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CHED POST

1st Quarter Newsletter Report



OCULAR VISIT TO HEIS AFFECTED BY SUPERTYPHOON ODETTE

The Commission on Higher Education – Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga), led by the new Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, conducted a series of on-site visits to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) affected by Supertyphoon Odette when it passed across multiple provinces in the Caraga Region on December 16, 2021. The series of visits were conducted from January 12 to February 1, 2022 and spanned twelve (12) HEIs.

Accompanied by Education Supervisors II Dr. Frederick Amihan, Dr. Criseldo Calinawan, and Mr. Amy Saavedra, Director Colorado conducted inspections of the damaged areas of the HEI campuses and met with key officials of each HEI to assess the impact on facilities, equipment, students, faculty and personnel, and their families.

Director Colorado requested HEIs to submit their Post-Disaster Assessment Report, the data of which will serve as bases in creating CHED priorities for intervention such as designing post-disaster programs, monitoring progress in implementing recovery and reconstruction programs, and providing mental health and spiritual guidance for disaster risk reduction schemes. This is conceptually designed to address the needs of HEI employees and students severely affected by the typhoon.

The HEIs visited were as follows: Surigao State College of Technology (SSCT) Main, Mainit, Del Carmen, and Malimono Campuses; Saint Paul University Surigao (SPUS); Surigao Education Center (SEC); Northeastern Mindanao Colleges (NEMCO); Surigao Doctors' College (SDC); Siargao Island Institute of Technology (SIIT); Don Jose Ecleo Memorial Foundation College of Science and Technology (DJEMFCST); and Bucas Grande Foundation College (BGFC).

POST-TYPHOON ODETTE CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP WITH KEY OFFICIALS OF CARAGA HEIS



The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted a Post-Typhoon Odette conference and workshop with key officials of all Caraga Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and regional professional associations on February 18, 2022 via Zoom teleconferencing platform.

The conference and workshop aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the damages sustained by affected HEIs and their stakeholders due to Supertyphoon Odette, to conceptualize possible resolutions and aid that can be provided to the affected stakeholders, and to affirm commitments and resolutions for implementation.

The conference portion of the activity was held during the morning session and provided an opportunity for representatives of a few affected HEIs to give brief reports on the state of their damaged facilities and feature personal stories of students and their families who were severely affected by the typhoon. The reporting HEIs were the following: Surigao State College of Science and Technology (SSCT) Del Carmen and Malimono Campuses, Surigao Education Center (SEC), Siargao Island Institute of Technology (SIIT), and Caraga Institute of Technology (CIT). An open forum followed shortly

where participants were able to further discern the pertinent needs of the HEIs to facilitate post-disaster recovery.

The workshop was held during the afternoon, wherein the representatives of the participating HEIs and regional professional associations were grouped by province in breakout sessions. Facilitated by CHED Caraga Education Supervisors II and the representatives of the affected HEIs, the groups discussed the needs of the affected HEIs and their stakeholders, the response objectives, the proposed strategy and actions, the responsible agencies, and the expected outcomes. The resulting outputs and commitments of each group were reported in the main session and commented on by CHED Caraga Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado.

Moving forward, the Regional Office will review the commitments and strategize the next steps for the implementation and monitoring of the various proposed efforts.

LAUNCHING OF “GROWING ONE MILLION MALUNGGAY TREES” ADVOCACY PROGRAM WITH CARAGA HEIS AND PARTNER AGENCIES

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) formally launched the One Million Trees Advocacy Program with key officials of all Caraga Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and regional professional associations on the afternoon of February 18, 2022 via Zoom teleconferencing platform. Spearheaded by CHED Caraga Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, the advocacy program aims to plant one million malunggay trees across the Caraga region in the timespan of one

year with the help of all 56 Caraga HEIs and partner regional line agencies. The program will be interwoven with existing environmental and socio-civic initiatives of HEIs and partner agencies, such as community extension programs, adopt-a-barangay programs, alumni association-led community service programs, and other school initiatives.

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RE-ORIENTATION OF THE POLICIES AND GUIDELINES FOR CHED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS (CSP) AND PRESENTATION OF CSP-RELATED UPDATES

Under CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 08, series of 2019, the Regional Offices are tasked to oversee the operation and implementation of the CHED Scholarship Program (CSP) and monitor the regional participating Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and scholars in the Region.

The CHED Scholarship Program (CSP) of CHED Caraga conducted its Re-orientation of the Policies and Guidelines and provided CSP-related updates to HEI CSP Focal Persons last February 21, 2022. The policies and guidelines primarily articulated the Article XI Modes and Procedures of payment through HEIs.



Five (5) HEIs with thirty-seven (37) participants joined the activity where Dr. Wenna B. Damulo, LPT, presented the implementing guidelines of the SIKAP Grants. CSP discussed the application package for potential delivering HEIs and teacher applicants, walked-through templates, forms, and the application kit, and conducted remote vetting of application and onboarding of approved nominations/scholars for Term 2 AY 2021-2022.

Ms. Noeme Rose D. Mani, CPA, MM, Supervising Education Program Specialist and Scholarship Coordinator, presented the Review of Policy and Guidelines for the CHED Scholarship Program. Project Technical Staff Mr. Dave San Miguel, Ms. Krizia Meijel R. Mellijor, and Ms. Rose Antoniet Jamero followed with a presentation on the Summary of the CSP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) submission, Updates on Unliquidated/Unreturned Payrolls from 2018 - 2021, and new Revised Billing Statement, respectively. An open forum was facilitated soon afterwards to address questions and concerns from the attending focals.

Thirty-seven (37) HEIs with seventy-four (74) participants attended via Zoom.

CARAGA DELIVERING HEIs AND SIKAP CALL FOR APPLICATION TERM 2 AY 2021-2022

The CHED Scholarship Program (CSP) of CHED Caraga launched the call for applications for SIKAP Grants in the region FY 2022 during their activity titled “Caraga Delivering HEIs and SIKAP Call for Application Term 2 AY 2021-2022” last February 15, 2022, via Zoom platform. Dr. Julia Felisa C. Martinez, LPT - Chief Education Program Specialist, and Dr. George M. Colorado, CESO III - Director IV, gave their Welcome Message and Director’s Time, respectively.

According to Republic Act No.7722 or the Higher Education Act of 1994, the Commission on Higher Education has approved through CEB Resolution No. 697-2020 the guidelines for the Scholarships for Instructor’s Knowledge Advancement Program (SIKAP) Grant. The Commission acknowledges the correlation of faculty development initiatives towards the global competitiveness of tertiary education in the region and generally contributes to increasing the percentage of faculty with graduate degrees.



Ms. Krizia Meijel R. Mellijor, Ms. Cynthia Grace Z. Magalop, CPA, and Mr. Alexis Dave M. San Miguel facilitated an Open Forum, Wrap Up and Way Forward, and reading Certificate Citation Recognition and distribution of certificates, respectively. The event was indeed a success!

CARAGA GRADUATE EDUCATION FAIR

CHEDRO Caraga - Scholarship for Graduate Studies conducted the successful Caraga Graduate Education Fair last March 1, 2022, via Zoom.

The goal of the said activity was to allow HEIs to market and advocate graduate education programs available in the region. Eleven (11) HEIs with forty - two (42) participants attended the virtual fair and had the opportunity to showcase the approved programs under the SIKAP Grants of their respective institutions. The HEIs who were able to present were Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT), Caraga State University (CSU), Father Saturnino Urios University (FSUU), Surigao State College of Technology (SSCT) and Philippine Normal University - Mindanao (PNU-Mindanao).

Also, during the activity, Dr. Wenna B. Damulo, LPT, ran through the application link and presented necessary templates and forms to guide interested participants, while Ms. Mary Joy E. Vallejos facilitated the Open Forum.

ATTENDANCE TO ORIENTATION MEETING ON THE AMENDED TES AND TDP GUIDELINES

The Office of Planning, Research, and Knowledge Management - Knowledge Management Division (OPRKM-KMD), headed by Dr. Christianne Lynnette C. Casem, CESE - OIC Director III, organized and conducted the 1st HEMIS General Assembly through the Zoom platform. Fifty-three (53) participants, HEMIS Project Technical Staffs from various CHED Regional Offices, attended the said activity. Mr. Calwin Alegre - Project Technical Staff III and Ms. Jan Myrtle Villanueva - Project Technical Staff II of MIS Unit were the representatives for CHEDRO Caraga who attended the said assembly.

1st GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF REGIONAL OFFICES HEMIS STAFF ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHED INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Office of Planning, Research, and Knowledge Management - Knowledge Management Division (OPRKM-KMD), headed by Dr. Christianne Lynnette C. Casem, CESE - OIC Director III, organized and conducted the 1st HEMIS General Assembly through the Zoom platform. Fifty-three (53) participants, HEMIS Project Technical Staffs from various CHED Regional Offices, attended the said activity. Mr. Calwin Alegre - Project Technical Staff III and Ms. Jan Myrtle Villanueva - Project Technical Staff II of MIS Unit were the representatives for CHEDRO Caraga who attended the said assembly. The OPRKM - KMD also took the opportunity to meet and greet, introduced the employees and staff from the different sections of KMD, and presented their accomplishments. The CHED regional offices also presented their respective Information System Strategic Plan (ISSP) or the Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) innovations. Mr. Alegre presented the CHEDRO Caraga - MIS Unit's major accomplishment, the CHED Caraga Management Information System (CCMIS). Before the activity ended, there was an open forum where participants shared and asked questions concerning ISSP and HEMIS. The 1st HEMIS General Assembly was very successful.

ONBOARDING ORIENTATION OF NEWLY-HIRED PERSONNEL

Last January 28, 2022, the Human Resource Section conducted the Onboarding Orientation via Zoom to orient the newly-hired personnel about the CHED Caraga policies and guidelines. Among the resource persons was Mr. Francis Ilagan, who discussed the Human Resource and administrative concerns, highlighting the office policies. In contrast,

Mr. Neil Von Mart Ronquillo presented and explained the requirements and processes of the Accounting unit. Moreover, Ms. Noeme Rose Mani, CPA, MM, introduced the members, rationale, and method of the Recruitment, Selection and Placement board, Learning and Development discussed by Ms. Angel Asis, and Ms. Revelyn Brina presented the Rewards and Recognition. Two (2) of the newly-hired are assigned to the Technical Division, while the other four (4) belong to the Administrative Division. The onboarding orientation was very informative and helpful for the new support staff in preparing themselves to embrace victories and challenges as new members of the CHED Caraga family.

WOMEN'S SUMMIT 2022

In line with the 2022 National Women's Month Celebration and the declaration of March 8 as the International Women's Day, the hybrid activity on Women's Summit was conducted at Balanghai Hotel and Convention Center, via zoom and Facebook Live and was participated by the different Regional Line Agencies, attached agencies and bureaus, Government-owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), State Universities and Colleges and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Ms. Noeme Rose D. Mani, CPA, MM, Supervising Education Program Specialist and Scholarship Coordinator, Ms. Angel A. Asis, Administrative Aide VI, and Ms. Mona Pia M. Galing, Project Technical Staff I, of CHED Caraga participated in the said celebration. The highlight of said activity was the Recognition of Successful Women in Caraga who stood out and remained resilient amidst the onset of the pandemic to wit: (a) DTI: 2022 Successful Women Entrepreneurs, (2) DA: Outstanding Rural Women, (3) DILG: Mga Juanang Bida sa Pandemya, (d) POPCOM: Outstanding Barangay Population Volunteers and (e) RGADC: Recognition of Former / Retired GAD Focal Persons. Practical learning sessions discussed Empowering Women through Knowledge on Government's Programs and Services. Topics presented include the following: (a) Digital Marketing, (b) Orientation on Pediatric COVID Vaccination, (c) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Status of the Philippines, (d) Orientation on the Establishment of the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, (e) Tax Payments during the Pandemic, (f) Agri BOOST: Innovative and Inclusive Agribusiness Ecosystem, (g) 2021 Search for Caraga's Gender-Responsive Government Agencies with invited speakers from the different government agencies in the Region. There were booths and free services available the whole day, from different government agencies, to give honor to all women and as a gesture of appreciation, to include: (a) DOH: Medical Services Booth, (b) Pag-ibig: Advocacy and Information Booth, (c) TESDA: Beauty Care Services Booth, (d) CHR: Gender Ombud Booth, (e) RI-ACAT-VAWC: Advocacy Booth, (f) PSA: PhilSys Registration and CVRS Booth, (g) DOST: DOST Services Booth, (h) PhilHealth: Member Data Update and Registration

Booth, (h) BJMP: PDL's Products, (i) NCMF: Hijab Booth and (j) DTI: Trade Fair.

CERTIFICATE COURSE OF THE PARALEGAL TRAINING PROGRAM

The Paralegal Training Program is a certificate course conducted and spearheaded by the University of the Philippines – College of Law. It is a formal, part-time and non-degree legal literacy and technical skills training program attended by paralegal aspirants and the selected employees of the Commission on Higher Education.

(Photo still requested)

Ms. Noeme Rose D. Mani, CPA, MM, Supervising Education Program Specialist and Scholarship Coordinator, participated in the said program from February 12, 2022, to May 21, 2022, conducted via synchronous and asynchronous learning modality.

Objectives of the program include (a) acquiring the core, basic and practical knowledge of substantive legal concepts and procedures and their application to paralegal transactions, (b) developing the ability to identify, analyze, and evaluate common conflict areas in paralegal work, and to recommend law-based resolutions thereof and (c) enhancing skills to process common legal and paralegal transactions which comprise, among others, legal research, legal writing and document drafting, and determination of the sufficiency of forms and documents.

Bayanihan, Bakunahan, National Vaccination Days Part III

On February 7, 2022, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Central Office released a Memorandum on the call for participation of HEIs and volunteers from the Higher Education sector on the National COVID-19 Vaccination Days Part III in response to the advisory released by the National COVID-19 Vaccination Operations Center (NVOC) in the deployment of medical, nursing, and allied health professionals, teachers, and data professionals.

RD's Activities

NORTHEASTERN MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAIN CAMPUS (NEMSU-MAIN) ACADEMIC CONVERGENCE

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CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS WITH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs)

CHED Caraga had a series of consultative meetings with Andres Soriano College of Bislig (ASCB), Northeastern Mindanao State University - Bislig (NEMSU-Bislig), Northeastern Mindanao State University - Tagbina (NEMSU-Tagbina) and Hinatuan State College (HSC). On February 15-16, 2022, CHED Caraga Regional Director George M. Colorado, CESO III - Director IV, and Mr. Amy C. Saavedra - Education Specialist II had a consultative meeting with the school president Dr. Paciencia M. Malazarte and key officials of Andres Soriano College of Bislig, and with Forester Whelson C. Pasos - Campus Director and key officials of Northeastern Mindanao State University - Bislig, respectively. Moreover, on March 2-3, 2022, RD Colorado and Mr. Saavedra had another consultative meeting with the key officials and members of the Board of Trustees of Hinatuan State College (HSC) and Northeastern Mindanao State University - Tagbina (NEMSU-Tagbina). The purpose of the said meetings was to discuss the policies, standards, and guidelines of the school's program offering on an initial/renewal permit status and Certificate of Program Compliance (COPCs) status in all of the school's program offerings.

OCULAR VISIT AT DENR BISLIG ON MECHANIZED AND MODERNIZED FOREST NURSERIES (MMFN) AND ECOSYSTEMS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

On February 15, 2022, RD Colorado, Mr. Amy Saavedra - Education Specialist II and Forester Whelson C. Pasos - Campus Director of NEMSU - Bislig conducted a visit to the Mechanized and Modernized Forest Nurseries (MMFN) and Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau situated in Mangagoy, Bislig, Surigao del Sur.

They were given a tour around the nurseries and laboratories and the Seed Vault, while RD Colorado also experienced the Agarwood testing. Mechanized and Modernized Forest Nurseries (MMFN) aims to promote the science-based development of forest lands by establishing and managing high-value tree plantations and other forest crops. With the funding and guidance of the DENR, the MMFN's specific role is to supply the seedling requirement in the region and ensure an increase in seedling survival rates.

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs) CEREMONIAL TREE PLANTING

Personnel and key officials of Northeastern Mindanao State University in Bislig and Tagbina conducted a ceremonial tree planting last February 16, 2022, and March 3, 2022, respectively, in participation in the "Growing One Million Malunggay Trees Advocacy Program" of CHED Caraga. Led by CHED Caraga Regional Director George M. Colorado with Education Supervisor II and the advocacy program's Secretariat Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, participants enthusiastically planted their respective Malunggay trees despite the sun's scorching heat. CHED Caraga formally launched the "Growing One Million Malunggay Trees Advocacy Program" last February 18, 2022, with key officials of all Caraga Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and regional professional associations. The program intends to benefit communities by giving more access to malunggay and its health benefits and helping restore greenery throughout the region.

Consultative Meeting between CHED Caraga, DENR, and DA

On February 9, 2022, the Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) held a consultative meeting with representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Caraga Regional Office (DENR Caraga) and the Department of Agriculture Caraga Regional Office (DA Caraga) via Zoom teleconferencing platform to discuss the implementation of the Growing One Million Malunggay Trees Advocacy Program. The consultative meeting served as an opportunity to exchange ideas, strategies, best practices and explore possible partnerships that will aid in the program's success. In attendance during the meeting were Regional Director George Colorado, Education Supervisor II and Secretariat for the Growing One Million Malunggay Trees Advocacy Program Mr. Amy Saavedra, DA Caraga Regional Technical Director Nicandro Navia Jr., DENR Caraga Enforcement Division Chief Modesto U. Lagumbay, Jr., Chief Education Program Specialist Dr. Julia Felisa Martinez, Chief Administrative Officer Ms. Alma Patron, and the Education Supervisors of CHED Caraga.

CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH TESDA REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND MANAGEMENT ON THE 3-YEAR DIPLOMA PROGRAM

CHED Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, CESO III, and Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, Educational Supervisor II, had a consultative meeting with the TESDA Regional Director Tarhata S. Mapandi, CESO III, and the management on the 3-year Diploma Program last February 2, 2022.

DONATION DRIVE AND RELIEF EFFORTS FOR POST-ODETTE VICTIMS

Following the destruction left by Super typhoon Odette on several provinces in the Caraga region on December 17, 2021, CHED Caraga office personnel came together and, in true bayanihan spirit, organized relief efforts for the typhoon victims. The office pooled together funds from the pockets of its personnel for an accumulated total of Php 29,500, used to purchase essential food, sanitary, and health items bundled into relief packs. Office personnel distributed the relief packs to various HEIs and evacuation centers.

In addition to the donation drive organized by CHED Caraga personnel, the office also facilitated the turnover of donations from the Bicol Foundation for Higher Education to the Caraga Association of State Universities and Colleges, Inc. (CASUC). The amount donated totaled Php 181,000.

27TH CHARTER DAY OF AGUSAN DEL SUR STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

CHED Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, CESO III, and Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, Educational Supervisor II, had a consultative meeting with the TESDA Regional Director Tarhata S. Mapandi, CESO III, and the management on the 3-year Diploma Program last February 2, 2022. The Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology celebrated its 27th Charter Day with the theme "ASSCAT towards Strengthening Roots, Expanding Borders, and Enhancing Productivity," last March 1, 2022, at ASSCAT Sports and Socio-cultural Center in Bunawan, Agusan del Sur.

CHED Caraga Regional Director George M. Colorado, CESO III, delivered his message during the celebration. Dr. Criseldo Calinawan - Education Supervisor II, and Mr. Amy C. Saavedra - Education Supervisor II, accompanied RD Colorado to the said event.

A plaque of commendation was awarded to RD Colorado in recognition of the exemplary and unwavering support to the various programs and projects of the College, which contributed to the improvement of the quality services to the stakeholders.

CHED CARAGA CONDUCTS OCULAR VISIT TO HEIS AFFECTED BY SUPERTYPHOON ODETTE

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Moving forward, the Regional Office will review the commitments and strategize the next steps for implementing and monitoring various proposed efforts.

CHED CARAGA MIS PERSONNEL INVITED AS RESOURCE SPEAKERS ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS DURING DIGITALIZATION TRAINING

The CHED Caraga Management Information System (MIS) personnel served as invited resource speakers during the System Development: Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education (MBHTE) Digitalization Seminar Phase II, held last March 10-12, 2022, at The Farm, Carpenter Hills, Koronadal City.

Regional Director George Colorado gave a short message during the activity. Mr. Amy Saavedra, Education Supervisor II and MIS Focal, gave a presentation on Information System Development, followed by a demonstration of MIS web developers Mr. Calvin Alegre and Mr. Ronan Otaza on the operation of the CHED Caraga Management Information System and the CHED Scholarship Program Portal.

CHED CARAGA LAUNCHES “GROWING ONE MILLION MALUNGGAY TREES” ADVOCACY PROGRAM WITH CARAGA HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND PARTNER AGENCIES

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The advocacy program will have the intended outcome of helping to mitigate climate change, restore greenery in the surrounding environment, and for communities to enjoy easier access to malunggay trees and their many health benefits.

During the commemoration of launching, a ceremonial planting of the first 50 malunggay trees at the CHED Caraga grounds, where Director Colorado planted the first tree with the rest of CHED Caraga personnel. The activity was streamed live via Zoom and witnessed by representatives and key officials of Caraga HEIs as part of the Post-Odette Conference and Workshop held on the same day.

PAST MILESTONES, NEW VISIONS: CHED CARAGA BIDS FAREWELL TO OUTGOING DIRECTOR AND WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR WITH TURNOVER CEREMONY

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