

PAFTE REGION V sponsors 2021 Bicol Region Student Teachers' Congress

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The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed our lives as teachers and students, and it has taken its toll most especially on our psychological or social-emotional well-being. This is the challenge that prompted the Philippine Association for Teachers and Educators (PAFTE), Bicol Regional Chapter, to undertake this webinar on the theme: **“Weaving Social-Emotional Learning Skills into the New Normal Classroom.”** Believing that students’ welfare should always be the concern of every teacher in this new normal, PAFTE V sponsored the first webinar, the **2021 Bicol Regional Student Teachers’ Congress** last March 26, 2021 via Microsoft Teams and Zoom platforms. The said affair was a welcome respite from the monotonous online and modular classes that education students are attending this 1st semester.

As a pioneering webinar initiated by the newly elected PAFTE V officers, the Student Teachers’ Congress was able to register a total of 2,029 participants composed of third- and fourth-year college students, student teachers, teachers, educators, and school administrators coming from various teacher education institutions in Region V. The breakdown of participants by province is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Participants by Province

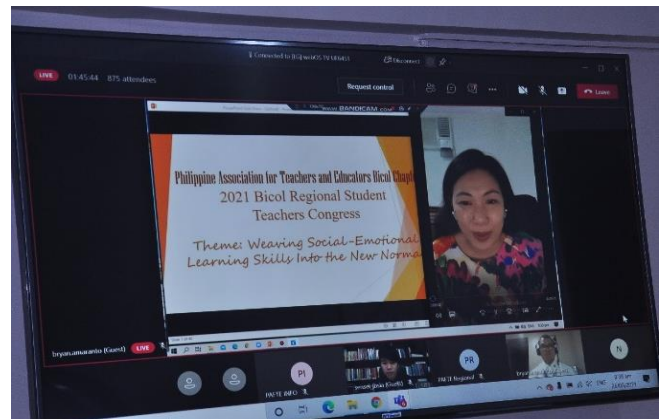
Albay	689
Camarines Norte	73
Camarines Sur	925
Catanduanes	44
Masbate Sorsogon	30
Sorsogon	268
Total	2,029

The event had several distinguished speakers recognized for their expertise in their renowned fields, namely: **Dr. Milagros Lim-Borabo**, Vice-President for Luzon, PAFTE National and **Dr. Lucille Dote-Evangelista**, Director, University Student Affairs and Services of Batangas State University, Batangas City.



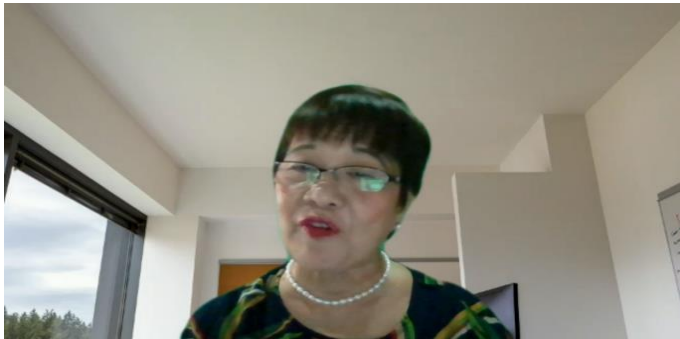
The affair was also graced with an inspirational message

from the **Regional Director Freddie T. Bernal, CHEDRO V** who shared his insights and perspectives of teaching in the new normal with emphasis on Social and Emotional Learning. PAFTE V was deeply grateful to Dr. Bernal for being very supportive of its activities.



As the Keynote Speaker, **Dr. Lucille Dote-Evangelista**, discussed the webinar’s theme: **“Weaving Social-Emotional Learning Skills into the New Normal Classroom.”** Backed by her expertise as a psychologist and an educator, Dr. Evangelista thoroughly expounded on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), specifically its meaning, the importance of adopting SEL initiatives in school and at home, as well as strategies on how the development of SEL skills and competencies can be

integrated in the academic instruction in the new normal classroom. Indeed, her talk was a very timely topic as the world grapples with how best to promote ongoing learning among children and students amid the pandemic. Her talk also focused on how teachers and education practitioners can find innovative ways to equip students as well as their parents with the social and emotional competencies they need to productively deal with the stressors and potential risks in their lives.



Dr. Milagros L. Borabo, the ever-dynamic PAFTE National Vice President for Luzon, tackled the topic on **“Promoting Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) through Student Engagement.”** She highlighted the importance of SEL in teaching and learning, defined the term “student engagement” and discussed its importance in the classroom. Enriched by her expertise as a curriculum writer and a seasoned educator, Dr. Borabo shared 20 tips in increasing student engagement in the new normal teaching-learning environment with practical illustrative examples and personal anecdotes which made her talk even more interesting.

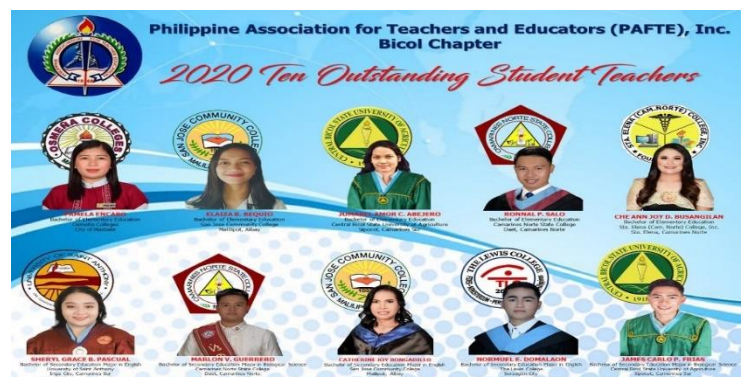
She capped her lecture with the story of “the carrot, the egg, and the coffee bean,” which aptly captures a strong philosophical message that “we can be like the coffee bean/powder that does not allow the hot water to change it, but instead becomes the ingredient that changes the hot water into something that smells and tastes good.” As the metaphor continues, “like the coffee bean, we can make something good from the difficulties we face, we can learn new things, and make the world around us better.” This was indeed a very timely message

for every pre-service teacher, educator, and administrator because, with all these twists-and-turns in the new educational landscape, we still must keep our promise to our stakeholders –i.e., to provide quality education to our learners despite the pandemic.



The newly elected PAFTE V Officers also had

major roles in the program, as follows: **Dr. Maria Luz T. Badiola** (Secretary) gave the Invocation; **Dr. Amelita P. Sadueste** (Treasurer) presented the participants; **Dr. Nora L. Licup** (Chair) delivered the Welcome Remarks and Statement of Purpose; **Dr. Baby Boy Benjamin D. Nebres III** (Vice Chair) introduced the Keynote Speaker; **Dr. Lilly A. Vidal** (Auditor) gave the Closing Remarks and Words of Thanks; and **Dr. Ana E. Miraña** (PRO) led the Closing Prayer. **Dr. Meriam L. Abion** (Board Member) and **Mr. Bryan Amaranto** (Executive Coordinator) took charge of the online registration of participants. **Dr. Jonald B. Sia**, former Dean of the College of Education of Osmeña Colleges, Masbate City, and immediate past PAFTE V Officer (PRO), served as Master of Ceremony.



The 2020 Ten Outstanding Student Teachers (TOST)

Being a Student Teachers' Congress, the student teachers also had a major participation in the program. The top three research finalists who bested the other research entries in the pre-selection stage did research paper presentations which became the basis for the final judging for the Best Research Paper Awards. The final virtual evaluation was done by the following members of the Board of Judges: **Dr. Lorna Miña** (Chair), Dean of the Bicol University College of Education, **Dr. Jean Paulette Salalima-Go**, CHED Education Supervisor, and **Dr. Jeremy Cruz**, Principal III of Pag-Asa National High School (DepEd), Legazpi City. The winners received Certificates of Recognition and cash prizes. The following were adjudged winners in the Research Paper Competition:

Rank	Name of Researcher	Title of Research	School
1 st	Claudine A. Torrero	Speech Wheel: An Intervention in Reducing Speaking Aporia of Freshmen English Major Students	University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, Camarines Sur
2 nd	Jocevil P. Sawali	Pupil Awareness on the Implementation of Child Protection Policy in San Vicente Elementary School, Libon, Albay	Libon Community College, Libon, Albay
3 rd	Arlou G. Sacay	Challenges and Coping Strategies of Secondary Education Student Teachers of the University of St. Anthony A/Y 2018-2019: Basis for a Motivational Drive	University of St. Anthony, Iriga City, Camarines Sur

The Winners in the Best Research Paper Competition



Another highlight of the Congress was the Awarding Ceremony to recognize the following winners in the regionwide Search for **Ten Outstanding Student Teachers (TOST)** in 2020: **Elementary Category:** **Pamela Encabo** (Osmeña Colleges, Masbate City), **Elaiza B. Bequio** (San Jose Community College, Malilipot, Albay), **Jumabel Amor C. Abejero** (Central Bicol State University of Agriculture-Sipocot Campus, Camarines Sur), **Ronnal P. Salo** (Camarines Norte State College, Daet, Camarines Norte), and **Che Ann Joy D. Busangilan** (Sta. Elena Camarines Norte College, Inc., Sta. Elena, Camarines Norte); **Secondary Category:** **Sheryl Grace B. Pascual** (University of St. Anthony, Iriga City, Camarines Sur), **Marlon V. Guerrero** (Camarines Norte State College, Daet, Camarines Norte), **Catherine Joy Bongadillo** (San Jose Community College, Malilipot, Albay), **Normuel E. Domalaon** (The Lewis College, Sorsogon City), and **James Carlo P. Frias** (Central Bicol State University-Sipocot Campus, Camarines Sur). Miss **Sheryl Grace B. Pascual** gave her impressions on the Search on behalf of the awardees.

Each of the TOST awardees also received from PAFTE V a Certificate of Recognition and a cash prize of P3,000. Both the incumbent and immediate past PAFTE V officers did the honor of presenting the awards to all the winners.

PAFTE V acknowledged with deep gratitude the support extended by the following: **Dr. Brenda B. Corpuz**, PAFTE National President and the other **PAFTE National Officers**, **Dr. Milagros L. Borabo**, VP for Luzon and PAFTE V Adviser, **Dr. Felina P. Espique**, PAFTE-CAR Chair and our Microsoft Teams Technical Consultant and her staff, Miss Johnell Desalit, **Dr. Lucille Dote-Evangelista** of Batangas State University, **Dr. Freddie T. Bernal** and **Dr. Rosemarie Arao** of CHED V, **Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie**

Martinez of LORIMAR, **Dr. Carl E. Balita** who



Dr. Carl E. Balita delivering a virtual Inspirational Message for the TOST and Research Awardees

provided LET Review Scholarships to all the awardees, **Dr. Editha A. Lodado** and the immediate past PAFTE V officers, **Dr. Jonald Sia**, and all the webinar participants.

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