As part of the Batangas State University’s celebration of the Innovation Month with the theme “Innovation in Action: Accelerating Local Start-up Ideas towards Commercialization,” the university’s Research Centers together with the BatStateU TechHub conducted the Regional Technopreneurship Forum with an array of activities.

**Fusion and Fiery Food Festival**

The Food Innovation Center (FIC) showcased a food festival at the University Gymnasium in BatStateU Main I in cooperation with the Food Engineering and HRM Departments of the university.

Dubbed as “Fusion and Fiery Food Festival,” the event featured a number of food stalls with diverse selections of food on sale, some of which had samples available for participants to try.

The event aimed to promote the innovative products of the Batangas province while showcasing the services of the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the region.

**Life Hacks: 3D Design Challenge**

Following the Design Thinking Workshop is a 3D Design Challenge with the theme “Life Hacks,” which was held at the CIRTC of Pablo Borbon Main I. The event was attended by students from BatStateU Main and Alangilan campuses and several representatives from different academic institutions in the province.

Participating teams were comprised of one faculty and two students who pitched their 3D-printed products. Each product advocated innovative life hack ideas, providing strategies that could help people cope with their daily activities more productively and efficiently.

The workshop aimed to help the participating teams gain knowledge and achieve competence in the filed of 3D designing and additive manufacturing.

In parallel with the workshop is a training which helped the participants in handling the essential design thinking processes including ideation, validation and the pitching process of commercialization of products.
The competition concluded with the presentation of the Best Life Hackers Award. This year, the students from the College of Informatics and Computing Sciences (CICS) with their startup 3D model “Battpuck,” won the award for their laptop adapter/battery charger organizer.

**Food Safety Seminar**

In line with the Fusion and Fiery Food Festival, the Food Innovation Center (FIC) also facilitated a seminar on Food Safety at the Multi-media Room of the CIRTC Building in Main I.

FIC invited Mrs. Diane R. Zapata-Ulan from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) IV-A CALABARZON to be the guest speaker for the seminar, wherein she tackled the importance of advocating proper food management for the health and well-being of consumers.

The seminar on food safety focused on creating awareness among the BatStateU Canteen tenants and operators on food safety in order to deliver quality-assured food services towards the university’s clienteles.

**Innovation Huddle**

In partnership with The Philippine Development Foundation (PhilDev), QBO Innovation Hub, and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the University hosted the Innovation Huddle at the University Gymnasium at BatStateU Main I.

Attended by local and international innovators, start-ups, and entrepreneurs, the purpose of the huddle was to provide an avenue for the participants to interact, engage in ideation, and share information, especially to the participating students, to help build a better innovation ecosystem in the country.

DOST-PCIEERD Chief of Research Information and Technology Transfer Division Ms. Russell Pili served as the keynote speaker while other presenters include Mr. Emil Tapnio from PhilDev, Mr. Warly Guerra from the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Batangas Chapter), DOST CALABARZON Regional Director Dr. Alexander Madrigal, and the Community and Sustainability Manager of Singapore Polytechnic Ms. Ng Aik Min.

**Qlitan Session**

Following the innovation huddle was a Qlitan Session with University-based TBIs and Start-Ups. Facilitated by QBO associate Ms. Alea Ladaga, the activity gave way for TBIs and start-ups to present their profiles and share ideas in building successful enterprises.

The session was participated in by stakeholders with established start-ups in the Philippines including Mr. Allan Gray from sunEtrike, Ms. Angelica Cudra from BuyONG, and Mr. Stephen Larcia from Hiraya Water, followed by another batch of stakeholders who support start-ups including Mr. Chips Guevara from PhilDev, Ms. Katrina Chan from QBO, Mr. Jhaze Asuncion from UP Enterprise, and Mr. Marione Pol Camacho from DLSL NEXUS Innovation Labs.

Students and faculty were also able to participate in the activity during the Q&A session.