

Madayaw

The Official Newsletter of the University of the Philippines Mindanao

March 2023



With students and other members of the UPMin community already in campus, UPMin's ikot jeep becomes a more regular part of each day's travel across the campus's different facilities. Photo by Noel Larios Jr.

UPMin at 28

Strengthened convergence towards sustainable partnerships

ANGELINE MARIE REALINGO

The University of the Philippines Mindanao pursued long-term partnerships on its 28th Anniversary with the theme, "Strengthened convergence towards sustainable partnerships/Maglig-ong panagdait ngadto sa malugit-ong panag-uban."

UPMin kickstarted a month-long celebration with an Anniversary Program on 20 February 2023. Chancellor Lyre Anni Murao welcomed the assembly and enumerated incoming additions to the University. To improve the capacity of the University to handle students, more learning spaces have been provided as well as wider internet coverage, extended library hours, and more.

Due to recent transportation issues in campus, Chancellor Murao highlighted the recent implementation of the Libreng Sakay,

an initiative which catered to students and other UP Mindanao constituents when the semester opened. The said project was initiated by various UPMin sectors and alumni.

UPMin personnel welcomed President Angelo A. Jimenez's message of support—delivered online—for UPMin's development plans, and its issues and concerns. The theme of convergence of partnerships resonated with him. The president commended the Chancellor's strategy for her term: transformative education. Pres. Jimenez also applauded UP Mindanao for surviving the challenges of COVID-19 despite working through its developments during the pandemic's peak.

Entrepreneur Charita Puentespa served as guest speaker during the event and related how partnerships contributed to her business success.

During the program, Ma. Stella Salazar, Armando Salazar, Karen Joyce Cayamanda, Zenaida Calatrava, and Vicente Calag were honored for their 25 years of service.

In the spirit of the anniversary, the Agipso Drum Organization, Dance Ensemble, and Koro Kantahanay performed during the Anniversary program.

The program ended with the singing of the University of the Philippines Anthem, UP Naming Mahal, signifying the start of another thriving academic year for UP Mindanao.



Members of the Dance Ensemble take part in the Foundation Day at the Lenorato Hall. Photo by Noel Larios Jr.

UPdates

ADRIAN ARENDON & LEAN ALEJANDRO DANGO

The University of the Philippines Mindanao organized events and other initiatives in benefit of the students.

The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) held a Scholarship Fair last 22–24 February 2023. They displayed posters of numerous scholarship opportunities available for students. Asst. Prof. Kim Dinnae Ligue, a UPMin alumna and current faculty member of the Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science (DMPCS), served as guest speaker during the Opening Ceremony. She spoke of her experiences as a student, and how she pursued scholarships from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Oplan Kaalam, and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) to be able to continue her education.

Chancellor Lyre Anni Murao and Assistant Professor Ligue cut the ribbon during the Opening Ceremony.

On 27 February 2023, Chancellor Murao, Mintal transport operators, and the barangay chairperson met for an agreement on transportation fares to and from the Mindanao campus.

Transport association heads signed a Memorandum of Agreement containing a specialized tricycle matrix fare in the presence of Brgy. Mintal Chairperson Rey Amadio Bargamento and University Student Council Vice-Chairperson



Scholarship Fair 2023



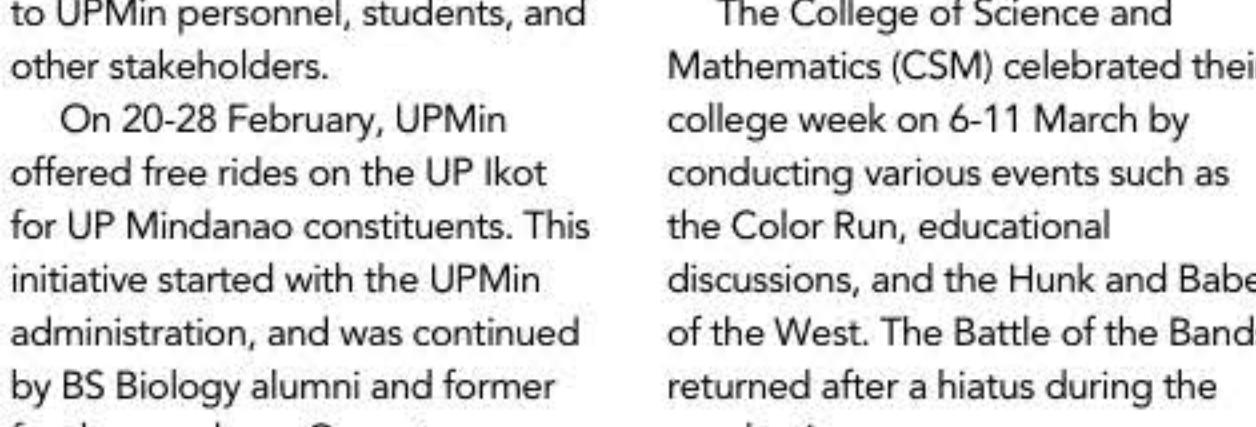
Mintal transport operators, and barangay officials sign the MOA on the specialized fare matrix; a UP ikot offering the Libreng Sakay awaiting passengers. Photo by Noel Larios Jr.



Chancellor Lyre Anni Murao and Assistant Professor Ligue cut the ribbon during the Opening Ceremony.



Members of the Dance Ensemble performing on stage during the anniversary event.



Clockwise, from top-left: The opening ceremony of the Scholarship Fair 2023; Chancy Murao, Mintal transport operators, and barangay officials sign the MOA on the specialized fare matrix; a UP ikot offering the Libreng Sakay awaiting passengers. Photo by Noel Larios Jr.

Raphael John Dimalanta. The fares are in effect for a year, and apply to UPMin personnel, students, and other stakeholders.

On 20-28 February, UPMin offered free rides on the UP Ikot for UP Mindanao constituents. This initiative started with the UPMin administration, and was continued by BS Biology alumni and former faculty members. Current academic organizations like DUGONG-Anthro and the UP

Literary Society also extended their help in the project.

The College of Science and Mathematics (CSM) marked their college week on 6-11 March by conducting various events such as the Color Run, educational discussions, and the Hunk and Babe of the West. The Battle of the Bands returned after a hiatus during the pandemic.

UPMin Arki in Top 10, 100% passing rate

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

BS Architecture alumni passed the January 2023 Architecture Licensure Exam with a 100- percent passing rate. Ar. Dawnelli M. Luar placed 7th on the licensure exam.



New Zealand Ambassador to the Philippines visits UPMin

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

New Zealand Ambassador Peter Kell visited UP Mindanao to offer scholarships to UPMin constituents, Mindanawons, and Muslim aspirants in a hybrid forum on 2 February 2023.



Mindanao, PH fisheries need more sustainable efforts, say experts

JAMES EDWARD PANGAN

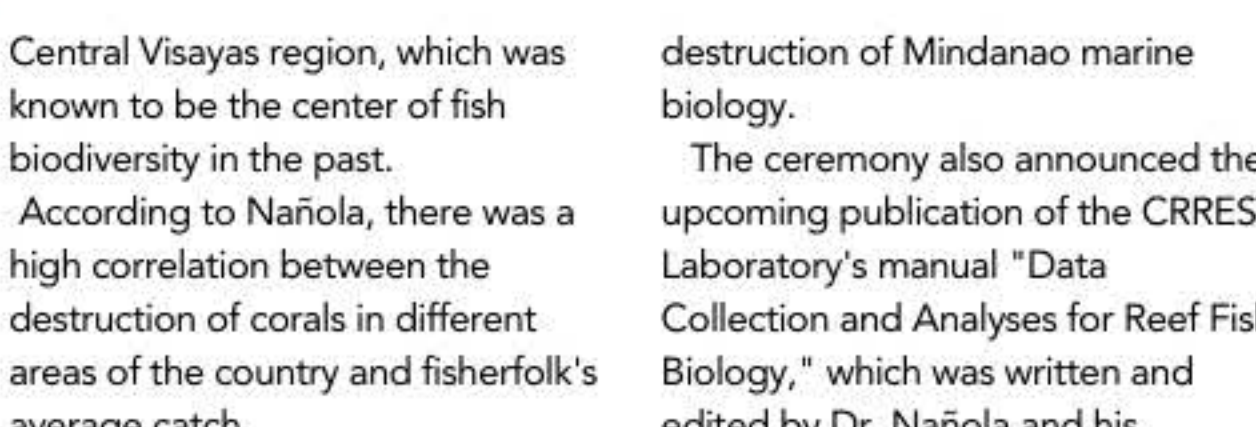
Experts urged fisheries stakeholders to pursue more sustainable fishing practices and policies in the midst of highly threatened marine biodiversity all over the country.

"Our Daily Fish": Fisheries in the Philippines—Past, Present, and Future," a series of Kape-Talks held by the Office of Research (OR), in partnership with the Coral Reef Resiliency and Ecology Studies (CRESS), was organized last 24 February 2023, at the UP Mindanao's Center for the Advancement of Research in Mindanao (CARIM) Phase 1 Lobby.

Dr. Kent E. Carpenter of the Old Dominion University (ODU) in the United States, Prof. Cleto L. Nañola, Jr. of UPMin, and Prof. Richard Muallil of Mindanao State University (MSU) Tawi-Tawi led discussions, with Dr. Mudjekeewis Santos of the Department of Agriculture served as a reactor.

Dr. Carpenter unraveled the history of fish biodiversity in the Philippines by comparing DNA from the USS Albatross during the American colonial period with current samples from the same collecting sites to learn about genetic changes in the studied marine species.

Dr. Nañola explored the loss of coral reef fish density using fish visual census data from the



Dr. Cleto Nañola, Jr. and Ms. Maybelle Forteza announce the upcoming manual from CRESS Laboratory, "Data Collection and Analyses for Reef Fish Biology." Photo by Yas D. Dcampo.

Central Visayas region, which was known to be the center of fish biodiversity in the past.

According to Nañola, there was a high correlation between the destruction of corals in different areas of the country and fisheries' average catch.

"Fishermen are aware of the situation but are helpless due to having no alternatives for livelihood. Poverty is the problem," Dr. Cleto L. Nañola, Jr. said. He also mentioned that he has surveyed most of the country's biodiversity-rich seas through multiple diving expeditions over the years.

Dr. Muallil showed a video presentation that compared the diversity of coral reef fishes in Tawi-Tawi markets with published reports from Palawan and Panay Island. It reveals that Tawi-Tawi has high fish densities due to its location in the Coral Triangle, which covers the oceans of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, and the Solomon Islands.

Dr. Santos concluded the discussion by shedding light on the importance of having more research on fish diversity in establishing better protocols.

"Everything is understudied. I dream of more Filipinos to study fisheries"— Dr. Santos said as he described the potential threats and

destruction of Mindanao marine biology.

The ceremony also announced the upcoming publication of the CRESS Laboratory's manual "Data Collection and Analyses for Reef Fish Biology," which was written and edited by Dr. Nañola and his research assistant, Ms. Maybelle Forteza. The guidebook will be used by independent researchers to conduct low-cost studies involving methodologies or marine studies.

As partnered institutions, UP Mindanao, Davao del Norte State College (DNSC), Davao Oriental State University (DOSU), MSU GenSan, and Southern Philippines Agri-business and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology (SPAMAST) signed a memorandum of agreement for educational and scientific cooperation for the Marine Biodiversity Database (MaBiDa) project under the Applied Biodiversity Research for Holistic Advancements in Mindanao (ABRAHAM) program.

The program aims to create an information and database system for fish morphology and DNA information on the Davao Region's maritime fisheries. Through the MaBiDa project, it proposes to house and displays marine life knowledge about creatures examined by local scientists.

UPMin scientists push for WBE monitoring

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

UP Mindanao scientists presented their studies on the efficacy of Wastewater-Based Epidemiology (WBE) in detecting COVID-19 in some barangays in Davao City.



UP scientists eye nationwide wastewater monitoring for COVID-19, other diseases



DiWa Center established

LEAN ALEJANDRO DANGO

The UP Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Mindanao Center for Disease Watch and Analytics (DiWa) on their 1,378th meeting last 23 February 2023. DiWa is a rebranding of Applied Modeling, Data Analytics, and Bioinformatics for Decision Support Systems in

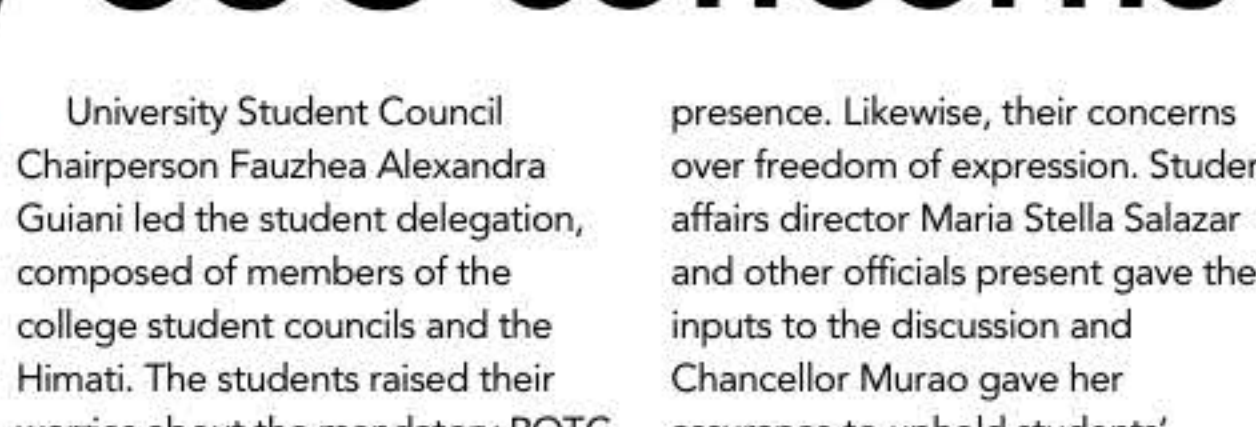
Health (AMDABIDDS-HEALTH).

The DiWa Center will become a hub for the UP Resilience Institute in Mindanao. It aims to be a leading research center for health issues in the Philippines and Southeast Asia while helping policy-makers in make decisions regarding disease and public health.

Waseda Univ lectures on Mindanao peacebuilding

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

Prof. Megumi Kagawa (standing front center in white) and her students from Waseda University, Tokyo, discussed Mindanao's socio-political issues with Chancellor Murao, Dean Raymundo Pavo (second from right), and the Social Sciences faculty and students during a visit on 15 February 2023.



Penn State prof 'visits' UPMin

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

Dr. Esther Obonyo (upper left in photo) of the Pennsylvania State University served as an online Visiting Professor at UPMin on 28 February 2023, for the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Innovation for Social Impact Partnership (ISIP) Project. The program objective is to further capacitate HEIs as strategic hubs for innovation and social impact by supporting the growth and improvement of University-based startup enterprises.



Chancy Murao talks Himati, USC concerns

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

The Himati student publication requested an interview with Chancellor Lyre Murao on student issues and concerns, which occurred on 28 February 2023, at the Administration Building.

University Student Council Chairperson Fauzhea Alexandra Guiani led the student delegation, composed of members of the college student councils and the Himati. The students raised their worries about the mandatory ROTC, academic loads, and military

presence. Likewise, their concerns over freedom of expression. Student affairs director Maria Stella Salazar and other officials present gave their inputs to the discussion and Chancellor Murao gave her assurance to uphold students' welfare.



Photo by Yas D. Dcampo

PGC Execs visit UPMin

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

The Philippine Genome Center (PGC) Executive Director Cynthia Saloma visited UPMin on 23 February 2023 to discuss PGC's administrative matters and the prospects for the creation of satellite facilities in the region.



UPMin officials receive training in measuring gender mainstream efforts

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

Assoc. Prof. Roliza B. Molina of the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) trained UPMin officials to measure gender mainstreaming efforts in the Gender Mainstreaming and Evaluation Framework (GMEF) Workshop on 14 February 2023.



School of Management conducts crop production training

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

The School of Management organized a "Crop Production Techniques and Technologies Training" on 21-22 January 2023 at the General Salipada K. Pendatun Municipality, Maguindanao Province.



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STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

GRACE GILLERA
ANGELINE MARIE REALINGO
KRYSTEL ANGELA JUELO

UPMin hosts DCAA sports events

RENE ESTREMERA, PRO

The University of the Philippines Mindanao hosted the High School Boys' Football and the Athletics Events of the Department of Education's Davao City Athletic Association (DCAA) Meet last February 6-10, 2023.

The Boys' Football was held at the Alternate Football Field near the Administration Building while the Athletics was held in the DC-UP Sports Complex.

Photo by Department of Human Kinetics

