SDG 17

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

International Affairs Department
University of the Visayas

RELATIONSHIP TO SUPPORT THE GOALS

WE ARE CONNECTORS OF PEOPLE,
PURPOSE, AND PROGRESS.

International Affairs Department
University of the Visayas

ABOUT US

The University of the Visayas was founded by the late Don Vicente A. Gullas in 1919 as the Visayan Institute (V.I.) in Cebu City. In 1948, the Visayan Institute was awarded university status, the first to become a university in Cebu, and was renamed the University of the Visayas (UV). Don Vicente Gullas also brought education closer to the people as the school opened a total of eight satellite campuses across Cebu Province making it the private University in Cebu with the greatest number of external campuses.

We are builders of impact.

At the University of the Visayas, this commitment is reflected in how the International Affairs Department proactively shapes national and regional SDG policy landscapes. UV consistently contributes to inter-agency focus group discussions and strategic dialogues, ensuring that educational policies evolve alongside global development goals.

Through active participation in the Commission on Higher Education's consultations on internationalization, UV provides grounded institutional insights that strengthen mobility frameworks and **align Philippine higher education with global standards.** As Region VII's strong representative, UV works closely with the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry to keep its academic programs responsive to emerging industry needs and sustainability priorities. Internationally, UV maintains dynamic coordination with the Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines, promoting regional mobility, employability-driven partnerships, and collaborative EU–ASEAN educational exchanges. Together, these engagements reflect UV's role as a data-driven, policy-oriented institution committed to building systems, relationships, and opportunities that advance inclusive and adaptive SDG strategies.

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UV CONNECT

UV CONNECT is the University of the Visayas' flagship platform for uniting national agencies, higher education institutions, and NGOs to build a cohesive and future-ready ecosystem for internationalization and regional development. Designed as a catalyst for collaboration, UV CONNECT strengthens the pathways between government policy, academic innovation, and community engagement, ensuring that global standards translate into local impact.

Connecting sectors, transforming futures.

Rooted in UV's long-standing commitment to inclusive mobility and cross-sector partnership, the UV CONNECT program creates a structured space where evidence, policy, and practice meet to shape a stronger Region 7 and a more globally connected Cebu.

At its core, it operates through a three-pillar framework:

- **National Convergence for Policy Alignment**

UV anchors its work in close coordination with agencies such as Commission on Higher Education, Bureau of Immigration, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and local government units to harmonize mobility guidelines, accreditation processes, student welfare policies, and cross-border academic cooperation.

- **HEI Collaboration for Academic Innovation**

UV convenes public and private HEIs across Region 7 to exchange best practices, align internationalization strategies, co-develop faculty–student mobility models, and collectively build a regional consortium for global education.

- **NGO and Industry Partnership for Community Impact**

Through strategic alliances with NGOs, industry networks, and chambers of commerce, UV CONNECT integrates employability, sustainability, and community empowerment into internationalization—ensuring that global learning translates into grassroots development.

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2024 Key Figures

Cross-Sector Engagement

10
national agencies engaged

50+
no. of HEIs participating in dialogues or consortium

800+
no. of NGO/industry partners mobilized

Policy and Systems Influence

5
no. of policy recommendations submitted

8
no. of SOPs and frameworks improved

6
no. of cross-agency meetings convened or co-led

Internationalization Impact

16
no. of international partners engaged through UV

4
no. of outbound/inbound mobility pathways strengthened

20
no. of countries represented in UV CONNECT collaborations

Students and Community Reach

300+
no. of international students benefiting from improved policies:

3,500+
no. of local students gaining mobility/ internationalization opportunities

47
no. of community programs linked to SDG initiatives

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17.2.5 STRENGTHENING SDG OUTCOMES THROUGH NGO COLLABORATION

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES
THROUGH NGO-LED SDG ACTION.

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DRIVEN TO BUILD CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS THAT POWER INNOVATION AND EMPLOYABILITY.

Driven to strengthen industry-aligned education, the University of the Visayas has been consistently participating in curriculum development and employability innovation initiatives with the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which represents more than 800 corporations across diverse sectors.

Through continuous consultations, FGD sessions, and strategic dialogues with CCCI industry clusters, UV gathers updated insights on workforce needs, skill gaps, and emerging market trends.

This collaboration allows UV to continuously refine its academic programs, aligning course outcomes, internship models, and competency requirements with real industry expectations. By grounding its curriculum in direct industry engagement, UV ensures that its graduates are equipped with relevant, future-ready skills and well-prepared to meet both local and global workforce demands.

In 2026, UV aims to deepen its partnership with CCCI by launching a region-wide Academe–Industry Congress and building a stronger consortium that aligns skills, strengthens collaboration, and elevates employability across the Visayas region.

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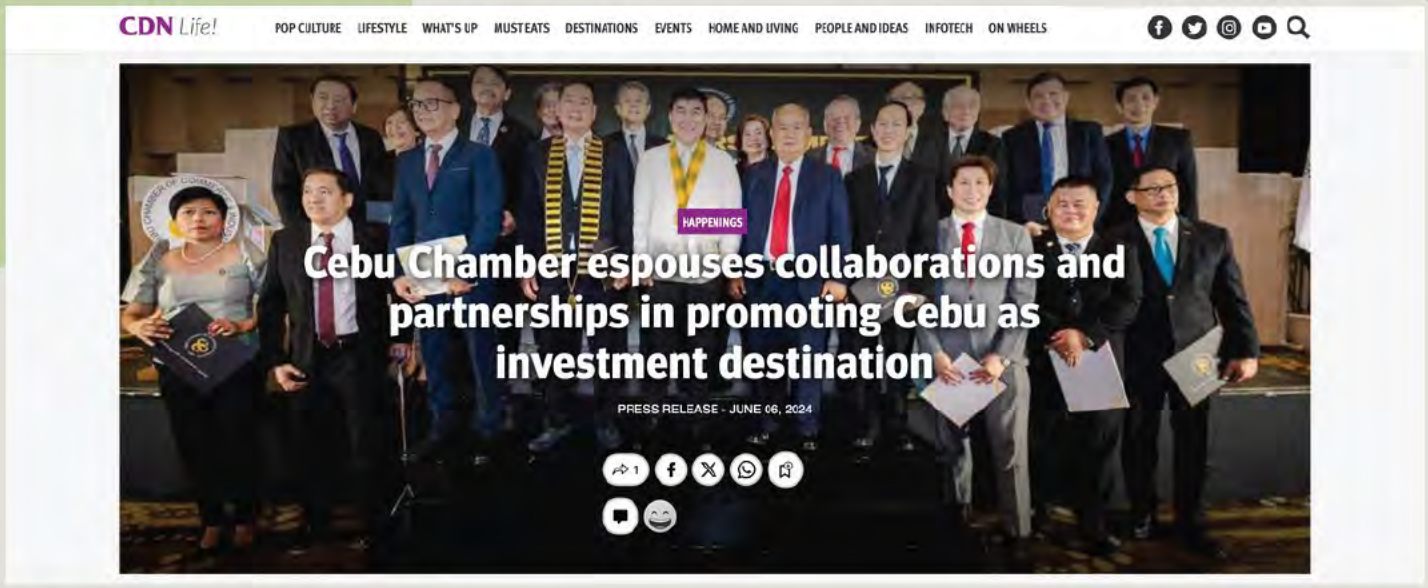

COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES WITH NGOS AND GLOBAL NETWORKS FOR THE PROVINCE OF CEBU

In recent years, as the Cebu Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI) has emphasised collaborations and partnerships to position Cebu City as a premier investment destination, the University of the Visayas has stepped into this arena as a key academic partner. According to CCCI's June 2024 statement, the Chamber urged industry captains and organizations to support investment promotion in the region.

UV, through its International Affairs Department and its strong mandate in global and regional linkages, has participated in these multi-stakeholder forums, thereby giving voice to the academic sector in shaping Cebu's investment narrative. UV has leveraged its role to bridge academia and industry: by hosting international students (from China, India, Nigeria, Nepal, Hungary) and working with corresponding Embassies (China, India, Nepal, Nigeria) the university has actively created a culturally diverse academic-industry ecosystem in Cebu. This positions UV as more than a passive observer: it becomes a convenor of cross-cultural talent and links to industry requirements for global competency and multicultural readiness.

In 2024, the University of the Visayas has participated in a total of 11 focus group discussions involving corporations, foreign embassies and higher education institutions to provide solutions in the field of curriculum development, technical and vocational education and training, sustainability and innovative teaching.

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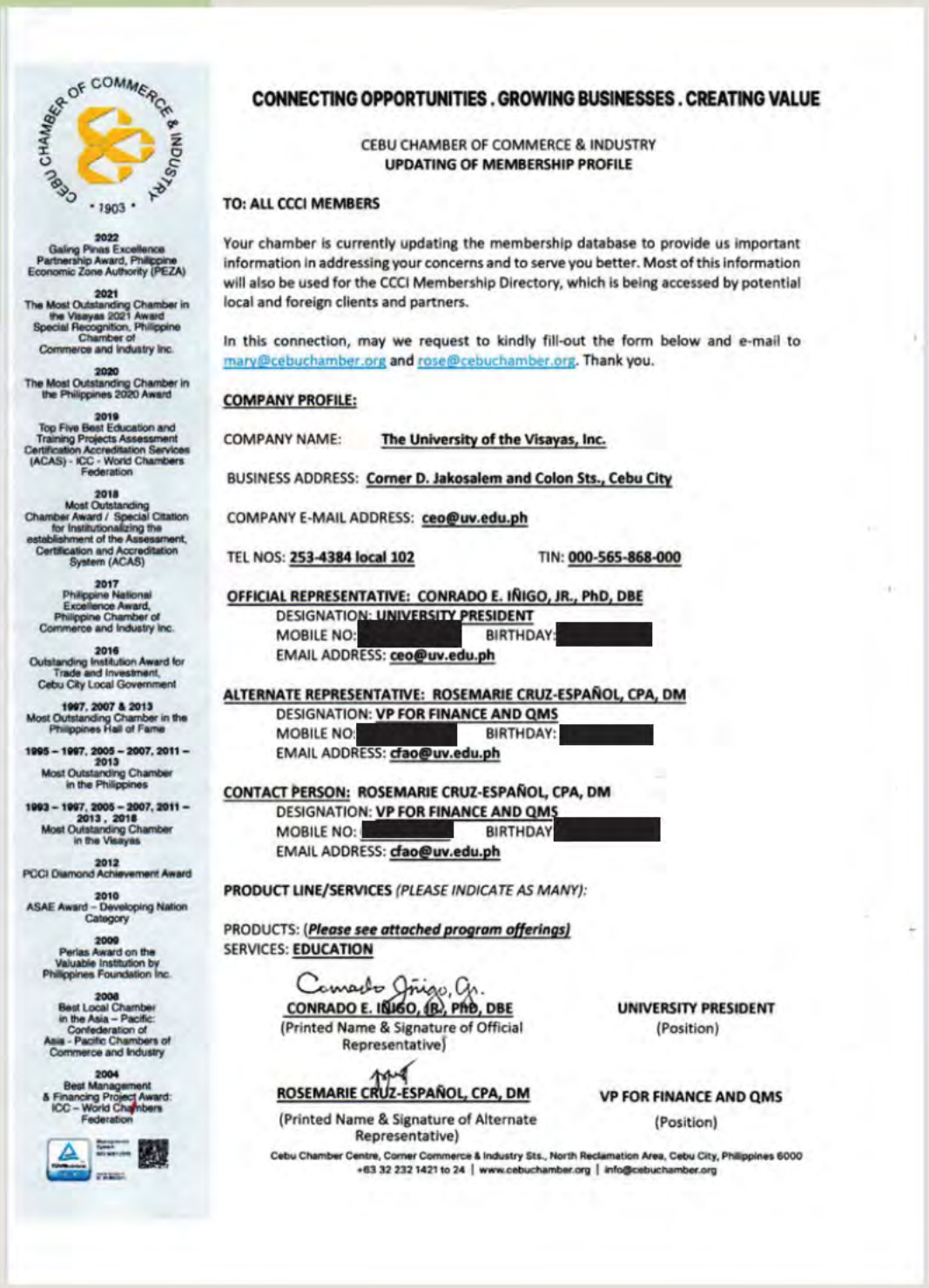

CEBU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
• 1903 •

2022
Galing Pinas Excellence Partnership Award, Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA)

2021
The Most Outstanding Chamber in the Visayas 2021 Award Special Recognition, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.

2020
The Most Outstanding Chamber in the Philippines 2020 Award

2019
Top Five Best Education and Training Projects Assessment Certification Accreditation Services (ACAS) - ICC - World Chambers Federation

2018
Most Outstanding Chamber Award / Special Citation for Institutionalizing the establishment of the Assessment, Certification and Accreditation System (ACAS)

2017
Philippine National Excellence Award, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.

2016
Outstanding Institution Award for Trade and Investment, Cebu City Local Government

1997, 2007 & 2013
Most Outstanding Chamber in the Philippines Hall of Fame

1995 – 1997, 2005 – 2007, 2011 – 2013
Most Outstanding Chamber in the Philippines

1993 – 1997, 2005 – 2007, 2011 – 2013 , 2016
Most Outstanding Chamber in the Visayas

2012
PCCI Diamond Achievement Award

2010
ASAE Award – Developing Nation Category

2009
Perlas Award on the Valuable Institution by Philippines Foundation Inc.

2008
Best Local Chamber in the Asia – Pacific: Confederation of Asia - Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry

2004
Best Management & Financing Project Award: ICC – World Chambers Federation

CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES . GROWING BUSINESSES . CREATING VALUE

CEBU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
UPDATING OF MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

TO: ALL CCCI MEMBERS

Your chamber is currently updating the membership database to provide us important information in addressing your concerns and to serve you better. Most of this information will also be used for the CCCI Membership Directory, which is being accessed by potential local and foreign clients and partners.

In this connection, may we request to kindly fill-out the form below and e-mail to mary@cebuchamber.org and rose@cebuchamber.org. Thank you.

COMPANY PROFILE:

COMPANY NAME: **The University of the Visayas, Inc.**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **Corner D. Jakosalem and Colon Sts., Cebu City**

COMPANY E-MAIL ADDRESS: **ceo@uv.edu.ph**

TEL NOS: **253-4384 local 102** TIN: **000-565-868-000**

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE: CONRADO E. IÑIGO, JR., PhD, DBE
DESIGNATION: **UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT**
MOBILE NO: [redacted] BIRTHDAY: [redacted]
EMAIL ADDRESS: **ceo@uv.edu.ph**

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE: ROSEMARIE CRUZ-ESPAÑOL, CPA, DM
DESIGNATION: **VP FOR FINANCE AND QMS**
MOBILE NO: [redacted] BIRTHDAY: [redacted]
EMAIL ADDRESS: **cfao@uv.edu.ph**

CONTACT PERSON: ROSEMARIE CRUZ-ESPAÑOL, CPA, DM
DESIGNATION: **VP FOR FINANCE AND QMS**
MOBILE NO: [redacted] BIRTHDAY [redacted]
EMAIL ADDRESS: **cfao@uv.edu.ph**

PRODUCT LINE/SERVICES *(PLEASE INDICATE AS MANY):*

PRODUCTS: (***Please see attached program offerings)***
SERVICES: **EDUCATION**

Conrado Iñigo, Jr.
CONRADO E. IÑIGO, (R), PhD, DBE — **UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT**
(Printed Name & Signature of Official Representative) — (Position)

ROSEMARIE CRUZ-ESPAÑOL, CPA, DM — **VP FOR FINANCE AND QMS**
(Printed Name & Signature of Alternate Representative) — (Position)

Cebu Chamber Centre, Corner Commerce & Industry Sts., North Reclamation Area, Cebu City, Philippines 6000
+63 32 232 1421 to 24 | www.cebuchamber.org | info@cebuchamber.org

The University of the Visayas is an active member of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, enabling the institution to engage directly with Cebu's key industry leaders and investment stakeholders. Through this membership, UV continuously aligns its academic programs with evolving industry needs and contributes to dialogues shaping Cebu's economic and workforce development.

Picture 1.6 Policy discussion participated by the University of the Visayas together with 3 other HEIs, Department of Trade and Industry and 5 private corporations in the creation of a renewed bilateral agreement in international development cooperation between the Philippines and Hungary.

The University of the Visayas is an active member of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, enabling the institution to engage directly with Cebu's key industry leaders and investment stakeholders. Through this membership, UV continuously aligns its academic programs with evolving industry needs and contributes to dialogues shaping Cebu's economic and workforce development.

CHAMPIONING ASEAN UNITY THROUGH CROSS-BORDER PARTNERSHIPS AND SHARED EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION.

The Passage to ASEAN (P2A) Network, established in 2012, created the P2A Framework for Internationalization—a transformative model that fosters cross-border learning, intercultural understanding, and regional cooperation aligned with the ASEAN Charter's vision of "One Vision, One Identity, One Caring and Sharing Community."

As an active member of P2A, the University of the Visayas (UV) has emerged as a catalyst in advancing internationalization efforts within the Philippines and the broader ASEAN community. UV's engagement goes beyond participation—it actively drives dialogue, strengthens academic linkages, and champions student mobility that responds to the evolving needs of the region. Through strategic partnerships and consistent representation in regional forums, UV helps bridge Philippine higher education with ASEAN-wide opportunities, ensuring that Cebu's academic sector remains visible, engaged, and globally attuned.

In 2026, UV aims to deepen its partnership with CCCI by launching a region-wide Academe–Industry Congress and building a stronger consortium that aligns skills, strengthens collaboration, and elevates employability across the Visayas region.

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University of the Visayas

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"In the University of the Visayas, creative solutions drive the way we internationalize, connect, and lead."
- **Dr. Rosemarie Español, Vice President for Finance and Quality Management System.**

Through its sustained involvement in P2A, the University of the Visayas continues to act as a driving force for collaboration, accelerating cross-cultural exchanges, elevating Philippine representation in ASEAN dialogues, and inspiring a new generation of learners to embrace a shared regional identity. UV's catalytic leadership helps propel P2A's mission forward, advancing a more connected, compassionate, and globally ready ASEAN community.

In 2024, UV further solidified its catalytic role through its participation in the P2A Philippine Chapter's educational tour and benchmarking mission in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, held from October 20 to 24. During this gathering of regional institutions, Dr. Rosemarie Cruz-Español showcased UV's internationalization initiatives and diverse academic programs, highlighting the university's commitment to quality education, global standards, and student-centered learning.

UV's contributions during the Vietnam engagement demonstrated how Philippine HEIs can meaningfully shape ASEAN academic cooperation by sharing models, best practices, and innovations that support mobility and regional integration.

The Vietnam benchmarking trip strengthened UV's role as a catalyst for ASEAN integration, enabling the university to share its internationalization best practices while building deeper academic and cultural connections across the region. It reinforced UV's commitment to elevating Philippine higher education in the ASEAN landscape through collaboration, mobility, and shared regional identity.

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P2A

CERTIFICATE
OF MEMBERSHIP

PRESENTED TO

University of the Visayas

Philippines

Is an accredited member of Passage To ASEAN.

We take great pleasure in welcoming you as our new member.

Dr. Hang Le
Director, P2A Secretariat
Vice Provost, Duy Tan University

Member ID: PH-2024-066

The University of the Visayas is a proud member of Passage to ASEAN (P2A), actively contributing to its mission of fostering "One Vision, One Identity, One Caring and Sharing Community" through cross-border learning, intercultural understanding, and student mobility across Southeast Asia.

Memorandum of Understanding between Saigon Business School and University of the Visayas

Saigon Business School

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
Saigon Business School
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
And
The University of the Visayas
Cebu City, Philippines

Saigon Business School, hereinafter referred to as "SBS", located at No. 7, Street 23,Tan Phu Ward, District 7, Ho Chi Minh City,Vietnam, and **The University of the Visayas,** hereinafter referred to as "UV", located at Corner D. Jakosalem and Colon Sts., Cebu City, Philippines in recognition of common interests in developing bilateral relations and convinced that cooperation between institutes of higher learning contributes to cultural enrichment, scientific progress, and the consolidation of friendships between countries, both parties affirm their intent to promote academic collaboration and exchanges as will be of mutual benefit to their respective institutions.

This Memorandum of Understanding is made as a gesture of goodwill between the two institutions and will cover, but is not limited to:

I. Exchange of faculty, scholars and administrative staff
II. Exchange of students
III. Joint development of programs
IV. Development of research programs
V. Exchange of relevant information, documentation and material
VI. Co-ordination through the respective offices in joint projects

Details of the implementation of any particular activity resulting from this Memorandum of Understanding shall be negotiated between the two institutions as such specific cases arise. This Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect once representatives of both institutions affix their signatures and will remain valid for a period of five (5) years. Both institutions have the option to end this Memorandum of Understanding by giving six (6) months prior notice; provided however, that the termination of the Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the conditions or access to activities for students or faculty who are participating in the activities at any time of termination. In such cases, programs under way shall be allowed to be completed according to the terms that have been agreed upon. If both institutions do not

Memorandum of Understanding between Saigon Business School and University of the Visayas

give such notice at the end of the 5-year period, the Memorandum of Understanding will be automatically extended for an additional 5 years.

This Memorandum of Understanding is executed by SBS and UV in two copies, each of which being deemed original.

By signing below, both institutions agree to be bound by the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding. This Memorandum of Understanding will start from the date of both signatures.

Signed on behalf of:

SAIGON BUSINESS SCHOOL	**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VISAYAS**
[redacted]	[redacted]
Mai Vinh Trinh	**CONRADO E. IÑIGO, JR., PhD, DBE**
	University President
Date: 21/10/2024	Date: _____
Witnessed by:	
[redacted]	[redacted]
Representative	**ROSEMARIE CRUZ-ESPAÑOL, CPA, DM**
	Vice President for Finance and QMS

Memorandum of Understanding between Dong Nai Technology University and University of the Visayas

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
Dong Nai Technology University
Bien Hoa, Dong Nai, Vietnam
And
The University of the Visayas
Cebu City, Philippines

Dong Nai Technology University, hereinafter referred to as "DNTU", located at XVM9+QGJ, Đ. Nguyễn Khuyến, Khu Phố 5, Biên Hòa, Đồng Nai, Vietnam and **The University of the Visayas,** hereinafter referred to as "UV", located at Corner D. Jakosalem and Colon Sts., Cebu City, Philippines in recognition of common interests in developing bilateral relations and convinced that cooperation between institutes of higher learning contributes to cultural enrichment, scientific progress, and the consolidation of friendships between countries, both parties affirm their intent to promote academic collaboration and exchanges as will be of mutual benefit to their respective institutions.

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I. Exchange of faculty, scholars and administrative staff
II. Exchange of students
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IV. Development of research programs
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Memorandum of Understanding between Dong Nai Technology University and University of the Visayas

or access to activities for students or faculty who are participating in the activities at any time of termination. In such cases, programs under way shall be allowed to be completed according to the terms that have been agreed upon. If both institutions do not give such notice at the end of the 5-year period, the Memorandum of Understanding will be automatically extended for an additional 5 years.

This Memorandum of Understanding is executed by DNTU and UV in two copies, each of which being deemed original.

By signing below, both institutions agree to be bound by the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding. This Memorandum of Understanding will start from the date of both signatures.

Signed on behalf of:

DONG NAI TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

[redacted]

DR. DOAN MANH QUYNH
President

Date: 22/10/2024

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VISAYAS

[redacted]

CONRADO E. INIGO, JR., PHD, DBE
University President

Date: 22/10/2024

Witnessed by:

[redacted]

DR. HUYNH TAN NGUYEN
Vice Dean, The Faculty of Economics-Management

[redacted]

ROSEMARIE CRUZ-ESPAÑOL, CPA, DM
Vice President for Finance and QMS

OPENING GLOBAL DOORS THROUGH UV–NGO PARTNERSHIPS AND SHARED COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EQUITY.

The University of the Visayas (UV) continues to strengthen its role as a catalyst for global learning by supporting organizations like GradMap, an NGO dedicated to democratizing access to graduate studies abroad. Through its international affairs leadership, UV has actively contributed mentors, resource persons, and experts who guide aspiring Filipino scholars in navigating international mobility.

By sharing its institutional experience in ASEAN and European linkages, UV helps expand opportunities for students nationwide, ensuring that knowledge on scholarships, admissions, and international academic pathways reaches underserved communities.

UV's involvement in GradMap's How to Apply to Grad School series demonstrates its commitment to building a culture of global citizenship and academic empowerment. Serving as a mentor, UV highlights pathways for students to access world-class education, emphasizing the university's belief that internationalization should not be exclusive but accessible to all who aspire to serve the country through advanced learning.

UV strives to be champion global student success through proactive international student policies, robust mobility pathways, and compassionate support systems that empower learners from around the world.

International Affairs Department
University of the Visayas

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“AT UV, WE BELIEVE GLOBAL EDUCATION SHOULD BE WITHIN EVERYONE’S REACH—AND THROUGH NGO COLLABORATIONS, WE HELP MAKE THAT POSSIBLE.”

By working alongside NGOs and fellow advocates, UV bridges Filipino students to global opportunities while generating broader awareness of SDG-driven policies and mobility practices. Through these collaborations, UV reinforces its mission of shaping globally competent graduates and strengthening the ecosystem of international mobility in the Philippines—making global classrooms more reachable, diverse perspectives more accessible, and lifelong learning more inclusive for all.

By 2028, the University of the Visayas envisions establishing a long-term, sustainable partnership with a dedicated NGO to advance community-driven development across Region 7. This initiative aims to empower underprivileged communities through entrepreneurship training, cultural appreciation programs, and heritage-based livelihood development rooted in Cebu’s rich identity.

UV seeks not only to deliver outreach, but to adopt a partner community, ensuring continuous mentorship, capacity-building, and market access for local entrepreneurs while fostering pride in Cebuano culture among youth and families. Through this sustained engagement, UV positions itself as a catalyst for inclusive growth, preserving cultural heritage while equipping marginalized communities with the skills, support systems, and opportunities they need to thrive.

In 2028, UV strives to be known as a Champion of Sustainable, Empowered Communities across Cebu and Beyond through long-term NGO partnerships, entrepreneurship development, and heritage-driven community programs.

International Affairs Department
University of the Visayas

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