

University of the Cordilleras celebrate Cordillera birth

The University of the Cordilleras will open its doors to a celebration of the Cordillera region in an over a week-long lined up activities starting with a debate, costumes and products display, indigenous food preparation, and ending in a Canao at the covered court grounds of the school.

Proud of being in the region and putting the Cordillera name in the limelight of educational performance, UC brings back the recognition to its roots, the students, faculty and indigenous communities that comprise the institution's foundation.

Events coordinator UC Consultant Edna Tabanda released the schedule of celebration that will start on July 14 and will culminate in a Canao on July 22.

It will be recalled that CAR was created on July 15, 1987 through the issuance of Executive Order 220 by then-President Corazon Aquino upon the negotiation of the late rebel priest Fr. Conrado Balweg and his group. EO 220 grouped the provinces of Ifugao, Kalinga and Apayao (formerly part of

Cagayan region) with Benguet, Mt. Province, Abra and the city of Baguio (then part of Ilocos Region) to form the new region, CAR.

The future of the Cordillera Administrative Region will be discussed in a debate by UC's debating club in the afternoon of July 14, 2006 at the UC Theater. This will be followed by Symposia on Cordillera culture, indigenous systems in local governance and regional development directions on July 17 by prominent Cordilleran speakers.

The College of Teacher Education through its Social Studies Department will be displaying cordillera culture and costumes through live mannequins and products at the UC covered court.

Meanwhile, the College of Hotel and Restaurant Manage-

ment and Tourism (HRMT) under Dean Isagani Paddit exemplifying their being five-time regional culinary champion will host an indigenous foods display on July 18-21 at the UC covered court. New cooking techniques and food presentation for native delicacies will highlight the exhibit where finished products will be open for sale to the public.

Meanwhile, the cultural group through Paul Malecda in cooperation with various ethno-linguistic student groups will perform in a regional cultural presentation. The Canao will be coordinated by the College of Criminology through Dean Benjamin Mang-usan.

The celebration is complimentary to the Regional Development Council initiated activities.*

Teachers trained to be globally competitive

The high demand for quality teachers here and abroad brought new directions to the College of Teacher Education (CTE) of the University of the Cordilleras.

Course programs were restructured to be consistent with international standards in teacher education.

CTE Dean Dr. Miriam Janeo admitted the need for upgrading of standards brought by the declining teacher efficiency and high demand for quality teachers in China, the United States and Canada among others.

"We are proud to say that we are moving towards the direction of training our students with bigger opportunities in mind", Dean Janeo said as she boasts of the quality instruction provided by its faculty in enhancing skills in English, Science and Mathematics.

"One hundred percent of our full-time, permanent faculty members are masteral degree holders. Some of them have doctorate degrees, while most are pursuing higher learning", shared Dr. Janeo.

The faculty members are strictly mandated to observe the "English Zone" policy of the school. Correct English use is encouraged in both formal written and oral communication within the CTE. All its classes uses English even in the most basic and trivial transactions.

"Proficiency in English will enable our future teachers to be at par with their peers from other institutions and ensure a competitive edge when they look for jobs", the dean added.

A new Learning Resource Center will be constructed to house teaching-learning equipment where student teachers undergo once-a-week seminars on current issues and latest trends in their field.

Invited lecturers in

the center include educators within and outside UC. Last trimester, for instance, BCU Elementary School principal Dr. Juanita Madarang and Dr. Lillian Pagulongan, head of the English Department at Pines City National High School emphasized the restructuring of basic education curriculum to prepare children for lifelong learning.

Dean Janeo said the business of training future teachers at UC is a serious, values-centered one. In fact, candidates for student-teaching are chosen in such a way that only those who are in their last school term with zero units left may enter the program. Students who cannot make the cut are filtered. Thus, there is no mass production of teachers in the university.

One recent CTE transferee commented, "At first I was hesitant to transfer at UC. But now I am very grateful. The culture here is different. It's nurturing. The teachers actually care", she candidly disclosed.

New CHED-approved curriculum for Elementary Education (BEED) was designed to fully equip future elementary teachers with the ability to handle all subjects in elementary. Dean Janeo said while there is no specific specialization in elementary teaching, the curriculum is enriched with 58 units of content courses, two-thirds of which concentrate on Math, Science and English.

The Secondary Education (BSED) curriculum is highly specialized with majors in English, General Science, Filipino, Mathematics, PEHM and Social Studies. It is enhanced with 60 units of major subjects designed to ensure that future high school teachers are masters of a given field.*



The UC ROTC unit bested 23 other schools from Region 1 and CAR as they bagged three Championship titles at the Regional Annual Administrative and Performance Evaluation (RAAPE) for school year 2005-2006. L-R (S1Asst. Alexandra Aldrin, S1 Christy Sigat, Corps Comm. Davis Hangdaan, S2 Charlie Balisong, UC Pres. Reynaldo Agranzamendez, S-4 Marvin Dagadag, VP for Administration Dr. Angelita Padilla, TSG Elbren Agdeppa, Lt. Col. Elpidio Aspuria, 2nd Lt. Oliver Pabelonia and S3 Solban Ngalatan.

Working students groomed for excellence

A top performing school in this mountain resort city takes pride in their working students. They are groomed to become future leaders, successful businessmen and career officials by instilling in them good work values and the provision of quality training exposures.

Comprising 40 percent of the institution's workforce, working students are seen everywhere from the comfort rooms, corridors, library and offices of the University of the Cordilleras.

To enhance their work values, a Customer Service Seminar was conducted by UC for its working scholars and

student assistants on June 26-27 and July 2.

The seminar focused on ensuring that everyone who enters the portals of UC, be it parents, visitors and most especially the students, will be treated with utmost respect and courtesy.

The working scholarship program at the former Baguio Colleges Foundation (now UC) is granted to poor but deserving students who have the drive to dream big and are willing to work for it. The program was given prime importance by the institution's founder; Atty. Benjamin Romero Salvosa who has always advocated education

opportunities for all.

Most working students end up at the top of their profession. For example, incumbent UC President and con-current dean of the College of Law Reynaldo Agranzamendez started as a working student of UC-BCF for over eight years before he became a successful lawyer.

Working students juggle their studies with such responsibilities as keeping the institution worthy of the title "Cleanest and Greenest School" in Baguio City, with its restrooms comparable to those of Five Star Hotels, its floors so clean that students in comfortable Indian-sitting positions

are a common sight along the corridors and stairwells.

"Students wanting to apply for the program undergo a battery of psychological tests and an interview before they qualify. They are entitled to such benefits as free tuition and miscellaneous fees plus a stipend of P600 to P1,000 depending on the nature of their job", said Guidance Director

Judith Adina.

Dr. Angelita Padilla, Vice President for Administration said that beyond allowing financially-challenged individuals to receive quality education, the program also provides good career training. "Our working scholars are paraprofessionals. They are trained to function as full-time employees", she said.*

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



UNIVERSITY OF THE CORDILLERAS

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