



TSU welcomes Chair Popoy again for Community Sports & Wellness Program capacity building

■ Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan

Tarlac State University welcomed once again the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) led by its chairperson, Dr. J. Prospero “Popoy” E. De Vera III, for the two-day capacity building and training write-shop of the university’s “Community Sports & Wellness Program” on October 21-22, 2021 at the Alumni Center, Lucinda Extension Campus.



TSU is the first state university in the country to receive this capacity building program from CHED.

“The load on your shoulders is heavy. Kaya pag-igihin ho natin ito. Let’s make it succeed,” Chair Popoy said in his message.

The program aims to enhance and raise the quality of sports education in the university and the

entire province which is aligned with the mandate of CHED and Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to upgrade the skills of tertiary sports key officials and faculty members. This is also in line with institution’s objectives to promote lifelong, sustainable, and holistic development fine-tuned by PSC’s national sports agenda.



“The idea of CHED is to let state universities and local governments who are mutually interested to work together [to] create a project where they can work together not just in these high level sports. It’s not our objective to produce olympic champions. It is really sports and wellness which is the responsibility of every local government, the responsibility of every state university, and the responsibility

of every Filipino,” he shared.

In the afternoon session of October 22, Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza presented the group’s collective output to the esteemed panelists led by Chair Popoy, PBA Partylist Representative Hon. Mark Aeron Sambar, CHEDRO III OIC-Director Dr. Maria Teresita Semana, and CHED Deputy Executive Director Atty. Lily Freida M. Milla.



The output is a product of the workshop led by Ms. Ana Dulce Yango, coach to the Philippine National Team, and Professor Alberto Dimarucut of the UP College of Human Kinetics, the program’s resource speaker.

This event was made possible through the concerted efforts of CHED, PSC, Provincial Government of Tarlac, TSU, and the Sangguniang Kabataan.

CHED, PGT, LGU Tarlac City, TSU launch vaccination program for tertiary students

■ Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Around 2,500 college students in Tarlac province received their first dose of Moderna vaccine this Saturday morning (October 23, 2021) at Tarlac State University Gymnasium.

This is the first province-wide vaccination program among state universities and colleges (SUCs) in Central Luzon which is intended primarily for Tarlac State University, Tarlac Agricultural University, and other college students residing in Tarlac.



This program is launched through the initiative of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in cooperation with the Provincial Government of Tarlac, City Government of Tarlac, and TSU themed “Padyak para sa Flexible Learning: Sama-samang Vaccination Program for Tertiary Students.”

According to Tarlac City mayor Hon. Cristy Angeles, the vaccines are from the Department of Health and were handed over to the City Government.



In an interview, TSU president Dr. Myrna Q. Mallari said the TSU gym will be open for a second batch which can accommodate 15,000 students from TSU and 7,000 students from TAU in two weeks’ time. Tarlac province accomplishes 10,000 jabs per day, according to Department of Health Region III director Dr. Corazon Flores.

Among the students who received the first dose is Richelle Ann Borja, 22, a 4th year TSU Nursing student.

“Dahil sa vaccination, ready na kami to have face-to-face learning dahil kailangan talaga na magkaroon kami ng ganito dahil we’re handling lives. And

through this vaccination, mahalaga na dapat protected kami at protected din ‘yung mga soon-to-be patients namin na aming hahawakan,” Borja said in an interview.

Borja said she is the first to be vaccinated in their family.

“Excited na po ako na magkaroon ng face-to-face learning para ‘yung proper care na kakailanganin ng mga pasyente ay maibigay namin na kailangang i-perform sa mga lab at mahirap pong matutunan sa modules at online class,” Borja further said.

CHED chairperson Dr. J. Prospero “Popoy” De Vera III said that the government should add vaccination sites to facilitate faster roll-out for students. Chair De Vera said they are targeting to vaccinate more students by the end of November 2021 in preparation for the gradual reopening of campuses for limited face-to-face classes.

Tarlac province is the first in Northern Luzon to vaccinate students under this CHED program following the vaccination for student-athletes last October 20 at the CHED auditorium in Quezon City and tertiary students in Cabuyao, Laguna.