

BASC
NEW SEMESTER

NEW
NORMAL



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BASC: Ready and Doughty

BASC is starting a new semester, valiantly treading despite this turbulent times.

The campus started its another phase, second semester of school year 2020-2021 last February 1 conforming with the new normal trend via Facebook Live. The administration welcomed its students, faculty, and staff with enthusiasm and vigor, positive about the semester's outcomes.

The school, after a long vacation, embark again for another episode of virtual classes. Unfortunately, despite countless propaganda in this new normal, after months of experiencing it, students, the same as teachers, deep inside are inwardly dissatisfied.

Honestly, this whole fiasco has been heavily patronized, spouting as new arrangement that is efficient and productive, safe, and ingenious. But from the past months, things became undeniably disappointing based on the lived experiences of students, schools and campuses.

Poor internet connection and financial problem under the threat of invisible enemies. Casualties and fatalities grew in a staggering and alarming rate. Unsurprisingly, while some officials are sitting comfortably in their throne, they set an unprecedented history by gaining high rank against ASEAN and even the world, just by doing nothing. Top 30 worldwide, rank third on ASEAN with upsetting 591,138 confirmed cases with 12,465

deaths, reported to WHO, March 7, 2021.

But what have it to do with the Filipinos? As it seems that the government clearly forget their own duty and neglected its own citizen, what's more to students? They just slap some new arrangement, pushing some responsibilities to schools and universities.

On the other hand, the first time of BASC in this "new normal" can be considered acceptable, students and professors gritted their teeth, understanding that this program is still in its fetal stage, foreseeing that it will probably prolong because of growing cases due to governments' incompetence.

“*Alas, despite this turbulent times, it will be another semester. BASC, educated from the past, makes plenty of preparation.***”**

Moreover, some professors and students are having a hard time when using various technologies and apps but still persevered as this is the only way for them to teach and learn. In addition, the pathetic internet connection of the Philippines also contributed to the burden of countless teacher and students.

Speaking of slow internet connection, just like the government, with one year of deep contemplation and brainstorming, they have finally think and do a solid action against this pandemic. After a year of waiting, the vaccine emerge at last, subtly hinting for face to face classes.

Alas, despite this turbulent times, it will be another semester. BASC, educated from the past, make plenty of preparation. Strict health and safety protocol, new rules and regulation in every virtual classes, considerate professors and faculty staff.

Nonetheless, in this decade full of ups and downs, failures and tragedies naturally leave some deep and unforgettable lesson.

“We are hoping that this 2nd semester also, we will be successfully surpassing whatever ‘yong makahaharap na challenges,’” said Dr. Cecilia S. Santiago, VPAA.

BASC, packed with the lesson of the past, treading in this tumultuous times, better and fearless than before.



THE SOIL TILLER

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF
BULACAN AGRICULTURAL STATE COLLEGE

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BASC on Dr. Tan's 2nd year anniv, grateful for commitment and compassion

 BIANCA GAIL D.C. GONZALES

AS he was then campaigning to be the next President of our college, Dr. Jameson H. Tan aimed to promote consultative college culture and administration, now on the second year of his reign as the college president of Bulacan Agricultural State College, it seemed fair enough to say that he had achieved more than his set targets and promises for BASC.

From the day Dr. Tan became president, eight different programs passed the accreditation survey under the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP), one undergraduate program (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine), and two graduate programs had been added to the list of the BASC's program offerings. Also there was further expansion of the college's programs in cooperation with Fortunato F. Halili National Agricultural School (FFHNAS) in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

On December 15, 2019, the college was assessed and registered by ACS W3 Solutionz as conforming to the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 with respect to provisions of instruction, research and extension – University Wide.

Recently, the House Bill #6502 "An Act Converting the Bulacan Agricultural State College in the Province of Bulacan into a State University to be known as the Bulacan State Agricultural University and Appropriating Funds Therefor" happened through the initiative of Dr. Tan in coordination with Congresswoman Lorna C. Silverio, had passed the third reading and will be presented in the Senate for the bicameral conference committee.

Furthermore, advancement in research and extension development programs

were recorded as the College hosted the first National Rabbit Congress on February 27, 2020 with the Association of Rabbit Meat Producers, Inc. (ARaMP).

During Dr. Tan's leadership as well, the enrolment system, college manuals, and guidelines were updated including the BASC Code, which had been reviewed and revised to fit the goals and objectives of the college.

Lastly, the development and improvement of the college extended to its facade as different facilities and infrastructures were added to the college.

Two buildings were rehabilitated, two more had been proposed for rehabilitation, and a 3-storey Education Building was established. Moreover, procurement of different goods and services for the offices and institutes were accomplished including service vehicles,

computer units and equipment for Information Technology Laboratory, and Agricultural machinery.

BASC becoming a State University is still

a long way to go, yet President Tan's contributions for the college in a span of two years sitting on the position is a strong foundation. What awaits for the next years of his term was hoped to be all for the benefit of the college.**



BASC kick-starts College Admission Application

 BIANCA GAIL D.C. GONZALES

UNCEASING to cater the incoming students, Bulacan Agricultural State College announced that the college will be opening its Online Application for Admission this Academic Year 2021-2022, last January 5.

The application requirements, contact information, offered programs of the college,

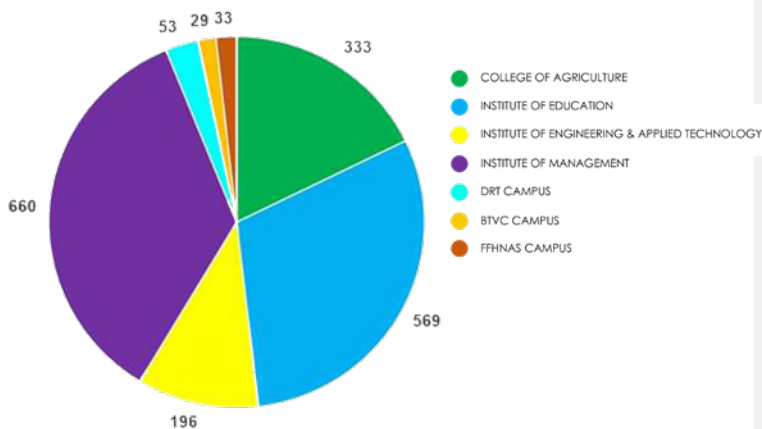
and Admission Application form were all posted in the BASC Admission Services Facebook Page.

"Marami na din [nag-apply]. May page ang admission and gumawa din kami ng email para dun nila isesend pag-online application," Office of Student Affairs and Services Directress, Dr. Jennifer P. Adriano said.

Dr. Adriano also mentioned that the tentative date for the examination will be on January 25 and to end by February 12, 2021.

She further explained that the examination will be conducted face-to-face upon approval of the Inter Agency Task Force (IATF).**

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSES



BASC studies speak for change

R.C. HAGAD & L.L. DELOS SANTOS

SUPREME Student Council together with Student Congress presented the proposed Constitution and By-Laws (CBL) of the Federation of Supreme Student Council (FSSC) of Bulacan Agricultural State College via SSC's Facebook page, December 22, 2020.

Following the said presentation, BASC students were tasked to answer Students Plebiscite for the approval of the proposed Constitution and By-Laws until December 30, 2020.

Resulting in small number of votes gathered by the given time frame, BASC Plebiscite was extended until January 11 and released the result the same day. A total of 1,849 out of 5,097 students or 36.28% responses were collected.

Despite on failing to reach half of the student population of the institution, the change was amended with regards to Article XVIII Section 1.2 of the present CBL, which states that 30% is enough for the population of the students and 20% for campuses and institutes.

In spite of the fact that only 36.28% responses were collected, it clearly shows that the students of BASC are open for changes in the student council for the following years.

In addition, students of

BASC were expected to support the activities and projects made by the Student Council as it is for the betterment of everyone.

"Sana patuloy na suportahan ng mga students 'yung mga ginagawang activities and proyekto ng Student Council kasi para sa ating lahat 'yun, para sa ikabubuti natin 'yun.'" Mr. Christian Jay D.G. Porciuncula, SSC President.

Furthermore, the first president of FSSC is envisioned to surpass the accomplishments of the current student council with the help of the whole FSSC members in the future.

"Para sa unang magiging Pangulo ng FSSC, hiling ko na mas higitan pa 'yung mga nagawa ng kasalukuyang administrasyon'" Porciuncula said.

According to the date stated in SSC's Constitution and By-Laws, election of student council via online platform is expected on 1st or 2nd monday of May.

Listed below are the following results collected from BASC Plebiscite:

Total Number of Responses:

1,849 out of 5,097 students (36.28%)

College of Agriculture (24.31%);

* 333 out of 1,370 students

Institute of Education (68.97%);

* 569 out of 825 students

BASC jumps off to the second semester of school year 2020-2021

WENDY A. GUERRERO

AS the 2nd Semester of A.Y. 2020-2021 started, Bulacan Agricultural State College welcomed the students and teachers in its first virtual flag raising ceremony via Facebook live, February 1.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs offered full support to the students and her subordinates by reassuring them that this semester's challenges has an end, too.

"We are hoping that this 2nd semester also we will be successfully surpassing whatever 'yong makahaharap na challenges,'" said Dr. Cecilia S. Santiago, VPAA.

Also, BASC Faculty and Employees Association president Mr. Robert Capalad presented the newly hired faculty and non-teaching personnel from each of the offices in the college.**

SSC airs SOSA 2021

ALEZANDRA VINCULADO

DESPITE having to lose face-to-face interactions, the Supreme Student Council (SSC) managed to conduct programs and activities in the past semester for the students of the college.

SSC President Christian Jay Porciuncula presented the State of the Students Address (SOSA) for the 1st Semester of Academic Year 2020-2021 through a video presentation via Facebook live, February 1.

Porciuncula and his subordinates addressed the students and faculty as they discussed the activities, contests, and achievements the SSC has recorded from August to December, 2020.

Aside from successful activities, they also provided variety of help to the students specially those who were incapable of attending online classes.

"Sa kabila ng mga hamon ng buhay, lahat ay makakaya basta tayo'y sama-sama," Porciuncula said as he finished his address, extending the council's sincere gratitude for the students and the faculty members of BASC.**

Institute of Engineering and Applied Technology (28.24%);

* 196 out of 694 students

Institute of Management (36.54%);

* 660 out of 1,806 students

Doña Remedios Trinidad Campus (29.78%);

* 53 out of 178 students

Balagtas Technical Vocational College Campus (23.58%);

* 29 out of 123 students

Fortunato F. Halili National Agricultural School (32.67%)

* 33 out of 101 students

Implementation of the Proposed FSSC Constitution and By-Laws

Yes- 1716

No- 35

Abstain- 98

Conducting the Annual Student Election through Online Platform on the First Week of May 2021

Yes- 1711

No- 52

Abstain- 86.**

TST BRAVES JOURNSEM 2021: Logging in to Online Campus Journalism

 MARK JOSHUA SUNGA

Writers, old and new, must be equipped with the up to date information and skills on journalistic writing. The Soil Tiller ushered its staff, the BASC Gazette, and other interested participants through a webinar on campus journalism, February 11.

In virtue of the resource speakers Ms. Andrea Lean Manapat and Mr. Allan Jason Sarmiento's invaluable

insights, TST managed to provide invaluable assistance for the school paper writers.

The aforementioned webinar purposely hit the staffs' improvement in writing articles in various fields, including news, sports, feature, and editorial writing.

While both Ms. Manapat and Mr. Sarmiento introduced separate topics, they, too, provided relevant themes and subjects for

the workshop that the writers created their own article from.

Below is the list of winners for the said workshop.

News Writing Workshop

1st Place- Elyjah Jann Rosales

2nd Place- Christian Jay Porciuncula

3rd Place- Reynaldo Gumabon & Paulo Ambrocio

Sports Writing Workshop

1st Place- Elyjah Jann Rosales

2nd Place- Pieven Jester Gonzales

3rd Place- Jocelle Lyn Bernabe and Rand Cristian Hagad

Feature Writing Workshop

1st Place- Elyjah Jann Rosales

2nd Place- Geliza Jaslen Elopore

Editorial Writing Workshop

1st Place- Elyjah Jann Rosales

2nd Place- Ma. Amberainne Mendoza

3rd Place- Andrea Mangalus.**

HB 08111: Product of 69 years of educational cultivation

 BIANCA GAIL D.C. GONZALES

SEEMINGLY a gift for its 69th foundation anniversary, Bulacan Agricultural State College took another step towards Universityhood as House Bill 08111 passed on the third and final reading of the House of Representatives, January 25.

House Bill 08111 is "An act converting the Bulacan Agricultural State College in the Province of Bulacan into a State University to be known as the Bulacan State Agricultural University and appropriating funds therefor" principally authored by Cong. Lorna Silverio.

The college had grown from a humble Agricultural High School into a State College and soon to be a State University.

BASC celebrated its 69th founding anniversary on February 24, 2021. It was known to be a state college for 23 years already by the virtue of Republic Act 8548 officially converting BuNAS into a chartered state college known as the Bulacan National Agricultural

State College (BNASC).

BASC President Dr. Jameson H. Tan affirmed that the goal of turning the college into a university was not an ambition but rather an upgrade and a transformation which will help in elevating the outlook of the people to the college.

Dr. Tan further explained that to be known as a university, an institution must fulfill two requirements; 1) to be compliant with Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) requirements; 2) to have a law to support it.

"Sa atin, ang ating ginagawa, 'yong Republic Act muna, then comply," Dr. Tan explained.

According to Dr. Tan, at present, BASC is on the process of complying with the CHED requirements to be a University.

"Pero bibigyan tayo, under the policy kung may batas ka, mayroon kang five years to

comply [with] the requirements of the CHED," he added.

However, if HB 08111 will not be approved, the college has to go through the process all over again.

Among State Universities and Colleges in Region III, BASC and Aurora State College of Technology (ASCOT) were left as State Colleges.**



PHOTO | John Edward Y. Cruz

IM-SC cultivates students' skill through EntrePinoy webinar

 HAZEL ASUNCION

Institute of Management - Student Council precedes the Future Entrepreneurs and Hoteliers through a webinar in cultivating and refining their skills, February 20.

With the theme “EntrePinoy: Skills Enhancement Webinar,” students from Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management, Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management and

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration participated in the said webinar where they come across the inspirational journey of the guest speakers.

In the presence of Ms. Avie Jean De Juan, Mr. Jayvee Villalon and Mrs. Rosalie Bacauto-Paladan; graduates of the BASC, and Mrs. Jocelyn Espiritu; one of the instructors in the institute each journey through

their success were outlaid.

“So marami tayong pamamaraan na pwedeng gawin, sabi nga ‘pag gusto may paraan, okay? So hanggat kaya n’yo i-try niyo lang ng i-try,” Mrs. Espiritu said.

Furthermore, a demonstration of ways to make and decorate a cake on the partaker despite having technical problems, were shown.

With the abovementioned webinar,

the students unlocked another skill with regards to the preparation to different paths that everyone is taking in the business world outside the college.

“Gamitin natin ang social media sa magandang pamamaraan. Doon natin gugulin yung oras natin sa pag-aaral ng mga bagong matututunan lalong lalong na yung makakatulong sa atin,” Mrs. Espiritu said.**

GAD addresses Gender-based harassment through Safe Spaces Act Webinar

 ALEJANDRA VINCULADO



AWARE AND INFORMED: Participants of the GAD webinar on Safe Space Act smiles as they had been given a photo opt after learning and being aware. **Photo | BASC Gender and Development.**

BASC Gender and Development gears up their motive to spread information on Republic Act No. 11313 as they conducted a webinar via Zoom app and Facebook live, February 23.

Resource speaker Atty. Mark Nester T. Mendoza of

Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines tackled about Republic Act No. 11313 an act defining “Gender-based sexual harassment in streets, public places, online, workplaces and educational or training, institutions, providing protective measures and

prescribing penalties” or the Safe Spaces Act which ensures an individual’s sense of personal space and their public safety.

On the earlier part of his discussion, Mendoza emphasized that the act does not only covers the cases of women but also men.

“It is not only women who were protected by the Safe Spaces Act. Pati tayong mga kalalakihan, because it recognizes that anyone can perpetuate sexual harassment,” he explained.

He further discussed different habits; some which were believe to be normal but were actually against this act.

“We used to do that [wolf-whistling] especially ‘yong older generations, they think it’s ok but it’s not,” he stressed.

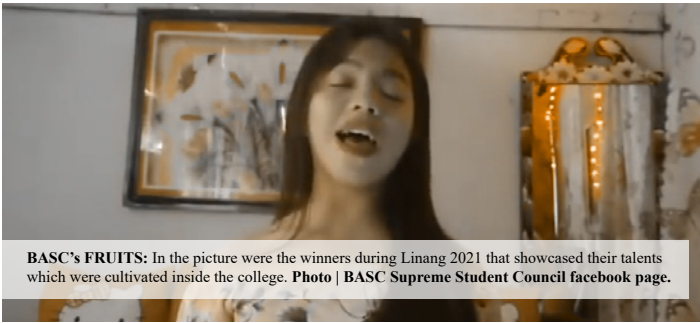
Mendoza addresses that 88% of women have experienced sexual harassment in a survey of SWS in 2016 while 41% never told anyone about it nor sought

help from the professionals and authorities.

Moreover, he also gave information about the essence of the act including the laws which have their own penalties, the sections of the act and the actions that could be taken once an individual were involved in a sexual harassment.

“What I want to emphasize here is, kahit anong motibo mo. Kahit malinis ang motibo mo na pang cat call, “Uy ganda!”, “Uy Sexy!” it doesn’t matter,” he said. Mendoza explained that as long as the offended party felt unsafe and harassed, the offender is liable under the law.

In addition, Mendoza further discussed the importance and role of the school when the harassment happened within the premise or an involved part came from the school.**



BASC's FRUITS: In the picture were the winners during Linang 2021 that showcased their talents which were cultivated inside the college. Photo | BASC Supreme Student Council facebook page.



SSC showcased college's cultivated talents on Linang 2021

 WENDY MAE GUERRERO

AS the Bulacan Agricultural State College celebrated its 23rd Charter Day and 69th Founding Anniversary, Supreme Student Council unboxed the hidden talents of the college's students through Linang 2021 via Facebook live and Zoom application, February 26.

SSC presented different competitions during Linang 2021 adhering to the theme **BASC @69: Transforming into an Agricultural State College** to showcase the cultivated talents of the students.

"Ang Linang 2021 ay naglalayong ipakita ang talento ng mga mag-aaral ng Bulacan Agricultural State College," SSC President Christian Jay Porciuncula said.

Students from different institute including the Laboratory High School and other campuses were able to participate on the Song Cover and Monologue Competition, Essay Writing, Dance and Digital Poster Making Contest with the guidelines and criteria to be followed by the participants.

Lloyd Dafydd R.

San Pedro, first place winner on Monologue Contest said that he had been practicing monologue for years as it is part of their training in theater when he was in high school.

Although surprised that there was no Short Film Making Contest he still said, "Walang dahilan para hindi maipakita ng isang BASCian ang kanilang mga talento kasi lagi gumagawa ng paraan ang SSC."

Furthermore, "The Beginners" who got the first place on Dance Contest said that they were grateful to those who supported them especially to the Lord who gave them strength and to the Institute of Education.

"It is a great experience for all of us in spite of this dilemma we are facing now. To everyone, we are grateful and Thank you so much," they uttered.

SSC also credited the Institute of Education as the most participative institute and the overall champion.

"Sa kabila ng hamon ng buhay, lahat ay makakaya basta tayo ay sama-sama," noted by SSC Pres. Porciuncula for all the BASC students

SSC prepared cash incentives for the winners on the said competitions and load allowance for the students who were able to answer some questions.

List of Winners:

Song cover Contest

1st Place- Daniela Cyra Gen F. Lovenia (IM)
2nd Place- Michael Justin R. Gomez (IEAT)
3rd Place- Angeline M. Papa (CA)

Essay Writing Contest

1st Place- Melanie N. Hizon(IED)
2nd Place- Clarisse Ann A. Asuncion(IED)
3rd Place- Rand Cristian S. Hagad (IED)

Monologue Competition

1st Place- Lloyd Dafydd R. San Pedro (IED)

2nd Place- Clarisse Ann A. Asuncion (IED)
3rd Place- Victoria Cura (IEAT)

Poster Making Contest

1st Place- Jonnelle Victoria(IED)
2nd Place- Eliseo Dela Cruz(IM)
3rd Place- Christian Reyes (IEAT)

Dance Contest

1st Place (IED)
Julius Jay S. Veron
Aldrix A. Baltazar
Luchel G. Salac
Evalin Marie P. Oliva
Michael Angelo A. Santos

2nd Place (IED)
Jerlyn I. Bautista
Mark Jaywell I. Bautista
Mayk Jaynell I. Bautista

3rd Place (IED)
Roselle C. Bernardo
Michael B. De Belen
Ralph Deneil G. Mangalino
Sharmel Anne V. Tabuzo**



IED carries students igniting Fire Prevention Month seminar

ALEZANDRA VINCULADO

BY providing safety protocols and tips as a form of awareness in this year's Fire Prevention Month, the faculties of Institute of Education and Laboratory High School addressed their tribute on igniting fire prevention via Zoom meeting and FB live, March 18.

Parents, students and student organizations apprehended themselves to the resource speakers from Bureau of Fire Protection San Ildefonso and San Rafael who provided materials, shaping their theme "Sa pag-iwas sa sunog, 'di ka nag-iisa" while they further discuss the origin of Fire Prevention Month and tips in preventing fire accidents.

"Mahalaga na ang bawat isa ay ma-edukahan tungkol sa pag-iwas at mga bagay na dapat gawin kung mayroong sunog," said IED's Dean, Dr. Analiza Vendicacion as she addresses the purpose of the webinar.

Short background regarding fire and effects of fire in the climate change was presented by Ms. Maila Ignacio, the first resource speaker from LHS as she continue discussing about the

toxic chemicals that may lead to combustion and might cause dangerous accidents.

The second speaker, Ms. Margie de Jesus also shares her lecture concerning the fire safety awareness of the BFP, including the tools for fire prevention, classifications of fire, protocols to follow before, during and after a fire incident.

Furthermore, FO1 Richie Mark Volante sustained helpful information to everyone as he introduced the main causes of fire and provided variety of safety tips to consider when in danger of ablazing fires.

Many streamers stated their concerns as Volante explains the tasks done by the BFP, while declaring their purpose as firefighters and their battle against the risky job.

"Hindi lamang sa COVID-19 dapat mag-ingat, kundi sa banta ng sunog na tuluyang kumukuha ng kung ano mang mayroon tayo," Director of Extension, Imee Esguerra ended the program as she gives her motivation to stay safe and alert in any accidents that may happen. **

BASC yields 1,217 Dean's Lister

DANIEL LUIS VERONA

ALONG with the existing flexible learning, Bulacan Agricultural State College (BASC) produced 1,217 Academic Excellence Awardee recognized during the awarding ceremony spearheaded by Dean's Lister Society (DLS), March 26.

With the theme "Unconquered: Unwavering Pursuit of Excellence amidst the Challenges of the Pandemic", 414 from Institute of Management (IM), 409 from Institute of Education (IEd), 181 from College of Agriculture (CA), 118 from Institute of Engineering and Applied Technology (IEAT), 22 from Doña Remedios Trinidad (DRT) Campus, 61 from Balagtas Technical Vocational College (BTVC) and 11 from Fortunato F. Halili Agricultural School (FFHNAS) were acknowledged as Dean's Lister of Academic Year 2020-2021 (First Semester).

"Your success is a shared success. You succeed because of your parents, because of the health and wisdom of your parents and their support also, the support of your friends and also the wisdom that came to the faculty of Bulacan Agricultural State College." Ms. Grace Alison Maglallan, DLS Adviser said.

"We encourage you to dream big and always strive to do better next time." Dr. Jameson H. Tan, College President, emphasized on his opening remarks.

Meanwhile, aside of the awardee of the previous semester, Academic Excellence Awardee of A.Y. 2019-2020 (Second Semester) of Graduated Class was also given duly recognition.

The event was administered through Zoom and Facebook live at Office of the Students Affairs and Services (OSAS) Page. **

SEE persists BSBA DAY 2021: Becoming Managers of Change

ROBIELYN GARCIA

THE pandemic failed to hinder the annual BSBA Day celebration.

The Society of Executives and Entrepreneurs managed to push through the celebration of "BSBA Day 2021" via online, with the theme "Becoming Managers of Change", March 13.

The said celebration paved the way for students to showcase their skills, knowledge and talents in various competitions and to strengthen communication--exclusively for all Bachelor of Science in Business Administration students.

"Dahil sa distance learning, alam naman nating

lahat na hindi pa gaanong magkakakilala ang mga estudyante particularly ang freshmen, makakatapos sila sa unang taon sa kolehiyo ng hindi magkakakilala, kaya sa pamamagitan ng mga Mayors hinikayat namin sila na magtulungan para makilala nila ang isa't isa," Jericho Manuel, SEE President said.

With the guidance of Ms. Ruby Ann Estrella, SEE adviser, and the entirety of SEE officers they conducted different activities which includes; Logo, Brand Name and Tagline Making, Tiktok Contest, Witty-Twitty Branding and Quiz Bee, which engaged 425 expected participants, starting March 8 to 13.

BASC continue seizing greater heights

BIANCA GAIL GONZALES

UNRAVELED by the pandemic, Bulacan Agricultural State College managed to seize another step to its betterment through sealing a partnership with Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), March 29 via Zoom meeting.

SEARCA is an organization in Southeast Asia who is known for its expertise and leadership in agriculture.

“As an institution we have to, we need to expand our horizons not merely for university but for us to gauge our strength and the standards of our programs. Only through partnerships, we can say that what we are doing here at BASC is comparable to global standards. We intend to be a smart university in the future and partnerships will be of great help to us to realize this,” Dr. Jameson H. Tan, BASC President said.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by SEARCA Director Dr. Glenn B. Gregorio and Dr. Tan.

According to Dr. Tan, he initiated the partnership through sending an email to SEARCA. “I was surprised that they replied and requested for an exploratory meeting thru zoom with their Director General Dr. Glen Gregorio,” he said.

He further said that through this partnership the college “can learn from them, avail their services either through scholarship, research grants and others.”

Moreover, he said that the faculty of the college can apply and avail full scholarships for their graduate studies at known universities in Southeast Asia like UPLB, Katsetsart Univerdity in Thailand and others, and the college will greatly benefit with the said partnership.

Meanwhile, the college already has partnership with Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University in China where Mr. Christian Capulong, alumnus of the college and now working as part of the college staff, application to pursue his

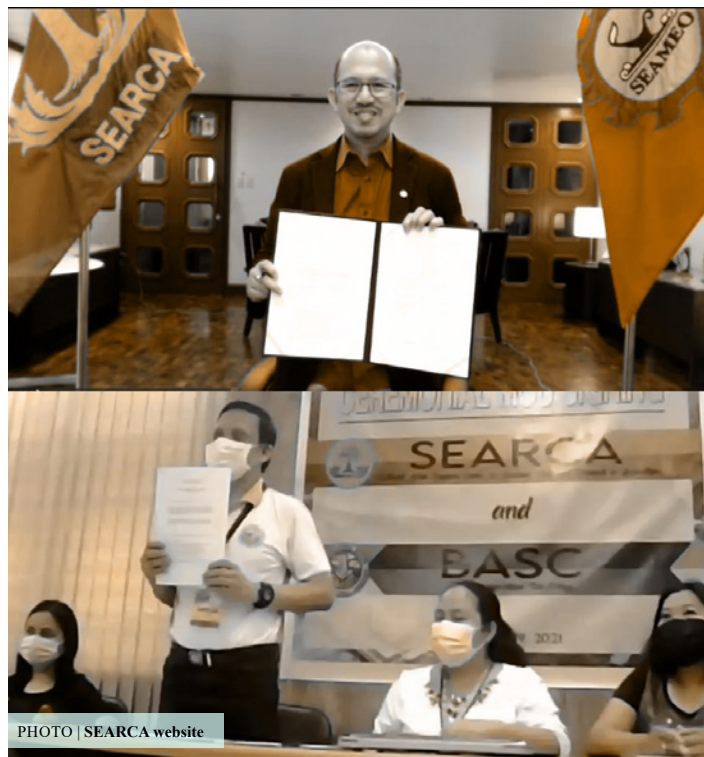


PHOTO | SEARCA website

graduate studies there under full scholarship is now in process.

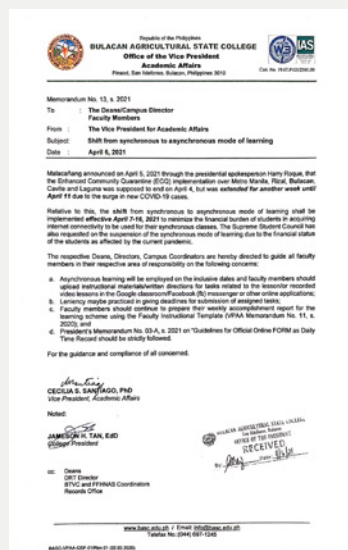
The partnership is part of the college’s internationalization plan which

includes seeking for partnership with known and respected institutions in the Philippines and overseas.**

from SSE persist BSBA DAY...

Furthermore, Manuel considered the turnout of events successful and is hoping for the next officers of SEE to continue the celebration for the coming years.

“Isa itong malaking success para sa aming mga officers ng SEE dahil kitang kita sa outcome na sobrang successful ng event, at alam kong ipagpapatuloy pa ito ng mga susunod na magiging officer,” he said. “Nakakalugod at nakakataba ng puso na mapagkatiwalaan ng mga estudyante at ng mga guro na walang sawang nakasuporta sa amin,” Manuel added.**



BASC Admin approves Acad Ease

BIANCA GAIL D.C. GONZALES

IN response to the students’ plea for an academic ease, Bulacan Agricultural State College’s Office of the Vice President issued Memorandum No. 13, s. 2021 effective April 7 to 16, 2021.

The memo stated that “the shift from synchronous to asynchronous mode of learning shall be implemented effective April 7 to 16, 2021 to minimize the financial burden of students in acquiring internet connectivity

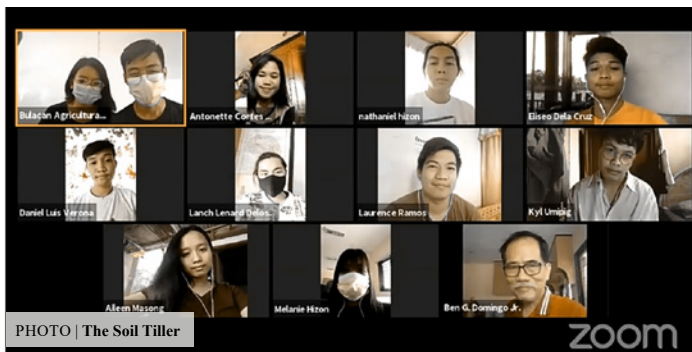
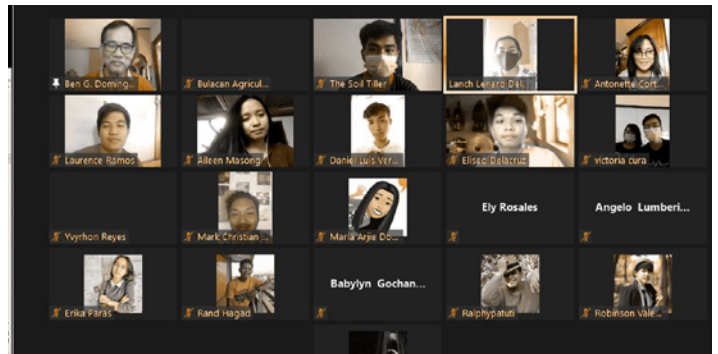
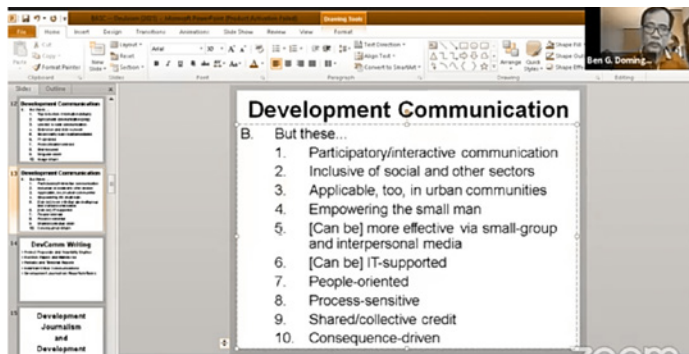
to be used for their synchronous classes.”

This meant that teachers were allowed to send materials and activities online with leniency in the deadlines of submission.

The issuance of academic ease was also requested by the Supreme Student Council prior to their request for Academic Break which was disapproved due to CHED guidelines.**

JOURNSEM 2021 of TST moves in for Part 2

WENDY MAE GUERRERO



STRIVING for enhancement!

The Soil Tiller, official student publication of Bulacan Agricultural State College outstretched the learning about campus journalism as they aired the 2021 Journsem: Logging in to Online Campus Journalism 2 via Zoom conference and Facebook live, March 24.

The said webinar aimed to improve the writing skills of student journalists and other interested artipants in terms of Development Communication and Column Writing.

Mr. Ben Domingo Jr., the speaker for Development Journalism and Mr. Kyle Umipig for Column Writing guided the participants on how to write an article for current issues.

Furthermore, Mr. Domingo was particular about being mindful on the issue to be discussed in a devcomm article as he believes that everybody should be given credit for changes and development.

Also, Mr. Umipig

explained that column writing is a great way for a writer to discuss about their opinion on an issue and a way to know what kind of publication a newspaper has.

After the lectures of the said speakers, the participants were given a topic to write an

article under each category for the workshop part of the webinar facilitated via Google classroom.

The list of winners were as follows:

DEVCOMM WRITING WORKSHOP

1st Place: Laurence Ramos

2nd Place: Hazel Asuncion
3rd Place: Geliza Jaslen Eloppe
COLUMN WRITING WORKSHOP

1st Place: Laurence Ramos
2nd Place: Jayson A. Ocampo
3rd Place: Charles Sulit.**

Bunalade, Talusan to lead FSSC on A.Y. 2021-2022

LANCH LENARD DELOS SANTOS

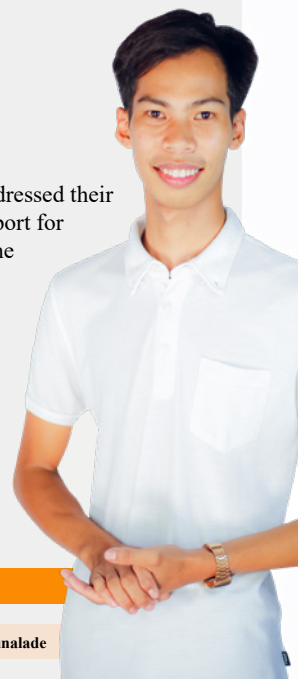
AS Election 2021 concluded, Argie Bunalade and Janferson Talusan were announced to serve the studentry as the newly elected Federation of Supreme Student Council President and Vice President respectively, May 17.

Bulacan Agricultural State College - Commission on Student Election (BASC-CSE) hosted an online conference for the election via google meet where Argie Bunalade from BASC ONE, the newly announced College of

Agriculture's Governor has been elected as the first president of the FSSC. Bunalade gathered a five out of seven votes from the governors of different institute from the main campus and governors from the satellite campuses.

Before the voting session was done through google forms, governors from Institute of Engineering and Applied Technology, Institute of Education, Institute of Management, and Balagtas Technical Vocational

Campus have addressed their statement of support for Bunalade to be the FSSC President. According to Bunalade, Federation of Supreme Student Council is new for them; especially the structure, positions and



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PHOTO | Argie Bunalade

BASC, DA initiates groundbreaking on 5M Swine Farm project

BIANCA GAIL D.C. GONZALES



NEW HEIGHTS: BASC, ATI, DA-RFO III initiated the groundbreaking ceremony for swine farm hoping to help the local swine raisers. Photo | Marivic A. Capalad

BULACAN Agricultural State College President Jameson H. Tan together with Ms. Elisa Mallari, Livestock Focal Person of DA-RFO III and Center Director of ATI Central

Luzon, Ms. Veronica Concepcion V. Esguerra led the groundbreaking ceremony for the Swine Multiplier and Techno Demo Farm at Pinaod, San Ildefonso Bulacan, June 23.

Ms. Marivic A. Capalad, BASC Team leader of the said project said that "This project was a commitment of Undersecretary Dr. William Medrano to Pres Jameson Tan and

BASC." However, she explained that BASC Swine Multiplier and Techno Demo Farm team submitted a proposal for a 5M project was thru ATI-ITCPH.

The purpose of the project is to help the backyard swine raisers because the project was dispersal.

"We are giving 5 heads of piglets sa mga farmers (female piglets only). Ang layunin natin ay para miabalik ang bilang ng mga nag-aalaga ng baboy, to help decrease the price of pork in the market today, to give good quality breeders, at ma-uplift ang buhay ng farmers thru giving them an extra income," Capalad explained.

Furthermore, Capalad said that she was very thankful that BASC was given a chance to be a channel for this project.

Moreover, Capalad mentioned that they have been steering a new project that aims to help the students, farmers and Artificial Insemination Technician.**

from Bunalade, Talusan to lead...

leadership methods they need to apply. It is a challenge for them as the next student leaders, to adapt this new changes and the pressure that they are facing right now.

"Serving BASC studentry is both an honor and a responsibility. We did not aim for the position for popularity, we were trained to serve and be the voice of the students, and it is my privilege to represent them in all programs and activities. Students are my inspiration to take this step and to accept the challenge in this position. Being a governor and president at the same time is easy, we need your support and trust to accomplish our plans, projects, programs and activities," Bunalade added.

On the other hand,

Talusan also gathered five votes out of seven Vice Governors in our institution that made him the Vice President of FSSC.

Hazel Asuncion, Chairperson of CSE stated that the conversion of Supreme Student Council to Federation of Supreme Student Council will benefit the college within two major means.

"To be honest, there's a lot of benefits [of having FSSC]. Imagine, we have our own Student Tribunal kung saan mararamdaman ng mga estudyante na mayroon silang pwedeng takbuhan in times na kailangan nila ng tulong sa certain issues. Also the Senates, kung saan ang mga batas na mas magpoprotekta sa estudyante ay maipatutupad. Ayon yung dalawang bagay na nakita kong

benepisyo ng FSSC, bukod pa sa mas pinaglalapit nito yung ibang campuses sa main," Asuncion ended.

Furthermore, election for the Senate and Student tribunal was conducted May 18, where Mikah February Santos and Reynalene Dungca of BASC ONE were announced as the Senate President and Senate Pro Tempore, respectively.

Meanwhile, for the Student Disciplinary Tribunal Alexis Geronimo was announced as the Lead Judge, followed by Jhon Angel Dizon as the Associate Judge, who are both from BASC ONE.**



PRODUCTIVITY amidst ADVERSITY

A GLANCE AT A HARDWORKING STUDENT'S QUARANTHINGS



MARIANE CRUZ

I woke up feeling more energetic and excited today. The sun shining brightly and peeking through my window made me smile. This day is going to be a long day for sure. Nonetheless, I know I am happy with what I am doing.

I first did my morning routine before anything else. I helped my mother in the household chores and played with my little sister. After finishing all my tasks in the morning, I readied myself to spend more time on the internet.

A lot of people may think that it is unpleasant to invest a lot of time in social media. It is what I thought too before. But then, after realizing how the social media can help me lessen my boredom and gain profit at the same time, my perspective changed.

It all started when I saw a post from a facebook friend selling trendy clothes. As a teenager who loves those things too, I was inspired to resell the items she was selling. I got a lot of buyers, but since the ECQ was strictly implemented that time, most of my customers cancelled their orders.

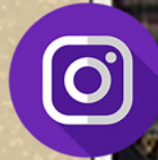
However, it wasn't enough reason for me to give up. It is the month of May when I saw a direct supplier of finger

foods. I resold it and since a lot of people are bored in the comfort of their homes, the item became very popular. It is what inspired me to continue although picking up and delivering orders were very tiresome. Having satisfied customers and gaining profit at the same time is very fulfilling.

As I was selling the finger foods, I also found a lot of direct suppliers. I willingly got their items and resold all those. I wasn't finicky with the items to sell. I believe that social media is indeed a stepping stone for small businesses to receive recognition and I grabbed the spotlight from physical stores as it is ordered to close for the mean time.

All my hard works paid off when I was able to buy things not only for myself, but for





my mother. My heart fluttered so much hearing her say how proud she is to me. I never regretted my decision investing my time here for it helped me grow and somehow be independent.

Aside from online selling, the “Tiktok” application also lessened my boredom. If online selling helps me gain profit, doing dance challenges from Tiktok boosts my confidence. It also helped me gain a lot of knowledge since I also watch educational and motivational videos there.

I did all my remaining tasks for that day. After spending time on online selling and doing Tiktok videos, I once again helped with the household chores and spent more time with my family. Time spent with them are always worth it and I can consider it one of the best things happened to me



I never regretted my decision investing my time here for it helped me grow and somehow be independent.



during this lockdown.

Before the day ends, I did my very last routine - to thank Him for everything. We all experienced a predicament, we all struggled and we are all still fighting with this pandemic but He never forsake us. I have a lot of things to be grateful for. One of it is to being where I am today.

I am Cerize Joy E. Josen, a freshman student taking up the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, giving you a friendly advice to always try to be productive and learn something new. Do something your heart desires and be more passionate with the things you love.**





IT IS THE **Plants** WHO Makes a Day



AILEEN MASONG

Although they are only given limited space at homes. Filipinos didn't see it as hindrance in making themselves productive.

It is much better to invest in growing revenues in the midst of unproductive home wealth.

COVID 19 pandemic shut the doors of countless establishments, becoming the reason to put people quarantined inside houses. A way to divert attention for something which excites individual is poor, knowing nothing to dedicate time whenever we are only moving in four-cornered room. With the vision of finding desire to escape boredom and stress, the pandemic provides an earthy entertainment to spend worthy living, thus it presents the escalating number of plant parents.

Plants are very significant to humans and in the environment.

It takes up carbon dioxide and gives

off oxygen which is essential in all living organisms. Moreover, plants sustain the cleanliness of air and even the quality of water which helps the surrounding breathe freshly. Discovering superb instances in pandemic is perceived as many people divert their attention to plants. The threshold to relieve stress and brighten moods sensed through valuing green and colored living species at quenching considerable issues of COVID 19. Setting a focus fades apprehension in unconditioned events ensued in our country.

Studies shown that indoor plants take huge contribution in buildings whereas it supplies pleasant ambience which is free from negativities. This may claim a point of purpose to notice the benefits of plants so people taking responsibility and be hands-on in care of it for lingering days. With this, plant parents are noticed and coined separately as 'plantito' or 'plantita'.

The agriculturist of Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Mr. Ernie Lito Bollosa told Business Bulletin, the booming of ornamental agriculture is observed whence buying and caring plants became a therapeutic activity for

*It is
much better
to invest
in growing
revenues in
the midst of
unproductive
home
wealth.*

the purpose of decorations. With some whom their lost jobs, people started to venture this as business for many plant parents due to increasing demands.

Plant sellers sprout opportunity to the nation status when plant lovers and parents suddenly amplified its count. Even costly greenery gain purchases and those newly discovered succulents are indeed sold excessively in the market. Sellers obtain undeniable high income as there is a price hike and the raising sales of plants.

A plant business, Golden Bloom Orchids situated in San Rafael, Bulacan contains vast variety of orchids and some ornamental plants. The assigned secretary of the business, Ms. Merien Mendoza shares her sentiments with the outgrowing buyers of plants.

“Malaki ang naging percentage ng earnings kahit pandemic. Marami kasing nahilig sa pag-aalaga ng halaman. Mostly, prefer ng buyers bilhin yung mga ornamentals, strap vanda at dendrobiums,” Mendoza said. Plant consumers eagerly buy variety of plants as well as plant vendors and business owners take risks to supply the demands of the mass. Subsequently, the ingress of currency is evidently received.

Manila Bulletin released that plant prices were determined with the availability, demand, the variety of species, the age, status and the trends. Those some aspects impact the price which also a reason for it may change over time, that those once cheap will be expensive in a few years or likewise.

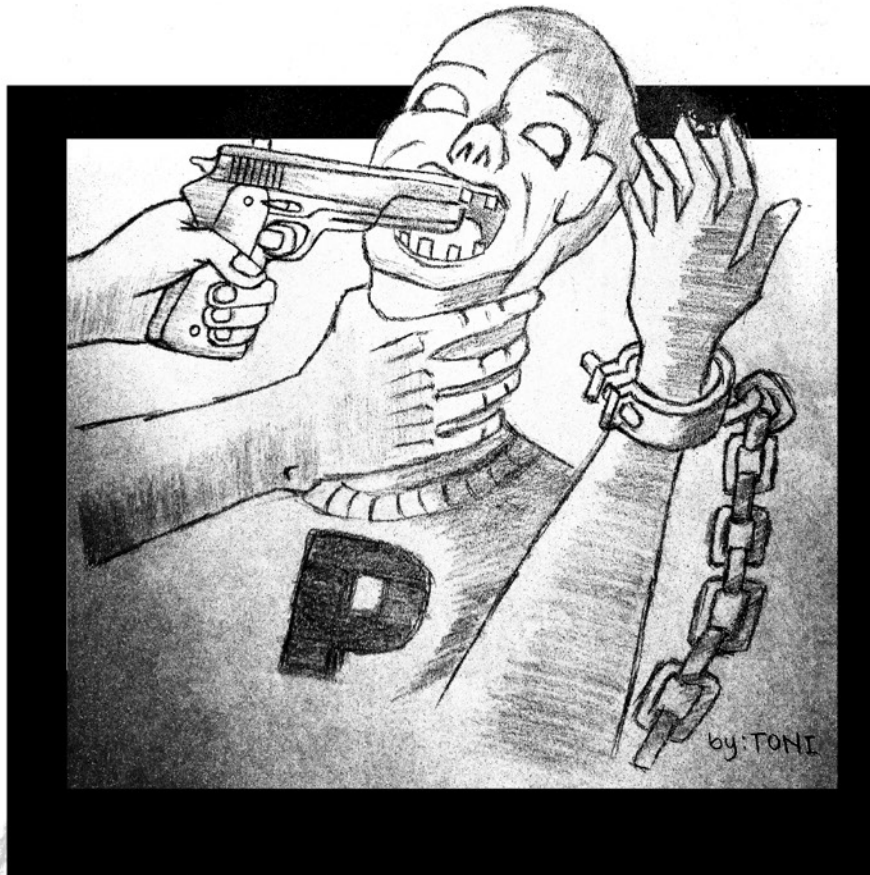
The brought refreshment of this living species set high percentage of sales that path favorably to wander emotions to discrete recreation. The value of plants does not reflect the preference of the sellers but depends to the accessibility of the crops that are remarkably purchased.

“May mga klase ng orchids na medyo pricey dahil mataas yung price sa supplier. Isa na din sa dahilan yung pagtaas ng air freight papunta dito sa Pilipinas. Thru online din kase, kaya mas nakakapag reach out ng customers anywhere inside the country basta may courier,” Mendoza added.

The selling has no account to terminate the transport of plants all over the country that cause raise in earnings. Vendors also propagate its number when heed the quantity of plant parents. The situation procures people to adapt another mechanism to cope the on-going circumstances.

With the growth of admiring and promoting green and refreshing environment transmits many strategies to be able to get through present challenges. A penny is somewhere hidden. The frisky hands and minds ace the triumph. It is unknown that plants were once the answer for the calmness and peace until the abundance of sellers and buyers heightened on the length of battle in COVID 19.**





Higit sa Nakatataas

— VINCULADO, Alejandra

Halos tatlong oras na rin akong naghihintay sa masikip na selda na ipinilit akong ipasok. Walang warrant, walang ebidensiya, walang tamang hatol pero nagpupumilit na ako'y nagkasala.

Naririnig ko ang nakaiinsultong tawa ng mga animo bayani. Mga manggagamit, pero halimaw at sakim sa kanilang itinuturing na kuta.

“Bata, ginahasa mo ba ang babae na nakita sa Ermita?”
tunog-paratang na tanong nila. Kita sa mga mata nila na sinisiguro nilang ako'y magtatago at 'di paninindigan ang kainosentihan.

“Hindi,” matigas kong tugon. Ako'y napadaan lamang sa eskinitang pinangyarihan, nakita ang malaswang pangyayari at nagsisigaw ng tulong. Ngunit nang ulitin ko ang aking hinaing, mabilis na sumalubong sa aking bibig ang baril na dapat ay pang-protekta sa inosente.

Mga Bulaang Hatol

— Protonation

“Ano'ng kaso mo?” Tanong ko sa isang lalaki sa aking tabi.

Ilang araw na simula nang dalhin ako rito ngunit ngayon lang ako nagkaroon ng lakas ng loob upang kumausap ng kahit sino. Ang isang maliit na sulok sa masikip na seldang ito ang nagsilbing puwesto ko. Ang malamig na rehas ang naging kaibigan ko sa loob ng ilang araw kong pananatili rito.

Ngumisi siya bago sumagot.
“Murder ‘daw’ e.”

“Daw?”

“Sabi nila, ‘nung mga nag-imbestiga.” Umiling ito at ngumisi nang may sarkasmo.

Hindi ako nakakibo, hindi dahil hindi ako naniniwala sa kaniya — ito'y dahil higit na nauunawaan ko ang ipinahihiwatig niya.

Nilingon ko ang ilan pa sa aking mga kasama. Ilan kaya sa mga ito ang tunay na may sala? Ilan din kaya ang inosente? Ilan kaya ang mga pinalaya ngunit totoong nagkasala? Ilan pa kaya kaming mga walang kasalanan ngunit nadiin dahil walang sapat na kapangyarihan?

Huminga ako nang malalim bago muling magsalita.

“Mananaig pa rin ang totoo.” Sambit ko, nagsisisunungaling sa sarili.

“Hindi naman palaging nananaig ang totoo, dahil kung ano ang nananalo sa korte ay siyang nagiging katotohanan.” Sagot niya at hindi na ako mas nakasang-ayon pa.

Undefined Failing Offset

— SUNGA, Mark Joshua

In the whining road where
crimes are peaceful and clear;
No wonder how this guy
screams in fear,
While the scavenger loves the
thought
of aiming a gun into someone's
head,
And the fond of watching bloods
glitter and shed.

One dreary evening, their roads
intertwined.
They came across in the depths of
awful night, nobody understands.
And the guy just died without any
indication and context.

Is this all about drugs?
Arrears,
Mistaken identity,
Or just the sheer gratification of
injustice?
Nobody knows.
What's more evident is the futile
system in this society.
Oh, inhumane!

Sidewalk Vendor

— MANGALINO, Ralph Deneil

Naalala ko pa noong bata ako,
palagi akong dinadala ng tatay
sa may bangketa kung saan siya
nagtitinda. Palagi niya akong
binibilhan ng pulang lobo at
cotton candy. Hindi matutumbasan
ang ligaya ko sa mga araw na iyon
dahil kasama ko ang umaruga
sakin buong buhay ko.

Ngayon, mayroon pa rin namang
lobo at cotton candy, ngunit wala
nang pambili. At magkasama pa
rin dapat tayo..

kung hindi ka lang binaril ng
mamang pulis habang marahas na
itinataboy sa lugar na hindi naman
nila teritoryo.



Sinigang

— SULIT, Charles

Sa lagablab ng apoy,
isinalang ang nangingitim na
kaldero.
Pinalalambot ang baboy,
konting asin para lumasa.
Sibuyas at kamatis,
para sa linamnam at bango.
Mga gulay na pakukuluang
mabuti,
'di makalilimutan ang pang-asim.

Titikman ang sabaw —kunot noo.

Sa lagablab ng apoy ng pandemya,
makikita ang madilim na
hinaharap.
Mga opisyal na nagpapalaki ng
tiyan,
habang ang mamamayan
—asin ang ulam.
Itinatago ang baho at lansa,
sa simoy ng mabulaklak na salita.
Habang ang mga tao ay lantang
gulay sa pagtatrabaho,
Mapakain lang ang pamilya ng
sinigang
na isang linggong sweldo ang
presyo.

Titikman ang sabaw—kunot noo.

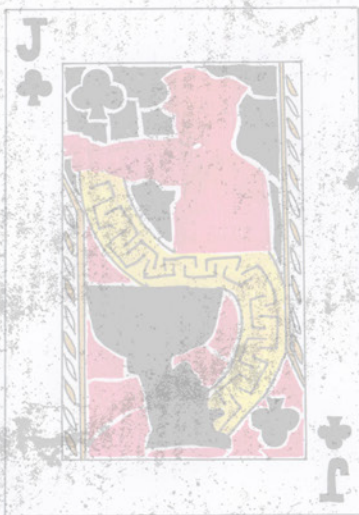
Ngiwi sa asim, lunod sa sabaw ng
kahirapan.



Istratipikasyon

— HIZON, Melanie N.

Kahit ibuka ng bibig ang
pagkakapantay-pantay,
hindi na mababago ang gawi ng
isip.
Walang patas na pagtingin ang
sinuman;
kahit siya pang nasa hukuman.
May maralita't mariwasa sa
lipunan
na katayuan ang tinitingnan.



Pinangingilangang Mahistrado

— VERONA, Daniel Luis

Sa korte, dalawa lang ang klase ng tao:
Isang taga-usig at isang inuusig ng husgado.
Parehong nagnanais na mapalinaw ang tubig ng kanal,
Mabanaad ang dalisay na kwento sa likod ng mga kuro-kuro, sa katotohanang bibig ay mabusal.

Ngunit hindi lang pala hukuman ang may karapatang magdikta sa kapalaran ng nasisisiil.
'Di lang silang inuutay-utay ang pagsuong sa madilim na poso negro.
Silang nasa labas ang kalimitang tahol ang hatol na mula sa opinyon.
Malabong matining ang dumi sa hustisya, kung madla na ang pumukpok sa malyete.

Paghatol

— horiZone

Galugarin mo ang pugad ng pagkatuto,
Doon ay matatagpuan mo ako,
Tinitimbang ang bawat gramo ng kabutihang katumbas ay ginto.

Takpan man ang mata sa paglayag, gagamitin ang tainga upang hinaing ay mapakinggan at maihayag.
Kung ang ina ay hinatulan at nakitil sa laban, mga sisiw nito'y hindi titigil sa pakikipagtalaktakan.

Hindi maralita ang siyang may sala,
huwag patahimikin ang madla!
Dahil hindi mapuputol ang isang libong dila ng nag-iisang parak na may sala.



Death of the Dawn

— VERONA, Daniel Luis

Every inception had it's cease.
And on the first day of 2021,
Omega comes first before Genesis.

Two lives were lose abruptly.
No one anticipated that the first
day of the year will be their last
respire.

A lady who died with still
unidentified reason;
And a man who was shot by a
police mistakenly.

A lady with wealth, looks and an
influence;
And a simple construction worker
who died
after he attended the birthday party
of his child.
A lady who earned a huge
publicity.
An individual with no connections
among the hierarchy.

On the same day,
they died;
two different stories of unlawful
deeds.
But one thing must called the
masses' attention
that justice must be served
not only for those who have power
but also for the marginalized
sectors.

Sumamo ni Magdalena

— VINCULADO, Alezandra

Ang kulimlim ng gabi ay 'di
mawari.
Lantad sa mga mata ang
maliwanag na pagkakasala
ngunit daig ng mata ang kulimlim
ng gabi,
dahil kabulaanan ang palagi nitong
pinipili.

Nakapandidiri.
Nakapanlulumo.
Ang bawat hagupit ng putok
ay ligaya sa pitong manggogoyo.

Nahihimigan ko kasabay ng
alulong ng mga aso,
Ang hiyaw ng paghihinagpis ng
dalagang sinamantala.
Ngunit walang estranghero ang
tumaya para magligtas.

Balisa ang kaniyang mukha,
Dahil ang mga imahe na kaniyang
nakikita
ay mga personalidad na
nangakong magbibigay ng
kapayapaan,
Ngunit siya palang pasimuno
sa paninira sa kinabukasan ng
kabataan.

Natawa ang dalaga habang
pinipilit na gumiling.
Ang mga hinaing niya'y hindi
marinig kahit ipilit,
Kahit umabot sa korte ang
kasalanang tinangkilik,
Hindi pa rin pakikinggan dahil
siya'y nagsuot lang ng
pang-malandi.



The Unfolding of the Blindfold

— Deus ex Machina

I saw the eyes of Lustitia...

They were empty.
Robbed of sympathy,
Bloods are dripping,
Doors are missing.

Reflection of a void,
Like the truth they tried to avoid.
A mystical black hole,
Devoid of a soul.

I tried to peek and make a call,
But it was returned like echoes in
a hall.
I stretched my arms to reach
inside,
But in a second, my hands were
tied.

I stared at her with a beseeching
look;
Convincing her I am not a crook.
But who am I trying to fool?
If from the start, I already knew
the rule.

Justice does not reside at the court.
She long-ago vanished by an
extort.
A goddess they dressed like a
jester,
Forced to be deaf and read their
letter.

Her sword was blood stained.
Her hands were restrained.
The book she trampled was the
Bible;
A marionette amidst the trial.

The scale she holds was long
heavy,
The winner was decided already.
A mere gold coin flips the fate;
Just because my voice have no
weight.

I saw the eyes of Lustitia...

They were empty.
Robbed, literally.
They stole her eyes,
Made it look at their lies.

"The use of conspicuous wealth
and enormous privilege to alter
the truth and create injustice to the
poor"

Exodus 14:21

— Deus ex Machina

The Paraoh was long dead,
His loyal sentry already fled.
The Israelites so-far are free,
But stood in front of them is the
red sea.

They loosen the shackles on their
necks.
Challenged the desserts as they
trek.
Every inch they breach lifts up
their faith,
Leaving their entirety up to fate.

A lot of them by now are dead
beneath the sand.
The unfortunate ones were left
lifeless in their land.
Unable to know the taste of
freedom,
And witness the pyramids'
crumbs.

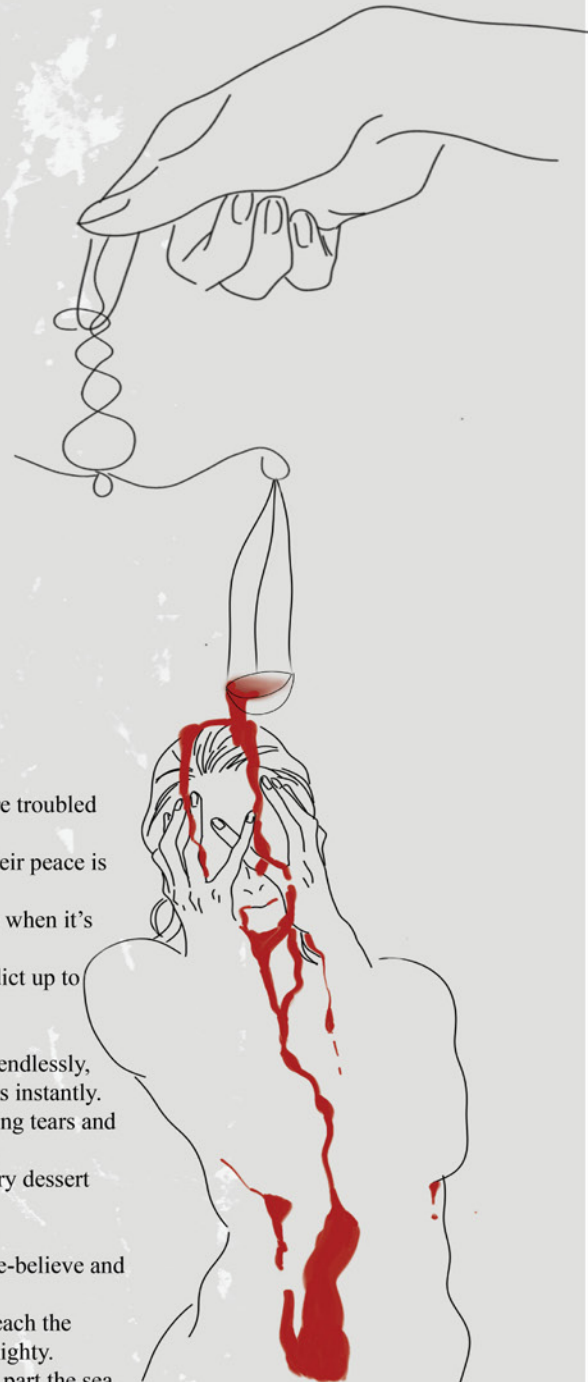
However, this story is never the
Exodus.
The only similarity is that they're
abused,
Thought they were freed and
spared,
Only to be greeted by another
despair.

Up until now, there are troubled
souls.
Sleepless corpse as their peace is
on hold.
Can you call it justice when it's
stuck,
Leaving the final verdict up to
luck?

The red sea stretches endlessly,
Destroying their hopes instantly.
Their eyes were pouring tears and
blood,
That made even the dry dessert
flood.

Presented with a make-believe and
almost liberty,
Assuming they will reach the
promised land of Almighty.
But without Moses to part the sea,
They knew that they will never be
genuinely free.

"Delayed justice is injustice"



Huwag mong Paikutin sa Itaas ang Batas

— CURA, Victoria

Hindi naman nililimot ngunit bakit nga ba nilulumot? Kapalara'y wala nga sa kayamanan. Buhay ko ba'y nakasalalay sa palad ng iilan?

Ipit man o pilit, wag mo akong bigyan ng sagot kung hindi ka nakapikit. Kung matatayog na kulay ang humahalina at namumutawi sa iyong pang-amoy, siguro'y ang sangsang ng gaya ko'y sisira sa iyong paghinga. Nakikinig sa kalansing ng bawat baryang nahuhulog sa bulsa mong butas, habang pinadaraan mo lamang sa butas ng iyong tainga ang aking mga hininga. Pasaklop naman ako sa kumot ng karangyaan at kapangyarihan. Papiring naman ang aking mga mata, masyado na yatang bulgar at talamak ang pagkakaiba ng iisang timbangan.

Sa dilim ako'y nangangapa habang sa liwanag sila'y nagpapakasasa. Kahit magkapasa'y pipiliting pumagaspas sa himpapawid,

nakikipagsabayan sa mga gintong agilang malalakas at malalaya. Ang tanikala ng kahirapan ang pumupuksa sa apoy ng pag-asang nasa akin. Akala ko'y may tabing ang mga mata upang pagkakapantay ay maipaunawa, ngunit hindi pala, nakasilip sa tela ang mata habang nakatingin sa nagkikislapang bato na pupukaw sa unang tingin. Akala ko'y diringgin ang aking tinig mula sa pintig ng puso kong nagpaparinig, ngunit hindi, puno na yata ng tulili ang tainga at tila'y naging bingi na sa tunog ng mga taong nagsusumamo.

Sa bawat kwentong magulo, mayroon ngang iba't ibang anggulo. Ang laylayan ang nakasalalay sa kahalayan ng mga naninindigan sa kataas-taasan. Batas. Hustisya. Mamamayan. Hindi na sa punit na damit ngunit sa pagkakasala na ang estatwa'y nakatingin dahil kung ang hustisya'y hindi titingin ng tama, handa ka na bang maging manhid at bulag?

Arturo Solon

— CASTILLO, Joshua

Nagsilbing tungkod sa mga pilay; lunas sa bawat may sakit, at kuryente sa mga nag-agaw buhay. Kapalit nito'y iyong pagkakapaslang. Hindi nakalakad ang hustisya, gumaling ang ebidensya, habang ang kaluluwa mo'y paulit-ulit na naghihingalo. Matagal nang natanggal ang mga basyo ng bala na tumama sa 'yo, ngunit nananatiling nakabaon ang lamat nito sa tao.



Sports *in* New Normal



REYNALDO GUMABON



Sport is a vital component of everyone's life. Indeed, it provides a person with several benefits that he or she may have used to fight diseases, strengthen muscles, strengthen the body, enhance critical thinking, and the like. According to the 2030 Agenda in Sustainable Development Goal, sports have significant roles in economic and social development as they view that sports contributed a lot, which leads to the empowerment of women and young people, individuals and communities, as well as to health, education, and social inclusion goals. Since the lockdown of all establishments started due to pandemic, the world of sports also shut down. Schools also closed its door for the students who love to study and compete in sports competitions. Sports organizations, sportsmen, and coaches have all been impacted by the closure of educational institutions due to COVID-19. Many players and supporters of sports were disappointed. Many athletes and sports fans were saddened. Also, various sports activities have been affected; national or international events.

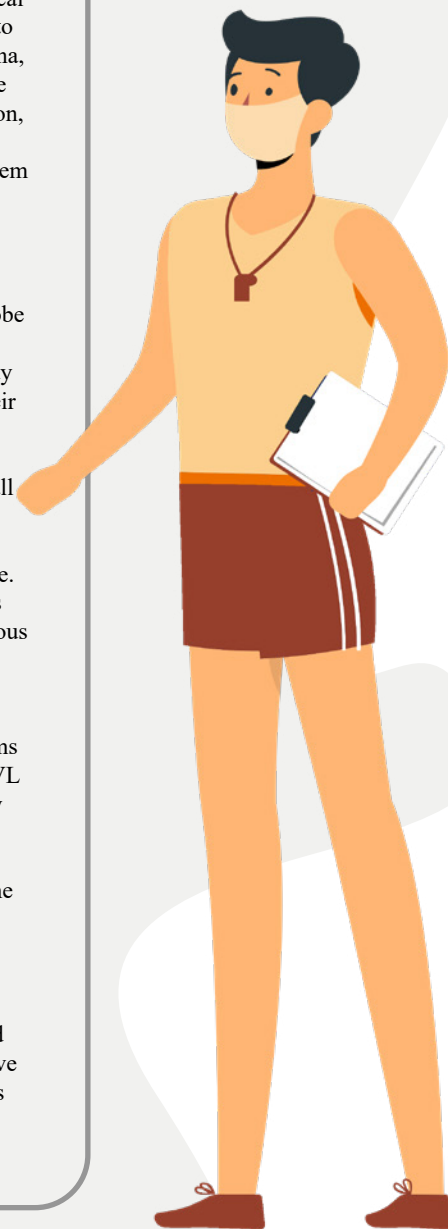


The impact of COVID-19 on sporting events brought a dilemma to the industry of sports, especially in the Philippines. The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) thinks that the Covid-19 should not be used as an excuse to stop improving sports in the nation; as a result, they intend to go forward and strengthen their legs as they enter the new normal. In addition, PSC Commissioner Celia Kiram said that the National Academy of Sports (NAS) will have a great impact and can provide a positive outcome in the field of sports in the Philippines and this will allow the Philippines to develop world-class Filipino athletes. Nevertheless, sports in the new normal should also follow safety protocols to safeguard the health of the athletes and other personnel involved.

A world without sports would affect the economic system of the country. In addition, the cancellation of games has an impact on regional and global sporting events, for example, in the Philippines, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) and the government closed all the airlines and declared a travel ban to lessen the active cases in the country. Therefore, this action may lead to reduce economic stability, because no tourist can visit the Philippines' beautiful beaches and tourist attractions. The same goes with sports, if the government and other organizations would not open and give life to the world of sports, then the country's economic growth will down. Furthermore, the global outbreak

of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the closure of gyms and stadiums, where many individuals are not able to participate actively in their physical aspect, athletes were no longer able to practice outside unlike before. As such, this lockdown and the lack of physical activities for athletes may lead to weakening of their skills, stamina, and as well as their performance in their specific sports. In relation, their engagement in physical exercises may be difficult for them to execute due to lack of proper tools and equipment.

Major sporting competition held around the globe has stopped, however, months ago some other countries already started their sports and open their industry to welcome tourists who would love to watch the game live. 2021 FIVB Volleyball National Leagues (VNL) is one of the examples of an ongoing sports event held in Italy, France. And fortunately, the Philippines also started to open the prestigious Volleyball league in-country, the PVL or Premier Volleyball League. An open conference match between twelve (12) teams will possibly happen in July. PVL is a sport showcasing the ability and skills of the players in the field of volleyball. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Philippine athletes try to do their best to practice and still be on their way to greatness. Considering the health issue and minimum health protocols, the Games and Amusements Board (GAB) move the players to different locations such as Ronac Gym in Shaw

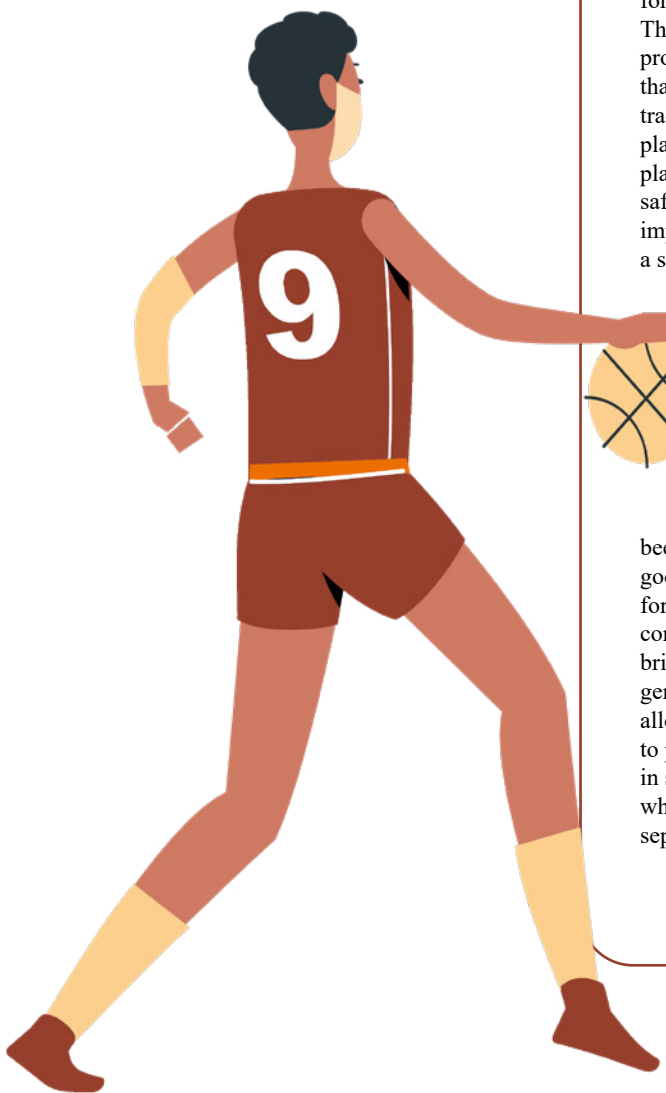


Boulevard, Mandaluyong, the Greenhills West Gym, and the Filoil Flying V Centre in San Juan to maintain social distancing.

As the world begins to recover from the unbeatable crisis brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, the industry of sports should allow themselves to seek for great plan to move forward in spite this pandemic. The sporting organizations probably make moves to ensure that players were still on their track to be better and improved players. Sports organizations, players, and coaches must follow safety protocols that are being implemented in their localities for a safer and healthier result.

Nonetheless, players for the meantime can practice in their homes with improvised materials, yet this may not be enough to develop themselves physically and mentally.

Sport has long been regarded as a good instrument for encouraging communication and bridging gaps between generations. Sport allows diverse social groupings to play a more significant role in social success and progress, which is especially important in a separated societies.**



KarlTzy:

THE LEGENDARY HYPERCARRY



ANGELO ASTO

Different teams throughout the world are enticed to compete to show beyond doubt who will be the strongest of all; Bren Esports proved it and engraved its name in history by ruling the Mobile Legends: Bang Bang M2, acquiring the World Championship title at the Shangrila Hotel in Singapore on January 23. But who is the key player that aided to secure this marvelous achievement?

The Bren Esports is composed of highly-trained players and these professional competitors indisputably performed their job in an excellent way in the competition. In this team, there is unrivaled Karl Gabriel Nepomuceno, with his in-game name "KarlTzy" who became the prime focus of the world tournament as he shines to rule all of their battles.

Karl started playing Mobile Legends when his colleague invited him to play in their house, and this is the beginning Karl started to love this game. He joined the team of his friend where they participate in the MPL qualifiers. Surprisingly, they won and qualified their team after reaching the streamed matches. This

is where the emergence of a 'KarlTzy' began.

Karl Nepomuceno is 16 years old and at his young age, he has already shown his bursting potential by playing his vital role higher than the expectations of the Mobile Legends community.

KarlTzy is the carry or core player, a crucial role that dispenses the most damage in the team. He earned himself the moniker "Karl-Tusok" for being an adept user of Lancelot, a hero who thrust his lance in the battlefield. He also became an icon of multifarious assassin users because of his consistent dumbfounding performance.

Bren Esports started their battle in M2 on day two with an easy victory against 10s Gaming Frost (2-0). In this match, KarlTzy managed to become the first player to puncture 'savage' kills (killing all enemies alone in short period of time) in M2 using his signature hero Lancelot with 13 kills, zero death, and four assists. In their second game, they have devoured Alter Ego with a 2-0 conquest but the streak-terminator Burmese Ghouls ended their two consecutive wins, bringing their happiness into the darkness (0-2) and repressed them in the lower bracket.

“
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BREN ESPORTS

In their fourth game, Bren Esports accomplished to splintered Todak (2-1) using the cards and gun of KarlTzy. Consecutively, they have faced again the Alter Ego but this opposing team is still powerless against Bren, smashing them with a 2-1 mark, carried by the powerful 16/0/5 KDA of KarlTzy. For their fifth game, Bren Esports faced the crowd's favorite RRQ Hoshi but the Philippine team muzzled the swarm after a thrilling victory against the Indonesian team (3-1) leading them in the finals to retaliate against Burmese Ghouls who smashed them down in the loser's bracket.

Bren Esports grasped an early dominance, achieving 2-0 over Burmese Ghouls in finals, led by KarlTzy. However, the Ghouls quickly recovered, pulling three straight wins to overtake Bren, 3-2. The Philippine team rose from the

ashes, regaining its fire to extinguish Ghouls, launching two more wins to secure their richly-deserved victory. With the leadership of KarlTzy's timing and excellence in positioning, there is no doubt that he executed greatness in playing his role which caused him to become the M2 World Champion MVP and received a \$3,000 reward. Also, Bren Esports rakes \$140,000 (approximately P6.7 million), a great percentage from the \$300,000 prize pool.

Karl, the 16-year-old core excelled in his world debut, averaging 9.0 kills, 1.5 deaths, and 7.5 assists in the group stage. He also topped the category of "Most Kills" in MLBB M2 with raining 148 kills.

No one is expecting the Bren Esports to become a champion, they are the underdog in the arena since this is their first time to qualify in World Championship.

The first Philippine teams that clash through the World Championship are Sunsparks and ONIC PH but they are immobilized by different teams.

The qualification for the World Championship is to become the first or second placer in the Mobile Legends: Bang Bang Professional Leagues. Bren Esports is left behind in MPL Season four and five, this is the reason why did they do not reach the platform in the first World Championship. They endured numerous negative comments, blustering that they do not have a chance to maneuver in the arena.

Karl's parents are a big barrier in his esports career, they opposed Karl to stay in this profession, they require Karl to focus on school but he insists to continue on the battlefield. KarlTzy became part of the Sibol, Philippine National Esports

team, where he is the youngest member, 15 years old. However, he is chosen to be the hyper carry of their team. His immense strategy leads them to bag a gold medal in the 30th Southeast Asian Games.

The towering stats of KarlTzy will not be created without the configuration of his teammates which are CJ "Ribo" Ribo, Angelo Kyle "Pheww" Arcangel, Allan "Lusty" Castromayor, David Charles "FlapTzy" Canon, Ejhay "Ejhay" Sambrano, and Mico "Coco" Sam-pang.

Everyone is waiting for the Bren Esports as they are in the top list in power rankings for the incoming MPL Season 7 and other teams multiplied their training as they raging to fight the M2 Champions.**





BASC surviving 2020: Fulfilling dreams for 2021

The ingress to education was slammed shut due to the rapid spread of the virus.

On May 16 of 2020, livelihood and work in Central Luzon paused for a short while due to the implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine. People are scared to put their lives at risk of going outside, and aside from work, the academic freeze is in debate for the whole school year of 2020-2021. The words of President Rodrigo Duterte finally concluded that schools will push through distance learning and face-to-face classes will be cancelled. Bulacan Agricultural State College was also one of the schools to cope up in conducting this new system of learning. Students were hesitant to continue their studies this school year because of lack of resources, but they are also afraid to be left out. They are placed in a situation where they have to make a decision only with a limited time in their hands.

A total of 5,552 students are officially enrolled in BASC and other BASC campuses for the Academic Year 2020-2021. With a quick paced adjustment, teachers were told to teach students online and create modules for those who can't afford to attend online classes. Commission on Higher

Education (CHED) chairperson J. Prospero de Vera III mentioned that now as the classes are held online, teachers may have a heavier workload.

Accordingly, BASC students started their academic year in the last week of August 2020 and officially started class on the first week of September. This first week was given for both students and teachers to adjust in the new environment and method of teaching-learning.

The proposed school calendar of the school was not completely followed. Stated in the school calendar is the official start of classes being held in the 24th of August 2020, but teaching started abruptly in the first week of September. Though, preliminary and final examinations of the first semester was held on time, midterm examinations were held a week after its original schedule November 11 to 13 due to an unexpected damage a typhoon caused the school and the people of Bulacan. BASC suffered some severe damages and needed thorough cleaning and repair, and the administration intensified a drive on regaining the original facade of the school.

In a span of four months, BASC officially ended its first semester

last December 23. Despite the struggle against the pandemic, the school successfully conducted programs that were mostly held online. Students participated in the online webinars that talked about social issues that students have to be aware around the campus, orientations for the first year students, prayer meetings that are conducted every week by the Overcomers Club and some special programs like online Christmas party.

The numbers of active students online were relatively low,



In a span of four months, BASC officially ended its first semester last December 23. Despite the struggle against the pandemic, the school successfully conducted programs that were mostly held online."

from the last survey conducted by the Supreme Student Council where students were tasked to answer a form about the approval of proposed Constitution and By-Laws only 36.6% or 1,849 was collected out of 5,097 target respondents.

Christian Jay Porciuncula, President of the Supreme Student Council in BASC said that the school was active during the whole first semester in answering the student's inquiries and concerns. Through different programs; it is evident that the school truly tried its best to reach out to students and encourage them to get involve in school activities even online. The IEd Institute Student Council Governor Sherina Jem San Mateo also agreed that the school became active despite being prohibited in conducting face-to-face classes; numerous IEd students from different year levels were announced place holders from different competition held by different clubs and organizations. She also added that the population of students in the IED grew a little in terms of the number of students per section and sections added.

Behind the success of the different events and programs in BASC, minority of the students was not clearly satisfied with the new system of learning as some of them say, and we quote "we are just passing activities and completing requirements minus the learning". Some concerns raised by the students were being unable to attend class because of poor internet connectivity, work load from their professors, and times where their professors won't show up for a long time that were addressed during the first SOSA of the SSC President last February 1 via Facebook live.

Regardless the hardships the school had faced from its establishment in 1952, after 69 years BASC will be transitioning into an Agricultural University. During the school's celebration of its 69th Charter Day, as the representative of the lower house of congress, Honorable Lorna Silverio shared the good news on her Facebook post. The House Bill 0811, the bill that is seeking for BASC to become an Agricultural University has passed its 3rd and final reading at the House of Representatives it was brought to the Senate for its eventual passage in becoming a law. This is a great achievement that the school ever received for its birthday.

BASC is slowly coping-up with the changes that the pandemic brought to the whole institution. And changes were expected as it is an effective response to achieve a successful outcome and BASC is also changing its title as an Agricultural University hopefully in its next academic year. BASC will continue its goal and guide its people in their growing progress.**