



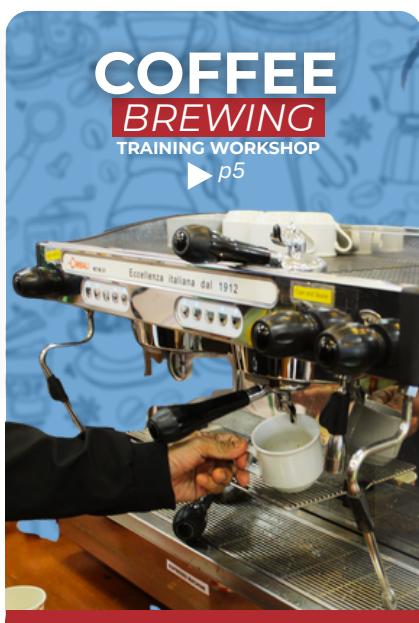
TOP STORY



TSU CPath scholars hold courtesy call with Mayor Yap, secure LGU support

■ John Carlo Jimenez

Tarlac State University (TSU) Rohingya scholars under the Pathways Pilipinas, a localized enhancement of the global Complementary Pathways (CPath) program carried out by Tarlac State University (TSU), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Department of Justice-Refugees and Stateless Persons Protection Unit ► p9



**COFFEE
BREWING**
TRAINING WORKSHOP

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ASEAN CELEBRATION

TSU celebrates ASEAN 58th anniversary, showcasing cultural diversity, collaboration

■ John Carlo Jimenez



Tarlac State University (TSU), through the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL), proudly celebrated the 58th ASEAN Celebration on October 16-17, 2025, at the TSU Hotel, Villa Lucinda Campus. With the theme “Towards an Inclusive and Sustainable ASEAN Future,” the two-day event exhibited the University’s commitment... ► p8

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strengthens partnership
through MOU signing

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University through
MOU signing

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TSU, South Korea's TSCECPR seal partnership through MOU, creative workshop

■ John Carlo Jimenez

Anchored on the goal to expand its global academic collaboration, Tarlac State University (TSU) formally inked its partnership with The Story Christian Education and Counseling Psychology Research Institute (TSCECPR) of South Korea through a ceremonial signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Creative Workshop on Pipe Cleaner Flower Art held on 4 July, at the CFTR AVR.

The event was steered by the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL), in collaboration with the College of Education – Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education (CoEd-BTLEd).

On behalf of Dr. Agnes M. Macaraeg, Dr. Aloysius T. Madriaga, Dean of the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS)

delivered the opening remarks and welcomed the TSCECPR delegation. "By working with an organization like TSCECPR, we now open new doors for students, faculty, and partner communities to engage in meaningful programs and impactful research initiatives," Dr. Madriaga said.

Subsequently, Dr. Grace N. Rosete, Director of OIAL, officially introduced the TSU officials present. She also highlighted the internationalization efforts and activities that both institutions have prepared for the coming years.

On the other hand, Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, TSU President, expressed his immense gratitude for the partnership, specifying its significance for the global engagement and innovation of TSU. "We are committing that we'll be giving our very best in all our might just to make this partnership a successful one," he also emphasized.

Meanwhile, Dr. Jiyoung Lee, General Director of TSCECPR, expressed optimism about the partnership, highlighting its potential to promote creativity, academic exchange, and intercultural understanding. The first part of the program concluded with closing remarks from Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, Dean of the College of Education, who acknowledged the collaborative efforts of both institutions and encouraged students to engage in global learning opportunities.

Immediately after the ceremonial signing, a Creative Workshop on Pipe Cleaner Flower Art was held, led by TSCECPR trainer Ms. Jihyeon Loh. The hands-on activity enabled participants to create flowers using simple materials, fostering cultural and artistic exchange.

Overall, the initiative strengthened TSU and TSCECPR's commitment to global collaboration and internationalization.



49 TSU faculty members complete international development program, receive international certification

■ Marco Polo M. Flores

Tarlac State University Office of International Affairs and Linkages (TSU-OIAL) and the Wadhwani Operating Foundation (WOF) reached a significant milestone as they celebrated the graduation of 49 TSU faculty members who successfully completed an International Faculty Development Program on November 28, 2025, at the TSU Main Campus in Tarlac City.

The collaboration between the two institutions began to take shape on July 21, 2025, when the participating faculty members embarked on a 14-week online and Direct-to-Faculty (D2F) entrepreneurship training. The sessions were facilitated by Mr. Matt Rodnie Matias of the Wadhwani Operating Foundation. This initiative strengthens the capability of faculty members to transfer innovative and relevant knowledge to their students. Graduates of the training received international certifications from WOF and TSU.

TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco said, "This is the first time TSU has held a graduation ceremony specifically for our faculty members, and I must say, I truly enjoyed it. International certification is important for your professional growth, and I am already looking forward to organizing similar programs again in the near future."

during online sessions. They also noted that the training coincided with their vacation period, requiring them to attend classes and study during what was intended to be their break. Nonetheless, the training proceeded smoothly overall and did not encounter any major disruptions.

After completing the program, the faculty members qualified to teach entrepreneurship courses offered in the undergraduate programs of the College of Engineering, College of Science, and College of Business and Accountancy. This initiative strengthens the capability of faculty members to transfer innovative and relevant knowledge to their students. Graduates of the training received international certifications from WOF and TSU.

OIAL Director Dr. Grace N. Rosete expressed her continued support, saying, "We in OIAL will always stand behind initiatives that strengthen our faculty. I am excited for the next round of international certification programs with WOF, and I look forward to seeing more TSU educators benefit from these opportunities."

WOF Country Lead Mr. Cris Delgado shared his optimism, stating that the joint initiative was successful and enjoyable for both TSU faculty participants and WOF facilitators. He encouraged continued enthusiasm and expressed interest in organizing another program soon.

The graduation ceremony was attended by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco; Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza; OIAL Director Dr. Grace N. Rosete; College of Business and Accountancy Dean Dr. Jhonel C. Panlilio; College of Engineering Dean Engr. Miriam S. Galvez; and WOF Country Lead Mr. Cris Delgado.

The second batch of the Faculty Development Program is expected to commence in the first or second quarter of 2026.



TSU joins unveiling of INTACT Base Bulacan Hub

■ Marco Polo M. Flores

Tarlac State University (TSU) Director of the Office of International Affairs and Linkages

(OIAL), Dr. Grace N. Rosete attended the unveiling ceremony of the INTACT Base (International Talent Circulation Base) Bulacan Hub held at Bulacan State University (BulSU) last October 13, 2025.

The inauguration of the INTACT Base Bulacan Hub at BulSU marks the establishment of the Taiwan International Talent Education Hub in Region III. The Hub aims to serve as a platform for institutional collaboration between Philippine and Taiwanese higher education institutions (HEIs) and to recruit Filipino students for Taiwan's INTENSE Program (International Industrial Talents Education Special Program).

The ceremony was also attended by key officials from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), including CHED Commissioner Dr. Desiderio R. Apag III; Dr. Lora L. Yusi, Director of CHED Region III; BulSU President Dr. Teody C. San Andres; and representatives of the INTENSE Program, namely Minister Dustin Teng-Shih Yang,

Deputy Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in the Philippines; Dr. Fuh-Jyh Jan, President of the National Chung Hsing University (NCHU); and Dr. Wen-Yuh Jywe, Principal Investigator of the INTENSE Program and professor at the National Taiwan University (NTU).

Following the inauguration, the 2025 INTENSE Program Education Fair Bulacan was held, where partner Taiwanese universities set up booths to engage with students and representatives from Philippine HEIs, promote networking and collaboration opportunities.

In the afternoon, participating universities from Taiwan and attending local HEIs formalized a consortium through the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU).

The Philippine HEIs present included Tarlac State University (TSU), Bulacan State University (BulSU), Aurora State College of Technology (ASCOT), Bulacan Agricultural State College (BASC), Central Luzon State University (CLSU), Pampanga State University (PSU), Nueva Ecija

University of Science and Technology (NEUST), Pampanga State Agricultural University (PSAU), Tarlac Agricultural University (TAU), National University - Baliwag (NU-Baliwag), Baliuag University, and City College of Angeles.

Participating Taiwanese universities included National Chung Hsing University, National Cheng Kung University, National Chung Cheng University, National Sun Yat-Sen University, National Formosa University, Chaoyang University of Technology, Dayeh University, I-Shou University, Kaohsiung Medical University, Cheng Shiu University, and Providence University.

Dr. Rosete later expressed interest in bringing the INTENSE Program to Tarlac State University through the INTACT Base Bulacan Hub in Region III and invited the Taiwanese institutions to exploratory meetings for potential collaborations. These are expected to take place in the last quarter of the year, with partnerships projected to be formalized by early 2026.



TSU conducts coffee brewing training workshop for students and staff

■ John Carlo Jimenez

Committed to providing its community with diverse learning opportunities, the Tarlac State University (TSU), through the College of Education (COEd), in partnership with the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL) and The Story Christian Education and Counseling Psychology Research Institute (TSCECPR), hosted a comprehensive Coffee Brewing Training Workshop on September 12, 2025, at Priscilla Hall - TSU Hotel.

The program featured Mr. Doohwan Kim as the resource speaker, where he led the morning session with a lecture on the theories of coffee brewing, including topics such as the origins of coffee beans, the importance of cultivation environment, and various brewing methods.

In the afternoon, participants engaged in a hands-on workshop, where they practiced coffee brewing at group stations. The session focused on manual brewing

and demonstrated how various factors can impact the taste and quality of coffee. The whole-day event aimed to equip participants with fundamental knowledge and practical skills in coffee preparation.

The workshop concluded with the awarding of certificates and was organized to provide hotel staff and students with practical skills as part of the university's commitment to diverse and innovative learning opportunities.

TSU, TSCECPR pursue collaboration, celebrate 2nd cultural exchange

John Carlo Jimenez

Tarlac State University (TSU) and The Story Christian Organization and Counseling Psychology Research Institute (TSCECPR) from South Korea celebrated two days of partnership and cultural exchange on August 12–13, 2025, combining a formal Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing with performances and learning sessions that showcased Filipino and Korean traditions.

The activities opened on August 12 at Priscilla Hall, TSU Hotel, Villa Lucinda Campus, with the ceremonial MOA signing led by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and TSCECPR Advisor Rev. Jeong Youngwoo and their General Director Dr. Jiyoung Lee.

Dr. Velasco expressed hope that the collaboration would pave the way for greater academic and cultural cooperation between the two institutions.

Meanwhile, Rev. Youngwoo noted that the partnership seeks to promote mutual respect and understanding through shared values and collaborative endeavors.

Shortly after, the Converge of Culture: Phil-Kor Exchange began, featuring Filipino cultural dances performed by the TSU



Performing Arts, followed by an enchanting musical and dance number from South Korea's Flower Garden Choir.

The first day's festivities concluded with the exchange of tokens of appreciation between the delegations, followed by brief interactions with TSU Laboratory

School students and South Korean guests. The moment highlighted the growing rapport between the Filipino and Korean participants, setting a positive tone for the said

event.

The exchange continued on August 13 at the CASS Theater Room, starting with a theatrical

presentation from the Short and Sweet Play Musical Team. The Flower Garden Choir returned with another inspiring performance, further strengthening the cultural connection between the two groups.

The event's learning sessions brought cultural appreciation to a deeper level. The first session was led by Prof. Douglas C. Ferrer, who discussed Philippine Folk Dances, offering participants a glimpse into the country's rich traditions and vibrant artistry. This was followed by Ms. Hwang Wonjung, who shared valuable insights on South Korean Cultural Dance, highlighting its elegance, history, and significance in Korean heritage.

In one of the event's most memorable moments, members of the TSU Performing Arts taught the visiting delegates the Lapay Bantigue, a traditional folk dance from Masbate, giving the guests a hands-on experience of Filipino cultural heritage.

The two-day celebration became possible through the collaborative efforts of the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL), the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), and the Office of Culture, Arts, and Languages (OCAL).



TSU celebrates ASEAN 58th anniversary, showcasing cultural diversity, collaboration

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to promoting internationalization and cultural appreciation among its academic community.

Kicking off the celebration on October 16, the IZN Hybrid Seminar gathered TSU faculty members, non-teaching personnel, and students both in-person and online via Zoom. Distinguished guest speakers Dr. Novi Andayani Praptiningsih, M.Si from the Universitas Muhammadiyah Prof. Dr. Hamka (UHAMKA) and Ms. Joyce Santiago Savage, a TEDx and Global Motivational Speaker, provided insightful information on topics like Stress Management and Resilience in Challenging Times: Thriving, Not Just Surviving, emphasizing the value of mental health and flexibility in the constantly changing academic environment.

The following day, October 17, the excitement continued as TSU's teaching and non-teaching staff engaged in friendly competition as part of the ASEAN Family Feud. The event tested participants' quick thinking and knowledge about Southeast Asian trivia questions. The CBAses team from the College Business and Accountancy (CBA) emerged as champions, where they bested 12 other teams, and ultimately outsmarted the CASS Maninisid na Dolphins in the semi-final round.

In the afternoon, unity and creativity were in full display during the ASEAN Exhibit

Competition, where the Team Main, composed of members from the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), College of Business and Accountancy (CBA), and the College of Public Administration and Governance (CPAG), clinched the first place for their exhibit on Cambodia's vibrant culture, cuisine, and festivals.

their charm, elegance, and ASEAN-inspired costumes during the Mr. and Ms. ASEAN 2025 pageant, which culminated the two-day celebration. As part of TSU's 119th Foundation Week celebrations, the event showcased the participants' beauty and self-assurance as well as the university's solidarity in honoring cultural diversity.

The 2025 ASEAN celebration served as a lively reminder of the university's responsibility to advance regional cooperation and to promote inclusivity, sustainability, and teamwork both inside and outside of the academic community.



TSU faculty and non-teaching staff captivated the audience with



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(DOJ-RSPPU), and academic partners, paid a courtesy call on Tarlac City Mayor Susan A. Yap at the Office of the City Mayor on September 24, 2025.

During the meeting, Mayor Yap assured the refugees in supporting their education in the country. The Local Government of Tarlac pledged to provide food and hygiene supplies to the scholars to help them address their daily needs.

In addition, the scholars were also promised to receive aid through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program to further lessen

their financial burdens.

Mayor Yap expressed that the local government remains open to further collaborations with TSU in advancing student support initiatives.

The courtesy call highlighted the city government's support for the CPath scholars, who are part of TSU's efforts to provide access to quality education for marginalized students. This initiative reflects TSU's commitment, through the Office of International Affairs and Linkages, to upholding its humanitarian role and promoting inclusivity and academic empowerment.



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TSU welcomes SIMS, strengthens partnership through MOU signing

■ John Carlo Jimenez

Tarlac State University (TSU) officially welcomed the delegates from the Swiss Institute of Management and Sciences (SIMS) of Switzerland to formalize their collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing held at the TSU Main AVR on November 11, 2025.

Dr. Vu Thi Huong Giang, SIMS Asia-Pacific Regional Director; Ms. Luong Thi Thuy Linh, SIMS Partnership Manager; and Dr. Truong Quang Ai, SIMS Vietnam Head represented SIMS in the said event.

Meanwhile, TSU was represented by Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, TSU President; Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Grace N. Rosete, Director of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL); Dr. Jhone C. Panlilio, Dean of the College of Business and Accountancy (CBA); Dr. Brigido B. Corpuz, Presidential Assistant; and Dr. Maria Teresa C. Agustin, CBA IZN coordinator.

Under the agreement, both institutions are set to collaborate

several academic and internationalization initiatives, such as the exchange of undergraduate and/or graduate students, the development and implementation of dual degree programs, the exchange of faculty members,



researchers, and administrative staff, joint participation in international research and academic initiatives, and the organization and participation in seminars, academic workshops, and related events.

Dr. Velasco expressed his optimism about the partnership, noting that, despite the challenges,

the successful signing marks a promising start to the collaboration between TSU and SIMS. "Even amid the storm, we managed to push through with this signing—a clear sign of a strong and positive partnership between TSU and SIMS," Dr. Velasco said.

On the other hand, Dr. Giang conveyed her immense gratitude to the TSU community for making the signing possible. "When I heard about the typhoon, I was worried the event might not happen," Dr. Giang said. "But seeing everyone's effort and warmth shows TSU's strong commitment to this partnership," she emphasized.

Following the formal signing, TSU and SIMS gathered for a roundtable to further discuss the areas of collaboration outlined in the MOU and the roadmaps for prospective projects and activities for both institutions. Shortly after, the SIMS delegation toured TSU, visiting the CBA Dean's Office and the Villa Lucinda Campus.

This partnership between TSU and SIMS reflects their shared commitment to internationalization and advancing education across borders.



TSU, JMCCON sign MOA to elevate nursing education

■ John Carlo Jimenez

imed at reinforcing nursing education through educational cooperation, Tarlac State University (TSU) and Jecsons Medical Center – College of Nursing (JMCCON) officially signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) at the TSU Main AVR, July 10, 2025.

The agreement signed by TSU President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and JMC President Dr. Juanita L. Chua institutes a collaborative partnership concentrated on improving the learning outcomes of JMCCON's nursing students through the support of TSU's academic resources.

Under the MOA, TSU will provide educationally qualified faculty members to teach General Education and liberal arts subjects, through the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), and extend assistance in faculty training, syllabus development, and instructional material preparation, in collaboration with the Office of Curriculum and Instruction (OCI). Meanwhile, JMC will offer professional fees, facilities, and equipment necessary to support the joint activities.

"This is no longer a competition, but a cooperation and collaboration," said Dr. Velasco during the signing.

Dr. Chua expressed optimism about the collaboration, emphasizing its role in strengthening nursing education and professional development in the province. She also noted that such partnerships pave the way for innovative programs and greater opportunities for students and faculty alike.

Also, witnessing the event were Dr. Aloysius T. Madriaga, CASS Dean; Dr. Jose Y. Chua, JMC Corporate Secretary; Ms. Vera A. Santos, JMCCON Dean; Ms. Nancy A. Pae, JMCCON Secretary; and Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL) staff.

TSU, AIE set stage for joint academic and industry initiatives

■ Marco Polo M. Flores

Tarlac State University (TSU), through the joint efforts of the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL) and the College of Engineering (COEng), formalized a partnership with the Australian Institute of Engineering (AIE), an Australia-based training organization, on July 31, 2025, via Zoom.

The memorandum of agreement

outlines several areas of collaboration, including Joint Academic Review and Validation, Faculty and Staff Engagement, Global Exposure and Educational Visits, Exchange of Industry Insights, Mutual Promotion of Educational Opportunities, and Co-Branding and Visibility.

Dr. Velasco noted that this collaboration advances TSU's

internationalization and global reputation, while Mr. Tyagi highlighted AIE's eagerness to provide innovative, skill-based training in the Philippines.

Also in attendance were VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, OIAL Director Dr. Grace N. Rosete, and COEng Dean Engr. Miriam S. Galvez, who expressed optimism about future collaborative projects.

TSU inks pact with Nghe An University through MOU signing

■ John Carlo Jimenez

Tarlac State University (TSU) strengthened its international academic linkages through the ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Nghe An University (NAU) of Vietnam on November 27, 2025, at the Main AVR. The event was organized in collaboration with the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) and Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL), reflecting TSU's continued pursuit of global partnerships that support quality higher education.

The signing ceremony opened with welcome remarks from Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, Vice President for Academic Affairs. He emphasized the growing importance of global academic connections in enhancing TSU's programs, research capabilities, and international visibility.

Formal introductions were led by Dr. Grace N. Rosete, OIAL Director, who presented TSU's attending officials. On the other hand, the NAU delegation

was represented by Dr. Tran Anh Tu, NAU Vice President; Dr. Hoang Dinh Hai, Head of Scientific Management and International Relations; and Dr. Nguyen Van Thuy, Vice Dean of the Foreign Language Faculty.

In his message, Dr. Tu expressed his optimism toward the impact and potential of this academic partnership. "NAU has always placed great importance on expanding international relations and we are confident that collaboration with TSU will contribute to enhancing the quality of education and research, while also promoting cultural understanding between our two nations," he stated.

The signing highlighted the shared commitment of both institutions to pursue collaborative research, faculty and student mobility, academic exchanges, and future joint programs.

The primary beneficiaries of this MOU are TSU's colleges offering graduate programs—specifically the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), College of Computer Studies

(CCS), College of Engineering and Technology (CET), and the College of Education (COED). The partnership is expected to open pathways for enhanced academic collaboration, graduate student development, and research expansion across these colleges.



TSU partners with NISU-VSSC to formalize academic ties through MOU

■ John Carlo Jimenez

In pursuit of academic collaboration and institutional development, Tarlac State University (TSU) and Northern Iloilo State University – Victorino Salcedo Sara Campus (NISU-VSSC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on July 24, 2025, at TSU Hotel – Gabriella Hall.

The collaboration was made possible through the efforts of TSU's College of Criminal Justice Education (CCJE) and the Office of International Affairs and Linkages (OIAL), further strengthening the university's academic linkages.



The signed agreement lays the groundwork for collaborative academic efforts between the two institutions. Among the identified areas of cooperation are faculty and student exchanges, joint research initiatives, credit transfer programs, internship and field exposure opportunities, co-hosted seminars and conferences, and cultural experience activities.

With this formal partnership, both TSU and NISU-VSSC look forward to fostering meaningful academic engagements and sustained collaboration in the years to come.