

dup HIGHLIGHTS

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AUP Strengthens Alumni Ties and Support During US Visit

The University extends gratitude to its alumni associations in North America for their warm welcome and continued support during the recent US trip of Dr. Arceli Rosario, University president, and Mr. Oemer Rey Daquila, advancement director in July-August. The visit included fellowship with the alumni chapters of Western North America (AWESNA) and the Alumni of Eastern North America, where University updates and praise reports were presented.

The trip also coincided with the "Turning Point" 55th AWESNA Convention 2025, held on August 29-31, 2025, in San Francisco, California. This gathering brought together alumni, friends, and supporters in a celebration of legacy, faith, and shared mission, further strengthening AUP's ties with its North American community.

During the visit, the University received a total of \$57,404.15 in donations, designated to support vital institutional projects. Contributions were directed toward the AUP Teaching Hospital, the AWESNA Dr. Alfonso P. Miguel, Jr. College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) Building, the President's Discretionary Fund, the Trust Fund, and student scholarships. These gifts reflect the alumni community's commitment to advancing AUP's mission of training students for service in this world and preparing them for eternity.



Dr. Rosario emphasized the importance of alumni partnership in sustaining AUP's vision of holistic education, while Mr. Daquila underscored how each contribution directly impacts students and facilities. Both leaders expressed heartfelt appreciation to the alumni for their generosity and enduring commitment to God's work through Adventist education.

The University praises God for His providence and for the unwavering support of its alumni, whose dedication ensures that AUP remains a beacon of faith, character, and service.



AUP Welcomes New and Returning Students During Academic Emphasis Day

by Khristine Paula Mangilit

The Adventist University of the Philippines officially welcomed students for the Academic Year 2025–2026 during the Academic Emphasis Day held at the Philippine International Church on August 1, 2025 with the theme “Ready, Set, Win.”

New students, along with faculty and staff, participated in a processional followed by messages that highlighted both academic and spiritual preparation.

Dr. Gracel Ann Saban, vice president for academics, explained that the purpose of Academic Emphasis Day, summed up in the word acronym W.I.N., is to welcome both new and returning students, introduce the members of the academic team, and nurture students’ commitment to holistic excellence.

Arnel Zamayla, director of the Center for AI Research at Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology, as the keynote speaker. He reminded students that their journey is as important as their goal. “You are not supposed to have your life figured out because if you did, then you wouldn’t need God,” he said.

He cautioned against seeking happiness as defined by the world, urging students to embrace the peace that Jesus offers.

He further advised that sustaining motivation comes from setting smaller, manageable goals that enable steady progress without overwhelming.

In her welcome address, Dr. Arceli Rosario, University president, emphasized that success is not limited to academic achievement but also include fulfilling God’s purpose and ultimately attaining eternal life.

“Being ready means we prepare our minds, skills, and hearts for the challenges ahead. Being set means we stand firm in our identity as children of God. Winning means persevering, giving our best in our studies, service, and spiritual life,” she said.

Vince Roi Fajilan, a freshman from the College of Theology, shared, “The theme encouraged me to put more effort into my studies and assured me that at AUP, I am set to win. It boosted my confidence to continue pursuing my program,” he added.

He said that being part of the Academic Emphasis Day made him feel seen and special, and reinforced his belief that studying in AUP is part of God’s plan for him.

The Academic Emphasis Day is an annual tradition at AUP that aims to inspire students to balance academic excellence with spiritual growth.



AUP Achieves 100% Passing Rate in Guidance Counselors and Medical Technologist Board Examinations

The University achieved a 100% passing rate in two national licensure examinations this August 2025.

Congratulations to our NEW
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS
 AUGUST 2025 GUIDANCE COUNSELORS
 COMPUTERIZED LICENSURE EXAMINATION

100%
 AUP PASSING RATE

66.67%
 NATIONAL PASSING RATE

To God be the Glory!

Advancer University of the Philippines | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES | GRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Graduate Psychology Department achieved a perfect passing rate in the Guidance Counselors Computerized Licensure Examination, surpassing the national passing rate of 66.67%. Likewise, the Medical Laboratory Science Department continues its record of excellence as all its graduates passed the Medical Technologists Licensure Examination, surpassing the national passing rate of 71.20%.

Congratulations to our NEW
MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

100%
 AUP OVERALL PASSING RATE

AUGUST 2025
 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS
 LICENSURE EXAMINATION
 NATIONAL PASSING RATE **71.20%**

Advancer University of the Philippines | COLLEGE OF HEALTH | MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

These results reflect the University's commitment to academic excellence anchored in faith, character, and service. The achievements underscore the University's mission of training students for service in this world and for eternity.

TFA Galeon Exhibits in Museo Orlina

Ann Galeon, department chair of AUP Tradigital Fine Arts Department, exhibited her works in “Art in Dialogue” held at Museo Orlina in Tagaytay, owned by the renowned glass sculptor Ramon Orlina.

Along with Galeon’s works, the exhibition brought together the works of Liz Banzon Monzon and Jowilson Ramos Panganiban. Showcasing a vibrant mix of styles and media, the event highlighted a memorable celebration of contrasts, connections, and the richness of artistic expression. The opening day was especially significant as three of Galeon’s pieces were sold, reflecting the strong connection between the art and the audience.



CAH and CST Hold Special Colloquium on AI and Human Responsibility

The College of Arts and Humanities and the College of Science and Technology held a joint colloquium at the Finster Hall of All Nations on August 12, 2025. Themed “Digital Darwinism: AI and Survival of the Smartest,” the program aimed to provide students with a deeper understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), its applications across various industries, and the ethical responsibilities associated with its use.

Which featured Dr. Arnel Zamayla, Director of the Center for Artificial Intelligence Research at Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology, as the keynote speaker that drew 317 students and faculty members in attendance. Dr. Zamayla explained how AI operates, its practical benefits, and the risks it poses if left unchecked. He emphasized that “AI is a tool, not on top of you, not over you; you command it.”

Using real-world examples such as Microsoft’s chatbot “Tay,” which turned offensive within hours of interaction with online users, Dr. Zamayla highlighted the dangers of misinformation and the importance of human accountability. He also presented cases where AI created confusion in courtrooms, stressing that existing laws are still unprepared for AI-related incidents.

The session concluded with an open forum, during which students engaged in a discussion on the long-term impact of AI. One student reflected, “The program reminded us that we humans should stay in control and use AI responsibly.” Another student who attended the program gained awareness in using AI, its capabilities, and the long-term impact of AI usage. “The speaker did a great job explaining complex ideas about AI in a way that was easy to understand. Although I have always used AI



for school, I have learnt more about it after the program,” he stated.



University Reclaims God's Image Through Healthy Living on Week of Prayer

The Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) recently concluded its spiritually enriching Week of Prayer. Themed RESTORE: Reclaiming God's Image Through Healthy Living, it was held from August 4 to 9, 2025. The event brought together students, faculty, staff, and guests in a sacred journey of reflection, renewal, and recommitment to holistic wellness rooted in faith.

Each day featured dynamic speakers from various health and ministry backgrounds. They emphasized the divine connection between physical health and spiritual restoration. The series opened with Dr. Richard Nelson, MD, who reminded the congregation, "God wants you to have clarity in life now." He said that God wanted His children to have good health so they could have good judgment and a good life. His message, *Made for More: Created in His Image*, set the tone for the week's focus.

Dr. Lalaine Alfamoso, DrPH, followed with *Your Body: His Temple*, urging attendees to recognize the indwelling presence of God in their lives. "They say it is in church where you can meet Him, but it is in you. In you, He stays," she shared.

Nutrition and worship were beautifully intertwined in the presentations of Ruchel Gagarin Oasan, BSND, MPH, and Coach Myrel de Castro. Oasan emphasized that

"food becomes worship when it is done with reverence." De Castro challenged the audience to emulate Daniel's discipline, stating, "So we can all be winners, and He can restore us."

Midweek messages focused on service and strength. Dr. Robin Ramroop, MD, spoke on *Faith That Moves: Strength in Action*, highlighting that "waiting is faith in action." Coach Kyna de Castro followed with *Hands that Heal: Service as a Lifestyle*. She encouraged participants to reach back to the healing hands of Christ.

Dr. Godwin Aja, DrPH, and Dr. Julie Cebrian, MD, led reflections on rest and peace. "Jesus wants us to restore our health through rest," Aja declared. Cebrian invited all to "experience the peace of God, the perfect peace that only He can give."

Dr. Edward Nathan, MD, DrPH, emphasized decision-making and transformation. He reminded attendees that "your decisions are powerful." Dr. Shanthy Ellen Solomon, RN, PhD, added that "God gives us the power to make decisions" in her message, *Be Transformed: The Lifestyle of Renewal*.

The week culminated in a powerful Sabbath celebration with messages from Dr. Jeimylo C. de Castro. "In Him we are not just relieved, we are fully restored," Dr. De Castro

proclaimed. Bro. de Lana closed with *The Rest That Restores*, affirming Christ's tender desire to carry our burdens.

The spiritual revival concluded with the baptism of five individuals restored in the image of God. Students also shared how the week of prayer led them to reflect on their health lifestyles. "The WOP made me learn a lot for the past days. It reminded me of God's gift to us. He gave us the gift of life and the freedom to use it," Joelliana Faith Orbe said. "As His stewards, we are to take care of ourselves and of the people around us. God created us in His own image. As sin had marred it, He calls us to come unto Him to restore us. To believe in Him means to live a life first led by self-discipline and by having a healthy lifestyle," she reflected.

Stephanie Khiara Abellanosa testified how this Week of Prayer reminded her of the importance of taking care of the body God has given us. "Living a healthy lifestyle, by eating nutritious food, exercising regularly, and getting enough rest, is one way we honor Him. When we take care of ourselves, we are stronger, more focused, and more able to serve others with love and energy. God created us with purpose. He wants us to live life to the fullest. Every healthy choice we make is a step toward becoming the person God designed us to be."



AUP Extends Full Support to Newly Inaugurated ACP

The University joined the SDA community in celebrating the inauguration of Adventist College Palawan (ACP) formerly Palawan Adventist Academy, its newly recognized sister institution under the Southern Luzon Philippine Union Mission and within the Southern Asia-Pacific Division territory. Representing the University, Dr. Gracel Ann Saban, vice president for academics, attended the thanksgiving celebration and inauguration weekend at Adventist College Palawan in Tacras, Narra, Palawan, held on August 2–3, 2025.

The ceremony marked a significant milestone for Adventist education in the region, affirming its mission to provide Christ-centered learning that develops students for service to God and humanity.



“We feel like sister institutions in the SDA educational system, the second largest in the world. It feels like we’re celebrating the birth of a baby. And when a baby is born, it’s a time of celebration, a time of prayer, a time of hopes and dreams. We are just so excited to witness the birth of Adventist College Palawan—a beacon of light, educating lives for service,” Dr. Saban shared.

“This is a message of the Lord’s faithfulness in your life because of your unwavering work, your resilient faith, and your synergistic

efforts in fulfilling this vision. It is our prayer that ACP be a haven of L.I.F.E.—L for love, I for integrity, F for faith, and E for excellence. ACP will be a beacon of light, educating lives for service not only in this world but in the world to come. We are preparing our young people not only for work in this life but for the second coming of Jesus Christ,” she concluded.

Pastor Eliezer Barrientos, founding president of ACP, encouraged all stakeholders to support the institution’s mission: “Help build ACP, friends. This is about the future of our young people, their calling, their light. We are building something that will outlast us, something that will shape generations to come. So we humbly pray: ‘Please, God, guide our steps, bless our efforts, and sustain this mission, for Your glory and for every student You will bring to Adventist College Palawan.’”



A highlight of the event was the memorandum of understanding (MOU) signing ceremony between AUP and ACP, formalizing academic cooperation and collaborative efforts toward fulfilling their shared missional purpose as sister SDA higher education institutions.

The celebration concluded with prayers of dedication that ACP will stand as a beacon of faith, knowledge, and service in Palawan, and will continue the mission of SDA education for generations to come.





MLS Department Held Its Thanksgiving Sabbath for the 100% MTLE Passing Rate

The Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Department held a Thanksgiving Celebration on August 30, 2025, to honor the passers of the August 2025 Medical Technologist Licensure Examination (MTLE). The celebration, themed “Grace Remembered, Glory Returned,” gathered over 300 attendees, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, board passers, and distinguished guests.

The Sabbath joyfully marked God’s faithfulness to the MLS Department, highlighted by another 100% passing rate in the national licensure examination. The worship service joyfully emphasized God as the source of success. Mrs. Ma. Isabel Cablitas, RMT, MPH, alumna of MLS Batch 2005 and current technologist at AUP Health Service, served as keynote speaker. Her uplifting message, “Grace Remembered, Glory Returned: An RMT Reminder,” celebrated success using RMT: Remembering grace, Magnifying the Lord, and Testifying God’s faithfulness.

Quoting Psalm 115:1, Cablitas reminded attendees, “Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth.” She emphasized that success is never self-made; it is grace-made.

The program featured heartfelt testimonies from recent board passers. Tokens of appreciation were given. Pastor Cerelito Cadao led a commitment prayer. In the afternoon, mentoring sessions allowed passers to share their board exam journeys and offer guidance to current students.

Dianne Ojano, a third-year MLS student, reflected, “The morning program was a sacred service dedicated to God. Everyone just had one purpose: to spend the Sabbath with thankfulness.”



“Personally, as a student myself, it was a breather to see the fulfillment of God’s promise to my fellow MLS students,” one student shared. The afternoon program was especially meaningful because many testimonies were shared by the board passers.

“It’s easy to thank God when everything feels right, but He is still God even in our lowest moments,” Mrs. Mae Sales, MLS Faculty & OIC chairperson, also testified, “With all the experiences we’ve had in our Christian journey, we must remember that the 100 percent board passing rate is for His glory alone. Many of the recent board passers felt truly blessed, knowing that their review was not enough, yet in their weakness, they surrendered everything to God’s grace. There is nothing greater than what He has prepared for us, so we must remain faithful to receive His crown of glory.”

The MLS Sabbath was more than a celebration; it was a remembrance of God’s grace, returned through thanksgiving.

AUP Developmental Projects: Progress and Updates

The Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) continues to advance its mission of providing holistic Christian education. This mission is supported by facilities that reflect excellence, sustainability, and service. Ongoing developmental projects demonstrate the University's commitment to ensuring quality learning and living environments for students, faculty, and staff.

The **Cafeteria Renovation Phase 2** is progressing, with 20 to 30 percent completed as of this week. This week's work includes retrofitting the trusses, replacing roof purlins, installing ceiling hangers, and concreting footings for new steel columns. Installation of pedestal



concrete for columns is scheduled for next week, while work on the new comfort room layout began earlier this week. The target for completion remains the second week of October.



The **Narra Hall Renovation and Retrofitting Project** is being prepared for inauguration on October 29, 2025. As of the end of August, recent updates include CHB wall installation and plastering at stairways, ceiling panel installation, hallway and toilet tiling, fire protection system upgrades, door and glass installations, painting,

and electrical works. Structural improvements, such as the concreting of water tank foundations and the installation of railing designs, are also in progress, with completion targeted before the inauguration date.



The **Dr. Jeimylo and Kyna de Castro Research Center** began construction with its groundbreaking in June 2025 and has now reached approximately 30 percent completion. Structural works and perimeter wall construction are ongoing as of August. The project is expected to be finished by November 2025. This 6 million project, fully funded by Dr. and Mrs. Jeimylo de Castro, will enhance AUP's capacity for research and innovation. Despite weather-related delays, the project remains on track, underscoring the University's commitment to academic advancement and spiritual growth.



Together with these development initiatives, AUP also continues to prioritize community welfare.

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Prepares People for Heaven*

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