



# Biblio Access

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIVERSITY OF RIZAL SYSTEM LIBRARY SERVICES

ISSN 2507-8461  
2024

VOLUME X, NUMBER I

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## URS Librarians Participate in PLAI Congress 2024; University Librarian Presents Research

by Edith N. Sedutan

Training is a structured process through which development professionals support individuals in enhancing their job performance. In line with this, the University Library Services unit recognizes the importance of continuous growth and development for its librarians. For the Academic Year 2024–2025, the URS institution has approved various training programs, conferences, and professional development activities, enabling librarians to further strengthen their skills and elevate the quality of service they provide.

Leading the URS delegation were University Librarian and Pililla Campus Librarian, Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, along with Mrs. Aleili T. Bolire, Morong Campus Librarian; Prof. Analyn M. Tanawan, Laboratory School Librarian of Morong; Ms. Sheila R. Raguine, Antipolo Campus Librarian; Mrs. Cherry M. Damiles, Taytay Campus Librarian; and Prof. Edith N. Sedutan, a faculty member of the College of Education and the Campus Librarian of Rodriguez.



The 2024 Annual Congress of the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) was held in Davao City, bringing together library professionals from across the country for a four-day national conference. Representing the University of Rizal System six campus librarians from various URS campuses actively participated in this significant event.



Moreover, a presentation of research output has been presented by Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, the University Librarian, on behalf of the PNULISAA, to discuss the PNULISSA Unconference for Library Professionals (PULP). This PULP unconference enhances professional learning by providing a flexible and interactive environment. It emphasizes the importance of libraries in societal transformation, providing practical solutions and diverse perspectives for digital literacy, community development, and social inclusion.

Our participation highlights the university's commitment to professional development and the continuous enhancement of library services across its campuses.

## Extension Initiatives: URS Morong Book Donations in support of RA 7743 and Distribution of School Supplies to Day Care Students of Barangay Pila – Pila Binangonan, Rizal

by Aizel Jiane P. Fernando & Moises SP. Supilanas

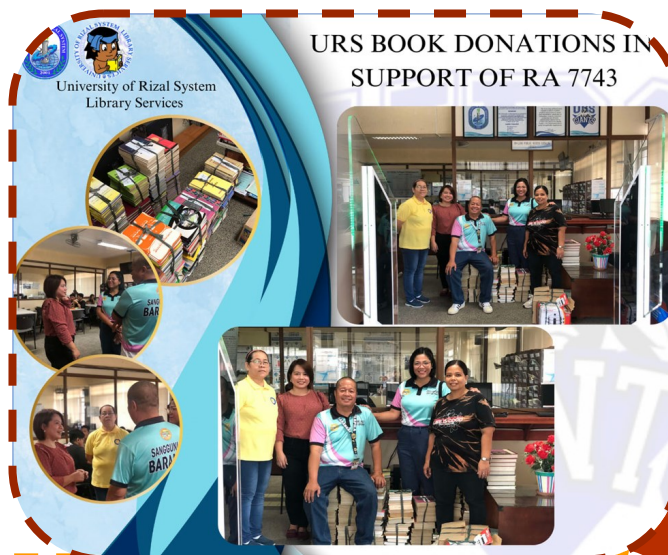
The University of Rizal System Library Services continues to champion literacy and education through its impactful book donation initiative. Aligned with Republic Act 7743, which mandates the establishment of public libraries and reading centers nationwide, this effort aims to provide accessible learning resources and foster a culture of reading within local communities.

A turnover ceremony was held at the URS Morong Library on July 16, 2024, attended by key figures from both the university and the local government. Mrs. Anna Martinez, University Librarian, and Mrs. Aleili Bolire, Morong Campus Librarian, formally turned over the donated books to Brgy. Chair Hon. Johann Nido and Brgy. Councilor and Chair on Committee of Education and Women and Children Hon. Coco Antiporda of Barangay Pila-Pila, Binangonan, Rizal.

This initiative reflects URS's steadfast commitment to community enrichment, ensuring that essential educational materials reach those who need them most. By Supporting public libraries, URS not only enhances academic resources but also

strengthens the foundation for lifelong learning and intellectual growth.

Through the ongoing efforts of the Library Services Unit, URS remains dedicated to expanding educational opportunities and nurturing an environment where knowledge is accessible to all. This initiative stands as a testament to the university's mission of fostering literacy, empowerment, and social development within the community.



### URS Library Services Unit Empowers Young Learners Through School Supply Donation

As part of its community extension initiative, the University of Rizal System Library Services Unit distributed essential school supplies to daycare students in Barangay Pila-Pila, Binangonan, Rizal. Led by University Librarian Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez through the support of URS Pililla students, the initiative aims to support early childhood education by equipping young learners with the necessary tools for their studies.





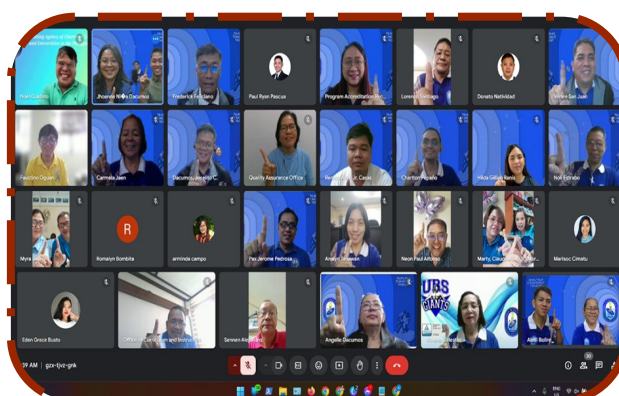
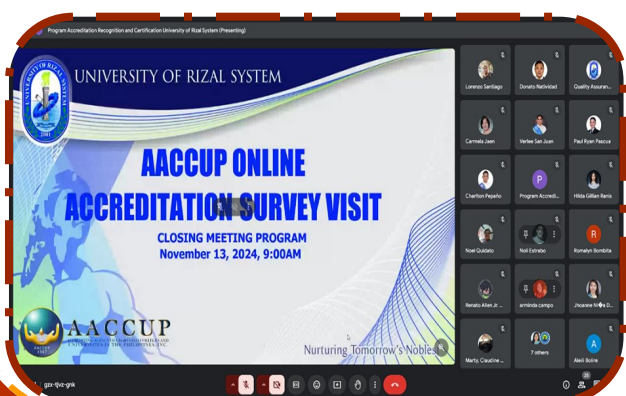
## URS Library Services Subjected to Accreditation and CHED-COPC Visit

by Aleili T. Bolire

The University of Rizal System is continuously pursuing its quest for excellence, thus submits itself to accreditation audits and CHED-COPC Visits, during these undertakings the Library Services Unit is one of the areas subjected to evaluation to ensure they meet the predetermined quality standards.

In the year 2024, there were four (4) campuses which underwent Survey Visits by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP) via virtual platform and one campus which underwent CHED-COPC onsite visit. These are the following campuses and programs to wit:

Campus	Programs	Level	Date
Binangonan	College of Computer Science	Level 3 - Phase 2	December 04, 2024
Morong	College of Industrial Technology	Level 3 - Phase 2	November 13, 2024
Tanay	Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Bio systems Engineering Bachelor of Science in Psychology Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Bachelor of Science in Office Administration Bachelor of Science in Tourism Management	Level 3 - Phase 2	December 04, 2024
Taytay	Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education Major in Information and Communication Technology Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Level 2 Onsite Visit COPC	May 15, 2024 April 15, 2024



Continue on page (9)..

# URS Giants joins the 90th National Book Week Celebration

by Suzette I. Arregadas

Reading has always been an essential part of our lives, serving as a purposeful activity that greatly influences both our cognitive development and well-being. With this in mind, the University of Rizal System Library Services Unit has been dedicated from the start to promoting the joy and significance of reading to every Giant and the entire academic community. The unit remains firmly committed to its mission of serving the URS community promptly and efficiently. It strives to provide exceptional service at all times and goes the extra mile to acquire diverse learning and instructional materials: valuing books and other library resources as vital sources of knowledge, the unit also empowers education through research and academic contributions.

During the 90th National Book Week Celebration with the theme "Read, Dream, Celebrate!" took place on November 19-29, 2024, the URS Library and Services Unit organized several activities including: The Best Library Selfie, Digital Bookmark Designing Contest, and Book Face Challenge. The following are the winners of the said activities:

## Best Library Selfie:

- *1st place:* Mark A. Villa of Bachelor of Arts in Political student from Pililla Campus
- *2nd place:* Lyka B. Rapsing of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Tanya Campus
- *3rd place:* Jevy Rose V. Balino and Arowtisi Company of Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in Filipino from Angono Campus
- *2nd place:* Mark A. Villa of Bachelor of Arts in Political student from Pililla Campus,
- *3rd place:* Mica Ella M. Tibay of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Tanay Campus.

## Digital Bookmark Designing Contest:

- *1st place:* Daniel L. Dickenson of Bachelor of Fine Arts Major in Visual Communication from Angono Campus,
- *2nd place:* Carl Norman C. San Juan of Bachelor of Industrial Technology from Morong Campus,
- *3rd place:* Ryzza Abygaile P. Valencia of Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Pililla Campus.

## Book Face Challenge:

- *1st place:* Ashley Mae P. Steve Of Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education from Taytay Campus,

As part of the celebration, the URS Library Services Unit also gave recognitions to students and faculty members who have shown commendable passion for exploring knowledge and resources in the library as well as their unceasing patronage. The following are the recognized students and faculty members as Top Library Users:

## Top Library Users: (Faculty Category)

Angono Campus - Prof. Tammy Palada  
 Antipolo Campus - Prof. Marck Ferdinand A. Aguilar  
 Binangonan Campus - Prof. Roselle Joy Bitong  
 Cainta Campus - Prof. Rafael Picardal  
 Cardona Campus - Prof. Cathy Amoin  
 Morong Campus - Prof. Ferdinand M. Fernando  
 Pililla Campus - Prof. Mark Adrian Perez  
 Tanay Campus - Prof. Marinette C. Ramos  
 Taytay Campus - Prof. Princes Geroche

Giants from various campuses actively participated in these activities. The Event and Work Committee, led by Ms. Suzette Arregadas, along with a panel of judges, reviewed each submitted entry based on the established mechanics and criteria. The entries, particularly the winning ones, truly demonstrated the creativity, innovation, and enthusiasm of the Giants. The URS Library Services Unit is deeply grateful to all participants and looking forward to the next festive and engaging celebrations for the love of reading in the URS academic community.



# Harnessing Library Utilization Data: Empowering Library

by Rhealyn R. Nimer

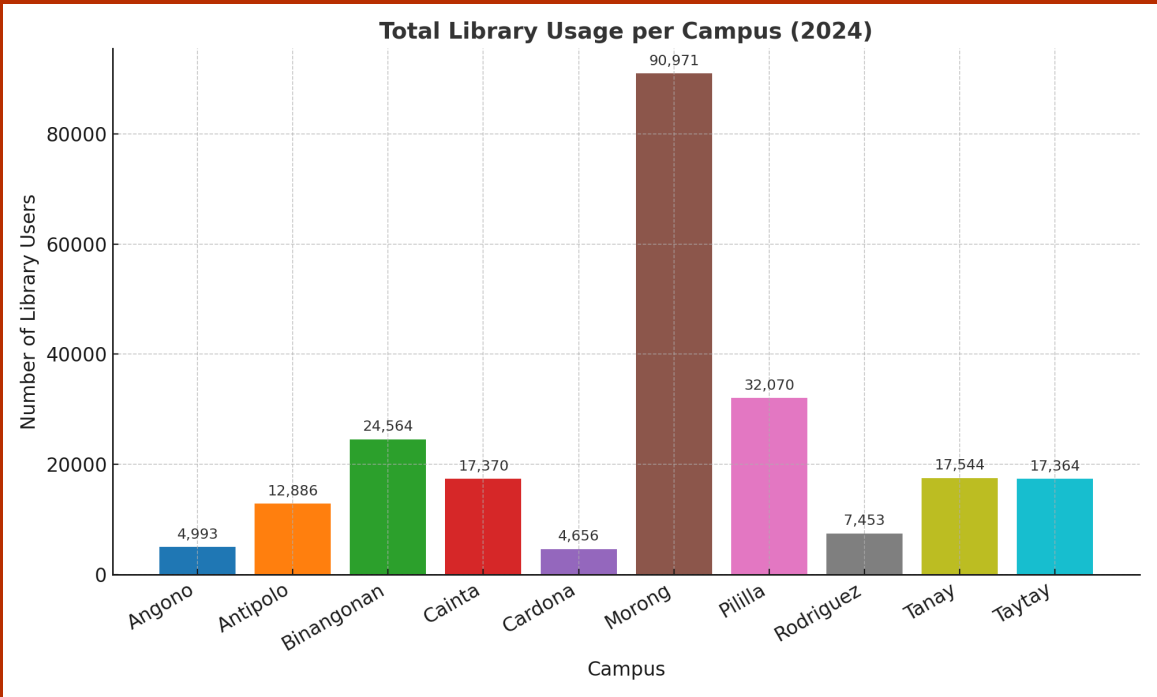
The utilization statistics of a library provide valuable insights into how resources, services, and facilities are accessed and used by patrons. These figures are vital for assessing service effectiveness, identifying areas for improvement, and supporting data-driven decision-making.

At the University of Rizal System, the 2024 library utilization statistics reveal a significant level of engagement. A total of 229,871 onsite users across the ten URS campuses accessed library services. This strong turnout underscores the continuing importance of physical library spaces as hubs of academic activity and student support.

It is important to note that the number of library users per campus generally reflects the number of enrollees. Larger campuses tend to record higher library usage due to their bigger student population. For instance, Morong Campus, being the most populous campus, registered the highest number of library users at 90,971, far surpassing the other campuses. This trend demonstrates the close relationship between enrollment size and library utilization rates.

Beyond physical use, URS Library Services have expanded accessibility through digital platforms. In 2024, online library resources, such as e-books, academic databases, journals, and research tools, were available anytime and anywhere. This ensures flexibility and convenience, supporting both students and faculty whether on campus or studying remotely.

The interpretation of these figures goes beyond numbers, it reflects user behavior, preferences, and evolving needs. For librarians and administrators, such data guides the monitoring of trends, enhancement of collections, and improvement of outreach strategies, ensuring that services remain responsive, inclusive, and efficient.





## URS Conducts Annual Strategic Planning and Budgeting to Align Goals and Resources

by Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez

The University of Rizal System recently held its Annual Strategic Planning and Budgeting activity, bringing together unit heads and top management from all campuses and offices. This significant yearly event ensures that all plans and initiatives across the university are aligned with the allocated budget and guided by URS's institutional goals and priorities.

Among the participants was Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, the University Librarian, who attended the Annual University Planning and Budget Presentation for Fiscal Year 2025 held on October 4 and 7, 2024 at the Function Hall, URS Morong Campus. Her attendance reflects the active involvement of library services in aligning their plans with the broader direction of the university.

A key highlight of the event was the presentation of the Program Procurement Management Plan (PPMP) by the different divisions and units. These plans detailed the specific supplies, equipment, and services required for the year ahead. By reviewing and discussing these collectively, URS ensures that all proposals are realistic, necessary, and in line with strategic goals and available resources.

This planning process is more than just budgeting, it represents a commitment to wise, fair, and effective resource use. It helps prevent unnecessary spending, avoids duplication of requests, and ensures that funding is directed toward the most essential programs and services that benefit students, faculty, and staff. Beyond resource planning, the activity also fosters collaboration and shared decision-making. It provides an opportunity for unit heads to work closely with top management in refining priorities and building a unified direction for the university.

Through this annual initiative, URS reinforces its dedication to transparency, accountability, and quality service delivery. By thoughtfully aligning plans with budgetary allocations, the university ensures that each step taken contributes to meaningful and lasting improvements across the system.



## Commitment to Quality: URS Successfully Undergoes ISO 9001:2015 Audit

by Sheila E. Raguine

In its pursuit of continuous improvement and quality assurance, the University of Rizal System underwent ISO recertification on April 19, 2024. This process involved an external audit conducted by a certified auditing body to verify compliance with the required ISO standards.

As part of the certification requirements, an internal audit was conducted beforehand to ensure the university's readiness for the external evaluation by **TÜV Rheinland**, the accredited agency responsible for granting URS its international certification. This initiative underscores the university's commitment to fostering a culture of accountability and excellence, marking a significant step in evaluating and enhancing its internal processes.

The campus libraries were among the units audited, with a focus on facilities, services, resources, operations, security, and user satisfaction. Representing the campus libraries during the audit were Mrs. Kristina De Leon for URS Angono and Ms. Vivian A. Lirio for URS Binangonan. These audits play a crucial role in ensuring that library services, facilities, and management systems align with global best practices. They also help identify areas for improvement and enhance efficiency in library administration, particularly in acquisition, information organization, and research support.

Achieving ISO recertification strengthens the university's reputation and competitiveness in international education. It also ensures that quality standards are continually improved and maintained, ultimately benefiting stakeholders through the implementation of best practices.



## Resource Acquisition, Integration of OER and Library Improvements 2024

by Analyn M. Tanawan & Rayli P. Martin

In response to the evolving needs of students and researchers, libraries continue to enhance their resources and facilities. This year, the University Library is making significant strides in resource acquisition and the integration of Open Educational Resources (OER), ensuring broader access to cost-effective and flexible learning materials.

To strengthen academic support, the library has added 614 new print titles, totaling 1,030 volumes, alongside 145 new e-book titles, expanding digital accessibility for students and faculty. Further promoting open access to knowledge, 926 Open Educational Resources from the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) have been integrated into the university's online Integrated Library System, providing valuable academic materials free of charge. Library improvements also focus on creating a more comfortable and technology-driven learning environment. New air conditioning systems have been installed at both the Pililla and Morong Campus libraries, enhancing the overall user experience. Additionally, upgrades such as automated systems, interactive learning spaces, and expanded digital collections are fostering a more efficient, inclusive, and student-centered library.

Through these continuous advancements, the university remains committed to enriching research, learning, and knowledge-sharing. By integrating OER, expanding collections, and upgrading facilities, the library strengthens its role as a vital academic hub, supporting a dynamic and accessible educational experience for all.



## 2024 LIBRARY INSTRUCTION SERIES APA REFERENCING STYLES IN URS BINANGONAN AND TANAY CAMPUS LIBRARIES

by Anna Gefreliz P. Erpelo

Intellectual honesty is vital in academic endeavors. This entails ethical research methodologies and acknowledging relevant and related studies cited in one's paper. The collaboration of the faculty members handling thesis writing courses and the campus libraries became an avenue to conduct library instruction for APA referencing styles. URS Binangonan and Tanay Campus Libraries have successfully undertaken library

instructions focusing on proper in-text citation and reference list following the latest Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association and the printed and electronic library resources of the University. Ms. Vivian A. Lirio facilitated the Library Instruction and Citation Style Training in URS Binangonan Campus held on February 20-27, 2024 and August 12 – 14, 2024. The onsite library instruction



session was participated by the undergraduate thesis writing students, and another session was conducted via the virtual platform for the graduate school students.

Mrs. Anna Gefreliz P. Erpelo facilitated the library instruction for library resources & APA citation in URS Tanay Campus Electronic Resource Center held on March 08, 2024. Participated in by students from the College of Agriculture. This Session focused on making the most of the university library's resources and appropriately using the APA citation format. Students learned how to properly and morally credit their sources in accordance with the most recent APA criteria and were also introduced to the resources required to access print and electronic references.



## URS Received Computer Units from NUTRINET

by Riomar C. Resurreccion

The Nutrition and Dietetics Research and Information Network (NUTRINET) is a governmental alliance and academic institution committed to nutrition and dietetics research in the Philippines. NUTRINET was established in 1979, it serves as a collaborative platform for promoting the development, sharing, and dissemination of nutrition-related information and resources. Through its programs - such as the Adopt-a-Library initiative-NUTRINET supports academic libraries by providing access to quality materials, technological resources, and capacity-building opportunities. The University of Rizal System (URS) proudly received two computer units donated by the Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health, in collaboration with the Nutrition and Dietetics Research and Information Network (NUTRINET). As part of the Adopt-a-Library program was made possible, an initiative dedicated to enhancing library services across academic institutions.

Representing URS at the turnover ceremony held at DOST-FNRI, Taguig City, were our University Librarian Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, and

Mr. Riomar C. Resurreccion, who formally accepted the units on behalf of the university. The donation was facilitated by Ms. Joenabie E. Arevalo, Deputy University Librarian for Reader Services., in partnership with NUTRINET and key stakeholders from the donor institution.

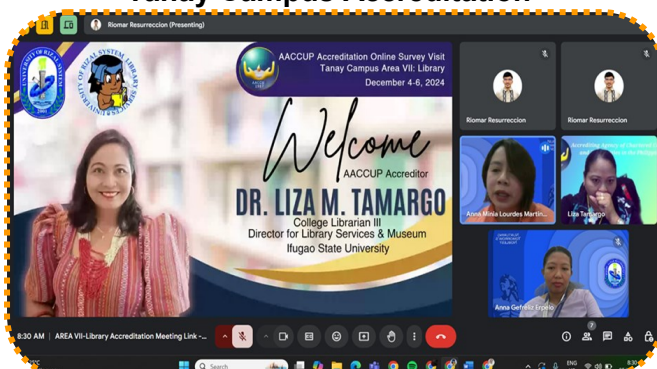
This collaborative effort exemplifies how shared goals and community-focused programs like Adopt-a-Library can empower institutions and create meaningful, lasting impacts. As URS continues to grow as a center of knowledge, these partnerships reinforce the library's role as a dynamic hub of innovation, learning, and opportunity.



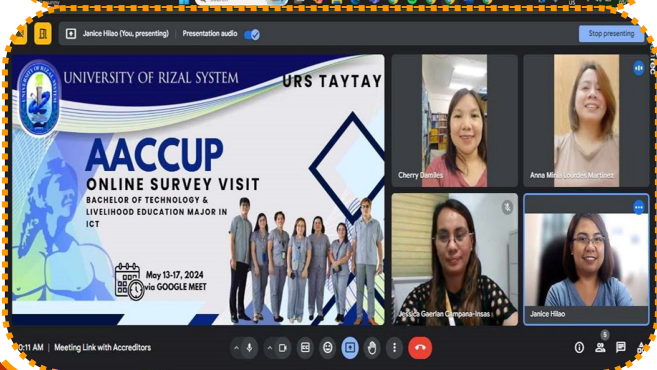


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### Tanay Campus Accreditation



### Taytay Campus Accreditation



## Unlimited Learning : E-Journal Access Now Available

by Cherry M. Damiles

E-journals are the digital versions of academic and professional journals, providing full-text access to the most current research, studies and reviews. With focus on quality and peer-reviewed content, e-journals are invaluable tools for academic and professional growth.

We are thrilled to announce that our E-Journals Subscription is now available, offering you access to a vast collection of online academic resources! Whether you are a student, faculty member, or researcher, this new service will enhance your ability to stay informed with the latest research and scholarly articles in your field.

Here's a new addition to the Library!

**Gale OneFile: Periodicals 100**, a multidisciplinary database that offers a vast selection of academic research, scholarly articles, and journals from international publications. This new addition cover various disciplines, supporting your study and research needs. Gale puts the right vetted content and tools at your fingertips!

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**Philippine E-Journals (PEJ)** is an online collection of academic publications of different higher education institutions and professional organizations. Its sophisticated database allows users to easily locate abstracts, full journal articles, and links to related research materials.

## OURSS Elected Officers from the Library Services Unit

by Verisse Ann Salcedo & Rayli T. Martin

The Organization of University of Rizal System Staff (OURSS) Inc. has elected a new set of officers for the next three-year term. The newly elected officers are:

**President:** Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez ; **Vice President:** Grace Ann Faulve; **Treasurer:** Anna Gefreliz P. Erpelo; **Auditor:** Riomar Resurreccion .

Continued on page 10...

continuation ... OURSS Elected Officers from the Library Services Unit from page 09

Notably, three of these officers come from the Library Services Unit. This means that the library, a cornerstone of learning and growth, will have an even stronger voice in shaping policies, fostering collaboration, and driving innovation within the University community.

The election of the new officers marks the beginning of a new chapter for OURSS. With their leadership, the organization aims to implement innovative initiatives, improve operations, and foster a dynamic academic environment. Their dedication to service and professional growth will undoubtedly contribute to the continued success of the University of Rizal System community. The election took place during the annual general assembly on *December 6, 2024* held at Dumagat Hall, URS Tanay Campus.

OURSS plays a crucial role in uniting and supporting the staff of the University of Rizal System. This new leadership team is dedicated to improve teamwork and communication between departments, and introducing professional development programs. Through their guidance, OURSS aims to create a more cohesive and progressive university environment. To our newly elected officers – Congratulations! We are looking forward to the positive impact they will bring and extend our best wishes to the new officers as they embark on this journey of leadership and service.

## Strengthening Partnership with: BSP-KRN, Tech4Ed, and NUTRINET

by Anna Gefreliz P. Erpelo

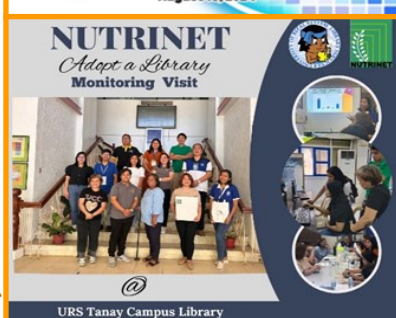
In line with our commitment to fostering meaningful collaborations and ensuring program sustainability, the University of Rizal System Library Services conducted a strategic monitoring visit with the key partner institutions. These included an online monitoring visit with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas - Knowledge Resource Network (BSP-KRN), and onsite monitoring visits with the Tech4ED Center and the Nutrition and Dietetics Research and Information Network (NUTRINET). These engagements provided valuable opportunities to assess the status of ongoing initiatives, reinforce shared objectives, and identify areas for growth and innovation. Strengthening these partnerships is vital in promoting access to quality information, advancing digital empowerment, and supporting health and nutrition research for community development.



BSP-KRN remains an essential resource for economic updates, financial literacy, and educational materials for community researchers, educators, and students. Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, Mrs. Anna Gefreliz P. Erpelo, and Mr. Riomar C. Resurreccion attended a virtual monitoring session via Facebook Messenger, which showed that local stakeholders were becoming more interested in financial education resources and that user involvement had increased.



Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) conducted an Onsite monitoring visit at University of Rizal System Tanay Campus Library on August 15, 2024. The DICT Team was warmly received by the University Librarian Mrs. Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez, who highlighted the library's ongoing commitment to supporting digital inclusion and lifelong learning through the Tech4ED program.



Nutrition and Dietetics Research and Information Network (NUTRINET) team, composed of representatives from DOST, EARIST, and DAR, conducted an onsite monitoring visit at University of Rizal System Tanay Campus Library. The visit focused on evaluating how the resources provided by NUTRINET are being accessed and integrated into academic programs, research activities, and literacy efforts. As a valued partner since 2018, University of Rizal System continues to demonstrate its commitments to maximize the impact of the donations by ensuring the materials reach students, faculty members and researchers.

# Newly Added Services at the University of Rizal System Library: Enhancing Accessibility and Streamlining Research

by Britt Marie Luna

The University of Rizal System Library continues to innovate and provide valuable services to students, faculty, and researchers. Two new services have been introduced to assist with research processes and enhance accessibility for all users. These services are designed to make academic work more efficient, inclusive, and user-friendly.

**Bibliographic Citation Tools Service: Streamline Your Research with Ease.** Say goodbye to the hassle of manual citation! The URS Library is excited to introduce the Bibliographic Citation Tools Service, which offers an easy

way to generate accurate citations for your research papers, theses, and projects.

The library currently offers access to Zotero, a powerful yet easy-to-use citation tool that formats citations automatically in several styles, including APA, MLA, Chicago, and others. Zotero saves time by gathering, organizing, and formatting references at the touch of a button.

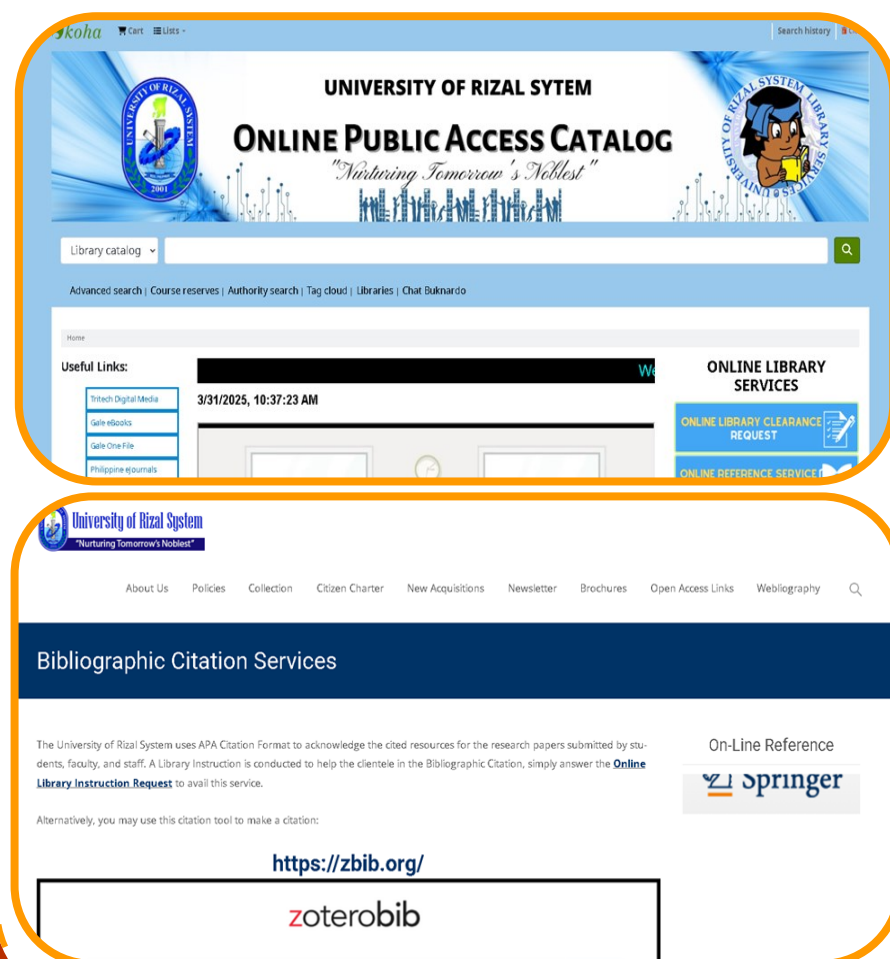
For students and faculty who need extra help, the library further provides Library Instruction on Bibliographic Citation. The service offers individualized instruction on how to properly use

Zotero and comprehend the significance of effective citation in academic writing.

**Alt-text and Assistive Technology Integration: Making It Easier for All.** In its continued quest to make accessibility even better for everyone, the URS Library has upgraded its Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) by adding Alt-text (alternative text) to the catalog's icons. Alt-text describes non-text elements like images and icons in textual form, which makes the OPAC more accessible to print disabled users.

The recently upgraded OPAC can be accessed online at <http://opac.urs.edu.ph>, where patrons can experience the Alt-text option by merely enabling the assistive technologies on their devices.

The addition of Alt-text is just one of the many steps the URS Library Services is taking to ensure that all users, regardless of their abilities, have an equal opportunity to access and utilize library resources. This initiative underscores the university's dedication to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment, ensuring that all students, regardless of their needs, can fully engage with the resources available to them. This enhancement reflects the URS Library Services' ongoing commitment to inclusivity and equal access to information for all faculty, staff and students.





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## Benchmarking Excellence at Bulacan State University

by Anna Minia Lourdes C. Martinez

Benchmarking is the process of comparing a library's services, resources, operations, practices, or performance with those of other libraries. It helps identify the strengths and weaknesses and areas for improvement drive better outcomes. This process helps evaluate how well they are performing, identify areas where improvements can be made, and adopt innovative practices that have been successful elsewhere. The purpose of this benchmarking is not to imitate other libraries but to learn from their best practices and apply them in a way that can fit the unique needs of the institutions and their communities.

Benchmarking is increasingly important nowadays in this fast-changing information environment, where libraries adapt to new technologies, changing user expectations from the old traditions of libraries to the new faces of libraries. It promotes the culture to continue improvement, encourages collaborations with other libraries, and ensures that library services remain relevant and impact.

As part of the continuous growth and service excellence, the University of Rizal System Library Services Unit conducted a benchmarking activity at Bulacan State University E-Library on June 27, 2024. The BulSU Library team headed by Ms. Jean Ann G. Ramos proudly showcased the state-of-the-Art Library Facilities and Services of the Library.

