



# UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT



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In the last several months, there has been progress in the country's response to the COVID-19 crisis, prompting the alert level system to gradually be lifted and slowly allowing pre-pandemic life to return. As the country shifts to a more relaxed mindset following the new normal, it can be easy to forget those who have yet to fully recover from the aftermath of the pandemic. The UP Constituent Universities (CUs), through various initiatives and programs in the name of public service, fulfill its mandate to unceasingly serve the people especially in the time of a pandemic.

## Relief for Pandemic-Stricken Communities



*Relief goods handed out by DAMAYAN volunteers to pandemic-stricken UPD personnel.*

Organizations such as the All UP Workers Union Diliman Chapter (AUPWU-Diliman) continue to lend a helping hand to the underprivileged, hence, *Damayan sa Diliman* initiative that aimed to provide relief assistance to impoverished communities in and near Diliman. The Ugnayan ng Pahinungód Baguio of the University of the Philippines manifested its mandate of serving the public as it celebrated its 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary by donating over 300 children's books to the municipality of San Gabriel, La Union, on top of conducting storytelling training for children (*Ugnayan ng Pahinungód Baguio Book Drive and Storytelling Training*). In addition, the Ugnayan ng Pahinungód Baguio handed out boxes of relief donations to Tapsan Elementary School.





*Ugnayan ng Pahinungód Baguio Storytelling Training (left) and turnover of donations to Tapsan Elementary School (right).*

Vaccination and booster shots rollout continued in several CUs this month, with UPB administering immunization shots to its employees and their dependents. UP Diliman also continued to administer the second vaccine shots for the residents of adjacent communities, while UP Manila's *College of Dentistry Vaccine Drive 2022* managed to inoculate 273 individuals with first doses and booster shots.



*UP College of Dentistry Vaccine Drive 2022*

Students at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) who are in need of counseling may now consult with the Office of Counseling and Guidance under the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs through its guidance services (*UPLB OCG-OVCSA Guidance Services*). On a similar note, the Sub-Committee on Students in Distress under the Office of Student Affairs of the University of the Philippines Manila (UPM) organized a webinar highlighting the importance of self-care and developing healthy coping mechanisms (*ONE STEP AT A TIME: Strengthening Self-Care and Coping through Stressful Times*).

## Streamlining of COVID-19 and Health Information

Despite the number of active COVID-19 cases declining over the past few weeks, the *UP Diliman COVID-19 Task Force Weekly Report* has continuously been monitoring and posting the weekly number and medical status of the active cases, as well as the area map where the active cases are residing.

In the University of the Philippines Visayas' (UPV) efforts to combat COVID-19 misinformation, the UPV Community Outreach Program (COP) - BIDANI and the Center for West Visayan Studies turned over COVID-19 IEC materials in Carles as part of the TEACH DRR Project of UP Visayas Foundation, Inc. (UPVFI).



*UPV COP-BIDANI and CWVS turn over COVID-19 IEC materials in Carles.*

Since its pilot episode in 2020, TVUP's *Stop COVID Deaths* webinar series has maintained its prominence as a weekly informative platform that features experts of various fields tapped to discuss relevant and timely issues of the public concerning the pandemic. This month's webinar episodes highlighted the effect of disasters on the country's pandemic response, the available COVID-19 medications and their proper usage, the so-called "stealth" Omicron variant, and the impact of the impending conflict between Ukraine and Russia to our pandemic response. Meanwhile, the University of the Philippines Manila College of Medicine continued to put in outstanding efforts in hosting webinars focused on medical issues that have arisen during the pandemic (*UP Med Webinars 2021: Outcome-Based, Effective, Socially-Responsive, Timely*) for healthcare professionals.

## Ensuring the Continuity of Education in the New Normal

In compliance with remote learning, CUs continue to employ the use of online platforms not only for classes, but also for trainings, seminars, and workshops. The UP Center for Integrative and Developmental Studies of UP Diliman organized *Higher Education in the Next Normal: Harmonizing towards Complementary, Continuity, and Competitiveness*, a webinar that discussed the strategies geared toward improving the higher education sector under the new modality.

In anticipating the 2022 National and Local Elections, CUs have conducted various voters' education webinar series, such as UP Los Baños' webinar *To Do or Not to Do? That is the Question: An Orientation on Government Employees and Wanted: Public Servant - A Voter's Conversation on Duties and Qualification of Elected Government Officials* as part of UPLB sa Halalan 2022. The UP Diliman Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA) launched *Halalan*, a weekly information dissemination program and centralized resource on pertinent UP-initiated and independent programs. In addition, UP Diliman organized the webinar *Mambabatas: Ano Ba Talaga Trabaho Mo?* which tackled the duties and responsibilities of aspiring legislators.



Webinars on voters' education as part of the UPLB sa Halalan 2022

Scientific updates and technological advancements were the focus of CUs in some of their webinars. The UP National Center for Transportation Studies (UP NCTS) of UP Diliman held the *Technologies/Infrastructures for Public Transportation Smart Mobility* which focused on the current developments in the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). In collaboration with the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS), UP NCTS held the *Asian Road Crash Analysis for Future Vehicle Technology* webinar which analyzed the trends in road crashes in Malaysia and the Philippines and identified the possible interventions for the reduction of fatalities from these incidents. UP Los Baños stressed the importance of clonal forestry and the production of quality planting materials for sustainable forest management in the Museum of Natural History's *Biodiversity Seminar*. The Division of Physical Sciences and Mathematics of UP Visayas organized *Introduction to Biomarker Evaluation in Drug Discovery Studies* which highlighted the drug discovery



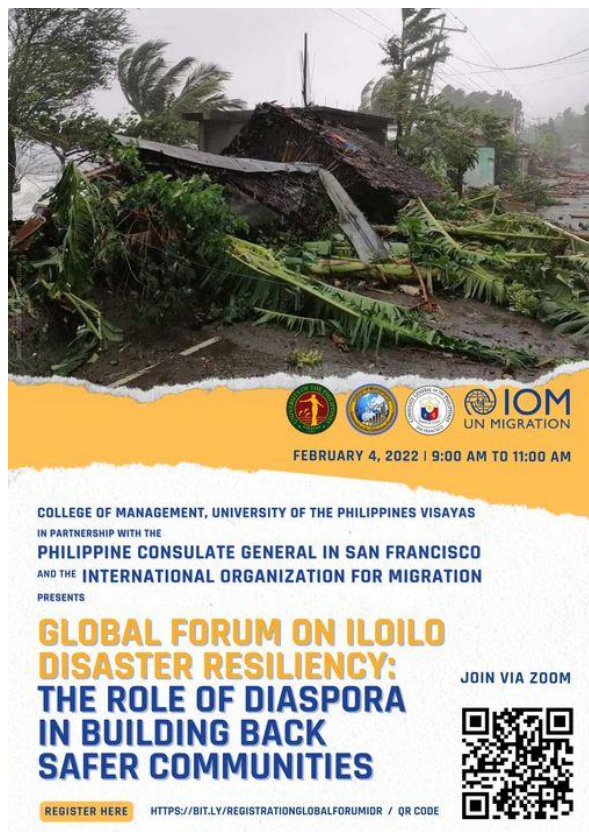
process from drug conception to market distribution. The Biological Research and Services Laboratory of UP Diliman invited experts to talk about the African Swine Fever in the webinar series *Back at the Barnyard: ASF the Forgotten Contagion*.

CUs also emphasized the importance of research publication, especially in the time of a pandemic, via organizing webinars such as UP Visayas' *Gearing UP Towards a Transformative Research Agenda* which focused on developing research knowledge and expanding practice, UP Baguio's *Translating the Textual: Virtual Literary Programs and Publications in a Pandemic*, the University of the Philippines Open University's (UPOU) *Tips in Writing the Research Paper*, and UPOU's *Ethics Review, Principles, Policies, and Procedures*.



*UP Visayas' webinar on developing research knowledge and expanding practice.*

The UP Visayas College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences held a discussion on resiliency against catastrophes in the webinars *Climate and Disaster Resilience: Coastal and Marine Contexts Learning Series* and *Global Forum on Iloilo Disaster Resiliency: The Role of Diaspora in Building Back Safer Communities*. The College of Agricultural and Food Sciences (CAFS) Agricultural Systems Institute of UPLB organized the *Durungawan Webinar Series* which talked about sustainable livelihood development in the small island communities of Jomalig and Patnanungan in Quezon and Corcuera, Romblon.



UP Visayas College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences webinar on disaster resiliency

The development, structure, and regular functioning of human society were the highlights of the webinars organized by CUs. UP Los Baños' College of Human Ecology held a webinar entitled *CHE Conversations: Unpacking the Value of Human Ecology in an Increasingly Complex and Connected World* which tackled the importance and complexities of human ecology, and how it affects human nutrition and food, developmental studies, social technology, community and environmental resource planning, and community perspectives. UPOU conducted webinars which focused on love languages (*Lusog-Isip at Lusog-Puso Makipag-ugnayan: Conversations on Staying Connected through Love Languages*), the importance of ancestral knowledge (*OPEN Talk: Integrasyon ng Katutubong Kaalaman sa Iba't Ibang Disiplina*), and in collaboration with the Asian Association of Open Universities (*AAOU Webinar Series 2022: (R)evolution of ODL*). UP Diliman held online discussions on teaching ethics and moral reasoning to Gen Zs (*Teach Talk: How to Teach and Manage Your Gen Z Class (Ethics Edition)*) and conservation of heritage in village tourism development (*The Rethinking Tourism Lecture Series*). Art and its connection with the Filipino consciousness was the focus of *Sining at Kamalayang Pilipino* by UP Diliman's Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts. The UP Cebu Center for Environmental Informatics presented *Science for the People Book Series: Fusion of Science and the Arts*, a round table discussion on science, technology, and innovation promoting arts.

## Volunteer Teaching for the Underprivileged

CUs have been actively engaging with and helping underprivileged members of the community. To address the need for teachers in rural areas, UP Cebu Ugnayan ng Pahinungód called for *Gurong Pahinungod Volunteers* to teach in public underserved communities for one year. Similarly, the UPD Ugnayan ng Pahinungód conducted several online tutorial sessions in reading comprehension for Grade 7 students.



MAGTURO.  
MAGLINGKOD.  
MAGING

# Facts about GURONG PAHINUNGOD



**What is Gurong Pahinungod?**

The Gurong Pahinungod Program deploys a select group of UP graduates called Gurong Pahinungod (GP) to teach in public schools in underserved communities for one year. From 1998 to 2006, the program has deployed 405 UP graduates as volunteer teachers to 160 public schools nationwide.



**Who can serve as GP?**

Prospective applicants must meet the following criteria to become GPs:

- a. Has a baccalaureate degree (any course) from any University of the Philippines unit;
- b. Willing to serve as a volunteer teacher for 10 months;
- c. Willing to undergo further training in pedagogy and content;
- d. Physically, psychologically, and emotionally fit; and,
- e. Fully vaccinated.

Graduating students for the academic year 2021-2022 are also encouraged to join and serve as GPs!



**I am not a graduate of Education, can I be a GP?**

Yes! The GP Program is not exclusive to Education graduates. Graduates of any field are welcome to join.



**How long will I serve as a Volunteer Teacher?**

GPs will serve as volunteer teachers for 10 months. Prior to deployment, they will undergo training on pedagogy, content, and community engagement to be equipped with the needed skills as volunteer teachers.



**Will there be an allowance or stipend?**

GPs will be provided with accommodation and a monthly stipend during their deployment.



**I want to be a GP. What should I do next?**

Sign up at this link:  
<https://bit.ly/GurongPahinungodVolunteer2022>

*UP Cebu's Gurong Pahinungod Call for Volunteers*