



# Batangas State University Poised to Lead Philippine Engineering Renaissance

BATANGAS CITY - The Philippines has taken a leap into higher educational excellence and as a global force in the Fourth Industrial Revolution with the proclamation of **Batangas State University (BatStateU)** as “**The National Engineering University**”.

On July 11, 2022, the ceremonial declaration of Batangas State University as The National Engineering University by virtue of Republic Act No. 11694 was held at BatStateU Pablo Borbon campus in Batangas City. It officially recognizes Batangas State University as the premier center of excellence in engineering to advance the directions for engineering education and rapid industrialization in the country.

The historic event assembled high-ranking officials from the local and national government including, Hon. Mark Llandro Mendoza, Secretary General of the House of Representatives, 18th Congress, who presented the title and declaration of policy, Hon. Mark Go, the Chairman of Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of Representatives, 18th Congress, who facilitated the presentation of the purpose of Batangas State University as The National Engineering University and the Senate President Pro Tempore of the Senate of the Philippines, 18th Congress and currently Lipa City representative, Hon. Ralph G. Recto who officially declared Batangas State University as The National Engineering University.

“Being conferred not just as a national engineering university but as The National Engineering University is a blessing and a burden, with conferment, comes challenges. I believe however, that under the competent leadership of the visionary Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo, what is expected of this university will be met with flying colors” Hon. Recto said, as he pointed out the responsibilities of Batangas State University as The National Engineering University.

As The National Engineering University, Batangas State University will further strengthen and expand its current 46 engineering degree programs to include a wide range of fields in engineering at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. It will intensify efforts on producing a corps of advanced trained engineers and other professionals who can create leading-edge solutions to the country’s challenges in energy, infrastructure, environment, information and communications, construction, manufacturing, transportation, and other domains of everyday life. It will lead in creating the environment that engenders the Filipino engineering experts and professionals of tomorrow while enabling the Philippines to swiftly take its place as a global knowledge center and developed economy.

Leading to its recognition as The National Engineering University, Batangas State University has built an impressive and robust infrastructure for learning, research and development, product development, and product commercialization.

**Learning Excellence in Engineering.** Through the years, the Batangas State University’s academic programs in engineering, allied sciences, and technology have propelled its rise to national service, prominence, and recognition. It is the only state university in the country accredited by the United States Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for its Engineering and Information Technology programs. As a level IV State University, it is recognized for its excellence in instruction, research competence, meaningful community engagement, and efficient management of resources. It has the highest number of ASEAN Engineers in the faculty roster among Higher Education Institutions in the country. The University consistently ranks as the top-performing school in the mechanical engineering licensure examination and has already produced 166 topnotchers in several engineering

disciplines. It has gained national recognition as a Center of Excellence in Electronics Engineering, and as Center of Development in Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. Rated 3-Stars overall by the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), the University is listed among the QS top universities. It is also ISO 9001:2015 Certified.

Its eleven campuses currently serve and provide quality tertiary education to over 60,000 students from more than 40 provinces all over the country and a growing influx of international students. 43% of its students belong to Engineering, Architecture and Fine Arts, Computing Sciences, and Industrial Technology.

"The University aims to build on our strong foundations and attain our vision through our world-class Centers of Excellence," affirms Dr. Tirso Ronquillo, Batangas State University President, under whose leadership the institution began its rapid transformation into a knowledge powerhouse. These Centers of Excellence are:

**Center for Innovation in Engineering Education (CIEE).** Established in 2020, the Center for Innovation in Engineering Education (CIEE) is envisioned to advance innovations and futures thinking, and the overall quality of engineering education through the empowerment of and capacity-building programs for engineering educators; spearheading curriculum development, and research productivity; partnership, and linkages with industry, local and foreign organizations; and academic discourse community. The Center shall ensure that university curriculum design and content are attuned to the needs of the industry.

**BatStateU Knowledge, Innovation and Science Technology (KIST) Park.** Designated as a Special Economic Zone on May 22, 2020 by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte through Proclamation No. 947, the BatStateU KIST Park is a pioneer university-based Information Technology Park in the country, and the first KIST registered by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority. As a new brand of Ecozone, the KIST Park shall promote dynamic collaboration among universities, industries, and government institutions to foster technological innovation and technopreneurship. It provides a dynamic platform for the training of young and innovative future engineers, scientists, and technologists. The KIST Park includes startup incubation, technical support on product development, market linkages and financial support, technology transfer, enhanced ICT infrastructure, capacity building programs, spaces for locators, knowledge process outsourcing, and research and development support services.

**STEER Hub.** Acknowledging that a comprehensive research facility is a foundation of excellent engineering education, the University has established the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Environment Research (STEER) Hub. It is a 5-storey research facility that houses specialized research centers such as the:

- Material Testing and Calibration Center focuses on research on material science and instrument calibration;
- Manufacturing Research Center, a DTI supported fablab, caters to MSMEs and industry locators on manufacturing parts and components using additive manufacturing and materials engraving;
- GIS Applications Development Center focuses on mapping resources using geospatial information system tools;
- Digital Transformation Center conducts research including among others, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and mixed reality;
- Electronic Systems Research Center focuses on electronic product design and development through PCB design and fabrication and embedded system integration; and
- Center for Technopreneurship and Innovation, the university's technology business incubator, trains potential startups to scale their technology-based businesses.

As The National Engineering University, Batangas State University shall fortify its vision of being a "premier national university that develops leaders in the global knowledge economy" guided by its new service motto: Leading Innovations, Transforming Lives, Building the Nation. With this new preeminent role in the Philippine higher education stage, it shall gear up to prepare a new five-year development plan that will actualize its vision as The National Engineering University.

*Republic Act No. 11694, an "Act Declaring the Batangas State University as The National Engineering University and Appropriating Funds Therefor", is a consolidation of House Bill No. 9518 introduced by Reps. Vilma Santos-Recto, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Raneo "Rani" E. Abu, Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Lianda B. Bolilia, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Mark O. Go, Joey Sarte Salceda, Eric Go Yap, Estrellita B. Suansing, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Raul "Boboy" C. Tupas, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Jericho Jonas B. Nograles, Horacio P. Suansing, Jr., Rico B. Geron, Adriano A. Ebcas, Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Sharon S. Garin, Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, Micaela S. Violago, Christopher V.P. De Venecia, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Arlene D. Brosas, Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat, and Loren Legarda; and Senate Bill No. 2111 introduced by Sen. Ralph Recto, Senate President Pro-Tempore, and sponsored by Sen. Emmanuel "Joel" Villanueva, Chair of the Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education.*