

SEARSOLIN re-launches, signs MOU with new partners



SEARSOLIN marked the end of 2015 with a re-launching program carrying the theme of "bayanihan" towards forging synergy to forward inclusive development in Southeast Asia.

Xavier University – Southeast Asia Rural Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN) marked the end of 2015 with a re-launching program bearing the theme, BAYANIHAN: Forging Synergy to Forward Inclusive Development in Southeast Asia. The celebration started with the community gathered at the Jesuit gravesite in Manresa to celebrate the Eucharist presided by Archbishop Antonio J Ledesma SJ DD. A short program followed where partners from DSDW, DA, CDA and CDO Chamber of Commerce, signed a memorandum of understanding and gave their messages – each expressing their willingness to help work for the advancement of inclusive growth not only in Mindanao and in the Philippines, but also in Southeast Asia.

Not only was it a celebration of a long standing legacy of 51 years, but also a forging of better connections. **S**





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Manresa Complex, Fr Masterson Ave Upper Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines

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Remembering Fr Masterson and his legacy



Fr Masterson once said "My friends, only those who can see the invisible, God in man and his providential actuations, can do the impossible."

"To dream the impossible dream" were the lines of Fr. Masterson's favorite song, The Impossible Dream. And dreamt he did. But he did not stop there, working his way towards his big visions despite being questioned for his boldness and courage- he was able to live his dream. The commemoration started with a Eucharistic celebration presided by Xavier University president, Fr Roberto C Yap SJ. A short program followed, attended by the alumni, students and past deans of XUCA, the past directors of SEARSOLIN, together with friends and guests who wished to honor Fr Masterson and his great legacy.

UPDATES

- -We're improving our training facility to serve you better (A glimpse of this in our next issue)
- -New course offerings such as the Governance and Bridging Leadership for Convergence training in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (View the details below)

Here are some major activities our facility has hosted for January and February:

- International Land Coalition-Philippines 4th National Engagement Strategy Meeting
- Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative- Ridge-to-Reef Young Leaders Camp
- Barangay Carmen " Drug
 Addiction Seminar for the Youth"
- World Bank: Mindanao Jobs
 Report Public Validation Workshop
- XU- Office of Mission and Ministry Ignatian Spirituality & Leadership Program

Governance and Bridging Leadership for Convergence

The Governance and Bridging Leadership for Convergence is a special module developed for aspiring and practicing leaders who want to learn effective and sustainable approaches in attaining social objectives. Its main features include collective action with stakeholders. The training will cover the following topics: Community Organizing, Community Mapping System, Greater Public Value and Communication for Social Change, among others. This program will run for up to six months, including practicum.

This will have have course equivalents leading to a Master's degree, should a student desire to pursue the ladderized graduate program, subject to the admission and retention policies and requirements of the Graduate School of Xavier University- Ateneo de Cagayan. XU will tap the expertise of Bridging Leadership fellows and a pool of seasoned community leaders.

