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Dr. Jasper Jay Mendoza named TSU's seventh president



Tarlac State University has elected Dr. Jasper Jay Nievera Mendoza as its seventh university president following the evaluation and voting conducted by the Board of Regents (BOR) on May 5, 2026, at the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), HEDC Building, Quezon City.

Dr. Mendoza took his oath of office before CHED Chairperson Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis and in the presence of some members of the TSU BOR. He officially assumed office on May 6, when he was welcomed by the university community. He succeeds former university president Dr. Arnold E. Velasco and will serve a four-year term until 2030.

During the presidential public forum on May 1 at the Main AVR, Dr. Mendoza

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TSU expands inclusive education through partnership with BJMP

John Michael D. Esteban



Tarlac State University, through its College of Public Administration and Governance, strengthened its partnership with the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology – Tarlac (BJMP) through the signing of two memoranda of agreement that aim to provide education and adequate training opportunities on Wednesday, May 20, at the Tarlac City Jail Male Dormitory conference room in Baras-Baras, Tarlac City.

The two-year project, "From Custody to Community: Empowering Persons Deprived of Liberty through Governance Education," focuses on assisting the BJMP and persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) under the custody of the Tarlac City Jail Male Dormitory in developing and implementing plans and programs that would enhance their capabilities and promote personal growth.

With an allocation of forty (40) slots, qualified participants will undergo a series of assessments before they can be formally admitted to the Bachelor of Public Administration program.

In 2023, TSU and BJMP launched the "Hiraya: Isang Landas Pasulong" project for the female dormitory, which aimed to provide the same educational and developmental support.

This partnership was reaffirmed through the renewal signing of the MOA, held alongside the launch of the new initiative, further strengthening the university's commitment to inclusive and transformative education.

This initiative ranked 79th in the C6 – Inclusive Social Innovation for the Underserved category of the World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI) 2026 rankings released earlier this May.

In his message, CPAG Dean Dr. Edwin T. Caoleng emphasized that the college remains steadfast in strengthening its commitment to ensure the sustainability of these projects.

"Kasi ang Public Ad po talaga, ang purpose namin, is to become a catalyst of change. We believe that through college education, we will be able to change the lives of people. Iyon po talaga ang aming pangako," Dr. Caoleng added.

Moreover, TSU President Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza shared that through this project, he hopes to redefine the meaning of PDL and continuously encourage individuals to persevere despite life's challenges.

"We really need to motivate the people for them to strive for it… Hindi po kayo mga taong pinagkaitan. Kayo po ay mga taong may destiny. You are People Destined to Lead. Knowledge is [the] one thing no one can take away from you," the president furthered.

In addition, Pres. Mendoza assured the PDLs and the entire BJMP Tarlac that TSU will always be present and willing to serve them with the utmost dignity and respect they deserve.

Meanwhile, JCSupt. Ma. Annie A. Espinosa, Regional Director of the Jail Bureau, expressed her gratitude to the university for its commitment and valuable contributions to the community and further hopes for the continued growth of the partnership.

"Through your existence and shared dedication to public service, you have meaningfully contributed to the realization of programs that promote education, personal development, and social reintegration," she said.

Following the MOA signing, BJMP officials, together with TSU officials and CPAG faculty members, visited the dormitory to assess the condition of its facilities.

According to Dr. Izelle F. Gabion, Extension Head of CPAG, the project seeks to continue the initiatives initiated by TSU, CPAG, and BJMP, particularly in providing quality training programs, recreational activities, and various forms of assistance to PDLs.

Dr. Jasper Jay Mendoza named TSU's seventh president

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag

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presented his leadership agenda through the DALAN (Direction, Alignment, Leadership, Action, and Nurturance) Framework, which he described as the university's roadmap toward becoming a future-ready institution.

The framework is anchored on five operational lanes: Academic Quality, Research and Innovation, Community Extension, Governance and Administration, and Resource and Financing. Complementing this is the RISE core values—Research-driven Excellence and Integrity, Inclusive Innovation and Collaborative Service, Servant Leadership and Shared Governance, and Excellence through Unity for a Future-Ready Nation—which will guide the university's programs and decision-making.

Before his election, Dr. Mendoza served as Vice President for Academic Affairs from July 2025 to April 2026. He was also the dean of the College of Education for six years, from October 2019 to July 2025, and concurrently led the Office of International Affairs from March 2021 to June 2023.





A proud TSU alumnus, Dr. Mendoza completed his secondary education at the TSU Laboratory School in 1997 and earned his Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Physical Education, Health, and Music from the university in 2003. He obtained his Master of Arts in Physical Education from Araullo University in 2010 and his Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management from Holy Angel University in 2017.

He is a member of CHED's Regional Quality Assessment Team (RQAT) and a national accreditor of the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACCUP). In addition, he has authored several academic workbooks.

Among his priorities are strengthening student welfare through expanded scholarship opportunities, a 24/7 mental health support line, enhanced sports and wellness programs, improved dormitory services, and upgraded learning facilities. He also plans to institutionalize the Smile TSU campaign, which promotes discipline, respect, courtesy, and accountability among students and employees.

He likewise seeks to advance digital transformation across the university through improved campus-wide connectivity, expanded digital services, and cashless transactions.

Dr. Mendoza will serve as university president until 2030.

TSU leads SUC-IAUs CAPDEV 2026

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University kicked off the learning sessions of SUC-IAUs CAPDEV 2026, the Capacity-Building Program for Internal Audit Units (IAUs) of the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), on Tuesday (May 19), held at the Golden Phoenix Hotel in Pasay, Manila.

In partnership with the Commission on Higher Education, this four-day nationwide program aims to strengthen the competencies of internal auditors and promote uniform internal audit practices across SUCs.

The first day, however, has been set as an executive briefing for SUC top management, which aims to provide presidents and vice presidents with foundational and supplemental knowledge and skills on the principles and concepts of internal control, internal auditing, and institutional arrangements, among others.

"Every peso entrusted to our State Universities and Colleges is, ultimately, an expression of public trust. Internal audit is perhaps the quietest of the disciplines that safeguard that trust.

It rarely makes headlines. It seldom receives the recognition it deserves. Yet every President here, every Vice President for Administration and Finance, every COA auditor, and every steward of public funds know this truth", TSU President Dr. Jasper Jay Mendoza said during his opening remarks.

"Let this Executive Briefing mark not merely the launching of a program, but the quiet beginning of a culture: a culture of accountability that will outlast administrations, vitalize our governance, and ennoble the generations of Filipino learners who will inherit the institutions we are now privileged to lead," President Mendoza further said.

CHED Commissioner and former TSU President Dr. Myrna Mallari, who graced the event, also served as the keynote speaker, with a talk titled "Importance of Internal Control in the operations of SUCs".

Meanwhile, the training workshop for internal audit personnel for Luzon SUCs on Baseline Assessment of Internal Control System (BAICS) and an overview of the audit process is scheduled from May 20-22 at the CHED auditorium.

These target understanding the BAICS process and the formulation of a three-year internal audit strategic plan; crafting an internal control questionnaire (ICQ); understanding the internal control systems of SUCs; drafting interim reports; and executing, monitoring, and evaluating audits.

The SUC-IAUs CAPDEV 2026 series will continue in the Visayas and Mindanao regions in the coming months.

Last December 2025, TSU signed a memorandum of agreement with CHED, awarding five million pesos for the implementation of SUC-IAUs CAPDEV 2026 with Dr. Jonathan Gabriel, IAS Director, as its project lead.



TSU OGAD invites women advocates and local leaders in Women Leadership Forum

Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



Tarlac State University Office of Gender and Development invited local leaders and women advocates during the Women Leadership forum with the theme, "Her leadership, Her Legacy: Women shaping Gender- Responsive Policies and Programs" on May 7, 2026, at the TSU gymnasium.

The event was graced by several distinguished women leaders, including Tarlac City Mayor Hon. Susan Yap; Second District Representative and TSU Board of Regent member Hon. Maria Cristina "Cristy" Angeles; former TSU Board of Regent Dr. Christine Anne Corazon Lamorena; and Iranian American professor and mountaineer Dr. Sara Safari.

Dr. Sara Safari, an Iranian American professor and mountaineer, is the first Iranian to summit Mount Everest and reach the Seven Summits. Beyond her athletic achievements, she is the founder of "Climb Your Everest," a nonprofit dedicated to empowering women and marginalized girls through education, leadership, and humanitarian aid.

During her historic climb, Dr. Safari survived a 7.8-magnitude earthquake and a subsequent avalanche; this experience galvanized her mission, leading to a global initiative that has since raised over USD 1,000,000 to support 2,000 women and girls across 10 countries.

Recognized for her humanitarian impact, she was honored with the United Nations Association's Global Citizen Award in 2015.

In her address, Dr. Safari encouraged the audience to identify their own "Everest", a personal challenge or "impossible project", and seek mentors to guide them through the journey.

Meanwhile, Dr. Lamorena discussed the importance of the roles that women carry in society.

"Representation requires ambition. You cannot be what you cannot see. One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world. I may add one leader who chooses inclusion can change the system. You are not future leaders. You are leaders now in your classrooms, in your families. "Leader ng tahanan" is not [a] pitch, it is a power source. So, own your voice, take up your space, and never apologize for being powerful," she said in her speech.

Hon. Angeles in her address emphasized that leadership begins when one chooses responsibility and not when given the title.

"It begins with small everyday choices. When you choose kindness over indifference, when you serve without expecting recognition, this can happen in your classrooms, your communities, and even your own home. Because leadership is not defined by position but by the consistent choice that we make when no one is watching," the congresswoman said.

In her talk, Tarlac City Mayor Yap said gender development comes across all sectors of service, and women's voices must be heard to address concerns; foster an inclusive, safe, and more empowered community; and adhere to responsive gender policies.

"Leadership is not in single moments. It is built in ordinary days – built of moments you choose on ordinary days. Discipline over comfort. When you choose integrity when no one is watching and when you choose to keep going even [when] all the challenges runs ahead of you. As a woman of public service, I have also come to understand that leadership carries a deeper responsibility," Mayor Yap said.

According to Yap, leadership is stewardship, and it should be anchored on the institution and the people who helped you.

TSU ROTC Unit Scores 97.50%, Earns "Excellent" Rating in RAATI 2026

Franc Lewis R. Juanatas, Sheryl G. Zapanta



Demonstrating discipline and operational readiness, the Tarlac State University (TSU) Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Unit underwent the Regional Annual Administrative and Tactical Inspection (RAATI) for Academic Year 2025–2026 on May 3, 2026, at Villa Lucinda Campus, Binauganan, Tarlac City.

The inspection aimed to evaluate the unit's performance in administration, tactical proficiency, and overall discipline, in accordance with the standards set by the Philippine Army.

Based on the official results, the TSU ROTC Unit garnered a total of 974.95 points out of 1,000, equivalent to a rating of 97.50 percent, earning an adjectival rating of "Excellent."

Among the highlighted performances were perfect scores in arrival honors, inspection of ranks, close-order drill, and weapons handling, reflecting the unit's strong training foundation and discipline.

In an interview, Prof. Rodel P. Macasaquit, NSTP Director, shared that the unit underwent nearly three months of preparation prior to the inspection.

"Nag-focus kami sa comprehensive examination dahil ito ang isa sa pinakamababa namin last year. From 83 percent, naitaas namin ito sa 96 percent this year," he said.

During the activity, cadets performed a series of evaluations, including arrival honors, ceremonial parade, inspection of ranks, close-order drill, and tactical exercises such as map reading, raid/ambush, and first aid and basic life support. These activities tested the cadets' coordination, precision, and ability to execute commands. Dir. Macasaquit emphasized the significance of the unit's performance.

"The numbers say it well—97.50 percent.

Tunay na dapat ipagmalaki ang performance ng ating mga cadets. Dugo't pawis ang kanilang puhunan para makamit ang tagumpay na ito," he added.

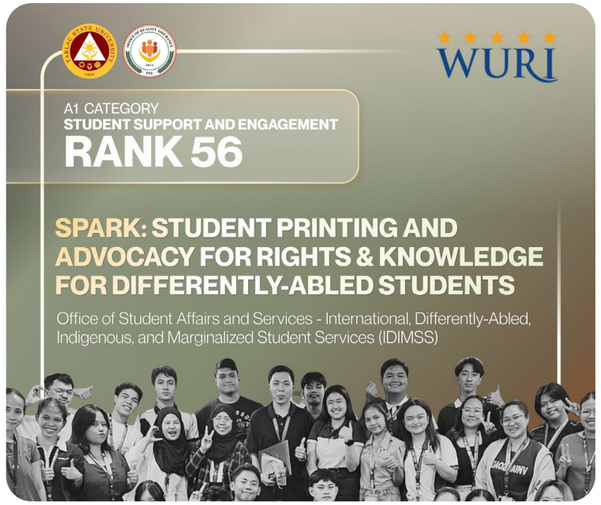
Meanwhile, C/COL Jero J. Marcelino 1CL, Corps Commander of the TSU ROTC Unit, highlighted the unit's preparation and discipline throughout the inspection.

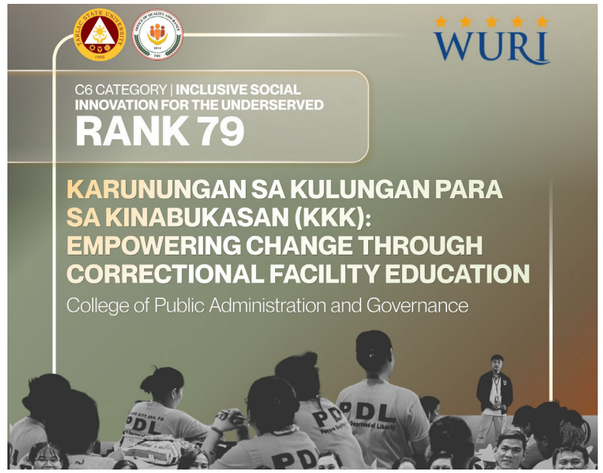
"Sinimulan namin ang paghahanda sa pamamagitan ng maagang pagpaplano at malinaw na objectives. Hindi lang skills ang tinutukan namin kundi pati ang mindset ng cadets—discipline, teamwork, at sense of responsibility," he said.

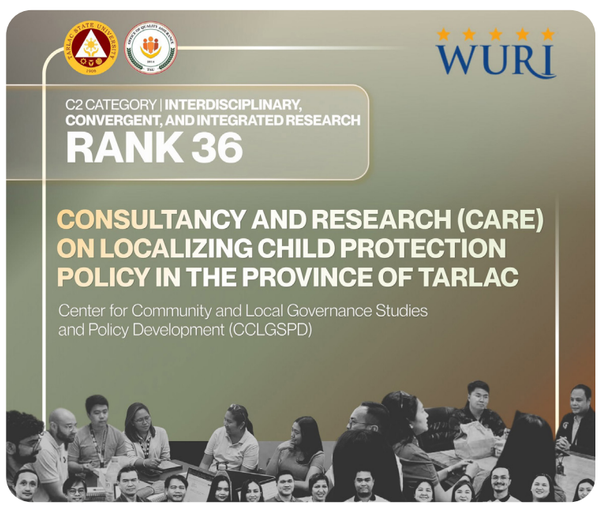
He also emphasized that the inspection serves as part of the cadets' growth as future leaders.

"Ang RAATI ay hindi katapusan kundi bahagi ng proseso bilang cadets at future leaders. Dalhin ninyo ang disiplina, resilience, at teamwork sa mas mataas na antas," he added.









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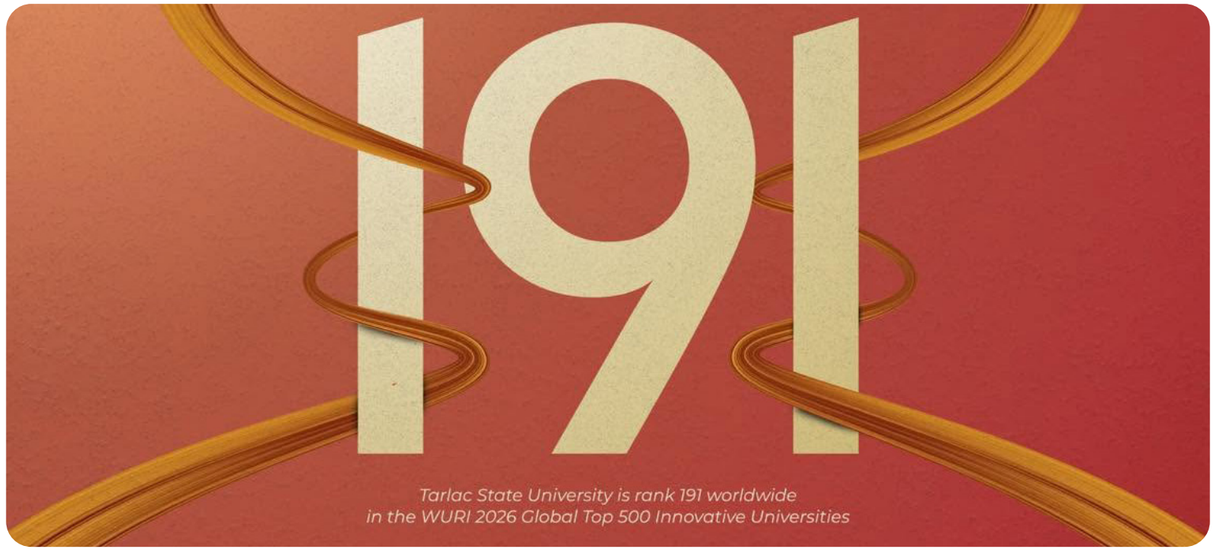
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TSU rises to 191st globally, 4 programs earn Top 100 spots in WURI 2026

Office of Quality Assurance



Tarlac State University strengthened its standing in the 2026 World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI) after climbing to the 191st spot in the Global Top 500 Innovative Universities from its previous 256th rank.

Based on the official category results released by WURI, several university initiatives earned recognition across different innovation categories.

Among the university's recognized entries is the "Consultancy and Research (CARE) on Localizing Child Protection Policy in the Province of Tarlac" under the category C2 - Interdisciplinary, Convergent, and Integrated Research, where TSU placed 36th globally.

Implemented by the Center for Community and Local Governance Studies and Policy Development (CCLGSPD), the program provides multidisciplinary support to LGUs in strengthening child protection mechanisms through research, policy development, legal assistance, psychological support, and capacity-building initiatives.

TSU secured the 56th rank in category A1 - Student Support and Engagement with the "SPARK: Student Printing and Advocacy for Rights & Knowledge for Differently-Abled Students" program by the Office of Student Affairs and Services - International, Differently-Abled, Indigenous, and Marginalized Student Services (IDIMSS).

The initiative established a student-led hub offering free printing, computer access, internet, and disability rights awareness activities for differently abled students.

TSU also earned the 64th global rank in the category C3 - Curricular Innovation for Future-Readiness through Project LUGUD 2.0 (Lift, Uplift, Generate, Uncover, Deepen Professional Development) of the Office of Graduate Studies and the College of Education.

Implemented in partnership with the Tarlac South A District schools, the initiative focuses on strengthening teachers' professional development through training workshops, mentoring programs, leadership development, action research, and the integration of 21st-century learning approaches to improve classroom instruction and educational outcomes.

Meanwhile, the university ranked 79th worldwide in C6 - Inclusive Social Innovation for the Underserved with "Karunungan sa Kulungan para sa Kinabukasan (KKK): Empowering Change Through Correctional Facility Education" by the College of Public Administration and Governance (CPAG).

This program provides incarcerated women at BJMP Tarlac City Jail Female Dormitory access to higher education through the Bachelor of Public Administration as part of rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.

The official results of WURI 2026 were announced during the 6th Hanseatic League of Universities Conference held at National Chi Nan University from May 6 to 8.

The detailed category rankings and corresponding innovative programs were formally communicated to participating universities by the WURI Secretariat on May 11, 2026.

The Office of Quality Assurance congratulates the colleges, offices, centers, and units whose innovative programs earned recognition in WURI 2026 and likewise acknowledges all university units that participated in this year's submissions.

Pres. Mendoza conducts campus onsite inspection, calls for a 'disciplined and respectful' TSU community

Mary Joy B. Manalo

Tarlac State University President Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza visited the Lucinda and San Isidro campuses for an on-site inspection and monitoring of the university's infrastructures and its current on-the-ground conditions today (May 12).

Pres. Mendoza, together with OIC Vice President for Administration Dr. Marlon V. Gamido, Office of Facilities Development and Management director Ar. Arlen M. Guieb and Engr. John Christian T. Ilaga, led the inspection at the campuses' buildings, laboratories, and facilities.

At the San Isidro campus, the university president checked the progress of the ongoing construction of the five-story library building funded by Senator Paolo Benigno 'Bam' Aquino IV, alongside discussions on the campus's water supply concerns and other infrastructure refurbishment initiatives.

Meanwhile, at the Lucinda campus, Pres. Mendoza checked the offices at the Student Center, including the renovation of the TSU amphitheater into a new audio-visual room.



Pres. Mendoza also engaged with students and faculty members to hear immediate concerns and recommendations for university improvements, and he reiterated the message he delivered during this morning's flag-raising ceremony, emphasizing discipline.

"I only ask you of this, let us bring back discipline and respect in TSU.

Let us be disciplined and let us be honest. Disciplined in our time, in our work, in our commitment to the truth. Honest in our reports, in our dealings, and in our service to our students. To achieve this, we must lead by example. Let us rise forward and ignite," Pres. Mendoza said during short dialogues with faculty members and students.

He also shared his plan to establish a 24/7 mental health helpline and proposed initiatives aimed at improving financial accessibility and digital services within the university.

The newly elected president reaffirmed his commitment to resolving the concerns raised during the inspections through programs aligned with his DALAN framework.





FEATURE

Open Government, Better Service: A Look at TSU's EODB and Feedback Innovations

Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan



Tarlac State University joins the nation in celebrating the Open Government Week (OGW) 2026, through its established Ease of Doing Business (EODB) lanes and feedback mechanisms implemented across the university.

The university has been implementing systems aligned with Republic Act No. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 to ensure efficient, accessible, and client-centered services for students, employees, and stakeholders.

Coinciding with the celebration of EODB month, the university's key initiatives include dedicated fast lanes to streamline transactions and provide more accessible, efficient frontline services within university offices.

These lanes found across the university's three campuses help facilitate smoother processing of requests for certification of grades at the Office of Admission and Registration, equivalency for the College of Criminal Justice Education, and Good Moral certificates through the Guidance and Counseling Unit.

Complementing these efforts, the TSU institutionalized a feedback mechanism through the Client Satisfaction Measurement (CSM), which allows students and other stakeholders to regularly evaluate the quality of university services through physical and online feedback forms.

Through the Anti-Red Tape Unit led by Engr. Maricar N. Banting, ARTA corners have been set up in each office where clients can view the Citizen's Charter billboard and scan the attached CSM QR codes to facilitate service evaluations.

The gathered CSM responses, collected monthly, quarterly, and annually, help offices assess client satisfaction, improve service delivery, and ensure consistent compliance with the Anti-Red Tape Authority's (ARTA) standards.

TSU's journey toward a standardized feedback system began in 2016 with an ISO 9001:2015-aligned mechanism. The university then adopted the ARTA-mandated Citizen/Client Satisfaction Survey (CCSS) in 2021. This process evolved further in 2023 when a call for national harmonization led to the formalization of the current Citizen/Client Satisfaction Mechanism (CSM).

The Open Government Week is a worldwide initiative dedicated to advancing transparency, accountability, innovation, and meaningful citizen participation in governance.

Pres. Mendoza receives TSU Development Plan, launches SMILE TSU Campaign

Mary Joy B. Manalo



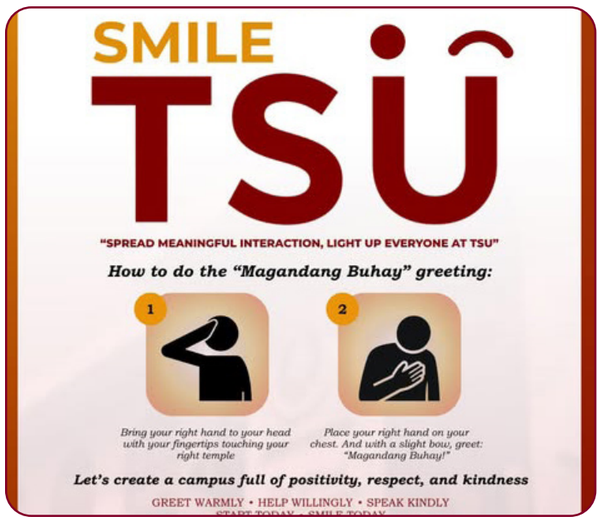
Tarlac State University President Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza formally received the copy of the University's 2026 Plan from former president Dr. Arnold E. Velasco, in a ceremonial turnover held earlier today (May 25) during the flag-raising ceremony at the Main Campus.

In a message, Pres. Mendoza expressed his gratitude to Dr. Velasco for his "quiet strength" and noble example of leadership throughout his service to the university.

Meanwhile, Dr. Velasco urged the TSU community to extend full support, respect, and cooperation to the new administration.

"Kapag binigay po natin ang pagkakaisa ng lahat, he [the President] will think, plan, and do more for the betterment of TSU," Dr. Velasco said, emphasizing that unity would help the university achieve greater progress and development.

The ceremony also marked the official launch of the SMILE TSU Campaign, a culture-building initiative under Pres. Mendoza's DALAN Framework – RISE FORWARD.



Carrying the heartline, "Spread Meaningful Interactions, Light Up Everyone in TSU," the campaign aims to promote a culture of discipline, respect, courtesy, and accountability within the university community.

In his message, Pres. Mendoza encouraged TSUians to cherish and serve the university with compassion and sincerity, reminding the community that TSU is more than an institution.

"Pagmalasakitan po natin ang ating minamahal na unibersidad. TSU did not simply give us an education; TSU gave us life," he said.

Under the campaign, SMILE stands for "Serve with a Smile," "Mind our Manners and show respect," "Inspire through Integrity," "Lead with Discipline," and "Embrace Accountability."

"'Disiplina, respeto, kagandahang-loob, at pananagutan,' ito ang ating DALAN. This is the road that leads to the TSU we all dream of: not only excellent, but warm; not only respected, but loved," Pres. Mendoza added.

Furthermore, the president also introduced the new university greeting, "Ngiting TSU: Isip, Puso, Kamay," which the community may carry and practice in everyday interactions.

Some of the key activities of the campaign include a SMILE awards program called "Ngiting Tagumpay", the installation of "Kindness Boards" where students and personnel can post notes to express gratitude, and the conduct of workshops on service, courtesy, and professionalism.

TSU LEPT topnotchers visit Pres. Mendoza

John Michael D. Esteban



TSUian topnotchers in the March 2026 Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (LEPT) paid a courtesy visit to the Office of the University President this morning, May 20.

Among those who visited TSU President Dr. Jasper Jay Mendoza were Chrisel Angeles, who placed Top 5; Chloei Shayne Padlan, who secured Top 7; and Angelica De Guzman and Kimberly Torres, who both ranked Top 9 in the Secondary Level.

During the meeting, Pres. Mendoza challenged the topnotchers to continuously seek ways to innovate knowledge, especially amid the rapidly evolving academic landscape in the country.

"You are now done with the first level. In order to be transformative, you have to gain and build knowledge. Sometimes you gain it from both experts and learners. It's how you will take and apply it and eventually reconcile it with the existing theory—that's how you innovate," he furthered.

Moreover, the university president reminded the topnotchers that, as they embark on a new journey, they should always look back to TSU, which remains part of their DNA, and continue to carry the values instilled in them by the university.

In an interview, Ms. Angeles shared that she did not expect to place Top 5 in the licensure examination. According to her, her main goal was simply to pass the exam and eventually give back by helping other people. "Sometimes, you just want to help people, but you don't have enough [resources]. So ano po ba 'yong gagawin ko as a teacher? This is my bread and butter na. And so what I'm going to do is, when the opportunity comes, I will grab it in order to help these people - in order to give back," she shared with OPA.

On behalf of all the passers, Ms. Angeles also expressed her gratitude to Tarlac State University for honing her knowledge and helping her achieve the success she enjoys today.

Also present during the gathering were several faculty members from the College of Education, namely Dr. Maria Agnes Ladia, Dr. Cynthia Quiambao, Dr. Elizabeth Balanquit, Dr. Jeanette Baquing, Mr. Arwen Martin Quiambao, Ms. Hermher Kate Sigua, Mr. Jayson Punzalan, Mr. Lyndon Macanas, and Ms. Angel Danilo.



EDITORIAL

Onwards to a new DALAN



Tarlac State University embarks on a new chapter under the leadership of its seventh president, Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza, ready for its transformative growth.

As an 'anak ng Lucinda' who rose through the TSU Laboratory School and the College of Education, President Mendoza assumes the presidency of an institution nurtured by the steady stewardship of former President Dr. Arnold E. Velasco.

At the heart of Dr. Mendoza's administration is the DALAN framework, with dalan meaning "road" in Kapampangan. This eleven-path visionary roadmap charts a clear course toward modernizing TSU into a premier hub for future-ready professionals and servant leaders.

By balancing inclusive instruction, impactful research, transformative extension, and sustainable production, the framework addresses the demands of a rapidly evolving digital and globalized economy. Furthermore, its emphasis on smart campus infrastructures, AI governance policies, and enhanced student welfare systems, such as expanded mental health support and financial accessibility, demonstrates a holistic commitment to the university community.

However, true institutional progress also relies on honoring our past while fearlessly embracing the future.

Dr. Velasco's tenure navigated TSU through vital operational landscapes, leaving behind a resilient foundation of public service that now empowers Dr. Mendoza's administration to inspire renewed optimism across the entire community.

As the DALAN framework paves the way forward, Tarlac State University is well-positioned not only to meet the standards of modern higher education but to set them.

37 teams compete for Saliksiklaban 2026

Jodie Andrea G. Pangilinan, Maria Adelaida D. Calayag



The Office of Innovation and Business Development successfully concluded the 6th Saliksiklaban, the university-wide undergraduate research competition, held on May 25 and 26, 2026 at the Center for Food and Technology Research AVR, Lucinda Campus.

Organized by the Office of Innovation and Business Development, the competition featured thirty-seven (37) competing teams from the Arts, Business, Law, Education, and Social Sciences (ABLESS) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) categories.

This year's entry exceeded the thirty-one (31) teams from the previous year. According to Atty. Wilmark J. Ramos, Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Extension, the STEM category is outnumbered and signifies good progress among researchers.

University President Dr. Jasper Jay N. Mendoza emphasized the importance of research especially for communities.

"Research must never end in the archive; too many find studies in this country are bound [to a] shelf and never open again. In fact, part of the DALAN program is to utilize our research, community-based research," he said in his speech.

"Tarlac State University has set its eyes on becoming a globally recognized, research-intensive university. One that advances an inclusive education, sustainable innovation, and transformative community partnerships," Pres. Mendoza added.

The ABLESS category was paneled by Dr. Kenneth Armas, Director of the Planning and Development Office at the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST), Dr. Joseph Richard Mejia, an author and full-time professor at PHINMA University of Pangasinan, and Dr. Danzen B. Olazo, Associate Professor II, Department of Management of Holy Angel University.

Meanwhile, the STEM category was paneled by Engr. Edward Lacson, Technology Business Incubator - Knowledge, Innovation, and Technology Transfer Office Head of the Holy Angel University; Dr. Marilene Hipolito, registered chemist and Associate Professor IV at the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST); and Engr Dennis Dela Cruz, licensed Electronics Engineer and faculty member at Bulacan State University.

"I enjoyed my entire stay here at TSU, ang gagaling ninyong lahat. Nabilib ako at sabi ko nga, pang-graduate studies level ang mga research ninyo," Engr. Lacson said in his speech.

As one of the partner offices of the event, the Office of Gender and Development will also select the most gender sensitive research for both categories. OGAD OIC Director Prof. Christine Janelle M. Santiago commended all the participants for their dedication to producing gender-responsive research.

In recognition of their efforts, the young researchers will receive monetary prizes on top of their certificate of appreciation.

Winners will receive cash prizes for the STEM category: first prize is 10,000 pesos, second prize is 7,000 pesos, and third prize is 5,000 pesos; while for the ABLESS category: first prize is 7,000 pesos, second prize is 5,000 pesos, and third prize is 3,000 pesos.

"Sana hindi dito magtapos ang ating pananaliksik, ang ating kuryosidad at ang ating paggawa at paglikha, gaya ng nasabi ko kaninang umaga, ang mga research dapat nagagamit at napapakinabangan ng ating komunidad," Atty. Jayriz Dungca, OIBD Director, said during his closing remarks. The awarding ceremony was also held in the afternoon of May 26 to recognize the outstanding research in all categories.

Selected research and inventions may be subject to patent, copyright, utility model, and/or industrial design depending on the decisions of the researchers, especially if they want to extend it to a certain group or community as their beneficiary.

The OIBD promotes and assists with the filing process of Intellectual Property rights of researchers and continuously protects the innovations in the university.

ABLESS Category		
	Research Title	Proponents
1st Place *Best Poster	Institutional Integration: An Access to Quality Patient-centered Healthcare Facilities Manifesting Evidence-based Design Towards Access and Expansion	Adenson Dayrit, Christine Saguinsin, Limuel Barin, Marisol Lacayanga (CAFA)
2nd Place *Most gender-responsive research	Quality of Life of Adults Undergoing Hemodialysis in Tarlac	Michele Mae Pamintuan, Christian Paolo Panlilio, Glyza Sabordo, Francheska Sangalang, Dominic Rodge Selnga, Jasmin C. Tabios (COS)
3rd Place	Iskolar Sana ng Bayan: A Phenomenological Study of Indigenous Students' Experiences on University Admission	James Hero Lumibao, Via Marie Lungos, Richard Cuaresma Jr. (CPAG)

STEM Category		
	Research Title	Proponents
1st Place *Best Poster *Most gender-responsive research	Design and Development Of An Esp32 Based Precision Seed Sowing Machine With Wireless Control System	Kerby Villanuena, Jorie-Jean Tolentino, Jessa Allera, Villen Alpha Iglesia, Jade Louie Mañez (COE)
2nd Place	Post-Harvest Evaluation and Grading System Of Calixto F1 (S. Melongena) and Sta. Rita (M. Charantia) Utilizing A Resnet-50 Convolutional Neural Network	Dave Dominic Maten, Joliana Manalungsung, Samantha Duchess Alize Ramos, Sammy Andrei Macaraeg (COE)
3rd Place	Digital Transformation On Public Transport: Vehicle Tracking And Electronic Payment Solutions	Princess Lyn Puangco, Michael James Roy, John Kenneth Sevilla, Van Rodolf Suliva, Gilbert Gonzales (CCS)



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS DURING TSU ROTC RATING RAATI 2026

















