

# SPECIAL ISSUE

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# The NEST

Nurturing  
Ethical,  
Socially Responsible, and  
Task-driven Professionals

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## Re-appointment of Dr. Jacoba as President of the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology

On February 10, 2020, the four-year term of Dr. Jacoba as President of the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology ended. However, because of her good leadership and noble intention to serve the whole NEUST community, the NEUST Board of Regents did not have a second thought of re-appointing her as the NEUST PRESIDENT. Her second term commenced on the 11th day of February 2020 until the 10th of February 2024.

Before the re-appointment of Dr. Jacoba, an evaluation was conducted. The said evaluation was held last January 12-14, 2020. Part of the evaluation was an interview with the different stakeholders composed of the randomly selected NEUST administrators, faculty, non-teaching personnel, alumni, students, and community. The interview aimed at evaluating Dr. Jacoba's accomplishments as president of the University for four

(4) consecutive years. The evaluation committee was comprised of Dr. Emerlinda R. Roman (Former UP President and Professor Emeritus of UP), Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo (PASUC President and Batangas State University), Dr. Severino C. Santos (Former Director of NEDA Region 3) Prominent Citizen Representative, Ms. Lora L. Yusi (OIC Regional Director of CHED Region 3, and the Academic Council Representative, Dr. Sarah Alvarez (NEUST Planning and Development Office Director).

Her headship became successful because of the full support of the NEUST Family composed of the VP's, deans, directors, unit heads, faculty, non-teaching personnel, students, parents, and the whole community.

Pres. Jacoba believes that a leader must serve as an inspiration to others in order to dream more, learn more, and do more.

## NEUST ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 2016 TO 2019

### 2016 : The Genesis of Realizing the Visions for NEUST

This year had been productive to NEUST. Through the leadership of Pres. Feliciano P. Jacoba and cooperation from the administration, teaching and non-teaching personnel, the following were fully accomplished:

- The University's Extension Services Department became ISO 9001:2015 certified;
- Gabaldon Campus received recognition from Provincial Institution for Agriculture and Fisheries (PIAF);
- Bachelor of Elementary Education alumna Mariel Tapadera landed 8th after registering 86.60% in the Licensure Examination for Teachers in September 2016.
- The teaching force of the University is also committed in conducting researches to make inventions which will benefit the communities. Among the notable patented researches during this year were the: Improvised Home Energy Saving Device by Dr. Angelica O. Cortez; Universal Arm Chair, Multi-purpose Walker Chair, and Collapsible Cabinet by Prof. Ronald S. Gotico and Mr. Gervin S. Tandingan;
- CLAARDEC Regional R&D Symposium for 2016 was held in NEUST Sumacab Campus;

# NEUST ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 2016 TO 2019

- The University also prioritized giving extension services to local government units (LGUs) like livelihood trainings and technical assistance. Among the services provided by the different colleges and campuses were Cosmetology in Sitio Polilio, San Isidro, Nueva Ecija (College of Education); Basic ICT Skills; Mass Training for Senior High School (CAS Faculty); Visual Arts Training to MOPH (College of Architecture); Meat Processing; Training on Balloon Making and Decoration; Seminar- Workshop on Millennial Teaching Pedagogy; and Recital on Music and Instrument;
- Renovation, construction, and repair of different facilities not only in major campuses of NEUST but also in other extension campuses such as the Track Oval System (Rubberized, 6 Lanes) and the Synthetic Turf Football Field in Sumacab Campus, repair of Administration Building in San Isidro Campus and of the College Building in Gabaldon Campus;
- Hard works of NEUST had never been in vain and paid off for the undeniable recognition it has been receiving from different agencies. Among the awards received by the University include being the 2016 Ten Outstanding School Stakeholders (TOSS) given by the Department of Education Schools Division of Nueva Ecija; Maturity Level 2 in Performance Management received by the Human Resource Management Office given by Civil Service Commission Region 3; Most Blood Donors among Universities and Colleges Category from Red Cross Nueva Ecija Chapter during the 3rd PRC-NE Bloodiest Awards;
- The University landed overall 2nd place in the DC-SUC III CIRPS- Socio-Cultural and Literary Festival 2016 and in SCUFAR III Sports Fest 2016 held at Pampanga State Agricultural University (PSAU), Pampanga.
- The University's remarkable performances in different Licensure Examinations taken and passed by its different programs against National Passing Rate.
  - \* The College of Nursing after registering 47% in November 2016;
  - \* Electrical Engineering which recorded 68.46% in September 2016;
  - \* Civil Engineering with 45.89% in November 2016;
  - \* College of Criminology which had 31.35% in October 2016; and
  - \* Mechanical Engineering with 69.57% in November 2016.

## 2017 : Continuation of Quest towards Excellence

The University, through the transparent leadership of Engr. Feliciano P. Jacoba, made again its name resounding brought by its outstanding achievements and milestones, as follows:

- The University put up Gender and Development Office to provide equal rights among the members of LGBTQ+ community members. The center focuses on promoting equal chances and opportunities among community members regardless of gender orientation, and advocates in eradicating discriminations through its campaign "Development is for all."
- The University also banners its support towards student development resulting to exemplary performances in journalism, culture, and sports. The Official Student Publication of NEUST - The Blaze which joined and bagged awards in press conferences outside the University. Its literary folio, "Tatlong Halik" was hailed as the Best Literary Folio of the Year after being competed against the publications of other private and public higher education institutions in the country.
- The Literary Cultural Development Center (LCDC) also bagged awards on October 26-28 at PMMA, Zambales.
- In terms of faculty development and research engagement, four researches were submitted for patent while another four researches from the College of Information and Communications Technology were given copyright.
- There were also 114 teaching and non-teaching personnel being welcomed and oriented through Yamang Katauhan Alay sa Pamantasan (YAKAP) last December 13.
- The University acquired Sports Vehicle and three other University vans to transport its participating delegates to their school related activities and attendance. A total of P894, 683,005 was initially allotted for these vehicles;
- Construction of buildings to accommodate the continuous growth of student population, specifically, a three-storey building with additional laboratories in Sumacab Campus for the College of Engineering;
- Strengthening the University's "Flood Mitigation Structures" in Sumacab Campus; building of Function Hall for the University Student Government; renovation of the the Dormitory; opening of the Perimeter Fencing and Tissue Culture Center in Gabaldon Campus; building of Metal Innovation Center and Mini-Convention Center; repairing of the Swimming Pool, Ear filing/Riprap in front of the dormitory; and the construction of Library at Atate Campus.
- Impressive performances of graduates especially in terms of licensure examinations much higher as compared to the National Passing Rate such as:
  - \* Bachelor of Science in Criminology which recorded 74% against the National Passing Rate of only 34%;
  - \* Bachelor of Elementary Education (Sumacab Campus) 51% against 39%;
  - \* Bachelor of Secondary Education (Sumacab Campus) 66% against 57%;
  - \* Bachelor of Elementary Education (Carranglan Campus) 50% against 39%;
  - \* Bachelor of Elementary Education (Talavera Campus) 66% against 39%;
  - \* Bachelor in Elementary Education (San Isidro Campus) 46% / 39%;
  - \* Bachelor of Secondary Education (San Isidro Campus) 46% against 39%; and
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering 78% against 73%.
- Following the thread of Ms. Mariel Tapdera who just placed 8th in the September 2016 Licensure Examination for Teachers, Mr. Gerald De Guzman Mabuti who finished Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Mathematics got the 9th place in the 2017 Professional Board Licensure Examination for Teachers (PBLT) after posting 91.20% as his general percentage. As a reward from the University, he received P20, 000 and tagged among the honorees being recognized by the University during the Honoring the Board Passers of 2017 at Doña Asuncion G. Romulo Memorial Hall (DAGRMH) on December 20, 2017; and
- Holding programs and activities like Nutriquiz, gift giving, teaching how to cook food properly during the Nutrition Month in July 28;



- Administrative Council Planning Workshop at Vista Tala, Orani, Bataan last October 19-20; participation to National Simultaneous Earthquake Drill last September 27; facilitating the opening of Nueva Ecija Collegiate Sports League (NECSL) in Sumacab Campus last Setyembre 20; and the ardent support of the University to indigenous people by spearheading the 1st Nueva Ecija Indigenous People Summit and Launching of IP Center last October 29 in Sumacab Campus.

## 2018 : Proving Global Competency and Excellence

The 20th year of being a state university had been among the most glorious years of NEUST for the accomplishments and recognitions achieved from local to international arenas, as follows:

- The whole University system was subjected to ISO survey in December, and passed the said survey and became ISO 9001: 2015 Certified. This certificate is an international recognition on the efficiency and effectiveness of the University in providing services and quality education;
- The alumni did not just pass local and foreign licensure examinations but also topped the list of passers. Engr. John Vincent DC. Galvez got top 7 after he marked 90.35% in Electrical Engineer Board Exam; Felipe C. Medrano Jr., R.N, who placed 10th in Special Licensure Examination for Teachers, Biological Sciences which he took in Saudi Arabia in August 2018;
- The increase in licensure examination ratings from the different programs of the University and their greater percentages against the national passing rates were conspicuous.
- Chemical Technician Board Exam, the University registered 94.44% against the 87.32% of national passing rate;
- 90.00% against 60.82% in Mechanical Engineer Licensure Examination;
- 87.27% against 66.74% in Electrical Engineer Licensure Examination;
- 61.42% against 45.11% in Civil Engineer Licensure Examination;
- The College of Nursing of the University registered 85.19% which is way greater than the 43.82% national passing rate in the Nursing Licensure Examination;
- The College of Criminology of the University did not only record a high percentage of 77.74% in Criminology Board Examination against 34.00% of the national passing rate but also famed NEUST's name being the leading University offering Bachelor of Science in Criminology in the region;
- The College of Education students Jade Hizon at John Rusty Pereña who composed the team "Dimicrocambio" landed second placer over other 163 teams from different higher education institutions across the country including those from the prestigious schools in the National Capital Region (NCR) in the ASEAN Data Science Explorer;
- The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) chose NEUST to facilitate Sangguniang Kabataan Mandatory Training last May 17 -26 2018 in Sumacab Campus.
- The NEUST – Extension Services Department collaborated with the Provincial Cooperative and Entrepreneurship Development Office (PCEDO) of Provincial Government of Nueva Ecija (PGNE) to lead a project on 'Economic Enterprise Development Project for Displaced Farm Workers in Nueva Ecija.'
- The three-storey building was opened to house the College of Engineering in front of the new Metal Innovation Center;
- Comfort rooms, hallways, classrooms, and laboratories underwent repair and renovations;
- Facilities in satellite campuses were also constructed such as the Library Building in Atate Campus and Gymnasium in Fort Magsaysay Campus; and
- The former University Cyber Center was renovated to provide the Center for Indigenous Peoples Education its facility.

## 2019 : NEUST's Commitment to Local and International Responsiveness

The Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology, through FPJ's leadership has compelling answers to the needs of the society as to producing professionals and graduates who can even pass the standards set at the national level through posing high performance rates on different licensure examinations:

- The NEUST - College of Nursing (CON) nailed a 78.57% passing rate against the 52.20% national passing rate in Philippine Nursing Licensure Exam 2019;
- The University's College of Criminology (COC) was even hailed as the number one performing school in Region III in terms of board exam performance;
- The College of Architecture (COArch) improved into 62.16% overall passing rate this January 2019 Architect Licensure Examination (ALE), 18.09% higher than its performance in the June 2018 ALE;
- A board placer from the College of Architecture, in the person of Ar. Edwina Rose Mahilum+++++ ranked 7th in August 2019 Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE) for Architects;
- The NEUST students also won awards in the field of science, mathematics, campus journalism, literature, arts and sports;
- With the University's constant quest for excellence and quality, graduate and undergraduate programs of NEUST submitted themselves to Accreditation Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP) including the Level 4 Phase 2 survey visit of the COEd's Bachelor of Secondary Education and Bachelor of Industrial Education programs.
- The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in partnership with NEUST, launched its Product Packaging and Labelling Shared Service Facility (SSF) in Sumacab Campus last February 28;
- The NEUST also forged numerous partnerships and linkages in order to raise continuously the University's transformation to attain global excellence including the student internship programs namely: 7th Batch of SEA-Teacher Project and 3rd Batch of SEA-TVET Student Program, both in accordance with the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education (SEAMEO);
- Being a PRC CPD provider, the University has also conducted national and regional seminars and conferences to different professionals

# Letter of Gratitude

*"I will live by the legacy that my mentors had started, and from this legacy, I shall continue to innovate, plan, and work passionately so that NEUST will not only be a center of excellence but also a culture of self-sufficiency in every economic aspect of life."*

These were my words during the presidential presentation and public forum held before the entire academic community prior to the selection and election of the next NEUST President in 2016. To be appointed to a lofty position as a public servant is a destiny. For, it has often been said that God Almighty guides the destinies of men and nations. I am, indeed, truly grateful to the Chair and Members of the NEUST Board of Regents and to the Lord for making it possible for me to have been vested with the authority to take the lead for NEUST. The Holy Scripture says in Romans Chapter 13 "...All authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God."

The Board of Regents does not only bestow on me the opportunity to serve NEUST but more importantly, walked with me in my four-year journey of presidency. The wisdom, insights, and vision they shared in the crafting of university policies that drove the institution forward to what it is today lessen the ordeal of my presidency.

I am humbled by their unrelentless efforts in supporting all the initiatives of the whole NEUST community to further propel its development and achieve quality and relevance. To all the honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Regents, my great appreciation and humble gratitude for smoothing the path of my presidential

journey.

My deepest thanks to the men and women of our oversight agencies, other government offices, legislative bodies, local government units, local and foreign partner organizations, non-government organizations, private organizations, and other individuals who have been instrumental in making all our projects be realized, for standing along our side as we defend our budget and project proposals, for helping the University build its reputation as a locally responsive institution of learning, and for paving the way for the University's internationalization program.

Also, I would like to acknowledge our alumni, donors and benefactors, students, and parents for their sincere cooperation, patience, and benevolence that supported the University in the implementation of its various programs and projects.

I feel so blessed to have been given the mandate of leading a great institution such as ours. From the innermost recesses of my heart, I am all the more so blessed to have with me, highly committed and dedicated Vice Presidents, with an equally hardworking and dedicated members of the Administrative Council, other University officials, teaching and non-teaching personnel. We have been working harmoniously together for almost 4 years



**DR. FELICIANA P. JACOBA, Ed. D.**  
University President

now for the welfare of all, especially of our beloved students. Cliché as it may sound, let me still say that words are not enough to express my gratitude for sharing all that you have and all that you are. Your gracious sharing of resources such as your knowledge, wisdom, time, talents, capabilities, expertise, support, and even finances have led to the realization of the vision, mission, and development plan we envisioned for our beloved University.

My family is my ultimate blessing from God who patiently stood by me, for their love and understanding, my heart flows with love for you.

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## Interview with the NEUST Community



"Sa nag daang apat na taon, hindi lang siya isang presidente kundi siya ay isang nanay. Naramdaman ko un simula noong pag-upo niya. Maraming pagbabago ang naganap sa apat na taon at lahat ito ay nakikita at nararamdaman ng bawat estudyante, mas mabilis na transaction sa mga opisina, mas maayos na mga pasilidad, at mas maliwanag na kinabukasan sa bawat isa. Ang pinaka gusto ko sa lahat ng programa na meron na ngayon ay ang "Student Internationalization Program", being one of the students sent to Indonesia, nakikita ko na may edge ako sa ibang estudyante. Masaya ako na siya ay nabigyan pa pagkakataon na ipagpatuloy ang mga bagay na kanyang sinimulan at naniniwala ako na marami pang pagbabago ang magaganap sa ating unibersidad dahil sa kanyang Pamumuno. Maraming salamat po ma'am fely!"



**Jann Xent P. Umpad**  
USG President



"When Engr. Jacoba was installed as the University President in 2016, the realization of the core values became apparent and are continuously carried on by the University thru Pres. Jacoba's firm thrusts on instruction, research, extension, and production, thus validating the relevance of the NEUST in the local and international arenas."

**Dean Marcelo Bulalayao**

Interviewer:

**Mr. Billie Jack Pasion**