



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BATANGAS

Advisory No. 056, s. 2025

May 2, 2025

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.depedbatangas.com)

25th WORD CUP PHILIPPINES NINTH JOURNALISM MASTER CLASS

The Word Cup offers the 25th Word Cup Philippines Ninth Journalism Masterclass to excel in campus journalism. This event will be held on June 12-14, 2025 in Boracay.

This event is designed to bring together champion trainers, academic leaders, and campus journalists who share a passion for excellence and a commitment to serving their schools and communities.

Participation of public and private schools shall be subject to the no-collection policy as stated in Section 3 of Republic Act No. 5546, An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Tickets and/or the Collection of Contributions for Whatever Project or Purpose from Students and Teachers of Public and Private Schools, Colleges and Universities (Ganzon Law).

For complete details, please refer to the attached invitation letter.

*LVI/ 25th WORD CUP PHILIPPINES NINTH JOURNALISM MASTER CLASS/
S2-109879/05102/2025*



Address: Provincial Sports Complex, Bolbok, 4200 Batangas City
☎ (043) 722-1840 / 722-1796 / 722-1437 / 722-2675 / 722-1662
✉ deped.batangas@deped.gov.ph
🌐 www.depedbatangas.com

18 January 2025

Dear:

Greetings!

We are thrilled to invite you to participate in the 24th Word Cup Philippines Campus Journalism Contest and 25th Word Cup Philippines Ninth Journalism Masterclass. These events offer a unique opportunity to excel in campus journalism while learning directly from industry professionals.

At Word Cup, we emphasize practitioner-led contests and workshops to ensure both students and teachers gain valuable insights and hands-on experience.

These events are designed to bring together champion trainers, academic leaders, and campus journalists who share a passion for excellence and a commitment to serving their schools and communities. Our authentic journalism program focuses on practical learning experiences, guided by seasoned professionals who have contributed significantly to the success of top-performing regions in the country.

Participants in the national contest in Baguio will have the chance to compete and receive evaluations from industry judges, while the Boracay Masterclass offers an immersive experience with working journalists, artists, and media professionals. Notably, exceptional masterclass outputs may be published in leading newspapers, providing participants with real-world exposure.

Our workshops prioritize learning by doing. Participants engage in actual media briefings or press conferences, fostering a deeper understanding of industry practices. To encourage excellence, national-level evaluations and contests focus on individual assessments. Additionally, we will recognize institutions, academic leaders, and school paper advisers through the Word Cup Ambassadors Award, celebrating their dedication to nurturing talent in campus journalism.

As learning leaders, you can empower your team by allowing your students and teachers to experience the only authentic journalism training workshop in the Philippines and Asia. They may register through the following links:

Event	Dates	Registration link
24 th Word Cup - Baguio City	4-6 April 2025	https://bit.ly/24thWordCupPH
25 th Word Cup - Boracay	12-14 June 2025	https://bit.ly/25thWordCupPH

For further inquiries, please contact us at wordcup.philippines@gmail.com or via mobile at 09541902247. You can also learn more about us through our Facebook page: Word Cup Associated Editors Co.

We look forward to welcoming you to these exciting events.


EUGENIO SONNY O. CALAPIT, Ed.D., EnP

24th Word Cup Philippines

Campus Journalism Contest

Indicative Matrix of Activities*

5 April 2025 (Saturday)			
7:00-8:00 AM	Distribution of IDs & kits		
8:00-9:30 AM	Opening Program & Press Briefing		
9:30 AM	AM Snacks		
9:30-10:30 AM	Mobile Journalism (MJ)	News Writing (NW)	Photojournalism (PJ)
		<i>Pagsulat ng Balita</i>	<i>Pagkuha ng Larawan</i>
10:30-12:00 PM	Press Conference		
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch		
1:00-2:00 PM	Workshop for NW, MJ, and PJ participants		
2:00 PM	Output deadline for NW participants		
2:00-4:00 PM	Editorial Writing (EDW)	Feature Writing (FW)	Sports Writing (SP)
	<i>Pagsulat ng Pang-ulong Tudling</i>	<i>Pagsulat ng Lathalain</i>	<i>Pagsulat ng Balitang Isports</i>
4:00 PM	Output deadline for EDW participants		
	PM Snacks		
4:00-5:00 PM	Workshop for SP and FW participants		
5:00 PM	Output deadline for FW, MJ, PJ and SP participants		
6 April 2025 (Sunday)			
8:00-10:00 AM	Copyreading & Headline Writing (CHW)	Science & Technology Writing (STW)	Watercolor Wellness for Beginners (WW)
	<i>Pag-uulo at Pagwawasto ng Balita</i>	<i>Pagsulat ng Agham at Teknolohiya</i>	
10:00 AM	Output deadline for CHW and STW participants		
	AM Snacks		
11:00-12:00 PM	Lunch		
1:00-3:00 PM	Awarding Ceremony		
	<i>Word Cup Ambassador Award (School Paper Advisers)</i>		
	<i>Word Cup Institutional Ambassador Award</i>		
	<i>Recognition of Exemplary Work</i>		

* subject to change

25th Word Cup Philippines		
Ninth Journalism Masterclass		
Indicative Matrix of Activities*		
12 June 2025 (Thursday)		
2:00 PM	Check-in for participants with additional night	
13 June 2025 (Friday)		
7:00-8:00 AM	Distribution of IDs & kits	
8:00-9:30 AM	Opening Program & Press Briefing	
9:30-10:30 AM	News Writing (NW) <i>Pagsulat ng Balita</i>	
10:30-11:30 AM	Mobile Journalism (MJ)	
11:30-1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00-2:00 PM	Photojournalism (PJ) <i>Pagkuha ng Larawan</i>	
2:00-3:30 PM	Press Conference	
3:30-4:30 PM	Feature Writing (FW) <i>Pagsulat ng Lathalain</i>	Sports Writing (SP) <i>Pagsulat ng Balitang Isports</i>
4:30 PM	Output deadline for MJ, NW and PJ participants (PressCon coverage)	
4:30-5:30 PM	Editorial Writing (EDW) <i>Pagsulat ng Pang-ulong Tudling</i>	Outdoor coverage for FW, MJ, PJ, SP and STW participants
6:30 PM	Output deadline for EDW, FW, SP, MJ and PJ participants	
6:30-7:30 PM	Dinner and Feedback Session	
14 June 2025 (Saturday)		
8:00-9:00 AM	Science & Technology Writing (STW) <i>Pagsulat ng Agham at Teknolohiya</i>	Watercolor Wellness (WW)
9:00-10:00 AM	Workshop for STW participants	
10:00 AM	Output deadline for STW participants	
12:00 PM	Check-out for participants without additional night	
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00-5:00 PM	Awarding Ceremony <i>Word Cup Ambassador Award (School Paper Advisers)</i> <i>Word Cup Institutional Ambassador Award</i> <i>Recognition of Exemplary Work</i>	

* subject to change

DETAILS OF REGISTRATION

The objectives of the press coverage and national contest are to:

1. Enhance the writing, broadcasting and photography skills of teachers and students;
2. Develop skills in mobile journalism;
3. Provide insightful feedback on outputs;
4. Recognize and award exemplary work, and;
5. Publish quality outputs in national media.

Contests are optional and open to elementary, junior and senior high school, tertiary students and school paper advisers, language and communications arts teachers, department heads, school heads and public information officials.

Participants of Mobile Journalism are encouraged to bring their video cameras and/or laptops installed with video editing applications. Participants of Photojournalism are encouraged to bring cameras or cellphones.

WORD CUP AMBASSADORS AWARD

All Institutional Ambassador Awardee aspirants need to submit a one-page briefer on the programs/accomplishments of the school in campus journalism for the last three years. If they were a previous Word Cup participant, a testimonial (one-minute video-message) on how the workshops have helped individuals or schools may also be submitted in addition to programs/accomplishments.

In addition, to be an Institutional Bronze Ambassador Awardee, a minimum of 10 participants are expected to attend, 15 for Institutional Silver Awardees and 20 for Institutional Gold Awardees.

ACCOMMODATION AND LOGISTICS

Rooms are **non-exclusive** (male and female may/may not combine in a room). Rooms can accommodate 4-10 persons, and up to 20 persons in the dormitories, first come, first serve basis.

Check in is at 2:00 PM; Check out is at 12:00 NN.

Transportation expenses for activities outside the venue **are not included and shall be paid separately** should there be any media coverage outside the venue.

Participation fee per person is shown on the next page.

T-SHIRT CUTOFF DATE

The cutoff date for ordering t-shirts for Word Cup Baguio is 4 March 2025. For Word Cup Boracay, the cutoff date is 4 May 2025. This would give us ample time for production.

24th Word Cup Philippines

Participation Fee per person

Early bird <i>Payment made on or before 15 February 2025</i> <i>Inclusive of overnight stay on 5 April 2025</i>	₱6,500
Regular <i>Payment made from 16 February to 1 April 2025</i> <i>Inclusive of overnight stay on 5 April 2025</i>	₱7,000
Additional night stay <i>No meals included. ₱500 per night (dormitory) or</i> <i>₱800 per night (quadruple sharing)</i>	₱500 or ₱800
Meals 4 April (Day 1): Arrival, meals not included 5 April (Day 2): AM and PM snacks, lunch, and dinner 6 April (Day 3): Breakfast, AM snacks, and lunch	

25th Word Cup Philippines

Participation Fee per person

Early bird <i>Payment made on or before 30 April 2025</i> <i>Inclusive of overnight stay on 13 June 2025</i>	₱6,500
Regular <i>Payment made from 1 May to 1 June 2025</i> <i>Inclusive of overnight stay on 13 June 2025</i>	₱7,000
Additional night stay <i>No meals included. ₱500 per night (dormitory) or</i> <i>₱800 per night (family room)</i>	₱500 or ₱800
Meals 12 June (Day 1): Arrival, meals not included 13 June (Day 2): AM and PM snacks, lunch, and dinner 14 June (Day 3): Breakfast, AM snacks, and lunch	

While no Word Cup event has ever been re-scheduled or cancelled, in case of force majeure and government pronouncement, forfeiture or price adjustment of fees shall take effect. For own cancellation, automatic forfeiture applies, subject to appeal.

Participation fees may be deposited to:

BDO Account Number 012330 081983
Account Name: Word Cup Associated Editors Co.

Published Articles on the 21st Word Cup Philippines

Inquirer: Uptrend in science museums investment to benefit DepEd learners

bit.ly/InquirerOn21stWordCup


Sep 12, 2024

INQUIRER.NET


Today's Paper

NEWS GLOBAL NATION BUSINESS LIFESTYLE ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY SPORTS OPINION

LATEST NEWS STORIES HEADLINES METRO REGIONS NATION WORLD CDN NEWSLETTER

REGIONS

Uptrend in science museums investment to benefit DepEd learners

INQUIRER.net / 02:27 PM May 10, 2024



Dr. Eugenio Sonny O. Calapit, executive director of Word Cup Associated Editors Co., welcomes some 250 campus journalists to the 21st Word Cup National Journalism Conference and Contests at Angels Hill, Tagaytay.

MANILA, Philippines—A young campus journalist struggled to free a rope trapped inside a one-meter tall, square-shaped metal device. A puzzle master quickly intervened, demonstrating how to navigate the tubular labyrinth.

This "rope puzzle" was among the many interactive exhibits that captivated the 250 campus journalists and school publication advisers attending the 21st Word Cup National Journalism Conference and Contests held in Tagaytay City on May 4-5.

May Pagsinohin, executive director of the Philippine Science and Technology Foundation (PSTF), explained that science museums like these are designed to pique children's curiosity and interest in science.

While the PSTF-operated Science Centrum in Marikina remains closed to the public despite the lifting of health restrictions, Pagsinohin acknowledges that investment in science museums in the Philippines falls short compared to ASEAN neighbors.

EDITORS' PICK

MOST READ



GLOBALNATION
Trump falsely accuses Ohio immigrants of abducting, eating pets



GLOBALNATION
Wildfires around Los Angeles blanket city in smoke



GLOBALNATION
Key takeaways from Kamala Harris-Donald Trump debate



LIFESTYLE
Fernando Amorsolo: A refresher on the first-ever Filipino National Artist



BUSINESS
Meralco hikes power rates by 15¢/kWh this September



ENTERTAINMENT
Manny Jacinto among nominees for People magazine's Sexiest Man Alive

TAGS: Journalism

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Manila Times: Campus journalism can boost interest in science

bit.ly/ManilaTimesOn21stWordCup

B12 | Campus Press THURSDAY May 9, 2024



Word Cup Associated Editors Co. Executive Director Eugenio Calapit welcomes participants to the 21st Word Cup National Journalism Conference and Contests at Angeles Hill, Taguig City, on May 4 and 5, 2024. Campus journalists take videos and photos of the event as a reference for their outputs. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

'Campus journalism can boost interest in science'

SOME 263 campus journalists and school paper advisers from across the country can help "improve public understanding and appreciation of the value of science in everyday life," Science Communicators Philippines Inc. (SciCommPh) head Ruby Roan-Cristobal said during the 21st Word Cup National Campus Journalism Press Conference and Contests.

Roan-Cristobal, senior lecturer at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) College of Development Communication, saw the need for scientists and those in the applied sciences to speak more publicly while challenging campus journalists to serve as "microphones" to hype interest in the field.

"Science communication and education help inform policymakers and provide sound bases for decision-making," she said.

The Word Cup, held at Angeles Hill in Taguig City on May 4 and 5, carried the theme "The Role of

Science Museums in Promoting A Science Nation: Fostering Interests in Science, Math and STEM-Related Courses and Careers."

Roan-Cristobal also hosts the Sunday radio program "Radio Hemo" on DZRH and has been the chief science research specialist at the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for 46 years.

She said, "NGOs are more vocal" when many scientists who generate actual knowledge through research are often out of the picture.

Roan-Cristobal was with co-presenter May Paginohin, who

manages the Philippines' first museum dedicated to science, during the conference.

Paginohin, executive director of the Philippine Foundation for Science and Technology, who oversees Science Centrum, shared the views of Roan-Cristobal that scientists need to do more to help promote interests in the field, which in turn may prod public officials to fund science education.

"He observed that public and private investments in science museums remain low.

While Science Centrum, a privately operated museum dedicated to promoting interests in the sciences, has served over a hundred thousand visitors over the years, the proportion remains low compared to around 26 million learners nationwide.

Paginohin said a financial investment of about P5 million is needed to create a regional science centrum. The organization currently has eight regional hubs in partnership with local governments.

Eugenio Calapit, organizer of the 21st Word Cup, said the event featured two of the country's experts "as a necessary first step in voluntarily assisting the Department of Education (DepEd) in promoting science and math education in view of the very low Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) ranking of 15-year-old learners in the country."

"They say that it takes a community to raise a child, and we add, properly communicating with them the issues and challenges can help address these concerns," Calapit, a former media professional with a doctorate and advanced degrees in education and management, added.

He added that the participants will submit their contest entries based on the information gathered from the press conference and their follow-up interviews with the presenters. After that, the evaluation will be done by invited Word Cup fellows, who are media practitioners. **THE MANILATIMES**

UST summit advances church heritage conservation

THE University of Santo Tomas (UST) is hosting the National Summit of Church Archives and Heritage Workers starting May 6, to May 11, 2024, at the Multi-Function Room, 6th Floor, Buenaventura Garcia Paredes OP Building.

The summit has invited diocesan and religious archivists, parish secretaries, diocesan chancellors, and religious congregation secretaries, those appointed and directly involved in archiving roles, to participate in an academic and professional capacity-building event aimed toward the conservation of church archival heritage.

It will recognize the Society of Ecclesiastical Archivists of the Philippines (SEAP) membership from around the nation; reinforce the involvement of the archdiocese, dioceses, religious archivists, parish secretaries and records custodians in the implementation and fulfillment of the Church records preservation; discuss existing practices and explore the pivotal role of archivists and heritage workers; and provide knowledge and skills in managing the Church's cultural heritage records.

National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Chairman Victorino Manalo graced the event and delivered a special message.

On the first day of the summit on Wednesday, UST Faculty of Civil Law Dean Nilo Divina delivered the keynote address on "Intellectual Property Law - Applicable to Ecclesiastical and Archival Record and Domain," Prof. Regalado Tirona Jose discussed "The Status Quo of the Catholic Church Heritage in the Philippines" and Commission on Cultural Heritage Executive Secretary Fr. Milan Ted Torralba tackled "Archives and Canon Law."

Archdiocese of Manila Chancellor Fr. Isidro Manay spoke on "The Interplay of the Work of Diocesan Chancellors, Parish Secretaries and Archivists," while NCCA National Committee on Archives head Emma Muñoz-Rev led the "Panel Discussion on Government Archives." Jeddyn Joyce Delgado from the National Archives of the Philippines and Vilma Rodriguez from the Senate of the Philippines Archives.

Also included were lectures from Fr. Tomas Ayanay of the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro, who headed the discussion on Diocesan Archives.

Meanwhile, Sr. Wilma Bumangbang, OP from the St. Catherine of Siena Archives, Fr. Mervin Lomague, OP from the Dominican Archives, and Fr. Nestor Impelido from the Salesian Archives jointly discussed the topic of Religious Archives and Family Search Philippines.

field relations manager Felvir Ordinario spoke about "The Impact and Issues of Genealogy Project of the Church of Jesus Christ."

Capping off the first day of the event was a Eucharistic Celebration at the Santissimo Rosario Parish presided by the Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomas Acting Archivist Fr. Gaspar Sigava, OP.

Lectures for Thursday, May 9, include "Ethics and Accountability in the Management of Archives and Records Management" by Ateneo de Manila University Archives Director Asst. Prof. Francis Navarro, followed by "Development of Archives and Records Management Profession and Training in the Philippines" by the Board for Librarians Chairman Yolanda Granda and "Data Privacy for Ecclesiastical Documents" by the executive assistant for the Office of the UST Secretary-General Emmanuel Batulan.

A tour of the UST facilities, including the oldest school-based museum in the country, the UST Museum and its laboratory, the Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomas (AUST), and the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library, comprise the afternoon session.

Day 3 activities include lectures by the UST Prefect of Libraries Fr. Angel Aparicio regarding the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library, "Disaster Resilience and Post-Disaster Recovery for Cultural Heritage" by UST College of Tourism and Hospitality Management academic staff Karl Bararo, and "Sustainability in Conservation in the Philippine Setting" by Okada Manila records specialist Lulu del Mar.

A workshop on Archives management conducted by del Mar Jocelyn Marcos and the AUST staff follows a Eucharistic Celebration with Fr. Harold Bontoria, OSA, as president, and the Fellowship Night.

For the fourth and final day of the summit, the Assistant to the UST Rector for Information and Communications Technology Asst. Prof. Jeralyn Padua will deliver a lecture on "Parish Registry Portal: E-Records Management of Sacramental Books," while AUST Acting Archivist Fr. Gaspar Sigava and SEAP Secretary Marcos will lead the "SEAP Moving Forward Workshop and Planning" session.

Concluding the four-day National Summit will be a concluding Mass with Dumaguete Bishop Julio Cortes as the main preacher and homilist.

Email archives@ust.edu.ph for more information. **TMT**

BulSU hosts intl education summit in Malolos

BULACAN State University (BulSU) will host the 1st International Education Summit (IES) 2024 at the Malolos Sports and Convention Center in Malolos, Bulacan, from May 14 to 16, 2024, said BulSU President Teody San Andres.

With the theme "Sustainability for Quality and Excellence Through Transformational Outcomes-Based Education (OBE)," the summit aims to advance sustainability and excellence in education.

Guests of honor and keynote speakers are Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Chairman I. Prospero de Vera III and Sen. Joel Villanueva. De Vera, represented by CHED Region 3 Director Lora Yusi, will speak about "Key Higher Education Trends and Issues to Know."

Speakers during the plenary sessions include CHED OIC-Deputy Executive Director Lily Freida Milla to talk on "HEI Internationalization: Meeting the Global Set-up

— Graduates' Employability and Capability" and "Father of OBE" William Spady to speak on "Quality Education Through OBE."

Mapua University Institute for Digital Learning Dean Jonathan Macayan will talk on "Transformational OBE: Challenges and Benefits" and "Designing OBE Framework, Instructional Materials and Methods and Strategies."

Mapua University professor and Association of Education Researchers and Trainers President Jaime Pinango will talk on "Assessing Outcomes Skills and Competencies and Providing Feedback" and Philippine Normal University professor Felice Yeban will speak on "Empowering Leaders and Faculty Toward Sustainable Quality Education."

The IES2024 is expected to gather participants across the academe, particularly members of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges, government sector and nongovernment organizations to discuss the crucial

role of OBE in driving positive change and innovation in higher education.

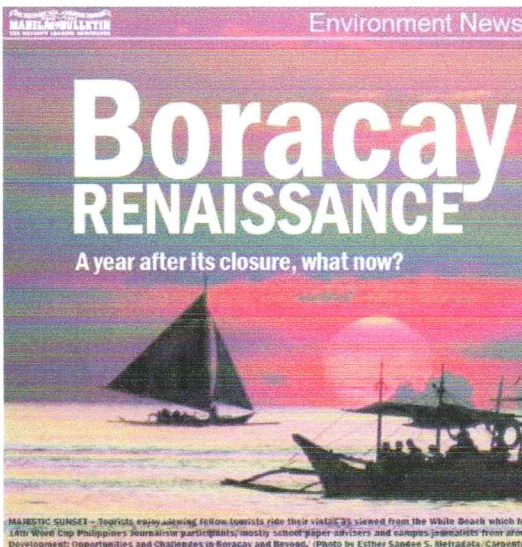
ANTONIO G. PAPA

MMSU prof wins Swiss Invention silver

KACHTY member of the Swiss Invention Competition Office said CHED



Sample Workshop Output of Previous Word Cup Masterclass (14th Word Cup)



Environment News

Thursday, May 30, 2019 B-2

Go Green, read or as an email: EnvironmentMD@gmail.com

Text by JORANNE L. CHUA

Boracay RENAISSANCE

A year after its closure, what now?

There is always an immediate effort to restore Boracay. No doubt, it is the country's most famous island, constantly ranking on top of must-visit destinations and vacation spots. Therefore, it came as a shock especially to those who have business in the island that the six-month closure and rehabilitation was implemented without exception.

Visiting Boracay once again after a year of its April 2018 closure, one can notice a striking difference. The island – especially the beachfront – is much cleaner. There is a sense of community but there are also the incessant debates.

During the 14th Word Cup held in Boracay, we invited select campus journalists – students and editors – to share their photos and words on how they see the new Boracay. They are hopeful that they can feel that the island is truly fully-fledged Boracay is not yet finished.

MAJESTIC SUNSET – Tourists enjoy admiring fellow tourists ride their vintage bikes, viewed from the White Beach which has expanded from up to 25 meters from the shoreline. The photo was taken by 14th Word Cup Philippines' Journalism participants' masterclass workshop editors and campus journalists from around the country under the theme, 'Prospects of a Balanced Ecology and Tourism Development: Opportunities and Challenges in Boracay and Beyond.' (Photo by Esther Sandee S. Netragata/Carpiater III Elementary School)

BE HUMANS, NOT PLASTIC

Text by MARK JULIUS D. FUENTES

Malay's Municipal Ordinance No. 386 prohibiting the use of disposable plastic items among hotels, resorts, restaurants and business establishments is proof that the local government of Malay, Aklan has learned its lesson. Nevertheless, despite the six-month-long 'nightmare' of businesses during the island's rehabilitation, plastics are still freely accessible in some souvenir stores, convenience shops and food stalls.

Nobody knows when single-use plastic bags became so pervasive and prevalent. They are accessible everywhere because they are cheap, useful and convenient. We find them – not just in Boracay – but in various places where people purchase goods especially in the markets because of convenience. But at what expense?

Ben campaigns identify the harm plastic bags can cause, including how it affects aquatic animals through ingestion and entanglement. Even when plastic products break down, the plastic lingers on as smaller elements that get into the ecosystem with long-term negative effects.

According to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the plastic ban implemented by Malay is correct but tourists admit that the ban is just a form of 'suggestion' as single-use plastics are still visible.

Tourist or not, we have to understand that in order to help Boracay fully heal, we must be disciplined. If the government has prohibited smoking, drinking and eating on the beach to minimize trash with 'pollution control officers' to notify or capture litterbugs, then all of us have to follow. This is the law of the land and not merely a suggestion.

One plastic bag habit causes environmental pollution, and so it only makes sense to start taking common sense measures to transition to more degradable or reusable items.

Climate change and ecological degradation are global problems for which there are no single nor simple solutions. If our 'fascination' with plastic will again transform Boracay Island into a dump, then we are bound to fail – wasting money, resources, effort and time.

Let us all become humans. No plastic!

The author is a teacher at Mongpong Elementary School in Zamboanga City, Capiz. A school paper adviser for 12 years, he is president of the Association of School Paper Advisers of School Division Office Region 10, Division Office of Zamboanga City. He is also editor-in-chief of Sagad, a publication of DepEd Zamboanga City.

CHALLENGING ENHANCEMENT

Text by ANNA MARIE D. PUDENA

After six months of being placed under rehabilitation, Boracay opened its doors in October of 2018.

That October was indeed historic and momentous for it was considered as the rebirth of a better Boracay. The repairs of the sewerage system and the roads together with the standardization of how hotels and resorts should manage their waste are part of the things that the government has done that has temporarily disrupted the business in the area.

After the six-month rehabilitation, there is a general feeling that it is just the start. The people need to ensure the sustainability of environmental efforts in order to prevent recurrence of what caused the closure of the island.

Dr. Al Orloff, the Deputy Ground Commander of the DENR National Task Force Boracay said that the sustainability of the rehabilitation should not fall wholly on the shoulders of the government.

Sustaining the positive effects of the cleanup of Boracay entails a joint effort with the residents and even tourists and businessmen. This can be done by following the set of rules, by being a responsible tourist and by helping spread the positive effects of sustainable tourism.

Dr. Orloff, when asked about the state of discipline among locals and tourists, he said that it is a 'cat-and-mouse activity'.

The Task Force Boracay has been very firm in implementing its rules to ensure sustainable tourism practices in the island. It may be able to do so until April 2020 when the two-year implementation of the program will conclude. But even if it is, there will be a clear direction on what sustainable tourism is all about, could the ordinary Juan de la Cruz follow the rules even when no one is watching?

While rehabilitating Boracay is considered as the DENR's biggest accomplishment in 2018, measure on sustaining the program should be put in place.

Dr. Orloff believes that a strong and consistent law and

DESERVING BORACAY

Text by DOLORES L. CARREON

Let us all become tourist police. Let us become information multipliers.

These were the words of Dr. Al Orloff, the Deputy Ground Commander of the DENR National Task Force Boracay as he urged responsible tourists to share their stories about the rehabilitation of the island.

A reliable survey reported that 92 percent of adult population in Boracay has used technology and social media to communicate and spread information about updates and progress about the island.

The government also did its part. It intensified the monitoring of waste disposal and imposed higher penalties to those who will be caught violating environmental laws.

However, these efforts seem to have been taken for granted by some businesses. A few weeks ago, the local government has closed some establishments found to be non-compliant with regards to business permits including sanitary and environmental inspection requirements.

With all the efforts – from government and people's organizations – to restore Boracay to its pristine condition, there are still deserving factors such as people's resistance to change and discipline. What else can Boracay do to make the people pay for what they had served?

Boracay needs everyone's help. No matter who you are, you have a responsibility to take care of the environment. Become a responsible citizen police. Serve Boracay of what it deserves before it is once again too late.

The author is a head teacher of Montebanal Elementary School in Zamboanga City. She is a school paper adviser and has taught English for 16 years.

SUSTAINING PARADISE

Text by MARIA JOSEPHINE A. PLEJOS

At first, Boracay's sustainable tourism was a long shot. But it was worth trying and perhaps worth duplicating.

It has been months now since the reopening of Boracay after its six-month rehabilitation. Changes are evident. Wider beachfront, quieter atmosphere, better road system and closure of erring establishments. However, there is a downside, too. According to Deputy Ground Commander of Task Force Boracay Dr. Al Orloff, when asked about the state of discipline among locals and tourists, he said that it is a 'cat-and-mouse activity'.

The Task Force Boracay has been very firm in implementing its rules to ensure sustainable tourism practices in the island. It may be able to do so until April 2020 when the two-year implementation of the program will conclude. But even if it is, there will be a clear direction on what sustainable tourism is all about, could the ordinary Juan de la Cruz follow the rules even when no one is watching?

While rehabilitating Boracay is considered as the DENR's biggest accomplishment in 2018, measure on sustaining the program should be put in place.

Dr. Orloff believes that a strong and consistent law and



MOTHER AND CHILD – Both local residents, they do their daily routine of picking up litter left by tourists along Boracay's famous White Beach. To them, this is their way of showing their love for their island. For the cause, it is teaching kids the importance of sustainable tourism. (Photo by Alver B. Lajera/Division Office of Zamboanga)

'Sustaining the positive effects of the cleanup of Boracay entails a joint effort with the residents and even tourists and businessmen. This can be done by following the set of rules, by being a responsible tourist and by helping spread the positive effects of sustainable tourism.'



DISCIPLINE IN DEED – Tourists line up to segregate trash in colorful bins spread in one of Boracay's popular destinations in Station 2. The local campaign for solid waste management seems to have caught on since government allowed commercial businesses to reopen in the island. (Photo by Eugenio Sonoy O. Calagait)



GARBAGE COLLECTOR – Garbage collectors load segregated trash on a municipal truck when do daily door-to-door collection starting from 3 a.m. up until they finish their task. The trash will be hauled to Malay, on the mainland where there is a regulated dump site. (Photo by Ralph Anthony Geosime/Sagumbayan National High School, Sultan Kudarat)

Climate action now

By JOHN RYAN M. JACOT

Worsening global temperatures. Rising sea levels. Melting ice sheets. Blazing forest fires. The signs of an environmental crisis called climate change are around us and its effects create a colossal impact that continues to rock the ecological sphere and disrupt the dynamics of ecosystems.

Urban and industrial traditionalists assert that climate change action is a mere obstacle to the advancement of urban life that would improve the quality of life, raise income levels, and develop business activities.

However, despite the fruits of industrial development, ecological sustainability continues to be compromised which further worsens the damage caused by climate change.

For instance, a 2019 United Nations report concluded that the world's oceans and ice sheets are under distress with fish populations already declining in many regions. Its fallout would be difficult to contain without immediate and sustained ecological action.

In addition, a 2019 report from PAGASA revealed that there will be an increase in annual mean temperature which shows a large amount of warming year per year. This change is being driven by increased carbon dioxide and other human-made emissions.

The global effects of climate change can be seen in the increase of sea levels where sea cities are found to be highly vulnerable to a one-meter sea level rise. According to a 2017 study by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), this will

'Come together because your future is at risk. If we take action now, we can work together toward ensuring that our future and the future of the next generation will be safe.'

"effectively flood cities around the world." The estimates made against climate change are heavy charges that entangle communities as the world seeks for ecological sustainability.

Stakeholders of the environment - civic groups, the government, and all of us - should pool resources toward promoting simple yet dynamic ways to address climate change as anchored in the National Framework Strategy on Climate Change.

It is best for everyone to answer the call of environmental action now, not later. Let us take it from the words of Sealito Paillo from the Climate Change Commission, who said: "Come together because your future is at risk. If we take action now, we can work together toward ensuring that our future and the future of the next generation will be safe."

Are you ready to take action now?

Jacot, 18, is a HUMEX student of the Colegio de la Inmaculada Concepcion in Marikina, Cebu

EDITOR'S NOTE During the 16th Word Cup held in Subic, campus journalists who school paper editors all over the country gathered to talk about journalism and leadership, and to listen to experts on various topics such as mental health and climate change. After the talk, participants were encouraged to submit an article on their reaction on climate change. Here are four of the best pieces. —Johanna L. Chua

No one is spared

By JONATHAN B. EMBANUEL

Climate change is inevitable to ignore. It is no longer an abstract scenario of the future. We feel it now. We see it now. With urgency, we are now doing tangible actions to act now with efforts on combating climate change on a global scale.

A lot of people say they are aware about climate change, but sadly most of them actually only know little about it.

With overwhelming scientific evidences, reports, and data revealing extreme weather record-breaking temperatures, melting glaciers, we tend to just submit ourselves at the mercy of nature. Well, perhaps not anymore especially in the case of the Philippines.

According to Sealito Paillo from the Climate Change Commission, under the Paris Agreement,

'Climate change is inevitable to ignore. It is no longer an abstract scenario of the future. We feel it now. We see it now.'

the Philippines has committed to cut green house gas emission by 70 percent by 2030.

"The commission is doing extensive information campaigns using all media platforms, symposia, and trainings on the effects of climate change, and to also relay things which can be done to deal with this issue," he said.

Scientists also suggest with certainty that the issue must be addressed in bigger perspective to gain global attention. Climate change must be given utmost attention, more than anything else.

Without doubt, the issue now is beyond the use of fossil fuel, industrial revolution, levels of carbon dioxide, nor heat-trapping gases and global temperatures. The argument now must be beyond the portals of forests burning, coral reefs dying, and water supplies shrinking.

It is about finding tangible and sustainable mechanisms to stop the damage. We need to act together as one. We need to do it now - faster and braver - because no one is spared. Remember, we can fight climate change. We are the world's greatest resource.

Emmanuel has 16 years of experience in editing school papers. He is currently teaching at Koronadal National Comprehensive High School



Write about climate change

Dr. Orsini C. Maslog, author and columnist at Soliton Net, explains to participants, composed of campus journalists and school paper editors, how to report on climate change in the talk "Shaping various Stakeholders in the Climate Crisis" held during the 16th Word Cup in Subic. (Photo by Jimmy A. Deningco)

Take the first step

By BJ LANSANG

Numerous national and international interventions have been proven to be inadequate in reversing the devastating effects of climate change.

Climate change has been a roundabout topic that it has already become a staple on newspapers and campus publications. And most of these articles focus on one topic - the blame game.

Humans are not off the hook when it comes to climate change. It's an inherent fact that we are at fault here.

This is not a matter of judging who is to blame.

It's a matter of do, don't, or die.

In his talk, climate change resource speaker and author of 31 books, Dr. Orsini Maslog, shared his insights and expertise on climate change. Maslog encouraged the young journalists to use the 'power of the pen' in combating climate change.

"Be involved, take it as an issue, and write in publications," Maslog said.

Actions speak louder than words. It is an adage that has continued to prove that it is easier said than done.

Everybody should take part in alleviating and eventually eliminating this global crisis. It is never enough to pinpoint the root cause of all of these.

Words are empty if not coupled with the right actions.

At Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."

We already know what needs to be done. We have to act now and save the planet. Take the first step.

Lansang is a school paper adviser of Columbian College (Borromeo campus) in Zamboanga

No classes, yehey?

By RIVELLE P. VILLANUEVA

It has been two months into the academic year, yet students have already missed a lot of classes due to frequent class suspensions. On the third week of September alone, out of the five school days, students in Cavite have only attended their classes once, since their Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday classes have been suspended due to inclement weather brought about by Typhoon Nida.

Meanwhile, posts on social media seem to show how most students are in favor of these suspensions. A little rain and they would be pulling their hopes up to hear a word from their governor or mayor.

However, this frequent rainfall seems to be just a glimpse of a bigger picture. Dr. Orsini Maslog, a veteran journalist who published books on climate change, talked about how rainfall patterns have changed and how "winds and rains have become more severe."

This was supported by Sealito Paillo from the Climate Change Commission, who underscored Maslog's point. Typically, the Philippines encounters about 27 typhoons a year. Though this typhoons visiting this archipelago have lessened in

number, they became stronger in intensity. "Monsoons are strengthened and there are new situations we have never experienced before," said Paillo.

Paillo lamented that local government officials are sometimes caught off guard by these changes but that this has improved through time, especially now that they are more active in making decisions such as class suspensions.

These changes are no doubt effects of climate change. However, students are not the only ones affected.

"Farmers don't know when to plant anymore," said Maslog. He then 'changed' the term climate change to make it not only a "climate crisis" but more as a "climate catastrophe."

"It (climate change) has become a threat to the survival of man," warned Maslog.

The next time students hope for class suspension, may they be reminded of the bigger battle that all of us are facing. There is more to it than just taking a day off from class.

Villanueva, 25, is a communication arts student from Legazpi of the Philippine-Cavite



Learn what PH is doing vs. climate change

Participants of the 16th Word Cup interview Sealito Paillo (middle) of the Climate Change Commission to clarify how the Philippines which contributes a meager 0.32 percent compared to China's 28 percent and the US's 28 percent of greenhouse gas emissions can reduce it further by more than half without sacrificing industrial growth. Countries are racing against time to limit rising global temperatures due to the greenhouse effect, trapping the additional two-degrees threshold can lead to irreversible threat of sea level rise of close to one meter due to the irreversible melting of polar ice. (Photo by Euginio Ananda Noel C. Culapit III of Makati Science High School)



Text by PATRICK RUBERT B. DAYATO

Within the busy concrete jungle that is Metro Manila, one would not expect to find a haven for migratory birds just right at the south of Manila Bay. This area is called the Las Piñas-Panapaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area (LPPCHEA), a proof that a highly urbanized place could still spare some space for environmental causes.

Priding itself for being listed in the Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, the 175-hectare LPPCHEA caters to more than 1,500 migratory birds which consider the latter as a rest stop from tedious migration over the months of August to July.

However, with urbanization creeping just right at its doorstep, ready to take over the mangrove-laden wetland, how much time do these birds have to enjoy this habitat?

Adding to that challenge, during the southeast monsoon, this critical habitat suffers from pollution due to the arrival of solid and liquid wastes, increasing the amount of coliform bacteria in the water. This harms the fishes too that temporarily serve as food for the birds that come from as far as Australia, Siberia and Japan.

It is also important to note that infrastructure development is gaining ground in the area which could affect the health of the 28-hectare mangrove



Restituto Estola, 59, a fisherman in LPPCHEA said they also help protect the cleanliness of the habitat as it is also their source of livelihood. They can catch an average of two kilos of fish for an hour using their nets. (Photo by Jimmy A. Domingo)



forest. The impact of urban expansion towards the country's economy is undeniably significant. Urbanization entails with it the promise of increased employment, stronger international ties and a more equitable economic growth. But should this prosperity be at the expense of the environment?

'Urbanization entails with it the promise of increased employment, stronger international ties and a more equitable economic growth. But should this prosperity be at the expense of the environment?'



A DPWH worker, one of 40 personnel assigned at the LPPCHEA, gather garbage, mostly plastics and household non-biodegradable wastes which wash ashore from the Las Piñas and Paranaque river tributaries, Cavite and Marikina areas. (Photo by Ivan Hope Baltazar of TAY HEE, Zamboanga Island). Left: On average, since the Manila Bay Rehabilitation which kicked off in June, these workers and volunteers collect at least 50 sacks of trash weighing 6 to 7 kilograms when dry. (Photo by Bea Herty L. Eugenio from V. Mapa High School, Manila)

ism with the fervor of volunteering one's time and resources to promote empathy towards our one and only planet.

Sadly, we live in a time when considering our critical habitats as collateral to the surge of urbanization is justifiable.

But on the other side of the coin, if we get rid of our apathy towards nature conservation, LPPCHEA could not only continue to provide a temporary home for migratory birds for years to come but also become a shining example how environment conservation can exist side-by-side with urbanization.

(The author is an English teacher at Guadalupe National High School in Negros Oriental)

GREEN IS IN!

Eco responsibility

Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation (TMPC) joined the Global Toyota Environment Month through a series of activities that raise awareness on environmental conservation. TMPC team members and representatives from the Toyota Suppliers Club (TSC) planted 100 trees inside the 11-hectare Toyota Forest at the Toyota Special Economic Zone in Santa Rosa, Laguna. Toyota volunteers also participated in the river clean-up along the Siang-Santa Rosa River near the company's vicinity in Cavite. By cleaning up the river, TMPC hopes to prevent further pollution and improve the waterways. The Siang-Santa Rosa River is connected to Laguna Lake, which is one of the primary water sources for livelihood of nearby communities.

Corporate-led forest restoration program cited by CSR group

The future has, indeed, taken root for geothermal leader Energy Development Corporation (EDC) whose 'Birhi' greening legacy program has won the best corporate social responsibility (CSR) project in environment at the League of Corporate Foundations' 1st CSR Guild Awards.

Birhi is the first corporate-led forest restoration program that has been bridging forest gaps and bringing back to abundance our threatened Philippine native tree.

"This recognition is a big honor for us because it comes from our peers who have their own laudable CSR programs as well," said Atty. Allan V. Barceña, head of EDC's CSR group. Planting trees and growing them have been an integral part of

sustaining the geothermal resource in EDC's geothermal reservation for over 40 years. In 2008, the company launched Birhi to expand the program by using science in planting and rescuing threatened native trees. A total of 36 threatened native tree species have been prioritized for this search and rescue program as their numbers have been dwindling, with some even believed to be extinct.

In 2017, EDC finished locating, collecting these hardwood species and began propagating them in 2018 through its Vegetative Material Reproduction (VMR) technology, which mimics our forest's natural environment in two automated nurseries located in the company's geothermal facility in Valencia, Negros Oriental and in Antipolo, Metro Manila.

Moreover, around 9,523 hectares of forest land within and surrounding EDC project sites has been rehabilitated. This is equivalent to about 6.4 million

seedlings planted all over the country in partnership with 138 farmers associations whose members are incentivized for helping EDC grow and maintain its Birhi areas.

EDC's Birhi experience shows that, with the right combination of win-win strategies and partnerships, the triple bottom line of environmental, social, and economic transformation is attainable.

Another good example of successful strategic partnerships is the 10 Million Trees in 10 Years for a Greener Negros (10M in 10Y) project, one of the finalists in the 1st CSR Guild Awards' Outstanding CSR Collaboration Project category. 10M in 10Y is a movement that EDC initiated in 2013 to grow back the forests in Negros Island by planting, growing, and maintaining 10 million trees in 10 years.

As of 2018, 10M in 10Y has already planted over 6.2 million trees with the help of its 136 stakeholder partners.