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TSU is now a partner HEI of RIIC-3, THRIVE Central Luzon

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Technological Hive of Regional Innovation for a Vibrant Ecosystem

THRIVE Central Luzon is one of the eight Regional Inclusive Innovation Centers (RIICs) in the country that manifests the objectives of the 2018 Inclusive Filipinnovation and Entrepreneurship Roadmap spearheaded by DTI and DOST with support from USAID Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development (STRIDE). One of the four expansion sites, THRIVE Central Luzon launched its innovation program on March 12, 2021, with a ceremonial awarding of funds under the DOST Grants-In-Aid program to Bulacan State University as the Project Leader for the Region 3 RIIC.

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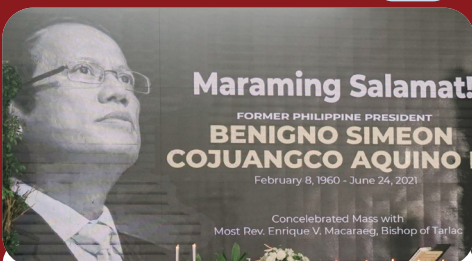


Agency Performance Review of the University by the Department of Budget and Management for FY 2020

June 2, 2021 @ 8:00 AM
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Prepared by: Dr. Tay R. Pabalan

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Tarlac State University has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on June 29, 2021 to collaborate with industries, government agencies, and higher education institutions (HEIs) in Central Luzon for the Regional Inclusive Innovation Center (RIIC) branded as Technological Hive of Regional Innovation for a Vibrant Ecosystem or THRIVE Central Luzon.

THRIVE Central Luzon intends to strengthen the region's innovation ecosystem by establishing a local network to improve stakeholder access to technology and creating platforms for dialogue, collaboration, and partnerships that would contribute to inclusive sustainable development.

As a partner HEI with strong research facilities, services, capabilities, and resources, TSU will function as a Regional Innovation Database Access Point and participate in capacity building and open sharing of information and databases especially to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Other HEIs that will serve as Database Access Points are Angeles University Foundation (AUF), Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU), Central Luzon State University (CLSU), Don Honorio Ventura State University (DHVSU), Holy

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New TSU alumni chapters established

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

The Alumni Affairs Office of Tarlac State University has strengthened their international linkages by establishing the TSU Alumni Association chapters in Thailand and United Arab Emirates in June 2021.

The elected officers from the newly established chapters took their oath last June 11 and 12 via Zoom.

Putting up international chapters promotes international connections and provides support to TSU students as the alumni give back to

their alma mater through scholarship grants, free webinars, and donations of equipment and establishments.

Thailand chapter is headed by their president, Glendale Muñoz, an Accounting Technology graduate (batch 2016), who is currently a Math and English Teacher at Anuban Wanonniwat (Ratbumroong).

Muñoz is joined by Diane Crystal Mae Nelmidia, vice president;

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TSU nurses deployed to TPH for vaccine rollout

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Nine medical nurses of Tarlac State University were deployed as volunteers to the Tarlac Provincial Hospital from May 25 to June 30, 2021 as additional workforce of the Provincial Government of Tarlac in the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

According to Dr. Rommel Hernandez, Medical Officer III and University Physician, the nurses were requested by Dr. Jeanette Lazatin, Provincial Health Officer, to help in augmenting the government vaccination program.

Dr. Hernandez further said that this service is considered as their best practice this pandemic. The university does not only help curb the COVID cases in the province but continuously gives service to the public.

The Medical Services Unit

were not subjected to the imposed skeleton workforce since the start of the pandemic to attend to the health and safety of the TSU Community.

The unit implements and monitors health protocols within the institution to decrease COVID-19 infections and avoid the possible spread of the virus as advised by the Department of Health.



In addition, Dr. Hernandez said at the time when the COVID-19 cases were rising, they went on a 24/7 monitoring to assess employees

and guide them on proper tests, quarantine, isolation or proper transfer to a health facility, and securing a return-to-work clearance.

Nurses Marisol Ibarra, Marites Lapuz, William Salak, Cherryl Abila, Julius Erick Balilo, Rhoda Feliciano, Mary Gentes Pena, Rechristia Gonzalo, and Dana Marie Pagala were divided into three groups and took turns in rendering their services to TPH and in the TSU medical clinic. For safety, they are ferried by the TSU ambulance driven by Albert Canlas.

They will also help the City Government of Tarlac as the TSU employees, under A4 category, are set to have their first dose of vaccine in a vaccination hub that will be put up at the TSU gymnasium. The vaccination schedule is yet to be announced as of this writing.

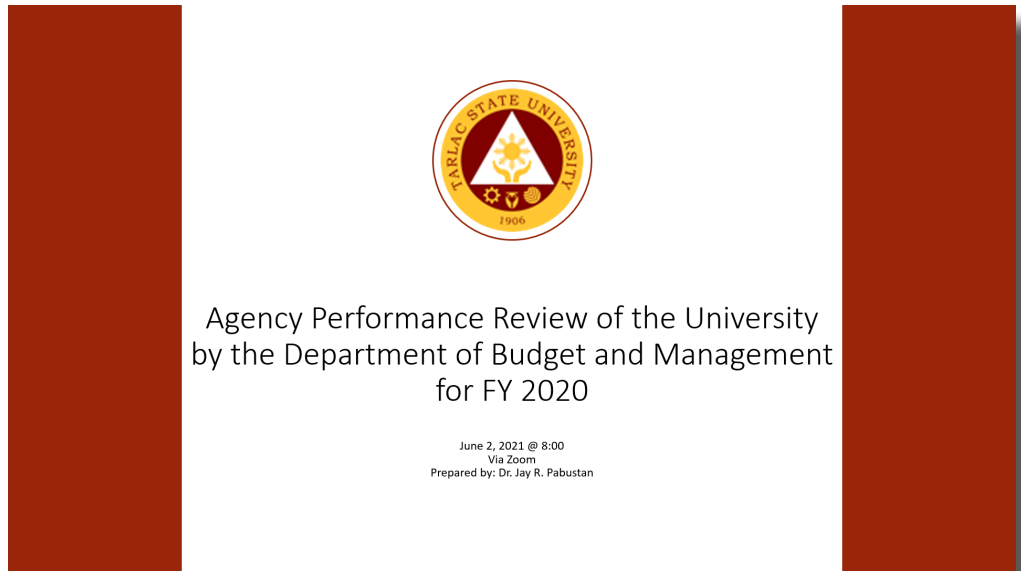
TSU strives for continual improvement through Agency Performance Review

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

To continuously improve its performance, Tarlac State University complies with the recommendations of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) by retrofitting and revisiting the university's strategic plans in coping up with the challenges of the pandemic, said TSU President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari during the Agency Performance Review held last June 2, 2021.

The DBM conducted the annual monitoring and review of TSU's performance particularly on the utilization of government fund alongside its plans and targets for 2020 through submitted documents for quarterly monitoring and evaluation using scorecards and other internal mechanisms on performance monitoring.

Furthermore, DBM suggested to revisit the TSU strategic plan, alignment of priority programs, strategies, and response to the new normal. The need to sustain the conduct of early procurement activities and continue with the public biddings for its capital outlay projects



were highly recommended.

President Mallari said that the university should formulate catch-up plans to ensure the attainment of targets especially for the capital outlay.

“Revisit our plans to incorporate new normal. We will also be discussing even during our planning that we will encourage everyone to continue the flexible learning [method] come what may. [The] deans must sit together in

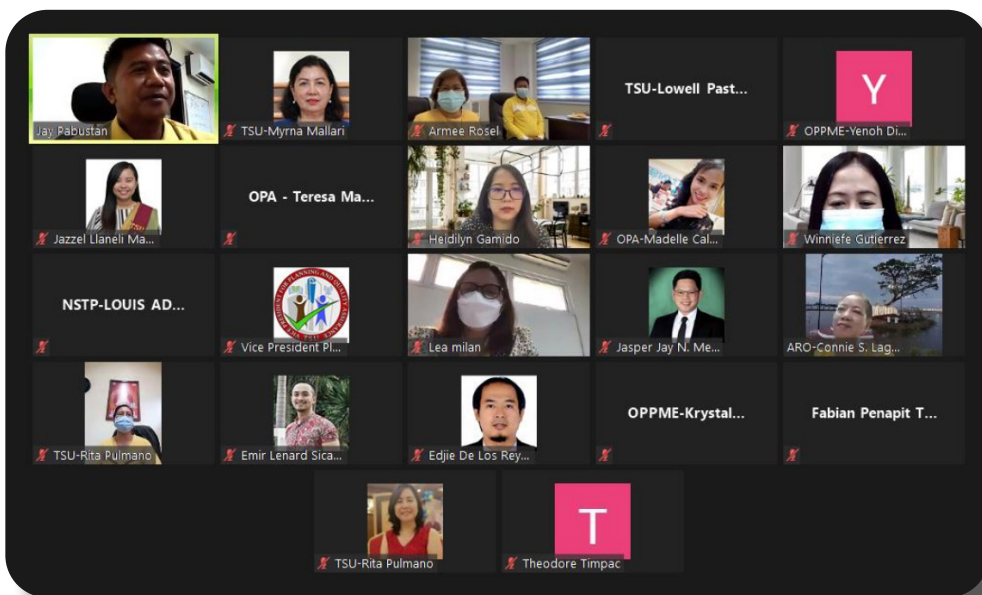
accordance with your groupings,” said President Mallari.

Dr. Nino Corpuz, Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance, tackled the indicators that the university must work on which include licensure examinations and research presentations and publications that were postponed because of the pandemic.

Although there are certain limitations this pandemic, TSU seeks to continuously enhance and adapt learning modalities. The university will also reassess curricular interventions and other delivery platforms.

Teaching strategies under flexible learning and the Learning Continuity Plan will be reviewed and revisited in consonance with COVID-19 safety measures which are subject to the approval of the Board of Regents.

“2020 is the most challenging one with all the constraints in the pandemic. Nanibago tayo, that's why for this fiscal year, we learned from that, and we calibrated our action plans considering the new normal,” said Dr. Jay Pabustan, director of the Office of Planning, Performance Monitoring, and Evaluation.



EDITORIAL

It was on June 12, 1898 when President Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed Philippine independence. Prior to the passage of Republic Act No. 4166, Philippine independence was celebrated every July 4th when the country was freed from American occupation. Since then, the Philippines has been enjoying national sovereignty. But are we truly free?

Every June, we commemorate the declaration of the Philippine Independence. We partake in this annual national event because it is part of our history as a country and because it is stated in a law. Primarily, most of us remember and look forward to this day because it is a national holiday. But come to think of it, the most appropriate way to remember this day is to appreciate the liberation and freedom we are experiencing daily. We are free to become Filipinos with a distinct culture and practices.

For 123 years, we have been thriving as a nation. We should be beaming with pride that we have our own flag, we are recognized as an independent

country internationally, and we have our own beautiful anthem. Along with some of these treasured milestones in the rich history of our country, let us also remember that a lot of Filipinos risked and lost their lives just so we can be liberated from foreign rule. This is something that we should cherish and collectively protect – a duty that must be etched in every Filipino’s nationalistic and patriotic heart.

Carlos P. Romulo, a Tarlaqueño diplomat and statesman, once said, “Let us teach our people again to be proud that they are Filipinos. Let us teach them to realize anew that being a Filipino means having as rich and noble a heritage of language, culture, patriotism and heroic deeds as any nation on earth.” With the many challenges, obstacles, and problems we are facing as a nation because of the pandemic, let us remember as well that we are Filipinos who are built to withstand challenges through our resilient nature just like how our forefathers managed to survive the long years of colonization. Although we do live in different boats,

some have the simple and small ones while others are in yachts and ships, we still have our bayanihan culture to thank where we are wired to set aside differences and help each other in times of crisis – and this is because we are all Filipinos.

Coincidentally, June 12th also marks the 30th anniversary of the Mount Pinatubo eruption which left several parts of Luzon devastated with 100,000 Filipinos homeless and 300 deaths. Looking at our situation now, it is apparent that we managed to recover and rise from that harrowing experience – and that is because of our innate resiliency and concern for fellows.

According to General Antonio Luna in the famous film “Heneral Luna,” our own selves are the bigger enemies compared to the foreign countries with vested interests. It is up to us on how we can enrich ourselves to become the kind of Filipinos our country will be proud of. No one can love our country and appreciate and keep our sovereignty other than us Filipinos.

2 TSU students bag awards at DENR-3’S 2021 Environmental Video Contest

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

Two Tarlac State University students won awards at the 2021 Environmental Video Contest of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 3 in partnership with the USAID Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL) Project with the theme, “Sama-samang Pagkilos, Sama-samang Paghilom: Ikaw, Ako, Tayo ang Kalikasan,” on June 30, 2021 via Zoom.

Ms. LG Caress Lofranco, an AB Communication student from the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), was hailed as the grand winner besting all other entries from both public and private institutions in Central Luzon taking home a cash prize and a certificate.

Meanwhile, Ms. Angela Dancel, a BS Environmental Science student from the College of Science (COS), received a special award for being the “Most Creative” in her video entry.

In an interview, Lofranco said there were five entries that made it to the finals: two from TSU, two from Aurora State College of Technology, and one from

Tarlac Agricultural University. Their videos were judged live based on content, creativity, and relevance to the theme.

Lofranco described her video as a mix of fantasy and reality where an actress played “Mother Nature” who expressed her resentment towards human activities that lead to environmental degradation.

“Gusto po namin ng fresh concept – something out of the box. So, naisip po namin what if nakakapaglabas ng saloobin si Mother Nature tungkol sa mga activities na ginagawa ng mga tao na nakakasira sa kalikasan. ‘Yung nagreact po siya tuwing may nagtatapon ng basura kung saan-saan, etc.’” Lofranco said.

When asked about the struggles during their production, Lofranco shared that safety was their primary concern. She and her two teammates had to find an area that meets their requirements and isolated, at the same time, to keep them safe from COVID-19.

“Nahirapan po talaga kaming maghanap ng lugar na makukuhanan kasi nga po pandemic. Buti na lang po

meron pong lugar dito sa barangay namin. Sinunod po naming yung protocols – may social distancing naman po at naka face masks and face shields po kami,” she said.

On the other hand, Dancel’s entry was an upbeat video compilation of what students can do to save the environment in a TikTok format.

“Hindi ko po in-expect na makakakuha po ako ng special award. Thankful po ako sa DENR at binigyan nila ako ng special award,” Dancel said.

Both students were very grateful for this competition. This was a “good opportunity” to gain experience, especially for Lofranco as this was also her first time to create a film.

“Hindi ko po inisip na mananalò ako. Ang totoo po niyan, dancer po ako at choreographer. Nag-try lang po talaga ako sumali dahil ni-recommend po ito sakín ng high school teacher ko,” Lofranco said.

This video competition was held in celebration of the World Environment Day (June 5) and the 2021 Philippine Environment Month held every June.

New TSU alumni chapters established

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

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OATH TAKING CEREMONY

Thailand Chapter

United Arab Emirates Chapter

Meeting Id: 821 2886 4509
Passcode: 793844




Gia Flores Lascano, secretary; and Justine Alilam, treasurer. The group plans to hold a webinar series on Thai language for interested faculty members and students of TSU.

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates chapter is dominated by Business and Accountancy graduates headed by their president, accountant Mark Jerico Bernardo, who graduated in 2017. He is the general accountant of Dubicars International FZ-LLC.

Bernardo will work with the other elected officers, namely Angelee Primavera, vice president; Venus Cordova, secretary; Eunice Llarves,

treasurer; Sheryl Galang, auditor; and Jacqueline Feliciano and Joanna Marie Laxamana, business managers.

The Singapore chapter, the first international chapter established in 2018 now headed by Engr. Heide C. Matanguihan, launched several programs like provision of scholarship grants, outreach and gift giving, donation drives, and other activities that will benefit their alma mater and the students.

This year, the Singapore chapter plans to erect a gazebo near the TSU Alumni Park located at the TSU Lagoon in the Lucinda Extension

Campus.

According to Dr. Winston Abalos, Alumni Affairs director, they are still working on forming new international chapters in the United States, Europe, and Vietnam and Cambodia, which will serve as one chapter.

Abalos further said they are also planning to establish a TSU Laboratory School alumni local chapter before its reinstatement.

Currently, the TSU Alumni Association, Inc. is headed by Capas town mayor Hon. Reynaldo L. Catacutan.

TSU supports DOJ, UNHCR's CPath program initiative

■ Jhayvi Dizon | OIA

Tarlac State University, through the Office of the University President, Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Office of International Affairs, and the School of Law, had a virtual discussion with the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) about the university's affirmation on the Complementary

Pathways (CPath) Program Initiative on June 10 via Zoom.

The CPath Program Initiative of the UNHCR is an avenue that seeks to promote durable solutions and facilitation for refugees by complementing with international protection needs thereby establishing global solidarity.

Moreover, said initiative was

made possible through partnerships with organizations and institutions that would provide access to education and other integral services safeguarding the refugees' welfare to which the University has responded to.

An initial draft of the Memorandum of Understanding on this partnership was drafted during the virtual meeting.

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TSU is now a partner HEI of RIIC-3, THRIVE Central Luzon

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Dr. Joseph Emmanuel L. Angeles



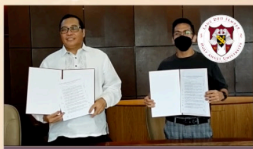
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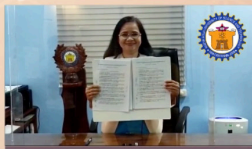
Dr. Cecilia S. Navasero-Gascon



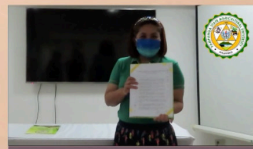
Dr. Edmar M. Magsakay



Dr. Luis Maria R. Calingo



Dr. Feliciano P. Jacoba



Dr. Honorio M. Soriano Jr.



Dr. Magsakay



Angel University (HAU), Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST), Pampanga State Agricultural University (PSAU), and Tarlac Agricultural University (TAU).

The RIIC Central Luzon was officially launched on March 12, 2021 unifying the region's innovation efforts under one banner with the regional offices of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as lead convenors; Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) - North Luzon and Bulacan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) as industry partners; and Bulacan State University (BulSU) and Angeles University Foundation (AUF) as the academe partners through the guidance and support of USAID Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development (USAID STRIDE).

THRIVE Website Launch

THRIVE Central Luzon officially launched its website on June 29, 2021 via Zoom and broadcasted through Facebook Live.

The program featured the website overview, the virtual ceremonial signing of MOA for RIIC-3, and Industry eKapihan – a spotlight to the business sector starring speakers from the RIIC pilot sites in Bicol and Cagayan de Oro.

In his welcome remarks, DOST

3 Regional Director Dr. Julius Caesar Sicat stressed that the launching of the THRIVE website is very timely during this pandemic, and at the same time, addresses the misperception that despite the abundance of government innovation initiatives, there is disharmony.

“COVID or no COVID, we will align efforts towards business recovery and resiliency especially for small businesses that are now in the brink of closing down. With the active presence of this regional lead convenor and facilitator of convergence, there is no way but up for our regional economy,” Dr. Sicat said.

The website's main feature is the Regional Innovation Database which is intended to be accessed by stakeholders, especially the MSMEs, to easily match their resource needs with suppliers and service providers. It is also hoped that this tool will increase awareness and utilization of available innovation resources and intellectual capital in the region.

According to Engr. Erwin Magsakay, BulSU's Vice President for Research and Development and Extension, the website development was funded by DOST-3 and led by SCAD (Strategic Connectivity for Alliance and Development) Network Center. Through a mutual understanding, HEIs' data managers and partner government agencies have agreed that site resources shall

be collectively owned by the Region 3 RIIC under the management of BulSU. **RIIC**

The establishment of RIIC in 2018 is pursuant to the DTI-DOST Inclusive Filipinnovation and Entrepreneurship Roadmap which is hoped to be a key driver for Philippine economic transformation. The centers are envisioned to be virtual and physical assemblies of different programs, facilities, and entities in the innovation space.

As a connecting network, this collaboration will enable RIICs to pave way for the commercialization of market-oriented research and the development of outputs leading to increased regional competitiveness which will generate better employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

This ecosystem-wide strategy employs efforts that are grouped into three categories: 1) mapping of key innovation actors, initiatives, and efforts; 2) linking of innovation players (the government, academe, and industry) through strategic dialogue; and 3) the aligning of key programs and services towards industry needs.

Starting with four pilot areas (Regions 5 [Bicol], 7 [Cebu], 10 [Cagayan De Oro], and 11 [Davao]), the program has now expanded to four more regions, namely Regions 9 (Zamboanga), 4a (Calabarzon), 2 (Cagayan Valley), and 3 (Central Luzon).

PNoy's legacy celebrated by TSU and Tarlac Province

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

Tarlac State University paid tribute to its honorary graduate and the late former Philippine president Benigno Simeon "Noy" Aquino through a requiem mass at the Lucinda Extension Campus on June 26, 2021.

In a statement read by Pinky Aquino-Abellada, Aquino died in his sleep due to renal disease secondary to diabetes last June 24, 2021. Aquino's sudden demise has surprised not only Tarlac, his hometown, but the entire country.

Hours after the announcement of his death, TSU immediately lowered their flags into half-mast to express sympathy and honor Aquino.

According to public historian and Tarlac native Xiao Chua, Aquino never yearned for presidency, but after ten years of a controversial regime, people wanted to have someone who was never involved in any corruption scandal.

"The death of his mother, who at that time was a beloved figure for her role as People Power President, cast a spotlight on this unassuming and humble Tarlaqueño figure," Chua said.

Chua also said Aquino was a reluctant president, but he responded to the call of the people and the needs of the time. He took his role seriously and gave dignity to the position by speaking well in the language that all Filipinos understand. In cabinet



meetings, Aquino is known to interrogate cabinet secretaries for every statistic and every centavo in projects.

"Most importantly, he stood by our sovereignty in the West Philippine Sea not just in words, but by acting on it with the arbitration. This created admiration for him in the international community. He is not a perfect president, nobody is. But Tarlac should be proud that one of its sons, a good man, did his very best to serve his country," Chua further said.

This Tarlac native served as representative of the second congressional district of the province from 1998 to 2007. He ran and won as senator in 2007 and was elected the country's 15th president in May 2010.

The 61-year-old former

president was given an honorary doctorate in humanities (Honoris Causa) by the university in 2015 held at the Malacañang Palace.

Tarlac Province's Tribute for PNoy

The Provincial Government of Tarlac held a tribute for Aquino on June 29 at the Bulwagang Kanlahi in Tarlac City which was attended by TSU officials led by President Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari.

A requiem mass was offered for the soul of Aquino, which was presided by Bishop Enrique Macaraeg and some priests in the Diocese of Tarlac. The Cojuangco-Aquino family was represented by Kris Aquino's sons, Josh and Bimby, and former Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV.

"He would've come home in Tarlac for the last time that was close to his heart, and he would have wanted to welcome you for the last time. But knowing him, he would not [have] wanted to attract too much attention and put people in harm's way," Tarlac governor Susan Yap said in her speech during the program.

Former PNP Chief PGen. Nicanor Bartolome, a Tarlac native appointed as PNP chief under Aquino's term, also imparted how Aquino loves to shoot and how versatile he was with guns. Bartolome said Aquino always craved for his favorite food, chicharon and a cold bottle of Coke, whenever he would pay a surprise visit.

Bartolome also said Aquino really loves music that he willingly joined the band and sang Estudyante Blues by Freddie Aguilar during Bartolome's birthday.



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**TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY****Vision**

Tarlac State University is envisioned to be a premier University in the Asia Pacific Region.

Mission

Tarlac State University commits to promote and sustain the offering of quality and relevant programs in higher and advanced education ensuring equitable access to education for people empowerment, professional development, and global competitiveness.

Towards this end, TSU shall:

- 1.) Provide high quality instruction through qualified, competent and adequately trained faculty members and support staff.
- 2.) Be a premier research institution by enhancing research undertakings in the fields of technology and sciences and strengthening collaboration with local and international institutions.
- 3.) Be a champion in community development by strengthening partnership with public and private organizations and individuals

Quality, Environment, and Health and Safety (QEHS)

Tarlac State University is committed to improve continually for:

- Global competitiveness and excellence in the delivery of education, research, extension, training and consultancy services, hotel operation and administrative support services;
- safe and healthy working conditions to prevent injury and ill health of its employees, students, guests, visitors, suppliers and contractors;
- management of environmental aspects towards the prevention of pollution;
- compliant to regulatory and statutory requirements for the utmost satisfaction of its valued customers.