



Trinity University of Asia

The Research & Development Center

“Transformational Leadership Towards a Culture of Excellence in Asian Service-Learning”

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Research Project Management Officer Presents Paper in an International Conference



Mrs. Capili during the session

Ms. Maria Antonia Crudo-Capili, the Research Project Management Officer of the University Research and Development Center, presented her research on *Lived Experiences of Teachers: A Reflection on Interpersonal Relationships* in the International Science Education Conference (ISEC) 2009. The conference was held at the National Science Institute of Education, Singapore on November 24 to 26, 2009 with the theme “*Science Education: Shared Issues, Common Future*”. The conference was attended by 700 science education researchers and educators, school leaders, curriculum developers, and policy makers from different countries in Asia, America and Europe. It updated the attendees on the recent developments in science education and gave them the opportunity to exchange ideas with leading experts in the field of science education.

Ms. Capili presented her paper on the second day of the conference to an audience consisting of educators from Australia, Canada, Hongkong, China, South Korea, Turkey, Singapore and the Philippines. A follow-up discussion took place after the presentation which gave the audience a chance to share their experiences as science educators. There was a consensus that the lived experiences of one teacher is similar to the lived experiences of another teacher regardless of race and status. She was assigned as the chairperson of the parallel session where she presented her paper. The said session focused on issues on professional development and teacher education. As chairperson of the session, she managed the time for the presentation and facilitated the open forum. Joining her in the session were Mr. Yusuf Yilmaz from Turkey, Ms. Kay Lembo of Canada and Susan John of Australia who also presented their papers.

Ms. Grace Fu, Senior Minister of State of the Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Education of Singapore welcomed the delegates. In her welcome remarks she stressed the role of science in raising the quality of life and enhancing the development of society. She pointed out that science literacy is an essential skill which everyone should be aware of.

(continued on page 4)

University Research and Development Center Sponsors Research Capability Building Seminars

The URDC collaborated with the University Committee on Faculty Development in holding a research enhancement training for TUA faculty. On November 4, 2009, a series of research capability building seminars was held at the Wayland S. Mandell Auditorium. The seminar was anchored on the theme “*Intensifying the Quest for Excellence in Research*”. It was well attended by faculty members from the different colleges of the University. Attendees of the seminar were welcomed with the inspiring remarks of Dr. Epitacio Palispis, VP for Academic Affairs of TUA. He extolled the faculty to explore the

different avenues that grant funding for research. He encouraged the faculty to conduct research by citing innumerable opportunities in research.

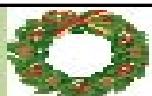
The first session focused on the topic “*Conducting True Experimental Research*” which was presented by



Dr. Milagros D. Iba

Dr. Ferdinand C. Lacuerta

Dr. Julian E. Abas-o



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Message



Enhancing further our research capability is one of the major thrusts of Trinity since it became a University on July 18, 2006. Since then, efforts have been made to encourage the various sectors of the University

to get involved in research activities. The response of the faculty and non-teaching staff, as well as administrators, has been very encouraging.

The University Research and Development Center, under the able leadership of Dr. Angelita Bugnalen, Director, has been receiving concept papers if not proposals from faculty researchers. Research has been considered one major component of productive scholarship activity among the people in the academy. Due to this enthusiasm among the academicians, both faculty members and administrators, four types of journals have been in circulation: (1) *The Trinitian Scholar*, a journal that features professional and scientific papers written by faculty and school administrators, many of which have been presented in national, if not international conferences and workshops; (2) *The Trinitian Researcher*, a journal that features research outputs done by faculty members and refereed by external experts and reviewers; (3) *The Trinitian Student Researcher*, a journal that features the researches undertaken by undergraduate students chosen from the different academic units and colleges; and (4) *The Research Journal* published by the Graduate School of the University featuring theses and dissertations submitted by master's and doctoral students.

In addition to the foregoing, some institutional researches are being conducted by the University Research and Development Center focusing on the research agenda of the University.

These and other developments are concrete proofs that the University has been true to its intention to continuously enhance its research capability until it meets certain criteria of becoming not only a teaching university but a research institution, as well.

In view of these developments, allow me to commend the University Research and Development Center for a work well done.

EPITACIO S. PALISPIS, Ed. D.

URDC Releases Second Issue of the Trinitian Researcher

The URDC releases the second issue of the *Trinitian Researcher* this December. It features 8 research articles of which four are classified faculty researches and funded by the University, and four training-oriented researches done in partial fulfillment of a degree in other colleges/universities. The following are:

Research Topic	Author/s	Institution	Budget Granted
Meta-Analysis of the AACSB-AAI Accreditation Survey Instrument: Towards Achieving Quality and Excellence in Education	Teresita Daffon	College of Arts and Sciences	-na-
Management of Upstream Barrio Schools: A Case Study	Adela Gillette	College of Education	-na-
The Status of the Faculty Development Program of Selected State Universities and Colleges in Region 1: Basis for a Proposed Faculty Development Program	Froelie Somera	College of Arts and Sciences	-na-
Emission of an Ortho-Fraxis Leadership for People's Development: The Case of Barangay 598, Zone 59, Sta Mesa, Manila (A Thero-merological Study)	Juliet Buay	Trinitian Center for Community Development	-na-
Students' Awareness and Adherence to the Core Values of Trinity University of Asia	Myra Ramos Gwyneth Tamondong Rose Gerroga Guillermina Vizcarra	College of Business Admin.	65,760
Learning from Experiences: Lesson from Teachers' Stories	Ma. Antonia Crudo-Capili	University Research and Development Center	25,000
An Evaluation of Trinity University of Asia Service Units: Implications to Stakeholder Satisfaction	Cesar Orsai Angelita Bugnalen Wilhemina Tomas Jose Lino Samiento	Institutional Research	89,095
Exploring a Credentialing Program Across Disciplines as a Faculty Development Strategy: Trinity University of Asia	Elias Sampe	University Research and Development Center	42,400

The manuscripts were refereed by experts in the field of research. Among the respected reviewers were Dr. Betsy Joy Tan, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Silliman University; Dr. Merle Tan, Director, University of the Philippines-National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development, Dr. Mina Ramirez, President, Asian Social Institute, Dr. Nieves Medina, Dean of Graduate School, University of Perpetual Help System-s Pinas City, Dr. Rosita Navarro, former President of Centro Escolar University, Dr. Brenda Corpuz, Philippine Regulation Commission; Dr. Milagros Ibe, University of the Philippines, Dr. Catherine Castaneda, Director, NCR, CHED, and Dr. Libertad Garcia, Director, Office of Quality Management, CHED.

URDC Takes Active Part in Internal Quality Assurance Mechanism

Dr. Angelita Bugnalen, URDC Director and Prof. Elias Sampa, URDC Research Skills Enhancement Officer, were assigned by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Eпитacio S. Palispis as members of the Internal Quality Assurance Mechanism Committee. The latter created this committee as an internal quality

mechanism and an ongoing forum for communication between the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the various colleges and departments of the university units. The idea of it came about as a logical consequence of the long journey Trinity College undertook to become Trinity University of Asia, and further efforts to gain institutional accreditation status, autonomous status and Accreditation and Certification. Several people have been members of the committee in various program accreditations. VPAA recognized the need to create

a group representing all units of the university which came to be known as the Autonomous Status Committee. Then a smaller committee was created to refine the documentation from the subcommittees. The final documents were then submitted for Accreditation and for Autonomy. Impressed with how participatory and effective it worked and with the results obtained, the VPAA decided to maintain this Ad hoc Committee to continue the work of continuous improvement efforts.

The committee therefore stands to sustain the spirit of continuous commitment to quality improvement

as an internal mechanism. It is composed of representatives from the basic educational functions of the University such as Research, Instruction, Extension and Library represented by Dr. Angelita P. Bugnalen, URDC Director, Dr. Juliet K. Bucoy, Extension Director, Prof. Menandro Magculang, Administrative Officer of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.



The Internal Quality Assurance Mechanism Committee meets for a meeting in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

performance.

URDC Personnel Attends 5th Graduate Research Congress

All the URDC personnel attended the 5th Graduate Research Congress which was held on 29 August 2009 at the Emilio Aguinaldo College Auditorium (EAC), Ermita Manila. The congress was sponsored by the Philippine Association for Graduate Education (PAGE-NCR) with its theme “*Enhancing Research Culture in Philippine Higher Educations in the National Capital Region*”. The Congress started with the welcome remarks of PAGE-NCR President, Dr. Eпитacio Palispis. He expounded on the objectives of the affair highlighting the importance of research in an educational institution.

Three papers presented in the Research Congress were from Trinity University of Asia: *Parents, Teachers and Community Leaders’ Partnership Towards Productive Home, School and Community Collaboration for Better Pupil Achievement, School and Community Improvement* by Salve S. Odoño in the Teacher Education/Maritime Education Cluster; *Towards the Enlightened Model of Lydia Halls’ Care, Core, Cure Using the Perspectives of ‘Aruga’ for Holistic Nursing Needs of Filipino Patients* by Michael Dela Cruz, faculty of the St. Luke’s College of Nursing in the Health Science, Nursing, Medical Technology. Pharmacy Cluster; *The Medical Technology Students’ Experiences in the Internship Training Program in Affiliated Hospitals Towards Program Enhancement* by Julius Eleasar Jose.

Dr. Benjamin Dayrit and Dr. Rodelio Bathan of Trinity University of Asia facilitated two of the parallel sessions.

Univ. Research & Dev't. Center Sponsors.....from Page 1

Dr. Milagros D. Ibe. She is a distinguished educator and researcher in the field of educational research, a Professor Emeritus of the College of Education, U.P. Diliman, Q.C and Former Dean of the Graduate School of Miriam College, Q.C. She emphasized that a true experimental research should contain two (2) key elements, namely: 1) the presence of two groups or two treatments and 2) randomization of subjects or treatments. She further pointed out that the control group does not receive treatment unlike the variable group.

The second session was on "Thesis Advising". It was discussed by Dr. Ferdinand Lacuata, Dean of the Graduate School, National Teachers' College. Dr. Lacuata underscored that in the conceptualization of a thesis through the dialectical method, the researcher must come up with an antithesis to refute the thesis and a prothesis to confirm it. He also emphasized the importance of including a comprehensive review of related literature which is used to support the findings of the study.

The last session catered on the topic "*Conducting Ethnographic Research*" which was discussed by Dr. Julian

Abuso, Chair of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction of the College of Education, University of the Philippines. He lectured on the rudiments of ethnographic research. He also explained that ethnographers in studying people must deal with the following areas: (1) what people do; (2) what people know; and (3) what people make and use. He also added that ethnography requires time and effort since researchers must immerse themselves in the culture that they are studying.

Plaques of appreciation were awarded to the distinguished speakers as token for sharing their expertise to the TUA community. The series of lectures is a part of an intensive campaign of the URDC to equip the faculty with skills and knowledge in research.

Research Project Mgt. Officer Presents.....from Page 1

There were five keynote speakers during the three-day conference, namely: Professor Larry D. Yore, Professor Reindeer Duit, Professor Fouad Abd-El-Khalick, Dr. Barbara A. Crawford and Prof. Benny Hin Wai Yung.

Dr. Yore of the University of Victoria in Canada gave a contemporary definition of science literacy. According to him, literacy in the discipline involves the abilities to understand and communicate specific discourses associated with the discipline and being able to understand the disciplinary discourses for the purpose of fully participating in public debate. Literacy in science does not only entail knowledge on the concept of science but as well as the ability to discuss it and apply it in daily activities.

Dr. Duit from the Leibniz Institute for Science Education discussed the mechanism necessary to facilitate conceptual change. He added that research on conceptual change needs to take into account the following conditions:

1. The multiple epistemological perspectives of teaching and learning.
2. Equal attention to cognitive and affective student variables.
3. The necessary and sufficient evidence for identifying conceptual change.
4. Successful conceptual teaching approaches to normal classes.

Dr. Fouad Abd El-Khalick, an Associate Professor of the College of Education of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA, talked on the nature of science. He emphasized that scientific pursuit should not rigidly follow the scientific method, but it should be flexible.

On the other hand, Dr. Barbara Crawford of Cornell University emphasized the importance of scientific inquiry in the classrooms. She pointed out that teachers should have mastered the skill themselves before they can teach the same skill on scientific inquiry.

The last keynote speaker was Dr. Benny Hin Wai Yung. He cited sample cases in Hongkong wherein teachers play a crucial role in making assessment a tool for effecting transformation.

There were 7 concurrent sessions during the duration of the conference on which innovations and issues in science education were discussed. A number of papers presented were on the integration of information technology to the teaching and learning process like *Using Facebook as a Multi-Functional Online Tool for Collaborative and Engaged Learning*, *The Periodic Table of Videos enables pupils to develop core constructs using PDA Together with learner-centered pedagogy in Science in a Mauritian primary school*.

The aforementioned conference was organized by the National Institute of Education, Ministry of Education of Singapore and the Singapore National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The next International Science Education Conference will be held in 2013.

Ms. Capili was granted financial support by the Commission on Higher Education under the program "Paper Presentation Support on International Conferences". The financial assistance covered air fare, registration fee and daily allowance which amounted to 1,040 US dollars. In return, Ms. Capili will submit a summary of the conference proceedings and will present the paper in a local forum organized by CHED.

RID Officer Attends the Symposium on Microbes

The RID Officer of the URDC, Ms. Mary Victory Gutierrez, attended the symposium on microbes sponsored by the Philippine Society for Microbiology, Inc (PSM) in cooperation with Miriam College. The symposium was held on 07 November 2009 at the Dr. Paz Adriano Hall, Miriam College Quezon City. The theme was "Global Alert! Microbes at work. Are we ready?". The purpose as reflected in the theme was to heighten awareness, increase vigilance and most importantly, educate ourselves in order to address the growing and globalizing effect of microbes.

The morning session included topics on influenza and dengue. Discussants were Dr. Aguedo Troy D. Gepte IV, Dr. Veronica Chan, and Dr. Lyndon Lee-Suy. Dr. Gepte discussed the topic "Background and Epidemiology of Viruses: Implications to Health and the Philippines." According to him, the Philippines has been a witness to different emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases which have resulted from rapid urbanization, global trade and commercial transport. He further enumerated some of these diseases like SARS, meningococemia, Ebola Virus Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza (H₁N₁). He recalled that the country has seen a surge in cases of leptospirosis because of unprecented flooding in Metro Manila and in many provinces affected by typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng. He then posed this question: "What do we need to understand and what do we need to do in the face of these threats?" Dr. Veronica F. Chan, Professor Emeritus, College of Public Health, UP-Manila, discussed the topic "Emerging and Re-emerging Influenza Viruses: History and Developments". According to her, Influenza virus infection will always be an emerging and re-emerging viral infection. This is because

influenza viruses are endowed with segmented genetic material, its ribonucleic acid (RNA). The last topic of the morning session was "Epidemiology, Current Trends and Developments of Dengue Viruses". It was presented by Dr. Lyndon Lee-Suy. The discussant gave emphasis on cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever. He explained that the information to build awareness about the disease and measures to prevent and control the outbreak should be further intensified in order to have both public health officials and the different sectors of society confront this dreaded disease head-on.

Ms. Emelinda L. Lopez and Ms. Edelwisa Segubre-Mercado were the discussants in the afternoon session, "A Look into Animal Health Issues: Ebola Reston Virus" was tackled by the former and "The role of Laboratory in the Diagnosis of Influenza" by the latter. According to Dr. Lopez, among the animal health issues encountered were the availability of diagnostic reagents to detect virus; mechanism of infection in pigs; animal quarantine concerns; the conduct of diagnostic test appropriate for Ebola Reston Virus in pigs; and finding the true source of a disease. On the other hand, Ms. Mercado emphasized that laboratory diagnosis of influenza is critical in the prevention, control, treatment and surveillance of a disease. He further added that influenza H₁N₁ Pandemic showed the crucial role a laboratory played in tracing the emergence and spread of the disease globally. The morning and afternoon sessions were moderated by Dr. Thomas Edison dela Cruz.

The symposium was well attended by faculty members, microbiologist, graduate and undergraduate students, and medical practitioners from different universities.

The URDC RID Officer Lectures on Environmental Ecology to High School Students

Ms. Mary Victory E. Gutierrez, URDC Research Information and Dissemination Officer, was invited by the Basic Education, High School Department, TUA, to share her expertise on nurturing the Environment. Fourth-year students trooped to the Cabanban Hall on 08 September 2009 to listen to the lecture. This event was held during the Green Soldier Forum 2 in connection to the celebration of Math and Science Month. The said forum was on the DepEd Memo No. 333. S.2009 which is "Adapting to Diverse Science Culture for Development". It is also in line with DOST's theme "Science and Technology Responding to Global Challenges. Before ending her lecture, Ms. Gutierrez challenged the students to start the change; a change that can make our planet Earth a better place to live in. Towards the end of the session, Ms. Demalen, Officer-in-Charge, Basic Education, assisted by Susan B. Salao awarded the plaque of appreciation to Ms. Gutierrez for sharing her expertise.

URDC Benchmarking with Adventist University of the Philippines

Dr. Epitacio S. Palispis, Dr. Angelita Bugnalen, and Prof. Elias M. Sampa visited the Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP), Cavite, Philippines to benchmark on research and other educational practices of the school. As a research unit of the university with active membership in the Internal quality assurance mechanism of the University, it saw the need to benchmark on research but also on other practices that may enrich TUA's pursuit of excellence. As in any benchmarking endeavor one explores everything but remains eclectic in selecting elements that may be adapted to one's own context.

Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) has a student population of over 800 foreign students from a total of more than 3,000. Majority of the students live in the university hostels within the campus. Each hostel has a dean who takes charge of student affairs and concerns. The University also provides housing for the faculty and other personnel. Some can rent living quarter for only P2,000.00 per month. However, other faculty and singles living outside the campus and their rent is subsidized. An amount of P8,000.00 and P4,000 are given as housing allowance for married and singles living outside the campus respectively. Other than the resident faculty, the University also receives volunteer faculty who come from other countries.



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The University has 600 working students. For the non-working students, they are also required to render services to the University for at least a semester. These services include cleaning the surroundings, comfort rooms, office assistant, classroom cleaning, work in the university factory and bakery, and other services that the university renders to students and other stakeholders. Learning by doing is a very effective praxis and is used as part of the transformational educational system pursued by the University. The University does not only confine the students within the four walls of the classroom but also encourages them to join organizations, attend church services, conduct mission services, and do manual labor. Living as an international community also provides them experience in intercultural and cross-cultural set-up within which they are well trained to manage relationships and tensions.

The University maintains a well-organized program for foreign students and alumni. This is evident in the numerous infrastructure and on-going or accomplished projects sponsored by the alumni. It also practices rotation of management positions like from VPAA to Dean and from President to Dean. The University maintains high levels of program accreditation as well as an Autonomous Status since 2003. The University maintains a research journal which is published bi-annually.

Trinity Univ. of Asia Achievesfrom Page 8

c. Sustainability and viability of operations

- The HEI shows its capability to sustain operations and is able to provide evidence of stable student enrolment for at least the last five years.
- Its enrolment and admission policies must be in line with the institution's Vision, Mission and Goals.
- Its key administrators (President, Vice-President, Deans) should be highly qualified.

2. Institutional Accreditation Status

The Federation of Accrediting Agencies of the Philippines (FAAP) has granted Institutional Accreditation Status to three higher educational institutions (HEIs) in the country that have met and satisfied the criteria set forth for such. The three institutions were endorsed by their own accrediting agencies. Trinity University of Asia is the third to achieve that status from FAAP and first from the ACSCU-AAI schools. Ateneo de Naga University and Centro Escolar University after the endorsement of the (PAASCU) and (PACUCOA) respectively, were also granted Institutional Accreditation status.

The criteria for Institutional Accreditation are as follows.

1. Arts and Sciences, Business and Education should have been in Level 3. (For stand alone or monolithic HEIs, the core program must have been in Level 3).
2. Seventy five percent of the HEIs program offerings should have been accredited in either Level 1 or 2 status. Programs where there are no existing accreditation instruments are not included in the computation.
3. New programs which do not have graduates yet, are not included in the computation.
4. Majority of the total student population should be enrolled in the accredited programs.
5. The performance of graduates in licensure examinations should be at par or above the national passing rate for at least three consecutive Board examinations.
6. The HEI should have a well-developed quality assurance mechanism.
7. When the school is accredited by two accrediting agencies, the decision to grant institutional accreditation shall be made by the accrediting agency that have accredited majority of the programs.

3. ISO Certification

TUA has been recommended for certification to ISO 9001: 2008 by SGS Phil., Inc., the local affiliate of global

URDC Personnel Attends the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee Lecture Series

Ms. Mary Victory E. Gutierrez and Ms. Antonia C. Capili from the URDC together with the faculty members of the Natural Science Department attended the Ramon Magsaysay Awardee lecture series.

Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF) celebrated its 51st year of honoring Asia's heroes. Its theme, "Asia's Heroes: Science in the Service of Humanity", reasserts its faith in the power of good to change Asia for the better. The Ramon Magsaysay Award is given to persons regardless of race, nationality, and gender. It recognizes people who address issues of human development in Asia with courage and creativity and have made contributions which have transformed their societies for the better. The Award is in six categories: government service; public service; community leadership; journalism, literature and creative communication arts; peace and international understanding; and emergent leadership

Atty. Antonio Oposa Jr. (Philippines) was recognized for his path-breaking and passionate crusade to engage Filipinos in acts of enlightened citizenship that maximize the power of law to protect and nurture the environment for themselves, their children, and generations to come". He is an environmentalist and lawyer committed in protecting the environment. According to him, we can give solutions to the different environmental problems through CPR: Conservation, Preservation and



Attorney Antonio Oposa during the session. Mr. Gutierrez with Atty. Oposa (inset)

Restoration.

Deep Joshi (India) who shared his expertise on professionalizing the commitment to transform rural communities was also honored because of his selfless service to poor people in India.

Krisana Kraisintu (Thailand) presented her topic on "Making Life-Saving Drugs for all". This awardee has contributed much to the innovation of cheaper drugs that have cured people from all over the globe.

Other awardees were Ka Isaw Wa (Burma) who focused on pursuing non-violent defense of human rights and the environment; Lu Xiaogang (China) on engaging communities in determining the future of their environment and Ma Jun (China) on reversing water pollution by leveraging the power of information.

RMAF honored the six Asia's heroes because of their selfless service for the betterment of humanity. It has seen their greatness of spirit and transformative leadership in Asia. It was a hero in them to use their professional expertise in effecting change in their communities.

The contribution and sphere of influence of this year's heroes call attention to two factors that can be considered crucial to Asia's future. One is "placing science at the service of humanity," and the other, "treating the environment as our urgent and collective responsibility." The lectures yielded relevant insights on poverty

URDC Attends Lecture of Prof. Randy David at Asian Social Institute


The URDC Director, Dr. Angie Bugnalen and Prof. Elias M. Sampa, the Research Skills Enhancement Officer, together with Dr. Epitacio S. Palispis, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Adela Guarino-Gillette, Dean of the College of Education, Prof. Jorgia P. Credo, University Chief Librarian, and Prof. Glenn Agbing, faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences attended the lecture of Dr. Randy David on the occasion of the 47th Foundation Day of Asian Social Institute (ASI) on Saturday, November 28, 2009. The lecture was the main feature of the celebration which focused on the topic: *Crisis of Leadership in the Transition to Modernity in the Philippines*. A lively open forum followed with reactions on interesting issues such as on whom and how we should vote, what is the hope for the Philippines, is this leadership crisis a reflection of global crisis of the democratic paradigm, and many more.

The event was held at the Francis Senden Memorial Hall, 3rd floor, ASI Academe Building, 1518 Leon Guinto St., Malate, Manila.

Dr. Randy David is a well-renowned sociologist and a professor at the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He is also a very respected media practitioner.

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Trinity University of Asia
University Research & Development Center
NEWSLETTER

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Trinity University of Asia Achieves Major Accomplishments

Hail Beloved Trinity... Congratulations to our beloved Trinity University of Asia!

This year, Trinity University of Asia accepted three major milestones: autonomous status, institutional accreditation status and ISO certification. The autonomous status was granted by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) at Malacanang Palace on December 10, 2009. Pres. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo presented the award. The institutional accreditation status was granted by the Federation of Accrediting Agencies of the Philippines (FAAP) in a solemn ceremony held at the Grand Auditorium, Trinity University of Asia, Quezon City on December 11, 2009. On the other hand, the SGS auditors who visited the University on December 15, 2009, issued the certificate for ISO certification.

1. Autonomous Status

The CHED, after reviewing documents and doing all the formalities, ranked Trinity University of Asia among the nations' HEIs capable of running without close supervision. The granting of autonomous status was based on CMO 32 series 2001. The autonomy granted to PHEIs considers the institutions' ability to observe and manifest their commitment to excellent standards of instruction, research, and community extension services. To a large extent, such standards need to have been validated previously by external evaluators through an accreditation process voluntarily undertaken by institutions (CMO 01 series 2005) from any of the accrediting agencies under the Federation of Accrediting Agencies in the Philippines (FAAP).

The criteria for Autonomous and Deregulated Status are as follows.

- a. Long tradition of integrity and untarnished reputation
This award is given to a higher education institution that has consistently adhered to existing laws, rules and regulations and has no record of violations on Philippine laws, CHED Memorandum Orders (CMOs), and PSGs; and has established processes for addressing administrative and disciplinary cases.
- b. Commitment to excellence
The HEI demonstrates academic excellence as may be evidenced by the following.
 - the designation of its programs as Center of Excellence (COE) or Center of Development (COD)
 - its accreditation status
 - the PHEI's attainment of the required Institutional Monitoring and Evaluation for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (IQUAME)
 - all forms of existing quality assurance mechanisms applicable to Philippine higher education institutions
 - performance in licensure examinations is considered as a separate criterion since it is already taken into consideration in the identification of COEs/CODs, level of accredited programs and IQUAME classification

