



## UP Visayas holds *Halalan* 2016 activities



Various scenes in UPV's Halalan 2016 activities.

UP Visayas has responded to the call of the *UP sa Halalan 2016* to contribute to clean, honest and empowering elections. A committee was created to organize activities under the 2016 *UP sa Halalan* agenda.

The *UPV sa Halalan* Committee organized the Presidential and Vice Presidential Forums that aimed at bringing presidential and vice presidential candidates closer to the Ilonggos, most especially to the constituents of the UPV and that of

the other universities in the city and province of Iloilo.

Three camps responded to the invitation and forums were held for the following: Sen. Grace Poe with Senatorial candidates on March 14; Sen. Miriam Santiago and Sen.

Bongbong Marcos on April 13; and Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano on April 19.

*UPV Halalan 2016* Committee also partnered with Aksyon Radyo, Iloilo for a series of "Candidates Forum" for those running for congressmen and mayors. A total of nine forums/debates were organized from this partnership. Three forums were held at the UPV Auditorium and six were held on-site or in areas where these candidates are running. The panelists of these forums were members of the UPV faculty, alumni and students. The debates were aired live over Aksyon Radyo, Iloilo. It was also aired live through audio-streaming at the Aksyon Radyo website <http://www.aksyonradyoilolo.com.ph> which reaches Ilonggos around the world.

The Committee also partnered with student organizations in organizing two youth forums dubbed "The: Leader I want" in coordination with Rappler.ph and the "Students Forum" and "Senatorial Debate" with the National alliance of Youth Leaders (NAYL).

The committee also supported The Philippine Daily Inquirer Town Hall held at the UPV Cinematheque as well as the ABS-CBN's "Sambuwa: Debate of Local Candidates in Western Visayas", which was aired in ABS-CBN Iloilo programs.

A mock election was also conducted by the Univeristy Student Council in Miago on April 24, 2016 which yielded Sen. Miriam Santiago as winner.

Moreover, briefing for the National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL) volunteers was co-sponsored by the committee. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

## 'Inquirer Town Hall' held in UPV

THE Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI) conducted "Inquirer Town Hall" with the theme "Iloilo Boom: Model or Mirage?" on September 17, 2016 at the Cinematheque, UP Visayas Iloilo City campus. The panel discussion, which was moderated by John Nery of the PDI, was held in preparation for the next presidential debate that would take place on March 20, 2016 at the UP Cebu College in Cebu City.

Four panel discussants tackled different issues that revolve around the theme. Architech Manuel Tingson focused on the Iloilo heritage conservation and Iloilo River development, and UPV Professor Rhodella Ibabao talked about urbanization and its effect on a developing city. Mr. Joemarie Agriam of the Iloilo Chamber of Commerce talked about the rate of dollar remittances in Western Visayas vis-à-vis the booming realty business in Iloilo City while Mr. Gilbert Altura of NEDA discussed Iloilo City's

INQUIRER/4

## International Women's Day Celebrated



Some activities during the Women's Day Celebration.

PAMPERED, fed, and entertained. This was how the UPV community in Miagao felt, particularly the women during the cook off, boodle lunch, and pampering activities held on March 8, 2016 at the Administration Building of the Miagao campus in observance of the International Women's Day.

Dr. Mary Barby Badayos-Jover, Director of the UPV Gender and Development Program (GDP), welcomed the faculty, staff, and students that gathered at the lobby and briefly explained the history of the women's movement and what it has accomplished for today's women. Among others, this included the right to vote, having humane working conditions, equal pay and benefits, to name a few. However, Jover pointed out that there is still a long way to go when it comes to equal pay and opportunities for women.

Organized by the GDP, the cook-off, which has the theme "3 Men Preparing a Complete Meal for a Family of 3," started the day's festive mood held at the Administration Building grounds. The contest was open to the UPV community. The participants were the Elektrons,

(Division of Physical Sciences and Mathematics and the Department of Chemistry), the BS Food Technology students of the School of Technology (SoTech), the staff of SoTech, Robo Pops (staff of the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences), Supermen, (staff of the Campus Maintenance and Development Office), and (OUNCES) Organization of the University's Chemical Engineering Students also of SoTech.

The three-male member groups were each given a budget to buy the ingredients for the menu that they would come up with from a "market" that was set up beside the cooking area. They had to use all the items they had purchased. Thus, the cook-off involved the planning of the menu, budgeting and marketing of the food that were cooked, and household chores that are still primarily assigned or done by women. The criteria for judging were based on food safety, culinary skills, flavor, presentation, and nutritive value. OUNCES was declared the winner and received a cash prize of P 1,500.00. The rest of the groups were given a consolation prize of P 700.00 each.

The pampering, which also started simultaneously with the cook-off, was a full-day affair that featured full body massage, manicure, pedicure, and haircut. A bazaar was also organized along the grounds of the Administration Building.

Meanwhile, about 500 students, and faculty and staff members joined the free boodle lunch at the second floor lobby of the Administration Building.

The day was capped by the opening of an art exhibit entitled "Dreamweavers" by John Ray Hontanar, faculty member of the Division of Humanities at the College of Arts and Sciences.

At the UPV Iloilo City campus, a bazaar was also put up and pampering for the City-based employees experienced pampering as well. In addition, a film showing and an open mike poetry reading were held.

GDP's celebration of the Women's Month also included a public forum entitled, "Babae, Mangagawa, Unyonista," by Prof. Judy Taguiwalo on March 7 at the Iloilo City campus and the UGSAD public forum on "Depression and Violence against Women and Children" by Dr. Daisy Joy C. Daquilanea on March 9 at the City campus.

On March 10, a lecture series featuring the following topics and their speakers was held: "Women and Weaving: A Tribute to Unsung Heroes of Western Visayas" by Dr. Randy Madrid; "Women as Culture Bearers: Rediscovering the Babaylans of Panay" by Ms. Joyce Christine Colon; "The Revisited: The Search for a Gender-Bending Image" by Prof. Martin Genodepa; and "Wilma: Babae Bilang Adyenda" by Prof. Alfredo Diaz.

An art exhibit by Alan Cabalfin, called *Dagway Pamatan-on* at the UPV Art Gallery, Iloilo City campus, opened on 11 March as part the Women's Month celebration as well.





## Justice Carpio on the West Philippine Sea Dispute in UPV Forum

SUPREME Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio T. Carpio gave a lecture on the West Philippine Sea Dispute on April 22, 2016 at the UP Visayas Auditorium, Iloilo City. Attended by members of the UP Alumni community, lawyers, and students of UPV and other universities, Carpio gave a brief on the law of the sea and the disputed reefs in the West Philippine Sea/South China Sea. According to Carpio, the country's sovereign territory covers 12 nautical miles from our territorial sea baseline and 200 nautical miles from our sovereign territory is the country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

In his lecture, he presented various reclamations done by China on the Philippine claimed reefs. These claims of ownership were based on China's nine-dashed lines map, which covers 85.7 percent of the entire South China Sea. He said that China has alarmingly built artificial islands in the following Philippine claimed Reefs: Kagitingan, Mabini, Chigun, Burgos, Calderon, Zamora, Subi, and Panganiban.

He also presented some facts and discussed their implications on the claims of the Philippines, which include:

1) The Fiery Cross Reef or Kagitingan Reef is just outside of the Philippines EEZ but within its continental shelf. China built an airbase with a seaport which was completed in June 2015. The airbase has a 3,000-m

runway with a 274-hectare area on the Fiery Cross Reef. This artificial island will be larger than the combined area of the 20 largest islands in the Spratlys. China held a test flight on the reef's runway on January 6, 2016.

2) The Johnson South (Mabini) Reef is within the Philippine EEZ. As of November 2015, China has created an artificial island of the 10.9 hectares in the said reef.

3) Mc Kennan (Chigun) Reef is a low tide elevation (LTE) within the Philippine EEZ. It is within the 12 nautical miles (NM) of Sin Cove Island. As of November 2015, China has created an artificial island of 7.2 hectares on the reef.

4) The Gaven (Burgos) Reef is outside of the Philippine EEZ but within its continental shelf. It is an LTE within 12 NM of Namyit Island as of November 2015. China has created an artificial island of 13 hectares in Gaven Reef.

5) The Cuarterion (Calderon) Reef is outside the Philippine EEZ but within its continental shelf. It is a tiny rock above south. As of November 2015, China has added 24.6 hectares in the reef and is installing a powerful radar facility that can monitor aircraft flying anywhere in Palawan. 6) The Subi (Zamora) Reef is an LTE outside of Philippine EEZ but within its continental shelf. Subi Reef is just 12 NM territorial seas of the 36 hectares.



Justice Antonio Carpio entertains questions from the audience.

Subi Reef is 231 NM from Palawan and 502 NM from Hainan. Subi Reef now has a 3-kilometer runway and a lighthouse.

7) The Mischief (Panganiban) Reef is a circular atoll with a diameter of 7.11 kilometer and has a lagoon that has an area of 3 600 ha. As of November 2015, China has created an artificial island of 590 hectares. Mischief Reef is 125 NM from Palawan and 596 NM from Hainan.

8) The Pag-asa (Thitu) Island is the largest island occupied by the Philippines in the Spratlys.

Carpio also explained that an LTE in the high seas cannot be used as a military facility since the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) mandates that "the high seas shall be reserved for peaceful

purposes." As of December 23, 2015, China has created an artificial island of 500 hectares in the Subi Reef.

He also said that he agrees with Dr. John McManus, a renowned marine biologist who studied the marine life in the Spratlys, that China's island building is the "most rapid permanent loss of coral reef in human history." He added, "Clearly, China's island - building in the EEZ and ECS of the Philippines violates the UNCLOS and is thus illegal under international law."

The lecture was sponsored by the UPAA Iloilo Chapter, UPV Office of Alumni Relations, UP Hamili Brotherhood - Hamilia Sisterhood, and University of San Agustin College of Law. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

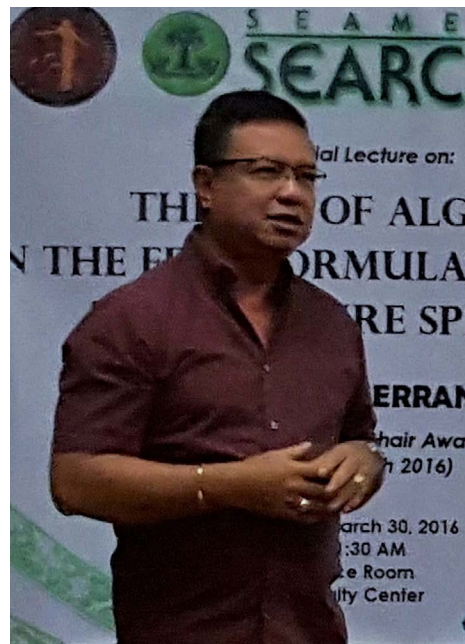
## Serrano lectures on algae in aquaculture feeds

UP Scientist Dr. Augusto E. Serrano, Jr. delivered a lecture entitled, "The Use of Algae in the Feed Formulation for Aquaculture Species," on March 30, 2016 at the Conference Room of the Umali Hall, UP Visayas, Miagao, Iloilo.

The lecture was one of the conditions that Serrano had to comply with as a grantee of the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) Regional Professorial Chair for Academic Year 2015-2016.

Serrano said that algae are considered as a nuisance in many coastal areas and beachfronts in the country. He said that he was interested to know if such aquatic plants, found so abundantly in many parts of the country, could be used as aquaculture feeds. Thus, he has conducted several studies on how algae can be used as a substitute protein source in aquaculture feeds. His lecture is based on these studies.

According to him, if algae is used in aquaculture feeds, it would reduce the cost of the feed at P 2.70 and will redound to a saving of P65,000.00 per hectare in production cost. His experiments were mainly conducted on shrimps and tilapia.



Serrano

Serrano is a faculty member of the Institute of Aquaculture, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, UP Visayas.

The SEARCA Professorial Chair grant is intended "to give due recognition to outstanding Southeast Asian Experts in the academe who have championed inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural development in Southeast Asia. The study areas include, but are not limited to, social sciences, marine and fishery sciences, environmental sciences, economics, and rural development-oriented fields." (Lyncen M. Fernandez)

## UPV prof shares insights on post-harvest fisheries to Tawi-Tawi women

Lenilyn B. Gallos

PROF. Leticia J. Ami of the Institute of Fish Processing Technology, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, gave insights on the role of post-harvest fisheries to about 1000 women and their families in the province of Tawi-Tawi, Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), on March 13, 2016.

Ami was invited by the provincial government of Tawi-Tawi to talk in a public lecture held at the covered court of the Municipality of Panglima Sugala in celebration of the Women's Month this year with the theme "Kapakanan ni Juana, Isamasa Agenda."

In her lecture entitled "Opportunities in Post-Harvest Fisheries: Sharing Experiences," Ami discussed topics on fishery resources: quality and safety; some strategies, technologies, and innovations; the war against malnutrition, hunger and poverty; product development and bench-marking; assistance from government institutions; and local food economy and manpower development.



Prof. Leticia J. Ami

Panglima Sugala is a third class municipality and known to be the "Food Basket of Tawi-Tawi." Fishing and agal-agal (seaweeds) farming are among the leading source of livelihood of the people of the island province where women are involved in a wide range of activities in the fisheries and fishing communities.

Having been to a fishing village in Panglima Sugala that processes dried fish for the Tawi-Tawi market, Ami observed the need of some technology interventions to improve the product quality. She also saw a potential value-adding opportunity such as the fish smoking technology for their produce especially to some high-value species like lapu-lapu, sea breams, Spanish mackerel, among others, as an alternative to drying in order to earn more revenues.

"I believe, within a couple of days, we can orient the community to augment their income. With women fully aware of their role in the family and the potentials of technology, there is no reason for people to live in hunger nor children to be poor in nutrition," Ami commented.

The public lecture was also attended by the officials of the Tawi-Tawi provincial government.

## UPV to spearhead.....from page 7

the book led by Prof. Emeritus Alicia Magos and representatives of the five SUCs on April 5, 2016 at UPV, Iloilo City campus.

The Project aims to put together the core of Panay-Guimaras culture through a book that documents through comprehensive research the TKS of Panay-Guimaras and its impact on the environment. It will consist of five major themes, which include coastal and marine environment, farming practices and traditions, forest and biodiversity, arts and crafts, and literature and rituals/festivities.

Different sectors will benefit from this book, which has the following objectives: 1) Indigenous Peoples of Panay and Guimaras (Panay Bukidnon and Ati communities) - empower facets of traditions such as Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP); 2) Academe and scholarly circles/SUCs - encourage more researches dealing with TKS; 3) LGU and government agencies - anchor development programs/projects and public service initiatives in preserving and sustaining TKS; 4) Artists and other cultural groups - develop TKS as an

inspiration in preserving art and culture in diverse human expressions; and 5) Tourists - appreciate the core and richness of Panay-Guimaras history and culture.

The UPV Core Committee is composed of Ms. Anna Razel L. Ramirez, Prof. Martin Genodepa, Dr. Randy Madrid, Dr. John Barrios, Ms. Joyce Christine Colon, and Ms. Lucy Granada. The research work, writing, and publication of the book will be facilitated by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension under Dr. Ricardo Babaran. (UPV-IPO)





# IFPDS holds lecture-forum on maritime law enforcement

Lenilyn B. Gallos

THE Institute of Fish Policy and Development Studies (IFPDS) of the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS), UP Visayas held a lecture-forum on “Maritime Law Enforcement” at the Conference Room, Umali Hall, CFOS, UP Visayas, Miagao campus on March 9, 2016.

CFOS Dean Dr. Crispino A. Saclauso welcomed the speaker and participants in the activity. In his message, he said that the lecture-forum objectives are to increase the awareness of various stakeholders on RA10654 known as “An Act to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing,” amending RA 8550 otherwise known as “The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998;” and to improve the existing monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) plans and programs of the local government units to effectively manage their fishery resources. According to him, he hopes that the students of fisheries will learn the value of a good MCS program for a successful coastal resource program and that the faculty and researchers of the College will be inspired to conduct studies related to MCS.

SPO1 Benedicto L. Lapesora, Jr. of the Regional Maritime Office 6, 603rd Maritime Police Station (MARPSTA), Bacolod City was the resource speaker for the lecture-forum. He shared his knowledge and expertise about the topic on MCS.

An active sea patroller and two-time awardee as the Champion of the Visayan Sea, Lapesora reported about his recent accomplishments in protecting the marine environment especially in patrolling against illegal fishing and providing assistance in rescue operations. He also talked about the pre-boarding and boarding procedures, the type of information, and the recommended uniform requirements and equipment for boarding necessary to inspect or search maritime vessels.

Lapesora underscored the importance of proper planning, monitoring, control, and surveillance in enforcing the maritime law. He said that it is important for the authorities to know every aspect of their job very well. Based on his vast experiences as a maritime law enforcer in the country, he presented the right way in apprehending illegal fishers in. According to him, information and education campaigns on illegal fishing as well as the support of the local government units are important factors for a smooth and effective implementation of the fishery laws without resulting in violence. He also recommended filing of cases against the violators to prevent and put an end to the perennial problem of illegal or unregulated fishing.

The resource speaker has been named as “Best Police Non-Commissioned Officer for operational accomplishment.” Laperora is a member of Task Force Lawod Negros Occidental that protects the province’s



SPO1 Lapesora, Jr. shares his knowledge about maritime law enforcement.

marine resources. In 2015, they had apprehended 40 illegal fishers. He is a licensed seaman officer and joined the PNP in 2013.

The lecture-forum was attended by representatives of the local government units of Miagao, San Joaquin, Guimbal, Tigbauan,

and Oton as well as the faculty, researchers, staff, and students who are currently enrolled in Fish 118 (Fisheries Policy and Institutions), MA 210 (Marine Law and Policy), and Ocean 274 (Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance) of the CFOS.

## Forum Tackles Depression and VAWC



Dr. Daisy Chua-Daquilanea



Ms. Angie Tanongtanong of DOH

“THE age of machismo is over. Now is the era of equality. Our partner is really our ‘better half,’” says, Prof. Nestor Yunque, UPV Vice Chancellor for Administration who welcomed the attendees of the forum on “Depression and Violence against Women and Children.”

The event was held on March 9, 2016, at the auditorium of the Iloilo City campus as one of the activities that the UPV Gender and Development Program (GDP) has organized in line with the celebration of Women’s Month.

Yunque also pointed out that productivity results when partners treat each other equally and create an atmosphere of peace and security.

Noted psychologist/psychiatrist in Iloilo City, Dr. Daisy Chua-Daquilanea, was the featured speaker of the forum, which was attended by the students and faculty of the various colleges and universities in Iloilo City. She was introduced by Dr. Barby Badayos-Jover, Director of GDP. Also in attendance were representatives of various government agencies and members of UGSAD (The Regional Gender Resource Center).

Prior to her talk, a video was shown depicting domestic violence told from the point of view of a young girl and how it has affected her self-esteem and sense of self-worth.

Daquilanea pointed out that depression is present in children who have been abused. They tend to be more depressed as adults compared to those who have not been subjected to abuse, indicating a long-term consequence of the abuse.

She also defined depression as more than just a feeling of sadness. Its symptoms include the following: persistent feeling of sadness (more than two weeks), persistent lack of interest or pleasure in activities that are usually enjoyable, weight and appetite changes, changes in sleep pattern, restlessness or feeling slowed down, fatigue or loss of energy, feeling of hopelessness, worthlessness or

excessive guilt, indecisiveness or loss of concentration, anxiety, and recurrent thoughts of suicide or death.

Moreover, she said that those that suffer depression may have a mild, moderate, or severe form of the malady; and those that have the severe form are the ones that need watching.

She also discussed the symptoms of depression in children, teenagers, and the elderly. According to her, the children’s symptoms include the fear of going to school, excessively clingy to parents, and poor growth. For teenagers, she said that they show poor performance in school, alcohol and drug abuse, conduct/behavior problems, sexual promiscuity, and running away from home. The elderly, she said, are beset by memory problems.

Chua-Daquilanea emphasized are that women and children who have been subjected to domestic violence and suffer from depression as a consequence need first and foremost a strong support system to deal with their depression. She averred that children need to be processed on what they went through so that they will not be prone to depression. “The adult treatment include an anti-depressant medicine, psychotherapy, electroconvulsive therapy,” she added.

Daquilanea also mentioned that persons who suffer with depression leading to substance abuse such as alcohol are ones most prone to suicide. She urged the audience to be observant and vigilant if they have family members who might be suffering from depression and will need help and intervention.

Ms. Angie Tanongtanong of the Department of Health closed the forum by announcing that the DOH has increased its budget for mental-related medical needs.

UGSAD is the regional gender resource center of Western Visayas, one of the surviving and active centers in the country. UPV GDP is the coordinator and secretariat of UGSAD. (Lyncen M. Fernandez)

## GDP Director Receives Women Empowered Award

Michael Q. Orquejo

DR. Mary Barby P. Badayos-Jover, Director of the UP Visayas Gender and Development Program (UPV-GDP) and Coordinator of UGSAD, Western Visayas’ Regional Gender Resource Center, was chosen as one of the recipients of the “Women Empowered Award,” which was organized by the Council of Women’s Clubs in Iloilo City.

The search for awardees and the actual awarding ceremony held on March 29, 2016 at St. Therese-MTC Colleges, Molo, Iloilo City was the first for the 2-year old Club and one which they hope to continue annually. The Woman Empowered Award “recognizes the invaluable contribution of the awardees in upholding and improving the dignity of women by extending their dedication, love, and services through their capacity as volunteers who sacrificed their time and resources, thus inspiring their fellow women in their special unique way.”

Aside from being GDP Director and UGSAD Coordinator, Badayos-Jover is also the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the National Network of Women in Fisheries, Inc. (WINFISH) and a certified member of the Philippine Commission on Women’s National Gender and Development Resource Pool (PCW’s NGRP). She is considered a staunch gender equality and women’s rights advocate in the Region. Her fellow



Badayos and her award.

Women Empowered awardees are Jail Officer Imee Lopera, Ms. Mary Lou Boriado, Capt. Luz Lim Escarilla, Dr. Cristina Garcia Pomaar, PO3 Alona Layson, and Ret. Supt. Cecilia Detablan. Ms. Carolyn M. Taruc received the award on behalf of Dr. Mary Barby P. Badayos-Jover.

The Council of Women’s Clubs in Iloilo City is composed of JCI Ilang-Ilang, Women Legal Advocates of the Philippines, Women in Maritime Philippines, Soroptimist International of Iloilo, Quota Club International of Iloilo, Inc., and Zonta Club of Iloilo City.





## Duterte and Cayetano in UPV Candidates Forum

PRESIDENTIAL candidate and Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, and Vice Presidential candidate, Senator Allan Peter Cayetano, shared their platform of governance during Part 3 of the Presidential Candidates Forum Series on April 19, 2016 at the UP Visayas Auditorium, Iloilo City campus.

Cayetano emphasized their “Pagbabago and political will platform” and answered the question of the panelists about the federal system of government that the tandem is putting forward. Duterte, on the other hand, explained why he

will not apologize about the remark he made on the rape and slaying of an Australian missionary during a campaign rally in Quezon City rally on April 12. He, however, apologized for the hostage killing and rape incident that happened during a jail siege in Davao in 1989. He also forwarded his strong stand against drugs and criminality in the country, which also includes Iloilo.

Also present during the event were Senatorial candidates, Ms. Sandra Cam, Rep. Dante Liban, and General Dionisio Santiago.

UPV alumnus, Atty. Hector



Cayetano (left) and Duterte answer questions from the panelists and audience.

Diaz; UPV faculty member Prof. Hanny Jan Mediodia; and College of Management Student Council Chair Cicily Isabelle Mirasol were the members of the panel who asked questions during the forum. Prof. Monique Muyargas from the College of Arts and Sciences served as the emcee and moderator during the

Forum.

The activity was part of a series of fora for national and local candidates organized by the UP sa Halalan 2016 Committee in UPV chaired by Anna Razel L. Ramirez of the Information and Publications Office. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

## Santiago and Marcos visit UPV



Santiago and Marcos during the UPV Campus Visit.

AFTER a long break from the campaign trail, Presidential Candidate, Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago, chose to visit UP Visayas on April 13, 2016 together with her running mate for Vice President, Senator Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr.

UPV constituents, majority of whom are students coming from both the Miagao and Iloilo City campuses as well as students from various universities in Iloilo came to listen to Senators Santiago and Marcos’ plans for the country. Supporters of the two candidates as well as media representatives from the local, national, and international scene were

also present to witness the event.

Outside the UPV Auditorium there were also faculty, students and representatives of different organizations from different parts of the region who protested and showed their anti-Marcos stance.

The activity is part of a series of Candidates Fora for Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates organized by the *UP sa Halalan 2016* Committee in UP Visayas in cooperation with the College of Management Student Council. Aksyon Radyo Iloilo also supported the event. (UPV-IPO)

## Fourth district Congressional face off held at Passi City



L-R; Dollar, Monfort and Biron vie for 4th district congressional seat.

CANDIDATES for Congressman for the 4th District of Iloilo province were present at the Passi City Social Hall on April 19, 2016 during the Forum/Debate organized by Aksyon Radyo and UP Visayas Halalan Committee. Former Cong. Ferj Biron, Board Member Carmin Rita Monfort-Bautista, and Felicito Dolar Jr. discussed issues and answered

questions amidst the shrieks of their respective supporters.

UPV Student Michelle Doredo, Rev. Fr. Robert Amalay, and UPV faculty, Dr. Rhodella Ibabao served as panelists during the debate. Mr. Joecel Bañas of Aksyon Radyo was the moderator during the event. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

## Poe graces students’ forum



Poe discussing her agenda with UPV Iloilo students.

SENATOR Grace Poe entertained questions from students of UP Visayas and other universities in Iloilo City during the “Students’ Forum” on 14 March 2016 at the UPV Auditorium, Iloilo City campus. She particularly discussed the (FOI) Freedom of Information Bills, her legitimacy as candidate, and her would be initiatives for the fisheries sector.

With her are senatorial candidates, Cong. Neri Colmenares, Cong. Roman

Romulo, Cong. Samuel Pagdilao, and actor Edu Manzano.

The activity was the first part of a series of Presidential and Vice Presidential Forums in UPV to bring the candidates up close to the voting publics of Iloilo City and the Province. The forum was organized by the UPV CM Student Council in cooperation with *UPV sa Halalan 2016* Committee. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

## Inquirer.....from page 1

competitiveness as compared to other cities in terms of good governance, infrastructure, and support.

The event was organized by PDI Iloilo in cooperation with the UP

Alumni Association- Iloilo Chapter, Office of Alumni Relations. The event was supported by the UPV sa Halalan 2016 Committee. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)



Inquirer’s John Nery welcomes Ilonggo participants.



# Youth Forum and Senatorial Debate held in UPV



Rep. Walden Bello (L) Atty. Lorna Kapunan (R) answer questions from the audience.

THE National Alliance of Youth Leaders (NAYL) of UP Visayas, in cooperation with the *UP sa Halalan* 2016 Committee of UPV, conducted “*Pagsusuri: A Youth Forum and Senatorial Debate*” on March 30, 2016 at the UPV Auditorium, Iloilo

City campus. Atty. Sidfrey Cabaluna, media practitioner in Iloilo City, discussed “The Role of the Youth in Responsible Voting.” Mr. Jules Guiang of the National Youth Commission tackled the subject on “Institutionalizing Youth

## UPV Miagao student leaders conduct mock election



Students cast their votes for the mock election.

THE UP Fisheries Guild, in collaboration with UP Visayas University Student Council and College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS), conducted a Presidential and Vice Presidential Mock Election at the Miagao campus of UPV. It was launched on April 6, 2016 with a Voters’ Education lecture at the CFOS Audiovisual Hall and ended on April 22, 2016.

The Mock Elections was conducted to determine the pulse of the UPV community including the faculty, staff, and the students of the three degree-granting units on the Miagao campus in relation to the upcoming National Elections on May 9, 2016.

The ballots and ballot boxes were placed at the Pidlaon Hall lobby and the students passing by were encouraged to cast their votes. In addition, votes were also cast by the staff of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) as well as by the residents of the UPV’s dormitories in the Miagao campus.

There were 450 respondents who participated in the Mock Elections

that included mostly students, faculty, and staff from CFOS, CAS, and the School of Technology as well as some tricycle drivers that ply inside the campus.

All the year levels were also represented as well as the male and female voters, although the number of respondents from each year level and the male and female voters were not proportionate to the total student population in the Miagao campus.

Santiago was the winner at 62.22%, followed by Duterte at 24.44%, Poe at 4.88%, Roxas at 4.00% and Binay at 2.44%. Two percent abstained from voting. For the Vice Presidential position, Robredo was the preferred choice at 43.78% followed by Marcos at 17.11%, Escudero at 13.33%, Cayetano at 11.77%, Trillanes at 2.44% and Honasan at 1.33%. Those who abstained were 2.89 %.

The Presidential and Vice Presidential bets of the campus were ranked based on the vote percentage from the total number of votes cast by the respondents. **(Lyncen M. Fernandez with sources from the UP Fisheries Guild)**

Participation in Inclusive Governance.” Senatorial Candidates Rep. Walden Bello and Atty. Lorna Kapunan addressed questions on different issues during the forum. They also presented

their plans and platforms when elected into office.

The activity was also done in partnership with ABS-CBN and Rappler. **(Anna Razel L. Ramirez)**

## UPV and Aksyon Radio hold Candidates’ Forum for Iloilo city



Atty. Cartagena presents his plan for Iloilo.

*UP sa Halalan* Committee for UP Visayas and Aksyon Radyo Iloilo partnered in organizing the Candidates’ Forum 2016 for the Lone District of Iloilo City on March 31 at the UPV Auditorium, Iloilo City campus.

Of the two candidates, incumbent Congressman Jerry Treñas and Atty.

Daniel Cartagena, only Cartagena was present during the Forum. Treñas apologized for his absence since he needed to attend a very important meeting during that time.

A panel composed of UPV Alumnus, Atty. Hector Diaz; UPV Professor Moniq Muyargas; College of Management Student Council Chair, Kyzzel Dagdag, and Iloilo City media practitioner Francis Allan Angelo asked questions pertinent to the candidate’s legislative agenda and plans for Iloilo City.

When asked about his five priority plans for Iloilo, Cartagena highlighted his proposal for healthcare, free education, free burial services ,urban poor settlement, and a serious campaign against illegal drugs.

Aksyon Radyo Station Manager, Mr. John Paul Tia, moderated the event. The activity was part of a series of Candidates’ Fora that UPV co-sponsored with Aksyon Radyo Iloilo. **(Anna Razel L. Ramirez)**

## UPV partners with ABS-CBN Iloilo for “Sambuwa”



Candidate for Iloilo Governor Lebin with ABS-CBN's Noli Basco.

THE UP Visayas *Halalan* 2016 Committee and ABS-CBN Iloilo forged a partnership for the conduct of “Sambuwa 2016,” an election debate for local candidates in Region VI. The debates were featured in “*Derecho*,” an ABS-CBN show hosted by Mr. Noli Basco and aired every Saturday as well as in the morning program, “*Sikat ka Iloilo*,” which is aired on weekday mornings in the ABS-CBN Channel 10 in Iloilo City.

Retired Colonel Gil Lebin, a candidate for Iloilo Governor, was the guest for the first round of debates, which was taped on April 6, 2016 at

the ABS-CBN Station. Incumbent Governor Arthur Defensor, Sr. and another candidate, Mr. Diopito Gonzales, failed to come, citing other unavoidable commitments.

Msgr. Meliton Oso of the Jaro Archdiocesan Social Action Ministry, Prof. Donne Jone Sodusta of UPV, and Mr. Relan Vergara of Bayan Panay were the panelists for this first round of debates.

With the aim of bringing closer the candidates to the voting public, this series of debates was scheduled until the end of April 2016. **(Anna Razel L. Ramirez)**

## LP and COP/BIDANI.....from page 7

The event was organized by the LP headed by Prof. Mary Oveta Villareal in partnership with the COP/BIDANI. Attending and supporting the event were Remedios Huesca of the COP/BIDANI and Marian Janice Mediana of the Language Program.

The event came to fruition on Wednesday, March 2016, when the staff and readers made their way to San Ambrosio, Igbaras to the hilltop Tanong Primary School.

Upon arriving, they were welcomed by teachers and students

alike. Books in hand, readers Rey Alexander Palmares, Florence Go, Ian Raj Gajete, and Christine Pedery, all with undergraduate degrees in Literature from UPV, treated the 18 pupils of the third and fourth grades to two stories in English and in Tagalog. The curious children were shy at first but it did not take long until they warmed up to both the story and the storyteller, thereafter answering questions with participative grins. In a little while, they would get their own turns at reading stories to their classmates.

Prior to “Read Along,” the readers attended a seminar entitled “Read Aloud: A Workshop on Literacy” also organized by the LP with Ms. Anna Liza M. Barcelona as Resource Person. On February 17, 2016, they were trained on the use and development of skills of public reading especially with children.

Children today are too engrossed in television shows, do not have access to books, or perhaps lack the motivating factors which invite them to read. Another children’s books author best

explains it: “There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.” Through “Read Along,” children won’t just be finding the right book but will be sharing it with others as well as providing an environment in which they listen and read.

“Read Along” promises to be the first of many more outreach programs directed towards educating the youth of the rural areas and reinvigorating this generation’s lost love for reading from the bottom up.





## Economy & Environment Group conducts 1st Visayas Forum

THE 1st Visayas Forum on Economy and Environment was held on March 3, 2016 at the UP Visayas Miagao campus.

"We are pleased that the Economy and Environment Group – Philippines of the Resource and Environmental Economics Foundation of the Philippines (EEG-REAP) has approached UP Visayas to embark on this partnership in capacity building and transdisciplinary research on economy and the environment," says UPV Chancellor Rommel Espinosa who welcomed the guests and participants of the Forum.

He said that the venture supports UPV's stated mission to "lead in, and advocate for, the sustainable development of the Visayas region and of the nation within the changing world order."

Dr. Gem B. Castillo, National Director, EEG Philippines and President of REAP, also the Keynote Speaker of the Forum gave a brief background about the organization.

He said that the group was established in 2015 as part of the Resources and Environmental Economics Foundation of the Philippines (REAP). It focuses on building the capacity for transdisciplinary research and promoting regional collaboration in addressing global and local economic and environmental

challenges. It is a partner-member of the Economy and Environment Partnership for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA). The partner countries of EEPSEA include the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Lower Mekong Sub-region countries of Thailand, Lao PDR, and Myanmar.

Castillo pointed out that the important, global economic trends happening now include geopolitical realignment, continued global violent extremism, U.S. economic resurgence, Post-BRICS emerging markets, new resource slump cycle, accelerating global climate change, depopulation waves, second IT revolution, the rise of machines, evolving artificial intelligence (AI), and cyber insecurity.

On the environmental side, the trends include the following: the pollution of drinking water, lakes, rivers, reservoir, and air, extinction of plant and animal species; loss of biodiversity, tropical rainforests, coastal and marine habitats; global warming and climate change; and increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

As a whole, he said that the global challenges we face today include the dramatic increase in life expectancy all over the world, and migration and the massive increase in urbanization resulting

## Forum on GSIS benefits held

THE All UP Workers Union, in cooperation with the UP Visayas Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration and the Human Resources Development Office, conducted a forum on "Updates on GSIS Benefits" on March 16, 2016 at the GCEB Training Room, UPV Iloilo City campus.

Ms. Eleanor Drilon – Gregorio, Branch Manager of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Regional Office 6, was the forum's Resource Person. She emphasized that the government employees are the owners of GSIS since they contribute for their pension and insurance. It is the GSIS that manages the funds and provides service to its members while they are working in preparation for their senior years.

Gregorio cited the key reforms in the GSIS benefits. These are as follows: 1) restoration of survivorship benefit; 2) partnership with the Philippine Statistics Authority to identify deceased members so that pensioners are no longer required to do the annual ARAS; 3) increase in the minimum basic pension to P5,000.00; 4) payment of proportionate pension; 5) Choice of Loan Amortization Schedule for Pensioners (CLASP) which replaced the Claims and Loans Interdependency Policy (CLIP), meaning that one can request GSIS to retain payment for some existing loans and amortize it through pension, unlike before when

outstanding obligations were taken out of the gross retirement benefit; 6) no more suspension of employees working in suspended agencies; 7) re-engagement with Landbank; 8) partnership with agencies to avoid overlap in functions, e.g., Pag-ibig Fund and National Museum; 9) enhanced loan terms reducing interests rates from 12% per annum to 6% interest rate with no service fee, and with three months grace period for an emergency loan; 10) higher emergency loan for calamity victims; 11) improved Consolano program; and 12) enhanced optional non-life insurance program.

According to her, the GSIS gives milestone benefits to those who reach milestone ages (e.g., 90, 95, and 100 years). She said that those members who reach 100 years old and above will be getting a P100,000.00 milestone benefit. Moreover, she announced that GSIS also increased the funeral benefits to P30,000.00. She encouraged everyone to visit the GSIS website at: <http://www.gsis.gov.ph/> to get more updates regarding the benefits they would be receiving.

Vice Chancellor Nestor G. Yunque, Human Resource and Development Office Chief, Ms. Ella Tidon, and AUPWU President, Ms. Sydna Lozada gave Ms. Gregorio a Certificate of Appreciation. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)

## AUPWU spearheads Philhealth forum at UPV

THE All UP Workers Union-Iloilo Chapter, in coordination with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration and the Human Resources Development Office, conducted a lecture-forum on "Updates on Philhealth Benefits" on March 2, 2016 at the GCEB Conference Room of the UPV Iloilo City campus.

In his Welcome Remarks, Prof. Nestor Yunque stated that the forum is important in order for the UPV personnel to know better about Philhealth coverage that they and their families are entitled to.

Ms. Janimhe C. Jalbuna, Officer-in-Charge of the Public Affairs Unit of the Philhealth Regional Office 6, gave a run-down of the coverage that can be claimed from Philhealth, which include the following: inpatient benefits;

outpatient benefits; and Z benefits, which are intended for very serious and expensive-to-treat medical conditions including cancers, heart surgeries, and implants; and MDG benefits which are for long-term treatment and recovery such as malaria and HIV cases.

According to Jalbuna, to avail of these benefits, one should ensure that the Member Data Record is updated. She said that the Philhealth website <http://www.philhealth.gov.ph> can also be accessed for additional information.

Ms. Sydna Lozada, President of the AUPWU, Vice Chancellor for Administration Nestor Yunque, and Human Resource and Development Office Chief Ella Tidon gave the Certificate of the Appreciation to Ms. Jalbuna. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez)



Participants of the 1st Visayan Forum on Economy and Environment.

in inequalities between the urban and rural areas. "The universities need to be at the vanguard of innovation and be facilitators of impact instead of being impediments," Castillo said. Lastly, he emphasized the need for regional integration pointing to globalization and working truly borderlessly.

Dr. Alice Joan Ferrer, Deputy Director of EEG Philippines, talked about the areas of research of EEG as well as its plans and programs. According to her, the areas of research include the following: climate change and disaster risk management; sustainable conservation financing for ecosystem services and biodiversity; environmental degradation and food security; renewable energy; air and water pollution; and impact assessment and evaluation of ENR programs, projects, and policies.

Its short-term plans and programs (2016-2017) are as follows: identify priority research areas (develop research questions for setting priority areas of research), write proposals and seek initial funding support (beyond 2015), conduct organization workshop/develop the MOP, and establish Regional EEG Chapters.

For the medium-term (2016-2020) plans, these are as follows: sustaining Regional EEG Chapters, establishing a 5-year Research Programs, hiring regular staff and establishing own office, doing a data banking (researchers and researches), conducting an organizational assessment (every 3 years), and sustaining funding sources.

Ferrer is a Professor in Economics at the Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, UPV, who, along with her colleague, Dr. Rodelio Subade, organized the said Forum in coordination with the UPV Oeconomicus, a university-recognized, student-based organization, and the economics faculty members of the Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, as well as students who are Economics majors. The Office of Continuing Education and Pahinungod and the Information and Publications Office gave logistical support. The Forum was attended by teachers, researchers, and representatives from the various colleges, universities, and government agencies in Panay, Iloilo Province and Bacolod City. (Lyncen M. Fernandez)

## HIV, AIDS lecture underscores the importance of screening and treatment



Mr. Nualla and Mr. Chin reply to questions from the audience.

THE UPV Health Services Unit, in partnership with the PH Pub (an organization of BS Public Health students) and Partido sang Mainuswagon nga Bumulutho student organization organized a lecture forum on "Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)" on March 31, 2016 at the Interactive Learning Program Audio-Visual Room, UP Visayas Miagao campus.

Mr. Angelito Nualla, Nurse II at the Rural Health Unit of Miagao, Iloilo, discussed the various sexually transmitted infections (STI) including their signs and symptoms and how they can be transmitted. He also discussed the rising number of STIs in Miagao, including HIV.

The second speaker, Mr. Rodolfo Chin, Jr. of the Regional Epidemiology Surveillance Unit of the Department of Health, Region VI, talked more extensively on HIV. He presented data showing a 1,038% increase of Filipinos contracting HIV and AIDS since 2008 nationwide, translating it to one case per day in 2008 and 27 cases per day in January 2016 or during the early part of the year.

He explained that HIV and AIDS can be transmitted in three ways. First is through blood and other blood products (90-98%) such as transfusion, organ transplant, sharing of used needles/syringes. Second

is through a pregnant mother to her child, e.g., pregnancy, pregnancy to delivery, and pregnancy to breastfeeding. Third is through unprotected penetrative sexual intercourse, i.e., oral sex considered as low risk, vaginal sex classified as high risk, and anal sex categorized as very high risk. He pointed that the highest incidence of HIV and AIDS occur in men having sex with men, followed by bisexual sex and heterosexual sex.

Chin said that treatment care and support for people with HIV and AIDS are as follows: enrolment in the nearest treatment hub (in Iloilo, it would be at the West Visayas State University Medical Center), regular blood test to determine the CD4 count and viral load, taking of anti-retroviral drugs to slow down the progression of infection and possibly prolong life, treatment of opportunistic infections, adopting a positive attitude and a healthy lifestyle, and seeking out an HIV support group.

He added that the prevention of HIV and AIDS include abstinence; faithfulness to one's partner; proper use of condoms; avoiding the sharing of needles or syringes, not engaging in substance abuse such as drugs and alcohol; and being well-informed.

He emphasized that the early detection of HIV, AIDS, and other sexually transmitted infections will enable the patient to have the proper treatment and manage the disease. (Lyncen M. Fernandez)



# IFPT-CFOS holds fisheries post-harvest training in Capiz

Lenilyn B. Gallos

THE Institute of Fish Processing Technology (IFPT), College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, held a training-workshop on fisheries post-harvest handling, preservation, and cold chain management in President Roxas, Capiz on March 8-9, 2016.

The three-day training was participated in by 96 selected participants from the six barangays of President Roxas, Capiz, namely, Barangays Panden, Pinamihagan, Sangkal, Quiajo, Marita, and Madulano. The participants were composed of fisher folks, housewives, barangay officials, vendors, businessmen, and other links of the supply chain of fresh and chilled fish.

Ms. Ernestina M. Peralta and Ms. Rose T. Mueda, researchers of IFPT, served as resource persons upon the request of the Balay Mindanaw Foundation, Inc. (BMFI).

The training aims to increase consciousness about fish spoilage and its effect to better understand fisheries quality and safety issues; raise awareness on the importance of fisheries post-harvest and develop hands-on post-harvest methods especially in handling, processing, preservation, storage, and transport; identify locally produced materials or processes and increase awareness of different types of fish products; develop a business approach to post-harvest activities and a sense of “good manufacturing practice;” and to better understand the value chain and the

role of organizations involved.

The training highlighted the concept of selling good, quality, and safe fish and fishery products. Peralta and Mueda gave lectures on fish spoilage and handling and good manufacturing practices and administered hands-on demonstrations on fish fermentation

and the proper use of ice in keeping the catch fresh.

The participants expressed appreciation for the fish processing/preservation techniques as most of them were from island barangays where the availability of ice is their major concern.

## UPV to spearhead work on traditional knowledge systems and environment book



Representatives of DENR, Iloilo-Guimaras SUC and NCIP.

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Office of Senator Loren Legarda, has tapped the University of the Philippines Visayas to spearhead the publication of a book on traditional knowledge systems (TKS) and the environment of Panay and Guimaras Islands. The other universities that will also collaborate in the project include the Antique State University, Aklan

State University, West Visayas State University, Capiz State University, and Guimaras State College.

DENR Central Office Public Affairs Director Ms. Mariassa Cruz, representatives of the Office of Sen. Legarda, former Antique Governor Sally Perez, and Ms. Bai Salina Pendatun met with the UPV Core Committee for the publication of

**UPV TO SPEARHEAD/2**

# LP and COP/BIDANI launch ‘Read Along’ for rural students

Rey Alexander V. Palmares

WHEN renowned children’s books author Emilie Buchwald asserted that “children are made readers on the laps of their parents,” she was referring to the role of adults in the raising up of children who read. That is not just to speak of reading skills they learn at school but rather the love for reading itself which the environment cultivates. She was talking about the importance of leisurely oral reading

for children.

As part of the public service mandate of the University, the Language Program and the Community Outreach Program / BIDANI conducted its first public reading activity entitled “Read Along: An Outreach on Literacy” with the objective of promoting literacy through reading as well as imparting to the participants the joy and value of reading.

LP and COP/BIDANI/5

## UPV Graduate Students Association holds first general assembly

Clarisa A. Bañares

THE Graduate Students Association (GSA) of the University of the Philippines Visayas held its First General Assembly at the OCEP Training Room on April 23, 2016. A total of 94 graduate students were in attendance in the said event with students coming from campuses in Iloilo and Roxas City. Twelve special guests were also in attendance during the General Assembly namely, Dr. Vivian Topor, Graduate Program Office Director; Prof. Ruben Gamala, Office of Student Affairs Director; Prof. John Lorenz Belanio, GSA Adviser; Prof. Rommel Gestuveo, GSA Adviser; Ms. Juvy Janeo, Guidance Counselor; Ms. Marina Elizabeth Salgado, Guidance Counselor; Prof. Duvince Zhalimar Dumpit, Prof. Maria Theresa

Albaña, Prof. Rhea Subong, and Engr. Nicanor Babiera, CM Faculty/Lecturer; Prof. Steve Janagap, Chair, Dept. of Chemistry; and Prof. Jay Martizano, CAS Faculty.

The program for the General Assembly included the Induction of Officers, which introduced 23 new officers for A.Y. 2015-2016 of the Graduate Students Association coming from various Graduate Programs of the University. The ratification of the Constitution and By-Laws also followed, which was led by GSA President, Mr. Jaypee Kein Entredicho, a second year graduate student from the Master of Management in Public Management Program. Games were played and foods were served to the attendees in celebration of the newly established association.

## IFPDS sponsors talk on income from discarded fishing gears

TO turn discarded fishing gears or nets littering along the coasts all over the country into something that can be recycled or can even be a source of income, is the idea behind Coast 22, a social enterprise owned and operated by Dr. Almira Astudillo Gilles.

Gilles said that discarded fishing gears or nets make up about 10% of trash in the oceans of the world which cause damage to marine life and the ecosystem. They litter the beaches including the 22,500 miles of the Philippine coastline.

Coast 22, inspired by the 22,500 miles of Philippine coastline, aims to address two problems in the coastal communities. These are what to do with discarded fishing gears and what to do about poverty in the fishing villages.

Through the enterprise, the discarded fishing nets and gears are turned into flowers that are used as decorative items. In the examples that she showed, the fishing nets and gears were crafted into flowers and used as accents on handbags. She said that she purposely marketed them in the US to command a higher return. The women who designed the flowers underwent training for this purpose. The entire community was also involved not only to gather the discarded materials for a source of income but to make the community neat, clean, and beautiful.

Gilles hopes to expand the endeavor

into more communities and to a larger market that would redound not only to more income to more families but to also contribute in protecting the marine ecosystem.

She was at the Miagao campus on April 14, 2015 to talk about Coast 22 through the invitation of the Institute of Fisheries Policy and Development Studies, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences that also organized and sponsored the event.

Gilles is an AB Psychology *cum laude* graduate from UP Diliman. She acquired her MA in Labor Relations, MA in Comparative Political Systems, and PhD in Social Science from the Michigan State University. She is a Research Associate in Anthropology at the Chicago Field Museum and the National Museum of the Philippines. She has published books and novels in several genres. Her novel, “The Fire Beneath: Tales of Gold” received a Philippine Presidential Award. Her new science book, “Hotspot, Cool Country: Biodiversity in the Philippines” was recently published. She is currently working on “Art and Anthropology: Portrait of the Object as Filipino.” In June 2016, she will receive the Distinguished Alumni Award for Cultural and Natural Resource Conservation/Preservation from the University of the Philippines Alumni Association. (Lyncen M. Fernandez)

## Class ’75 brings in more support for UPHSI

GC Castro





THE UP High School Class of 1975 formally turned over its donations to UP High School in Iloilo, College of Arts and Sciences, UP Visayas on April 26, 2016. The donated items include 21 computer units, 1 printer, 2 ceiling fans, 1 wall fan, and 1 air conditioning unit for the new High School Building.

Prof. Amy D. Tanoy, Director of the UP Visayas Office of Alumni Relations, who also belongs to the donating class, hosted the program. Dr. Lourdes C. Zamora, UPHSI Principal, welcomed the guests and gave updates

about UPHSI. Dr. Cristostomo Akol and Dr. Elmer Alger both gave messages in behalf of the Class. Akol and Alger recalled some of their fond memories and talked about how their teachers and experiences influenced them.

Representatives of Class ’75 and UPHSI later signed the Deed of Donation. UPV personnel, HS faculty, and alumni of HS Class ’75 were present during the turnover ceremony organized by UPHSI and the UPV Office of Alumni Relations.



# UPViews

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF U.P. VISAYAS  
Read UPViews online at [www.upv.edu.ph](http://www.upv.edu.ph) March - April 2016

Vol.20 No. 2

UPViews is a bi-monthly publication of the Information and Publications Office (IPO), UP Visayas, with campuses in Miagao (Iloilo), Iloilo City, and Tacloban City.

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# UPV-GDP and UGSAD conduct benchmarking of anti-VAWC mechanisms in Iloilo

Michael Q. Orquejo



Participants during the benchmarking activity.

TO cap the 2016 Women's Month Celebration, the UGSAD Regional Gender Resource Center for Western Visayas, in coordination with the UP Visayas Gender and Development

Program, conducted on March 30, 2016 a benchmarking of existing province-level mechanisms to address the persistent problem of violence against women and their children (VAWC).

## Humanities prof mounts first exhibit

Enrique N. Legaspi III

"DREAMWEAVERS: Portraits of Women Across Cultures" opened on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 as part of the UP Visayas Gender and Development Program's Women's Month Celebration.

The exhibit featured cubist paintings of women by Mr. John Ray Hontanar, a faculty member of the Division of Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences. The Exhibit aimed to celebrate the multi-faceted beauty of tribal women as T'boli weavers, babaylans, kalinga tattoo makers, Maranao dancers, and Manobo

women, among others.

Before unveiling the exhibit, Dr. Mary Barby Badayos-Jover, Director of the UPV Gender Development Program, delivered a message on the importance of having an International Women's Day celebration. Hontanar highlighted the role of feminism in achieving a just and equal society. He also said that men, women, and the LGBT should work hand-in-hand in destroying the oppressive tradition of silence.

"Dreamweavers" would be open for viewing at the Humanities Exhibit Area until March 31, 2016.



The Dreamweavers exhibit

## MNS frees entangled python

Soledad S. Garibay

LATE in the afternoon of April 14, 2016, an eight-foot long snake was released back into its natural habitat by the staff of the UP Visayas Museum of Natural Sciences (MNS) together with Ms. Lyncen Fernandez of the UPV Information and Publications Office. The reptile was identified as a reticulated python or *Phyton reticulatus*. It was found in the morning, entangled in the fishing nets at the back of Pidlaon Hall, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, UPV Miagao campus. Mr. Vicente Noquial, the security guard on duty, immediately reported the presence of the snake to MNS. Mr. Leonardo Mooc, a staff

member of the museum, assisted in the rescue of the entangled snake which was brought to the museum for documentation and examination. The snake measuring approximately 8 feet long and weighing 6 kilograms, was found to sustain minor bruises due to the entanglement.

The reticulated python has a wide range of species in Southeast Asia, with most snakes kept as pets originating from Indonesia and Malaysia. Different populations are highly variable and have been divided into separate subspecies. On the average, reticulated pythons live 15 to 20 years, with some individual snakes reaching 25 or even 30 years of age.



The MNS Staff releasing the reticulated python.

The activity's objectives include: 1) to determine the institutions and facilities that are in place where VAWC victims can be referred to receive proper and necessary assistance; and 2) to assess these mechanisms and give feedback or interventions to improve the services being offered in these centers.

From the UPV Iloilo City Campus where GAD focal persons of the UGSAD member agencies assembled, the group proceeded to the following: 1) Iloilo City PNP Women's and Children Desk; 2) Western Visayas Medical Center – Women and Children Protection Unit; 3) Iloilo Province PNP Women and Children's Desk; and 4) the Regional Center for Women (Haven), a facility run by DSWD RO6 for abused women aged 18-59 years old; and 5) the Home for Girls, also a DSWD facility for abused young girls (below 18 years old). In the last two institutions, UGSAD members gave donations of personal care products that were purchased using the proceeds from the Run for Women held on March 8, 2014.

During the visit to the Iloilo City WCD, Chief Clerk/Investigator SPO2 Ruth Laudato reported that Iloilo City has the highest reported cases of VAWC in the province perhaps because

of the effective reporting mechanisms in place. She discussed the protocols of reporting and records management in a Women's and Children's Desk which is true to all police stations. On the other hand, Police Inspector Mary Grace Moneva of the PNP Provincial WCD lamented that, because barangay-level VAWC Desks are still largely un-operational, the PNP WCDs receive a number of petty complaints. For Moneva, this actually accounts for the high incidence of reported VAWC cases in the province. She believes the trend will most likely drop once barangay VAWC desks start settling matters at their level.

Twenty-nine members of UGSAD RGC attended the benchmarking activity. The agencies which participated in this activity were the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Department of Agriculture, Philippine Science High School, Professional Regulatory Commission, National Irrigation Authority, Philippine Statistics Authority, MARINA, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Tourism, and the Department of Education, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology. The UPV, which served as the Coordinator of the regional network.

## Balay Balay Child Minding Centers Hold 2016 Culminating Programs

Michael Q. Orquejo

soap bubbles in their midst.

In the Miagao campus, the Guest Speaker was Ms. Augil Marie Robles, Instructor of Psychology at the Division of Social Sciences, CAS, UPV Miagao. Ms. Robles' message was aimed more at parents and caregivers and emphasized the importance of "play" in young children's lives.

The BBMC is an extension project of the UPV Gender and Development Program that supported the implementation of Executive Order No. 340, mandating government institutions to respond to the needs of working parents by providing a place for socialization for 3-to 5-year-old children while they are at work. To date, BBCMC has provided early childhood care and early formative education in a secure environment to more than 500 children from the City campus and 30 children in Miagao. The Iloilo City BBCMC started in 1999 while the BBCMC in Miagao was established in the last quarter of 2014.



The children of Balay-Balay Child Minding Center during their culminating activities.