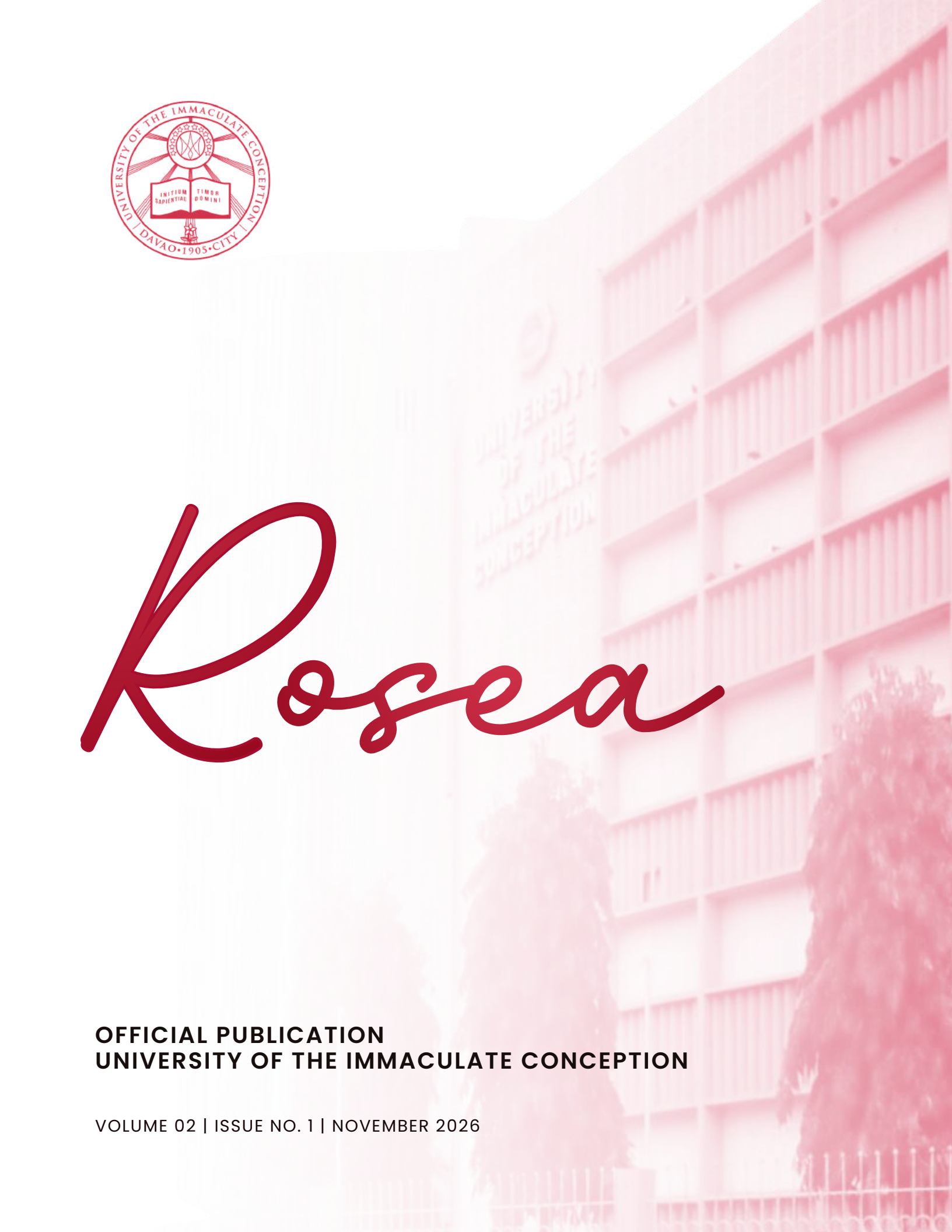


Rosea

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
UNIVERSITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

VOLUME 02 | ISSUE NO. 1 | NOVEMBER 2026

Message from the PRESIDENT

As we bring another semester to a close, we pause to reflect with gratitude on the experiences, milestones, and accomplishments that have shaped our journey as a University community. The past months have been marked by dedicated service, meaningful engagements, vibrant campus life, and remarkable achievements across our academic programs, research initiatives, creative endeavors, and institutional undertakings. Each accomplishment reflects the commitment, talent, and shared aspirations of our students, faculty, administrators, and staff.

It is with great joy and renewed enthusiasm that we welcome the return of ROSEA, the official publication of the University of the Immaculate Conception. Its relaunch at the close of the semester is particularly meaningful. As we conclude one chapter of our academic journey, we open another through this publication—a space where our stories are told, our achievements are celebrated, our institutional memory is preserved, and our collective aspirations find expression.

More than a record of events and accomplishments, ROSEA is a reflection of who we are as a University and what we continue to aspire to become. Its pages provide an opportunity to give voice to the people and experiences that bring our mission to life, celebrate the transformative impact of education, and strengthen our sense of identity and belonging as one Ignacian Marian community.

The revival of ROSEA also reaffirms our commitment to Quality Transformative Ignacian Marian Education (Q-TIME). As we strive to form graduates who are competent, compassionate, reflective, and responsive to the needs of an ever-changing world, we recognize the importance of telling the stories that inspire, inform, and connect us. Through ROSEA, we share not only what we have accomplished but also the values, dedication, and spirit of service that give meaning to our work.



As you turn its pages, may you find reasons to celebrate stories that inspire and renewed encouragement to pursue our shared mission with greater purpose and hope. May ROSEA continue to serve as a meaningful chronicle of our University's journey and as a testament to the enduring spirit of the Ignacian Marian community.

To our students, faculty, administrators, and staff, thank you for your unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions to the life and mission of the University. To the editorial team and everyone who made the return of ROSEA possible, congratulations on bringing this important institutional publication back to life.

Congratulations to the entire UIC community on a meaningful and fruitful semester! May we continue to move forward together, guided by our mission, strengthened by our shared identity, and inspired by the possibilities of the future.

Rosea

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) strongly recognizes that publishing is a vital communication channel to inform stakeholders, partners, and the general public about its significant accomplishments and institutional updates. Driven by this commitment, the UIC Institutional Publication is officially making its comeback—reimagined and revived under a new name: ROSEA.

A New Identity and Purpose

Derived from the Latin adjective for "rose," "rosy," or "pink," ROSEA takes over the role previously held by Nexus, which served as the official publication of UIC until its final issue in 2006.

What ROSEA Features

ROSEA highlights how the university achieves its vision, programs, and services in alignment with Q-TIME. The stories curated in this issue and future publications reflect achievements that bring immense joy and pride to the entire UIC community.

The publication provides comprehensive coverage of vibrant university traditions, major campus announcements, and academic festivities, along with regular updates on quality assurance benchmarks, national accreditation results, and international university rankings. In line with the university's expanding global footprint, ROSEA highlights international academic linkages, cross-border research collaborations, and student and faculty exchange initiatives.

Furthermore, the journal spotlights individual and team victories in regional, national, and international academic, cultural, and sports competitions. It also features groundbreaking scholarly works, including research initiatives funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and institutional research hubs, while documenting collaborative agreements with industry leaders, government agencies, and grassroots community stakeholders. Finally, the publication celebrates the human element of the university through inspiring personal narratives and success stories profiling the faculty, personnel, students, and alumni who drive UIC's mission forward.

Through ROSEA, UIC continues its mission of sharing story after story of excellence, innovation, and community pride.

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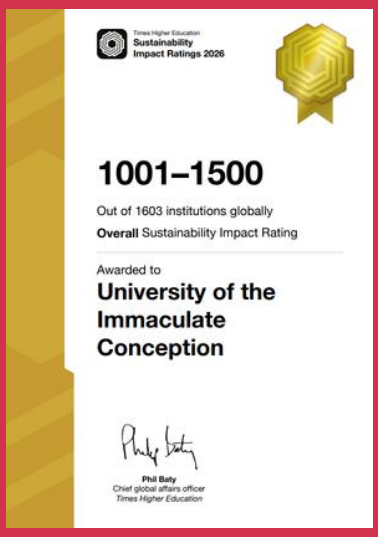
EXCELLENCE IN NUMBERS

FROM UIC TO THE GLOBE

CAMPUS LIFE

OVERALL RANKED

1001–1500



TOP SDG SCORE

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ranked **401–600**

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ranked **601+**

1 NO POVERTY

Ranked **601–800**

5 GENDER EQUALITY

Ranked **601–800**

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Ranked **1001–1500**

Rooted in Mission, Recognized by the World:

UIC Earns a Place among the Globe's Most Sustainability-Committed Universities

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) has reached a meaningful milestone in the 2026 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings — the world's only global university performance table measuring institutional commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year, UIC earned an overall rank of 1001–1500 among 1,603 institutions worldwide, a significant step forward from its inaugural participation in 2024, when it ranked in the 1501+ band among nearly 2,000 institutions. In just three years, UIC expanded its SDG submissions from 9 to 16 of the 17 UN goals — a quiet but deliberate journey of growth, guided not by the pursuit of recognition, but by a deepening institutional commitment to sustainability and service.

Among the highlights of UIC's 2026 performance is a remarkable breakthrough in SDG 12 — Responsible Consumption and Production — which recorded the largest single-year improvement in UIC's ranking history and earned its place as one of UIC's qualifying SDGs for the first time. This achievement reflects the university's growing commitment to embedding sustainable practices into its day-to-day institutional life — from how it manages its campuses and resources, to how it documents and communicates its environmental responsibilities. A perfect record in sustainability report publication and strong performance in campus operational measures signal that UIC's academic community is not merely discussing sustainability in classrooms, but actively practicing it.

This achievement serves as a powerful reaffirmation of the immense role the university plays within the region through its steadfast commitment to social responsibility and community impact. Deeply inspired and guided by its foundational core values of faith, service, and excellence. Importantly, this achievement did not come from any single office or initiative. It is the result of a coordinated and collective effort across UIC's entire academic community — faculty, staff, administrators, researchers, and students — who, through their programs, advocacies, research, and daily institutional choices, have together built a university that is worthy of global recognition. As UIC looks ahead with clear priorities and renewed purpose, it does so in the spirit that has always defined it: not striving to be the greatest, but striving to do the most good — for its students, for Davao, for Mindanao, and for the world it is called to serve.



UIC-SHS Program Concludes PAASCU Formal Visit at Bajada Campus

The University of the Immaculate Conception Senior High School (UIC-SHS) Program officially concluded its Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU) Formal Visit on July 31, 2026, at the UIC Bajada Campus in Davao City. Held across two days from July 30 to 31, 2026, the comprehensive evaluation brought together external accreditation experts to review the program's academic structures, operational standards, and institutional quality assurances.

The accreditation process serves as a vital benchmark for evaluating the SHS curriculum, faculty competency, instructional facilities, student services, and administrative management against strict national educational standards. Building upon a long-standing institutional tradition that began with initial basic education accreditation in February 1974 and reached Level III status in May 2024, the two-day visit involved classroom observations, facility inspections, document verifications, and stakeholder interviews with administrators, faculty, parents, and students.

During the opening proceedings, UIC President S. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, emphasized the institution's enduring dedication to continuous quality improvement and transformative learning:

"At UIC, we embrace accreditation not merely as a process of evaluation but as an opportunity for affirmation and growth. It enables us to validate our commitment to providing quality, transformative Ignacian Marian education while helping us identify areas for continued improvement in response to the evolving needs of our learners and society. We value your expertise, insights, and recommendations, which will guide us in our pursuit of excellence and in our mission to form competent, compassionate, and service-oriented graduates."

The recommendations provided by the accrediting team will serve as a strategic roadmap for the Senior High School Program as UIC continues to advance its tradition of academic excellence and service-oriented Ignacian Marian education.







UIC Hosts 19th AUN-QA Institutional Assessment Across Davao Campuses

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) hosted the 19th ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) Institutional Assessment from August 3 to 7, 2026, across its Bonifacio and Fr. Selga campuses in Davao City. The five-day evaluation benchmarked UIC's strategic, systemic, and functional operations against rigorous ASEAN quality standards, underscoring the university's ongoing commitment to internationalization, educational excellence, and continuous institutional growth.

The assessment opened on August 3 at the UIC Mini-Auditorium at the Bonifacio Campus with opening remarks delivered by Chief Assessor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ornsiri Cheunsuang. University President S. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, also conveyed her welcome message that set the tone for the entire assessment period.

"For UIC, this Institutional Assessment is not simply an external review, nor merely an opportunity to attain international recognition. It is a meaningful opportunity for institutional reflection, organizational learning, and continuous renewal. It enables us to affirm our strengths, recognize opportunities for growth, and deepen our commitment to serving our students and society with ever-greater excellence."

Throughout the week, an international delegation of AUN-QA assessors—including Dr. Nguyen Huy Phuc, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eric Wibisono, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ngo Van Thuyen, Dr. Wan Ahmad Kamil, and Asst. Prof. Ornlatcha Sivarak—conducted comprehensive site visits, document reviews, and parallel interview sessions. The evaluators engaged directly with key institutional stakeholders, including University President S. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, members of the Board of Trustees, vice presidents, college deans, administrative personnel, faculty members, student leaders, alumni, and industry employers.

The five-day process concluded on August 7, 2026, with a formal presentation of assessment findings at the Bonifacio Campus Mini-Auditorium. By participating in the comprehensive AUN-QA institutional evaluation, UIC continues to align its academic programs, research initiatives, and community development services with regional quality benchmarks, strengthening its position as a premier Catholic educational institution in Mindanao and the ASEAN region.



UIC Micro-Credential Programs Gain Official Recognition in National Registry

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) has achieved a significant milestone with the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) recognition of its application of 14 non-stackable micro-credentials, in accordance with CHED Memorandum Order No. 1, series of 2025, as evaluated on June 25, 2026, by CHED's Technical Panel on Lifelong Learning (TP-LLL).

Building on the successful implementation of Coursera-based micro-credentials in AY 2024–2025 and 2025-2026, UIC has institutionalized its own competency-based micro-credential framework through the initiative, Advancing Academic Innovation: Using Non-Stackable Micro-Credentials as a Prelude to Future Stackable Credentials. Developed through rigorous quality assurance processes, these offerings will provide industry-responsive, measurable competencies aligned with national and international standards, reinforcing UIC's commitment to educational excellence, lifelong learning, and graduate employability.

Included Micro-Credential Programs: Basic Molecular Testing for Research Applications, Basic Network Microcredential, Certificate in Drug and Supply Management, Certificate in Strategic and Professional Communication, Choral Conducting and Leadership, Counseling Skills for Teachers, Digital Marketing in the 21st Century, Filipino Culinary Nutrition, Forensic Linguistics: Language as Legal Evidence, Industry-based Implementation of SDLC Models, Micro-credential in Herbal Topical Formulation and Production, Micro-credential in Inclusive Communication: Filipino Sign Language for Educators, Pharmacy Practice Leadership and Management, Strategic Marketing for Organizational Resilience (SME-Retail Focus)

UIC Honored with Strategic Partners – Academe Award at ICT Davao 20th Anniversary Celebration



The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) was officially recognized for its contributions to the regional technology sector after receiving the Strategic Partners – Academe Award during the ICT Davao 20th Anniversary Celebration on September 18, 2026, held at the Red Lantern Seafood Restaurant, SK Compound, J.P. Laurel Avenue, Davao City.

The prestigious award highlights UIC's valuable institutional partnership, steadfast support, and significant contributions to the growth, innovation, and advancement of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry and digital ecosystem in Davao. Mr. Eric Emberda, Director of UIC's Management Information System (MIS), received the award on behalf of the university.

Over the past two decades, ICT Davao Inc. has served as the umbrella organization driving the region's digital economy, uniting industry stakeholders, government bodies, and academic institutions. UIC's sustained collaboration with the organization has played a vital role in aligning IT academic curricula with industry standards, producing highly competitive tech talent, and fostering research and innovation.

UIC Administrators Highlight Innovation and Leadership at 2nd HEI Summit

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) actively participated in the 2nd HEI Summit on Stewardship Justice, themed "Stewardship Justice: Building Safe, Healthy, and Just Learning Communities," held from September 24 to 25, 2026, at the Lyceum of the Philippines University – Davao Freedom Hall in Davao City.



Organized by the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office XI (CHED RO XI) in partnership with the Davao City Justice Zone (DCJZ)—led by Executive Judge Rowena Adlawan and co-convenor Mayor Sebastian "Baste" Duterte—and LPU Davao City, the regional summit centered on establishing Healthy Learning Institutions (HLIs) and implementing the Dangerous Drugs Board Expanded Philippine Anti-Illegal Drug Strategy. UIC played a central role throughout the two-day event, with Dr. Corazon Mamon Umblero and Dr. Nelca Umblero Amatong serving on the DCJZ Technical Working Group for Research, and Ms. Anaflor Sacopayo invited as a featured speaker in Plenary 7 to present UIC's exemplary practices in student affairs.



A major highlight of the conference was the presentation of ANNA, UIC's pioneering digital mental health platform, led by resource speaker Dr. Kristine Adlaon. Developed through collaborative student and faculty research alongside guidance professionals, ANNA addresses career decision-making and psychological well-being using Ryff's Psychological Well-Being framework. The platform assists guidance counselors by streamlining intake management, career assessments, well-being evaluations, and appointment scheduling, thereby alleviating administrative burdens in high student-to-counselor environments.

The summit concluded with the formal release of the Manual of Procedure for the Drug Testing of Students—a milestone policy document on campus safety crafted with key contributions from Dr. Corazon Mamon Umblero. Through its combined contributions to research planning, student affairs management, policy drafting, and digital mental health innovation, UIC continues to establish itself as a premier driver of student welfare, academic stewardship, and regional development across Mindanao.







UIC Hosts DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr. for Institutional Research and Innovation Project Presentations

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) hosted the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Secretary, Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr., Undersecretary Sancho A. Mabborang, and key regional officials led by Regional Director Dr. Anthony C. Sales, for an institutional project monitoring and assessment review on October 15, 2026, at the Information Technology Resource Center (ITRC), UIC Main Campus, Davao City.

Organized under DOST's national monitoring framework, the high-level visit provided project leaders, researchers, and university administrators with a platform to present the milestone accomplishments, operational status, and community impact of UIC's DOST-supported initiatives. Participating research teams delivered concise non-technical presentations outlining project objectives, key deliverables, implementation challenges, and long-term sustainability plans.

Featured Minna Projects (AI & Natural Language Processing Innovations):
- CNLTK - Cebuano Natural Language Toolkit for NLP applications
- Eunoia - Digital psychological well-being assessment platform
- Madasigon - Binisaya customer-device troubleshooting chatbot
- Pitik - Intent-based Binisaya chatbot for cardiovascular health profiling
- Project ANNA - Conversational web platform for student career planning
- Project iWag - Bidirectional Filipino-Cebuano neural machine translation
- RK Aligner - Bitext alignment resource for parallel-corpus research
- ScanSeta - AI vision-language model for handwritten prescription recognition
- WiMarka - Reference-free evaluation metric for machine translation

UIC MARIAN TBI & Ecosystem Building:
- IP-TTCI Initiative – The Intellectual Property Protection, Technology Transfer, Commercialization, and Incubation initiative. In synergy with the Research, Publication, and Innovation Center (RPIC) and the Innovation and Technology Support Office (ITSO), IP-TTCI will strengthen UIC's innovation ecosystem—from discovery and protection to market adoption.

College of Accounting and Business Education (CABE):
- Center for Research and Innovation in Business (CRIB) – Designed to build a thriving innovation ecosystem in Davao City by empowering digital-ready nascent startups and accelerating technology-based ventures along a structured development pathway.



College of Medical and Biological Sciences (CMBS):
• Influenza Surveillance Project – "Molecular and Serological Prevalence of Influenza A(H5N1) and A(H7N9) in Poultry and Poultry Farmers in Davao City, Philippines" focused on biosecurity and health monitoring at the poultry-human interface.
• HIV-1 Genotypic Resistance Research – "Molecular Characterization of HIV-1 Genotypic Resistance Mutations and Co-receptor Tropism Among HIV-1 Infected Patients in a DOH-Designated Primary HIV Care Facility in Davao City, Philippines" targeting enhanced clinical diagnostics and targeted therapeutic strategies.

Accompanied by representatives from the regional press, the visit reinforced the strong institutional partnership between DOST and UIC, highlighting the university's pivotal role in translating academic research into practical, community-centered solutions for regional economic growth and socio-technological development across Mindanao.







UIC Ranks Among Top Regional Private Institutions in Applied Higher Education Table

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) achieved a major milestone in global higher education benchmarks after securing 3rd place among private universities in Davao City and the broader Davao Region in the 2027 Applied Higher Education Private University Rankings: ASEAN, officially released in October 2026.

At the international level, UIC placed 97th among 155 evaluated private higher education institutions across Southeast Asia, recording an overall institutional score of 39.0 out of 100. On the national stage, UIC secured 29th place out of the 47 Philippine private universities that qualified for regional assessment, posting standout national performances across key operational criteria.

Among Philippine private institutions, UIC achieved top-tier national rankings across individual evaluation domains, placing:

- 3rd in Employability
- 6th in Community Engagement
- 19th in Institutional Reputation
- 27th in Teaching and Learning
- 28th in Research
- 36th in Internationalization

This recognition highlights UIC's growing academic prestige, dedication to high-quality instruction, and sustained alignment with global higher education standards across Mindanao.

3rd
EMPLOYABILITY

6th
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

19th
INSTITUTIONAL REPUTATION

27th
TEACHING & LEARNING

28th
RESEARCH

36th
INTERNATIONALIZATION

Rank by Specific Criterion (Top Private HEIs in the Philippines)









UIC High Pep Squad Crowned First-Ever Duaw Davao Interschool Cheerdance Champions

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) High Pep Squad captured the grand championship title at the 1st Duaw Davao Interschool Cheerdance Competition on June 28, 2026, at the Davao City Recreation Center (Almendras Gym) in Davao City.

Outperforming top cheerleading teams from across the city, the UIC student-athletes delivered a flawless, high-energy routine under the guidance of coaches Vench Monroe Octobre, Jan Kenneth Falcatan, and Christian Jhul Gabrinao. In addition to securing the overall championship title along with the PHP 100,000 top cash prize, the team dominated the event's specialized categories by sweeping the Best in Choreography and Best in Tumbling minor awards.

Serving as the grand finale of the citywide Duaw Davao festival, the landmark competition highlighted the discipline, athletic precision, and competitive spirit of UIC's student-athletes, establishing the high school pep squad as the inaugural champions of the interschool showcase.

UIC-CABE Secures Overall Second Runner-Up at 28th NFJPIA Annual Regional Convention

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Accounting and Business Education Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants (UIC CABE JPIA) secured the Overall Second Runner-Up title at the 28th Annual Regional Convention of the National Federation of Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants (NFJPIA), celebrated during the Alindanaw Year-End Awards 2026: HIMADAYAW on June 27, 2026, at the regional convention arena in Davao City.

The annual awards ceremony gathered student accountancy chapters from institutions across Region XI to recognize outstanding organizational milestones, academic competitive excellence, and leadership achievements over the past federation year. UIC CABE JPIA's strong placement among top-performing local chapters reflects the collective effort, academic preparation, and active engagement of its student members and officers.

This regional recognition highlights UIC's continuing legacy of excellence in business and accountancy education, demonstrating the competitive edge and collaborative spirit of UIC-JPIAn student leaders within the regional accounting community.



UIC-CHEFS Garners Awards at PAN's 79th Anniversary Celebration and 2026 Annual Convention



The Philippine Association of Nutrition – Theotokos Chapter of the UIC College of Human Environmental Sciences and Food Studies (CHEFS) – Department of Nutrition and Dietetics bagged awards during the Philippine Association of Nutrition (PAN), Inc.'s 79th Anniversary Celebration and 2026 PAN Annual Convention, held virtually from August 18–20, 2026, with the theme "PAN SUSTAINS: Prioritizing Actions for Nutrition towards Sustainable and Transformative Systems."

The PAN–Theotokos Chapter earned distinction as a Nominee for Most Outstanding PAN Student Chapter. Adding to this honor, Ms. Ingrid Jay G. Colicot was recognized as the Recipient of the 2026 Outstanding Nutrition and Dietetics Student Award.

These recognitions reflect the collective hard work, service, and commitment of the student leaders, members, and the entire UIC community.

UIC-CCS Dominates Mindanao Leg of National Quantum Computing & Cybersecurity Hackathon

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Computer Studies (UIC-CCS) achieved major success at the Quantum Computing and Cybersecurity Hackathon 2026 – Mindanao Leg, held on June 27, 2026, at Ateneo de Davao University in Davao City.

Outperforming top computing talents across the region, UIC team "Geoffrey and Friends"—composed of seniors Geoffrey J. Diapana, Lemuel G. Abellana, Francis Neil V. Cuadra, and John Paul J. Estaño—captured the Grand Championship title. Meanwhile, UIC team "Hello World"—featuring senior Ronald P. Maslog alongside freshmen Caleb Adriel M. Tingson, Szianzey F. Asesor, and Bruce John B. Arevalo—secured 4th Place.

The multi-week national initiative was co-organized by the Quantum Computing Society of the Philippines (QCSP) and the global cybersecurity organization (ISC)², challenging participants to develop next-generation quantum-safe security solutions and cryptographic logic.

This double victory highlights UIC's position as a leading technology institution in Mindanao, demonstrating the strength and relevance of its computing curriculum in preparing students for cutting-edge paradigms in cybersecurity and advanced data defense.

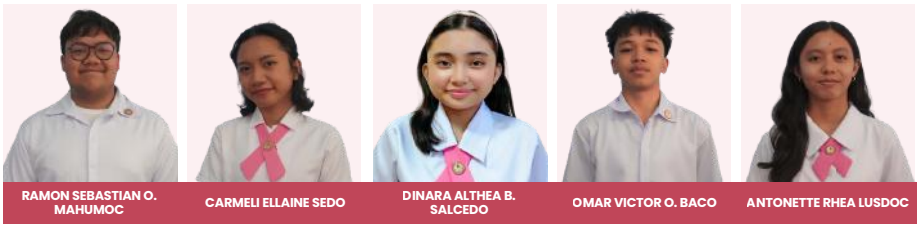


UIC-SHS Students Harvest Gold and Silver Medals at 3rd National Mathletics Challenge





GOLD AWARDEES



SILVER AWARDEES

The University of the Immaculate Conception Senior High School (UIC-SHS) students secured twelve Gold Awards and five Silver Awards at the 3rd National Mathletics Challenge, held on August 23, 2026, via an online national competition platform.

The student-delegates competed under the mentorship and coaching of Senior High School mathematics faculty members Mr. Excelsis Deo Chang, Mr. Lord Elvince G. Zamora, and Ms. Jean Rose Lagradante. Demonstrating mathematical speed, analytical mastery, and problem-solving skills, the UIC delegation achieved a major medal haul across the national competition divisions:

- Gold Awardees: Mojaifah H. Paca, MJ Catherene M. Dela Cruz, Achia D. Aguilar, Cjae Harris Choey C. Valente, Zaijan Rom Rodriguez, Josiah Ian C. Simbulas, Ezekiel Rex V. Espra, Karlos Arturo V. Cabaluna, Jessie Gabriel A. Lamsen, Rhomuel S. Gamboa, Jonaiza Eve M. Arocha, and Jarred Allen Z. Servaña.
- Silver Awardees: Ramon Sebastian O. Mahumoc, Carmeli Ellaine Sedo, Dinara Althea B. Salcedo, Omar Victor O. Baco, and Antonette Rhea Lusdoc.

This national achievement highlights UIC's academic quality in STEM education, celebrating the dedication of its student-scholars and faculty in bringing honor to the university on the national academic stage.

UIC-BED Students Earn Gold Medals in 2026 Philippine Number Ninja Competition Regional Preliminaries

The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) Grade School and Junior High School representatives earned Gold Awards across multiple grade levels in the 2026 Philippine Number Ninja Competition – Regional Preliminary Rounds, held virtually in August 2026.

Organized by BrainBee Education as a national mental mathematics and computational speed challenge, the competition tests elementary and junior high school participants in speed, numerical accuracy, and core mathematical operations. Demonstrating academic excellence, UIC student competitors secured top honors in both the Grade School and Junior High School units:

- Grade School Unit Gold Awardees: Natalia Simone M. Sarte (Grade 2), Vance Caius Seniel (Grade 3), Dawnson Grae Madrigal (Grade 4), Kaiden Liam O. Carballo (Grade 5), and Raphael Vaugh V. Seniel (Grade 6).

- Junior High School Unit Gold Awardees: Jongkyu Lee (Grade 7), Edward Ethan Arboleda (Grade 7), Tristan Roy Bugay (Grade 8), Frances Amber Muana (Grade 8), Mariah Eloise V. Nayona (Grade 9), Yuan Malinao (Grade 9), and Zak Pausta (Grade 10).

The multi-grade achievement highlights UIC's institutional focus on nurturing foundational numeracy, analytical mastery, and competitive academic distinction across its basic education programs.





UIC-BED Delegate Wins Champion Title at DENR-EMB XI 8th Environment Summit

The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) earned top recognition at the 8th Environment Summit, held on September 25, 2026, at the SM City Davao Annex Activity Center in Davao City.

Organized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Environmental Management Bureau XI (DENR-EMB XI), the annual regional summit convened Youth for Environment in Schools Organization (YES-O) student leaders, environmental advocates, and educators from across Region XI. The event aimed to deepen environmental literacy, foster youth leadership, and inspire sustainable eco-friendly initiatives across schools and local communities. Guided by moderator Ms. Cecilyn Biliran, UIC delegates actively participated in the summit's major competitive categories:

- GreenCanvas – Champion: RJ Nico G. Largo.

- EnviroQuest – Participants: Franz Andrew D. Hernaez, Abigail Leah C. Sexton, Roela Joy H. Reponte, and Johnnathan Francis Ramirez.

By securing the championship title in GreenCanvas and engaging in environmental advocacy challenges, UIC reinforces its institutional commitment to ecological stewardship, sustainable community involvement, and proactive youth leadership in the Davao Region.



UIC-BED Taekwondo Varsity Shines at the 2026 SMART MUP Mindanao Age Group Taekwondo Championships

The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC BED) Taekwondo Varsity athletes earned a series of podium finishes at the 2026 SMART MUP Mindanao Age Group Taekwondo Championships, held from August 16 to 17, 2026, at the local championship arena in Davao City.

Demonstrating discipline, athletic prowess, and strong competitive spirit, the UIC BED varsity squad brought pride to the university community with an impressive medal haul. The team's top performances included gold and silver medal wins by Jhazcint Dayondon (Gold & Silver) and Kianne Angel Javier (Silver), alongside dominant gold-medal finishes by Christian Dave Galgo, Rayl Enzo Tadle, and Emandril Sendrijas, who claimed two gold medals in his divisions. Completing the team's achievements were silver medalist Drhea Maxyne Garcia and bronze medalist Drew Michael Garcia.

The impressive tournament results highlight UIC's commitment to fostering well-rounded athletic excellence and sportsmanship within its Basic Education sports program, continuing the university's strong standing in regional martial arts competitions.

UIC-CCS Shines at WorldSkills Philippines Clark 2026

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Computer Studies (UIC-CCS) delegates achieved outstanding national recognitions at the WorldSkills Philippines Clark 2026, held from September 7 to 11, 2026, at the PhilExcel Business Park in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga.

Competing as part of the Davao Region Delegation under the theme "Your Skills, Your Future," UIC student-competitors showcased top-tier technical expertise against roughly 350 participants from 18 regions nationwide. Justin Alvaran (BSCS) secured the Gold Medal in Artificial Intelligence under the mentorship of Coach Ceasar Ian Benablo, while Geoffrey Diapana (BSCS) and Lemuel Abellana (BSIT) earned the Medallion of Excellence in Cyber Security with Coach Joshua Cister. Joshua Reponoya (BSCS) also represented the university as a national competitor in Software Application Development, coached by Cris John David Manero, with full organizational support from the UIC TVET Office led by Gladys May Cuencia.

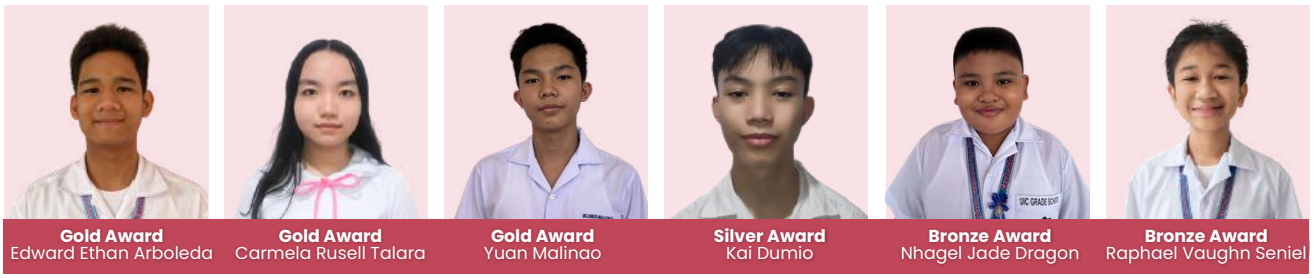
Supported by TESDA Davao Region, RTC-KorPhil Davao, and local institutions, the Davao Region contingent ultimately bagged the Overall 1st Runner-Up position nationwide. The stellar performance of UIC-CCS students highlights the institution's ongoing commitment to excellence in technological training, industry-aligned skills development, and regional representation on the national stage.



UIC-BED Wins Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals Across Science and Math Categories in PIMSO 2026 National Round



SCIENCE CATEGORY AWARDEES



MATH CATEGORY AWARDEES

The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) delegates earned top honors in both the Science and Math categories of the Philippine International Math and Science Olympics (PIMSO) 2026 National Round, organized virtually by International Champions in Education (ICE) Inc. on September 20, 2026.

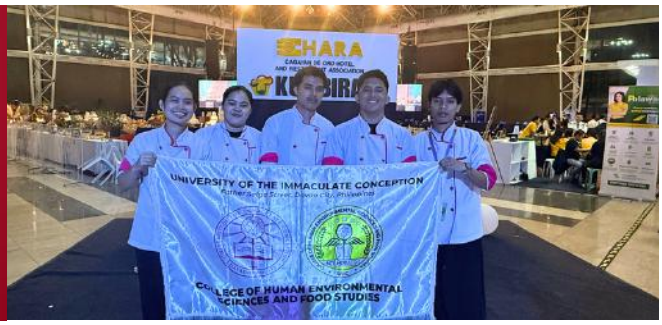
Designed to evaluate primary and secondary students across advanced scientific and mathematical domains—including scientific inquiry, critical thinking, number theory, logical analysis, algebra, geometry, and combinatorics—the international Olympiad tests competitive academic mastery on a national scale. UIC student competitors delivered standout performances across multiple grade levels in both divisions:

Science Category Awardees
- Gold Awardee: Mariah Eloise V. Nayona (Secondary 8).
- Silver Awardees: Kaiden Liam Carballo (Primary 4) and Trisha Allana Bahan (Primary 5).
- Bronze Awardee: Les Paul A. Baldonado (Secondary 9).

Math Category (Batch 2) Awardees
- Gold Awardees: Edward Ethan Arboleda (Primary 6), Carmela Rusell Talara (Secondary 7), and Yuan Malinao (Secondary 8).
- Silver Awardee: Kai Dumio (Secondary 9).
- Bronze Awardees: Nhagel Jade Dragon (Primary 5) and Raphael Vaughn Seniel (Primary 5).

By securing top national rankings, the awardees earned qualifying spots to represent both the institution and the country in the upcoming PIMSO International Finals. The comprehensive multi-medal achievement highlights UIC's ongoing commitment to strengthening STEM education, analytical problem-solving skills, and academic excellence on the global stage.

UIC-CHEFS Culinary Delegates Win Silver and Bronze Medals at KUMBIRA 2026 in Cagayan de Oro



The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Human Environmental Sciences and Food Studies (UIC-CHEFS) captured multiple awards at KUMBIRA 2026, held from October 14 to 16, 2026, at the Limketkai Mall Atrium in Cagayan de Oro City.

Marking its 30th anniversary under the theme "Three Decades, One Culinary Legacy," the regional live culinary competition—organized by the Cagayan de Oro Hotel and Restaurant Association (COHARA)—brought together culinary arts delegates, hospitality students, and industry professionals from across Mindanao. Guided by faculty coaches Ms. Jessica and Mr. Bryan, the UIC culinary squad earned top distinctions across three major competition categories:

- Klasika/Moderna Kulinarya (Flavors of Mindanao) – Silver Medalists: Sachi C., Ravin Gale L., and Earl Lawrence C.
- Best Regional Ingredient (Tabon-Tabon) – Highest Bronze Medalists: Yve P. and Llan D.
- Best Regional Traditional/Modern Recipe and Technique (Chicken Humba) – Highest Bronze Medalists: Yve P. and Llan D.

By showcasing traditional Mindanaoan ingredients, local culinary heritage, and modern cooking techniques on a regional stage, UIC-CHEFS reinforces its commitment to culinary excellence, heritage preservation, and professional hospitality training across Mindanao.

UIC-CCS Students Capture Dual Championships in PSITE-IT Olympiad 2026





The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Computer Studies (UIC-CCS) achieved major institutional honors at the Philippine Society of Information Technology Educators (PSITE) Region XI IT Olympiad 2026, held on October 16, 2026, at Ateneo de Davao University in Davao City.

The annual regional competition gathered Information Technology Education (ITE) students from colleges and universities across Region XI to demonstrate technical proficiency and creative expertise across multiple disciplines—including UI/UX design, IT pitching, infographic design, digital drawing, Code in the Dark, IT quiz bowl, and competitive programming. Demonstrating technical mastery and innovative problem-solving, UIC student delegations captured two major regional championships.

UIC claimed two championship titles: Randolph Jade Gerongco and Caleb Adriel Tingson won the Programming Competition (coached by Ms. Charlese Jeanrie A. Te), while Szianzey Asesor won the Infographics contest (coached by Mr. Joshua M. Cister).

This dual championship victory highlights UIC's institutional strength in software development, visual communication, and technology education, reinforcing its role in producing skilled IT professionals for the evolving digital economy.

UIC-BED Student Places 2nd Runner-Up in 2026 BSP MRO Statistics Quiz



The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) student, Azrael Chase Tarongoy, secured 2nd Runner-Up in the 2026 Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Mindanao Regional Office Statistics Quiz on October 15, 2026, held at the BSP Mindanao Regional Office along Quirino Avenue in Davao City.

Organized by the BSP Mindanao Regional Office as part of the National Statistics Month celebration, the annual regional quiz bee tests student competitors on economic statistics, financial literacy, monetary policy concepts, and quantitative analytical methods. Competing against representatives from leading institutions across Mindanao, Tarongoy demonstrated strong quantitative expertise and analytical precision throughout the multi-stage competition.

The recognition highlights UIC's institutional emphasis on academic excellence, data literacy, and active participation in regional economic and statistical forums.

UIC-BED Students Earn Top-Ten Rank in Debut at Pisay SMART-UP! 2026





The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) students earned top regional rankings in their inaugural participation at the Pisay SMART-UP! 2026, held on October 17, 2026, at the SMX Convention Center Davao in Davao City.

Organized by the Philippine Science High School – Southern Mindanao Campus (PSHS-SMC) to foster academic rigor, scientific curiosity, and effective communication among young learners, the regional competition gathered elementary participants from public and private schools across Mindanao. Representing UIC for the first time, the student competitors demonstrated strong critical-thinking skills, analytical problem-solving, and poise across both academic battle and public speaking categories:

- Sci-Math Battle (Rank 7 out of 28 participating schools): Zaccheus O. Dulfo and Euan Rasheed T. Supira, guided by faculty coaches Mr. Jasper T. Torres and Ms. Mariel B. Villamor.
- Impromptu Speaking (Rank 19 out of 22 participating schools): Trisha Allana P. Bahan, guided by faculty coaches Ms. Charie Q. Mahusay and Ms. Ruby Q. Conception.

The successful debut underscores UIC's institutional commitment to nurturing STEM competency, oral communication mastery, and confident academic leadership among its basic education learners on regional competitive platforms.

UIC-BED Achieves Historic Multi-Victory Streak in DACS Season 63 Cultural Meet

The University of the Immaculate Conception Basic Education Department (UIC-BED) dominated the Davao Association of Catholic Schools (DACS) Season 63 Cultural Meet on October 19, 2026, held at the Ateneo de Davao University Senior High School Bangkal Campus in Davao City. Anchored on the regional theme, "Forming Champions and Creative Witnesses: A New Horizon of Hope Through DACS Sports and Cultural Encounters," UIC solidified its reputation as a premier performing arts powerhouse in Davao City by securing top finishes across multiple dance and musical categories.

Leading the victory streak, the UIC Cheerdance Squad captured its fourth consecutive DACS championship in a six-team field with a high-octane routine inspired by the discography of Michael Jackson, guided by coaches Mr. Vench Monroe Octobre and Mr. Jan Kenneth Falcatan, alongside moderator Mr. Leonardo Javison Jr. In the cultural dance category, UIC's Danza en Cuatro team emerged as Champion among 13 competing schools with a Bruno Mars-themed performance to "Locked Out of Heaven," earning the right to represent the Archdiocese of Davao in the upcoming DADITAMA regional finals under coach Mr. Prince Joel Cambalon and moderators Mr. Lord Elvince G. Zamora and Ms. Leny Jane Pogoy.

Complementing these top finishes, the UIC Hip-Hop MegaCrew earned 1st Runner-Up (2nd Place) out of six competing squads to also secure a DADITAMA qualifying spot. Meanwhile, the UIC Folkdance Ensemble achieved 4th Runner-Up (5th Place) with a 12-member lineup in an 11-team competition with a cultural performance of Pamulad Isda—based on the research of Rubin K. de Monteverde depicting traditional fish-drying practices in Cadiz, Negros Occidental—guided by coach Mr. Arthur Pantastico and moderators Mr. Zamora and Ms. Crezon Marie Duyac.

In the musical categories, UIC's contingency delivered top podium performances across both elementary and secondary divisions under the guidance of vocal coach Ms. Jessyca Therese M. Roa. The UIC Battle of the Bands squad earned 1st Runner-Up honors with a nine-member ensemble featuring rhythm guitarist Markus Solo S. Tutanes, lead guitarist Aaron Joshua S. Ansaldo, bass guitarist Jaime Adriele Sopero, keyboardist Aimee Ravia B. Enot, drummer Dominic Genesis P. Rio, and vocalists Olive N. Buenavista, Krish Kelly T. Conejos, EJ Mark T. Clarde, and Jaryl Jazmine G. Doble.

UIC student performers also captured key rankings across individual and duet vocal competitions. In the Grade School Division, Gwyn Mhegan C. Gilig and Amia Celestine Dujon earned 1st Runner-Up in the Vocal Duet category, while Jade Andrea T. Cabaña placed 3rd Runner-Up in the Vocal Solo category. In the High School Division, Hashanthi Sydney P. Lee and Dimple D. Dagatan achieved 3rd Runner-Up in the Vocal Duet category, and Sitti Acylah C. Esmale secured 3rd Runner-Up in the Vocal Solo category.

These outstanding achievements highlight the institution's strong performing arts presence at DACS Season 63, continuing UIC's legacy of holistic student development and artistic distinction across Mindanao.



UIC Vice President for Academics Serves as Plenary Speaker at IMPaCHS–ISoPH 2026 in Malaysia

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) Vice President for Academics, Dr. Avee Joy B. Dayaganon, served as a Plenary Speaker at the 26th International Medical, Pharmaceutical, Cosmeceutical and Health Science Symposium (IMPaCHS 2026), held at the Performing Arts Theatre of Management & Science University (MSU), Malaysia, on July 15, 2026, in collaboration with the 10th International Symposium of Public Health (ISoPH 2026).

Her participation as one of the distinguished plenary speakers highlights UIC's growing international presence and its commitment to advancing academic excellence, research, and global collaboration in the health sciences.

Likewise, Dr. Dayaganon's invitation reflects the trust and recognition accorded to UIC leaders in contributing meaningful insights to the international academic and healthcare community.



PHOTO COURTESY: MSUMALAYSIA.FHLS

UIC-ERIO Coordinator Highlights Sustainability at SICS Program 2026 in Bali, Indonesia


PHOTO COURTESY: SICS COMMITTEE

UIC ERIO (External Relations and Internationalization Office) Coordinator and Lecturer of the College of Teacher Education (CTE), Asst. Prof. Charles Andre F. Nieves, delivered a talk as a Resource Speaker during the Sustainable International Community Service (SICS) Program 2026, held from June 29 to July 2, 2026, in Bali, Indonesia.

The SICS Program 2026 was organized by the Faculty of Business and Economics of Universitas Negeri Jakarta (UNJ) and co-organized by Universitas PGRI Yogyakarta (UPY), Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha (UNDIKSHA), and Universitas PGRI Semarang (UPGRIS). The program brought together international academics, educators, and community partners to advance sustainability-driven initiatives that empowered local communities and contributed to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As a Resource Speaker, Mr. Nieves shared his expertise and insights with participants from various institutions, fostering meaningful discussions on community engagement, education, and sustainable development. His participation reflected UIC's commitment to academic excellence, international collaboration, and global citizenship while further strengthening its international engagement.

UIC Alumni Association Expands Global Reach with International Pink Wave Engagements



The University of the Immaculate Conception Alumni Association (UICAA) significantly advanced its global alumni engagement agenda through a series of international milestone events held from May to July 2026.

Spearheaded by UICAA President Joji Ilagan Bian and Immediate Past President Eden Josephine L. David—with the active participation of University President S. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM—the international mobilization included the historic charter installation of the UIC International Alumni Association (UIC IAA) Singapore Chapter on May 23, followed by the International Pink Wave (IPW) Roadshows in Los Angeles on July 11 and New York City on July 18.

The international movement reached its first major organizational milestone on May 23, 2026, with the official launch of the UIC IAA Singapore Chapter at the Orizal Office in Claymore Plaza, establishing the university's first formal overseas alumni chapter. The initiative was anchored by charter founders Michael Carandang Ilagan, Honelito Rey Gilos, Paul Brian Kwong, Vincent Anthony Kwong, Marielle Palma, Cherry Grace Cuizon, Christopher Nellas, Dr. Jovic Aguipo Fuentes, and Mary Ann Arguillas-Chua.

Expanding the movement to the United States, UICAA conducted the West Coast Roadshow in Los Angeles on July 11, coordinated by Mary Jane Tesoro and Sonia Abiva, featuring a program at King Buffet, membership pinning ceremonies led by UICAA Secretary Lilli Arellano, a liturgical mass at Christ the King Church, and a fellowship visit to the Urban Light installation at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. This was closely followed by the East Coast Roadshow on July 18 at Kabayan Bistro Lounge in New York City, led by East Coast Coordinator Frances Mabel Acosta Robillo and UICAA Treasurer Edna Villegas Cheng, which successfully mobilized East Coast-based graduates through committee volunteer recruitment and strategic organizational planning.

These coordinated engagements have successfully built institutional footholds across Southeast Asia and both coasts of the United States, creating standardized regional governance structures, volunteer committees, and consolidated communication channels. The international roadshows and chapter installations serve as the strategic foundation and promotional momentum driving global attendance toward the triennial International Pink Wave Homecoming, scheduled for December 5 to 8, 2026, in Davao City.





UIC-CAH Faculty Member Appointed Vice-President of Service-Learning Asia Network Core Committee

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Arts and Humanities (UIC-CAH) CDS Coordinator, Prof. Angel Constantine Bajana, was confirmed as the new Vice-President of the Service-Learning Asia Network (SLAN) Core Committee during its virtual meeting on September 29, 2026.

The online gathering brought together core leaders across the region to map out strategic plans for the upcoming 11th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service-Learning (APRCSL) scheduled for 2027. The appointment of Prof. Bajana highlights UIC's active participation and growing impact in international academic networks dedicated to social development.

With renewed leadership and a strong emphasis on community engagement, SLAN continues to drive forward-thinking collaboration and collective action to advance service-learning practices across the Asia-Pacific region.

UIC Faculty Member Selected as Judge for the QS Reimagine Education Awards 2026, the "Oscars" of Education

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) proudly announces that Mr. Julie Ar E. Sibala, the University's Sustainability & Ranking Engagement Coordinator and Faculty Member, has been selected as a judge for the QS Reimagine Education Awards 2026 under the Sustainability Education category. Widely regarded as the "Oscars" of education, the QS Reimagine Education Awards recognize groundbreaking initiatives that transform student learning outcomes and enhance employability worldwide.

As a Sustainability Education judge, Mr. Sibala will evaluate innovative projects that demonstrate measurable environmental, social, and systemic sustainability impact, highlighting initiatives that advance climate action, strengthen governance, foster community development, and create scalable, real-world solutions. His appointment reflects UIC's growing recognition in sustainability leadership and reinforces the University's commitment to advancing excellence and innovation in higher education on the global stage.



UIC-SHS Students Secure Top Diamond Rank at Asiarope Olympiad in Thailand

The University of the Immaculate Conception Senior High School (UIC-SHS) students earned the prestigious Diamond Award—the highest distinction—at the Asiarope Olympiad International Round, held from September 4 to 8, 2026, at the Asawin Grand Convention Hotel in Laksi, Bangkok, Thailand.

Organized by the Global League of Winners, Inc. (GLOW), the international competition convened top-performing student scholars from across Asia and Europe to evaluate mastery in Mathematics, Science, and English. Representing the Philippines in the English Category 6 (Grades 11–12), UIC delegates Ms. Reine Therese L. Bad-ang and Ms. Whitney C. Pajarillaga both secured the highest award tier, with Bad-ang emerging as the overall top scorer in her division.

This international double victory underscores the academic rigor, language proficiency, and global competitiveness of UIC's Senior High School program, celebrating the achievements of its young scholars on the international academic stage.



UIC Chemistry Student Ranks in Top 7% Globally at International Chemistry Competition 2026

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Pharmacy and Chemistry (UIC-CPC) student, Gabriel Antoni B. Lagura, earned a Silver Honour award at the International Chemistry Competition (IChC) 2026, which concluded its final round on June 9, 2026, followed by the global announcement of official results.

Outperforming thousands of international scholars, Lagura placed within the Top 7% of approximately 4,500 competitors worldwide. Initiated by Edu.Harbour, the rigorous three-round global competition challenged participants on advanced General Chemistry concepts and required an in-depth critical analysis of a professional research paper examining the molecular properties of crystalline long-chain nitrogen radical anions.

This international accolade highlights UIC's commitment to scientific mastery, academic rigour, and research excellence, celebrating Lagura's success in representing both the university and the region on the global academic stage.



UIC-CPC, CMBS Triumph at IMPaCHS/ISoPH 2026 in Malaysia

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC), through the College of Pharmacy and Chemistry (CPC) and the College of Medical and Biological Sciences (CMBS), achieved widespread international acclaim at the 26th International Medical, Pharmaceutical, Cosmeceutical & Health Science Symposium (IMPaCHS 2026) and the 10th International Symposium of Public Health (ISoPH 2026).

Held at Management and Science University (MSU) in Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia, the joint research symposium took place on July 14, 2026, as part of the broader Global Leadership Program – Summer 2026 running from July 13 to 15. Centered on the theme "Integrating Sustainability Ecosystems with Life Sciences," the event brought together researchers, healthcare professionals, and scholars from across Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and China, with the UIC delegation standing alongside representatives from CHEFS and Pilar College of Zamboanga City.

Jointly organized by MSU's School of Pharmacy, International Medical School, and Faculty of Health and Life Sciences in collaboration with Universitas Airlangga, Indonesia, the global platform highlighted sustainable and interdisciplinary approaches to contemporary health challenges. UIC delegates secured top honors across multiple oral and poster presentation categories, proving the strength of the university's health sciences research:

- **Best Oral Presentation (Faculty):** Dr. Aaron Mark Hernandez (CPC) for his study analyzing the nuanced perceptions, privacy risks, and borderline acceptance of artificial intelligence among healthcare practitioners; Maria Theresa Legion-Hernandez (CPC) for her evaluation of operational readiness and clinical pharmacy service gaps across provincial hospitals in Zamboanga del Norte and Misamis Occidental; and George Carr Plaza, RMT, MSMT (CMBS) for his study titled "Identifying High-Risk Communities Through Spatiotemporal Dengue Surveillance: Evidence from Davao City, Philippines (2012–2024)."
- **Best Oral Presentation (Undergraduate):** Francis Migel Bonifacio (CMBS) for his research titled "In Silico Molecular Docking Analysis of the Bioactive Compounds from Sweet Basil (Ocimum basilicum Linn.), Luyang Dilaw (Curcuma longa Linn.), and Lagundi (Vitex negundo) Against Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1) Reverse Transcriptase"; and Hyrum Ace Borres (CMBS) for his study titled "Association of Microplastic Concentrations with Waterborne Intestinal Protozoans in Coastal Waters of Davao City."
- **Best Oral Poster Award:** Student researcher Rene Jr. P. Amantillo (CPC), advised by thesis mentors Ruby Ferlina D. Mahinay and Kristine Angelie R. Lanzon, for his novel study converting jackfruit latex into a natural transdermal adhesive patch. Ms. Irrah Lanaban (CPC) also represented the university in the competitive Oral Presentation category.

Through these international recognitions, UIC reinforces its commitment to translating undergraduate and faculty research into globally validated healthcare solutions. By addressing critical local and regional issues—ranging from spatiotemporal disease surveillance and microplastic contamination to healthcare AI integration and sustainable pharmaceutical formulations—the University of the Immaculate Conception continues to advance its institutional footprint in research excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration across Southeast Asia.







UIC Clinical Pharmacy Students Win Top International Poster Award at 84th FIP World Congress in Canada

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Pharmacy and Chemistry (UIC-CPC) Clinical Pharmacy students earned the First Place Poster Award under the Social and Administrative Pharmacy Section at the 84th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, held from August 30 to September 2, 2026, at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal in Montreal, Canada.

Organized by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), the annual international congress gathered global pharmaceutical professionals, researchers, and educators under the theme of advancing pharmacy practice and science. The winning student research delegation—composed of Clinical Pharmacy scholars Alexandra Atienza-Dela Cruz, Hanna Blanche Daguio, Krizsha Mae Isidro, and Zcitthel Juliane Miquiabas—presented their competitive poster study under the expert guidance and mentorship of research adviser Dr. Aaron Mark Hernandez and co-adviser Dr. Ma. Eva C. San Juan.

This major international award highlights the scientific excellence and research rigor of UIC's Clinical Pharmacy program, celebrating the student-researchers for representing both the university and the Philippines on the global pharmaceutical stage.

UIC-CPC, UIC-CDS partner with Davao City Health Office and 6 Asian Universities for the CARESponders 2.0 Medical Mission in Davao City

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Pharmacy and Chemistry (UIC-CPC) PharmChem CARES conducted the "CARESponders 2.0: Continuing Care, Uplifting Lives" medical mission on August 13, 2026, at Doña Pilar L. Marfori Elementary School in Don Isidro Village, Brgy. 5-A, Davao City. Facilitated in partnership with the UIC Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) under Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, the Davao City Health Office, and six partner universities from across Asia, the health equity outreach provided comprehensive clinical consultations, health screenings, free maintenance medicines, and hygiene kits to local scholars and their families.

The multi-station medical event ran from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., opening with welcoming remarks from College Dean Kathleen B. Olaño, RPh, PhD, and Dr. Joan S. Nacua, RPh, MSPharm, before moving beneficiaries through patient profiling, blood pressure and glucometer testing, physician consultations, and pharmacy counseling. Alongside basic medical services, student volunteers delivered specialized public health lectures on deworming, maintenance drug adherence, and the safe application of herbal medicines led by Mel Therese Acas, RPh, and Vanessa Lyka Jorolan, RPh. The outreach also integrated youth hygiene demonstrations, Bible storytelling, and relief kit distributions across the school community.

The international initiative highlighted cross-border academic collaboration through the Collaborative PharmChem Exchange Program (CPEP), bringing together faculty and student delegations from Chulalongkorn University and Burapha University (Thailand), Management and Science University and Universiti Teknologi MARA (Malaysia), Southeast University (China), and Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University (Indonesia).



UIC's SCANSETA Gains Regional Support for Safer, Smarter Healthcare

The University of the Immaculate Conception's (UIC) SCANSETA: Automated Clinical Information Extraction from Handwritten Prescriptions gains support from the Regional Development Council XI, enjoined by the Department of Health XI through RDC XI Resolution No. 144, Series of 2026. SCANSETA addresses a critical healthcare concern—the risks associated with illegible, altered, or inaccurately processed handwritten prescriptions. Using artificial intelligence, the system aims to convert handwritten prescription information into structured digital data.

The project is headed by Dr. Ma. Eva San Juan of the College of Pharmacy and Chemistry, together with faculty members and researchers from the College of Computer Studies: Dr. Kristine Mae M. Adlaon, Mr. Cris John David Manero, Mr. Jericho Opsima, Ms. Princess Micah Espinosa, and Ms. Princess Mae Tulod.

This interdisciplinary collaboration brings together expertise in pharmacy, healthcare, and artificial intelligence—demonstrating how meaningful innovation emerges when different fields work together toward a common purpose.

The Resolution also emphasizes that technological advancement must be pursued responsibly. It calls for safeguards on ethical data collection and privacy protection, including prioritizing general handwriting samples from licensed physicians rather than actual patient prescriptions. This ensures that the project remains grounded in confidentiality, ethics, human dignity, and public trust.

With the support of RDC XI and the proposed collaboration with DOH XI and pharmacies across the region, SCANSETA represents more than a technological system. It is a strategic contribution to advancing health informatics, the regional digital health ecosystem, localized natural language processing, and the Davao Region's science, technology, and innovation agenda.

This recognition affirms UIC's continuing commitment to developing research and innovation that respond to real healthcare challenges and contribute to the development goals of the Davao Region Development Plan 2023–2028.

UIC MARIAN TBI and ITSO Advance Region's Innovation Landscape Under DOST-PCIEERD IMPACT NXT Program

The University of the Immaculate Conception, through its MARIAN Technology Business Incubator (MARIAN TBI) and Innovation and Technology Support Office (ITSO), was officially selected as one of only 25 Higher Education Institutions nationwide under the DOST-PCIEERD IMPACT NXT Program during the national program launch on October 8, 2026, at the UIC Main Campus in Davao City.

The historic milestone coincides with the formal establishment and institutionalization of UIC's Knowledge and Technology Transfer Office (KTTO), marking a major leap forward for research, intellectual property management, and technopreneurship in Southern Mindanao. Through national funding and an integrated incubation pipeline, the initiative provides student and faculty innovators with mentorship, intellectual property protection, and market validation tools to transform academic research into scalable enterprises and practical community solutions.

By bridging academic research with industry partnerships and municipal support, UIC solidifies its role as a leading innovation hub in Mindanao, ensuring that homegrown technologies and inventions drive economic growth and social development across the region.



UIC Conducts Preliminary Consultation for ESG-Aligned Renewable Energy Project in Barangay Gumitan

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) conducted a preliminary consultation on August 11, 2026, with the barangay officials of Barangay Gumitan, Marilog District, Davao City, as part of the initial activities for the implementation of the project "Designing an ESG-Aligned Community-Centered Hybrid Renewable Energy Framework for Barangay Gumitan."

This study is made possible through the generous funding support of the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, whose continued commitment to advancing whole-person education, environmental sustainability, and community-responsive scholarship enables UIC to pursue meaningful and sustainable initiatives with its partner communities.

The project also builds on UIC's continuing health, nutrition, education, and technology-related initiatives in Barangay Gumitan. As many of these interventions and digital tools require access to a reliable source of electricity, the development of a sustainable and community-centered renewable energy framework is envisioned to help support their continued utilization and long-term impact within the community.

The preliminary consultation provided an opportunity to present the objectives and direction of the project, listen to the perspectives of the community, and identify important local considerations that will help guide the development of a renewable energy framework that is environmentally sustainable, socially responsive, and grounded in good governance.

Barangay Gumitan was represented during the consultation by Abonio B. Pandia – Barangay Captain, Rosalyn L. Ali, and Datu Delfin Lumbinay Sr.

The activity was further strengthened through the valuable technical assistance of Engr. Nelson Enano, Director of the Center for Renewable Energy and Appropriate Technologies and Engr. Wendelyn D. Santander, Science Research Specialist II of the Department of Energy.

The UIC project team is composed of Dr. Mona Laya – Project Leader, Engr. Mel Christian Aborde, Engr. Eddie Vic Alacaba, and Dr. Kristine Mae Adlaon.

This initial engagement underscores the project's commitment to a community-centered and participatory approach, ensuring that the framework will not be developed from a purely technical perspective but will be informed by the realities, priorities, knowledge, and aspirations of Barangay Gumitan.

Through the generous support of the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, the expertise of our technical partners, and the active participation of the community, UIC hopes to develop a sustainable and context-responsive energy framework that can help strengthen the university's continuing health, education, and community development initiatives and contribute to the long-term well-being of Barangay Gumitan.



UIC-CCS and MARIAN TBI Showcase Innovations at Davao Inventions and Innovations Expo 2026

The University of the Immaculate Conception College of Computer Studies (UIC-CCS) and the MARIAN Technology Business Incubator (TBI) successfully participated in the Davao Inventions and Innovations Expo (DIIE) 2026, held on June 19–21, 2026, at Abreeza Mall, Davao City.

Centered on the theme "Empowering communities through innovation and creativity," the three-day event served as the region's inaugural innovation and business platform, bringing together fifty-four exhibitors nationwide to foster collaboration among government agencies, academic institutions, industry leaders, and the private sector.

Throughout the expo, UIC highlighted three technology-driven solutions developed within its academic and incubator ecosystem. The university's featured exhibits included ANNA 2.0, an intelligent assistive technology engineered to enhance accessibility and user experience; CoCo, a digital platform focused on promoting mental wellness and stress management; and the Web-Based Functional Foods Information Management System, a specialized digital management solution designed to streamline and promote functional food data.

The university's participation reinforces its commitment to advancing research excellence, supporting startup development, and strengthening Mindanao's broader innovation ecosystem.





UIC Partners with DOST Davao for iHub Project at Bonifacio Campus



The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Davao on July 29, 2026, at the Bonifacio Campus. University President S. Marissa Viri, RVM, joined officers from the Center for Research and Innovation in Business (CRIB) under the College of Accounting and Business Education (CABE) to formalize the joint partnership for the DOST iHub project.

Established during the UIC Fiesta on December 8, 2025, CRIB serves as the research, incubation, and consultancy arm of CABE. The center was created to bridge the gap between academic business concepts and real-world market execution by providing structured mentorship, scientific validation, and expert consulting to student innovators, local micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and underserved community sectors across the Davao Region.



Under the formalized agreement, CRIB and DOST XI will deliver two core initiatives: the Pre-Business Incubation and MVP Validation Program, alongside dedicated Business and Marketing Consultancy Services. The pre-incubation framework guides student-faculty cohorts through a structured pipeline—encompassing screening, soft skills development, technical product testing, real-market validation across three Minimum Viable Product iterations, intellectual property scanning via IPOPHL databases, and joint panel pitching—with the goal of transitioning market-ready enterprises into the MARIAN Technology Business Incubator (TBI) or other formal incubators to drive regional economic growth.







UIC MARIAN TBI Showcases Tech Leadership at ASEAN Innovation Summit 2026





The University of the Immaculate Conception MARIAN Technology Business Incubator (UIC MARIAN TBI) actively participated in the ASEAN Innovation Summit 2026, held from September 17 to 19, 2026, at the SMX Convention Center, Lanang, Davao City. Held back-to-back with the Davao Agri-Trade Expo (DATE), the international summit served as a premier platform uniting regional innovators, industry leaders, policymakers, and academic institutions to foster technological collaboration and sustainable economic growth across Southeast Asia.

The three-day event highlighted UIC MARIAN TBI's leadership in startup incubation, research commercialization, and regional technology transfer. On the second day of the summit (September 18), the program opened with an inspiring address from Sr. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, President of UIC. Following these opening remarks, Ms. Marybeth B. Lauron, UIC TBI Project Development Officer, delivered a comprehensive presentation detailing MARIAN TBI's vision, services, and startup portfolio.

The summit concluded on September 19 with a formal ceremony where UIC TBI and DOST XI jointly received Certificates of Recognition. Throughout the event, UIC MARIAN TBI also served as an official exhibitor alongside DOST XI at the Davao Agri-Trade Expo (DATE), where delegates, investors, and community stakeholders visited their joint booth to explore groundbreaking incubator projects, agri-tech solutions, and university-backed startups designed to solve real-world agricultural and environmental challenges.





UIC-CDS Director Joins Archdiocese of Davao's Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) Director, Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, joins the Archdiocese of Davao's Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace. This opportunity signifies a new chapter of faith-driven service in the Davao community.

On May 15, 2026, Dr. Umblero officially stepped into her role following a formal appointment by Archbishop Romulo G. Valles, D.D. Her inclusion marks a vital addition of lay expertise to a crucial church ministry.

The Commission on Social Action, Justice and Peace stands at the frontline of the Archdiocese's community outreach. Dr. Umblero's appointment tasks her with a heavy yet deeply fulfilling mandate: (1) Advancing peace-building initiatives across the region, (2) Championing human dignity and social justice, (3) Developing programs focused on care for the poor, (4) Fostering the common good within local communities, and (5) Strength in Collaboration.

Dr. Umblero joins a diverse, 11-member body composed of both clergy and lay leaders dedicated to collective action. Led by Director Rev. Fr. Leonardo A. Dublan, Jr. and Vice Director Rev. Perry Neil G. Patayon, the commission blends spiritual guidance with community-driven execution.

With the blessing of Archbishop Valles and Chancellor Fr. Jaime J. Gamboa, the team is fully equipped to address the evolving social challenges of Davao City.

UIC-CDS Introduces Cognitive Behavioral Training and Full Scholarships

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) conducted an Early Recovery Skills (ERS) session paired with a major educational support announcement on June 13, 2026, at the BJMP Male Annex facility in Davao City.

The holistic rehabilitation activity focused on cognitive behavioral training, guiding Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) through the connections between thinking, feeling, and doing. Participants developed individual relapse prevention strategies, mapping personal triggers and establishing early-warning protocols to halt behavioral lapses. Concluding the session, UIC-CDS Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero announced an institutional initiative providing primary and secondary educational support vouchers as well as full UIC college scholarship opportunities for the children and qualified dependents of the residents.

By pairing psychological recovery tools with long-term educational access for PDL families, UIC reinforces its commitment to restorative justice, community development, and breaking generational vulnerabilities across Mindanao.



UIC Launches High-Impact Agri-Forestry Initiative in Arakan Valley

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) and the College of Medical and Biological Sciences (UIC-CMBS) took a decisive step toward ecological restoration by launching a high-impact tree-planting and agroforestry initiative on June 15, 2026, in Datu Ladayon, Arakan Valley, North Cotabato. Led by UIC-CDS Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero and UIC-CMBS Dean Rvin John T. Servillion, a dedicated team of professors and student volunteers mobilized at dawn to restore a barren parcel of land. The team immediately took to the fields to clear aggressive weeds that stunt tree development by depleting vital soil nutrients, successfully ensuring the newly planted life has an optimal environment to thrive from day one.

This environmental project serves as a direct, concrete institutional response to the ecological mandate of Laudato Si' and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. By transitioning the degraded landscape into a productive ecosystem, the initiative targets four interconnected environmental and socio-economic pillars.

First, it establishes vital carbon sinks by cultivating thriving tree canopies to sequester carbon dioxide and directly mitigate climate challenges. Second, it drives active agri-forestry development by transforming barren terrain into a sustainable, multi-layered agricultural forest system. This transformation directly supports the third pillar of livelihood security, providing long-term food security and localized economic opportunities for the Datu Ladayon community. Finally, the project builds profound ecosystem resilience, strengthening the regional watershed and terrain against severe soil erosion and extreme weather patterns.

To guarantee that the newly established agri-forest survives well beyond the initial planting phase, the project is backed by strong structural support and long-term planning from UIC President Sister Marissa R. Viri, RVM. Sister Viri has allocated a dedicated institutional budget to construct a permanent agricultural irrigation system directly on-site. This custom engineering network will tap into natural spring water sources deep within the Arakan hills, establishing a steady, reliable water supply to nourish and sustain the young trees through critical dry spells.



UIC-CDS Mobilizes Immediate Relief and Long-Term Rehabilitation for Earthquake-Affected Communities in Mindanao

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) mobilized disaster relief operations and community support initiatives on October 9, 2026, at the San Pablo Parish Pavilion and designated relief hubs in Davao City.

In alignment with Archdiocesan Circular No. 33 issued by Archbishop Romulo G. Valles, the university gathered and distributed emergency provisions—including food supplies, clean water containers, tarpaulins, flashlights, and hygiene kits—to assist displaced families in Sarangani and Davao Occidental following severe regional earthquakes. Working in partnership with the Archdiocesan Commission on Social Action under Rev. Fr. Leonardo A. Dublan Jr., UIC-CDS established systematic sorting, tracking, and field deployment processes to ensure the efficient delivery of goods to isolated evacuation camps.

Under the leadership of UIC-CDS Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, the emergency response efforts are integrated into the university's ongoing Handugan public health and literacy programs, combining immediate disaster relief with long-term community health infrastructure and climate resilience building across Mindanao.





UIC Hosts Regional Workshop on Safe and Gender-Responsive Workplaces at Bajada Campus

The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) hosted a landmark two-day regional workshop titled "Building Safe and Gender-Responsive Workplaces: Gender Sensitivity and CODI Capacity Building" from September 7 to 8, 2026, at the UIC Bajada Campus in Davao City.

Represented by Community Development Service (CDS) Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, UIC partnered with the Region XI GAD Advocates Network (RGANI) and the Civil Service Commission (CSC) to execute the training program for higher education institutions and public sector organizations across the region. Day 1 featured Ms. Jane Marie Ruff leading Gender Sensitivity Training on gender mainstreaming and dismantling workplace inequities, while Day 2 featured Atty. Jesus Agaton Villardo III facilitating sessions on Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) procedural mastery and administrative due process.

By collaborating with regional oversight bodies to strengthen CODI enforcement and gender fairness, UIC continues to advance safe, equitable, and respect-driven work environments throughout the Davao Region.

UIC Adopted Community Secures Certificates of Occupancy

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS) has been instrumental in safeguarding a remarkable story of grassroots triumph, resilience, and community empowerment. The dream of a secure home in the Philippines often carries a crushing price tag. For the average working-class family, the path through socialized housing, National Housing Authority (NHA) projects, or Pag-IBIG Fund mortgages is a decades-long road of debt, high interest rates, and soaring real estate prices. Yet, tucked away just a short walk from the bustling Tibungco National Highway, stands Zonta Village—a striking contradiction to the mainstream housing struggle. Decades ago, this community secured a foundational miracle: the purchase of 100-square-meter lots for the unimaginable sum of only PHP 6,000.00 each. Today, that same land has surged to a zonal value of PHP 2,600.00 per square meter, representing a massive financial leap that has turned a modest grassroots effort into a multi-million-peso asset.

However, the true value of Zonta Village does not lie in its real estate appreciation. The real triumph belongs to the wisdom of community development management, a specialized discipline that requires absolute purity of intention to make a community thrive. The survival and ultimate success of this housing project depended on keeping it entirely devoid of politics, entitlement, and professional incompetence. Instead, it relied on a strict, sacred principle of trusteeship.

The story begins with the original owners of this asset: the sponsored children of the Christian Children's Fund (CCF). Organized initially as a loose association and later formalized as the Zonta Youth Association, these young individuals were the rightful beneficiaries of the land. Because of their youth, they could not navigate the complex legalities of estate management on their own.

To bridge this gap, a self-help support group called the SSIV, composed of the children's parents, was formed to act as co-trustees, with a mission to guide the youth through the rigorous documentary requirements and complicated land titling processes.
Unfortunately, good intentions were not enough. Lacking professionalism, structural values, and the strength of character required for estate management, the SSIV faltered, leading to poorly managed assets. Soon, unauthorized schemes emerged where some beneficiaries began buying and selling lots among themselves—a practice strictly prohibited by their original service agreements. The vision of a protected, unified community began to fracture under the weight of mismanagement.

A critical transition occurred when the Christian Children's Fund ceased its project support altogether. In this vulnerable hour, when the community faced total abandonment, UIC stepped forward to assume the crucial role of continuing the logistical support for the program, providing the essential organizational backbone required to keep the community's hopes alive during turbulent times.

Legacies, however, have a way of correcting their own course. The children of Zonta Village have since grown up. Now mature adults managing successful careers and raising their own families, the members of the Zonta Youth Organization have stepped onto the stage to reclaim their birthright. Recognizing the erosion of their estate, they asserted their mandate and took back the leadership of their organization. Knowing they could not do it alone, they sought out their original trusteeship, turning to the one person whose steady hand and clean heart had never wavered: Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero. To them, she is not just a project lead or a development manager; she is a mother, a guide, and a mentor. Under her specialized guidance, the community rediscovered the discipline required to protect a shared legacy.



The turning point has finally arrived. On July 4, 2026, with certificates of occupancy now officially signed and awarded, the mature beneficiaries stand on the cusp of the individual titling process. Yet, they move forward with deep mindfulness. Bound by the strict conditions of their original agreements, they know these lots must never be sold, commercialized, or mortgaged; it remains a permanent sanctuary for their families, preserved through generations.

With the foundation legally secured, the horizon widens. This structural clarity is precisely where local government units and national agencies can now step in—not to distribute doles, but to invest in established stakes for education, healthcare, economic sustainability, and peace and order. How this empowered generation will write the specific terms of these new institutional agreements is a story still unfolding, one that will be told very soon.

UIC Honored with Special Award by BJMP XI during 35th Anniversary Celebration

The University of the Immaculate Conception was conferred a Special Award by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Regional Office XI during its 35th Anniversary celebration on September 9, 2026, held at the Sotogrande Hotel in Davao City.

The prestigious recognition highlights the university's sustained partnership with BJMP XI and its steadfast dedication to the welfare, holistic development, and social rehabilitation of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) across regional correctional facilities. Under the leadership of University President S. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, and Community Development Service (CDS) Director Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, UIC has consistently spearheaded community extension programs focused on restoring human dignity and creating sustainable pathways for community reintegration.

Key institutional contributions recognized by BJMP XI include the execution of structured early recovery skills training programs for plea bargain clients, alongside physical infrastructure improvements such as the renovation of the facility infirmary and the establishment of a dedicated LGBTQ+ dormitory to promote healthcare access, safety, and gender inclusivity. Aligned with BJMP XI's anniversary theme, "Disiplina at Responsibilidad sa Serbisyong may Kredibilidad," the distinction underscores UIC's enduring commitment to restorative justice, faith-directed service, and social responsibility across Mindanao.



UIC Spearheads Davao City Jail Annex Renovation

The University of the Immaculate Conception Community Development Service (UIC-CDS), on July 9, 2026, joined administrators, jail officers, and community partners as they gathered at the Davao City Jail Annex for a profound Blessing and Turnover Ceremony, witnessing the tangible fruits of a shared humanitarian vision that places human dignity at the center of institutional service. At the heart of this milestone was an extraordinary act of servant leadership and adaptive grace by Sister Maria Marissa R. Viri, RVM, President of the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC).

The journey toward this transformation had begun months earlier with a completely different architectural and humanitarian roadmap. Under the original approved blueprint, a dedicated institutional budget was allocated by Sister Marissa to renovate a dormitory specifically for the LGBTQ+ Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) community. However, a critical field discovery altered this path when a routine facility audit revealed that the aging jail infirmary was struggling to safely care for elderly and chronically ill PDLs. This revelation sparked a visionary pivot and a profound moment of unity. The pivotal shift was initiated by JCINP Rovie Ann N. Alcantara, the City Jail Warden whose visionary management previously earned her the prestigious National BJMP Best Warden Award. Recognizing the critical resource gap, Warden Alcantara proposed redirecting the development funds to the infirmary. In a beautiful display of solidarity, the facility's LGBTQ+ PDL groups completely agreed, selflessly putting the health and survival of their fellow inmates first. Demonstrating pure execution of charity, Sister Marissa instantly approved the reallocation, bypassing bureaucratic delay to answer where human suffering was greatest.

With funding secured through UIC's immediate, unhesitating approval, project architects, Architect Mark Sheng and Architect Ken Tongco, went to work. Treating the project as a mission of active healing rather than standard construction, they meticulously engineered the new infirmary dorm to maximize human dignity. Their structural strategy focused heavily on two main elements: optimized natural cross-ventilation, utilizing specially mapped openings engineered to maximize continuous airflow vital for respiratory health in high-density facilities, and strategic natural sunlight influx, featuring large windows placed to maximize natural light exposure directly calculated to accelerate physical recovery and enhance the psychological well-being of bedridden patients.

Representing the university at the cutting of the ribbon was Dr. Corazon Mamon-Umblero, Director of the UIC-CDS Office. While the ceremony officially marked the completion of physical renovations for Dorm 2, Dorm 10, and the WDU Office, the true achievement celebrated by the university and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) was the restoration of dignity to the jail's most vulnerable residents.





this is UIC:

Stories that spark conversation, stories that celebrate our shared identity, and activities designed to turn faith into action.

Illuminating Industry:

How UIC-SHINE 2026–2029 Redefines University-Industry Synergies

In an era dictated by sudden technological leaps, artificial intelligence, and rapidly shifting workforce competencies, traditional models of higher education are being re-examined. Higher education institutions can no longer operate as passive ivory towers; they must act as active catalysts for regional resilience and organizational transformation. Stepping boldly into this dynamic landscape, the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) introduces its strategic service framework for 2026–2029: UIC Support for Holistic Industry Excellence (UIC-SHINE).

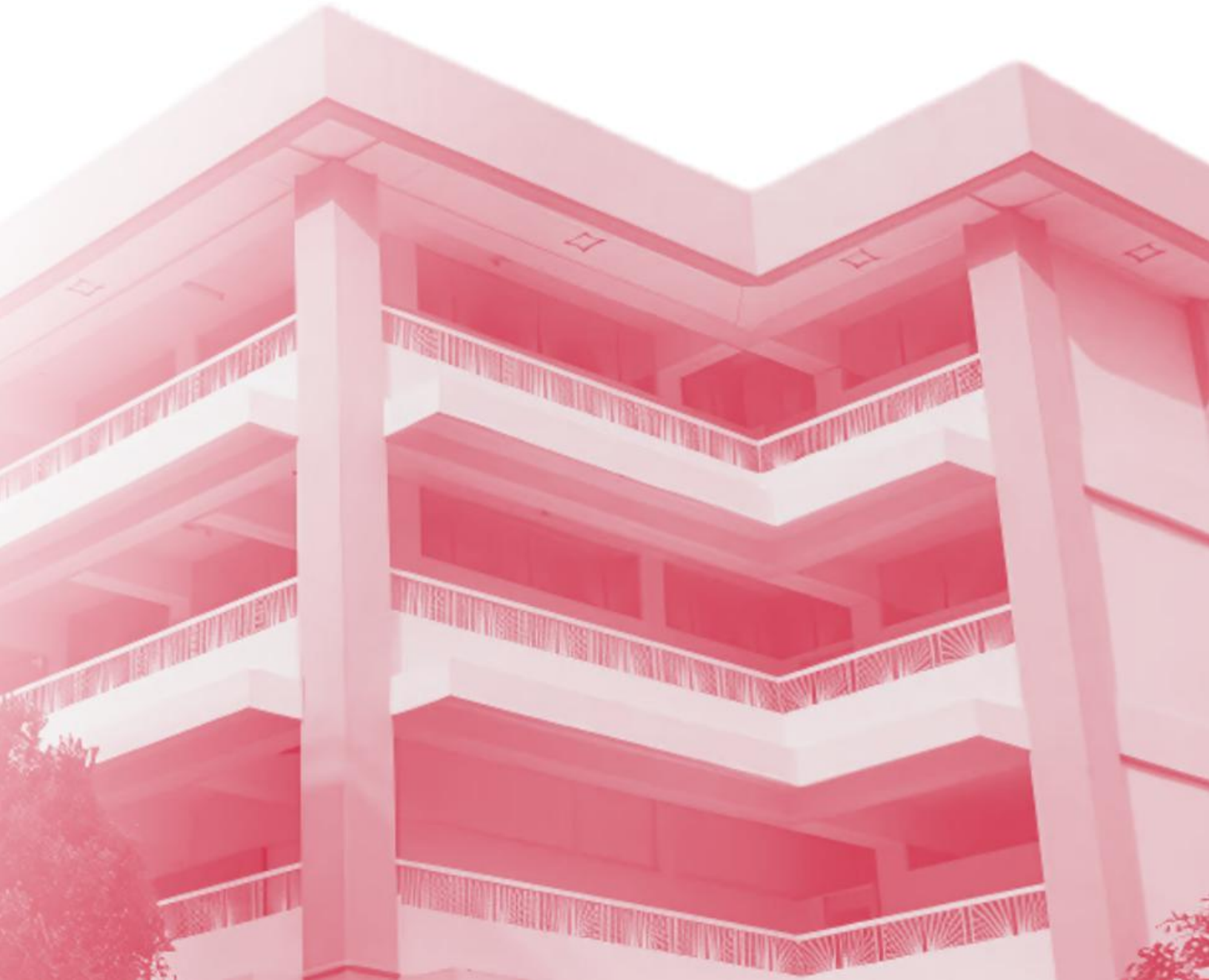
Rooted in UIC's core values of Faith, Excellence, and Service, UIC-SHINE is a university-wide blueprint designed to mobilize academic, research, technological, and formation expertise directly to external industries, organizations, and communities.



A New Paradigm: Giving First, Empowering Always

What sets UIC-SHINE apart from conventional corporate-academic partnerships is its fundamental philosophy. Rather than seeking transactional gains, profit-sharing, or reciprocal perks, UIC-SHINE operates on a unidirectional service flow from UIC directly to industry.

Under this model, UIC offers technical assistance, upskilling, research consultancy, and digital transformation support without demanding equivalent financial returns or reciprocal services. Grounded in service and social responsibility, the university dedicates its institutional assets to help organizations thrive. In turn, the real-world insights, data, and feedback gathered along the way naturally inform and elevate UIC's own academic curricula, research agenda, and faculty development.

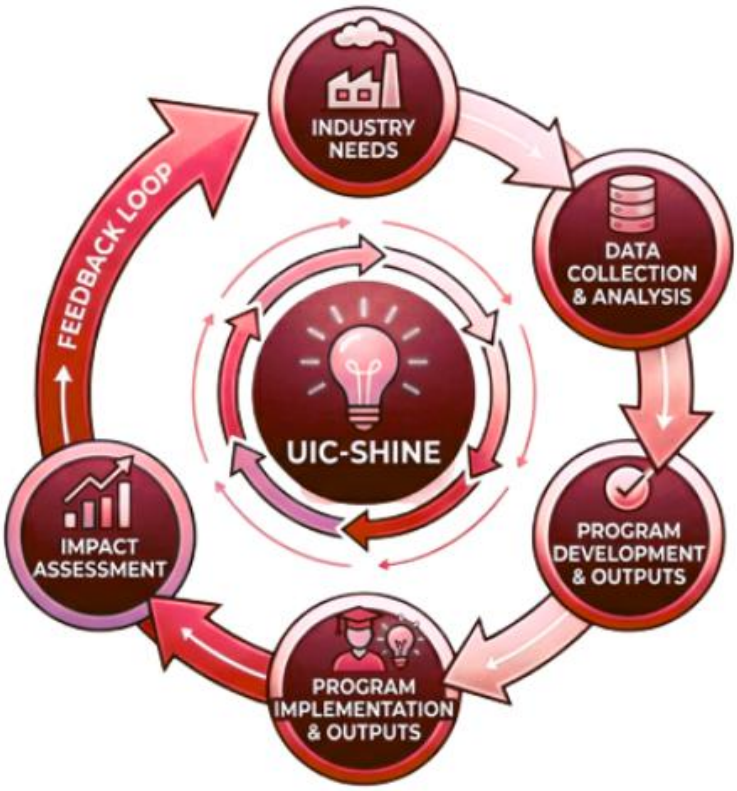


The 6-Stage Industry Support Cycle

To ensure interventions are targeted rather than theoretical, UIC-SHINE utilizes a continuous, data-driven operational loop that progresses systematically through six key stages. The cycle begins with identification, where environmental scanning and needs assessments pinpoint current workforce competency gaps and emerging technological requirements. This data is then rigorously analyzed to prioritize critical intervention areas, paving the way for the design of custom-fitted solutions ranging from microcredentials to AI integration pathways developed using multidisciplinary university resources. Once formulated, expert faculty, research centers, and specialized offices deliver these services directly to industry partners. Finally, quality assurance mechanisms assess performance, relevance, and real-world results, generating evaluation metrics that continuously improve both UIC-SHINE service delivery and UIC's internal academic programs.

By bridging academia and industry through a value-first model, UIC-SHINE delivers mutually reinforcing outcomes for regional development. For industry partners, the framework provides an upskilled workforce, seamless AI and technology integration, enhanced employee wellness, and systems optimization.

For UIC, the engagement yields industry-aligned curricula, real-world research inputs, elevated faculty expertise, and deeper community trust—redefining institutional service through a university that listens, adapts, and serves.



Alumni Connect:
Sharing Wisdom, Shaping Futures

The journey of education does not end at graduation—it evolves. For the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC), the true measure of institutional success is reflected not only in academic milestones, but in the enduring impact of its graduates. Grounded in this vision, UIC introduces ALUMNI Connect: Sharing Wisdom, Shaping Futures, a strategic initiative designed to transform alumni engagement from occasional, nostalgic reunions into a structured, sustainable, and lifelong partnership. Through ALUMNI Connect, UIC envisions its graduates as active co-creators of learning, professional formation, and institutional growth—bridging the rich experiences of alumni with the soaring aspirations of current students.

ALUMNI Connect brings graduates back into the heart of the university through diverse, high-impact touchpoints. The program delivers academic and industry insights through alumni-led lectures, masterclasses, and workshops that bring real-world perspectives directly into the classroom, keeping technical competencies aligned with market realities. Simultaneously, it provides structured mentorship and career guidance through one-on-one and group mentoring sessions that help students navigate career choices, professional standards, and workplace transition strategies. The framework also drives research and innovation collaboration by launching joint research initiatives and industry consultations that leverage alumni expertise to solve practical challenges and expand research frontiers. Furthermore, graduates offer co-curricular and extracurricular mentorship by supporting student organizations, leadership summits, and community service activities to model holistic development. Finally, the initiative establishes professional networking platforms that grant students direct access to career pathways, internship placements, and strategic industry linkages.

At its heart, ALUMNI Connect reinforces UIC's foundational mission: forming competent, compassionate, and socially responsible graduates guided by Faith, Excellence, and Service. When alumni share their time, expertise, and journey, they do more than transmit skills—they model integrity, resilience, and service-oriented leadership for the next generation. Through this initiative, UIC ensures that its legacy of excellence is not just remembered, but actively lived and passed forward.



Rooted in Faith, Blossoming for the Future:

The UIC Sustainable University Framework

In an era defined by rapid technological shifts, climate vulnerabilities, and evolving socio-economic demands, higher education institutions face a profound mandate to lead with purpose. The University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) responds to this call through the UIC Sustainable University Framework, a comprehensive commitment to embedding sustainability across every facet of institutional life—governance, instruction, research, community outreach, and campus operations. Flowing directly from UIC's mission of forming competent, values-driven, and socially responsible leaders, this transformative initiative is operationalized through the UIC Sustainable University 10-Year Strategic Plan. Fully aligned with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) thrusts, national development goals, and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UIC is building a resilient, future-ready academic community.

The UIC Sustainable University Framework visualizes its mission through the powerful symbol of a blossoming flower. At its heart lies the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), forming the core that anchors every effort in global sustainability priorities. Radiating outward as petals are the university's strategic pillars, which translate overarching goals into focused action areas. Holding the entire vision upright is a sturdy stem representing a phased, 10-year strategic roadmap.



Anchored in UIC's overarching vision as a globally recognized Catholic university that nurtures faith, builds a passion for excellence, and develops lifelong learners dedicated to service, the framework pledges three core outcomes. First, it drives responsible leadership by ensuring ethical, transparent, and accountable governance across all campus sectors. Second, it advances inclusive development by guaranteeing equity, social justice, and protection for the underprivileged and vulnerable. Third, it forms future-ready graduates by equipping students with the literacy, values, and critical competencies needed to solve complex environmental and societal challenges.

This integrated ecosystem is reinforced by universal SDG education, making SDG learning mandatory for every student and explicitly mapping General Education learning outcomes to verified sustainability literacy. Existing legacy initiatives now operate under one unified program umbrella, combining JEEPGY, the Global Compact on Education, Laudato Si', RVM Pedagogy, Social Responsibility, Service Learning, Gender and Development (GAD), the Drug-Free Workplace Initiative, and the UIC Kaduyog Sagop Kinabuhi Program. This umbrella is backed by a robust policy framework, including the Institutional Environmental Policy alongside comprehensive guidelines addressing non-discrimination, gender identity, sexual harassment prevention, parental leave, and due process.

UIC's evidence-based approach is already gaining international validation in global university benchmarks. In the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, UIC achieved a significant trajectory jump, rising from a score of 31.3 in 2024 to 51.2 in 2026—a gain of 19.9 points. In the 2026 global rankings, UIC placed in the 1001–1500 tier out of 1,603 participating institutions worldwide, expanding its data submission scope to cover 16 of the 17 UN SDGs.

In the New:

How USG President Is Bringing Visionary Leadership to UIC

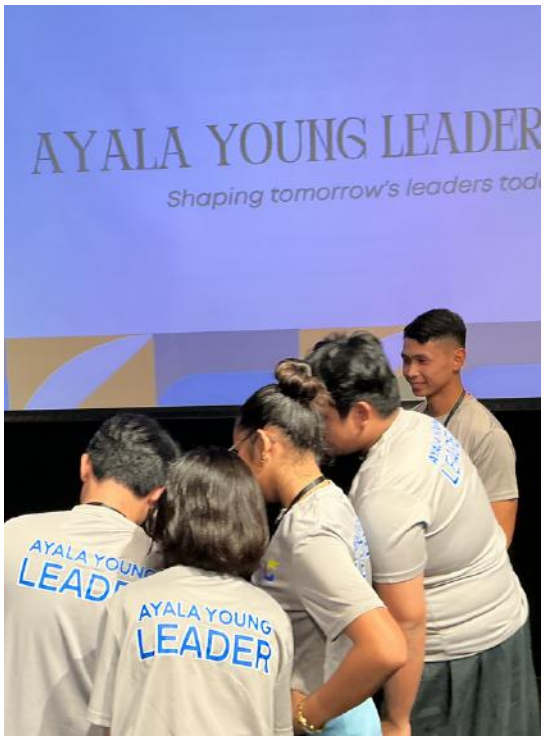


Leadership is rarely a solo journey; more often, it is forged through high-stakes moments, transformative mentorship, and a deep commitment to serving others. For Elle Jacqline D. Butaslac, President of the University Student Government (USG) at the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC), stepping into executive leadership is both a profound honor and a sacred responsibility.

Fresh off her participation in the prestigious Ayala Young Leaders Congress (AYLC)—where she stood as one of only two delegates from Mindanao in an elite national cohort of 31—Elle brings back fresh perspectives, a grounded philosophy, and a renewed drive to transform the Ignacian Marian student experience.

In this feature, Elle opens up about overcoming self-doubt, translating national leadership insights into campus action, and defining what it truly means to lead "In the New."

The path to national recognition was far from smooth. Elle recalls taking her final AYLC interview right after experiencing an earthquake—an ordeal that left her constantly questioning whether her performance met the program's rigorous standards.



When the official results were posted late at night two days later, anxiety turned into absolute jubilation.

"My immediate reaction was just to scream out of pure joy and shock," Elle shares. "Seeing that only 31 young leaders across the entire country were accepted this year, when they usually take 50, filled me with immense gratitude, but also a deep sense of responsibility to genuinely contribute and stand out."

For Elle, the selection was not just a personal milestone; it was an invitation to step into rooms that would challenge her, force her out of her comfort zone, and spark accelerated personal growth alongside some of the country's brightest minds.

Entering a national space with such lean regional representation initially brought a wave of apprehension. Being one of only two delegates representing Mindanao out of 1,730 nationwide applicants carried undeniable pressure.

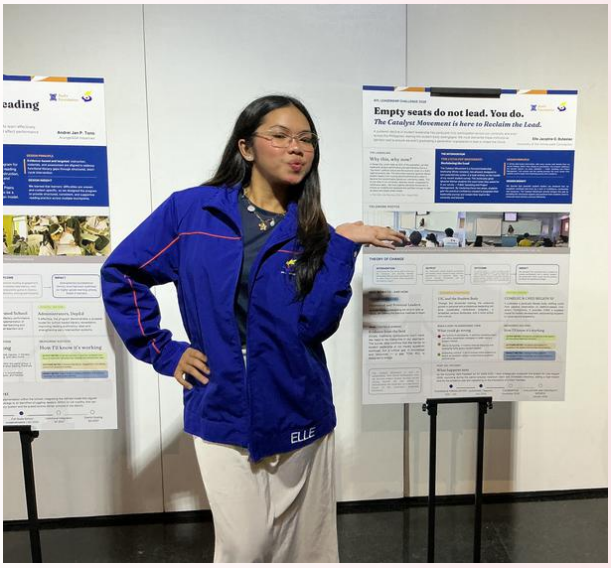
"I was initially terrified," Elle admits. "I was afraid I might be left out, overlooked, or even dismissed simply because of our small representation. But honestly, the experience turned out to be the exact opposite."

Over three intensive months of weekly sessions, the AYLC cohort bonded deeply. The journey expanded her worldview and underscored a core truth of service: true leadership requires moving alongside people to build collective change. Today, Elle carries a piece of every fellow youth leader she met into her daily work at UIC.

Now sitting firmly in the President's office as the new academic year takes off, Elle and her executive team are driving a clear, intentional banner theme: "In the New."

Setting the tone for a fresh academic year is no small task, but the immediate mission is clear—reignite hope across the campus.

*"My immediate focus, alongside my fellow USG Executives, **was to bring hope back to the Ignacian Marians,**" says Elle. "Hope that the USG can breathe life into our campus—hope that we can achieve great things by starting small, hope in lobbying, and that we can become the leaders we never thought we could be."*



While the initial weeks have presented ambitious challenges, Elle credits her past experiences and the trust of the student community for keeping her resilient and ready to serve.

The lessons Elle gathered during the AYLC kick-off in Makati, along with the deep connections formed with her Tulanayon batchmates, have become the quiet foundation shaping daily decisions within the USG office.

When leading a team of passionate, vocal student leaders, debates can naturally grow intense. In those moments, two core principles guide her approach: first, listening to understand rather than simply to respond, ensuring the executive board remains synchronized and grounded; and second, practicing mesotes—the golden mean.

This philosophy of doing the right thing, for the right purpose, with the right amount of faith, and in the right way has become the guiding mantra for her entire administration. Paired with the sharp critical thinking and resourcefulness honed alongside her national peers, she now faces complex institutional challenges head-on—proving that lean manpower or limited resources need not hinder high-impact action.

Elle's step into the presidency was not born out of personal ambition alone. Originally intending to run for Governor of her home college, it was the collective belief of her peers that encouraged her to step up to the university-wide stage.

"A collective group of people pushed me forward simply because they believed in what I was capable of achieving," she reflects. "Now, I can only hope to live up to the profound trust that brought me to this position."

As she looks ahead to the rest of her term, USG President Elle Jacqline Butaslac remains dedicated to paying that trust forward—inspiring every Ignacian Marian to step beyond their comfort zones and proudly become individuals for and with others.



FROM CAMPUS TO MOUNT RUSHMORE:

How UIC's Sheeree Maeve Elises Took Her Passion to the Global Stage



Business Finance student Sheeree Maeve Elises reflects on completing her three-month international internship at Xanterra Mount Rushmore, bridging UIC's core values with world-class professional training.

Leaving one's home country to pursue a dream abroad requires equal parts courage, faith, and preparation. For Sheeree Maeve Elises, a Business Finance student from the College of Accounting and Business Education (CABE) for School Year 2026–2027, stepping onto the iconic grounds of Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, USA, marked the culmination of months of hard work, prayer, and dedication.

Serving as a Retail Associate at Xanterra Mount Rushmore, Sheeree spent three months navigating the fast-paced world of international customer service, leadership, and intercultural collaboration.

In this feature, Sheeree shares her journey of overcoming initial fears, stepping up into peer-leadership roles, and bringing the spirit of Ignacian Marian values across the globe.

Setting foot on Mount Rushmore after months of visa processing and preparation was an emotional milestone. The transition brought a mixture of deep excitement and natural anxiety about adapting to an unfamiliar environment thousands of miles away from home.

"I finally reached the moment when I could say, 'I made it,'" Sheeree recalls. "It was such a surreal feeling, because something I had dreamed about for so long was finally becoming a reality. I was scared because I didn't know what tomorrow would bring, but deep down, I chose to stay positive and believe in myself."



Assigned to Xanterra's retail operations, Sheeree started her internship at the main gift shop cash register, welcoming visitors from all over the world and ensuring a seamless shopping experience. Her reliability and strong work ethic quickly led to expanded responsibilities.

After her first month, she was assigned to the T-shirt department, where she took on the role of training new incoming employees.

"Training others taught me to become more patient, understanding, and responsible," she shares. "It helped me realize that everyone learns differently, and that being patient and willing to guide others can make a big difference."

The transition to a high-volume international workplace was made smoother by the rigorous academic foundation Sheeree built at UIC's College of Accounting and Business Education. Coursework, presentations, group projects, and strict deadlines equipped her with key professional competencies: time management, communication, teamwork, and composure under pressure.

During peak tourism days at Mount Rushmore, long hours and multitasking demanded peak professionalism. Sheeree relied on her academic training to maintain high service standards, demonstrating that the principles taught inside UIC classrooms translate directly to world-class industry settings.

Throughout her stay in the United States, Sheeree anchored her daily interactions in UIC's core values.

"I realized that UIC's core values are not only lessons we learn in school, but values that we can carry with us wherever we go," she highlights.

While the work experience sharpened her career readiness, the most cherishable milestone of the three-month internship came from the human connections formed along the way. Navigating shared challenges—from long shifts to adjusting to a new culture—fostered deep friendships with colleagues from around the world.

Now back at the University of the Immaculate Conception, Sheeree returns with heightened confidence, independence, and a broadened global mindset. She plans to use her story to inspire her fellow CABE students to embrace new challenges.

"Now that I am back, I feel proud because I can say I faced the challenges, learned from the experience, and achieved something I had long dreamed of," Sheeree reflects. "I want to encourage my fellow UICians to step outside their comfort zones, take opportunities when they come, and believe in themselves."

Pink WAVE 2026

UIC Alumni Across Generations Prepare to Gather in Davao City

The University of the Immaculate Conception Alumni Association (UICAA) is gearing up for its premier triennial gathering: International Pink Wave (IPW) 2026. Taking place from December 5 to 8, 2026, in Davao City, Philippines, this four-day global homecoming invites UIC graduates across generations, professions, and continents to return to their alma mater under the theme, "From Shared Beginnings to Endless Connections." With the official registration campaign running through November 15, 2026, alumni worldwide are preparing to converge in Davao to celebrate lifelong friendships, institutional pride, and intergenerational networks.

Leading up to the December homecoming, the UICAA Board of Directors—led by President Joji Ilagan Bian, Vice President Jean Bravo, Secretary Ligaya "Lilli" Arellano, Treasurer Edna Villegas Cheng, Immediate Past President Eden Josephine L. David, and Board Members Atty. Jolly Mendoza and Carmencita Zurita—initiated a series of international roadshows to mobilize global chapters.

The international campaign launched in Los Angeles, California, on July 11, 2026, mobilizing 41 alumni across grade school, high school, and college levels, while appointing Sonia Abiva and Mary Jane Tesoro as Los Angeles Coordinators. The mobilization continued on the East Coast on July 18, 2026, at the Kabayan Bistro Lounge & Banquet in New York City. Welcomed by East Coast Coordinator Frances Mabel Acosta Robillo, attending alumni participated in an official oath of membership and pinning ceremony.

As UICAA President Joji Ilagan Bian emphasized, the International Pink Wave is more than a reunion; it is a global movement that reconnects hearts, strengthens relationships, and inspires alumni across the world to continue supporting their beloved alma mater.

IPW 2026 combines social heritage, campus nostalgia, and professional growth across six flagship experiences. The celebration opens with The Pink Welcome & The Pink Heart signature reception celebrating the warmth of the UIC family. Delegates will participate in guided UIC Campus Tours showcasing the university's newest academic facilities, research centers, and infrastructure, alongside an immersive Davao City Palengke & Heritage Tour exploring local markets, history, and cuisine.

To foster professional growth, the program includes an IPW Business-to-Business (B2B) Activity, creating a structured networking forum for alumni entrepreneurs, executives, and industry leaders. The event culminates in a formal IPW Gala Night honoring alumni achievements, milestone batches, and institutional support, followed by the Grand Alumni Homecoming, bringing together UICians from around the globe.



EXCELLENCE IN NUMBERS



TOP 2

92.40%

MEHIA JOHN TAN NAWA
August 2026 MedTech Licensure Exam



TOP 3

92.30%

CHESNA NICOLE BUSGANO TRAZO
August 2026 MedTech Licensure Exam



TOP 6

89.90%

BAI NYSSA MAE SINSUAT MONDIA
August 2026 Guidance Counselors Licensure Examination

TOP 6 PERFORMING SCHOOL AUGUST 2026 MEDTECH LICENSURE EXAM

TOP 2 PERFORMING SCHOOL OCTOBER 2026 PHARMACIST LICENSURE EXAM

3 New Architects

2 New Registered Real Estate Appraisers

162 New Registered Medical Technologists

76 New Nurses

9 New Registered Guidance Counselors

13 New Psychometricians

14 New Civil Engineers

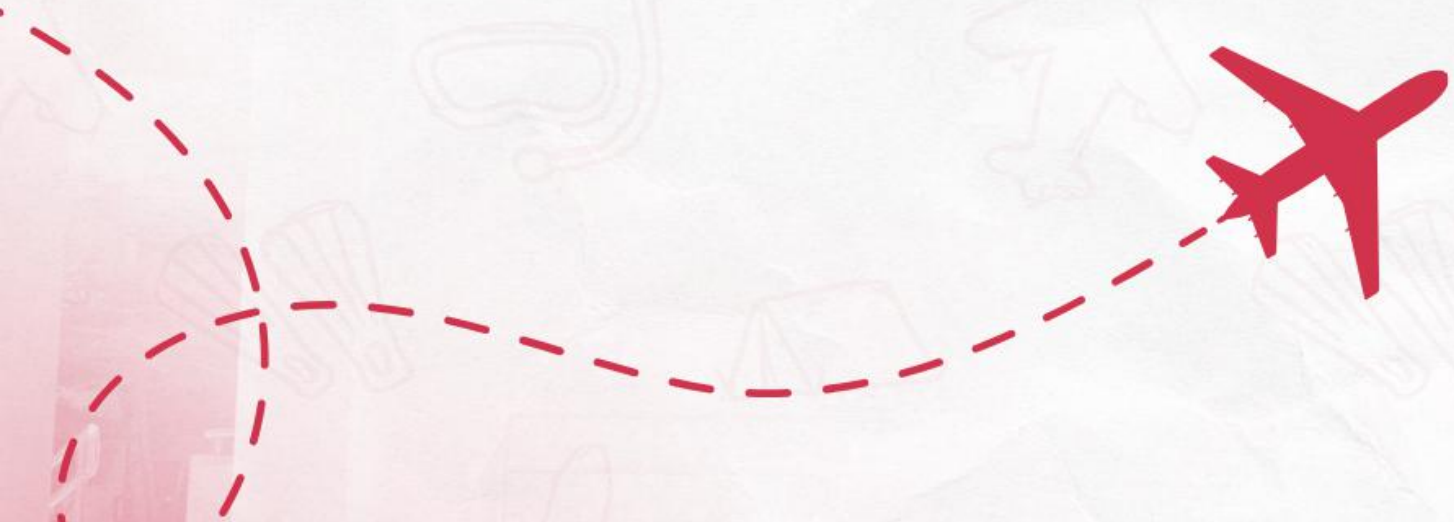
11 New Chemical Technicians

4 New Chemists

60 New Registered Pharmacists

3 New Certified Public Accountants

From VIC to the Globe



Experiences that cross borders, connections that broaden horizons, and global opportunities designed to take UIC excellence to the world.



Clinical Pharmacy Students Embark on Malaysia Immersion Program



Clinical Pharmacy Students Complete Clinical Mobility Program in Thailand



Men's Basketball Team Set for Matchups at KU International Exhibition 2026



UIC Participate in UNITVET Training in China



PhD in Pharmacy Cohort Embarks on International Academic Mobility Program in Malaysia



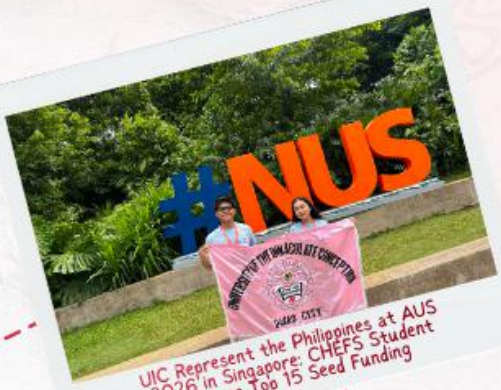
CABE and CAH Delegates Join International Community Engagement Program in Indonesia



UIC Head to Jakarta for Global Sustainability Congress 2026



UIC Participates in Service Learning Student Summit 2026 in Macau



UIC Represent the Philippines at AUS 2026 in Singapore; CHEFS Student Secures Top 15 Seed Funding



CHEFS Student Leaders Complete Cross-Border Sustainability and Eco-Tourism Program in Indonesia



UIC Delegation Participates in the 32nd ASEACCU Conference in Indonesia



CABE Students Gain Global Learning Experience through Japan Summer Insight Program 2026



CHEFS Delegation Joins 7th Summer Course at Universitas Negeri Malang

buwan ng wika




freshmen
and transferees
orientation


club
fair
SCAN ME
BE A GLO MEMBER!
SCAN HERE
FOR MESSENGER GROUP


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intramurals


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