



Verde Island Passage Center for Oceanographic Research and Aquatic Life Sciences (VIP CORALS)

VIP CORALS conducts Biological Activity and Marine Biodiversity seminar



Assoc. Prof. Armin S. Coronado from PUP discusses the science of brown seaweeds.



Dr. Noel Saguil talks about his research study on cone snails and other sea creatures.

The VIP CORALS launched a seminar on Biological Activity and Marine Biodiversity on January 18 at BatStateU Pablo Borbon Main I.

Resource speaker Assoc. Prof. Armin S. Coronado, Institute for Science and Technology Research Director from Polytechnic University of the Philippines, shared some insights from his study entitled, "Biological Activities of Sulphated Polysaccharides from Brown Seaweeds and their Potential Applications in Pharmaceutical and Related Industries," and discussed the antimicrobial activity of Crude Ethanolic Extract (CEE) against *Staphylococcus aureus*, and the Crude Sulfated Polysaccharide (CSP) as natural anti-cancer compound.

Meanwhile, resource speaker Dr. Noel Saguil, Post-Doctoral Research Associate of Olivera Lab University of Utah, discussed the Biodiversity Research to Drug Development Initiatives. One of the highlights of his discussion was the *Conus geographus*, which is the ocean's most venomous and deadliest cone snail and its potential for curing diseases such as hormonal cancer.

Waves and Ripples at the Heart of the Coral Triangle: VIP CORALS celebrates 1st year anniversary via seminar series

The Verde Island Passage Center for Oceanographic Research and Aquatic Life Sciences (VIP CORALS) celebrated its first-year anniversary through a marine-related seminar series on February 14 held at the Amphitheater, CITE Building, BatStateU Pablo Borbon Main I.

Themed as "Waves and Ripples at the Heart of the Coral Triangle," the series aimed to bring awareness to students on the importance of protecting and preserving marine ecosystem, specifically the Verde Island Passage which is the center of the center of the marine biodiversity in the world.



Awarding of speakers with certificate of appreciation and tokens during the seminar series

Meanwhile, other experts from different local institutions served as speakers: Dr. Renan Bobiles of Bicol University; Dr. Emma Ballad from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Dr. Maria Vanessa Baria-Rodriguez of the UP-Marine Science Institute (UP MSI); Dr. Wilfred John Santiañez of UP MSI; Dr. Dexter dela Cruz of Southern Cross University; Mr. Joal Ascalon of SEA Institute-VIP; Ms. Talna dela Cruz of UP MSI; and Mr. Nero Austero from the National Museum of the Philippines.