

It is a great honor to introduce the first edition of Beyond Borders, our new quarterly newsletter featuring the initiatives and achievements of Batangas State University in the areas of research and extension services.

This publication brings us exciting news on the present and future programs and projects of the University in the generation, dissemination and utilization of knowledge through innovative education, multidisciplinary research collaborations, and community partnerships. As a front runner of development in the region for the past four years, the BatStateU community continues to achieve milestones in its research and extension activities. True to this newsletter's identity, Batangas State University strives to become an institution that goes beyond its greatest potentials, and transcend borders beyond expectations. This edition includes our major breakthroughs in research, education and extension as we commence with our Verde Island Passage Center for Oceanographic Research and Aquatic Life Sciences (VIP CORALS), the first marine research center in the Verde Island Passage (VIP), the world's center of the center of marine shore fish biodiversity.

This is an addition to the University's current specialized research centers, including the Center for Technopreneurship and Innovation (CTI), which has provided opportunities for students and faculty members to commercialize their technologies as potential entrepreneurs, and has inspired partner universities to operate and manage their own Technology Business Incubators (TBI). Aside from the establishment of research centers, BatstateU hosted local and foreign researchers, two of whom are NASA Scientist Dr. Josefino C. Comiso under our Balik-Scientist Program, and Dr. Satoshi Kubota from Kochi University in Japan as a collaborating partner for the VIP CORALS.

On extension services, the University dedicates itself in the conduct of high-impact and sustainable extension programs, activities and projects (PAPs) to the University's clientele and to the beneficiaries from different local communities, especially through our flagship program, the Adopt-a-Barangay. To further enhance the operation procedures and delivery of extension services, we were also able to implement and assess the impacts of the Adopt-a-Barangay program through our External Program Management Review Committee (EPMR), which is one of the University's best practices in Extension Services.

These are only a few of the major research and extension endeavors of BatStateU this 2018. As we release more editions of Beyond Borders in the succeeding months, we aim to demonstrate the key accomplishments and innovations of our research and extension services, and prove that we embody our motto, "Leading Innovations, Transforming Lives".



Message from
the **University**
President



Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo
University President