



DR. ETHEL VALENZUELA Advocates Inclusive Education Reform at GEDSIO Women in Education Seminar



by Jose V. Clutario

“Achieving excellence for women in education requires a collective vision and a sustained commitment to progress. Together, we empower,”
Dr. Valenzuela concluded.

As part of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines’ (PUP) National Women’s Month celebration, the Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion Office (GEDSIO) organized the Women in Education Seminar on March 14, 2025. The event highlighted the vital role of women in shaping the education sector and featured newly designated PUP Board of Regents Chairperson Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua Valenzuela as the keynote speaker.

Dr. Valenzuela, an esteemed education policy leader and former Director of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), delivered a lecture titled *“Women in Education: Accelerating Action Toward Excellence.”* Her address focused on the need for systemic reforms to eliminate persistent gender disparities in leadership and policymaking, especially in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

While acknowledging that women make up 57.2% of higher education

enrollees and 60% of college graduates in the Philippines, Dr. Valenzuela pointed out the underrepresentation of women in top academic and policy leadership roles. She challenged institutions to implement inclusive policies that remove financial and societal obstacles limiting women’s advancement in education.

Drawing on her experience as the first woman to lead SEAMEO since its founding in 1965, Dr. Valenzuela shared her leadership in initiatives such as the SEAMEO College projects and the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM), which have improved access to quality education across the region. She also highlighted her contributions to global policy through her work with the UNESCO SDG Global Steering Committee and the UNESCO International Teacher Task Force.

Currently serving as Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), President of Pi Lambda Theta, and Chairperson of the PUP Board of Regents, Dr.

DR. ETHEL AGNES PASCUA VALENZUELA
Chairperson, PUP Board of Regents
CHED Commissioner

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The RED Newsletter, the official newsletter of the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension and Development, is now published monthly by the PUP OVPRED - Research Publications Office, Anonas St., Sta. Mesa, Manila.

Dr. Ethel Valenzuela... (from p. 1)

Valenzuela emphasized the role of PUP in championing inclusive, high-quality education for marginalized and equity target groups. She expressed confidence in PUP's continued development through academic program expansion, community engagement, and strategic partnerships aligned with national education goals.

The seminar, facilitated by GEDSIO, marked a significant moment for PUP as it reinforced its commitment to inclusive education and the promotion of gender-responsive academic leadership.#



Commissioner Valenzuela with PUP President Dr. Manuel M. Muhi, VP for Research, Extension and Development Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapasin, and senior members of Pi Lambda Theta Philippines

IPMO Strengthens Intellectual Property Awareness ACROSS COLLEGES THROUGH A SERIES OF ORIENTATIONS



by Mark Anecito R. Perlas

The Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO) intensified its campaign to promote innovation and intellectual property (IP) protection through a series of orientation sessions held in March 2025 for faculty, staff, and students from key academic units.

Spearheaded by IPMO Director Dr. Ginno Andres, the awareness campaign targeted the Institute of Technology (March 5), the College of Engineering and Architecture (March 19), and the College of Computer and Information Sciences (March 26). The sessions aimed to familiarize participants with IP rights, university processes for patent and copyright applications, and the vital role of intellectual property in academic research and innovation.

ITSO Chief Mark Anecito Perlas introduced the functions of the Innovation and Technology Support Office (ITSO) and discussed IPMO's mandate, services, and projects—technical experts Engr. Jhon Helarch Antoni and Engr. Christine Apatan provided detailed presentations on patent requirements, application procedures, and PUP's internal IP documentation processes.

Attended by nearly 100 students and faculty members, the initiative underscored IPMO's commitment to cultivating a culture of innovation and legal awareness within the university. The campaign also highlighted IPMO's role in supporting student researchers and faculty innovators in safeguarding and advancing their creative and technical outputs.#

Attendees and Officials after the Intellectual Property (IP) Awareness Campaign Session where they learned more about the role of intellectual property in research and capstone projects.



RPO Hosts Strategic Publishing Seminar on WEB OF SCIENCE

at PUP    by Hazel DR. Samala

On March 5, 2025, a seminar titled “Publishing Strategically for Research Impact with Web of Science and Journal Citation Reports” was spearheaded by the Research Publications Office (RPO) under the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development (OVPRED).

Designed to promote responsible research publishing and enhance academic output quality, the seminar drew participants from various sectors of the university, including OVPRED directors and chiefs, university librarians, and academic heads from the Graduate School and vertically aligned colleges.

The resource speaker, Ms. Dju-Lyn Ching, Senior Customer Success Consultant of Clarivate Analytics, discussed the role of the Web of Science (WoS) platform in identifying high-impact research, exploring citation networks, evaluating journals beyond traditional metrics, and avoiding predatory publications. She also highlighted best practices for using tools such as the Journal Impact Factor and Journal Citation Indicator in evaluating scholarly work.

Organized by the RPO, the session concluded with a dynamic exchange between the speaker and attendees on integrating WoS guidelines into instruction, research evaluation, and journal selection. Ms. Ching praised the participants’ enthusiasm, noting that the productive dialogue made her trip from Singapore especially meaningful.#



MS. DJU-LYN CHING
Senior Customer Success Consultant
Clarivate Analytics



IQMO

Conducts ISO-Related Training for Enhanced Quality Management

by Rock Bryan B. Matias, Cresilda M. Bragas, and Jackson Jake U. Llamas



NEDA Information Officer Ms. Liezel M. Aldiano

The Institutional Quality Management Office (IQMO) organized a series of ISO-related training courses aimed at improving quality management, knowledge sharing, and document management. A total of 210 focal persons, including risks and opportunities coordinators, documented information handlers, and knowledge management champions, participated in the activities.

The training began on March 5 with the Knowledge Management Advocacy Seminar at PUP Bulwagang Bonifacio, featuring NEDA Information Officer Ms. Liezel M. Aldiano. The session, attended by 134 employees, focused on foundational knowledge management concepts and the importance of knowledge sharing.

On March 6-7, the Document Management and Control Section (DMCS) held the Control of Documented Information Course at Prestige Tower, Ortigas, for 28 focal persons. The course focused on effective document management and compliance with ISO 9001 standards.

From March 19-21, a Knowledge Management workshop was conducted for eight KM champions, aligning with the ISO 30401:2018 Knowledge Management Systems Standard. The session, organized by the Development Academy of the Philippines, aimed at promoting organizational growth through key KM concepts and tools.

The series concluded with the Risk Management Training Workshop on March 27-28, which trained 40 faculty and staff on ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management principles, equipping them with skills to identify, analyze, and address risks and opportunities within the university.

These training initiatives reflect IQMO's ongoing commitment to enhancing PUP's services through continuous professional development.#



(in photos) Participants during the brainstorming sessions for the Knowledge Management Workshop (2nd from top), Control of Documented Information Workshop, and Risk Management Training Workshop.

IPMO



Conducts Benchmarking Visit to UP Diliman TTBDO

by Mark Anecito Perlas



PUP IPMO Director Ginno Andres (L) and UPD-TTBDO Director Dr. Magdaleno Vasquez Jr.

The Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO) conducted a benchmarking visit to the University of the Philippines Diliman's Technology Transfer and Business Development Office (UPD-TTBDO) to exchange best practices in intellectual property (IP) management on March 13, 2025.

The activity focused on sharing insights, comparing ongoing projects, and identifying ways to improve operations and collaboration in managing and commercializing intellectual property assets.

UPD-TTBDO Director Dr. Magdaleno Vasquez Jr. and his team welcomed the PUP delegation and facilitated discussions on technology transfer strategies, policy implementation, and support services for researchers and innovators.

Representing PUP IPMO were Director Ginno Andres, ITSO Chief Mark Anecito Perlas, and technical experts Engr. Jhon Helarch Antoni and Engr. Christine Apatan.

The PUP IPMO expressed gratitude to UPD-TTBDO for the warm hospitality and valuable exchange of knowledge, which will inform future improvements in PUP's IP initiatives.#



Meeting with the ICTO personnels and the Development Team of QKMIS headed by Director Ireneo C. Delas Armas, Jr.

IQMO



Set to Launch Quality and Knowledge Management Information System

By Rock Bryan B. Matias

The Institutional Quality Management Office (IQMO) is set to launch the PUP Quality and Knowledge Management Information System (QKMIS), a web-based platform designed to streamline quality, risk, documentation, and institutional knowledge management across the university.

A key milestone was marked on March 19, 2025, with a contract signing for six job-order employees, comprising a Team Lead Programmer, Programmers, and Documentation Specialists, who will develop the system. The team is now working on the initial development phase, aiming to build a platform tailored to PUP's operational needs.

QKMIS will feature four main subsystems: Document Information and Controller, ISO Audit Management, Risk Management, and Knowledge Management. These modules will support functions such as audit tracking, risk mitigation, accreditation documentation, and knowledge sharing. The system will use a secure three-tier architecture accessible to process owners, internal auditors, quality focal persons, top management, and external entities such as CHED and ISO auditors.

Owned and led by IQMO, QKMIS is expected to improve efficiency, decision-making, and continuous improvement efforts at PUP.#

PUP TBIDO AND INCUBATEES

Join DOST-PCIEERD Startup Grant

Fund Writeshop



by John Dee Gonos

The Technology Business Incubation and Development Office (TBIDO) and 9 incubatees participated in the Startup Grant Fund Writeshop organized by the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (DOST-PCIEERD) on March 17, 2025, from 1:00 to 5:00 PM at the Ateneo Business Resource Center, Ateneo de Manila University.

The writeshop, conducted in collaboration with SCALE NCR and Ateneo’s Bluenest, aimed to guide aspiring technopreneurs and startup enablers in securing funding through the DOST-PCIEERD Startup Grant Fund (SGF). The session focused on refining grant proposals, improving commercialization strategies, and aligning innovations with national development priorities.

TBIDO was represented by nine incubatees: Instrabaho, EdugAIte, Eco-coco, ElectrifiAI, Spreadify, Ruvo, AgriCtrl+, AeroTask, and Cybernest Solutions. These startups presented solutions across sectors including artificial intelligence, sustainability, digital platforms, and agriculture technology.

The event featured expert guidance from DOST-PCIEERD specialists, industry mentors, and previous grant recipients. Sessions included proposal development strategies, research utilization, and navigating the government funding landscape. Participants also engaged in networking and collaborative discussions with fellow innovators and ecosystem stakeholders.

Engr. Edward Apigo, Senior Science Research Specialist at DOST-PCIEERD, highlighted the significance of providing startups with the tools to access public funding.

TBIDO’s participation in the writeshop underscores its ongoing commitment to nurturing innovation-driven entrepreneurship. As its incubatees advance their proposals, they continue working toward building viable enterprises that contribute to the country’s economic and technological development.#



Engr. Edward Apigo of DOST-PCIEERD discusses proposal refinement, commercialization strategies, and aligning innovations with national priorities.



TBIDO and Incubatees during the DOST-PCIEERD Writeshop



RISFI Director Engr. Orland D. Tubola explained RISFI's role in integrating long-term foresight into academic planning and research initiatives

RISFI Facilitates Strategic Benchmarking Visit with SPAMAST at PUP



by Marife A. Rosales

The Research Institute for Strategic Foresight and Innovation (RISFI) facilitated a benchmarking activity for officials from the Southern Philippines Agri-business and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology (SPAMAST) at the PUP Sta. Mesa campus on March 18, 2025.

The visit aimed to provide SPAMAST with insights into institutional practices on strategic foresight, research, and innovation. Leading the SPAMAST delegation were President Dr. Lynette A. Bontia, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Marlyn B. Lamego, Vice President for Administration and Finance Dr. Edelyn S. Albiso, along with other key officials.

Representing PUP were Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapasin, RISFI Director Engr. Orland D. Tubola, Research Institute for Science and Technology (RIST) Director Dr. Armin S. Coronado, RISFI Center for Futures Innovation Chief Dr. Robert G. De Luna, and RISFI Center for Futures Training and Advocacy Chief Engr. Marife A. Rosales.

The benchmarking discussions emphasized RISFI's role in integrating long-term foresight into academic planning and research initiatives. PUP also shared its best practices



in fostering innovation, sustainable development, and cross-disciplinary collaboration.

As part of the visit, SPAMAST delegates toured PUP's research facilities and centers, gaining first-hand exposure to programs aligned with sustainability and technological advancement—insights that SPAMAST intends to adopt in strengthening its agri-business and aquatic research directions.

The engagement marks a significant step in institutional collaboration, with RISFI playing a central role in knowledge sharing and capacity-building toward future academic and research partnerships.#

SALIK KAKAYAHAN 2025



Participants of the 3-day Writeshop on Social Inclusivity towards Human and Social Development.

RIHSD Launches SALIK KAKAYAHAN WRITESHOP 2025 to Advance Socially Inclusive Research



by Chloe Nicole D. Piamonte
and Werllie P. Bueno

The Research Institute for Human and Social Development (RIHSD) successfully launched its first *Salik Kakayahan: Writeshop on Social Inclusivity towards Human and Social Development* from March 18 to 20, 2025. The three-day workshop, organized through RIHSD’s three centers—Center for Poverty Alleviation and Community Development Studies (CPACDS), Center for Indigenous Peoples Studies (CIPS), and Center for Gender Studies (CGS)—served as a preparatory activity for the institute’s 3-cycle research initiative: *Salik Kaalaman, Salik Kahusayan, and Salik Katanyagan*.

A total of 90 faculty participants from 10 PUP colleges were selected based on nominations from the Institutional

Planning Office. Participants engaged in collaborative research proposal development under the mentorship of leading scholars, with selected proposals to be funded by RIHSD in the coming year.

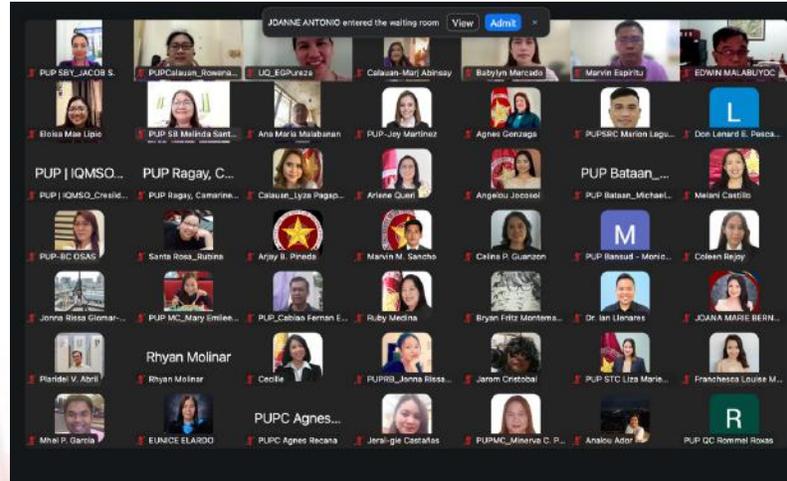
On March 18, CPACDS opened the writeshop with the sub-theme “*Reducing Poverty and Developing Sustainable Communities.*” Thirty faculty members from CAL, CSSD, COC, and COED received mentorship from UP Diliman social work experts Dr. Justin Nicolas and Prof. Florino Algo, focusing on poverty and community-based research.

The following day, CIPS led the second session on “*Indigenous Identity, Culture, and Society.*” Faculty from CSSD, CTHTM, and CPSPA were mentored by Dr. Feorillo Demeterio III and Dr. Rowell Madula of De La Salle University–Manila, culminating in research topics centered on indigenous knowledge and cultural preservation.

CGS concluded the writeshop on March 20 with the theme “*Gender, Identity, and Philippine Culture.*” In line with Women’s Month, 30 participants from CHK, CBA, and COED developed gender-focused proposals under the guidance of feminist philosophers Dr. Kelly Agra (UP Baguio) and Dr. Noelle Leslie Dela Cruz (DLSU).

Supported by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension and Development, RIHSD Director Dr. Melchah Monsura, and center chiefs, the initiative aligns with at least nine of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including gender equality, poverty reduction, and inclusive institutions.

The *Salik Kakayahan* writeshop underscores RIHSD’s commitment to fostering inclusive, interdisciplinary, and community-rooted research that responds to pressing societal needs.#



IQMO LAUNCHES FY2025 INTERNAL QUALITY AUDIT

to Enhance Institutional
Standards by Randy D. Sagun



IQA Support Auditors checks the documents presented by the process owner in Ragay Campus during the audit.

PUP UPDATES RESEARCH ETHICS GUIDELINES



with New Executive Order No. 8

by AC Dimataac

On February 24, 2025, Executive Order No. 8, Series of 2025, was released to update research ethics guidelines and establish new College and Campus Research Ethics Committees (CLREC and CMREC).

The updated guidelines, shared by the PUP Central Records Office, aim to ensure a more efficient and comprehensive review of all research protocols across the university. These changes are in line with the University Research Ethics Committee (UREC) standards, following both the University’s Research Ethics-General Standards and the Philippine Health Research Ethics Board (PHREB) guidelines.

Executive Order No. 8 introduces the CLREC and CMREC as governing bodies within each college and campus, responsible for reviewing research projects. Their role includes ensuring ethical reviews of research conducted by both students and faculty, fostering a culture of ethical research practices throughout the institution.

The CLREC and CMREC will consist of a Panel Chair, a Member Secretary, Regular Members, and Alternate Members. Regular Members include Scientist: A faculty member or special lecturer with a master’s degree or higher in their field. Non-Scientist refers to a faculty member, special lecturer, or administrative employee with at least a college degree. Finally, Non-Affiliated are professionals outside PUP who hold at least a master’s degree in a related field.

The EO states that alternate members will substitute for Regular Members when necessary. Members of the CLREC and CMREC will serve for a two-year term, receiving

a special order and certificate as reviewers, along with additional training funds as part of the new ethics guidelines.

The updated guidelines also detail the process for applying for ethics clearance, which includes: Letter of Intent (addressed to the UREC Chair through the CLREC/CMREC Panel Chair), Application Form (Form 9), Research Protocol (Form 10), Informed Consent Form (Form 11), Parental Consent Form (Form 12, for minors), Memorandum of Agreement (Form 13), Amendment Form (Form 15), Co-authorship Agreement (Form 17), and Terminal Report (Form 18)

In addition, the Executive Order introduces fees for external researchers, reinforcing the importance of following the application and review guidelines. If protocols do not adhere to these rules, reviewers may disapprove the applications.

The Research Management Office- University Research Ethics Section (RMO-URES), under the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development (OVPRED), will oversee the operations of CLREC and CMREC, manage ethics evaluations, and issue ethical clearances for all research protocols within the university. RMO-URES will also handle external research applications.

This restructuring marks a significant step toward ensuring rigorous ethical standards in research at PUP.#

Additional Training Funds for CLREC and CMREC members

| No. of Reviewed Protocols per Year | Amount of support |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 15-20 Protocols | P5,000.00 |
| 21-25 Protocols | P10,000.00 |
| 26-30 Protocols | P15,000.00 |
| 31 and above Protocols | P20,000.00 |

New ethics guidelines for the new fees for external researchers

| REVIEW CATEGORY | FEES | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| | Basic | Full |
| Undergraduate Students | 3,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Graduate Students | 5,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| Research project with government funding – state universities | 10,000.00 | 15,000.00 |
| Research project with private funding | 15,000.00 | 20,000.00 |

RMO-URES Leads University-Wide Orientation on New Campus Ethics Committees



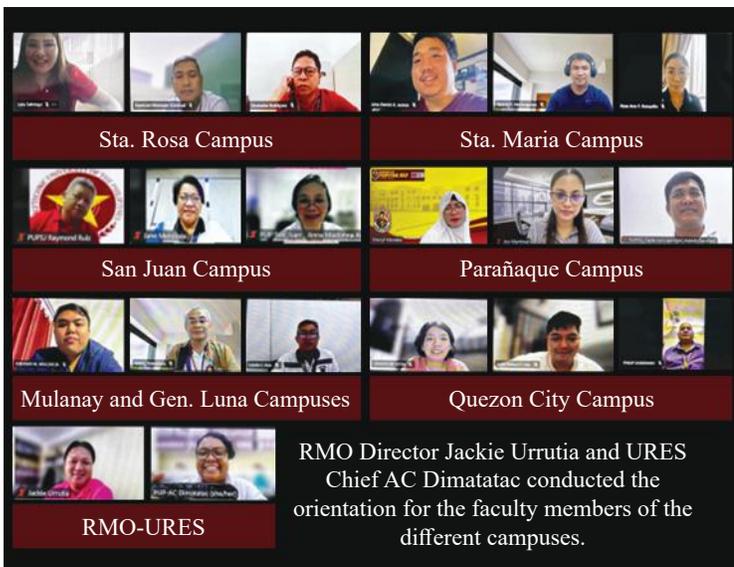
by AC Dimatatac

In line with Executive Order No. 8, Series of 2025, the Research Management Office – University Research Ethics Section (RMO-URES) of the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension and Development (OVPRED) conducted a series of online orientations to guide Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) campuses in forming their Campus Research Ethics Committees (CMRECs).

The orientation, which began in February and is ongoing through March, has engaged around 300 faculty members, including research coordinators, academic heads, and directors. The sessions focused on the CMREC’s role as the primary body responsible for reviewing research ethics protocols within each campus.

Campuses have submitted their CMREC member lists, with many members already trained in basic research ethics—an essential requirement to begin committee operations. Campuses such as Quezon City, Parañaque, and Bansud have expressed readiness to activate their CMRECs.

RMO-URES will roll out additional basic ethics training in the coming months in partnership with the Philippine Health Research Ethics Board (PHREB), the Philippine Social Science Council, and other accredited institutions. These efforts aim to strengthen research ethics governance across the PUP system.#



PUP Partners with Wadhvani Foundation for IgniteX Technopreneurship Training



by John Dee Gonos

The Technology Business Incubation and Development Office (TBIDO), in collaboration with the Wadhvani Foundation, held the IgniteX Faculty Development Program to strengthen faculty capabilities in technopreneurship education. The program brought together faculty members from various disciplines to integrate entrepreneurial mindset training into their curricula.

The initiative included workshops, mentorship, and knowledge-sharing sessions led by experts from the Wadhvani Foundation and PUP’s incubation network. Faculty explored topics such as startup ecosystems, business incubation, and technology commercialization.

Dr. Philip P. Ermita, TBIDO Director, said the program supports PUP’s commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship, while Wadhvani Foundation Southeast Asia Director Cris Delgado emphasized its role in shaping future entrepreneurs.

IgniteX is part of PUP’s broader push to promote research-driven technopreneurship and expand faculty development in startup education.#

PUP STRENGTHENS STARTUP, LOGISTICS INNOVATION



Through Singapore Mission

by Ma. Lourdes Girado

“For us to produce high-quality startups, they need to experience failure repeatedly. Likewise, we in the academe must also be willing to fail in order to develop a more effective incubation program.” Mr. Leung said.



PUP President Manuel M. Muhi and VPRED Anna Ruby P. Gapasin with other delegates from the University.

A foreign study mission in Singapore was conducted by the Technology Business Incubation and Development Office (TBIDO) to enhance collaboration and innovation in supply chain and logistics technology.

The mission began with an orientation and kick-off meeting at BluC53, an innovation hub that shared insights into its startup programs and incubation models. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between PUP President Manuel M. Muhi and BluC53’s Mr. Tan Choo Kok, establishing a formal partnership for joint initiatives, exchange programs, and co-incubation.

The delegation also visited NUS Enterprise, where Director Kevin Leung presented the NUS Innovation Flywheel—an end-to-end framework for turning research into commercial ventures. He stressed the importance of embracing failure and prioritizing funding for commercialization.

During the Singapore Maritime Week Expo at Pier 71, PUP incubatee John Benedict Samar of AVcheck joined other startups in showcasing innovations. The team later met with Go-Genie Co-Founder Markus Lim and Supply Chain Asia (SCA) Founder Paul Lim, who shared insights on entrepreneurship, AI-driven operations, and building resilient innovation ecosystems.

The study mission provided PUP with actionable strategies to enhance its incubation programs, faculty engagement, and global startup partnerships.#

DIRECTOR KEVIN LEUNG
NUS Enterprise



TBIDO AND SCALE NCR

Hold Incubation Management Training to Strengthen

Startup Support



by John Dee Gonos

The Technology Business Incubation and Development Office (TBIDO), in partnership with SCALE NCR, successfully conducted the Module 0 Incubation Management Training to strengthen technopreneurship and startup support across multiple campuses.

Held from March 18 to 21, the training took place at three key innovation hubs: DLSU Animo Labs (for PUP Manila, Parañaque, and Taguig), Henry Sy Innovation Center (for PUP Quezon City and San Juan), and UP Diliman's UPSCALE (for continued sessions with Quezon City and San Juan participants).

“This training is a vital step toward mainstreaming incubation programs across the PUP system. By collaborating with industry experts, we are strengthening PUP’s role in the startup ecosystem.” said Dr. Philip P. Ermita, Director of TBIDO.

The program aimed to equip PUP administrators, designees, and faculty with essential skills in incubation management, aligning with national development goals and PUP’s innovation strategy. It featured hands-on workshops, expert-led discussions, and knowledge-sharing sessions facilitated by industry leaders, including Ms. Alwyn Rosel of QBO Innovation, Ms. Indo Ibanez of SCALE NCR, and Dr. Luis G. Sison of UP TTBD0.

Participants gained insights into managing incubation programs and building effective support systems for students and faculty-led startups. The initiative also fostered inter-campus collaboration and expanded PUP’s network within the regional innovation community.

TBIDO and SCALE NCR plan to continue their efforts to advance PUP’s role as a key player in the national innovation and entrepreneurship landscape.#



IPMO Facilitates Launch of PUP CALAUAN SPIN-OFF BUSINESS AND INNOVATION HUB



by Mark Aniceto Perlas

On March 25, 2025, the Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO) officials and staff visited PUP Calauan Campus to support and facilitate the launch of the campus’s spin-off business project, PUP CINTA: PUP Calauan Innovation and Technology Advancement.

The event showcased locally made food and non-food products such as shortcakes, tarts, juices, condiments, spreads, soaps, and washing liquids—many using local pineapple ingredients.

IPMO Director Dr. Ginno Andres delivered a message emphasizing IPMO’s role in advancing research commercialization and intellectual property awareness. A key highlight was the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for the commercialization grant supporting PUP CINTA, followed by the awarding of a Certificate of Utility Model for a paper developed by PUP Calauan.

IPMO also conducted an Intellectual Property Awareness Campaign and a commercialization grant orientation, led by Technical Expert Engr. Jhon Helarch Antoni, for faculty and students involved in the project team, headed by Prof. Rowena Miranda and Prof. Lyza Pagapulan. Other IPMO representatives present included ITSO Chief Mark Aniceto Perlas, Technical Expert Engr. Christine Apatan, and Ms. Ruth Mungcal.

The launch of PUP CINTA underscores PUP’s commitment to promoting innovation, research utilization, and the commercialization of locally developed technologies.#

PUP, Court Stenographers Association

Forge Partnership to Advance Stenography Training



by Marynelle L. Rosales



COSTRAPHIL National President, Mr. Cesar C. Saloma expressed his gratitude to PUP and to Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapsin, Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development, for the Partnership

The Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) and the Court Stenographers Association of the Philippines (COSTRAPHIL) have formalized a partnership to strengthen stenography education and professional development in the country.

The agreement was sealed through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on March 7, 2025, at the Supreme Court – 2nd Division Conference Room. The partnership recognizes the strength of PUP’s Office Administration program and aims to enhance the competencies of court stenographers nationwide.

The MOU covers several initiatives, including professional and academic

exchange programs, joint research and conferences, educational material sharing, and a specialized training program titled *“Forging Judicious Skills for Court Stenographers in the Philippines.”* This program will offer courses in stenography, machine stenography, and document processing.

Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapsin, PUP Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development, and Mr.

Cesar C. Saloma, National President of COSTRAPHIL, signed the agreement on behalf of their institutions.

“This MOU shows PUP’s commitment to academic excellence and professional growth,” said Dr. Gapsin. *“We are proud to work with COSTRAPHIL to improve the skills of court stenographers and support the judicial system.”*

Mr. Saloma expressed optimism about the partnership’s impact: *“By working with PUP, we aim to raise the standards of stenography in the Philippines and equip our members with the skills they need to excel.”*

The agreement may be extended upon mutual consent, with both parties hopeful that the collaboration will lead to significant advancements in stenographic practice and education.#



The PUP and COSTRAPHIL Officials during the MOU Signing

Mushroom Training Program Phase 1 Culminates in Barangay 128



by Raquel A. Arevalo

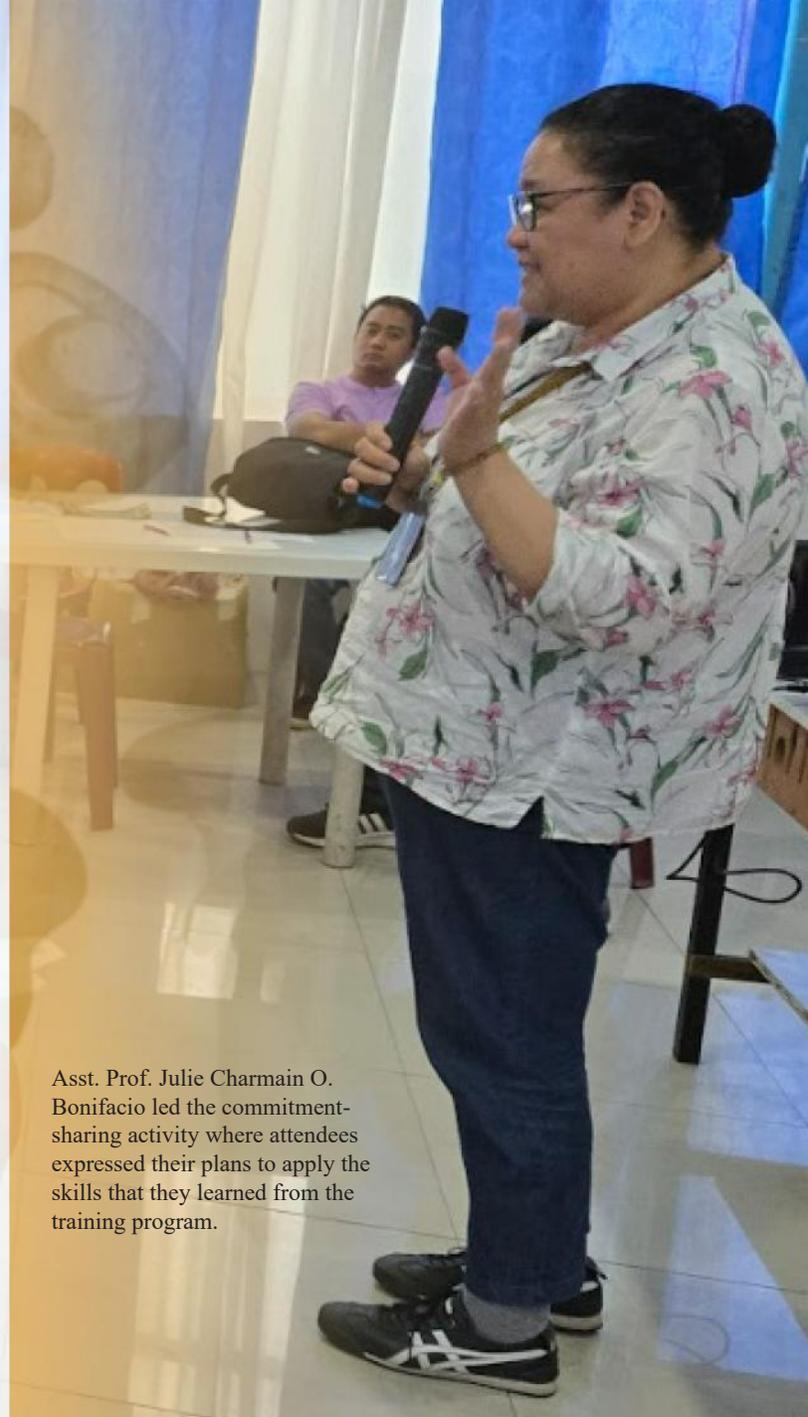
The Kabutehan sa Barangay 128 project officially concluded its four-part training series on mushroom propagation with a culminating activity in Barangay 128, Caloocan City, celebrating the efforts and achievements of participating women from the community. Spearheaded by the Extension Management Office (EMO), the initiative aimed to equip local women with sustainable livelihood skills through hands-on training in mushroom cultivation.

Barangay Kagawad Wendy Caneda expressed her gratitude to PUP for bringing the project to the barangay. She highlighted the training's impact in empowering women and providing them with adaptable income-generating skills.

Participants shared testimonials on how the training transformed their knowledge and confidence in mushroom farming during the event. A commitment-sharing activity, led by Asst. Prof. Julie Charmain O. Bonifacio allowed attendees to express their plans to apply their new skills in their households or community initiatives.

Dr. Anna Ruby P. Gapasin and Extension Management Office Director Prof. Rolan J. Malvar gave a special award to the group whose mushroom house design was selected as the official blueprint for future implementation. Both PUP officials encouraged the participants to continue applying their skills and to become community advocates of sustainable practices. VP Gapasin also reaffirmed PUP's commitment to inclusive development through research-based extension programs.

The event signaled the start of a new chapter for the women of Barangay 128 as they move forward with knowledge and support in mushroom cultivation.



Asst. Prof. Julie Charmain O. Bonifacio led the commitment-sharing activity where attendees expressed their plans to apply the skills that they learned from the training program.



The participants with VP Gapasin and the EMO Officials after the awarding of certificate.



EMO, ADPR Launch Art Project to Empower People with Disabilities



by Edna T. Bernabe

The Extension Management Office and the Department of Advertising and Public Relations (ADPR) have launched *SALIKHABONG-Canvass of Possibilities*, a project aimed at empowering people with disabilities (PWDs) through artistic activities, with plans to turn these efforts into a sustainable business venture.

The project, a collaboration with the Handicapped Center Lourdes (HCL) in Manila, seeks to provide PWDs with opportunities to showcase their abilities, build confidence, and gain independence. The initiative involves 15 participants, five parent volunteers, and 10 ADPR faculty and alumni, led by Project Head Dr. Jerielyn Reyes and Assistant Project Head Chair Rosanna Manansala.

HCL, a non-profit organization founded by Cardinal Jaime Sin in 1993, offers various programs to support individuals with disabilities. The partnership with ADPR is designed to enhance inclusivity and provide a platform for the participants to engage in artistic expression.

The project was initially proposed in 2018, with planning beginning in 2019, but was delayed by the pandemic. After receiving institutional funding in 2024, Phase 1 of the project was launched in December 2024 and is expected to conclude in April 2025.

The first day of workshops at HCL allowed the facilitators to interact with participants, many of whom have

visual and hearing impairments or conditions like cerebral palsy and ADHD. Despite initial challenges, the sessions were filled with enthusiasm. After two sessions, participants produced 20 paintings, surprising many with their creativity and engagement.

Looking forward, the project will continue with two additional art sessions and is preparing for Phase 2, which will focus on training volunteers to market the artwork and explore opportunities for turning it into merchandise. The long-term goal is to create sustainable livelihoods for the beneficiaries while fostering inclusivity in the community. #



ADPR alumnus Mr. JM Saycon patiently guides one of the participants during the first day of the visual arts training session.



The Youth Development Team led by Assistant Professor John Amiel Rivera (center), alongside members from State and Local Colleges and Universities (SLCU), Local Government Units (LGU), and the Department of Education (DepEd), during the *Tara, Basa!* Tutoring Program Design Thinking Workshop.

PUP Youth Development Team Wins Pivot Master Award at National UI/UX Workshop



by John Amiel A. Rivera

The Youth Development Team of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), led by Extension Management Office’s Assistant Professor John Amiel A. Rivera, received the **Pivot Master Award** during the *Tara, Basa!* Tutoring Program Social Night held on February 19, 2025, at The Farm at Carpenter Hills in Koronadal City, South Cotabato.

Asst. Prof. Rivera, who also serves as the *Tara, Basa!* Tutoring Program Focal Person for the PUP Main Campus, joined the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s (DSWD) four-day *Design Thinking Workshop on User Interface and User Experience (UI/UX)* from February 17 to 20, 2025.

The award recognized the whole team, comprising IT experts, social workers, and education supervisors, for their outstanding outputs and active engagement during the workshop. The event aimed to gather insights and recommendations from stakeholders to improve the *Tara, Basa!* Digital Portal, in support of the national government’s digital transformation initiatives.

Organized by the DSWD, the *Tara, Basa!* Tutoring Program is a flagship social service initiative that provides reading interventions for non-readers and struggling readers in Grade 1 public schools under the Department of Education. Participants in the workshop included representatives from DepEd, state and local colleges and universities (SUCs and LUCs), and local government units from across the country.#



EMO, COED Launch “Gabay-Aral” ALS Project in Tondo, Manila

by John Amiel A. Rivera

The Extension Management Office (EMO), in collaboration with the College of Education (COED) and Barangay 128, launched the “Gabay-Aral: An Alternative Learning System (ALS) Assistance Project” on February 13-14, 2025, in Tondo, Manila.

The project, developed after a 2024 Participatory Situational Analysis by EMO, aims to provide free and accessible basic education through alternative learning modalities for out-of-school youths and individuals in Barangay 128. The first phase focused on ALS orientation and registration while the second phase, set to begin in June 2025, will involve enrollment and learning sessions.

Asst. Prof. John Amiel A. Rivera of the EMO led the project, with support from COED faculty, including Assoc. Prof. Michelle B. Sotto, Dr. Emejidio C. Gepila Jr., Dr. Maria Charlene P. Melegrito, Prof. Bernadeth G. Nobles, Assoc. Prof. Gary Antonio C. Lirio, and other faculty members.#



Asst. Prof. John Amiel Rivera facilitates the Open Forum during the ALS Orientation at Barangay 128, Tondo, Manila.

PUP Forms Key Partnerships for Community Empowerment in 2025

by Henry B. Prudente

New partnerships aimed at promoting professional development and community empowerment were launched in early 2025 by the Extension Management Office (EMO).

PUP’s EMO has advanced community empowerment projects, including the SABON soap-making program in Barangay 128, Tondo. This initiative, through a Memorandum of Agreement signed on February 11, 2025, aims to equip residents with business and digital literacy skills. Additionally, the SALIN KAALAMAN TUNGO SA KAUNLARAN program, launched on March 18, 2025, focuses on strengthening families in Barangay 128 through training in parenting and stress management.

Furthering its community impact, PUP signed agreements with the Sandiwaan Center for Learning and the Kapatiran Kaunlaran Foundation (KKFI) on February 26, 2025. These partnerships aim to provide marginalized communities with education, livelihood opportunities, and digital literacy training.

Through these collaborations, PUP continues to foster innovation, education, and sustainable development, supporting the growth of both individuals and communities across the Philippines.#



Brgy 128, Tondo, Manila Sec. Jeannie T. Ramirez



Sandiwaan Learning Center with Fr. Benigno Beltran and Nerissa Beltran



Brgy 128, Tondo, Manila KgwD. Ruth Palma



GEDSIO

holds 2nd FSL Training with SDEAS

by Mieca M. Aguinaldo



The Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion Office (GEDSIO) conducted a two-day Filipino Sign Language (FSL) training on February 11–12, 2025, at Bulwagang Balagtas, located on the 3rd floor of the Ninoy Aquino Library and Learning Resources Center.

With the theme “*Learn FSL: The Language of Connection – Empowering Communication, Embracing Inclusion,*” the university-wide training was attended by faculty members and frontline staff from various offices, including security, cashier, registrar, and disaster risk management units.

Organized in partnership with the School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies (SDEAS) of De La Salle–College of Saint Benilde, the program was led by resource persons Francis Pagaduan, Mara Ygar, Mary Joy Almendarez, and Cecile Ruth Q. Arreola.

The first day focused on Deaf awareness and the role of gestures and facial expressions in Filipino Sign Language.

Discussions aimed to raise awareness of non-verbal communication and dispel common stereotypes about the Deaf community.

On the second day, participants engaged in hands-on FSL training, learning essential vocabulary and workplace-related phrases to improve communication with Deaf individuals. The interactive sessions created a space for open dialogue, with participants expressing appreciation for the training and its role in promoting inclusion, empathy, and respect for diversity.

The program marked another step in PUP’s ongoing efforts to foster a more inclusive and accessible campus environment.#



FSL trainees get to practice what they learned from the sessions during an activity.



Meaningful support from PUP Administration and Student Sector continues to help foster more inclusive and safe spaces in the campus.

PUP Renames GAD Office to GEDSIO to Broaden Inclusion Efforts



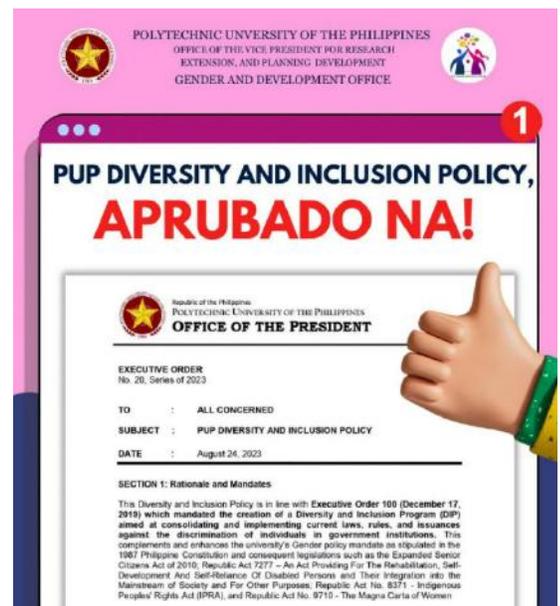
by Jerome P. Permejo

The Gender and Development (GAD) Office was officially renamed to the Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) Office, following Board Resolution No. 3989-i, series of 2025. Approved during the Board of Regents’ 188th Regular Meeting on February 12, 2025, the change marks a major step toward a more inclusive and intersectional approach to gender advocacy.

The GEDSI framework expands on traditional GAD efforts by addressing overlapping forms of discrimination related to disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. The office will now operate through three newly established sections: Gender Equity Programs and Advocacy, Inclusion and Diversity Advocacy, and GEDSI Mainstreaming Monitoring.

This shift builds on PUP’s growing diversity and inclusion efforts, including the establishment of IGAD in 2019, the GAD Office in 2021, and the Center for Inclusivity and Diversity in 2022. It also supports recent institutional policies and aligns with global and national mandates such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, CEDAW, and the Philippine Development Plan.

While expanding its scope, the GEDSI Office remains committed to advancing women’s rights, now within a broader, equity-focused agenda.#



E.O. 7, s. 2023 and E.O. 20, s. 2023 are two landmark policies approved by the University that provided the impetus for the restructuring and renaming of GADO to GEDSIO.

GEDSIO Champions Gender Inclusion in PUP's



“Tech HERstory” Webinar by Jose V. Clurtario

The Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) Office played a key role in the successful staging of Tech HERstory: Celebrating Women in IT, held online on March 25, 2025, via Microsoft Teams and Facebook Live.

The GEDSI Office, led by Director Jerome P. Permejo, co-organized the Gender and Development (GAD) webinar in partnership with the Information and Communications Technology Office (ICTO), the Office of the Executive Vice President (O EVP), and the College of Computer and Information Sciences (CCIS). The event drew 2,887 participants, including 1,556 from the PUP community.

The program featured keynote speaker Maricris “Kit” De Jesus, Global Automation Lead and Core Infrastructure Lead for Southeast Asia, who shared her journey in the tech industry, including her leadership role at Accenture in Thailand. Her insights on overcoming barriers in a male-dominated field were followed by an interactive Q&A moderated by ICTO Chief Aldrin P. Obsanga.

The event also included tributes from CCIS Dean Melvin C. Roxas, a former professor of De Jesus, and closing messages from ICTO Director Sally C. Mua and Assistant Director Severino L. Martinez, who emphasized the ongoing need to support women in IT.



Polytechnic University of the Philippines
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY OFFICE
GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Tech HERstory: Celebrating Women in IT

8:00 AM - 12:00 NN
MARCH 25, 2025

via Microsoft Teams



WEBINAR LINK



MARICRIS D. DE JESUS

Technology Delivery Lead / IT Operations Senior Manager
Automation Lead

Running from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, the webinar underscored GEDSI's mission to advance inclusive

and equitable spaces in education and technology, reinforcing PUP's commitment to empowering women in the digital age.#

GEDSIO OFFICIALS

Facilitate Gender-Inclusive Workshop at Bataan Campus

by Mieca M. Aguinaldo



PUP Bataan students actively participate in the activities.

Officials from the Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion Office (GEDSIO) served as resource persons and facilitators during the event “*Exploring GAD & GEDSI: Pathways to a Gender-Transformative and Inclusive Future*” held on March 27–28, 2025, at the PUP Mariveles, Bataan Campus.

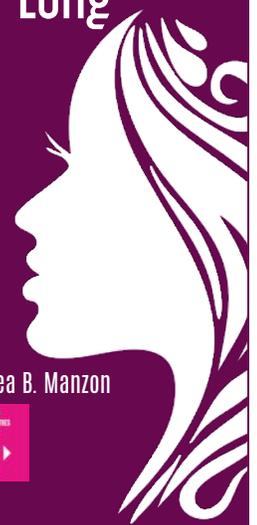
The two-day event brought together National Service Training Program (NSTP) students and student leaders to deepen their understanding of Gender and Development (GAD) and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) concepts.

GEDSIO Director Jerome P. Permejo led discussions on GAD frameworks, while Chief Mieca M. Aguinaldo presented key insights on DE&I principles. In the afternoon session, student leaders and classroom officers participated in a workshop where they presented proposals aimed at fostering a more inclusive and equitable campus environment.

Campus officials were in attendance to show their support, underscoring institutional commitment to gender-transformative education. The event concluded with the awarding of certificates to GEDSIO officials in recognition of their contributions to the initiative.#

GEDSIO Leads Month-Long Celebration of National Women's Month

by Maria Andrea B. Manzon



The Gender Equity, Diversity, and Social Inclusion Office (GEDSIO) led a month-long celebration of National Women's Month, advocating gender equality and women's empowerment under the theme “*Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas.*”

The celebration opened on March 3 with the *One Billion Rising* movement, a global dance campaign to end violence against women, led by the College of Human Kinetics. Themed “*Rise for Freedom*” and echoed locally with “*Babae, Bangon,*” the event brought together students, faculty, and staff in solidarity.

Also on March 3, *Serbisyo Para kay Juana* was launched at the South Wing Bridge, featuring booths offering services, discussions, and activities for women. The event was formally opened by Dr. Anna Ruby Gapasin, Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development.

On March 21, GEDSIO held the 2nd *PUP Women's Forum* at Bulwagang Balagtas. With the theme “*We Accelerate Action,*” the forum featured Cielito V. Perez of the Center for Women's Resources and Mercedes Camille B. Ocampo of Food Terminal Inc. (FTI) as keynote speakers. The program included a spoken-word performance by BA Philippine Studies student Kleah Mariquit and a moderated open forum.

Assoc. Prof. Jose V. Clutario of GEDSIO closed the event by thanking all participants and reaffirming the university's commitment to gender equity. The celebration concluded with a group photo, marking the success of a month dedicated to advocacy, empowerment, and inclusion.#

RICL Champions Gender-Inclusive Literary Tradition in PUP's First Women Writers Anthology



by Jomar G. Adaya

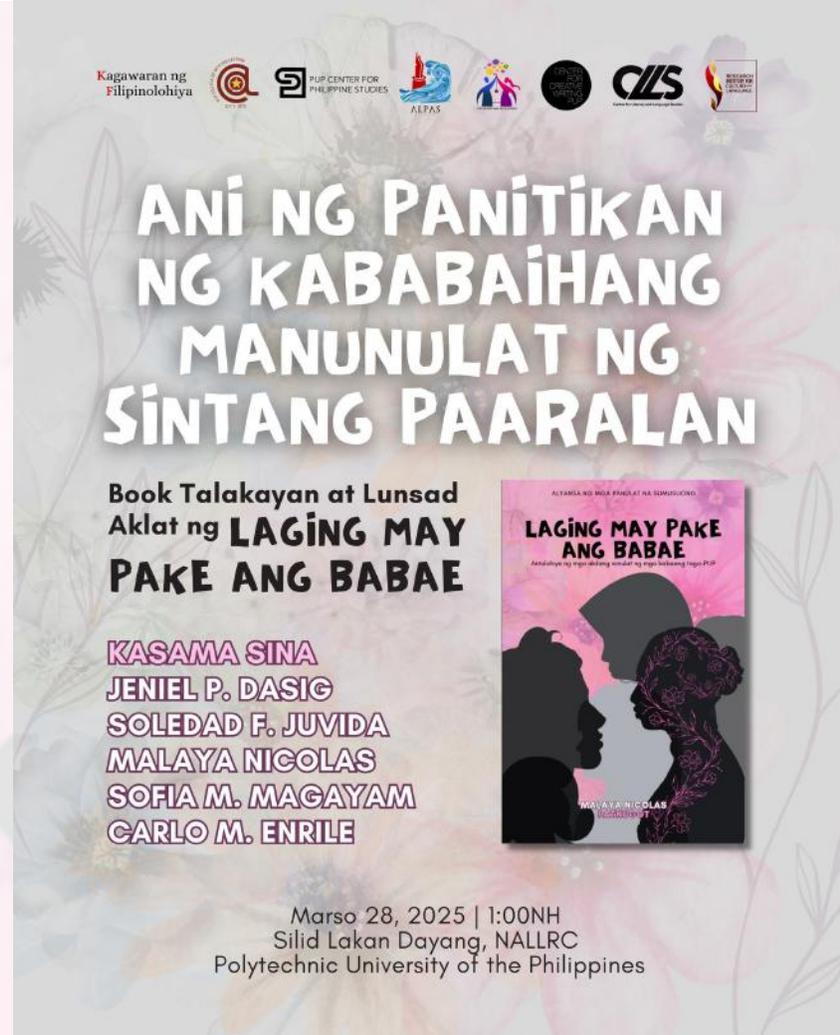
The Research Institute for Culture and Language (RICL) marked a significant milestone in its literary history with the launch of *Laging May Pake ang Babae: Antolohiya ng mga Akdang Isinulat ng mga Babaeng Taga-PUP*—the university's first anthology dedicated to works by women writers March 28, 2025.

Held at Silid Lakan Dayang, University Library, the event was a collaborative initiative led by the Center for Philippine Studies in partnership with ALPAS (Alyansa ng mga Panulat na Sumusuong), with strong institutional backing from RICL. The anthology aims to highlight, recognize, and preserve the contributions of women writers in a literary tradition long shaped by prominent male authors.

The anthology features literary pieces from PUP students and alumnae such as Jen Vinluan, Angelica B. Malillin, and Malaya Nicolas, who also served as the editor. It also showcases visual artworks—photography, paintings, and digital art—from artists like Rica Reyes Dela Cruz and Issabel C. Mirafior.

Book discussants emphasized the importance of empowering women writers and sustaining inclusive literary spaces. Prof. Jeniel P. Dasig remarked, “*Ang usapin ng tungkol sa babae ay usapin din ng uri,*” highlighting the intersection of gender and class issues.

Historically, PUP's literary landscape has been associated with male nationalist writers from the 1960s and 1970s, such as Rogelio Ordoñez, Edel Garcellano, and Dominador Mirasol. This dominant narrative contributed to the perception of PUP's creative scene



as male-dominated. RICL's current initiatives seek to address this imbalance by documenting and elevating women's literary voices from past and present.

In recent years, RICL has supported several inclusive programs, including the Multigenre National Writers Workshops in 2016 and 2019, which brought in fellows from diverse gender identities and regions. These efforts culminated in the creation of a directory of PUP women writers and the launch of the new anthology.

The publication also builds on the legacy of early PUP women writers such as Palanca awardees Rustica Carpio and Anacleto Encarnacion, as well as journalist and activist Sol Juvida, whose literary careers began during their time as students and educators in the university. Their works had appeared in publications like *Trends*, one of PUP's pioneering journals, and in progressive campus publications like *Ang Malaya* and *The Catalyst*.

By foregrounding the contributions of women in PUP's creative history, RICL and its partner institutions reaffirm their commitment to gender inclusivity, cultural preservation, and the creation of platforms that give voice to the historically underrepresented in Philippine literature.#



RIHSD ADVANCES GENDER EQUALITY

Through Community-Based Research and Capacity Building by Chloe Nicole D. Piamonte

The Research Institute for Human and Social Development (RIHSD), through its Center for Gender Studies (CGS), is strengthening its commitment to gender equality by bridging academic theory with real-world action. Through new research projects and academic initiatives, RIHSD is leading efforts to mainstream gender in education, research, and community programs on March 28, 2025.

One of its flagship initiatives is the ongoing action research titled *“Tracing the Gender Dimension of Barangay Complaints Systems in Selected Barangays in Manila.”* Led by RIHSD Director Dr. Melcah P. Monsura, with a research team composed of faculty and junior researchers, the study investigates how gender issues are addressed—or overlooked—in local governance structures. The team conducted key informant interviews across six barangays in Manila to collect data on gender sensitivity in barangay-level complaint mechanisms.

In parallel, RIHSD is supporting faculty development through capacity-building activities. On March 20, CGS hosted a research writeshop titled *“Gender, Identity, and Philippine Culture,”* which brought together 30 faculty researchers from three colleges. Mentored by feminist philosophers Dr. Kelly Louise Rexzy Agra (UP Baguio) and Dr. Noelle Leslie Dela Cruz (De La Salle University), the workshop focused on developing gender-focused research proposals aimed at influencing social policy and academic discourse.

Looking forward, RIHSD is launching *“Gender Mainstreaming in Higher Education: A Self-Evaluation Toolkit for Philosophy Departments.”* This research project seeks to provide Philosophy departments across the Philippines with a practical and philosophical framework to implement gender-sensitive practices. The project, to be piloted in selected higher education institutions, aims to combine administrative strategies with feminist theory and gender epistemology.

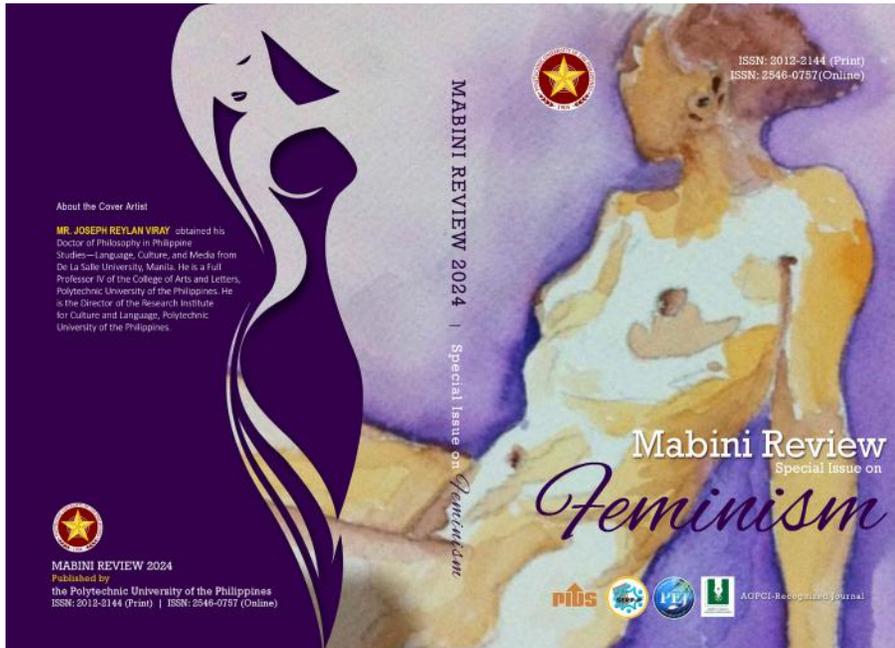
Through these initiatives, RIHSD emphasizes a gender-informed research approach that extends beyond academic theory, aiming to influence policy, reform education, and empower marginalized communities. The institute continues to lead in fostering inclusive spaces and building interdisciplinary collaborations for a more equitable society.#



RPO Highlights Gender Equality with **SPECIAL FEMINISM ISSUE** of Mabini Review



by Hazel DR. Samala



In celebration of National Women’s Month and aligned with the global observance of International Women’s Day on March 8, 2025, the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), through the Research Publications Office (RPO) under the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Development (OVPRED), reaffirmed its commitment to gender equality and empowerment by publishing a special issue on Feminism in the *Mabini Review* journal.

The special issue, released in 2024, tackles a broad range of feminist themes, including gender equality, women’s rights, social justice, and the empowerment of marginalized communities. It features philosophical and literary analyses that highlight women’s struggles and document gender inequality in various contexts. According to Managing Editor Prof. Gerlie C. Ogatis, the issue was inspired by the university’s mission to provide inclusive and safe spaces for all.

This editorial initiative supports both the international theme—“*For ALL Women and Girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment*”—and the Philippine sub-theme—“*Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor; Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas.*” These themes underscore a shared vision of empowering women and ensuring equitable access to opportunities and resources.

The RPO’s publication has also gained international readership, extending PUP’s influence in global discussions on feminism and gender equality. The special issue is available through the PUP Online Journal System.#



Call for RESEARCH PROPOSALS

Basic and Advanced Research for
Knowledge Development Program
(BARK-Dev)

and

PUP Advanced Research for
Productivity and Growth (PUP ARPG)

Turn your ideas into reality! If you're a faculty member or administrative researcher, here is your chance to contribute to research that drives societal changes and innovation.

The Research Management Office, through the Research Evaluation and Monitoring Section, is calling for 2026 research proposals for the Basic and Advanced Research for Knowledge Development Program (BARK-Dev) and PUP Advanced Research for Productivity and Growth (PUP ARPG).

Why Participate? Make a Difference! Your research can pave the way to:

- Holistic solutions to real-life challenges in industries, government, and communities.
- Provide evidence-based insights for creating policies that are beneficial for all.
- Collaborated with experts to develop quality research work.

Submission rigorous peer review process facilitated by the University Research Review Committee.

Deadline of Submission:
August 15, 2025

You can submit your research proposals on the following link:

For BARK-DEV: <https://tinyurl.com/yzashssm>
For PUP ARPG- <https://tinyurl.com/ydtjrnr>