

MAPÚA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY at 89: Celebrating the many colors of Mapúan excellence

For 89 years, Mapúa Institute of Technology has always been acknowledged as one of the most exceptional schools in the country. And now that it has achieved international accreditation for 10 of its programs by ABET, the Institute has further elevated its rank to global status, transforming it into a leader of educational reform in the Philippines.



Mapúa's achievements in the last 89 years are the results of its efforts to respond to the challenge of globalization in the area of education.

For Dr. Reynaldo B. Veal, Mapúa's president and chief executive officer, the achievements of the Institute over the years are the results of its efforts to respond to the challenge of globalization in the area of education.

"The basic challenge that globalization presents to all Philippine higher education institutions is to have academic programs that are up to international standards," said the Mapúa head. "These standards are defined in terms of the required levels of student competencies at the time of graduation. These competencies are the measurable components of the desired learning outcomes for each academic program."

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The accreditation is seen to be beneficial not just to Mapúans but to the entire country as well.

"In having a number of its programs ABET-accredited, Mapúa is able to provide programs that prepare its students for a globalized environment. Aside from direct benefits to its graduates, there are also benefits to the country since Mapúa is able to provide world-class professionals that help Philippine-based companies become globally competitive and that help attract foreign companies to locate and invest in our country," said Dr. Veal.

Excellence and continuous improvement

The ABET accreditation and the Institute's other achievements and efforts are what sets Mapúa apart from other educational institutions in the country, creating its own brand of excellence reflected on its graduates.

"On the ground excellence means having Mapúa's successive batches of students achieve ever higher levels of competencies by the time they are graduated," explained Dr. Veal.

This has required the Institute to undergo major changes particularly adopting outcomes-based

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education (OBE) and establishing its continuous quality improvement (CQI) system. The OBE, CQI, and the ABET accreditation entailed significant amount of investments to further elevate the quality of Mapúa's academic programs.

"Implementing OBE required a change of mind-set from teacher-centered to student-centered approaches. This has been the major challenge. While there were those in our sector who were concerned whether a Philippine school can achieve what we set out to do, we persevered, moved decisively and fast, and succeeded. I guess that added some color and vibrancy to the whole endeavor," the Mapúa president proudly stated.

Another celebrated milestone for Mapúa is the successful establishment of its subsidiary Malayan Colleges Laguna (MCL), which in its eight years of operation has quickly become a major player in Southern



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Luzon with an enviable record in licensure exam passing rates. It currently provides topnotch professionals to the industrial parks of Laguna and beyond.

As Mapúa continues to move toward the full achievement of its vision of becoming a global center of excellence in higher education, it recognizes future challenges to take on to further contribute to its internationalization.

"We are moving forward on a research agenda that is responsive to global and national needs, and we are planning on scaling up linkages with schools abroad to make a success of this endeavor," shared Dr. Veal. "The main objective would be to make significant original contributions to the humanity's fund of knowledge and to be able to develop new technologies and businesses out of these newfangled bits of knowledge."

He added: "In order to bring in more international students, we also want to develop the online mode of education. We plan to start small with a specific market, and we shall soon be putting this undertaking on the front burner."

89th Foundation Week

Dr. Lilibeth D. Sabino of the Department of Mathematics said the 89th Foundation Week celebration will launch new campaigns to further elevate the standard of Mapúan excellence.

"The people will have a sneak peek of what will happen in the near future. The management as well as the faculty are in fact very excited to launch these plans because we know that they will only sharpen our edge in the competitive global arena," Dr. Sabino, chair of the foundation week organizing committee, said.

She added that the Filipino fiesta-themed celebration also highlights the other aspects of Mapúan excellence.

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Mapúa's 89th Foundation Week runs from January 19 to 25 featuring the Outcomes-Based Education (OBE) Conference 2014, Parada ng Lahi, The Cardinal Excellence Awards, Mr. and Ms. Cardinals, and other fun and learning activities. ■



(L-R) Dr. Reynaldo B. Veal, president and CEO, and Dr. Lilibeth D. Sabino, head of the Department of Mathematics and chair of the 89th Foundation Week organizing committee

Mapúa, MCL admin, faculty convene for the second OBE summit

The administrators and faculty members of Mapúa Institute of Technology and Malayan Colleges Laguna (MCL) gathered anew last January 21 to share their best practices in the implementation of outcomes-based education (OBE).



The annual OBE conference, which started in 2013, is a way for the two schools to keep on leading the way for the theory and practice of the learner-centered education system.

"The sharing of information and discussions will deepen the understanding of our schools' administrations, faculty, and students of OBE, and will help them better appreciate their roles in the success of its implementation," said Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja, Mapúa and MCL president and chief executive officer.

Dubbed "OBExperiences: Individual and Collective," the conference featured presentations and discussions on the teaching practices of the two educational institutions that have been contributing to the success of OBE, the benefits the schools experience from its implementation, as well as the plans formed to further improve the quality of their education.

OBE and continuous quality improvement

The continuous evolution of nature of jobs brought about by technological and other advancements in global industries has emphasized the need for lifelong learning. This need prompted the institutions' shift to OBE.

"OBE will assure that our graduates will succeed in such an ever-changing global environment because, as an outcome of the academic programs, they should acquire competencies that will enable them not only to be experts but also to continue to be experts in their chosen fields throughout life," said Dr. Veja.

Acquisition of these competencies by the students is the main focus of OBE.

"The previous system focuses mainly on the transmission of expert knowledge aided with proper inputs like facilities and equipment. While these inputs are important in teaching our students, with OBE, we are giving sufficient attention to the knowledge and skills that they should possess by the time they graduate. These knowledge and skills are what we call the desired outcomes of our academic programs,"

"We have been through one continuous quality improvement system. Based on our assessment of the level of attainment of program outcomes and an analysis of how higher levels could be attained, we have instituted some changes into our schools' curricula and the manner by which they are delivered. We did not have such refined systems before."

explained Dr. Bonifacio T. Doma, Jr., Mapúa's executive vice president for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Doma further added that it is also crucial in OBE to measure the degree of achievement of these outcomes by the students through course assessment and evaluation. This allows for the further improvement of the academic programs.

Dr. Veja and Engr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo, chief operating officer of MCL, believe that OBE has greatly refined Mapúa and MCL education.

"OBE gave us a framework for our quality systems. It helped us design and implement a framework focusing not only on the operations and the management but also on the academic systems," said Engr. Maestrecampo.

Dr. Veja added: "We have been through one continuous quality improvement system. Based on our assessment of the level of attainment of program outcomes and an analysis of how higher levels could be attained, we have instituted some changes into our schools' curricula and the manner by which they are delivered. We did not have such refined systems before."

The OBE implementation had led the Institute and its subsidiary to more academic achievements. It had greatly contributed to Mapúa's becoming the first school in East Asia to have programs accredited by ABET, which resulted in its graduates' quick admission to foreign graduate schools and their increased employability by local and foreign companies.

MCL graduates have also experienced the benefits of OBE.



Engr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Malayan Colleges Laguna

"We already have our first three batches of graduates, and we are receiving good feedback from the industry regarding their performance. We are also very much satisfied with the results of the board exams of our graduates. Our graduates are being preferred by the industry, not only here in Southern Luzon but also in Metro Manila. Those are our achievements we owe a lot to OBE," shared Engr. Maestrecampo.

A giant leap to becoming world class

Indeed, the OBE is a giant leap for Mapúa and MCL toward becoming world class, which immensely contributes to Philippine education reform.

"We did outcomes-based accreditation ahead of all others. Now we are contributing to the efforts of CHED to promote an outcomes-based education system," stated Dr. Veja.

However, the two schools are not resting on their laurels, as they continuously seek ways to further improve their teaching-learning systems.

"This conference is only a small portion of what we are doing in terms of improving the quality of teaching and learning at MCL. We have to continue with this. When the system is already mature, we can already aim for external accreditations," said Engr. Maestrecampo.

"We have to continue to stick to the knitting. We have to further deepen and refine our understanding and implementation of OBE and CQI. We cannot afford to stay in place," concluded Dr. Veja. ■

Mapúa, MCL, and MHSS: One DNA of excellence

Driven by their ardent passion for excellence, Mapúa Institute of Technology, Malayan Colleges Laguna (MCL), and Malayan High School of Science (MHSS) together move forward in pursuit of becoming global centers of excellence in education.

Responding to the challenges of globalization, these three schools simultaneously and decisively move to further improve their teaching-learning systems to raise Philippine education to international standards and to give unparalleled advantage to the youth.

Now, Mapúa, MCL, and MHSS celebrate another year of significant milestones, proving that excellence is in their DNA. Below are some of the schools' recent achievements.

- Second place in the 1st Philippine Undergraduate Research on eHealth
- Second place in 2013 Converse Dirty Chucks Video-Making Contest
- Third place, 2013 Cisco National Skills Competition, NetExcellence Competition for Instructors

MCL

- 100% passing rate in the November 2013 Civil Engineer Licensure Exam
- 100% passing rate in the PRC Walk-In Licensure Exam for Officer-In-Charge (Engine Watch)
- 100% passing rate in the September 2013 Electrical Engineer Licensure Exam
- 100% passing rates in the 2013 Officer-In-Charge (Navigational Watch) Licensure Exams
- 100% passing rate in the May 2013 Civil Engineer Licensure Exam
- Topnotchers in 2013 Chemical Engineer and Mechanical Engineer Licensure Exams
- 94.97% overall passing rates in other 2013 licensure exams
- Outstanding Certified Public Accountant in Education
- One of the Top 10 Outstanding Maritime Students in the Philippines
- Silver and bronze awardees in 8th Council of Hotel and Restaurant Educators of the Philippines Region IV-A Skills Competition
- Silver and bronze awardees in the 4th Philippine Culinary Cup
- Second runner-up in the Best Business Implementation Model and Practice category of the Gawad ENEDA Awards

MHSS

- Creation of Partner School Program to assist in nation building through promotion of science and technology to the youth
- Fifth place in the 2013 Tagisang Robotics
- Final Four in the 89th NCAA Basketball Championships
- Bronze medalist in the 2013 Bangkok-Manila Archery Friendship Cup
- Gold medalist in 2013 SMART Carlos Palanca Jr. Taekwondo Championships

Mapúa to launch first UHF RFID library solution

Another first for the Institute: the libraries of Mapúa Institute of Technology will be launching the ultra-high frequency radio frequency identification (UHF RFID) solution, which is expected to significantly enhance their processes to better serve the faculty and students.

"Mapúa will be the first educational institution in the Philippines to implement the UHF RFID solution, which consists of UHF RFID tags, portable inventory reader, self-service station, self-return station or book drop, and security gate," said Emerald L. Lansangan, Mapúa's chief knowledge officer.

Among the library processes that will benefit from the UHF RFID solution are the circulation services, inventory, and security system. The solution will also be able to provide real-time statistics of both Intramuros and Makati libraries' patron visits.

For Lansangan, as the UHF RFID solution will streamline library workflow, the patrons can expect a significant improvement in customer service.

"Faculty members and students can expect faster and shorter queues in borrowing and returning library materials. They can also expect more personalized library services because with the UHF RFID system, librarians are free to focus on assisting patrons with their research queries," she said.

The Mapúa Library's newly installed UHF RFID solution will be launched in the first week of February 2014. ■



Through the years, the Mapúa Institute of Technology has lived up to its promise of providing world-class education and producing competitive graduates. After eighty-nine years, it still continues to improve its craft, successfully passing it on to its subsidiary schools, Malayan Colleges Laguna and Malayan High School of Science. With the long roster of achievements and recognitions, I am confident that the three schools will stand the challenges in the education sector and will continue to prove that excellence is indeed in our DNA. To the Mapúa community here and abroad, we are proud of you all.

Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco
Chairman
Yuchengco Group of Companies

As ASEAN integration comes in 2015 and as basic reforms in Philippine education are implemented (K12 for basic education and outcomes-based quality assurance for tertiary education), Mapúa, MCL, and MHSS are well poised not just to flow with, but rather gather strength from, the changes because they all share the DNA of excellence.

Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja
President/Chief Executive Officer
Mapúa Institute of Technology

Our 89th founding anniversary is not just a celebration of our achievements but a testament to our passion for excellence. Now, as we have successfully implemented outcomes-based education and our programs achieved ABET accreditation, we continue to seek ways to improve the quality of our education toward the fulfillment of our vision.

Bonifacio T. Doma Jr., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

We at Mapúa, MCL, and MHSS are inviting everyone to celebrate our foundation anniversaries. This year, we recognize our achievements as we lead in the implementation of outcomes-based education system in the Philippines. Join us as we continue to transform our students into competent, world-class professionals.

Engr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo
Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer
Malayan Colleges Laguna

What an opportune time to count our blessings. However, we should not forget to look back and ruminate on those opportunities that we failed to realize. With both our failures and triumphs at the backdraft, we will build scaffolds that will get us through as we tread our way to the very essence of our existence.

Dr. Efrén B. Mateo
Principal
Malayan High School of Science



Dr. Bonifacio T. Doma, Jr., executive vice president for Academic Affairs, Mapúa Institute of Technology

Raising the bar to world-class standards.

One Vision. One Goal. One Malayan.

For 89 years, Mapúa Institute of Technology has been synonymous with technical superiority and high-standard education. With ardent passion for excellence, it has broken barriers to elevate itself to global status.

Sharing this same passion, Malayan Colleges Laguna and Malayan High School of Science have carved themselves a place in Philippine education, reaping the fruits of their perseverance and dedication to provide education that is world class.

Together, the three move forward in pursuit of greater excellence.



www.mapua.edu.ph



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MCL AND MHSS: Bridging dreams and realities through excellence and virtue

Carrying on Mapúa Institute of Technology's tradition of excellence, Malayan Colleges Laguna (MCL) and Malayan High School of Science (MHSS) have successfully gained their respective niches in the field of education.

After the adoption of the outcomes-based education (OBE), or the learner-centered approach to education, MCL and MHSS are now reaping back-to-back successes both in academic and non-academic competitions.

"We have adopted the OBE approach to enable our students to adapt easily to fast-changing times and fast-changing needs of employment in the 21st century. MCL and MHSS endeavor to impart an education that is at par with international standards. It is an education that they can take anywhere in the world and that will serve them in good stead throughout their lives," said Dr. Reynaldo B. Veja, president and chief executive officer of the three schools.

Global center of excellence in the South

After emerging as a premier higher education institution for tertiary level in the South, MCL reaffirmed its unrelenting commitment to creating competitive graduates after making impressive performances in various licensure examinations and regional contests.

"The achievements of our alpha and beta batches, not just in licensure examinations but also in industry reception, are affirmations that we are doing things right. Here at MCL, we engage our students to learn. We see to it that the activities would engage their minds, their souls, and their being," said Engr. Dennis H. Tablante, MCL vice president for academic affairs.

MCL has also become more active in paying it forward to the community. It launched *Light Up! Life Up!*, a solar street light project, which aims to build and install 80 eco-friendly solar bottle bulbs and 50 solar-powered street lights at a resettlement community in Laguna.

"We want our students to be holistic. We encourage them to be responsible citizens. They should know how to take care of the environment, how to deal with people, and how to become useful and good citizens of their community," said Engr. Dodjie S. Maestrecampo, executive vice president and chief operating officer of MCL.

Creating infinite possibilities

MHSS, meanwhile, continues to gain momentum in establishing itself as one of the best science high schools in Metro Manila after putting together another string of



Engr. Dennis Tablante, vice president for Academic Affairs, Malayan Colleges Laguna



Dr. Efren B. Mateo, principal, Malayan High School of Science

"Malayan Colleges Laguna and Malayan High School of Science endeavor to impart an education that is at par with international standards. It is an education that students can take anywhere in the world and that will serve them in good stead throughout their lives."

outstanding achievements.

It ranked first in the National Achievement Test for high school in the Division of Manila with 55-99 students, and two of its students recorded major feats in the field of sports.

The MHSS robotics team, who clinched in 2012 the Best Rookie Award, also continued its impressive start in Tagisang Robotics after placing fifth in 2013, besting 30 other high schools.

MHSS principal Dr. Efren B. Mateo said that they are determined to maintain the successful streak this year by further strengthening and improving the school's faculty and learning environment.

"We will focus this year on honing further our pedagogical skills. We will continue to engage our teachers to be abreast with the latest trends in pedagogy. At the same time, we will also strengthen our commitment to creating a learning environment more conducive to students' productivity through our Safe School Program," Dr. Mateo said.

Continuous improvement

MCL and MHSS see this year as another opportunity for them to spread their wings.

MHSS will focus on strengthening its curriculum and further improving its facilities and resources. Likewise, its faculty and personnel are incessantly being developed to be capable of rendering premium services to the academic clientele.

Meanwhile, MCL will strive to forge more partnerships with international, local, industry and government institutions. MCL is currently working for accreditation by the Philippine Technological Council, the Philippine representative to the Washington Accord, which is a standards-setting international agreement.

For both institutions, the Foundation Week celebrations are a commemoration of their eight fruitful years as well as the start of another year of reaping success. The celebrations are packed with exciting, fun, and learning activities. ■



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