Statement of UP President Alfredo E. Pascual on the Untimely Death of Ms. Erica Cressia S. Antonino, Student of UP Visayas Tacloban College (UPVTC)

With deep sorrow, I wish to inform the UP community that Ms. Erica Cressia S. Antonino, a 3rd year BA Social Science (Political Science) student at our UPV Tacloban College, died during the onslaught of super typhoon Yolanda. Erica, is the only confirmed casualty from UPV Tacloban College. I hope and pray that there are no other casualties to follow.

Our officials and contacts in the area have reported that Erica was trapped in her home in Barangay San Joaquin, Palo, Leyte, together with her father and sister, when the typhoon struck the Eastern Visayas last 8 November 2013. Erica’s mother, Mrs. Emerita S. Antonino, fortunately, survived the storm. She is now safe and staying with relatives in Sta. Fe, Leyte.

We are all deeply saddened by this tragedy and join Erica’s family and relatives in mourning the untimely death of Erica, her father and sister. We hope that fond memories of her three years in UPV Tacloban College as a consistently good student would bring comfort to her friends and classmates and serve as an inspiration to her fellow Iskolars ng Bayan.

In view of the Antonino family’s misfortune, I call on the UP community to provide all possible material, financial and emotional support to Erica’s family and relatives as they cope with the tragedy and move on with their lives.

Alfredo E. Pascual
President