



The Official Newsletter of the University of the Philippines Mindanao

# Madayaw

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June 2023 Edition

## UPMin is UPCAT 2024 Testing Center

The University of the Philippines Mindanao (UPMin) served 1,138 applicants in the simultaneous nationwide delivery of the UP College Admission Test (UPCAT) 2024 on 3-4 June 2023, the first after the pandemic. UPMin was the designated UPCAT Test Center in Davao City and one of 100-plus nationwide. Applicants from Davao Region and other Mindanao provinces claimed their



test permits from the Office of the University Registrar (OUR) on 3-4 June 2023 and took the test on the weekend.

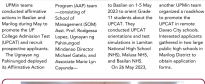
Additionally, UPMin also expanded access to the UPCAT by accommodating walk-in applicants even after the application deadline. "We accommodated an additional 151 walk-in applicants on June 2-4, 2023, from within and outside the Davao Region," said University Registrar Karen Joyce Cayamanda.

## UPMin meets with Bantay Hayop Davao

Bantay Hayop Davao President Rovic Bulina and her team met with Chancellor Lynn Ann Merao at the UPMin Calasiao Room, Administration Building for a discussion on animal welfare in the campus. The UPMin and Bantay Hayop Davao representatives discussed the creation of a university committee for animal welfare, partnership with student organizations for welfare operations, coordinating with the barangay for building an animal shelter, and the provision of food for animals in the campus.



## UPMin conducts affirmative action



UPMin teams conducted affirmative activities in Basilan and Marikig during May to promote the UP College Admission Test (UPCAT) and recruit prospective applicants.

The Ugnayan ng Pahinungod deployed to Affirmative Action

Program (AUP) team—consisting of School of Management (SOM) Asst. Prof. Realigessa Lopez, Ugnayan ng Pahinungod Mindanao Director Michael Garcia, and Associate Marie Lyn Caparanga—

to Basilan on 1-5 May 2023 to orient Grade 11 students about the UPCAT. They conducted UPCAT orientations and test simulations in Lumban National High School (NHS), Malinau NHS, and Basilan NHS.

On 25 May 2023,

another UPMin team organized a roadshow to promote the UPCAT in remote Davao City schools. Interested applicants gathered in two large public high schools in Marikig District to obtain application forms.

## UPMin signs MOA for women and children's health



UPMin, through the Philippine Genome Center (PGC), signed a memorandum of agreement on 15 May 2023, with the Davao Medical School Foundation Inc. (DMSFI) to develop solutions and strategies for primary health problems of Mindanao women and children. The DMSFI's Research and Development Center for Maternal and Child Health (ReCMATCH) Program aims to address childhood stunting, pediatric dengue, postpartum depression, and other women's and children's health problems.

Philippine Genome Center (PGC) Mindanao will provide training, consultation services, genomics-related laboratory services, and PGCMN facility use for the ReCMATCH Program. PGCMN will use metabolomics, microbiome studies, metagenomics, and bioinformatics analysis for this Program.

"UP Mindanao is thrilled to enter a close research partnership established between the university and a medical and university institution," said Chancellor Merao. "Through our collaborative work, we hope to contribute to the advancement of science and technology in Mindanao and ultimately create a brighter future for Mindaneseans."

## Fictionist UPMin instructor shares stories

UPMin instructor Ms. Sigrid Marianne Gayaganes had a book talk about her newly published work *Last: Stories* on 4 May 2023 at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) Mini-Theaters. The talk was moderated by Department of Humanities Asst. Prof. John Bengas.

Ms. Gayaganes discussed how she began writing, the process of revisions, the challenges of being a Mindanesean writer, and her conscious choice to take inspiration from her roots. She shared how some of her stories were overhauls of the stories from her thesis collection while the other six stories were new.

*Last: Stories* features thirteen short stories about Gayaganes's hometown of Zamboanga. The book is classified as speculative fiction, and is inspired by tales Gayaganes grew up with. The book is currently available from online merchants.



## UP Mindanao Public Relations Office

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## DHK holds Pasundayag



The Department of Human Sciences (DHS) held the Pasundayag 2023 at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) atrium on 26 May 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Performers from the UPMin Dance Ensemble, All Sports Studies, B Sports Science, Options in Exercise and Sports Science, and various PE 2 classes performed a dance anthology showcasing both contemporary and modern dance styles such as Latin and Zumba.

## UPMin researchers unveil MaBiDa

Researchers and fisheries producers will soon be able to correctly identify fish species and overcome the risk of fish species mislabeling and substitution—which puts customers and marine biodiversity at risk—in Mindanao fisheries.



The team, composed of UPMin's Dr. Carlos Prof. Chao-Norberto and UPMin Assistant Marine Charles Calambuyan and Assistant Professor

UPMin and its partner organizations unveiled the early access version of the Marine Biodiversity Database (MaBiDa) website at the UPMin Lorenzo Hall, Administration Building on 22 May 2023.

MaBiDa is an open access platform created to advance knowledge and research on marine biodiversity in Mindanao. The website helps researchers and fisheries producers correctly identify marine species through DNA and morphological data that is easily accessible on the unified online database.

## UP Regents visit UPMin

UP Faculty Regent Carl Ramoto and Student Regent Siegfried Severino met with the UPMin administration on 19 May 2023. Vice-Chancellor Annabelle Merao and Lee Manuel Enaño, and USC Chairperson Feodora Quiari received the two regents. All UP Academic Personnel Union Vice-President Ramon Rodriguez and Director Nore Santillan accompanied the regents.

Both regents also met with their respective constituents to share their plans and listen to concerns.



## MAURP students present their theses



Analysis of housing, life spaces, conservation, and disaster preparedness in Mindanao took center stage as students of the Masters of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning (MAURP) graduate program presented their theses during the Research Colloquium 2023 organized by the MAURP program on 20 May 2023.

As part of their thesis requirement, five students presented their theses during the event: Karl Wendel Magno, Steven Adrienne Chao, Vhenia Coronado, Asia Samson, and Rachel Mae Sison.

## UPMin professors conferred as UP Scientists

The Board of Regents (BOR) conferred the title of UP Scientist to two UPMin professors during their 1381st meeting on 25 May 2023. SOM professor Pedro A. Abiola IV and Department of



Biological Sciences and Environmental Studies (BSES) professor Cleto L. Mahala, Jr. were designated as UP Scientist I for CY 2022-2024.

UPMin is proud of the success of its scientists.

## Ugnayan ng Pahinungod Mindanao meets with mayor, MP

The Ugnayan ng Pahinungod Mindanao held a coordination meeting with Member of Parliament (MP) and Chairperson of the Bangsamoro Parliament Eddio M. Ash on 16 May 2023 to present the Gucug Pahinungod program proposal.

The Ugnayan ng Pahinungod Mindanao also met with the mayor of the Municipality of Huro, Upi, Maguindanao Mo. Rosa Cristina A. Pang-Flares (in photo above) to request the establishment of an UPCAT testing center in the area.

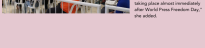


## UPCM presents curriculum



The UP College of Medicine's (UPCM) Dean Charlotte Chiong (seated, third from left) presented a medical education curriculum for possible adoption by UPMin, in a recent visit by UPMin's Technical Working Group, composed of (seated, left-right) Dr. Bonnell Gilbao, Prof. Mayla de Cádiz, Dr. Franklin Guillera, and MD Mariverita Garcia. Also present at the presentation were the deans and directors of UP Manila.

## UPMin consults with BARMM stakeholders



A UP Mindanao team organized the "Reinforcing Engagement with Academia through Partnerships (REAP): Livelihood Improvement through Facilitated Extension (LIFE) in BARMM and UP-BARMM Institute Stakeholders' Consultation" on 1 June 2023 at the Surya Hotel, Alnor Hotel and Convention Center, Caramoran City.

LIFE is a model that aims to improve quality of life by training target communities in farming and other livelihood activities. The model has project sites in Brgy. Sanlag, Angatan, Maguindanao; Brgy. Danapan, Sultan Kudat; and Brgy. Kadiyasan, BARMM Special Geographic Area, Marikig, Cotabato.

The morning session of the REAP forum aimed to gather support from BARMM agencies for farmer groups organized by the project.

Project leader Prof. Larry N. Dagal (seated in photo, third from left) gave the welcome remarks. Afterwards, Prof. Cleto Mahala Jr., seated, sixth from left, the director of UPMin's Office of Research, delivered a message of support.

The baseline results, highlights of project activities, accomplishments, and results of the program were presented in the event.

Afterwards, an open forum was initiated to improve the application of the LIFE Model. Stakeholders were also consulted for the implementation of the future UP-Bangsamoro Institute, UP (Exec. VP Jose Fernando Alcantara seated, fourth from left) led discussions about existing and future UP engagements in Bangsamoro.

## UPMin hosts Pinoy Media Congress 2023

More than 600 journalists and communication arts students from Davao Region colleges and universities attended the Pinoy Media Congress 2023 on 6 May 2023, in UP Mindanao. The hosting was a product of the efforts of UPMin professor and Philippine Association of Communication Educators (PACE) board member Karen Joyce Cayamanda.



Among the speakers head writer ABS-CBN TV program head writer Ray Brondal, environment journalist 'Ald Verell, and ABS-CBN chief of reporters Jeff Caray (seated, ABS-CBN).

"As communicators, you have the responsibility to be guardians of civility and guides of truth," Chancellor Merao said in her opening remarks. "It is serendipitous that this event is taking place almost immediately after World Press Freedom Day," she added.