



GradNewsline



Official Bi-Annual Newsletter of the Graduate School & the Online Programs Office

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GS profs may now avail of University Professor Scientist Award

All qualified permanent professors of VSU's Graduate School may now avail of the VSU University Professor Scientist Award after the proposal has been approved by the Board of Regents during its 101st BOR Meeting on June 23, 2021 via teleconferencing. The BOR issued Resolution No. 12, s. 2021 affirming its approval for the said

proposal.

The University Professor Scientist Award, which will be granted starting Academic Year 2021-2022, carries with it a cash incentive of PHP50,000 during the first two years of implementation (2021 and 2022) and by 2023 onwards the cash reward will increase to PHP100,000. The Award is renewable every three

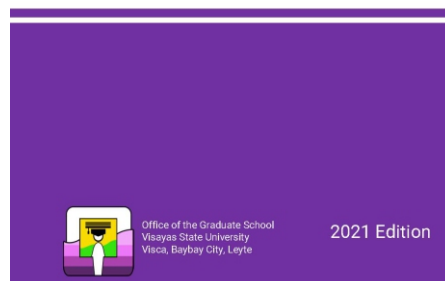
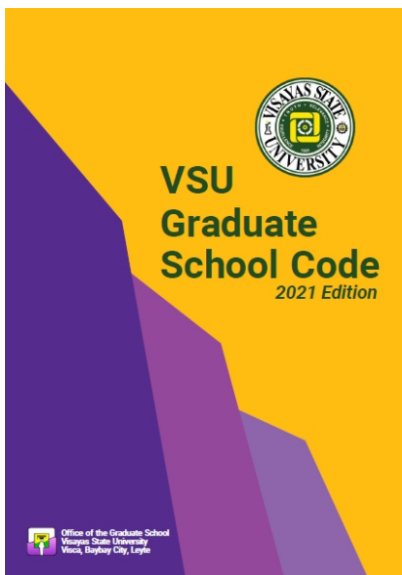
years in which the awardees have to apply for renewal based on their accumulated outputs within the three-year period of the award.

The University Professor Scientist Award aims to recognize VSU professors who are actively engaged in research and publish their outputs in reputable peer reviewed journals and other publications

acceptable by the University. The award hopes to enhance the publication outputs in the University, encourage young graduate faculty to be actively involved in research and publish their works in highly reputable international journals, and in order for research outputs and creative works of the VSU graduate

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BOR approves the GS Code and the Graduate Programs Manual of Operations



The VSU Board of Regents during its 101st meeting on June 23, 2021 via teleconferencing approved the revised VSU Graduate School Code (2021 Edition) and the newly crafted Graduate Programs Manual of Operations (2021 Edition). The two proposals were presented to the Board by VSU President, Dr. Edgardo E. Tulin.

Dr. Tulin emphasized that the first proposal was more on the refinement of the current VSU Graduate School Code as required by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in relation to the application for issuance of Certificate of Program Compliance

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GS profs ... from page 1

faculty to be recognized by the international scientific community.

The scientific productivity of the aspirants of the award shall be evaluated using the same set of criteria and guidelines which will be set by the University regardless of the field of specialization. Specific criteria for evaluation shall be submitted for BOR approval, and it will also be the BOR who will confirm the granting of the award to the faculty endorsed by the University.

One important metric for the award is on mentoring. The University shall give due recognition to outstanding faculty who were able to excellently mentor graduate students in their thesis or dissertation which would enable them to graduate on time from their programs, and get their research outputs published in reputable journal.

A committee whose composition is multidisciplinary shall be formed to take charge of the vetting process since the University wants to have the award to be the same for all kinds of fields/programs offered in the Graduate School. 📺

GAC members to receive higher honoraria; graduate comprehensive exam fee hike

In its 100th VSU Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting on January 28, 2021 via teleconferencing, the Board approved the proposal of the Graduate School through its dean, Dr. Anabella B. Tulin, to increase the honoraria of the Graduate Advisory Committee (GAC) and the Comprehensive Examination Fee of the graduate students. The Board passed BOR Resolution No. 168, s. 2020 approving the said proposal of the Graduate School. The increase of honoraria has been proposed to boost the morale of the graduate faculty for the work and sleepless nights in correcting the thesis/dissertation manuscripts of their advisees. Since the GAC honoraria shall be taken from the examination fees of the graduate students, the Board also approved the increase of the examination fee as stipulated in the said BOR Resolution. The new honoraria of the GAC per degree program and the graduate students' examination fee are as follows:

A. Graduate Examination Fee

Degree Program	Examination Fee	
	Old Rate (PhP)	New Rate (PhP)
PhD	12,000	20,000
MS/MA	8,000	15,000
MM/MAGDev	6,000	10,000
MEd	6,000	10,000

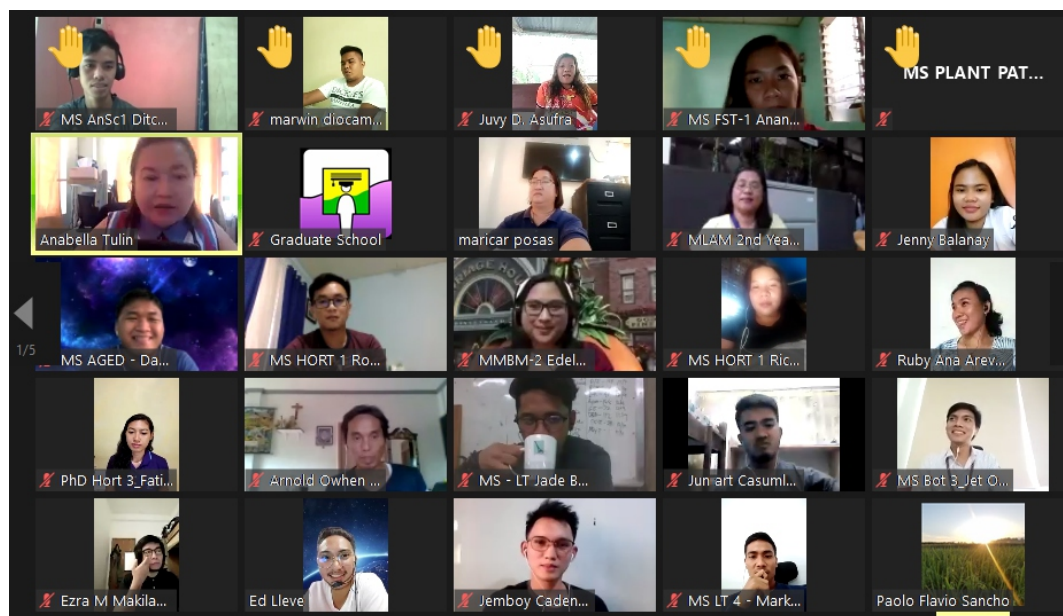
B. GAC Honorarium

Degree Program	Chairman		Member	
	Old Rate (PhP)	New Rate (PhP)	Old Rate (PhP)	New Rate (PhP)
PhD	2,600	7,000	1,750	4,000
MS/MA	2,150	5,000	1,400	3,000
MM/MAGDev	1,700	4,000	800	2,000
MEd	1,700	2,000	800	1,000

ODGS spearheads Virtual Graduate Students' Assembly

The Office of the Dean of Graduate School (ODGS) of the Visayas State University under Dr. Anabella B. Tulin has conducted the First Virtual Graduate Students' Assembly and General Meeting on May 12, 2021 via zoom. Despite the uncertainties brought about by the coronavirus, some 180 graduate students enrolled in the master's and doctoral degree programs participated in the said

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Dr. Anabella B. Tulin (leftmost, 2nd row), ODGS Dean, presenting the GS policies and guidelines to some master's and doctoral students during the virtual assembly meeting.

In its 101st BOR Meeting on June 23, 2021 via teleconferencing, the Board of Regents passed BOR Resolution No. 34, s. 2021 approving the amendments to the existing guidelines on the grant of professor emeritus to retired faculty provided for in the BOR Resolution No. 103, s. 2003 and BOR Resolution No. 37, s. 2007.

Based on these two resolutions, the Visayas State University grants two types of Professor Emeritus: Professor Emeritus for Teaching;

Amendments to the guidelines for the grant of VSU professor emeritus

and Professor Emeritus for Research, and the criteria for evaluating the qualifications of the applicant are also different for each type. The policy specifies that those granted with Professor Emeritus for Research shall only be conducting research while the Professor Emeritus for Teaching shall only teach courses, but not both.

One of the

amendments is for the University to have only one type of Professor Emeritus who shall do either or both functions. The field of specialization of the professor emeritus shall be indicated in the position title, such as: Professor Emeritus in Chemistry, Professor Emeritus in Soil Science, etc.

Moreover, the amended guidelines now

specify that the number of professor emeriti in each academic or research unit shall not exceed 20% of the total number of regular faculty members of the unit at any given time without prejudice of being appointed in other units needing the required expertise.

The head/director of the academic department/unit shall

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assembly meeting. The participants who come from the different municipalities, cities, and provinces of the country are among the 486 graduate students enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy (22), Master of Science (274) Master of Management (60), Master of Education (79), Master of Land Administration and Management (3), and the Master of Agricultural Development (48) programs this second semester of school year 2020-2021.

Aside from introducing the ODGS staff as well as the graduate students, Dr. Tulin presented the School's goals and objectives, and the policies and guidelines to the new and continuing graduate students. Among the different issues discussed during that virtual meeting include: thesis/ dissertation outline and

manuscript requirements; Resolution No. 169, increase in the monthly allowance of the local graduate teaching/ research assistants based on the approved BOR s. 2020 dated January 28, 2021; increase in the comprehensive examination fees for the Master of Education, Master of Management, Master of Agricultural Development, Master of Science, and for the Doctor of Philosophy

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Degree Offering	Male	Female	Total
A. Regular On-Campus Programs			
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Education	0	1	1
Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science	3	4	7
Doctor of Philosophy in Horticulture	3	10	13
Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Pathology	0	1	1
Master of Science in Agricultural Economics	2	4	6
Master of Science in Agricultural Education	0	1	1
Master of Science in Agricultural Engineering	1	0	1
Master of Science in Agricultural Extension	2	1	3
Master of Science in Agronomy	13	17	30
Master of Science in Animal Science	15	17	32
Master of Science in Botany	1	1	2
Master of Science in Development Communication	5	13	18
Master of Science in Development Sociology	5	3	8
Master of Science in Entomology	2	4	6
Master of Science in Forestry	17	8	25
Master of Science in Food Science	6	14	20
Master of Science in Horticulture	12	24	36
Master of Science in Language Teaching	6	12	18
Master of Science in Land Administration and Management	0	1	1
Master of Science in Weed Science	0	1	1
Master of Science in Plant Pathology	2	5	7
Master of Science in Plant Protection	2	9	11
Master of Science in Soil Science	9	26	35
Master of Science in Tropical Ecology	5	8	13
Sub-Total	111	185	296
B. On-Campus Weekend Programs			
Master of Management major in Agribusiness Mgt	3	11	14
Master of Management major in Business Mgt	15	31	46
Master of Education major in Biology	4	26	30
Master of Education major in Chemistry	3	6	9
Master of Education major in English	1	13	14
Master of Education major in Physical Education	13	13	26
Master of Land Administration and Management	1	2	3
Sub-Total	40	102	142
C. Distance Education			
Master of Agricultural Development (MAgDev) - B			
MAgDev major in Agricultural Education	3	4	7
MAgDev major in Agricultural Extension	4	11	15
MAgDev major in Agronomy	7	4	11
MAgDev major in Animal Production	4	5	9
MAgDev major in Language Teaching	3	3	6
Sub-Total	21	27	48
Grand Total	172	314	486

OPO has new designated head

Dr. Deejay M. Lumanao, Assistant Professor of the Department of Soil Science, has been designated as new head of the Online Programs Office (OPO) vice Mr. Jesus Freddy M. Baldos effective March 1, 2021. Her designation was signed by VSU President Edgardo E. Tulin on February 22, 2021 and released in the afternoon of March 1, 2021.

Immediately, Mr. Baldos prepared the documents including his accomplishments during his term ready for the formal turn-over on March 2, 2021. Since Dr. Lumanao was still on Maternity Leave until March 15, the turn-over ceremony was delayed for a few days.

The former head happily turned-over the documents and other responsibilities attached to the position to the new OPO Head in the afternoon of March 18, 2021.

In his message,



Mr. Jesus Freddy M. Baldos, former OPO Head, turning-over the documents to the newly designated head, Dr. Deejay M. Lumanao.

Mr. Baldos emphasized the tremendous increase of enrolment of VSU's distance education program from 32 in the 2nd Semester of SY 2019-2020 (January-May 2020) to 65 in the 1st semester of SY 2020-2021 (August to December 2020) during his stewardship. He also revealed that despite OPO's existence for more than four decades, he observed that the office does not have its own tables, chairs, and cabinets. "By God's grace, we have now these two tables, two cabinets, and one computer table that we can call our own," he

said. Moreover, the request for fabrication of additional office tables and cabinets with the corresponding estimated cost of materials has already been submitted to the Physical Plant Office.

He further said that an air conditioning unit will soon be delivered to the office after it went through the bidding process. "I hope that the new head can facilitate in requesting another aircon unit and an executive table and chair which she can use in our office," Mr. Baldos mused.

Likewise, the following documents were turned-over to the

new head: the 2020 OPCR/IPCR Accomplishments with attachments (January to June, and July to December) and the 2021 OPCR/IPCR Targets; the proceedings of the OPO Strategic Planning Workshop that was conducted on June 29-30, 2019 handed-over by the previous head; the CMO 27, s. 2005 "Policies and Guidelines on Distance Education" and CMO 15, s. 2019 "Graduate Distance Education"; OPO Budget for 2021; the 2021 OPO Privacy Impact Assessment; documents reflecting the NCs and

The VSU Board of Regents in its 100th VSU Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting on January 28, 2021 via teleconferencing issued BOR Resolution No. 169, s. 2020 approving the increase of monthly stipend as well as the thesis/dissertation support for local graduate teaching/research assistants for both master's and doctoral grantees. The proposal was endorsed by the dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Anabella B. Tulin. With this new development, both the master's and

BOR approves allowance increase for local graduate assistantship

doctoral graduate teaching/research assistants shall be receiving a monthly allowance of PHP12,000 and a thesis/dissertation support of PHP40,000. The book allowance of PHP2,500 per semester is still the same. "Though these allowances are not as big as those offered in universities outside the country, somehow this would help the graduate students who are

interested to pursue graduate education at VSU," Dr. Tulin said.

The graduate assistantship program started in 1991 as one way of attracting more graduate students to study in the University. It can be recalled that the VSU Board of Regents during its 96th BOR Meeting on January 11, 2020 issued BOR Resolution No. 273, s. 2019 approving the

Graduate Teaching Assistantship Program for Foreign Graduate Students with monthly stipend of PHP25,000 and other privileges such as book allowance, medical insurance, transportation and thesis/dissertation support.

Thus, the proposal has been endorsed to commensurate more or less the benefits given to foreign graduate assistants. 🇵🇭

BOR ... from page 1

(COPC) of a number of programs offered by the Graduate School, which will be evaluated by the Regional Quality Assurance Team (RQAT). He further said that contained in the proposal were approved BOR Resolutions which support the new and

revised provisions in the Code, to provide readers full understanding of the bases of said provisions.

Moreover, he explained to the BOR the modifications and changes crafted from the existing Code to the proposed Code for approval. Seeing no major issues and concerns as regards the proposed

VSU Graduate School Code, the Board passed BOR Resolution No. 51, s. 2021 approving the VSU Graduate School Code (2021 Edition), as presented.

On the other hand, Dr. Tulin accentuated that the proposed Graduate Programs Manual of Operations (2021 Edition) was pursued as it is one of

the requirements for RQAT evaluation of the graduate programs, AACUP accreditation, ISO certification, and other quality assurance activities.

Dr. Tulin also informed the members of the BOR that the proposed Graduate Programs

OPO finds new abode annex to the ODGS



OPO personnel, together with the two emergency laborers, having a souvenir photo after the blessing.

After decades of occupancy at the Multimedia Development Center (MMDC) building, the Online Programs Office (OPO) finally found a new workplace after the rooms adjacent to the Office of the Dean of Graduate School (ODGS) had been renovated. The new office of the University's prime mover for the distance education

program was inaugurated and blessed on April 27, 2021 together with the other offices of VSU as part of the 97th Founding Anniversary celebration of the institution.

Though the two-room office is not yet fully furnished and some final touches are still going on, the then OPO head decided to occupy the new workplace on February 15, 2021 to

ensure that the work will be finished prior to its inauguration and blessing.

It can be recalled that the office's renovation started on the second week of July last year, a week after the new OPO head, Mr. Jesus Freddy M. Baldos, had been installed into office on July 1, 2020. He was informed by the VSU President, Dr. Edgardo E. Tulin, that a

new office for OPO had been identified where all official online transactions among the existing and prospective distance education learners and the courseware controllers shall take place. To expedite the work, Mr. Baldos had constant follow-ups with the one in-charge of the office's renovation while doing his office work and at the same time took the initiative of planning how the office would look like once the renovation had been done. Job requests for fabrication of tables and cabinets were also filed and gradually delivered to the new office.

Aside from the OPO staff with its new head, Dr. Deejay M. Lumanao, also present during the blessing were the key officials of VSU led by Dr. Tulin with Rev. Fr. Gary Nelson Esguerra of the VSU Holy Spirit Parish Church as the celebrant. 🙏

OPO has...from page 5

OPI findings during the in-house ISO audit; request for the filling-up of the vacant position for Education Research Assistant and for the Utility Worker; compilation of OPO personnel curriculum vitae, personal data sheet, and position description form; 1st Semester SY 2020-2021 Supervisory Plan and Accomplishments; the Online Programs Office Citizen's Charter, Organizational Structure, and Functional Chart ready for framing by the PPO carpenters.

In addition, the former head also turned-over the list of the identified departments/colleges which are qualified to offer distance education programs with Level III accreditation by the AACUP and other accrediting bodies, as well as those with CHED's center of excellence and center of development status. The new head was also briefed on the ongoing renovation of OPO

prior to its occupancy.

Mr. Baldos also said that they already conducted brainstorming activity among OPO staff on how to discourage distance education students from dropping their subjects. "We identified that consultation (through virtual and other online platforms) with the DE faculty and the student should be explored for the students to be guided and be able to air their problems and issues pertaining to their studies.

Dr. Lumanao, on the other hand, accepted the challenge and requested for the full support and cooperation of the staff to do the same favor they afforded to the former head. She also expressed to have a good relationship with the staff and work hand-in-hand to ensure that the distance education program of the university is vibrant and very dynamic in serving the off-campus students and other stakeholders. 🇵🇭

Ammendments..from page 3

automatically serve as the immediate supervisor of the professor emeritus who also signs grade sheets, travel orders and other documents needed during the delivery of services. The professor emeritus shall not be involved in policy formulations and other administrative operations of the academic unit or the University, unless issued official appointment to serve as external reviewer/evaluator/discussant in specific activities conducted by the University such as accreditation and other quality assurance activities, and during research and development in-house reviews, etc.

In addition, a professor emeritus candidate must be recommended by the Personnel Committee of the home unit or could submit a Letter of Intent one year prior to his/her retirement, fit to work as certified by the University physician, holding a full professor position with

doctoral degree in his/her field of specialization upon retirement, must have served at least 15 years of service to the University with very satisfactory performance, and not found guilty of any criminal or administrative case.

The professor emeritus grantee shall enjoy free use of the VSU facilities, such as: library, office space, etc., except housing and income generating projects (IGP) facilities while said facilities shall be shared by the regular faculty and the professor emeriti.

Other privileges include: transportation allowance of not more than PhP5,000 per semester provided the professor holds office on campus for consultation services, teaching, research, thesis advising, etc. at least four hours a week, as certified by the department head; attendance in conferences, workshops, and meetings related to instruction and research may be allowed but charged to his/her

Virtual Consultation-Dialogue with Graduate Distance Education Students



A snapshot with the distance education students, together with the OPO personnel, during the virtual consultation-dialogue.

In its desire to reach out the distance learners all around the country and even in some parts of Asia and the Middle-East who are enrolled in the Master of Agricultural Development (MAGDev) program, the Online Programs Office (OPO) through the leadership of Dr. Deejay M. Lumanao organized the 1st Virtual Consultation-Dialogue with the DE Students on June 18, 2021 via Google Meet. The online meeting which lasted for four hours was

participated in by some 22 graduate distance education students who actively shared their ideas during the discussion.

Dr. Lumanao was so related with the participation of the distance learners despite their hectic schedules as most of them are working either in various government agencies or in the private sector here and abroad. "I know that only the best people who are working and at the same time studying extramurally or off-campus, not to mention

your family obligations, could find time and make the sacrifice to attend for a meeting like this. So, we are very privileged to have you all and it is an honor to be with you today," she quipped.

Lumanao added that the consultation is just one of the many ways to show how OPO cares its distance learners, especially in this situation wherein everybody is adjusting to this new normal caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The activity also served as a venue to know how things

are going on at your end—our distance learners—as we listen to your voice particularly on your day-to-day activities being an online student and how you cope up with the demands of your work in the field or in the office. Moreover, the activity paved the way to discuss freely the problems encountered by the distance learners in relation to their studies, and to solicit comments and suggestions with regard to the management and

Virtual...from page 9

operation of the online programs of the University.

On the other hand, Mr. Jesus Freddy M. Baldos, Administrative Officer V and former head of OPO, thoroughly discussed the different services of the office. Among these are: the brief history of the VSU Open University or the Online Programs Office; introduction of OPO personnel and the faculty members handling distance education courses; the OPO Citizen's Charter; Orientation on the graduate distance

education program and how it is being carried out; and the future directions of the VSU Open University.

Baldos emphasized that the Master of Agricultural Development (MAGDev) program of the University is enjoying its Level IV accreditation by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines, Inc. (AACUP). As of the moment, the MAGDev degree program is offering ten (10) major fields for the students to choose from. These are: Agricultural Education,

Agricultural Extension, Agronomy, Animal Production, Language Teaching, Development Communication, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Plant Protection, and Agricultural Economics. Once the student has already selected one major field, the rest could be considered in choosing the minor field including the Food Science and Technology.

He also presented the geographical distribution of the forty-eight (48) graduate distance education students who are all Filipinos of whom 43 are in the Philippines,

and one (1) each based in Japan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and Thailand. Moreover, the distribution of students by field of specialization was also presented of which 17 of them are in their second year and 31 are in their first year.

After his presentation, it was immediately followed with an open forum wherein the graduate students freely gave their feedbacks and voiced other concerns in relation to their studies being enrolled in the distance education program of the University.

Me-an D. Villas 🇵🇭

BOR ... from page 6

Manual of Operations included many of the provisions stipulated in the VSU Graduate School Code. Upon ascertaining that no major concerns were found in the proposal, the Board passed BOR Resolution No. 51, s. 2021 approving, as presented, the proposed Graduate Programs Manual of Operations. 🇵🇭

Ammend... from p.8

research project or to personal funds; and may teach but not more than two lecture sections per semester paid at PHP500/hour for actual teaching, and may serve as adviser of one master's and/or one doctoral student only in a given semester with an honorarium based on the existing BOR-approved policy. 🇵🇭

ODGS...from page 4

students per BOR Resolution No. 168, s. 2020 dated January 28, 2021; the different publications produced by the ODGS where student outputs could be published; the revised Graduate Programs Manual of Operations for them to be guided accordingly; and other

important matters.

An open forum followed wherein the students asked questions and raised other concerns related to their graduate studies in the University.

Mark Joshua S. Quevedo 🇵🇭

Number of Enrolled Graduate Students of the VSU Open University, 2nd Sem. SY 2020-2021

PROGRAM	YEAR	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Master of Agricultural Development (MAgDev)				
Major in: Agricultural Education	1	3	3	6
Agricultural Extension	1	4	5	9
Agricultural Education	2		1	1
Agricultural Extension	2		6	6
Agronomy	1	4		4
Agronomy	2	3	4	7
Animal Production	1	4	5	9
Language Teaching	1	1	2	3
Language Teaching	2	2	1	3
Total		21	27	48

Geographical distribution of graduate distance education students in the second semester of school year 2020-2021

PROVINCE/COUNTRY	Total	PROVINCE/COUNTRY	Total
Leyte	13	Metro Manila	1
Southern Leyte	4	Occidental Mindoro	1
Agusan Del Norte	3	Oman	1
North Cotabato	3	Oriental Mindoro	1
Cebu	2	Pampanga	1
Negros Occidental	2	Saudi Arabia	1
South Cotabato	2	Singapore	1
Surigao Del Norte	2	Siquijor	1
Agusan Del Sur	1	Sorsogon	1
Biliran	1	Surigao Del Sur	1
Davao Del Sur	1	Thailand	1
Eastern Samar	1	Western Samar	1
Japan	1	TOTAL	48

ODGS dean celebrates 61st birthday



The celebrator, Dr. Anabella B. Tulin, savoring the moment with her husband, VSU President Edgardo E. Tulin, and her daughter, Edelle Marie B. Tulin, in a simple birthday bash at the ODGS Lobby.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic which causes adverse effects in the day-to-day activities of the people in all walks of life worldwide, the dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Anabella B. Tulin, celebrated her 61st birthday (one day advance) on April 23, 2021. While observing proper protocols like social distancing, the merriment took place at the ODGS Lobby with few invited guests since mass gathering is strictly discouraged inside the University.

Since Baybay City is now placed under

Modified General Community Quarantine, Dr. Tulin pursued her plan of having a simple yet meaningful and memorable birthday celebration in a luncheon on a Friday of the same day, though her birthday fell on the 24th of April. She intentionally tendered the advanced birthday celebration to accommodate her limited guests who were mostly her officemates and could not make it on a Saturday because of the protocol on the number of people allowed for social gathering and outsiders are prohibited to get inside the premises of the

University. Only her immediate family members and officemates were the attendees that enlivened the celebration.

Dr. Tulin's 60th birthday grand celebration last year was not materialized because of the call of Leyte Governor Dominico

Petilla placing the entire province under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) due to the pandemic in which Baybay City Mayor Jose Carlos L. Cari responded and declared on March 18, 2020 the City under GCQ until June 14, 2020. The said declaration took effect beyond the date of Dr. Tulin's 60th birthday, thus she could not do otherwise despite the preparations as she approached a new chapter of her life for her 60 years of existence. Nonetheless, she celebrated her milestone year as senior citizen with her immediate family members. 🎂



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