



Press Release
25 November 2020

Fourteen (14) Philippine universities among Asia’s best higher education institutions - QS World University Rankings: Asia 2021

Fourteen (14) Philippine universities joined the list of Asia’s best higher education institutions (HEIs) released today by the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a global higher education think-tank and compiler of the world’s university rankings. This year’s edition ranks the top 650 universities in the region with an impressive increase of seven in the Philippines—the nation’s best-ever performance and representation in this exercise.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has been assisting Philippine HEIs to internationalize by helping them understand the international ranking system and by promoting their internationalization initiatives through university-to-university twinning programs and research, study visits by university Presidents, and scholarships in top foreign universities.

“Since 2016, many Philippine HEIs have gained increased exposure and visibility by attending educational fairs and international conferences, mobilizing student and faculty exchanges, and building strategic partnerships and linkages which have contributed to the fulfillment of this wonderful achievement,” said CHED Chairman J. Prospero E. De Vera III.

CHED commends the following Philippine universities for making it up to this year’s edition of the QS World University Rankings for Asia:

QS World University Rankings: Asia 2021 – Philippine Institutions		
2021	2020	Institution Name
69	72	University of the Philippines
135	124	Ateneo de Manila University
166	156	De La Salle University
186	179	University of Santo Tomas
451-500	351-400	University of San Carlos

501-550		Ateneo de Davao University
501-550	451-500	Mapua University
501-550	451-500	Silliman University
551-600		Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology
601+		Adamson University
601+		Central Luzon State University
601+		Central Mindanao University
601+		Central Philippine University
601+		Xavier University
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Of the 14 ranked HEIs, seven (7) were included in the QS 2020 ranking.

Seven (7) additional Philippine HEIs successfully made it to this year's ranking, which is by far, the largest increase of ranked Philippine universities. These are Ateneo De Davao University (ADDU), Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT), Adamson University, Central Luzon State University (CLSU), Central Mindanao University (CMU), Central Philippine University (CPU) and Xavier University (XU).

"The internationalization of Philippine HEIs has been a key strategy of the Duterte administration to improve the quality of education so we can produce world class graduates. It is a key component of our efforts to improve access to quality education. The Duterte administration already provides free tuition and miscellaneous fees to 1.3 million students and provides financial assistance to some 1.8 million Filipino students. The recognition given to the additional HEIs as among the best in Asia is welcome news to show that our efforts to provide access to quality education are bearing fruit," De Vera said.

According to De Vera, CHED has continuously supported Philippine HEIs through various international programs and initiatives. These 14 Philippine universities are grantees of the Scholarships for Graduate Studies Abroad wherein they get to send their faculty abroad to experience international education, and gain cultural understanding and perspective. UP, ADMU, DLSU, UST, USC, SU and CLSU are supported in the Joint Development of Niche Programme (JDNP), a project of CHED and British Council that brings together top Philippine and UK universities.

Furthermore, MSU-IIT, CLSU and CMU are grantees of the “Fostering World Class Philippine University,” a CHED-initiated project that aims to boost the global presence of the Philippine higher education sector and cultivate world-class Philippine universities.

Some 300 university leaders and officials have been sent to Canada and the United States for study tours and meetings so they can meet their counterparts and observe best practices in world class universities. These university leaders will be our vanguards for the internationalization of their own universities.

“Fourteen (14) state universities and colleges have subjected themselves to preliminary QS evaluation this year. Seven SUCs have obtained 3-star rating, namely: West Visayas State University (WVSU), Visayas State University (VSU), Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), Cebu Technological University (CTU), Batangas State University (BatSU), Benguet State University (BSU), and Cagayan State University (CSU). These SUCs now know the improvements needed to be internationally ranked. With the proper financial support and diligence, CHED expects that these SUCs will soon join the QS Asian rankings,” De Vera added.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA

Chairman

Commission on Higher Education