Participation in Policy Making at Local, Regional, National and Global Level to Implement Programs and Policies to End Poverty

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES



Three academic personnel from Saint Mary's University (SMU) formally took their oath as newly elected officers of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) – Nueva Vizcaya Chapter. The induction ceremony happened on July 8, 2025, at the Carlos M. Padilla Convention Center in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. The event was a highlight of the 3rd Regional MSME Summit 2025 cum One DTI Services Caravan.

Dr. Harrison Villanueva and Architect Christopher Dominguez were sworn in as members of the PCCI-Nueva Vizcaya Board, while Mr. Joel Gabriel Espino, CPA, took his oath as Corporate Secretary. Their election occurred during the Reorganization of Nueva Vizcaya Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Planning Meeting, held on July 3, 2025, at Disadeco Events Center.

Mr. Gary Chong, Regional Governor of PCCI Region 2, administered the oath. Key figures in attendance included officials from the Department of Trade and Industry Region 2 (DTI R2), led by Regional Director Ma. Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, and Acting Assistant Regional Director Atty. Michael Paggabao. Representatives from the Provincial Government of Nueva Vizcaya, various private sector partners, and members of the local business community also witnessed the ceremony.

This induction ceremony signifies a renewed commitment to private sector leadership in the province. It aims to further drive enterprise development and strengthen crucial public-private collaborations that foster economic growth in Nueva Vizcaya. It also highlights the university's strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically: SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

PAASCU Accreditors



Dr. John Octavious S. Palina
Dr. Moises Alexander T. Asuncion
Dr. Gertrude G. Danao
Dr. Regina Ramel
Dr. Christopher Allen S. Marquez
Dr. Edwin Edilberto N. Mania
Dr. Mayvelyn Covita
Engr. Jefrie Alindayu
Mrs. Pearl Via S. Coballes
Dr. Harrison T. Villanueva
Mr. Melencio G. Bernardino, Jr.

Accreditors,
Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU)

		Education		
Professional Education	Dr. Liberty A. Rosario	OBPTEP Outcome-based Pre-service Teacher Education Program	International and National	Specialist
		CHEDRO2 RQUAT –Regional Quality Assessment Team	Regional	Evaluator in Teacher Education
		Council of Deans and Chairs Region 2	Regional	Board of Director

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Agreement entered and executed this FEB 07 2019 day of _____ 2018 at the City of MANILA, Philippines, by and between:

The **SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTE** of the Department of Science and Technology, with principal office address at Levels 1 and 2, Science Heritage Building, DOST Compound, General Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Taguig City, represented herein by its Director, **DR. JOSETTE T. BIYO**, hereinafter referred to as **"SEI"**;

-and-

The **SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY**, a private university, with principal office address at Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya and represented herein by its President, **REV. FR. FERNOLD G. DENNA, CICM**, hereinafter referred to as **"SMU"**.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Science Education Institute expanded the membership of the NCGSME to include the Cebu Normal University (CNU), Leyte Normal University (LNU), MSU- Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT), and Saint Mary' University (SMU), herein teacher education institutions evaluated to have track record and existing capabilities in the graduate science and mathematics education as its other twelve (12) members namely, Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU), Bicol University (BU), Central Luzon State University (CLSU), De La Salle University (DLSU), Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), Mindanao State University-Marawi (MSU-Marawi), Philippine Normal University (PNU), University of San Carlos (USC), UP College of Education (UPCEd), UP Open University (UPOU), Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) and West Visayas State University (WVSU);

WHEREAS, The 12 member-universities in partnership with SEI currently implement the **Capacity Building Program in Science and Mathematics Education (CBPSME)**;

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding was executed on 25 July 2014 and entered in the Notarial Book of Atty. Dolorsindo I. Paner as Doc. No. 350, Page No. 71, Book No. 95, Series of 2014 which shall form part of this Memorandum of Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, and of the mutual covenants hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto agree of the following:

I. PROGRAM MONITORING/IMPLEMENTATION

A. SEI shall decentralize the implementation of the CBPSME specifically on the monitoring of the graduate scholars, releasing of financial assistance, and providing technical support by enrolling the services of a Project Director to be officially designated by the University President; and

B. The Project Director shall adhere to the approved policies and guidelines indicated in the S&T Scholarship Handbook, which is made an integral part hereof as Annex "A", for the implementation and management of the program.

II. PROGRAM FUNDING

A. SEI shall effect the transfer of funds to SMU, through the Project Director, corresponding to the number of graduate scholars enrolled in the university including certain administrative and operation costs determined using the appropriate DOST formula;

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DATE Jan. 8, 2019

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B. The Project Director shall deposit the amount transferred by SEI to a trust fund account with Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), or any government recognized depository bank.

a. Withdrawal/s from the account shall be made by checks signed by the Cashier/Disbursing Officer of the University and countersigned by the President or his duly designated signatory; and

b. The SEI, through its Chief Accountant, or authorized representative shall have ready access to the financial records of the Project.

C. The Project Director shall acknowledge receipt of funds in accordance with existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations;

D. The Project Director shall release the amount to individual scholars in accordance with a pre-determined schedule of releases and shall submit periodic audited financial reports;

E. Both parties shall maintain book of accounts which shall reflect the financial activities relating to the transfer and release of scholarship funds in accordance with the approved line-item budget and pertinent accounting and auditing rules; and

F. SMU shall return or remit to SEI the unexpended balance of the Project fund.

III. PROGRAM MONITORING

A. Both parties shall monitor the progress of each individual scholar enrolled in the university;

B. The Project Director shall submit progress reports to SEI on a semestral basis;

C. The parties shall meet periodically to thresh out difficulties encountered in the management and implementation of the program and shall come up with solutions as remedial measures; and

D. When applicable, coordination with other parties/institutions may be resorted to for the smooth implementation of the program.

IV. PROJECT PERSONNEL

A. The Project Director shall hire a Project Staff under Contract of Service basis for the effective implementation of the program. The service fees must be consistent with the provision in the approved line-item budget;

B. The Project Director shall submit to SEI a copy of the contract, together with the job description and qualification guidelines for specific position, of the Project Staff and a Special Order to effect the designation of the Project Director;

C. The functions of the Project Personnel as indicated in "Annex B" shall be made an integral part hereof; and

D. The Project Staff shall work for the project on a full-time basis and shall not be allowed to engage in activities other than those under the project during regular hours.

V. PROJECT PROPERTIES

A.1 Procurement of Equipment

Procurement of equipment is subject to the availability of funds and with authority from SEI.

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for signature
OFFICE OF THE LEGAL COUNSEL
DATE Jan. 1, 2019

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Supplies, materials and equipment authorized to be purchased with SEI funds must be in accordance with the approved line-item budget and pertinent accounting and auditing rules and shall be used exclusively for the project.

A.1.1 Purchase of Equipment – Equipment procured out of SEI funds shall be the direct responsibility of the Project Director and shall be subject to government procurement policies under RA 9184 and to existing government accounting and auditing rules. Only equipment identified in the approved line-item budget shall be allowed to be purchased out of the project funds.

A.1.2 Accountability for Equipment – The Project Director shall be held personally liable and accountable for the equipment acquired out of the project funds until the same are transferred and a clearance has been issued to him/her by SEI.

A.1.3 Ownership of Equipment – Equipment purchased out of the project funds shall be owned by the Science Education Institute.

VI. PHYSICAL SPACE

A. The SMU for its counterpart, shall provide appropriate office space including utilities and the required office furniture for use of the project personnel and scholars.

VII. EFFECTIVITY, DURATION AND TERMINATION

This Agreement shall become effective upon signing of the parties hereof and shall be implemented starting Academic Year 2019-2020 and shall remain in full force unless sooner terminated upon written notice given thirty (30) days in advance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereto set their hands this ____ day of _____ 2018 at _____, Philippines.

SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTE	**SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY**
By:	By:
JOSETTE T. BIYO Director	FERNOLD G. DENNA President

Signed in the presence of:

ALBERT G. MARIÑO Deputy Director and Officer-In-Charge S&T Scholarship Division Science Education Institute	MELANIE G. GURAT Project Director, SMU Capacity Building Program in Science and Mathematics Education

CERTIFIED FUNDS AVAILABLE:

PHILIP J. BUE
Accountant III

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DATE Jan. 1 20

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Republic of the Philippines)
City of MANILA) S.S.

BEFORE ME a NOTARY PUBLIC, for and in MANILA, Philippines this FEB 07 2019 day of 2018 personally appeared:

Name	Residence Certificate No./Passport No.	Date and Place of Issue
JOSETTE T. BIYO	Passport No. PO409695A	28 September 2016/DFA Manila

known to me and to be the same persons who executed the foregoing Memorandum of Agreement consisting of four (4) pages including this page wherein this Acknowledgement is written, signed by the parties and their respective witnesses on each and every page hereof, and they acknowledge to me the same is their free and voluntary act and deed, as well as those of the entities they respectively represent.

WITNESS MY HAND AND NOTARIAL SEAL on the date and place first above written.

ATTY. GARY CAMITAN AURE
NOTARY PUBLIC
NOTARY PUBLIC, ROLL NO. 60777
[illegible]

Doc. No. 12
Page No. 3
Book No. XXIV
Series of 2019

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ASEACCU
The Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities

Certificate of Membership

This is presented to

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

in grateful recognition and appreciation of your continuous support as an official member of the Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU)

Given this on 22 September 2023,
On behalf of the Organisation

REV. PROF. STEPHEN MORGAN
Executive Secretary, ASEACCU

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

KNOWN ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOU) made and entered into by and between:

The "**SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY**", a premier CICM Catholic educational institution, with official address at Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, represented by its President, **MR. JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA, PHD, DBA**, and hereinafter referred to as "**SMU**";

and

The "**CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**", an Indigenous Peoples research-based organization with official address in Sundarbasti, Budhanilkantha Municipality-08, Nepal, represented by its Executive Director, **MS. PASANG DOLMA SHERPA, PHD**, and hereinafter referred to as "**CIPRED**".

The **SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY** and **CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**, recognizing the benefits to their respective institutions from the establishment of institutional links, conclude this MOU, to wit:

1. The purpose of this MOU is to develop academic and educational cooperation and promote mutual understanding towards the preservation, promotion and protection of knowledge, skills, attitudes, value, systems and practices of the Indigenous Peoples (IPs);

2. Both institutions agree to collaborate and maintain a close working relationship to achieve their mutual objective of:

   1.2.1 collaborating on Indigenous researches on specific areas like indigenous knowledge systems, oral histories and traditional practices;

   1.2.2 organizing and hosting cultural and academic events like international conferences;

   1.2.3 conducting training programs or workshops for Indigenous scholars or researchers;

   1.2.4 publishing, sharing, and presenting research results pertinent to Indigenous knowledge systems and practices;

3. The development of and implementation of specific activities agreement based on this MOU will be separately negotiated and agreed upon between the SMU and CIPRED;

4. It is understood that the implementation of any of the types of cooperation stated in Clause No 2, may be restricted depending upon the availability of resources and financial support at the institutions concerned;

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DATE: MAY 03 2025

5. All collaborative activities and exchanges under this general MOU shall not be conducted or enforced unless a Specific Activity Agreement or memorandum of Agreement is executed between the parties observing the same formalities and all limitations specified herein;

6. Should any collaborative research activity under this MOU result in any potential for intellectual property, both institutions shall seek an equitable and fair understanding as to the ownership and other property interests that may arise. This MOU shall be based on laws, rules and guidelines enforced and implemented at each institution;

7. Nothing shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, nor will any constraints shall be imposed by either upon the other in carrying out the intents and purposes of this MOU;

8. This MOU may be amended or modified by a written agreement signed by the representatives of both institutions;

9. Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this MOU, each party shall inform the other party in writing the name of its staff/office who/which will serve as its liaison officer/office with the other party under this MOU;

10. This MOU is valid for a period of five (5) years from the date of signing by the representatives of both institutions. It may be renewed subject to the review and renegotiation by both parties. Such review and negotiation shall be conducted within sixty (60) days prior to its expiration. This MOU shall take effect from the date of the latest signature below;

11. In the event of any unforeseen incident during collaborative activities in their respective localities both institutions agree to negotiate a mutually acceptable solution. As far as practicable, these solutions shall be incorporated into the specific activity agreements stated in Clause No. 3;

12. For any conflict with respect to the interpretation or operation of any of the provisions of this MOU, the parties shall exert their best efforts to amicably settle such disputes. Should no settlement be reached within a reasonable period, the dispute shall be settled through the courts;

13. This MOU may, at any time during its period of validity, be terminated by one of institutions upon prior notice to the other in writing not later than six (6) months before the termination date;

14. Both institutions acknowledge that confidential information may be acquired during the existence of this MOU. Thus, neither party shall, without the written consent of the other, disclose any nor all parts of the confidential information acquired by the parties to any person, including any third party or employee of the parties, unless such persons are required to have knowledge to such confidential information; and

15. During the existence of this MOU, both institutions undertake to process and handle any personal data in compliance to Republic Act No. 10173 (the data Privacy Act of 2012)

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have signed this Memorandum of Understanding on this _____ in _____.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY	CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA University President	**PASANG DOLMA SHERPA, PhD** Executive Director

Signed in the presence of:

REV. FR. PHILIP A. YU JR., CICM Vice President for Mission and Identity	**MS. RUSHA SHRESTHA** Board Member
MOISES ALEXANDER T. ASUNCION Vice President for Academic Affairs	**MR. BIKRAM SUBEDI** Admin and Finance Head

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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BEFORE ME, a Notary Public for and in the _____ personally appeared on MAR 1 9 2025 the following persons who presented their respective component evidence of identities indicated below:

Name	Government Issued ID	Issued on and Issued at
JOHN OCTAVIOS S. PALINA	106-651-097-000	11 July 2017 / Nueva Vizcaya
PASANG DOLMA SHERPA	BA0009007	20 December 2022 / Kathmandu

Known to me and to be known the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument denominated as Memorandum of Understanding consisting of four (4) pages, including this page, having acknowledged, before me that it is their own, respective, free and voluntary act and deed, and the respective agencies that they represent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby set my hand and seal on the date, year, and place above written.

EPIFANIO G. GALIMA III
Notarial Commission No. 25-23
Notary Public Until 12-31-2025
SMU, Bayombong, Nva. Vizcaya
Roll of Attorney's No. 57855
IBP Lifetime, 066895, 1/4/16;
PTR No. 2962204, 12/19/2024

Doc. No. 97
Page No. 20
Book No. CCCXXVII
Series of 2025