



UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT



APRIL 2022



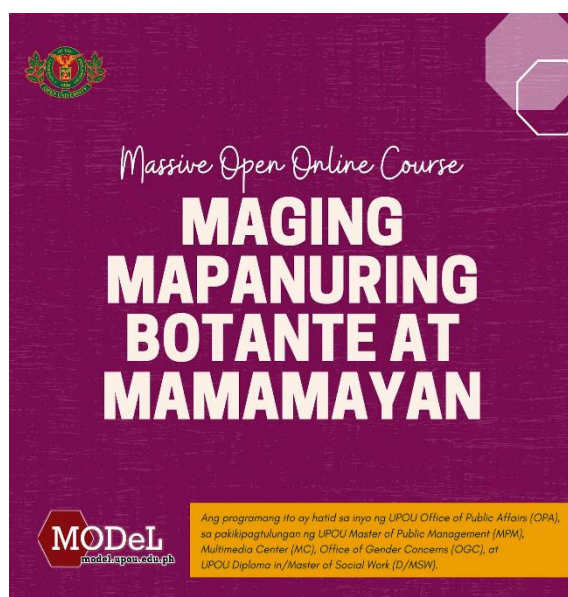
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UP Padayon Public Service Office

Prior to the national and local elections last 9 May, the University of the Philippines had actively engaged its constituents, numerous sectors and organizations, and the general public in conversation on the national agenda and the most urgent social challenges facing the nation. By offering vital, pertinent, and urgently required knowledge and information as well as prompt and efficient direct services, the University consistently upholds its commitment to stand and be with the people of the Philippines during challenging times.

The focus of this month's edition is on Constituent Universities' (CUs) initiatives to inform voters, assist them in making decisions, and instill a sense of alertness throughout the entire electoral process. This report also highlights the ongoing provision of services and information linked to COVID-19 and CUs' constituents, including assistance on emotional and mental health for communities that are most in need. Last, this report tells a story about the various civic activities and other public service efforts the CUs carried out jointly and for the communities.

EDU-LEKSYON: Voter Education and Election Awareness Campaigns

Days before the national elections, various CUs had initiated a substantial number of campaigns to educate the public about elections through all information-sharing platforms available to ensure free, fair, and safe 2022 elections in the Philippines.

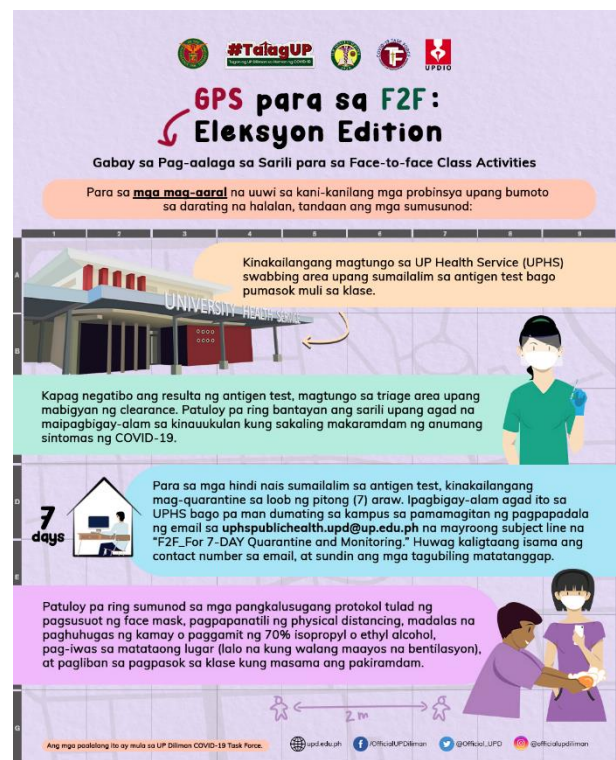


The Informed Youth NSTP and CWTS students from the UP Baguio College of Science hosted **Edu-Leksyon: A Webinar on Voter and Election Awareness** on 2 May 2022. The online event gave participants advice on casting informed ballots. The organizers also urged registered voters, particularly young people who were also first-time voters, to take part in the 2022 Philippine general elections.

From 6–10 May 2022, the UP Open University offered a massive open online course (MOOC) on voter education. The course **Maging Mapanuring Botante at Mamamayan** had two modules. The first module entitled Fake or Fact: 'Wag Magpalinlang Module focused on the need to properly conduct research and distribute information. The second lesson Ang Hinahanap Ko sa Isang Lider Para sa Pangarap Kong Pilipinas discussed the attributes of a public servant that a voter should be able to compare among the candidates. Additionally, infographic materials based on the mock elections last April conducted by the Office of Gender Concerns at UPOU have now been made accessible.

The UP Diliman Information Office published a self-care checklist for students who voted in the elections in time for when they return to campus for the few in-person class activities.

The University required students to go through antigen testing and be cleared through triage. Those who did not undergo the antigen test were required to isolate themselves for a week. The recommendations included additional safety measures including sanitizing and exercising physical distance.



Keeping the Community Safe and Protected from COVID-19 and Other Diseases

In light of the COVID-19 situation, the University has kept reminding the public to exercise caution. Some CUs continue to offer the public crucial COVID-19-related information and services.

The 99th installment of the Stop COVID Deaths special webinar series, ISA PA NGA: Kelangan ba talaga ng COVID-19 2nd Booster?, featured talks of two top immunology experts: Dr. Marysia Recto on the clinical foundation for advising about the second booster shot, and Dr. Jennifer Otadoy-Agustin on immunologic side effects, which included a review of the negative

reactions to immunizations. Both specialists urged the general public, especially members of vulnerable populations, to obtain the fourth dose in order to increase their COVID protection.

The poster is for a webinar titled "STOP C.O.V.I.D. DEATHS" with the subtitle "(Current COVID-19 problems; Other outbreaks; Viruses; Infections; Disasters)". It is a "SPECIAL EDITION WEBINAR" and "Webinar #99". The main topic is "ISA PA NGA: Kailangan ba talaga ng 2nd COVID-19 Booster?". The presenters are Dr. Marysia T. Recto and Dr. Jenifer Otadoy-Agustin. The poster also mentions "TVUP" and "GOLD QUILL AWARDS 2022 WINNER". Registration information includes the link bit.ly/StopCOVIDDeathsWebinar99, the date "13 MAY 2022", and the time "12 NN - 2 PM".

The #OurShot: A COVID-19 Booster Vaccination Drive was organized by the 45th Medicine Student Council of UP Manila and held in the hallway of the UP College of Dentistry. Students of legal age, staff members, and faculty members of UP Manila were able to receive their booster shots. This was done in order to assist the Local Government Unit's continuing immunization campaign and help the community overcome its resistance to the additional protection. The Health Service of UP Diliman started immunizing frontline healthcare workers, people 60 years of age and older, and immunocompromised patients, with Moderna for their second COVID-19 booster dosage on 25 May 2022. Additionally, they accommodated 18-year-olds who needed their first dose of the COVID-19 booster vaccine. The aforementioned immunization campaign will extend through the third week of June.



Aside from the COVID-19 booster shots, the University Health Service (UHS) of UP Los Baños also hosted its second Beat the Flu. Get the Shot! Vaccination Drive for the prevention of influenza or the flu virus. The UHS encouraged the immunocompromised and the elderly to take flu shots for an added layer of protection, especially during the rainy season.

Those who participated underwent careful screening before their vaccination which most received in the comfort of their vehicles. A total of 154 UPLB constituents participated in the program held within the UHS premises.

It's Okay Not to be Okay: Prioritizing Emotional and Mental Health

The pandemic highlighted significant public health issues and made clear how important it is to put people's emotional and mental health first, particularly in difficult circumstances. As a result, some CUs offered psychosocial first aid to their target communities, particularly those in high-risk sectors and communities.



Faculty and volunteers from UP Visayas Ugnayan ng Pahinungod prepared 200 mental health kits and 300 play kits as gifts from the Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc. and the Ugnayan ng Pahinungod System Office on International Labor Day. The

Division of Social Sciences collaborated with Ugnayan ng Pahinungod the following day to give critical psychosocial first aid to 272 community members who had been traumatized by the landslide in Barangay Mailhi, Baybay City, Leyte.

Students who had post-election tension and anxiety participated in a group processing session called Bahaginan Para sa Pag-Asa which was led by the UP Diliman Psychosocial Service (UPD PsycServ). The purpose of the activity was to give students a better means of expressing and processing their feelings. The Office of Student Affairs at UP Manila had also distributed an infographic outlining the many coping mechanisms the general public can use to lessen the effects of election-related stress. The Ugnayan ng Pahinungod Committee on Psychosocial Emergency Services (UP CoPES) discussed mindfulness in episode 5 of Usap-Lusog-Isip, titled Mag-Isaisip: Conversations on Mindfulness which focused on how the topic can help with the stress brought by the pandemic. The event's inputs were provided by Associate Professor Marshaley Baquiano, Ph.D. of the University of Guam. The event was livestreamed on both Facebook and Youtube.

The CAS Online Instruction Committee invites you to a Mental Health Webinar for UPM Faculty

IT'S OKAY NOT TO BE OKAY

Safeguarding Our Mental Health in the New Normal

May 18, 2022
10:00AM-12:00NN

RESOURCE SPEAKER:

VIOLETA V. BAUTISTA, PhD, R.P., C. Cl. P.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
Director, UP Diliman Psychosocial Services (PsychServ)
Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology
College of Social Sciences and Philosophy
UP Diliman

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The UP Manila College of Arts and Science Committee on Online Instruction (COI) organized the webinar **It's Okay Not to be Okay: Safeguarding Our Mental Health in the New Normal** to address the needs of faculty members and assist them in preparing for classes in the new normal as the university prepares to implement in-person classes. The discussion was led by Dr. Violeta V. Bautista, head of the UP Diliman Psychosocial Service. The event was centered on understanding mental health and the appropriate ways to care for it.

Public Initiatives with and for the Community



DONATION UPDATES

UP DILIMAN COVID-19 RESPONSE VOLUNTEERS UPD CRV

As of May 17, 2022, we distributed 1000 rice meals, 245 food packs, 50 rice packs (10kgs) and 205 hygiene kits. They are temporarily staying in UP Dorms, Village B covered court and at the Amoroso covered court. We are still continuing the call for donations to further extend help to the victims of the fire. Priority donations are the following:

1. Thermos
2. Water Jug
3. Utensils such as plates, spoons, forks, glasses
4. Banig, mattress, pillows, blankets
5. Water basin or planggana, pail, containers
6. Hygiene kits
7. Laundry soap
8. Medicine

For cash donations:
GCash and Paymaya
Anna Marie Stephanie C
0920-288-7636

Anna Marie Stephanie Cabigao
Landbank savings 3077-0667-63

Let us help the residents of Village A/B recover from this unfortunate event.
Thank you very much!

Aside from activities and projects pertaining to elections, a number of CUs had also started public service projects to further advocacy for the University of the Philippine's constitutional rights and to encourage civic participation among its members.

A fire broke out in Village A/B, Barangay UP Campus, last 2 May, leaving 8 people dead and 80 homes completely destroyed. A total of 250 households had been

impacted, primarily UP Community staff and members. In an effort to help, the UP Diliman COVID-19 Response Volunteers (UPD CRV) and other UPD offices, universities, and organizations organized donation campaigns to raise money and resources towards providing aid to the affected families. The Friends of Campus Animals (FoCA) in UP Diliman also requested assistance for the community's remaining stray animals.



On 13 May, UP Visayas and the Iloilo City Environment and Natural Resources Offices collaborated to conduct a coastline cleanup effort at Villa Beach in the Molo Arevalo District of Iloilo City in honor of the 2022 World Oceans Month. UPV takes an active role in and is a fervent supporter of the preservation and conservation of coastal waters in the

area as the Center of Excellence and Leadership in fisheries and marine sciences education, research, and extension in the country. By putting Sustainable Development Goals 13 (Climate Action) and 14 (Life Below Water) into practice, UPV demonstrated its ongoing commitment to addressing climate change-related concerns and impacts. Additionally joining this project were the

Graduate School of Oceanography of the University of Rhode Island and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Red-tagging attacks against members of the UP System community have increased both online and offline in the wake of the 2022 elections. The UP President's Advisory Council (PAC) first expressed its growing worry on 16 May 2022, over the disturbing claims against the students that threatened their safety and security, including their exercise of their academic freedom and freedom of speech.



In response to the recent attacks, the UP Office of the Student Regent, in collaboration with Defend UP Network, organized an online media forum on 28 May 2022, using the hashtag #UPFight for Academic Freedom and Democratic Rights. Representatives from the media and student publications attended the event, along with the chairperson of the student council. During the event, students exchanged stories about the circumstances of the UP campuses. The attendees unanimously signed the #UPFight placard and raised their fists at the conclusion of the event to reaffirm their resolve to support academic freedom and safeguard democratic values. They also demanded authorities to uphold and institutionalize the UP-Department of National Defense (DND) Accord.

The UP Manila - Red Cross Youth Council requested qualified blood donors for a bloodletting event they planned at the PGH Atrium a day before May 2022 came to an end. The goal was to raise blood donations to help assuage the pandemic's impact on the shortage of blood supplies. The beneficiaries were the patients being treated at the Philippine General Hospital at that time.

