

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
CARAGA REGIONAL OFFICE

# CHED POST

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## **CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF MOA BETWEEN CHED CARAGA, DENR CARAGA, AND CARAGA HEIS ON THE GROWING ONE MILLION TREES ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

*January 13, 2023*

On January 13, 2023, the Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted the Ceremonial Signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between CHED Caraga, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Caraga Regional Office (DENR Caraga), and Caraga Higher Education Institutions, to formalize commitments to the continued implementation of the Growing One Million Trees Advocacy Program, an advocacy spearheaded by CHED Caraga.

The ceremony, which was held at the HERO Auditorium at Caraga State University (CSU), was attended by the Regional Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director of DENR, Dir. Nonito Tamayo and other key DENR Caraga officials. Also in attendance were the presidents and key officials of the various Caraga SUCs and PHEIs, the key officials of CSU, and CHED Caraga personnel.

“We commit to you the resources of DENR, especially the NGP sites,” Dir. Tamayo expressed. He further continued, “para mas mapabuti, mapaganda and Caraga, DENR cannot do this alone. We need your help, CHED and HEIs.”

The ceremonial signing proper involved CHED Caraga Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, DENR Dir. Tamayo, and Caraga HEI Presidents as witnesses. After which, the attendees and signatories stood to give their pledge of voluntary commitment to the advocacy program.

In his inspirational message, Dr. Colorado highlighted the value of sowing the seeds at low cost for future generations to reap the infinite benefits.

“Your efforts are not selfish in nature, but really for the benefit of others. Every one of us is multi-faceted, but we can never take away that aspect in our lives that we love nature, we love our country, but most of all we do this to serve our God.”





## **CHED CHAIRMAN J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III VISITS CARAGA STATE UNIVERSITY, MEETS WITH UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS AT CONSULTATIVE MEETING**

*February 8, 2023*

On February 8, 2023, CHED Chairman J. Prospero “Popoy” E. De Vera III and Commissioner Jo Mark M. Libre, together with Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado and invited SUC Presidents, visited the Caraga State University Main Campus to attend the blessing and dedication of the CSU Board Room and President’s Room. The Chairman also attended and gave a message during the Consultative Meeting with the university officials.

## **CHED CHAIRMAN J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III RETURNS TO CARAGA REGION TO ATTEND INVESTITURE OF 4TH ASSCAT PRESIDENT DR. JOY C. CAPISTRANO AND MEET TES BENEFICIARIES**

*February 8, 2023*

CHED Chairman J. Prospero “Popoy” E. De Vera III returned to the Caraga region on February 8, 2023 to attend as Guest of Honor at the Investiture of Dr. Joy C. Capistrano as the 4th President of the Agusan Del Sur State College of Technology (ASSCAT).

Prior to the Investiture Ceremony, the Chairman attended various engagements around the ASSCAT Campus together with Commissioner Jo mark Libre and Regional Director George M. Colorado – notably the ribbon-cutting and launching of the SMART Campus Project and the MUSEO Tu’Agusan Project, and the Meet and Greet with TES and TDP Beneficiaries.



During the meet and greet, Chairman De Vera celebrated the victories of the students, saying, “you should be proud that you are TES beneficiaries. Ginamit nyo [ang grant] para magtagumpay.” He encouraged them to seek success and pay it forward. “Give back by not only improving yourself, but helping your family, and helping your community.”





## **CHED CARAGA CONDUCTS REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND ORIENTATION FOR NEW NSTP PORTAL WITH HEI NSTP COORDINATORS**

*February 24, 2023*

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted a Regional Conference of National Service Training Program (NSTP) Coordinators and Orientation-Workshop on NSTP CHED Memorandum Order and NSTP Portal for Higher Education Institutions (HEI) on February 24, 2023 at the 3rd floor of the HEDC Building, Butuan City.

The face-to-face conference was attended by the NSTP Coordinators of Caraga HEIs and was facilitated by the Regional Office's NSTP Coordinator and Education Supervisor II, Engr. Criseldo C. Calinawan. Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado was present to give an inspiring welcome message to the participants, highlighting the role and importance of NSTP in the development of essential skills and love of country in students.

Education Supervisor II Dr. Frederick C. Amihan provided the rationale of the activity. This was followed by the presentation of CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 27 series of 2015, or the "Guidelines and Procedures on the Issuance of National Service Training Program (NSTP) Serial Numbers" by Dr. Calinawan. In relation to the CMO and the later orientation on the digitized processes, he also gave a brief discussion on the Republic Act 11032, or the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018."

An extensive open forum followed the presentations, where concerns, queries, and suggestions were raised by participants.

During the afternoon session of the whole-day activity, Project Technical Staff III and Management Information System (MIS) Unit personnel Mr. Jobert Calvin Alegre provided participants with an orientation and workshop on the NSTP Online Portal. He outlined the step-by-step process to navigating and maximizing the portal to increase efficiency with NSTP-related tasks. Participants were also able to ask their questions and provide suggestions to further enhance the portal.





## **CHED CARAGA CONDUCTS ISO 9001:2015 AWARENESS SEMINAR FOR EMPLOYEES**

*March 13, 2023*

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted an Awareness Seminar on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) for office personnel on March 13, 2023. The activity was held at the 3rd floor of the HEDC Building, Butuan City.

The activity was conducted in line with the Regional Office's efforts in becoming an ISO-certified organization, and was facilitated by the Human Resources Unit of the office.

CHED Caraga Technical and Administrative personnel led the discussions during the series of orientations. The following topics were discussed:

- An overview of ISO 9001:2015 (QMS) and why CHED needs to be ISO-certified - Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, Education Supervisor II
- The clauses of ISO 9001:2015, the Scope of Certification (6 Processes), and the Documents and Forms to be prepared - Engr. Criseldo C. Calinawan, Education Supervisor II
- 5S for Workplace Efficiency - Ms. Revelyn P. Brina, Administrative Officer III
- Internal Quality Audit Objectives and Procedure - Ms. Alma S. patron, Chief Administrative Officer
- ISO Certification Planning with Gantt Charting - Engr. Criseldo C. Calinawan, Education Supervisor II





## **CHED CARAGA CONDUCTS REGIONAL CONFERENCE WITH HEI PRESIDENTS AND KEY | OFFICIALS, OSAS COORDINATORS FOR REGIONAL UPDATES**

*March 15, 2023*

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted a Regional Conference with Caraga Higher Education Institution (HEI) Presidents and Key Officials and Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS) Coordinators and Heads on March 15, 2023 at the Balanghais Hotel and Convention Center, Butuan City.

The conference was aimed at providing updates and orientations on various topics related to higher education, allowing participants to clarify their concerns, and providing a platform for HEI Presidents/Heads and OSAS Coordinators/Heads to meet and network.

The stipulations, guidelines, and updates on the following CHED Memorandum Orders were discussed by the CHED Caraga Education Supervisors and personnel:

- Orientation on the Enhanced Guidelines on Student Affairs and Services (CMO no. 09, s. 2013 and CMO no. 08, s. 2021) - Mr. Ever Joy G. Rabadan, ES II
- Orientation on the Guidelines on Gender-Based Sexual Harassment in HEIs (CMO no. 03, s. 2022) - Dr. Frederick C. Amihan, ES II
- Orientation on the Minimum Requirements for Libraries of HEIs Common to All Programs (CMO no. 22, s. 2021) and Implementation of PATHFit (CMO no. 39, s. 2021) - Dr. Rolyna S. Trugillo, ES II
- Orientation and Updates on the HEMIS Annual Data Collection (CMO no. 45, s. 2016) and Presentation of Guidelines on Gawad Kalasag 2023 - Mr. Amy C. Saavedra, ES II
- Orientation on the Accomplishment of HEMIS Annual Data Collection Form - Ms. Jan Myrtle J. Villanueva, PTS II

During the conference, an election of officers was also conducted in separate breakout sessions for the Caraga Higher Education Institutions Association of Presidents and Heads (CHEIAPH) and Caraga Association of Deans and Heads of Student Affairs and Services (CADHSAS) respectively. Dr. George M. Colorado, CESO III, Director IV of CHED Caraga, led the oath taking ceremony for the newly elected officers.

Dr. Colorado gave an inspiring message during the conference. He expressed his appreciation to all the participants, emphasizing the importance of their roles in ensuring the quality of higher education in the Caraga Region. Dr. Colorado highlighted the need for flexibility and adaptability in the delivery of education, urging the participants to take advantage of the available technologies to ensure continuity of learning. Furthermore, he emphasized the importance of the topics discussed in the program, particularly the orientation on the Guidelines on Gender-Based Sexual Harassment in Higher Education Institutions, noting the need for all HEIs to have a safe and inclusive environment for all students and personnel.

The conference ended with the closing remarks by Dr. Julia Felisa Martinez, Chief Education Program Specialist.





## **UNIFAST CARAGA CONDUCTS REGIONAL CONFERENCE WITH CARAGA HEI TES AND TDP FOCAL PERSONS**

*March 22, 2023*

The CHED-Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST) Caraga Regional Office conducted a Regional Conference on the Amended Guidelines of Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and Tulong Dunong Program (TDP) Memorandum Circular No. 1 and 2 s. 2022, and Portal Management and Liquidation Workshop on March 22, 2023 at the Pavilion at Watergate, Butuan City.

In attendance to the conference were the Caraga Higher Education Institution (HEI) Focal Persons for TES and TDP, Scholarship Coordinators, Registrars, and Accountants. Regional Director Dr. George M. Colorado, CESO III, welcomed the participants with a message highlighting their roles in not only assisting, but guiding students through their tertiary education journey as TES and TDP grantees.

Topics discussed by the UniFAST Caraga Regional Coordinators during the conference were the following:

- Amended TES Guidelines, Process Flow, and Annexes - Ms. May Trinity N. Dela Torre, Project Technical Staff (PTS) II
- Amended TDP Guidelines, Process Flow, and Annexes - Ms. Valerie Edflo B. Vismanos, PTS I
- HEI Portal Management - Ms. Heidi M. Paradero, PTS II and Lead RC
- Re-orientation and Workshop on Liquidation of TES, TDP, and Fund Transfers - Ms. Maelove I. Dagohoy, PTS III and Accountant

Ms. Noeme Rose D. Mani, Supervising Education Program Specialist, closed the conference with a parting message.

The regional conference aimed to inform partner HEIS and their respective TES and TDP Focal Persons about the significant changes stated in the above-mentioned Memorandum Circulars, particularly the necessary documents to be submitted following the guidelines. Additionally, new focal persons received guidance on how to handle the UniFAST|portal. Moreover, the workshop tackled the proper liquidation procedure to ensure the prompt and accurate submission of liquidation documents.

## **CHED CARAGA CONDUCTS SERIES OF INSTITUTIONAL VISITS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION AT VARIOUS HEIS FOR 1ST QUARTER 2023**

*March 31, 2023*

The Commission on Higher Education - Caraga Regional Office (CHED Caraga) conducted in-person institutional visits to various Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) for the first quarter of Calendar Year 2023. Institutional visits and subsequent monitoring and evaluation of the HEIs were done as part of the mandate of CHED to ensure the HEIs' delivery of quality education and compliance to the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines (PSGs) of the offered programs.

For this quarter, the following eighteen (18) HEI campuses were visited for monitoring and evaluation at the institutional and program-level:

- Caraga State University - Main Campus
- Surigao Sur Colleges
- Balite Institute of Technology
- Saint Jude Thaddeus Institute of Technology
- Surigao Education Center
- Siargao Island Institute of Technology
- Surigao del Norte State University - Del Carmen Campus
- Southern Technological Institute of the Philippines
- Caraga State University - Cabadbaran Campus
- Butuan Doctors' College
- Asian College Foundation
- ACLC Butuan
- Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture & Technology
- Bucas Grande Foundation College
- Saint Peter College Seminary
- Butuan City Colleges
- Merchant Marine Academy in Caraga, Inc.
- Northwestern Agusan Colleges

Priority areas for monitoring and evaluation were the efforts of HEIs regarding COVID-19 related activities, namely vaccination of students and faculty, implementation of flexible learning modalities, and compliance with the CHED-Department of Health (DOH) Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 2021-004 "Guidelines on the Implementation of Limited Face-to-Face Classes for All Programs of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Areas Under Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response." Monitoring was also done on the progress of HEIs on their targets for the One Million malunggay Tree-Growing Advocacy Project, a special project of CHED Caraga.

Additionally, the HEIs were assessed on the following areas:

- All programs offered
- Student Affairs and Services (SAS); Scholarships; Tuition and Other School Fees (TOSF)
- Research and Extension;
- National Service Training Program (NSTP)
- Governance and Management
- Library
- Laboratory and Support Facilities

All visits were conducted by the full-force team of the Technical Division, namely Chief Education Program Specialist Dr. Julia Felisa Martinez, Supervising Education Program Specialist Ms. Noeme Rose Mani, and Education Supervisors II Dr. Frederick Amihan, Dr. Criseldo Calinawan, Mr. Everjoy Rabadan, Mr. Amy Saavedra, and Dr. Rolyna Trugillo, led by Regional Director Dr. George Colorado.

