

# UC Students prepared for crime situations

**Prevention is better than cure. It is for this reason that the country's top Criminology school, the University of the Cordilleras, formerly Baguio Colleges Foundation (UC-BCF) educates its students to escape from harm and to protect themselves when needed.**

More than 2,500 students undertaking the National Service Training Program (NSTP) of the University of the Cordilleras were given tips on maintaining safety and basic crime "negotiation" techniques last August 6 at the UC campus.

The students were educated regarding the "modus operandi" or common crimes and drug initiation approaches, including the safeguards against them. This will be followed with basic self-defense techniques through karate and aikido among other martial arts on August 18.

National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM-CAR) under Director Rodolfo Santos co-sponsored the activity while speakers from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and the Baguio City Police Office

discussed Drug Abuse Prevention, the Anti-Hazing Law and Crime Prevention.

The August 18 module will deal with survival skills that students could use in drastic situations where direct confrontation can no longer be avoided. Survival techniques including self-defense maneuvers will be taught.

Student Affairs Dean Cecilio "Popo" Gallardo explained that the project aims to empower students against dangerous elements especially off-campus. He added that students should be vigilant about existing dangers in the urban jungle.

"UC puts paramount importance on the wellbeing of its students. We do not want to leave them defenseless the moment they leave the safety of the school.

Students can get

mugged anytime. They should know what to do just in case." Mr. Gallardo said.

The Student Crime Prevention Council who co-sponsored with NAPOLCOM and the Student Affairs Office said the Council attempts to sustain UC-BCF as a safe and peaceful environment for learning. It could be recalled that UC-BCF was awarded the cleanest and greenest school in Baguio since 2003 and two weeks ago again recognized with the "healthy school" award by the Department of Health.

According to the European Intelligence Unit, street crime is a grave problem in the Philippines. Official statistics state that incidents of serious crime in 1999 exceeded 110 per 100,000 population (a rate of 25 or less per 100,000 is considered low).\*

# Automated Elections implemented in Baguio

Winners were already known right after the last vote was cast during an automated election at the University of the Cordilleras (UC-BCF).

Four of its colleges utilized a computerized system during the Supreme Student Government (SSG) Elections last July 24.

While the Supreme Court is still settling the P1.3 billion-worth computerization issues on the 2007 elections, the UC-BCF has proven that automation of elections is plausible.

The automated poll system was created under the supervision of Engr. Eliseo Ruiz of the College of Information and Computing Sciences (CICS).

"At first it was a stand-alone system when developed and used in 1997, but in 1999, we were able to

implement a network system for it," said Engr. Ruiz.

CICS was certified by the Commission on Higher Education as the Center of Development for Excellence (CODE) for Information Technology.

UC-CICS has been sharing the program to other colleges for the past four years. This 2006, engineering, accountancy and nursing students were able to benefit from the automation process.

"All the students did was input their student ID number and click beside the name of their chosen candidate," said SSG Adviser Mr. Benjamin Alo, who also disclosed that the system was safe.

To avoid flying voters, student ID access numbers were automatically blocked upon voting. Votes were automatically tallied.

## COA gives tribute to New Accountants

The College of Accountancy of UC-BCF honored its 30 new Certified Public Accountants who passed the October 2005 and May 2006 Accountancy Board Examinations in simple ceremonies at the school's theater last July 21. Guest speaker Edwin Bunal-o, a UC alumnus and accountant for one of the nation's top 5 auditing firms commended the college for its continued efforts to ensure that accounting students acquire the best educational training in preparation for the board exams. The new CPAs and other accounting students were reminded of their responsibility towards themselves, their families, the institution and the country. "Never forget those who helped you get where you are. Filipino CPAs have various opportunities abroad. If that's the only way you can help the economy, then so be it. But never forget your country and the loved ones you left behind," the speaker said. The new accountants acknowledged UC-BCF for providing them with good academic preparation and positiveness values which are the two most important foundation in the business environment.

## Scholars Recognized

Close to 200 academic scholars and special scholarship grantees were recognized by the University of the Cordilleras as part of the institution's enhancement program towards "Mastery and Academic Excellence". Comprising the top one percent (1%) of more than 12,000 UC students, the scholars received certificates for garnering a general weighted average of at least 90% last school term during simple ceremonies last July 28, 2006 attended by parents of the scholars. Guest speaker Atty. Marcos D. Alfonso, a UC alumnus and former CICS instructor, urged the students to reach for brighter stars and remain humble despite all their achievements. "Even when you have become the best, strive to be better. Never rest on your laurels. This recognition should only serve to be a milestone, a reminder that you are headed for the right direction," he challenged. A complete list of top academic performers can be accessed at the UC-BCF website [www.uc-bcf.edu.ph](http://www.uc-bcf.edu.ph) in its "beta version 2".



A common discussion table and individual faculty cubicles form part of the posh UC-BCF College of Engineering and Architecture office which was inaugurated on July 8.



Melodious voices of the UC Chorale under Prof. Belle Luis harness their talents to join Baguio's Community Choir on Sept. 1 in celebration of the city's 98th Charter Day Anniversary.

*Our Paramount Duty is to endow the lives of our students . . . with the guidance of a moral compass.*



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