



CvSU RELIEF relaunched to fight COVID-19

Sharing resources amidst the quarantine, CvSU RELIEF was relaunched under a new banner “Kontra COVID-19” implemented through the University’s 12 campuses all over Cavite.

April 9 data show that the University has delivered 1,935 food packs, not only to students and employees, but also to frontliners and residents living near the campuses. Students who were stranded in their apartments in Indang due to the community quarantine were also assisted with free transportation service from the University.

A total of 4,611 medical supplies were also donated to various hospitals and checkpoints in the province together with 12,047 health and sanitation kits that include vitamins, alcohol, soap and disinfectants.

CvSU also took part in the fight against dissemination of false information through the development of more than 73 information materials about COVID-19 and relevant ways to help prevent and control its spread. Helpful links to online courses were also provided to increase productivity of interested employees and community members even during quarantine. Innovative healthy recipes were also published to give ideas on how to recreate typical relief goods into nutritious meals.

The University also offered psychosocial support programs to assist clients in coping with stress due to the crisis. Poems of encouragement and prayers of hope were also circulated to boost the morale of community members.

More than a hundred alumni were also reported to have been serving as frontliners in health, security, banking, social work and

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CCJ conducts stakeholders’ meeting

The College of Criminal Justice (CCJ) conducted a collaborative and consultative meeting with stakeholders on research and extension re-planning, accomplishment and challenges last March 6 at Lasap Hall, Cavite State University (CvSU), Indang, Cavite. Participating stakeholders include representatives from the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Department of Justice (DOJ) and barangay officials of the municipality of Indang.

During the program, Dr. Yolanda A. Ilagan, director for Research, presented the University research and extension roadmap; Dr. Marissa C. Lontoc, CCJ research coordinator, gave an update on the college research development program; Dr Susan G. Tan, college extension coordinator, presented a video clip of the previous and upcoming extension activities; while, Dr.

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VISION

The premier university in historic Cavite recognized for excellence in the development of globally competitive and morally upright individuals.

MISSION

Cavite State University shall provide excellent, equitable, and relevant educational opportunities in the arts, sciences and technology through quality instruction and responsive research and development activities.

It shall produce professional, skilled and morally upright individuals for global competitiveness.

QUALITY POLICY

We Commit to the highest standards of education, Value our stakeholders, Strive for continual improvement of our products and services, and Uphold the University’s tenets of Truth, Excellence and Service to produce globally competitive and morally upright individuals.

FEATURE

R&E amidst Covid-19 Pandemic: Enduring, Adapting, Working as One

Since the first reported case of community transmission on March 7, 2020 of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019 nCov) which was later named as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-Cov-2), the Philippine government imposed travel ban against the countries with a sustained higher reported case of the infection such as China and its special administrative territories, South Korea and the United States. With the continued increase of local transmission of the disease, the Department of Health (DOH) declared Code Red Sublevel 2 on March 12 where a sustained community transmission of the disease could no longer be traced or linked. On the same date, President Rodrigo Duterte placed the entire Metro Manila on community quarantine from March 15 to April 14 to contain and slow down the spread of the disease. On March 16, the President declared a Luzon-wide enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) from March 17 to April 14, and later extended from April 15 to 30 as a mitigating measure to arrest the extent of the contagion. On April 24, the President then extended the implementation of ECQ from May 1 to 15 within the National Capital Region (NCR), Region III - Central Luzon, Region IVA-CALABARZON and other high-risk provinces.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) subsequently issued various advisories regarding the guidelines for the prevention, control, and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19 in higher education institutions (HEIs) in response to the Luzon-wide ECQ declaration. All HEIs were directed to implement work from home (WFH) arrangement of their employees except for those offices which required a skeleton workforce (SWF) that would ensure the provision of essential basic services such as processing of salary, janitorial services to clean and disinfect facilities and offices, and security services. These HEIs, however, were expected to follow strict precautionary measures directed by the DOH and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG). Such work arrangements remained in effect until the ECQ had been lifted.

In response to the CHED advisories, the Cavite State University (CvSU) President, Dr. Hernando D. Robles, signed an office memorandum, PHDR-51-20 dated March 12, 2020, and PHDR-56-20 dated March 17, 2020, stating the full implementation of CHED advisory and the provision of WHF and SWF arrangements in the University. The Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE), together with its four units, prepared a contingency plan for the R&E personnel during the implementation of the ECQ. Stated in the contingency plan were the general guidelines for WFH and SWF arrangement for R&E personnel and the workplan of each R&E unit during the ECQ.

The implementation of the ECQ due to COVID-19 pandemic hindered almost all of the research and extension activities of the University. The conduct of training activities, seminars, workshops, and hosting of conferences were permanently suspended until further notice since these would involve gathering of large audiences. Researches that include the collection of specimens in other areas were inoperative due to travel restrictions. Laboratory-based or experimental researches were likewise deferred due to the delay in the procurement of laboratory supplies and restricted access triggered by the stringent implementation of ECQ. Engineering and information and communications technology (ICT) researches were not in full swing due to the closure of fabrication shops and ICT-related supply markets. Environment-related researches that require field works as well as social science researches that involve interview schedules and surveys were

temporarily postponed.

Travel restrictions and WFH arrangement of almost all of the University's researchers during the ECQ lessened their capacity to do research works. However, other research-related activities such as writing of project proposals, analysis and interpretation of collected research data before ECQ, drafting of publishable research and review papers, and preparation of projects' accomplishment reports remained possible. Some researchers and R&E personnel even worked on project proposals for submission to funding agencies, while some had submitted their research manuscripts for possible publication to scientific journals despite the occurrence of some problems such as access to fast internet connection and access to other relevant data that were left in their offices.

During this pandemic, offices under the OVPRE relentlessly performed their duties of conducting research and extension activities. The OVPRE, in partnership with the CvSU-College of Arts and Trades (CvSU-CCAT), came up with a proposal for COVID-19 response which was submitted to CHED for funding. This project aims to support all frontliners in Cavite by providing them nutritious meal packs and ergonomically-designed facemasks. The Research Center (RC), on the other hand, was tasked to prepare ethyl alcohol solution to be used for the disinfection activities of the University. The Extension Services Center (ESC), distributed freshly harvested vegetables and aquaculture products to the low-income personnel and students of the University. The Knowledge Management Center (KMC) partnered with the Public Affairs and Communication Office (PACO) in the preparation of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for vegetable production, which were later on posted in the official Facebook page of the University for the community to see. The National Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center (NCRDEC) prepared and submitted research proposals for funding and research papers for publication, and conducted an extension activity. Meanwhile, the Center's program "*Warm Mugs: An NCRDEC Emergency Relief Drive*" was launched on April 1 to distribute food packs and financial assistance to agency-based utility workers and farm workers of the University using the collected monetary donations from generous individuals. Moreover, skeleton workforces of R&E were tasked to maintain the field demonstration and experimental areas under the jurisdiction of the OVPRE.

This pandemic has undoubtedly posed imminent changes in the R&E work structure. To be able to adapt to these changes and to embrace the new normal, OVPRE, together with the four units, drafted the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Plan. Highlighted in this plan are strategies being implemented and will be implemented by the units in view of the pandemic. After the ECQ, the NCRDEC plans to offer webinars in response to the overwhelming requests for coffee training programs of stakeholders. The Research Center will also conduct online review, revision and approval of research proposals, some of which would be related to the current pandemic. The ESC will also conduct online trainings and seminars, online monitoring of technology adopters and extension projects/activities, as well as, develop videos for online promotion of technologies. Meanwhile, KMC will provide online services to its clients, such as online applications for intellectual property registration and publication incentives. It will also continue accepting online submission of articles for *REconnections* and *Ugnayan* newsletters as well as research papers for publication in the CvSU Research Journal and Philippine Coffee Journal. (AELTorres)

NCRDEC conducts emergency relief drive

To extend support to the affected workers of Cavite State University during community quarantine, the National Coffee Research Development and Extension Center (NCRDEC) conducted an emergency relief drive on April 29, 2020. The project, dubbed as “Warm Mugs” which was launched on April 1, aimed to provide relief packs to the agency-based utility workers and other in-need farm workers.

Through this program, with the theme “*We are one with you. Together we will rise*”, the Center conveyed the value of

Bayanihan to every in-need *Kapamilya* during this time of pandemic.

With the help of generous donors, the Center was able to raise more than Php40,000 in two weeks’ time and was used to buy groceries for the relief packs given to almost 100 beneficiaries. Each pack contained 4kgs of rice, eight canned goods, and three instant noodles. Meanwhile, some workers residing in Trece Martires City, Naic, Tagaytay City, and Alfonso received cash aids.

In addition, more than 100 packs of Aguinaldo Blend coffee were distributed to police frontliners in Cavite as a form of gratitude for their service during this crisis.

This effort was organized since some workers were affected by the *no work, no pay arrangement* when the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) was implemented. (AJLMagcamit)



The relief packs distributed



Repacking of relief goods



NCRDEC staff distributing relief packs

CCJ conducts stakeholders’ ... (from page 1)

Famela Iza C. Matic, college dean, presented Strengthen Alliance on Fight against illegal drugs and tERrorism (SAFER) Cavite as one of the leading projects of the province in combating illegal drugs and terrorism.

Each collaborating agency gave their feedback on their respective agencies, community needs, and problems that could be addressed through research and extension. Some of the feedbacks were: utilization of research and extension on prevalence of drugs and marijuana, anti-communism and disaster preparedness, etiology of crime in Cavite, child pornography to vulnerable sectors, trainings focused on therapeutic rehabilitation program, counselling services, process and system of criminal justice. (MCLontoc)



Stakeholders’ meeting

CvSU RELIEF relaunched ... (from page 1)

other essential industries. Cash donations from private individuals also reached target beneficiaries in partnership with agencies and community organizations.

RELIEF, originally stands for Research and Extension Life-changing Initiatives for the Empowerment of Filipinos, was first launched in December 2019 when it helped earthquake victims in Cotabato and was relaunched in January 2020 as aid to families affected by the Taal Volcano eruption. (LAAOrsal)



The representatives of different government agencies

SciCAT Project gives relief to frontliners

In support to the fight against COVID-19, the Cavite State University - Science for the Convergence of Agriculture and Tourism (SciCAT) Project team, led by Dr. Lilibeth P. Novicio, project leader and director for Extension Services, gave relief assistance to various frontliners by distributing nutritious agricultural products.

Harvested from Silan Agri Farm, 1.24 tons of fresh papaya fruits were distributed to 571 frontliners within the province of Cavite summarized as follows: 188 pieces for the local government unit of Indang on April 17; 101 pieces for General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH) in Trece Martires City on April 20; 185 pieces for the frontliners of Manuel V. Santiago Medical Center (MVSMC) in Trece Martires City, General Trias Doctors Medical Center (GTDMC) in Manggahan, General Trias City, and other government offices in Indang on April 23; and 97 pieces for Brgy. Bancod, Indang, Cavite on April 29.

This initiative, funded by the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD), was made possible through the efforts of the Cavite State University (CvSU) - Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE) - Extension Services Center (ESC). (LPNovicio/SMLdeLeon)



CvSU-SciCAT Project's fresh papaya distribution headed by Dr. Novicio



SciCAT project staff and ESC employees during the distribution of papaya to frontliners



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