

# dup HIGHLIGHTS

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## Research and Adventist Mission Are Not Mutually Exclusive, Expert Says

by Safary Wa-Mbaleka, Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research of the General Conference

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC) is increasingly integrating human-subject research into its programming and strategic planning. Many major initiatives and decisions are now made based on research data to ensure the church meets the needs of this exponentially increasing religious organization more effectively and efficiently.

Research and Adventist mission are not mutually exclusive; they exist in a complementary relationship. Research helps uncover and address the current issues in mission work; the mission guides Adventist researchers toward the most pressing needs of the church and fosters ethical and Christian research practices.

The pressing need to inform church decision-making with research data led Adventist researchers to meet for a conference for the first time at Andrews University in the United States in 2012. The following year, the Adventist Human-Subject Research Association (AHSRA) was created under the vision of David Trim, GC director of Archives, Statistics, and Research (ASTR). He worked with Monte Sahlin, Roger L. Dudley, and Bailey Gillespie, three renowned Adventist expert researchers, to establish ASHRA.

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# AUP Joins International Conversation on Education and Sustainability at Indonesia 11th ISC

The Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) joined and represented the University at the 11th International Scholars Conference (ISC), hosted by Universitas Advent Indonesia, on October 22-23, 2024. Themed “Research and Education Sustainability: Unlocking Opportunities in Shaping Today’s Generation’s Decision Making and Building Connections,” the conference gathered academic and professional attendees from Adventist institutions worldwide to share innovative research and insights on sustainability and education.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Benny Lule, vice president for finance affairs at Universitas Klabat; Dr. Milton Pardosi, president of Universitas Advent Indonesia; Dr. Gracel Ann Saban, vice president for academics at Adventist University of the Philippines; and Dr. Jarurat Sriratanapapat, president of Asia-Pacific International University. Dr. Gracel Ann Saban contributed to the plenary session titled “Continuing Education and Benchmarking Interconnections: Mission-Driven Gateways to Something Better,” which emphasized the importance of Continuing Education (CE) and Benchmarking Interconnections (BIs) among leaders in Adventist education as mission-driven initiatives.



Dr. Saban remarked, “Adventist schools do not really talk. There should be conversations. To continuously grow through lifelong learning and continuing education and to conduct research are both spiritual responsibilities. We do this because we want to rally together for something better—advancing the redemptive work of Adventist education and hastening the mission of the church through effective and quality Adventist education.”

AUP’s delegation featured a diverse lineup of presenters from various departments and offices, demonstrating the university’s commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration and global academic engagement.

The list of representatives includes:  
 Academy – 5 presenters  
 College of Arts and Humanities – 8 presenters  
 College of Business – 12 presenters  
 College of Dentistry – 8 presenters  
 College of Education – 4 presenters  
 College of Health – 5 presenters  
 College of Medicine – 3 presenters  
 College of Nursing – 6 presenters



College of Science and Technology – 10 presenters  
 College of Theology – 6 presenters

University Offices:  
 Accreditation Office – 1 presenter  
 Community Extension Service – 1 presenter  
 Human Resource Office – 1 presenter  
 Research Office – 3 presenters  
 Vice President for Academics (VPA Gracel Ann Saban) – 1 presenter  
 Vice President for Finance (VPF Aileenmae Silverio) – 1 presenter  
 AUP Students – 12 student presenters

Total Presenters from AUP: 87 presenters



The 11th International Scholars Conference was not just a platform for research; it was an inspiring gathering where purpose met innovation, and knowledge was shared across borders. This event brought together scholars, educators, and students from various disciplines, fostering a space for deep discussion, impactful collaboration, and the creation of meaningful, lasting connections.

In partnership with Universitas Klabat, Asia-Pacific International University, and hosted by the Universitas Advent Indonesia, the conference welcomed participants from across the globe, including Japan, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Indonesia.



## University Undertakes ACSCU-ACI Resurvey

In its continued pursuit of excellence, the Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) welcomed the accrediting team from the Association of Christian Schools, Colleges, and Universities-Accrediting Council, Inc. (ACSCU-ACI) for a resurvey visit on October 7-11, 2024.

The visiting ACSCU-ACI team evaluated the following graduate programs: Master of Arts in Psychology, Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology, Doctor in Public Health, and Master in Public Health and the following undergraduate programs: Education (BSEd, BEEEd), Psychology, Development Communication, and Accounting Information System.

The members of the ACSCU-ACI visiting team were as follows:

**For Master of Arts in Psychology, Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology, Doctor in Public Health and Master in Public Health Programs:**

1. Dr. Eunice D. Mercado, (ACSCU-ACI) - Overall Coordinator - Goals/Purposes and Objectives, Research and Organization and

Administration (all programs)

2. Dr. Lita S. Sagun, (APCAS) - Master of Arts in Psychology and PhD. In Psychology: - Faculty, Curriculum and Instruction
3. Dr. Evalyn E. Abalos, (SU) - Doctor in Public Health and Master in Public Health: - Faculty, Curriculum and Instruction
4. Dr. Emilie E. Tangonan, (ACSCU ACI) - Students, Resources, Social Orientation and Community Involvement (all programs)
5. Dr. Rosalina G. Dinoy, (SU) - Library (all programs)





**For Education (BSEd, BEEd), Psychology, Development Communication and Accounting Information System Programs:**

1. Dr. Jonathan P. Leal, (FCU) - Overall Coordinator - Purposes and Objectives, Organization and Administration
2. Dr. Diana Lee Tracy K. Chan, (PUP) - Education (BSEd, BEEd): Faculty, Instruction, Laboratories
3. Dr. Marietta B. Agustin, (WUP) - Psychology: Faculty, Instruction, Laboratories
4. Prof. Emmanuel John R. Pangan, (WUP) - Development Communication: Faculty, Instruction, Laboratories
5. Prof. Ken Gie Anthony G. Cruel, (HCC) - Accounting Information System: Faculty, Instruction, Laboratories
6. Dr. Nathanael F. Perona, (ACSCU ACI) - College programs: Student Personnel Services, Social Orientation and Community Involvement, Physical Plant and Facilities
7. Dr. Rosalina G. Dinoy, (SU) - Library (all programs)

deans, and department chairs. The team also reviewed exhibits, observed classroom sessions, and participated in reflection, review, and reaffirmation activities.



**Exit Reports of Gratitude and Reflection**

The ACSCU-ACI representatives expressed their appreciation for the University's hospitality and commitment to quality education. "Let us keep the bond together. Let us continue the mutual friendship and a kind of culture that we will understand each other. Let us glorify the Lord for this accomplishment," Dr. Jonathan P. Leal, overall coordinator for undergraduate programs, highlighted the positive experience of assistance and collaboration.



"The accreditation period brought new insights and avenues for future success and improvements. You will surely get the accreditation level you aspire for, as we will recommend to ACSCU-ACI because of your tremendous effort and dedication," Dr. Eunice Mercado, overall coordinator for graduate programs, expressed. "You are almost there," she congratulated the academic team of the University.



**Activities During the Visit**

The five-day visit involved a range of activities designed to provide a comprehensive assessment of the University's academic and administrative operations. On October 8-10, the accrediting team embarked on a campus tour and visited the University's adopted barangay. They engaged in dialogues with faculty, staff, students, and alumni, as well as discussions with AUP administrators, college

In response, Dr. Arceli Rosario, the AUP president, emphasized that “the best thing we can see is when we see lives transformed at AUP. This is not just about accreditation, but about continuing a purposeful journey together. We share a passion for Christian education, training young people for this life and the life to come.” Dr. Rosario also emphasized the ideals of academic growth in the mission. “We do not stop growing. We strive to become better than who we are now. This is only the beginning of our encounters. We are one in our mission to really serve our sister schools. Yes, we are sisters, and we want that all of us continue to grow.”

***“The best thing we can see is when we see lives transformed at AUP. This is not just about accreditation, but about continuing a purposeful journey together...we do not stop growing.”***

On behalf of the University, “thank you for looking into our University with eyes of love and the desire to help AUP become what God has designed it to be,” Dr. Rosario expressed her gratitude to the accrediting team, noting the importance of collaboration. “We are grateful that our paths have crossed, and we cherish the mutual friendship and shared mission that has been established.”

The visit marks not an end, but a new chapter in the University’s journey towards higher academic distinction and greater service.



AHSRA is a body of Adventist researchers around the world committed to supporting the Adventist Church by bringing together social research resources, empowering one another with new research skills and supporting the mission of the church directly with cutting-edge research studies that are essential in addressing contemporary challenges. AHSRA's main headquarters is at Andrews University, with Petr Cincala as the president. However, AHSRA, now known by some as AHSRA International, is going global.

In January 2021, some researchers on the African continent took the initiative to request an AHSRA chapter to help spread AHSRA's vision over the continent. In April 2021, AHSRA-Africa began with Daniel Ganu, a professor of public health at the Adventist University of Africa (Kenya), as the first (and current) president. In June 2024, AHSRA-Africa held its third research conference at Helderberg College of Higher Education in South Africa.

In June 2021, AHSRA-Asia was launched with Arceli Rosario as its first (and current) president. Rosario is also the president of the Adventist University of the Philippines. AHSRA-Asia held its first conference in July 2024, with more than 60 delegates physically present on the campus of this university and many others who attended virtually.

There is groundwork currently ongoing for a possible AHSRA-Europe.

***“AHSRA connects Adventist researchers globally.”***

The three AHSRA leaders all firmly believe in the support of research to the Adventist mission. From the AHSRA International perspective, Cincala stated, “AHSRA connects Adventist researchers globally, equipping and encouraging them to conduct practical, applied research, bridging seasoned experts with emerging researchers, shaping ministry and mission worldwide.” Collaboration among scholars around the world creates a synergy that will significantly support the Adventist mission.

Rosario believes that “AHSRA-Asia is a research hub for the Adventist research community ... where researchers and scholars from across Asia engage in meaningful dialogues about human-subject research.” For her, AHSRA-Asia “is a community that embodies our shared commitment to support Adventist researchers and advance the cause of the church through research.”

***“AHSRA-Asia is a research hub for the Adventist research community...advance the cause of the church through research.”***

As for AHSRA-Africa, Ganu stated that “the association advances the Adventist mission by integrating research values into the mission ensuring that research projects align with the values of the Adventist mission, such as compassion, integrity, and service to humanity. Also, the mission of the church is advanced when AHSRA research projects address health, education, and social issues consistent with Adventist beliefs.”

***“The association [AHSRA-Africa] advances the Adventist mission by integrating research values into the mission ensuring that research projects align with the values of the Adventist mission, such as compassion, integrity, and service to humanity.”***

The partnership between AHSRA and the GC continues to grow through the collaboration between the GC's ASTR and Adventist research teams around the world. Through these partnerships, the church is able to conduct global research surveys that are informing the development and improvement of the church's initiatives, programs, services, and policies. Global church strategic plans such as I Will Go and other initiatives are now based on research data.

Local churches, conferences, unions, and divisions are therefore encouraged to integrate research in their work. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the partnership between Adventist researchers and church pastors, various church leaders and entities is needed to further God's work in today's ever-challenging world. With the complex issues the church institutions and church communities are faced with today, research is strongly needed to help us understand the problems and generate and implement solutions.

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## AUP Korean Union Church Strengthens Ties with the University

Forging for stronger ties with our Korean international community, the Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) and the AUP Korean Union Church (KUC) solidified their partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing ceremony on October 9, 2024.

The signing ceremony was attended by key representatives who played pivotal roles in the event: AUP President Dr. Arceli Rosario and AUP Korean Union Church Pastor An Sik Kim, who were the signatories of the MOA. Administrative Assistant for Legal Services Mr. Reynaldo Laberinto and AUP Korean Union Church Elder Il Won Hwang were witnesses to this historic event.

Established in January 2001, KUC, located on the south side of the AUP Elementary School, is a place of worship for a diverse congregation of Filipino and Korean members. This new agreement deepens the relationship between KUC and the University, focusing on the growth and support of Korean students at AUP.

The agreement underscores KUC leaders' unwavering commitment to encourage the enrollment of Korean students in the University and highlights their dedication to fostering cultural exchange and nurturing Korean students' spiritual growth.



# Women's Ministry Empowers Community to Flourish through Revival Series

The Philippine International Church Women's Ministry held a revival week for the ladies' residences and apartments titled "Flourish" held from September 29-October 5, 2024. Under the theme "Choose Well, Think Well, Live Well," the program encouraged participants to cultivate a holistic approach to well-being, guided by biblical principles fostering mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness among its ladies' residents.

Four sessions were held nightly at ladies' residences. The program was structured to engage residents through a series of discussions and assessments led by facilitators—selected psychology students and deaconesses—and guest speakers, each focusing on themes such as well-being, gratitude, forgiveness, and hope.

Among the featured speakers in each dormitory were:

Apartments: Sis. Aijah Rosales

Cadena De Amor Hall: Sis. Kate Fontamillas

Chrysanthemum Hall: Sis. Oselle Grace Orbe

Dama-Cattleya Hall: Sis. Keisha Magdadaro

Ilang-ilang Hall: Sis. Charissa Uy

Sampaguita Hall: Sis. Blossom Abcede

Waling-waling Hall: Sis. Ashley Franche



The featured three sessions of the revival series were held during the worship services at the Philippine International Church featuring keynote speakers such as: Mrs. Virgie P. Baloyo, Southern-Asia Pacific Division Family and Women's Ministry director, who spoke on Generosity and Kindness during the Midweek Service; Dr. Joyosthie Orbe, College of Nursing Graduate Department chair, discussed about joy and how it is fully experience through Christ; and Dr. Arceli Rosario, AUP president, who concluded the week with five secrets in her message empowering the community and the church to flourish.

The objectives of "Flourish Week" were to provide residents with tools to assess their mental and emotional state, explore positive attitudes rooted in biblical teachings, and encourage intentional choices for a flourishing life. Through personal reflection, group discussions, and messages that integrated faith and science, participants were urged to build mental resilience and emotional strength aligned with Christian values.





# Academic Team Celebrates World Teacher's Day with a Health and Wellness Festival

The University Academic Team organized a special health and wellness festival at the Finster Hall of All Nations on October 18, 2024. The event, featured 12 Holistic Wellness Stations, offering faculty members a day of rejuvenation, self-care, and fun activities aimed at promoting physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.

The celebration showcased a range of wellness experiences, each tailored to help the University's teachers relax and unwind while also highlighting the importance of health in their daily lives. The stations, operated by different colleges and departments, brought a lively and refreshing atmosphere to the event.

## The 12 Holistic Wellness Stations enjoyed were the following:

- Station 1: Charobix at the Centennial Park (Physical Education Department)
- Station 2: Blood Pressure Check (College of Nursing)
- Station 3: NutriCheck: Wellness at Work (Nutrition and Dietetics Department)
- Station 4: Health Lab: Free Tests for Faculty Wellness (Medical Laboratory Science Department and College of Medicine)
- Station 5: Mind Games (Psychology Department)
- Station 6: Typing Competition and Class Record Application Tutorial (College of Business)
- Station 7: Spiritual Boost for Teachers with Bible Bookmarks (College of Theology)
- Station 8: Lucky Picks: Freebies & Raffles Bonanza (College of Dentistry)
- Station 9: Projectile Smile (Math Department)
- Station 10: Photo Booth (Fine Arts Department)
- Station 11: Electric Foot Massage (Accreditation Office, Community Extension Services Office, and Research Office)
- Station 12: Image Enhancement, Skin Analysis, Hand Spa, and Facial Care (Mary Kay Cosmetics)

The celebration was a blend of health, relaxation, and appreciation for the faculty members who dedicate their time and energy to shaping the minds of AUP students.

"Celebrating the gift of teachers, we praise God for their ministry as character builders and classroom ministers," Dr. Gracel Ann Saban, vice president for academics, shared ensuring that this World Teacher's Day was not only a day of recognition but also one of wellness and rejuvenation.



# AUP Academy and Elementary Hold Spiritual Revivals During Semester Week of Prayer

The Adventist University of the Philippines Academy (AUPA) and Adventist University of the Philippines Elementary (AUPE) united in a week of spiritual reflection and revival during their respective Week of Prayer events, held from October 14-19, 2024. These annual gatherings provide students and staff with an opportunity to deepen their faith and commit to their spiritual growth.



“Even when you are in a difficult situation, the Lord will still fulfill His best plan for you because you are His witnesses.”

Pastor Diosdado Pumicpic

## AUPE “I Will Go to Be His Witness” with Pastor Diosdado Pumicpic

Simultaneously, the AUP Elementary (AUPE) held their Week of Prayer with the theme “I Will Go to be His Witness.” Pastor Diosdado Pumicpic delivered messages that resonated with the young minds and hearts of AUPE students at the Leonore Gensolin Auditorium on October 14-18, 2024.

The focus of Pastor Pumicpic’s messages was on witnessing and service, echoing the broader Seventh-day Adventist Church’s worldwide initiative, “I Will Go,” and breaking down the simplicity of the Gospel to the pupils’ level. He emphasized the importance of being a witness for Christ, both in small, everyday actions and in larger, intentional efforts to share the Gospel. He encouraged the pupils to live out their faith boldly, preparing them to be witnesses, starting in their homes, schools, and communities at their young age. On the culmination session, Pastor Pumicpic empowered them to be Christ’s witnesses as they grow in life and in faith. After the week’s series, the Elementary welcomed Bible study students from Grades 4-6 continuing deeper study of the Word of God. The Bible study sessions are held by Pastor Pumicpic every Saturday at 2 p.m.

## Strengthening Faith Through Worship

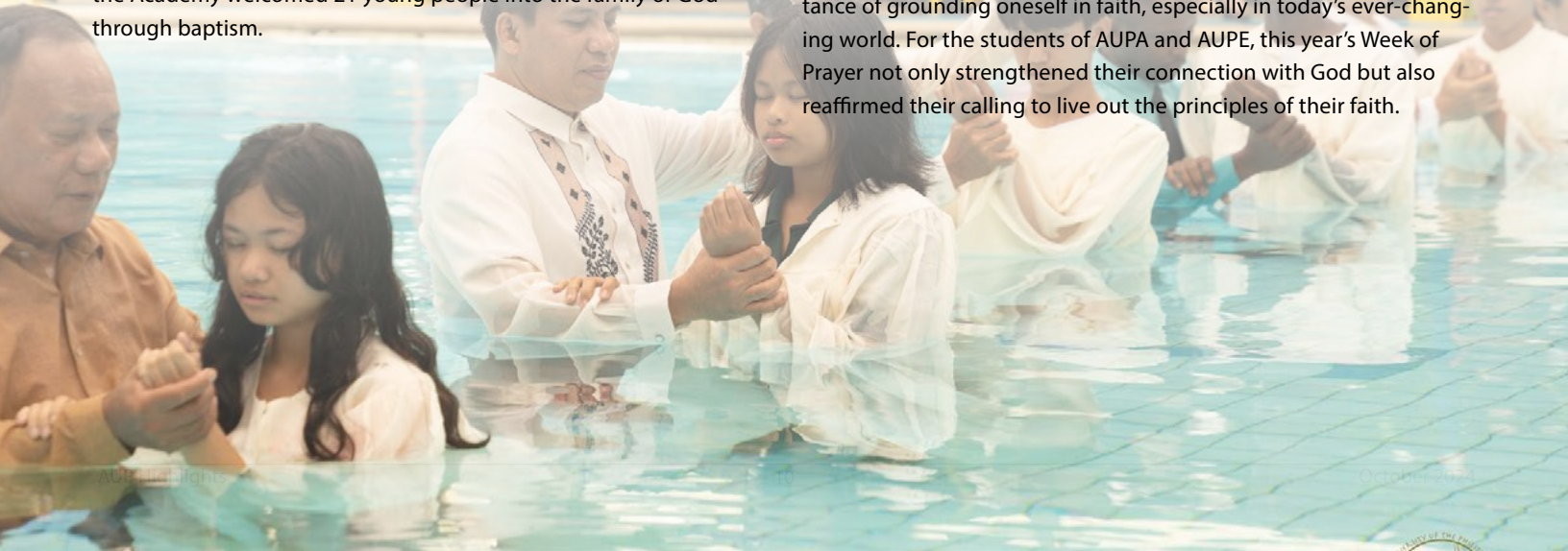
These spiritual revivals served as a timely reminder of the importance of grounding oneself in faith, especially in today’s ever-changing world. For the students of AUPA and AUPE, this year’s Week of Prayer not only strengthened their connection with God but also reaffirmed their calling to live out the principles of their faith.



## AUPA “Fundamentals” with Bro. Jonas Louis Ranas

Themed “Fundamentals,” the AUP Academy Week of Prayer centered on the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, aiming to enrich the spiritual understanding of students. Bro. Jonas Louis Ranas, a 3rd year College of Theology student, led the week as the speaker. During each session, Bro. Ranas delved into each belief, emphasizing their relevance in the daily lives of young people.

Bro. Ranas guided the AUPA students through key doctrines in the context of the students understanding through biblical narratives, testimony illustrations, and interactive messages. He encouraged them to embrace these core tenets as foundational elements of their personal faith journeys. His approach, mixing biblical teaching with practical application, inspired students to reaffirm their commitment to living out these principles. During the culmination Sabbath, the Academy welcomed 21 young people into the family of God through baptism.



# AUP Promotes at Xavier School during Career Fair

As part of its distinctive marketing and recruitment initiatives, the Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) participated at the Xavier School-Nuvali College Fair on October 15, 2024. The event aimed to assist Xavier Grade 12 students in their discernment process for their future education.

Alongside 25 other universities and colleges, the University, represented by the Marketing Officer Ron Ivan Perdido and Communication Officer Charissa Uy, engaged with the students at Xavier School. They showcased the University's programs and campus experience through interactive career social media filters, merchandise, and terin-terin bread in their designated booth. With a combination of social trends and technological attraction to introduce the University, approximately 40 Xavier students expressed interest by visiting the booth. During their visit, they received AUP flyers, tote bags, fans, and stickers.

During the culmination, Mr. Peter Marc Magsalin, the assistant principal for formation, recognized participating schools during his closing remarks.



# CON Diamond Batch 1994 Returns for Reunion and Project Proposals

The Adventist University of the Philippines' (AUP) College of Nursing-Diamond Batch of 1994 recently returned to their alma mater for a heartfelt reunion. The alumni toured the AUP campus and revisited the College of Nursing (CON), where they rekindled memories and engaged in meaningful discussions on potential projects to support their beloved CON's initiatives and mission.



Present for this special event were Vice President for Student Services Julio Amurao, Vice President for Academics Dr. Gracel Ann Saban, Advancement Director Oemer Rey Daquila, and College of Nursing Dean Dr. Ray Caagbay.

The CON Diamond Batch will support a proposed projects such as CON roofing, renovation, and furnishing of the student lounge and study area amounting to 1.4 million. The gathering highlighted the alumni's dedication to giving back with project proposals to strengthen the College's future initiatives.





## CSC-SWBS Leads Health Week Pagsibol 2024

In celebration of the Health Week, the Central Student Council (CSC) Student Welfare and Basic Services (SWBS) Department, in collaboration with the Guidance Services Office and Psychology Department, led an array of wellness activities focused on physical, mental, and emotional health from October 7 to 12, 2024.

Themed *Pagsibol*, which means “bloom” or “growth,” embodied the essence of growth and renewal, encouraging students, faculty, and staff to focus on their well-being. During the week’s celebration, various booths, workshops, and activities were held. From wellness workshops to interactive games and self-care sessions, Pagsibol 2024 had something for the University community.



The AUP-Red Cross Youth also collaborated with the SWBS events, featuring several physical fitness challenges, including the Push-Up Challenge, Fitness Bingo, and the Step It Up Challenge, encouraging students to engage in fun yet impactful activities to improve their well-being. Furthermore, the Small Talk Café, led by Guidance Services, also became a hub for students, faculty, and staff to engage in meaningful conversations about mental health. It offered support and resources to those seeking help or simply needing a place to relax and reflect.



The Pagsibol booths also offered students various self-care activities and a chance to enjoy healthy treats from concessionaires who provided nutritious snacks, keeping in line with the week’s focus on health and wellness.



The Nutrition and Dietetics Department also offers the University community valuable health services and educational activities. They offered free health assessments with Karada scan services and one-on-one nutritional counseling for health advice.



In culmination, Pagsibol 2024 culminated with a Sabbath service from Sabbath school to sundown worship, with a holistic approach encompassing not only physical fitness, mental health, and self-care but also strengthening spiritual well-being and advocating for living balanced, healthy, and fulfilling lives in Christ.





## AUPCOM Physician Missionaries Excel in PLE October 2024

The College of Medicine (COM) shined in the Physician Licensure Examination (PLE) held on October 2024. 14 COM Batch 2023 graduates, also known as Sinagtala, successfully passed the exam. They have achieved a passing rate of 66.67% for first-time takers and 63.64% overall performance surpassing the national passing rate of 58.27%.

Following is the list of the New Doctors for Christ:

1. Aquino, Charisse Aser
2. Balbieran, Pauline
3. Caracas, Yaro
4. Gonzaga, Seymour Schwartz
5. Landicho, Teresa
6. Lorenzo, Amiel
7. Mallari, Magela Ainah
8. Natanawan, Trisha
9. Penaranda, Shammah Faith
10. Penarrovo, Edzel
11. Ricalde, Jeanne Kyla
12. Silva, John Roger
13. Surio, Estefanie Rae
14. Tomelden, Alyson

This achievement reflects the COM's commitment to producing 5-star physician missionaries "through Christ healing and wholeness."

# 216 CON Level 2 Students Illuminate during their Capping and Pinning

In a ceremony filled with tradition and dedication, 216 College of Nursing Level 2 students donned their white uniforms, complete with caps and pins, on October 17, 2024. This class, known as “Luminaire,” symbolizes their role as “bearers of light,” prepared to provide high-quality Christian service and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.



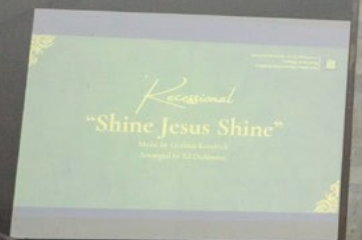
“As nurses, we are sources of comfort and hope, bringing light to the darkest moments of a patient’s life,” Dr. Dina Galang, the keynote speaker and former dean of the College of Nursing, expressed. “Luminaire” is a concept rooted in the legacy of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

Dr. Galang, addressing the evolving nature of nursing, acknowledged the unique position of this batch as they embrace their roles in the digital age. “You are now the nurses of the digital age; you offer a revolutionized nursing care using technology to enhance care but not replace it,” she added. Her words served as a reminder that while technology may transform the healthcare landscape, the core values of empathy and compassion remain unchanged. She encouraged the students to “continue your academic journey and strive to live as children of Light, illuminating the Saviour’s love and grace.”



“As you wear your caps and pins, you are stepping into roles that will allow you to illuminate the lives of those around you,” Dr. Ray Caagbay, the current dean of the College of Nursing, expressed, referencing Matthew 5:14-16 as a guiding principle that encapsulates their calling as nurses. Dr. April M. Obon, the chair of the CON Level 2, highlighted the meaning of the caps and pins, which signify their induction into the nursing profession.

Representing the class as president, Kuiel Gatus, shared a heartfelt message about imparting a lasting impact in the healthcare and healing ministry. “As bearers of light, let us shine our brightest. Let us be our best in the King’s service,” Gatus declared, reflecting the batch’s commitment to excel academically and embody the values that define their chosen profession.





## AUP and UNTAR Forge Partnership Through MOA and MOU Signing

The Adventist University of the Philippines-College of Arts and Humanities (AUP-CAH) and Universitas Tarumanagara (UNTAR) from Jakarta, Indonesia formalized a collaborative partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The signing ceremony was graced by the presence of UNTAR University Rector Prof. Dr. Amad Sudiro, S.H., M.H., M.Kn., M.M., and AUP-CAH Dean Dr. Michael Naidas; UNTAR key facilitators Dr. Pamela Heng; and AUP Psychology Department Chair Dr. Myrtle Orbon Grijalvo. The event happened at UNTAR, Jakarta, Indonesia on October 21, 2024.

The agreement, with a clear focus on specific programs such as Psychology, Fine Arts, and Development Communication, aims to establish academic, research, and student exchange cooperation between the two institutions with a 5-year validity. This partnership will significantly expand the global reach and academic opportunities for the faculty and students of both institutions.

This cooperation between AUP and UNTAR reflects the willingness of both institutions to continue the collaboration for the next 5 years to contribute their resources to enhance international education and understanding. This collaboration opens opportunities for faculty and students to conduct research at both institutions; co-hosting of international conferences, research fora, and colloquia; sharing resources such as library facilities and course content; apprenticeship programs for students and faculty exchanges, including visiting professors, lecturers, and peer reviewers; and exchange of publications and research reports to foster academic dialogue and innovation.

The momentous ceremony was also witnessed by AUP Psychology faculty: Dr. Mylene S. Gumarao, Dr. Levy M. Fajnilan, and Ms. Cutie B. Canesares.





# College of Education Signs MOUs with Indonesian Universities at International Scholars' Conference

The College of Education (COE) at Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) recently marked a significant milestone by signing two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) on October 23, 2024 at the 11th International Scholars' Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia. The agreements were made with Universitas Klabat (UNKLAB) in Manado and Universitas Advent Indonesia (UNAI) solidifying a new era of partnership and collaboration in Bandung, Indonesia.

Bandung, Indonesia - The College of Education (COE) at Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) recently marked a significant milestone by signing two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) on October 23, 2024 at the 11th International Scholars' Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia. The agreements were made with Universitas Klabat (UNKLAB) in Manado and Universitas Advent Indonesia (UNAI) solidifying a new era of partnership and collaboration.

These MOUs establish a framework for academic exchange between AUP-COE and the two Indonesian universities, reflecting COE's commitment to expanding its international reach. Key components of the agreement include provisions for student and faculty exchange programs. Through these exchanges, COE students can participate as visiting students at UNKLAB and UNAI, allowing them to experience and learn from different educational methodologies while being immersed in Indonesian culture. Faculty members will also participate in this cultural exchange, bringing their expertise to the partner institutions and broadening the academic environment for both students and staff.

"This partnership aligns with our mission to enhance internationalization practices within our college," stated Dr. Fameronag, COE Dean.

"Through these MOUs, we aim to foster a more globally interconnected academic community, ultimately enriching the learning experience for our students and staff."

The collaboration promises mutual benefits, with students and faculty from all three institutions gaining exposure to diverse educational strategies and cross-cultural interactions. The COE's initiative reflects its dedication to cultivating an international outlook among its students and strengthening its relationships with respected academic institutions worldwide.

***The original version of this article was published by the COE Updates Newsletter***



# SSO and CSC Attend PAPSAS in Bohol

by Hans Wilhelm Federico

Enriching the student campus experience, the Student Services Center (SSC), together with Central Student Council (CSC) representatives, immersed in the Philippine Association of Practitioners of Student Affairs and Services (PAPSAS) Interactive Youth Forum 2024 at Bohol Plaza Mountain Resort, Bohol, Philippines on October 16-18, 2024.

Representing the University, 6 delegates joined the PAPSAS 2024. 4 Student Services practitioners were Mr. Jun Tayaben, director of student support services; Mr. Emer Rumarate, student success supervisor; Mr. Conrad Lo, residence dormitory dean; and Mrs. Cristy Carpizo, quality assurance and assistant student success supervisor. 2 student leaders were Rhaesha Anjela Yu, CSC president and Hans Wilhelm Federico, CSC student welfare and essential services councilor.

Participated by 57 Colleges and Universities nationwide, the PAPSAS 2024 themed “#Volunteerism: Passion, Compassion, and Action” aimed to foster student leaders into the depth of what volunteerism is. It helps them understand how vital volunteerism is and how it is innate in a human being. Activities such as lectures, interactive workshops for student services practitioners and student leaders, and enjoyable social activities graced the three-day event.



On the first day, Mr. Donald James Gawe, the executive director of the Philippine National Agency Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency, talked about the importance of volunteerism and how it is connected to student leadership. “Individuals who volunteer have the potential to lead and inspire others toward a common objective,” Gawe mentioned one of the keynote speakers. Interacting with various universities, “Workshop 1: Passion Unleashed - Connecting Feelings to Action” allowed



student leaders to connect and share their insights on what volunteerism means to them.

On the second day, Mr. William Montoya Aranilla, president of Youth Lead Philippines Inc., talked about “The Call to Volunteerism as a Way of Life” during the plenary session. He talked about how to volunteer and what people can do as volunteers. “Volunteerism is ‘what can I give/offer’ rather than ‘what can I get in return’,” Aranilla emphasized the definition of volunteerism, why people want to volunteer, and how to volunteer. Workshops were also held to aid and empower the delegates’ critical thinking on providing solutions to some sustainable development goals issues tackled during the forum. Graced by meaningful lectures and interactive activities, the event enhanced the delegates’ personalities as community leaders. “We could interact with other student leaders and learn from their university experiences. It also helped us understand that there is so much to learn within our personal beliefs in our time as leaders. I am grateful to have been given the chance to represent our university in this activity. I am very excited to share what I have learned with my fellow students,” Hans Wilhelm Federico, one of the student leader delegates, shared his experience.” Rhaesha Yu, another student leader delegate, testified that “every student leader must have the opportunity to not just interact with fellow student leaders but open their minds to more sustainable and efficient ways in improving their communities.”





## COD Benchmarks Universitas Kristen Maranatha with MOU Signing Ceremony in Indonesia

The College of Dentistry embarked on a collaborative benchmarking visit at Universitas Kristen Maranatha, Bandung, Indonesia. The College's delegation: Dr. Herminiano Subido, Jr. were warmly welcomed by Dr. Ignatius Sitiawan, Dean of the School of Dentistry, along with several professors and a representative from the higher administration on October 23, 2024.

The visit commenced with a short program, during which a video introducing Universitas Kristen Maranatha was presented. Both institutions' representatives were given the opportunity to introduce themselves, fostering a friendly and collaborative atmosphere. The program was followed by a meal featuring a selection of delicious Indonesian dishes, adding a cultural element to the visit.



Overall, the experience was highly rewarding, establishing a foundation for future academic and clinical partnership and collaboration.



A highlight of the visit was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), marking the beginning of a formal collaboration between the two institutions. The visit concluded with a tour of the School of Dentistry's facilities and the Dental Hospital, offering valuable insights into the infrastructure and clinical training resources of Universitas Kristen Maranatha.





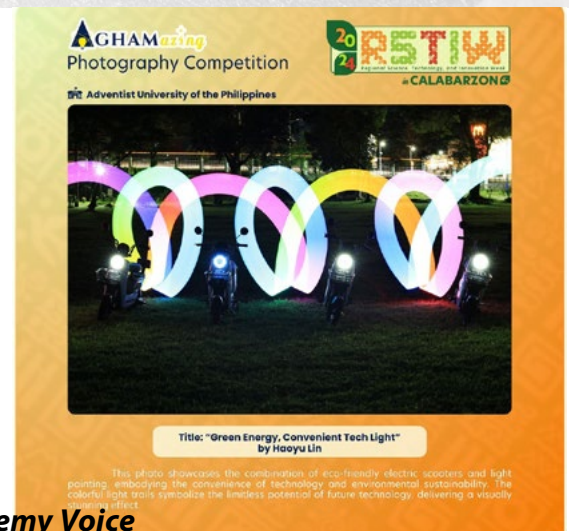
## AUPA Haoyu Lin Wins Grand Prize in RSTIW Photography Competition

by Janiyah Alvares

Haoyu Lin, an AUP-Academy Grade 11 student from the General Academics Strand, won as champion in the AGHAMazing Photography Competition-Regional Category at Carmona Community Center, Carmona City, Cavite, on October 16, 2024.

This prestigious contest was held during the Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTIW) in CALABARZON, organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). Following this year's theme, "Providing Solutions and Opening Opportunities in the Green Economy," Haoyu Lin's long-exposure photograph entitled "Green Energy, Convenient Tech Light" emphasized the synergy between technology and environmental sustainability, showcasing the combination of eco-friendly electric scooters and light painting symbolizing the limitless potential of future technology. His entry stood out and won among 47 entries from across the region. His win, reflecting the institution's strong commitment to fostering innovation, environmental consciousness, and the development of young talents, brought pride to AUPA.

This victory highlights AUPA's ongoing advocacy to promote environmental awareness and inspire students by integrating science and the arts.



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### EDITORIAL INFORMATION

AUP HIGHLIGHTS is a monthly newsletter produced by the Advancement Office.v

#### AUP HIGHLIGHTS STAFF

**Oemer Rey T. Daquila**  
Advancement and Publication Director

**Rodel D. Romero**  
Layout Artist

**Charissa Uy**  
News Writer/Editor

Photos Credits:  
**Silang Memoirs**  
AUP-Central Student Council  
AUP Academy Voice

#### AUP ADMINISTRATORS:

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Address: Puting Kahoy, Silang, Cavite  
Tel No: (049) 541-1211  
E-mail: [admissions@aup.edu.ph](mailto:admissions@aup.edu.ph)  
Website: [www.aup.edu.ph](http://www.aup.edu.ph)