

PROJECT: TEACHERS' FORMATION LAUNCHED ITS 2017 SERIES OF SEMINARS

The Teresian Association Center for Culture, Formation & Spirituality in partnership with Bukidnon State University (BUKSU) initiated the series of teacher's formation seminars now on its seventh year last August 19, 2017 at the AV Center of BUKSU.

Ms. Emmeline B. Palabrica came all the way from CDO to deliver the Keynote Address. She stressed on the value of the seminars on teachers formation offered to the participants which do not only aim to make them "be effective teachers but also to be catalyzers of transformation of the present millennials and future generations."

The main topic was "Cooperative Learning "with Carmen Ll. Sayo, Project Coordinator as speaker.

The session was scheduled at 1:30 in the afternoon but due to the great number of participants registering, it began at 2:00 p.m. with 490 mainly 4th year education students from BUKSU, 4th year REED students from San Isidro College and two BUKSU faculty members in attendance. Carmen stressed on the importance of Cooperative Learning in teaching because it stimulates social skills like collaborating, communicating, taking responsibilities and enriching cognitive goals.

Students in a CL class will be transformed from remedial to advance if teachers will prepare their lessons and activities by making them interesting, rich, useful, and challenging.

Carmen ended her sharing with Blessed Victoria Diez as an exemplar of an educator making use of Cooperative Learning as expressed by her colleagues, superiors and friends.

This project begun very simply where the venue was at the Center of the TA and 3 seasoned educators from the TA were invited as speakers:

Dr. Perla Palabrica, Dr. Teresita Infante and Dr. Belinda Villegas. Due to the number of participants in attendance, the center could not accommodate all teachers and education students coming from BUKSU and from San Isidro College. Carmen approached a BUKSU Faculty member, Ging Tubeo, and verified if the last seminar for that year would be held at the university, how much would the rent be? Ms. Tubeo suggested to tap the College of Education and the IT Youth (which is a recognized student organization in the university) to be co-sponsors of the seminar, then it can be held it here for free. The last seminar was on Motivation Strategies facilitated by Carmen Sayo with 400 participants in attendance. That's how TA'S contact with BUKSU began.

Carmen thought of tapping 3 faculty members to form the team being aware that the number of TA members in Malaybalay are so few. At present, the the members of the team are: Dr. Mercedita Villamayor (Dean, College of Education), Ms. Lora Anar (Guidance Counselor), Albert Villanca (Graduate Program Coordinator) and from the TA, Carmen Sayo as Project Coordinator.

After two years in existence, the team decided that it was the opportune moment to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BUKSU and the TA. Ria Ruiz, Mindanao Zone Director at that time, signed the MOA in the name of the TA.

Then after a year, BUKSU had a new University President, therefore they saw that the it was necessary to sign another MOA with the new president, Dr. Oscar Cabaneles. Since Pilar Ferrer was the TA Zone Director for Mindanao at that time then she was the signatory.

The MOA does not state when the project will end but only if either party would signify its closure.

This project is considered by the accreditors of BUKSU to be one of its best projects because it is networking with another Institution.

This project has been inspired by three great educators: St. Pedro Poveda, Blessed Vicoria Diez and Venerable Josefa Segovia.

Every year we would announce the series of seminars on a tarpaulin with the pictures of the three exemplars and a quotation on education from each of them. This would be displayed in front of the Cathedral from the beginning until the last seminar on December

Participants to these seminars would always go beyond 100 in number. When the students would graduate they would return to BUKSU to verify when will the seminars of the TA begin because they would like to attend.

For this year, 5 seminars have been scheduled, Speakers of the seminars usually are the four team members and normally a member of the TA is invited to deliver the Keynote Address and another to speak on and expound on the Povedan Pedagogy. For this year, the team has invited Emmeline Palabrica as Keynote Speaker and Lucia Subaldo to share her expertise on the Profile of a Povedan Educator for the seminar scheduled on October 21, 2017.

It only takes courage and a great trust in God's goodness to be able to maintain a project similar to this which is so much in line with the TA Mission.

Prepared by: Carmen Ll. Sayo
Project Coordinator
August 23, 2017

