**Evidences 15.2.4**

**Evidence 1. Special Lecture in Taxonomy and Systematics with Dr. Ming Kai Tan**

**NARRATIVE REPORT**

**SDG:** 4, 13, 15

**Title of Activity:** Special Lecture in Taxonomy and Systematics with Dr. Ming Kai Tan

**Date/Time:** February 25, 2025

**Venue:** Saint Mary's University, AVR 1

**Organizers:** CNS

**Objectives:**

To provide BS Biology, MAT Biology, and BSED major in science students with a foundational understanding of taxonomy and systematics, including their principles, applications, and significance in biodiversity conservation, thereby enhancing their knowledge and appreciation of systematic organization in the biological sciences.

**Participants:** BS Biology, MAT Biology, & BSEd Science students, CNS Faculty

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## A. Highlights of the Activity:

Leading up the main conference on February 26 to 28, 2025, the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies hosted a special pre-conference lecture on February 25, 2025, featuring Dr. Ming Kai Tan, an Associate Scientific Manager and Curator of Entomology at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore. His lecture provided students with a foundational understanding of the principles and applications of taxonomy and systematics.

Dr. Tan's discussion covered broad topics on classification systems, species identification, evolutionary relationships, and the role of taxonomy in biodiversity conservation. His lecture offered valuable insights into the importance of systematic organization in the biological sciences, equipping attendees with a general background essential for further study in these fields.

This lecture was primarily intended for BS Biology, MAT Biology, and BSED major in science students. It served as a critical introduction to taxonomy and systematics, providing students with a comprehensive perspective on the subject. The pre-conference lecture was organized by the Center for Natural Sciences (CNS), ensuring an engaging learning experience.

**Appendices**

### 1. Program






**2. Photo Documentation**










Prepared by: Dr. Elsa L. Cajucom

CNS Director

**Evidence 2. Envi-Learning and Sharing (Mobile Classroom Laboratory and Ecosystems Study) at Imugan, Sta. Fe**

**NARRATIVE REPORT**

**SDG:** **4, 11, 13, 15, 17**

**Title of Activity:** Imugan Enviro-Culture Encounter

**Date/Time:** November 29-30, 2024

**Venue:** Imugan, Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya

**Organizers:** CNS Biology Faculty and students

**Objectives:** This Imugan Enviro-Culture Encounter was guided by several objectives that include: enhancing understanding of forest ecosystems through direct observation, promoting awareness of indigenous communities' sustainable practices, and raising consciousness about biodiversity conservation. It also aimed to foster an appreciation for the cultural practices of the Indigenous peoples (Kalanguya); develop practical skills in field research and ecological documentation; inspire advocacy for environmental sustainability; and, support community education through the conduct of lectures and hands-on sessions for the students and teacher of Kalahan Academy.

**Beneficiaries (if any):** Junior High School students and teachers of Kalahan Academy, IMugan, Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya

**Participants:** CNS Biology faculty (Ms. Leeanna Alap, Ms. Vivien Almendra, Ms. Gregg Austin Balanag, Mrs. Alicia Jubay, Mr. Jason Arnold Maslang and 25 BS-Biology students

**A. Highlights of the Activity:**

Saint Mary's University, as a Catholic University and a CICM institution, is committed to promoting a sustainable environment through environmental education. Thus, the University has invested in creating academic programs and community engagement activities to achieve such a goal. One of the curricular programs that serve as a forerunner in promoting a sustainable environment is the BSBiology program under the direction of the Center for Natural Sciences. The core and major subjects under the program provide the students the opportunity to learn *about* the environment, *in* the environment, and *for* the environment. Learning about the environment in the natural setting proved to be effective and meaningful. Students are given the opportunity to learn on site through field studies that are integrated in a number of subjects.

The two-day Imugan Enviro-Culture Encounter was an engaging field study aimed at highlighting the critical importance of biodiversity conservation. For students, studying pristine environments like Imugan is essential to understanding complex ecological interactions, assessing ecosystem health, and shaping effective conservation strategies. Beyond the ecological concepts learned in a natural setting, the enjoyment and awe of the beauty of the place, the encounter fostered meaningful engagement with the indigenous Kalanguya (IKalahan) community, whose sustainable practices and traditional ecological knowledge play a vital role in preserving Imugan's natural resources.

The academic community of SMU represented by the CNS faculty and students has demonstrated its support for community education by conducting lectures and hands-on sessions for the junior high school students and teachers of Kalahan Academy of Imugan, Sta. Fe. One-hundred (100) students and eight (8) teachers participated in the lecture sessions and hands-on activities provided by the SMU faculty and students through the Mobile Classroom Laboratory during the first day of the Enviro-Culture Learning Encounter.

In the evening of November 29, the SMU team and community members came together for a vibrant socio-cultural encounter. The event featured traditional dances, songs and traditions that highlighted the Kalanguyas'/Imugan heritage. The performances, led by the local residents created a sense of camaraderie and appreciation for the local traditions.

The night ended on a celebratory note, reinforcing the connection between education and cultural preservation.

The second day was devoted to the immersion of students and the faculty in the forest ecosystem of Imugan. As an important academic activity, students were expected to accomplish a number of tasks relative to the competencies laid in the identified course syllabi. The immersion activity was facilitated by two local foresters who are serving as consultants in the Committee on Environment of the Kalahan Educational Foundation, Imugan. The students and faculty were introduced to the diverse flora and fauna of the place. The two resource persons highlighted the importance of ecological sustainability and explained how biodiversity is maintained in its ecosystem. An added highlight of the immersion activity was the visit to the demonstration farm where a funded project on seed banking of indigenous crop species is on-going. Through the brief lectures provided, the participants gained knowledge and insights on maintaining indigenous crop species in the ecosystem, traditional farming methods and other practices relative to sustainable farming.

Throughout the day, the participants engaged in reflective discussions about their experiences in the immersion activity. Majority of the students including the faculty expressed a newfound appreciation for the interplay between the natural environment and cultural heritage. It is with hope that the encounter will be inspired to adopt sustainable practices and actively contribute to the promotion of environmental sustainability.

**B. Summary of the Activity Evaluation**

**Day 1. (November 29, 22024) Mobile Classroom Laboratory**

The activities held in Day 1 consisted of a brief opening program and briefing on the conduct of the Mobile Classroom Laboratory for the high school students of Kalahan Academy including their teachers. A total of ninety-two (92) students and five (5) teachers participated in the day's activities that included lecture sessions on the following topics: 1) Pteridophytes by Ms. Gregg Austin Balanag; 2) Bryophytes by Ms. Vivien Junelle Almendra, and, 3) Protozoa and Associated Diseases by Ms.Leeanna Alap. Practical work utilizing the microscope and basic laboratory procedure in preparing soil and water sample for microscopic examination were facilitated by both the Biology students and their faculty members. Educational games were also played by the students. A summary of the feedback of the beneficiaries is presented in the table below. As shown in the table, about 84% of the recipients/beneficiaries who were able to evaluate the activity expressed a very satisfactory experience with the services that were offered in the planned activity; only five (5) expressed a satisfactory overall experience. About 62% appreciated the usefulness of the activity as very satisfactory. Other items in said feedback survey form can be considered in the enhancement of future services that will be offered to clienteles.

| | Very Satisfactory | | Satisfactory | | Unsatisfactory | | Very Unsatisfactory | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N* | % | N* | % | | | | |
| **Product/Service** | | | | | | | | |
| Usefulness | 20 | 62.5 | 12 | 37.5 | | | | |
| Quality | 16 | 50 | 16 | 50 | | | | |
| Delivery | 12 | 37.5 | 10 | 62.5 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Representatives/ Implementers** | | | | | | | | |
| Responsiveness | 21 | 65.6 | 11 | 34.4 | | | | |
| Friendliness | 24 | 75 | 8 | 25 | | | | |
| Preparedness | 19 | 59.4 | 13 | 40.6 | | | | |
| Gender Sensitive | 20 | 62.5 | 12 | 37.5 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Overall Experience** | 27 | 84.4 | 5 | 15.6 | | | | |

*The team was not able to get the feedback of the participants/recipients due to a remiss in the reproduction of documents.

**Day 1. (November 29, 2024) – Socio-cultural sharing-learning**.

The socio-cultural sharing learning held in the evening consisted of storytelling and conversations on Kalanguya social practices and traditions and their practices in managing the natural environment as part of their culture. The traditional dances that the culture bearers performed with pride were heartwarming to witness. The performances of the community members and the students from SMU created a sense of camaraderie. The night's activity conveyed the importance of integrating cultural expression with academic activities to foster a sense of community and appreciation for heritage. The parties evidently enjoyed

the socio-cultural sharing and the night ended on a celebratory note, reinforcing the connection between education and cultural preservation.

**Day 2. (November 30, 2024) – Guided Forest Walk/Forest Exploration, Biodiversity Studies and other Field Tasks.**

Day 2 was dedicated to immersing the students and faculty in the forest ecosystem of Imugan. The activity was facilitated by 2 experienced foresters,For. Tina Omas and For. Patricio Cosep II, as resource persons. The two professionals introduced to the participants the diverse flora and fauna of the place, highlighted the importance of ecological sustain- ability and explained how biodiversity is maintained within the ecosystem. The students including the faculty learned to identify native species, some of which are used in traditional medicine and food preparation. Following the forest exploration, the group visited local farms where the foresters discussed about traditional farming methods. The participants gained insights into how these practices contribute to biodiversity conservation, economic sustenance, and eventually, environmental sustainability. The two resource persons also discussed the importance of balancing traditional farming methods with modern techniques to address contemporary environmental challenges.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in reflective discussions about their experiences. Many expressed a newfound appreciation for the interplay between ecosystem conservation and protection and cultural heritage. By the end of the encounter, the participants were inspired to adopt sustainable practices and contribute to the preservation of nature and culture.

Overall, the Imugan Enviro-Culture Learning Encounter has provided an opportunity to combine academic learning, practical application, and cultural immersion, leaving participants with valuable knowledge and memorable experiences.

## B. Appendices

### 1. Attendance Sheet (scanned)

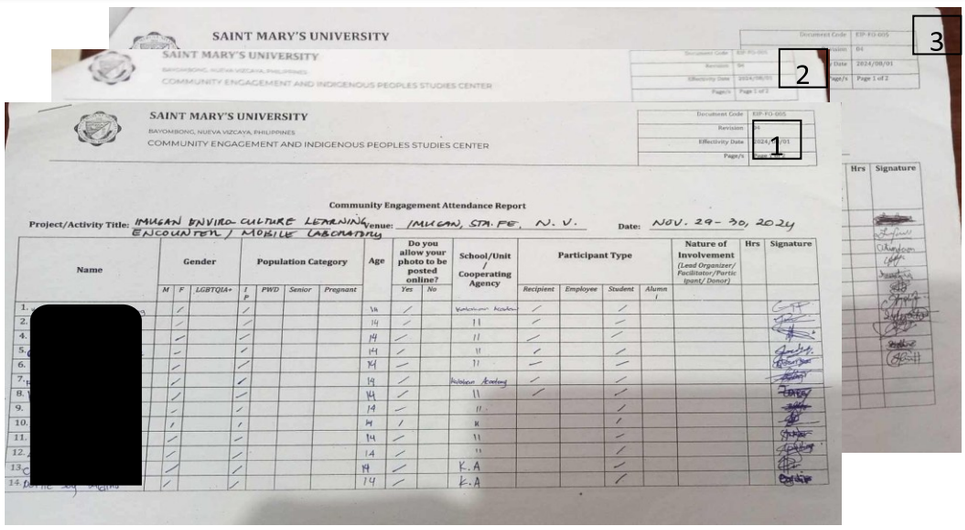
Summary of participants, beneficiaries/recipients of the Imugan EnviroCulture Learning Encounter.

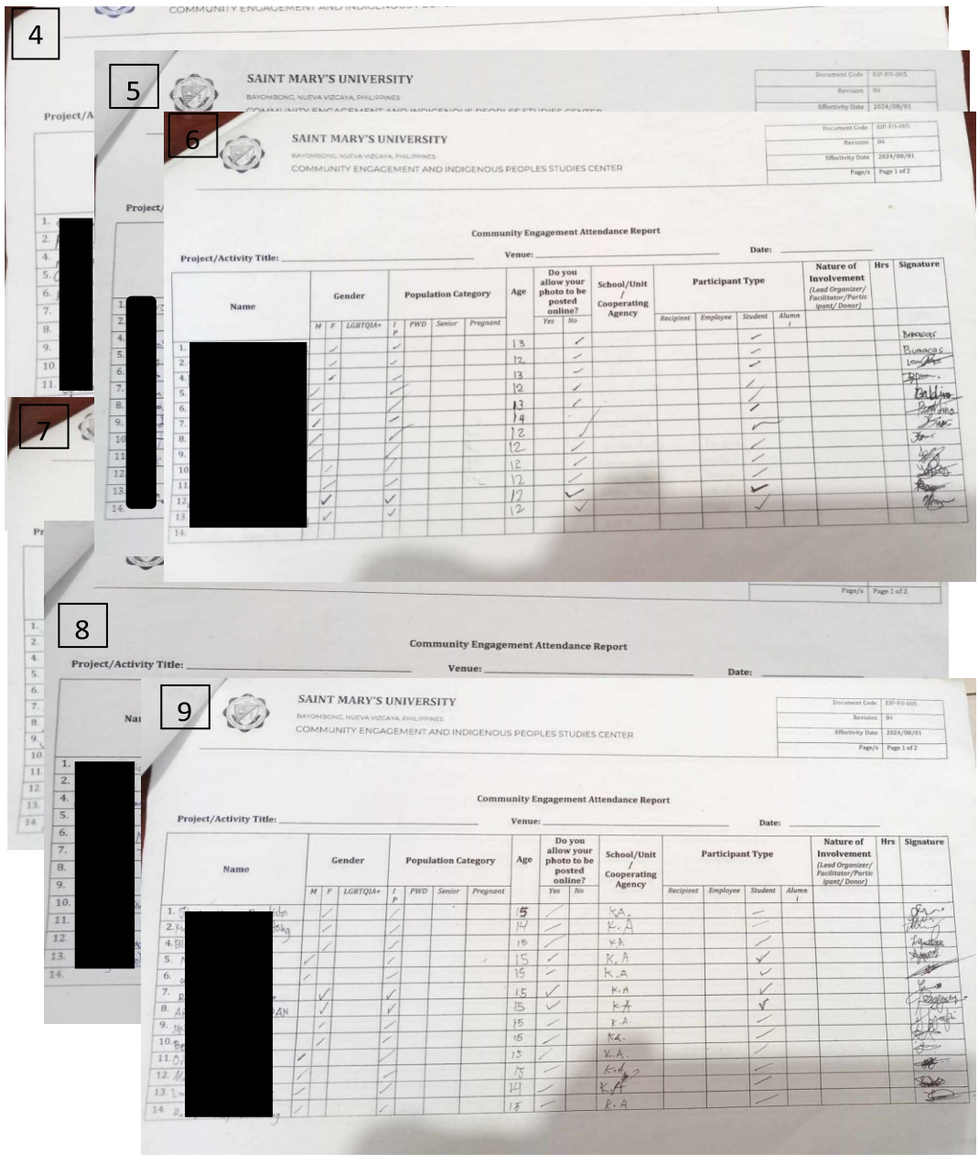
Implementers'/Extensionists' profile:

| Category | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Faculty | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Students | 6 | 19 | 25 |

Beneficiaries/Participants' Profile

| Category | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Community leaders/Culture bearers | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Kalahan Educ'l. . Foundation Staff | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Teachers (Kalahan Academy) | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Technical Staff | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Students | 37 | 55 | 92 |
| | 45 | 65 | 110 |


SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES STUDIES CENTER
Community Engagement Attendance Report
Project/Activity Title: IMUGAN ENVIRO-CULTURE LEARNING ENCOUNTER / MOBILE LABORATORY
Venue: IMUGAN, STA. FE, N. V.
Date: NOV. 29-30, 2024
Name
Gender
Population Category
Age
Do you allow your photo to be posted online?
School/Unit / Cooperating Agency
Participant Type
Nature of Involvement
Hrs
Signature
1
2
3


SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES STUDIES CENTER
Community Engagement Attendance Report
Project/Activity Title:
Venue:
Date:
Name
Gender
Population Category
Age
Do you allow your photo to be posted online?
School/Unit / Cooperating Agency
Participant Type
Nature of Involvement
Hrs
Signature
4
5
6
7
8
9

## 2. Program of Activities




## 3.Photo Documentation

Photos below showing activities accomplished during Day 1 (November. 29. 2024) Lecture sessions and hands-on activities facilitated by faculty and students.






Day 1. Opening program: Mr. Maslang with his opening remarks and brief orientation

2-day activity
















Conversation with the IP elders/culture bearers



Culturebearers sharing some Kalanguya traditions and practices expressed through their dances









BSBio 2 in their show of talent! Dancing the Carinosa

BSBio 3 rendering a Christmas song





BSBio4 dancing with the beat of the gongs

Biology faculty learning how to play the djembe






2 (November 30, 2024) Guided Forest walk/exploration: Biodiversity study and indigenous knowledge and practices on natural resources conservation.




CNS faculty with Forester Tina Omas in a discussion on indigenous practices in protecting and conserving forest resources



The Biology Forest Explorers



Forester. Tina Omas and Forester. Patricio Cosep delivering a brief lecture on preservation






SMU-CNS Team @ IMUGAN ENVIRO-CULTURE LEARNING ENCOUNTER

# ICCS

4th

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL STUDIES

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

in partnership with

WWF

Co-convenors:

# 1st International Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation

"From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges."

February 26-28, 2025

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

in partnership with

Co-convenors:

# MESSAGE

I am elated to extend my warm greeting to the organizers of the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies on February 26-28, 2025. It is with your chosen theme. "From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges", that reflects the overview of this affair.

We laud the partnership of the University of the Philippines Los Baños, World Wildlife Fund-Philippines and Saint Mary's University for spearheading this milestone that aims to foster collaboration to ensure natural resource protection and sustainable management. Moreover, its notable intention of bringing together academicians and researches who worked on studies related to indigenous peoples and biodiversity is worthy of emulation.

The province of Nueva Vizcaya being the melting pot of cultural diversity and home to the various ethno-linguistic tribes of Northern Luzon, play a vital role in natural and historical preservation. We value the importance of our indigenous people who contribute enormously to the rich heritage of our province. Furthermore, this undertaking shall not only strengthen the preservation of the cultural heritage and ecosystems for the Kalanguya-Ikalahan ancestral domain but also all other tribes that co-exist with them.

In our consistent call for unity and cooperation among our peoples, we recognize the role of the IP community in the preservation of our natural haven through the efficient and effective management of their respective ancestral domains. They likewise contribute to the progressive growth and development of our province as part of the legislature given their representations in our local legislative bodies from the provincial, municipal and barangay levels, respectively.

As we continue to strive to preserve the roots and traditions of our ancestors, the provincial government shall always do its part in promoting and preserving the cultural heritage of Nueva Vizcaya. We shall always be supportive to avenues like this that shall pave the way in recognizing the invaluable contributions of all the stakeholders in the academe and our indigenous cultural communities.

On behalf of the provincial government, along with my family, I join you wishing the successful and productive conduct of the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies!

PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA

OFFICIAL SEAL



GOVERNOR ATTY. JOSE "JING" GAMBITO

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

in partnership with

Co-convenors:

# MESSAGE

We are delighted to welcome our plenary and keynote speakers, presenters, and participants of the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies at Saint Mary's University, Philippines, in partnership with the University of the Philippines, Los Banos, World Wide Fund for Nature-Philippines, and ASEAN Center for Biodiversity and with Saint Louis University, University of Saint Louis Tuguegarao, Saint Louis College, and Holy Name University-Bohol as co-conveners.

This year's conference features an impressive line-up of national and international speakers with backgrounds in Indigenous youth leadership and research, historical museums, and biodiversity conservation. On the other hand, the research presenters will discuss interesting topics such as biodiversity studies, landscape studies, social geography, literary/language studies, education, Indigenous studies, and vernacular architecture.

The theme "From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges" speaks about the worldwide clamor for solutions to various local and global concerns on biodiversity conservation. The conservation of biodiversity has become more important and urgent than ever before. Recent studies indicate that the natural world already lacks biodiversity because of overexploitation of resources like agricultural land, wildlife, and water, habitat destruction, and pollution. As a result, the world has seen devastating effects such as global warming and, to a broader extent, climate change.

In one of its latest feature stories, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) highlighted the importance of Indigenous knowledge in the fight against climate change, which may lead to biodiversity, citing the following reasons: Indigenous peoples are custodians of unique knowledge and practices emphasizing the balance between humans and the natural world, and many Indigenous traditional practices offer effective climate solutions, sustainable agriculture systems and climate-resilient water management.

In contrast, a recent study conducted by researchers at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology at the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona in collaboration with a broad group of researchers, practitioners, and Indigenous Peoples' representatives, questions the scientific validity of the long-term repeated claim that 80% of the world's biodiversity is found in Indigenous Peoples' territories.

These studies highlight conflicting empirical results and show that indigenous solutions to a global challenge, such as conserving biodiversity or climate change, are topics that trigger meaningful discussions among scholars. Aside from these topics, presentations that touch on Indigenous youth leadership, language, and historical museums, among others, may also provide valuable insights for future research. Through the presentations, I hope we can have productive exchanges of ideas about managing our ecosystems and natural habitats well and that your participation will also lead to conducting joint research projects with other participants on various topics that will be discussed.

We thank our partners, keynote speakers, participants, and organizers for making this conference possible. For our onsite attendees visiting the Philippines and our university for the first time, I hope you will enjoy your stay on our campus and the naturally vibrant province of Nueva Vizcaya. I am certain that the immersion activity on the second day in a well-established site in the province dedicated to biodiversity conservation will add a fun and meaningful learning experience for everyone.

Please enjoy and make the most of the conference. Thank you everyone for taking part!



DR. JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

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Co-convenors:

University of the Philippines
LOS BAÑOS
*Office of the Chancellor*



# MESSAGE

On behalf of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), I extend our warmest congratulations to Saint Mary's University, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, on the successful conduct of the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies (FICCS). With the inspiring theme, "From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges," this conference underscores the indispensable role of indigenous knowledge and biodiversity conservation in addressing pressing global concerns.

We applaud your efforts in bringing together distinguished academicians, researchers, and stakeholders who share a commitment to preserving cultural heritage and protecting the environment. By highlighting the *Kalanguya-Ikalahan* ancestral domain and integrating traditional wisdom into modern frameworks, you are setting a powerful precedent for sustainable management of natural resources. Through the workshop sessions, participants will foster a collaborative spirit—one that ensures local communities are not only heard but also actively engaged in shaping solutions that safeguard our ecosystems. Meanwhile, the stakeholders' consultation further reinforces this shared vision by offering a platform for future collaborative research projects aimed at preserving both cultural heritage and biodiversity.

UPLB is proud to co-organize this endeavor alongside the World Wide Fund For Nature Philippines and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity. We remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing science-based strategies and partnerships that nurture inclusive, resilient, and thriving communities. Your collective work to merge time-honored traditions with cutting-edge innovation exemplifies the transformative power of scholarship when it is guided by reverence for cultural identity and respect for ecological balance.

Once again, congratulations on the success of your conference. May you continue to forge meaningful collaborations, foster deeper understanding of indigenous perspectives, and champion the stewardship of our natural heritage for generations to come. We look forward to the lasting impact this gathering will have on the *Kalanguya-Ikalahan* ancestral domain and beyond.
*Mabuhay kayong lahat!*

JOSE V. CAMACHO, JR.
Chancellor



SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

in partnership with

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Co-convenors:

**WWF-Philippines**
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Tel: +63 2 8920 7923/26
Fax: +63 2 426 3927
kkp@wwf.org.ph
**www.wwf.org.ph**



## MESSAGE

Dear Delegates,

We warmly welcome you to the 4th International Conference on Cultural Studies (FICCS), organized by our partners St. Mary's University and University of the Philippines – Los Baños, and co-presented by WWF-Philippines. This early, we express our gratitude for your presence and participation in this event – and for your pledge to our shared goal to journey *From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges*.

Indigenous communities worldwide have long been guardians of biodiversity, cultivating a deep connection to their lands, waters, and ecosystems. Their traditional knowledge systems embody an inherent understanding of sustainable practices – practices that celebrate the interconnectedness of the needs of human beings and the needs of the environment. *WWF's vision is a future where people live in harmony with nature* and we recognize that this relationship is something that needs to be revisited, honored, and woven not only in our solutions, but also in our ways of work, and in the principles we uphold.

The interconnected issues of climate change and biodiversity loss require systematic responses that challenge us to also confront the structures and power dynamics that prevent inclusive and equitable outcomes. All forms of innovation and collaboration must be explored to be able to respond effectively, meaningfully, and justly. Respecting and protecting indigenous rights is not just a moral imperative but a practical necessity in the pursuit of global environmental sustainability.

As we journey through this conference, may we all be able to reflect on how we can build bridges between science and tradition, between policy and indigenous governance, and how we can ensure that our efforts for environmental protection also ensure that those who live closest to nature, whose homes and livelihoods are at stake, are at the discussions on decisions that impact their lives.

Together Possible,

Katherine Custodio
WWF-Philippines



SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
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in partnership with

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Co-convenors:

**NCIP NUEVA VIZCAYA**
**Provincial Office**
Dumlao Stadium, Don Domingo Maddela, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
(078) 392-2073
https://ncip.gov.ph



## MESSAGE

The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) expresses its deep appreciation to Saint Mary's University, The University of the Philippines Los Baños, and WWF-Philippines for organizing the Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies (FICCS). With the theme *"From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges,"* this conference underscores the crucial role of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs) in shaping sustainable solutions for biodiversity conservation and cultural preservation.

Since time immemorial, ICCs/IPs have been the rightful stewards of their domains, possessing deep knowledge and time-honored practices that promote environmental sustainability and community resilience. The NCIP remains steadfast in protecting and advancing the rights of ICCs/IPs, as enshrined in the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997 (RA 8371). These include their rights to ancestral domains, self-governance, cultural integrity, and social justice – rights that must be recognized and upheld to ensure their active participation in nation-building and global sustainability efforts.

This conference, particularly through its workshop and stakeholders' consultation, presents an important opportunity for knowledge-sharing and collaborative action. The discussion will not only highlight the invaluable contributions of ICCs/IPs but also pave the way for future research and policy initiatives that respect indigenous traditions and promote sustainable development.

The NCIP stands in solidarity with all stakeholders in fostering genuine partnerships with ICCs/IPs. We call on academic institutions, researchers, policymakers, and civil society to work hand in hand with indigenous cultural communities, ensuring that their voices are heard, their rights are protected, and their contributions are valued in shaping a just, sustainable, and culturally rich future.

Engr. Shelley Joy Ruth S. Calata
Provincial Officer

Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation
From Tradition to Innova
Solutions for Globa

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
**PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**
Capital Compound, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya



## MESSAGE

**From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions to Global Challenges**

The intersection of **International Studies and Cultural Studies** provides a powerful lens to understand how indigenous traditions can address contemporary global challenges. The theme **"From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions to Global Challenges"** highlights the transformative potential of indigenous knowledge systems in tackling pressing issues such as climate change, sustainable development, and social equity.

For centuries, indigenous communities have developed sustainable ways of living, deeply rooted in ecological balance, communal governance, and holistic worldviews. These traditional practices offer valuable insights into today's crises. For example, indigenous environmental stewardship, such as **permaculture farming, water conservation techniques, and forest management**, aligns with modern sustainability goals. By integrating these age-old practices with contemporary science and technology, we can foster innovative, culturally inclusive solutions.

Furthermore, indigenous conflict-resolution mechanisms, based on consensus-building and restorative justice, provide alternative approaches to peacebuilding and governance. Their wisdom in community-based healthcare, natural medicine, and educational systems also presents new models for social well-being.

However, despite their contributions, indigenous voices are often marginalized. Decolonizing knowledge production and ensuring indigenous participation in policymaking is essential for fostering equitable innovation. Through collaborative research, intercultural dialogue, and policy integration, the global community can benefit from indigenous wisdom while respecting the sovereignty and rights of these communities.

As we move forward, recognizing indigenous solutions as vital contributions rather than historical artifacts is crucial. By **bridging tradition and innovation**, we can create a more sustainable and just world—one that values the depth of ancestral knowledge while embracing the possibilities of modern advancements.

**Giovannie M. Magat**
PENR Officer, Nueva Vizcaya



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NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES • 1997 •

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SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPPINES

# 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL STUDIES

## Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation

***"From Tradition to Innovation: Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges"***

**February 26-28, 2025**

## Meet the FICCS Speakers



**DR. MING KAI TAN**
Curator, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum
National University of Singapore



**DR. ARVIN C. DIESMOS**
Director, Biodiversity Information Management
ASEAN Center for Biodiversity, Philippines



**DR. SHAUN AWATERE**
Senior Kairangahau
Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, New Zealand



**MS. ANABELLE PLANTILLA**
Project Manager, BIOFIN
United Nations Development Program
Dept. of Envr. and Natural Resources, Philippines



**DR. ZENAIDA BAOANAN**
Professor, College of Science
University of the Philippines Baguio



**DR. PASANG DOLMA SHERPA**
Executive Director
Center for Indigenous Research and Development, Nepal



**FOR. ROGER HABOC**
Environmental Management Specialist II
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines



**FOR. ASAMI B. SEGUNDO**
Indigenous Youth Leader, Ikalahan-Kalanguya
Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines



**DR. JAMEL KAUR SINGH**
Founder of Corporate Cultural Change Consultancy, Australia

Co-conveners

Visit ICCS Website
Please Scan:

# SPEAKERS

# PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES



Calla (Ginger Lily)
Hedychium coronarium
Provincial Flower of Nueva Vizcaya

(Photo courtesy of https://www.facebook.com/marianne.agbayani/posts/this-week-heritage-feature-the-provincial-flower-calla-or-is-it-white-ginger-lily-is-hidden/pfbid0ZTpHG)

## DAY 1 — February 26

### MORNING
*(Attire: Casual Business Attire)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:30-8:30 | Registration | Sacred Heart Center, Saint Mary's University |
| 8:31-8:45 | Ecumenical Prayer | **MISS LAURICE KAYE P. LAGUINDAY**<br>Indigenous Peoples Studies Coordinator<br>Saint Mary's University, Philippines |
| | Philippine National Anthem<br>Nueva Vizcaya Hymn<br>Welcome Song | SMU Chorale Society |
| 8:46-9:00 | Welcome Messages | **ATTY. JOSE "JING" V. GAMBITO**<br>Governor<br>Province of Nueva Vizcaya |
| 9:01-9:10 | | **DR. JOHN OCTAVIOUS S. PALINA**<br>President<br>Saint Mary's University, Philippines |
| 9:11-9:20 | Opening Message | **DR. JOMAN J. BALITON**<br>Steering Committee Chair<br>Fourth International Conference on Cultural Studies |
| 9:21-9:50 | Plenary Speaker 1 | The Role of IPs in Biodiversity Conservation (IKSPs)<br>**DR. ZENAIDA BAOANAN**<br>Professor, College of Science<br>University of the Philippines Baguio |



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|---|---|---|
| 10:31-11:15 | Plenary Speaker 2 | *Climate Change Adaptation and the Role of Indigenous Communities and Knowledge*<br>**DR. SHAUN AWATERE**<br>Senior Kairangahau<br>Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research<br>New Zealand |
| 10:26-10:35 | Health Break | |
| 10:36-11:05 | Plenary Speaker 3 | *Philippine Biodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals*<br>**MS ANABELLE PLANTILLA, MSc, EnP**<br>Project Manager, BIOFIN<br>United Nations Development Program<br>Department of Environment and Natural Resources |
| 11:06-11:35 | Plenary Speaker 4 | *Indigenous Wisdom and Innovation: Harnessing Traditions for Biodiversity Conservation*<br>**DR. JAMEL KAUR SINGH**<br>Founder of Consultsingh Pty Ltd<br>Australia |
| 11:36-12:00 | Interactive Discussion | |
| Master of Ceremonies/Moderator: **Prof. Rogelio Andrada II** | | |
| Rapporteur: **Ms. Maye Padilla** | | |

### AFTERNOON

**Parallel Session 1**
Sacred Heart Center

| | |
|---|---|
| 1:30-1:45 | **Sharlette Carl M. Castillo, Marvhelle Agatha A. Lagrio, Jennifer D. Lorenzo, Brenda Mae P. Noto, Shalee C. Del Rosario and Samuel B. Damayon**<br>Saint Mary's University, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines<br>*Preserving Cultural Traditions Among Ifugao Migrants: A Path to Sustainable Local Tourism in Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines* |
| 1:46-2:00 | **Christine S. Estioco and Winona Elaine C. Soriano**<br>Saint Louis College, San Fernando City, La Union, Philippines<br>*Bridging Educational Gap: Establishing Transitional Learning Hubs for Students Residing in the Mountainous Areas of Naguilian, La Union* |

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|---|---|
| 2:01-2:15 | **Niño Randy C. Flores**<br>Saint Louis College, San Fernando City, La Union, Philippines<br>*Integral Ecology as a Transformative Pedagogy for Meaningful Ecological Education* |
| 2:16-2:30 | Christian Bosch Taylan, **Athena Franxia Calata, Jireh Grace Dumalanta and Isaan Palattao**<br>University of Saint Louis, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines<br>*Beyond The Margins: An Intersectional Analysis on the Participation of Mainstreamed Cultural Communities of Cagayan in Electoral Politics* |
| 2:31-2:45 | **Michael T. Tabao**<br>University of Saint Louis, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines<br>*Reviving Heritage: Itawet Building Rituals and Sustainable Architecture* |
| 2:46-3:00 | **Joefrey M. Almazan**<br>Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines<br>*"Daga mi kataguan mi": Discoursing Laudato Si Towards a More Meaningful Indigenous Theology of Land in the Cordilleras* |
| 3:01-3:15 | **Tristan Salagan Baliuag**<br>Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London, United Kingdom<br>*Developing a Regenerative Design Framework Addressing Techno-Cultural Plastic Use in the Philippines* |
| 3:16-3:30 | Interactive Discussion |
| 3:31-3:40 | Health Break |
| 3:41-3:55 | **Chrystel Mariz R. Gementiza-Dumaluan**<br>Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>*Dinagjang: An Ethnic Fusion Composition Based on Ati Tribe Practices and Cultural Roots* |
| 3:56-4:10 | **Mary Grace A. Jagmis**<br>Western Philippines University, Aborlan, Palawan, Philippines<br>*Paglilikom at Pagdalumat sa mga Katutubong Katawagan ng mga Tagbanua sa Pagsasaka: Batayan sa Paglikha ng Glosaryo* |
| 4:11-4:25 | **Fe R. Janiola**<br>Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>*The Sociocultural Context of the Eskaya Tribe: Preserving Heritage Amid Modern Challenges* |



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|---|---|
| 4:26-4:40 | **Angelica Marie O. Laqui, Maria Grethel Joy C. Bajarias, Florymae S. Bonior, Nicole G. Lagrido, Desiree Jane A. Anunciado and** Fe N. Conui<br>Carmel Academy, Bohol Association of Catholic Schools, Tagbilaran City Bohol, Philippines<br>Commission on Election, Dauis, Bohol, Philippines<br>Local Government Unit of Loay, Bohol, Philippines<br>IBEX Global Solutions, Inc., Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>Bohol Island State University-Balilihan Campus, Bohol, Philippines<br>Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>*Traditional Christmas Practices in Antequera, Bohol and Cultural Preservation Mechanisms* |
| 4:41-4:55 | **Ernesto Miguel G. Bangayan, Cythe Allysa P. Cordon, Azfirah Keyne B. Guillermo, Vernadette C. Pacquing, Angel Joyce M. Respicio, Sheena Kristina Santos and** Jonalyn P. Santos<br>University of Saint Louis, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines<br>*Nutritional Values of Indigenous Food Plants (IFPs) Among Agtas in Gattaran, Cagayan* |
| 4:56-5:10 | **Ross Pabinguit Heruela**<br>Divine Word College of Calapan, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines<br>*Research, Community Service, and Positionality: From a Catholic Perspective* |
| 5:11-5:30 | Interactive Discussion |
| Moderator: **Mr. Genuine Joe Abnasan** | |

**Parallel Session 2**
Saint Pedro Calungsod Hall

| | |
|---|---|
| 1:30-1:45 | **Romnick Ollero Acena**<br>Saint Louis College, San Fernando City, La Union, Philippines<br>*Understanding the Self Through Kierkegaard's Subjectivity and the Ilocano Concept of Nakem: A Counter-Argument to Hyper-Anthropocentrism* |
| 1:46-2:00 | **Romana P. Dulnuan,** Nathaniel A. Aliguyon, **Merlie N. Binay-an, Fermila D. Cauilan, Lhea T. Castro, Jenny Grace E. Gumurot**<br>Nueva Vizcaya State University, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines<br>*Gaddang Rituals and Struggle for Cultural Continuity in Christianized Contemporary Society* |

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|---|---|
| 2:01-2:15 | **Joseph Bubod and Rosanna G. Sioco**<br>Nueva Vizcaya State University, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya<br>*Documenting the Gaddang Courtship Dance and Its Cultural Significance* |
| 2:16-2:30 | **Anneke Clauvinia Patriajaya, Iwan Sudradjat, Yohanes Karyadi Kusliansjah**<br>Universitas Katolik Parahyangan, Bandung, Indonesia<br>*Exploring Indigenous Wisdom: Architecture of the Catholic Pilgrimage Marian Grotto at Sendangsono, Kulan Progo* |
| 2:31-2:45 | **Jolina May T. Viloria**<br>Saint Louis College, San Fernando City, La Union, Philippines<br>*Ensuring Excellence: Instructional Supervision Practices of Private Sectarian Secondary School Supervisors* |
| 2:46-3:00 | **Wilfred F. Cabauatan, Ligaya N. Caranay and Sonio S. Isip**<br>Saint Louis College, San Fernando, La Union, Philippines<br>*Serving the Underserved: Library Resource Assessment Needs of Reading Centers of Adopted barangays of Saint Louis College* |
| 3:01-3:15 | **Margie V. Leandro and Maribel L. Tomilas**<br>King's College of the Philippines, Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines<br>*Academic and Licensure Examination Performances of Teacher Education Graduates Across Academic Areas* |
| 3:16-3:30 | Interactive Discussion |
| 3:31-3:40 | Health Break |
| 3:41-3:55 | **Benedict Zulueta, Patrick Dayag and Stephanie Lou Paa**<br>University of Saint Louis, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines<br>*The Concept of Mental Well-Being Among an Indigenous Community* |
| 3:56-4:10 | **Ethel Doria, Rafunzel Bulilawa, Bernarose Cadigal, Fe Conui and Jocelyn Gimal**<br>Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>*Sta. Cruz Iconography and Focal Points in Prayer* |
| 4:11-4:25 | **Ma. Angelica V. Gatchalian, Teresa N. Basatan, Venice Joy M. Ayson, John Carlo S. Buada, Nathalie D. Cuison, Kyla Nicole C. Duran, Maria Irene M. Lansangan, Janine Grace L. Mapalo, Danielle Francheska B. Oroy, Vi-ann Gwyneth L. Ragasa, Eric Angelo B. Subido and Von Daniel B. Wayan**<br>Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines<br>*Lived Experiences of Hospitalized Persons with Visual Disability* |



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|---|---|---|
| 4:26-4:40 | **Ethel Soliva-Doria and Maria Luisa L. Arbasto**<br>Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>University of Bohol, Tagbilaran City, Bohol, Philippines<br>*A Phenomenology of the Learning Journey of Graduates of the Master of Arts in Teaching Filipino in the Province of Bohol* | |
| 4:41-4:55 | **Julie Anne O. Balagan, Hannah R. Manaligod, Christian Josh F. Panopio, Tobit Justine A. Tumamao, Nieva Portia B. Duria and Jennifer Bangi**<br>University of Saint Louis, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Philippines<br>*Prenatal Care Practices of Agta Women in Selected Towns in Cagayan* | |
| 4:56-5:10 | **Elizabeth H. Bautista, Catalina T. Waking, Jan Michael R. Aquino, Julliene Maxene D. Boadilla, Hojin Choi, Kristelle Camille G. De Jesus, Angelene Zyra P. Gamboa, Keziah C. Lagrosa, Tatiana Gabrielle D. Malsi, Althea Joyce I. Ong, Joana Marie S. Quinto, Christian Johann C. Torres, Dunstein Avery G. Tumapang**<br>Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines<br>*The Effectiveness of Vestibular Stimulation in Reducing Academic Stress Among Student Nurses in School X* | |
| 5:11-5:30 | *Interactive Discussion* | |
| Moderator: **Dr. Sherylou A. Benig** | | |
| 6:00-7:30 | Socialization (Dinner) | Sacred Heart Center |

## DAY 2 — February 27

**MORNING**
*(Attire: Conference Shirt)*
Sacred Heart Center

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00-8:10 | Opening Remarks | **MR. DINO LEONCARLO CALDERON**<br>Conference General Co-Chair<br>WWF-Philippines |
| 8:11-8:55 | Keynote Speaker | *Current State of Fauna and Flora in ICCs*<br>**DR. ARVIN C. DIESMOS**<br>Director, Biodiversity Information Management<br>ASEAN Center for Biodiversity |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:56-9:25 | Plenary Speaker 1 | *Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity Conservation: Synergies for Resilient Communities*<br>**DR. PASANG DOLMA SHERPA**<br>Executive Director<br>Center for Indigenous Research and Development<br>Nepal |
| 9:26-9:55 | Plenary Speaker 2 | *Biodiversity Conservation: The Case of the Lower Magat Eco-Tourism Park*<br>**FOR. ROGER HABOC**<br>Environmental Management Specialist II<br>Provincial Environment and Natural Resources<br>Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines |
| 9:56-10:25 | Plenary Speaker 3 | *Biodiversity Conservation: The Case of Kalanguya-Ikalahan Ancestral Domain*<br>**FOR. ASAMI B. SEGUNDO**<br>Indigenous Youth Leader, Ikalahan-Kalanguya<br>Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines |
| 10:26-10:35 | Health Break | |
| 10:36-10:50 | Interactive Discussion | |
| 10:51-11:05 | Pius Sugeng Prasetyo **and Theresia Gunawan**<br>Parahyangan Catholic University, Bandung, Indonesia | *"Buruan SAE" (Urban Farming) in Bandung as a Local Indigenous Initiative Rooted in Sudanese Culture to Support Urban Food Systems and Business Sectors* |
| 11:06-11:20 | Clarice Colting-Pulumbarit, **Justine Marasigan, Nel Angela Orenciana, Carlos Mico Villanueva, Karla Jane Gonzalvo, Jesus Dacillo, Juan M. Pulhin**<br>University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines<br>Miriam College, Quezon City, Philippines | *Sustaining Forests and the People: Learning from Indigenous Forest Management as Social Forestry in the Philippines* |
| 11:21-11:35 | **Rico Casta Jacoba**<br>Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines | *Reclaiming Indigenous Beliefs and Practices in the Environmental Stewardships and Sustainability in the Cordillera* |



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|---|---|
| 11:36-11:50 | **Dilber Yunus**<br>IISD Experimental Lakes Area, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada<br>*Anchoring the Modern Approach of the World's Freshwater Laboratory in the Traditional Anishinaabe Worldview* |
| 11:51-12:00 | Interactive Discussion |
| Master of Ceremonies/Moderator: **Dr. Philip A. Alviola**<br>Rapporteur: **Asst. Prof. Kathleen T. Dizon-Solpico, MSc** | |

**AFTERNOON**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1:00-7:00 | Environmental-Cultural Encounter | Imugan, Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya |
| Master of Ceremonies/Moderator: **Mrs. Essel T. Cañaberal** | | |

## DAY 3 — February 28

**MORNING** *(Attire: Smart Casual)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00-8:10 | Opening Remarks | **DR. SHERYL A. YAP**<br>Conference General Co-Chair<br>University of the Philippines Los Baños |
| 8:11-10:40 | Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation | *Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Sciences to Address Biodiversity Loss*<br>**DR. MING KAI TAN**<br>*Curator, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum*<br>*National University of Singapore* |
| 10:40-11:40 | Stakeholders' Consultation | Discussion on the Collaborative Project on BaNTAY-Kalanguya-Ikalahan |
| 11:40-11:50 | Awarding of Tokens of Appreciation and Certificates | |
| 11:51-12:00 | Words of Gratitude | **DR. CHRISTOPHER ALLEN S. MARQUEZ**<br>Conference General Chair<br>Saint Mary's University, Philippines |
| Master of Ceremonies: **Miss Laurice Kaye P. Laguinday** | | |
| **HOME SWEET HOME** | | |



# Day

## February 26, 2025

Prof. Zenaida Baoanan was a recipient of the Fulbright-Philippine Agriculture Advanced Research Grant and Fulbright Occasional Lecturer Fund by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars at University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. She is a Professor at the University of the Philippines Baguio. She has served the institution in various capacities. She was Head of the Biodiversity Resources and Management Program, Graduate Programs Coordinator of the MS Conservation and Restoration Ecology Program, and Member of the Biological and Chemical Waste Management, among many others. Currently, she is the Chair of the Native Plant Committee and Member of the PhD in Indigenous Studies Program. She has been involved in many research projects and patents with UP CIDS, DENR Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service, DENR CAR, and CHED GIA, DARE TO Program. She finished her pos-doctorate degree at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, PhD and MS in Biology at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, and BS Biology at the University of the Philippines College Baguio.



# Dr. Zenaida Baoanan




Of Ngāti Porou and Ngāti Uepohatu Indigenous descent – Dr Shaun Awatere is a researcher with Aotearoa's Crown Research Institute - Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research and has actively supported Māori to manage collective assets more sustainably. He is currently engaged in research and policy to help prepare Māori tribal groups for climate change mitigation and adaptation planning. Shaun and a team of Nga Pae o Te Māramatanga (Aotearoa's Māori Centre of Research Excellence) researchers have recently summarised the latest research and guidance surrounding observed and projected climate change impacts on Māori in Aotearoa-New Zealand. This research examines the impact of these changes on various interests and investments. It also provides insights on risk, uncertainty, knowledge gaps, and strategies for addressing climate change.

# Dr. Shaun Awatere

She served as the Project Manager of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), a project of the United Nations Development Programme in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, since 2014. As a licensed environmental planner, she holds a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of the Philippines and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Planning from Maryknoll College (now Miriam College). Her extensive career encompasses a wide range of roles across government, the private sector, and academia, in addition to a long-standing association with the Haribon Foundation, where she formerly held the position of Chief Operating Officer.

# Anabelle E. Plantilla



Dr Jamel Kaur Singh is a globally respected leader in Cultural Education and Indigenous collaboration with over 30 years of experience. Born in England to Malaysian-born Sikh parents, Dr Singh has lived in Australia for 45 years. Her academic journey reflects a lifelong commitment to Indigenous knowledge systems, including a BA in Aboriginal Administration Management and Community Engagement, which laid the foundation for her strong connections with First Nations communities across Australia and beyond. Her groundbreaking doctoral research—Cultural Education as a Framework for Policy Formation: Building Inclusive Societies with Sensitivities, Awareness, and Responsiveness—offers practical strategies for integrating cultural awareness into policies addressing domestic violence, workplace inequities, and community resilience. She has worked alongside First Nations communities to integrate traditional wisdom into innovative solutions for pressing global challenges. Her visits to the Philippines—three times in the past two years—reflect her commitment to cultural exchange and amplifying the voices of Indigenous leaders in shaping sustainable futures. As the founder of Consultsingh Pty Ltd, she has dedicated her career to bridging cultural understanding and creating transformative solutions for societal and global challenges. Dr. Singh is the author of The World is Our Playground, a celebrated children's book series introducing young readers to multiculturalism.



# Dr. Jamel Kaur Singh

# REGISTRATION










Registration for the first day commenced at 7:30-8:00 a.m., spearheaded by the School of Health and Natural Sciences faculty and staff.

# PARTICIPANTS







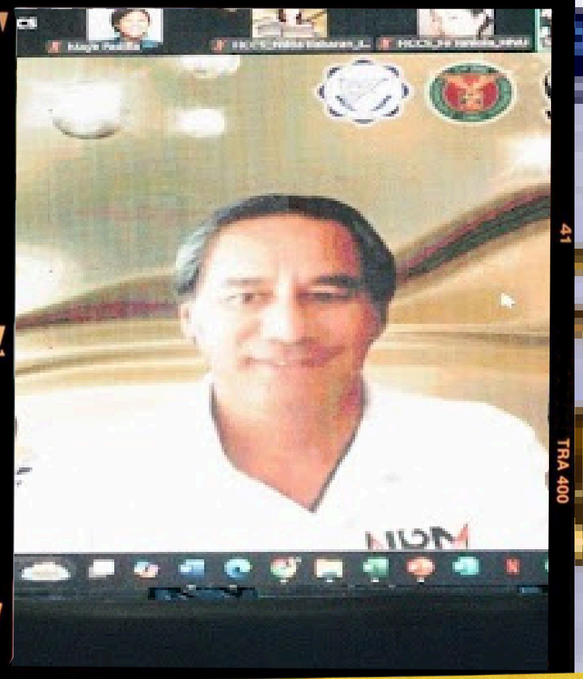


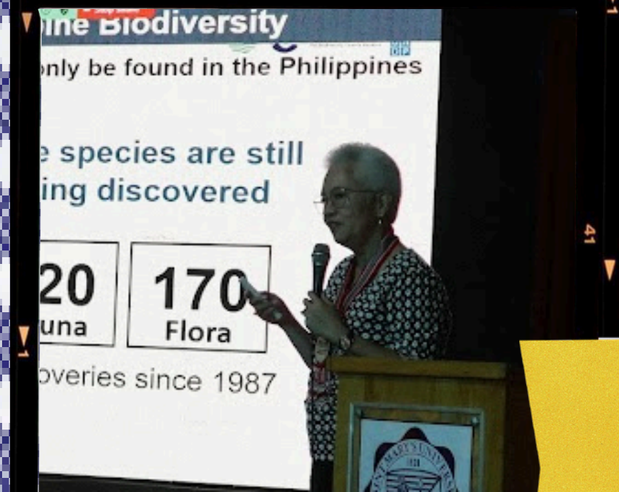
Participants convened at the Sacred Heart Center for the opening of a three-day international conference.


















# First Day Speakers

# Paper Presentations




Participants were divided into groups based on the topics for their paper presentations. One group of presenters stayed at the Sacred Heart Center, while the other participants moved to San Pedro Calungsod Hall.













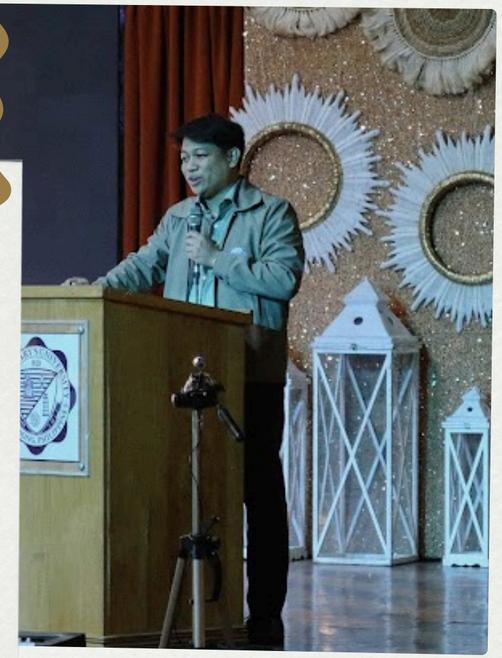


# Sacred Heart Center













# San Pedro Calungsod Hall







Cultural Night
February 26, 2025
Spearheaded by the Cultural Affairs Office, the SMU Band, Chorale, BIBAK, and Senior High School dancers graced the socialization night with cultural performances.



# Day

## February 27, 2025



Arvin C. Diesmos is a herpetologist and has co-authored over 180 scientific papers and is the co-discoverer of around 80 species of frogs, lizards, snakes, insect arthropods, and a bird species from Southeast Asia. He received his Ph.D. in Biology from the National University of Singapore. He is an Alternate Member of the Animals Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna, a member of the Amphibian Specialist Group, Tortoise and Turtles Specialist Group, Crocodile Specialist Group, and the Amphibian Red List Authority of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. He is a Senior Director at the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity.

# Dr. Arvin C. Diesmos




Pasang Dolma Sherpa, Executive Director of Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research & Development (CIPRED) has been working with Indigenous Peoples, Women and Local Communities for the recognition of the indigenous peoples' knowledge, cultural values and customary institutions that contributed for sustainable management of forest, ecosystem, biodiversity and climate resilience for more than a decade. Ms. Sherpa has obtained her PhD at Kathmandu University in 2018 on Climate Change Education and its Interfaces with Indigenous Knowledge. She has already served as Co-Chair of International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC), Co-Chair of Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform (LCIP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC ), to the board of UN-REDD, Participant Committee of FCPF, World Bank. Presently, she is the Chair of IUCN CEESP Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples' Customary and Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH), visiting faculty at Kathmandu University as well as representing in the different forums, networks and institutions both at national and international levels.

# Pasang Dolma Sherpa



Forester Roger Haboc has been specializing in forestland management and vegetation assessments. He was affiliated with DENR-Forest Management Bureau, and consultant for vegetation assessment in Zambales, Cebu, Lanao del Norte, Davae del Sur, Bukidnon and Rizal, Philippines. Currently, he is an Environmental Management Specialist at the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office of the Local Government of Nueva Vizcaya, and is designated as Officer-in-Charge of the Forest Conservation and Development Division. He finished his bachelor's degree in Forestry (Cum laude) and has obtained academic units in MS Forestry at the Nueva Vizcaya State University, Bayombong. He was National Topnotcher (Top 8) during the July 2013 Forester Licensure Examination.

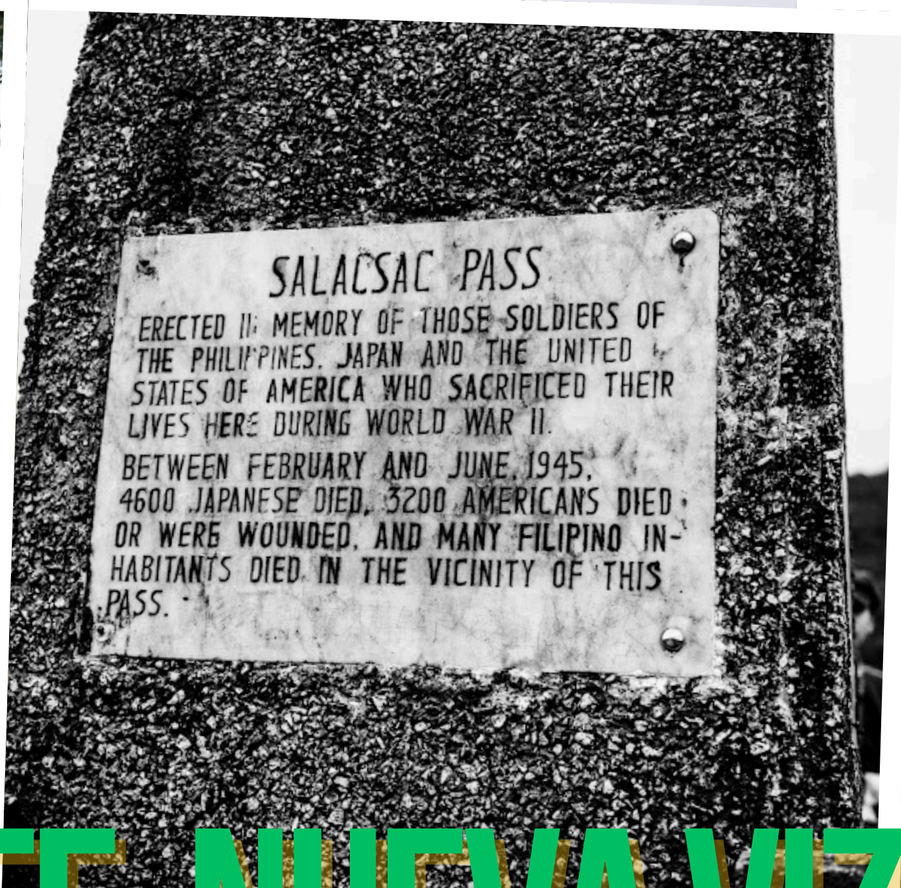
# Forester Roger Haboc

Forester Asami is an Indigenous leader with five years of professional experience as a forester. She has contextualized training modules and materials, facilitated training and meetings, and developed a sensitivity and respect for local culture. She has been a founding member and interim Focal point for Asia for the International Indigenous Youth Forum on Climate Change under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and founder of Ikalahan Youth Organization for Sustainable Development focused on cultural continuity and sustainable development. She has represented the Philippines in international conventions on climate change and other UN-organized conventions and forums. She obtained her Master of Arts in Ministry at the Philippines Baptist Theological Seminary in 2022, with academic units in Master of Science in Conservation and Restoration Ecology at the University of the Philippines Baguio and BS in Forestry with specialization in Social Forestry in 2024.




# Forester Asami B. Segundo








# STA. FE, NUEVA VIZCAYA

On the second day, the participants embarked on an excursion to explore one of the biodiversity sites in the province of Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines. The itinerary includes several notable sites: the Mangili Tindaan Historical Nature Park, Salacsac Pass Monument, and Imugan Falls in Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya, which are all within the Ikalahan Ancestral Domain.

# ENVIRONMENTAL-CULTURAL ENCOUNTER





IMUGAN FALLS



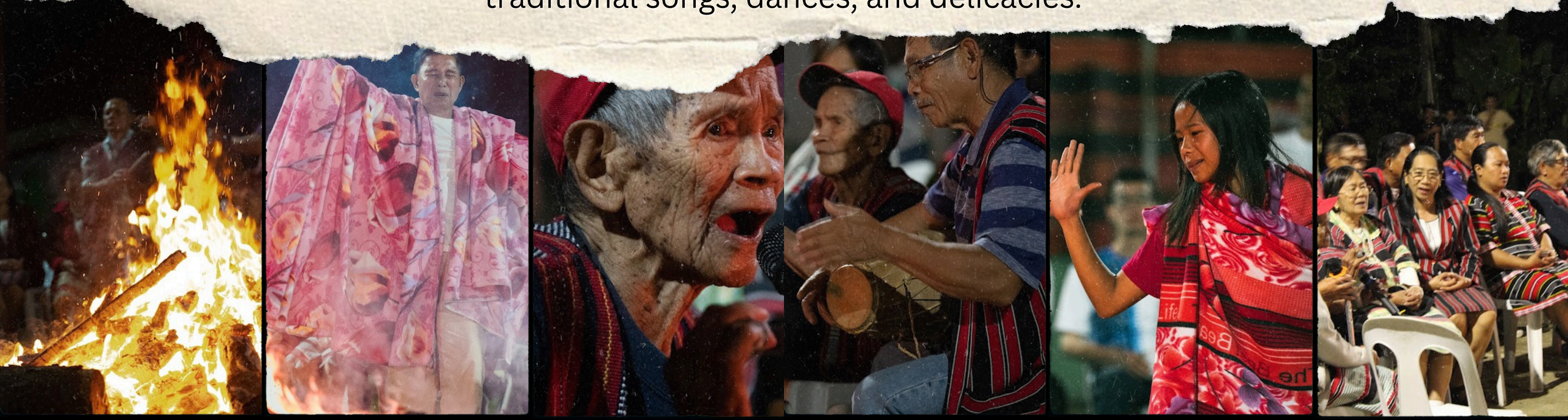
MANGILI TINDAAN
HISTORICAL NATURE PARK



ALANG SALACSAC



The cultural-environmental immersion cocluded with a warm reception from the Kalanguya-Ikalahan community at the Kalahan Academy, with a night filled with cultural experiences including traditional songs, dances, and delicacies.



# KALANGUYA-IKALAHAN COMMUNITY



The community dance event provided an exciting opportunity for participants to engage with and appreciate the rich culture of the Kalanguya-Ikalahan community. It was a night filled with learning, connection, and celebration of traditions.







# Day

## February 28, 2025



Dr. Ming Kai Tan is an Associate Scientific Manager and Curator of Etomology at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore. He was a visiting researcher and a Fyssen Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institut de Systematique, Evolution et Biodiversite (ISYEB) Museum national d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, France. He has been into numerous research expeditions in Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam and the Philippines. Since 2010, he has published over 100 peer-reviewed papers and four eBooks. He has been a reviewer in more than 20 international science journals, specifically on Taxonomy and Ecology. Dr. Tan also received awards like the Best Biodiversity Research Award in Sabah, Tony Whitten Conservation Prize, International Society for Plant Molecular Biology Medal and the Malayan Nature Society Silver Medal. He finished his BS in Life Science with specialization in Environmental Biology and his Doctor of Philosophy at the National University of Singapore

# Dr. Ming Kai Tan





The final day involved a discussion on strategies to combat biodiversity loss and the planning of a collaborative initiative on the BaNTAY-Kalanguya-Ikalahan project.













Dr. Jamel Kaur Singh led a fun session teaching traditional Indian dance steps to the participants. This activity served as both an icebreaker and a way to share her culture through dance after a discussion with stakeholders. It was a great opportunity for everyone to engage and learn about Indian traditions in a lively and interactive way.







# AWARDING











# FICS

# 4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL STUDIES

Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Conservation

"From Tradition to Innovation:
Indigenous Solutions for Global Challenges"

## COMMITTEES

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Sheryl Yap, *University of the Philippines Los Baños*
Dino Calderon, *WWF-Philippines*

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Maria Shiela M. Ramos

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Co-Chair: Dr. Philip Ahtiola
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Kerwin Bayot
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# FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL STUDIES


HALAMMAT!
Thank You!

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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