TEIs) in the Philippines for the consistent “upholding of the highest standards in ensuring the quality of pre-service teacher education programs, following the CHED minimum requirement standards, program accreditation, and excellent performance in the Board of Licensure Examination in Professional Teacher (BLEPT).”

The college is offering Bachelor



Local Innovations Registered as Utility Models by IPOPHIL

The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHIL) has officially recognized two significant local technological developments by granting them Utility Model registration. This form of intellectual property protection is awarded to technical solutions that are new and industrially applicable, offering a more accessible route for innovation compared to patents.

One of the registered technologies, titled "A Device for Attracting and Eliminating Mosquitoes," was developed by a team of dedicated individuals: Myrrah Kay Rioveros, Ronette Abarico, Eunice Borac, Novelle Aldam Villaluz, and their mentor, Prof. Eugene Tia. The registration was finalized on December 9, 2024. This innovative device aims to provide a solution for mosquito control, potentially contributing to the prevention of mosquito-borne diseases prevalent in the region. The utility model registration grants the developers the exclusive right to prevent others from commercially using their device without authorization for a period of seven years from the date of filing.

Likewise, IPOPHIL also granted a Utility Model registration on January 24, 2025, to Dr. Leo Rio and



Dr. Marites Rio for their technology, "Hard Hat with Face Shield and Air Curtain." This invention presents an advancement in personal protective equipment, designed to enhance the safety of workers in various industries. The integration of a face shield with an air curtain suggests a mechanism to protect the wearer not only from physical impact but also from airborne particles and contaminants, potentially improving workplace health and safety. ~ *abc*

of Secondary Education majors in English, Filipino, Mathematics, and Social Studies, and Bachelor in Elementary Education. The graduates of teacher education have been performing well in the licensure examination for teachers, particularly in the recent September 2024 examination. Its secondary level ranked 7th as top performing school in LET Secondary Level with 55 -99 examinees and at least 88% passing rate for its recorded 59 passers out of 64 examinees of 92.19%.

Present to receive the award were Dr. Nancy Pascual, university president; Dr. Danilo Pascual, director of URS Antipolo City Campus; Prof. Eloisa Bayangos, dean of the CoE; and Prof. Salve Oandasan, program head of the Bachelor of Secondary Education.~

159 Newly Appointed Faculty, Staff Take Oath

One hundred fifty-nine newly appointed and promoted faculty and staff took their oath of office on February 24 and on March 3 at the URS Morong Campus.



The ceremony was conducted following the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Omnibus Rules on Appointments and Other Human Resource Actions (Revised 2018), specifically Rule XIII, Section 139, which mandates the oath-taking and orientation program for new employees and continuous human resource interventions for existing employees.

The oath-taking was led by URS President, Dr. Nancy Pascual.~

Vasquez, Ynares Unite for URS-Taytay's Medical Future

The University of Rizal System (URS)-Taytay campus recently welcomed two prominent figures committed to the progress and well-being of Rizal province: Ms. Judith Duavit-Vasquez and Governor Nina Ricci Ynares. Their visit on February 25 marked a significant step towards realizing a long-held aspiration for the region – the establishment of a Medicine program at URS-Taytay.



MILESTONE. Ms. Vasquez and Gov. Ynares announces the establishment of a Science building that will soon house the College of Medicine.

Ms. Judith Duavit-Vasquez, widely recognized as the "Godmother of Philippine Internet" for her groundbreaking and forward-thinking contributions to the country's Information and Communications Technology sector, graced the campus alongside Governor Ynares. Her presence underscored the importance of innovation and progress, extending beyond the digital realm to encompass vital sectors like healthcare. Ms. Duavit-Vasquez carries a strong legacy of public service, being the daughter of the late former Congressman Gilberto Duavit of Rizal Province and the sister of current Congressman Michael John Duavit, further solidifying her deep connection to the region's development.

Rizal Governor Nina Ricci Ynares joined Ms. Duavit-Vasquez in visiting the College of Nursing at the URS-Taytay campus. The primary purpose of the visit was the momentous announcement and groundwork for the establishment of a new Science building. This state-of-the-art facility is envisioned to soon house the much-anticipated Medicine program, a significant milestone for the university and the entire province. ~

Faculty Publish Researches in Scopus-Indexed Journals

The University of Rizal System (URS) continues to make significant strides in research and innovation, with two faculty members recently having their scholarly works published in reputable, Scopus-indexed journals.

Dr. Jannie Manimtim, the URS Research Development Unit Director and a faculty member from URS Morong Campus, has published her research in the Pakistan Journal of Life Sciences. This Scopus-indexed journal provides a platform for high-quality research in various fields of life sciences. Dr. Manimtim's publication, titled "Toward Inclusive Education: Establishing the Relationship between Pre-service Teachers' Self-efficacy and Their Multidimensional Attitude," delves into a critical aspect of teacher education. Her research explores the crucial link between confidence and perceived capabilities (self-efficacy) of future educators and their multifaceted perspectives (multidimensional attitude) towards creating inclusive learning environments.

Meanwhile, Dr. Jose Elveña, a faculty researcher from URS Rodriguez Campus, has had his research findings published in the IJERP Life Sciences, another prominent Scopus-indexed



J. MANIMTIM

J. ELVEÑA

Journal. His research titled "Forecasting Solid Waste Generation in Rodriguez, Rizal Using Artificial Neural Network (ANN) and Regression Analysis: An Input to Municipality's Solid Waste Management," addresses a pressing environmental concern within the local community. Dr. Elveña's work utilizes advanced analytical techniques, specifically Artificial Neural Networks and Regression Analysis, to predict future trends in solid waste generation within Rodriguez, Rizal. ~

Health, Well-being Celebrated with New Center

The University of Rizal System (URS) marked a significant step forward in its commitment to the health and well-being of its students, faculty, and staff with the inauguration of its new Health and Wellness Center. The event, held on March 6, was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by a solemn blessing.



HEALTH & WELLNESS. The new center will provide various health-related services and programs.

The newly established Health and Wellness Center stands as a testament to the university's proactive approach in fostering a healthy and supportive environment for its community. This dedicated space will serve as a central hub for various health-related services, programs, and initiatives aimed at promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of key university officials, including Dr. Nancy Pascual, University President; Dr. Allan Conde, Dr. Marites Rio, and Dr. Marvin Amoin, Vice Presidents; Dr. Wilhelmina Masinsin, Director, URS GAD Center; deans, and representatives from the student body and faculty association.

Following the symbolic cutting of the ribbon, a blessing ceremony was conducted by Rev. Fr. Russel Berdin of San Isidro Labrador Parish Church, Morong. The blessing invoked divine guidance and protection for the center, its staff, and all those who will benefit from its services. ~

URS Shines at CHED CALABARZON Internationalization Awards

The University of Rizal System (URS) has been recognized for its outstanding commitment to internationalization, bagging three prestigious awards at the 2024 CHED CALABARZON Internationalization Awards. The accolades, applied for by the Office of International Development & Special Programs in December 2024, were conferred upon the university on December 18, 2024, during a ceremony held at Lyceum University in Cavite.



PRESTIGIOUS. VPAA Dr. Allan Conde, and IDSP Director Prof. Jonas Ynares receive three awards for resource generation, standardization, and EduRank position.

Out of a total of 375 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the CALABARZON region, URS distinguished itself by securing the following significant recognitions: 5th Rank for Internationalization in Resource Generation, Higher Education Institution with Internationalization Organization for Standardization Accreditation - ISO 9001:2015, and EDURANK Best Universities Award 2024.

The awards were received by Dr. Allan Conde, Vice President for Academic Affairs at URS, and Prof. Jonas Ynares, Director of the Office of International Development and Special Projects. ~

URS, KMU Beef Up Strong Academic Ties

Building on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Kaohsiung Medical University (KMU) and the University of Rizal System (URS), a delegation from URS participated in an enriching International Academic Exchange Workshop hosted by KMU from February 10-14, 2025. This MOU serves as a foundational agreement to foster academic collaboration and deepen mutual partnerships between the two universities, focusing on cross-institutional and cross-sector resource integration.



COLLABORATION. URS delegates take time to do academic and cultural exchange with faculty from KMU.

The URS delegation comprises Dr. Niclie Tiratira, Prof. Jeremy Aterrado, and Prof. Reymily Rose Sta. Ana from the College of Science of Morong Campus engaged in academic and cultural activities throughout the week to promote theoretical and practical cooperation. These activities are part of KMU's core concept of "local implementation of International University Social Responsibility (IUSR)," aiming to extend global academic exchanges and cultivate core talents.

Earth Hour, Zero Waste Prioritized

The University of Rizal System (URS) is demonstrating a powerful commitment to environmental responsibility through its active support of both Earth Hour 2025 and the International Day of Zero Waste 2025.



As part of its Earth Hour efforts, URS actively encouraged its community to participate in the symbolic lights-off event and to consider the broader implications of energy consumption.

URS also organized a webinar on March 21 titled "Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Mitigation in Lighting and Electricity." This online event, accessible via Google Meet and YouTube Live, featured a distinguished speaker: Dir. Patrick Aquino, CESO III, the Director of the Energy Utilization Management Bureau (EUMB) of the Philippine Department of Energy (DOE). Director Aquino shared his expertise on how to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions through conscious choices in lighting and electricity usage.

Further solidifying its commitment to environmental sustainability, URS, through its Environmental Education and Biodiversity Research Center (EEBRC), participated in the International Day of Zero Waste 2025 across all ten of its campuses. This year's global theme, "Towards Zero Waste in Fashion and Textiles," resonated strongly with URS's dedication to promoting responsible consumption and production. The university recognized the significant environmental impact of the fashion industry and the urgent need to adopt circular solutions to reduce textile waste.

By actively supporting both Earth Hour and the International Day of Zero Waste, the University of Rizal System is demonstrating a comprehensive and proactive approach to environmental sustainability. ~