

Best Practices in Human Rights Education: The Case of the MMSU-INCHRE, Philippines

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THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs) play an absolutely necessary role in the field of human rights education in the Philippines. The tertiary level of education plays a significant role in producing a populace with high human rights literacy, which is the level of knowledge of a person regarding basic civil, political, economic, social and cultural and environmental rights, as well as the redress system. The mandate of HEIs in human rights education is highlighted in the Philippine Constitution that stresses that “all educational institutions should foster respect for human rights, [and] ... teach the rights and duties of citizen.” (Section 3, Article XIV)

The Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), located in the town of Batac, Ilocos Norte province, recognizes this role and gives full commitment to human rights education to ensure support for the successful nurturing of human rights ideas and values within the academe and the province through the Ilocos Norte Center for Human Rights Education (INCHRE).

For more than half a decade, the INCHRE has been undertaking human rights activities that have in one way or another impacted on the lives of the *Ilocanos* (ethnic identity of the Filipinos in Ilocos Norte province) to realize a life of peace by becoming aware of and learning to protect their human

rights, while recognizing and respecting the rights of people around them. The experiences of the INCHRE over the years are expected to radiate and serve as guide to other HEIS and government institutions that are also human rights duty-bearers in the attainment of a democratic, free, happy and peaceful society. The activities of the INCHRE evolved through the years. Finding solutions to problems, issues and other concerns strengthened the activities. INCHRE continues to realize its goal of making the province of Ilocos Norte and its academic community the center of human rights activities in this part of northern Philippines.

Establishment of INCHRE

The initiative for the establishment of INCHRE came from the regional office of the Philippine Commission on Human Rights (CHR) headed by Ms. Anita M. Chauhan, PhD. MMSU supported this initiative and inaugurated the establishment of INCHRE by signing a Memorandum of Agreement with the CHR on 21 August 2003. The then President of MMSU, Saturnino M. Ocampo, Jr., PhD, and the then Chairperson of CHR, Hon. Purificacion C. Valera-Quisumbing, signed the MOA.

The MOA provided MMSU and the CHR with a sense of responsibility to give their full commitment and cooperation to human rights education.

INCHRE envisions to create a community where people have the human rights knowledge, values, attitudes and skills necessary as rights-holders or stakeholders in maintaining a democratic society where there is freedom from all forms of exploitation; where human rights are respected; where equality, non-discrimination and justice prevail; where the potentials of the vulnerable groups are developed; and where democratic practices ensure that people live together in peace and prosperity and in harmony with nature and the environment.

It has the mission of evolving a culture of human rights, democracy and peace by institutionalizing a multi-disciplinary human rights education and by being responsive to fundamental education needs of the people.

It aims:

- a. To conduct trainings on human rights in and outside the University to enhance the knowledge and awareness on human rights concerns of the people;

- b. To mainstream human rights in the three-fold function of the university—instruction, research and extension;
- c. To encourage students and members of the faculty to conduct research on human rights;
- d. To keep people aware and informed on human rights concerns through the production and distribution of information, education and communication materials on human rights; and
- e. To provide services by linking the victims of human rights violations with the CHR and other government agencies mandated with the obligation to protect and realize human rights.

The INCHRE is operating under the Social Sciences Department of the College of Arts and Sciences, with the direct supervision of the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the MMSU. In effect, INCHRE is under the Office of the University President. The Coordinator of INCHRE comes from the Social Sciences Department. The present author, Director of the Extension Directorate of MMSU, is the current INCHRE Coordinator. The Extension Directorate is the extension arm of the University that is responsible in the dissemination of research and academic outputs by faculty and staff. Since most of the INCHRE activities are basically extension in nature, the College Extension Coordinators were also designated as Human Rights Coordinators in their respective colleges. In addition, since the Extension Director is also the INCHRE Coordinator, the activities of the INCHRE are streamlined in all the extension activities of the various colleges.

The INCHRE program implementation is linked to the units in the university that have inter-related and interdependent functions, roles and responsibilities. From the year 2008, INCHRE started to closely collaborate all its activities with the Gender and Development (GAD) Office and the Regional Center for Poverty Studies (RCPS).

The GAD, RCPS and INCHRE are university offices focused on the needs of the vulnerable groups in society. The collaboration of activities between INCHRE and GAD assured financial sustainability for the advocacy activities of INCHRE. This is particularly due to Republic Act No. 7192, otherwise known as the “Women in Development and Nation Building Act,” which promotes the role of women in national development and provides for an automatic allocation of five percent of any government agency’s budget to Gender and Development.

Being part of the GAD program, INCHRE was able to secure office equipments, supplies and materials for its activities.

The Operation of INCHRE

The then university president of MMSU signed Special Order 03-081 that created the INCHRE Working Team composed of members of the faculty and university staff. The initial team of ten members was composed of six women faculty members of the Social Sciences Department, two Extension Staff and two College Extension Coordinators.

All the members of the Working Team are “Accredited Human Rights Educators,” i.e., those who have undergone training and field practice on human rights education. The field practice included serving as resource speakers/lecturers during the Training on the Foundation of Basic Human Rights for Faculty and Student Volunteers in MMSU on 3 December 2003. This was the first human rights training held by the newly-launched INCHRE. The CHR Region I Office bestowed on the first members of the Working Team the title “Accredited Human Rights Educators” at the end of the training. Twenty-three accredited human rights educators have worked in INCHRE. (See Annex A for the profile of the Working Team members).

The University also designated the Extension Coordinators in the different colleges as Human Rights Coordinators. As Extension/Human Rights Coordinators, they are granted vacation leave. Moreover, they are entitled to a three-unit reduced workload. These small incentives have not affected the strong motivation of the Coordinators in working hard to become human rights advocates.

Mainstreaming Human Rights Education

INCHRE designed its programs based on the mandated functions of state universities in the Philippines, namely, instruction, research and extension. It implements three major programs regarding the integration of human rights into the university curriculum, research on human rights issues, and extension work on human rights.

A. Integrating Human Rights in Instruction

INCHRE started integrating human rights into the Sociology Curriculum of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) course, under the Social Sciences Department. Human rights issues and concerns are included in the following subjects:

Seminar for Behavioral Sciences Students. This is a major course/subject taken by all senior students enrolled in BA Sociology. The students are encouraged to consider human rights issues and concerns as topics for presentations in the course. Forums are organized for these presentations that are attended by other students. Students discussed various human rights topics such as the rights of indigenous peoples, women, migrant workers, religious minorities, and also housing rights and human rights violations by members of the police. See Table 1 for the list of presentation topics.

Political Science Subject. The Political Science faculty members emphasize human rights in their discussions of the subject, especially the discussion on the Philippine Constitution. The Political Science subject is a general course (GE) required for all students at the tertiary level.

The faculty members teaching these courses openly accept the integration of human rights into the university curriculum since most of them are themselves accredited human rights educators in the university.

Table 1. Human Rights Topics Presented in the Seminars for Behavioral Sciences, MMSU-INCHRE

Activity	Purpose/Objective	Date	No. of Participants
Seminar on the Filipino Migrant Workers (OFWs): Some Human Rights Issues and Concerns	To create awareness among students on issues affecting OFWs	16 August 2004	26
Human Rights Forum - Consumers' Rights - Rights of Indigenous Peoples - Rights of Religious Minorities	To increase the awareness and knowledge of participants on consumers' rights, and the rights of indigenous people and religious minorities	6 August 2005	40
The Millennium Development Goals: Some issues & concerns	To increase the awareness and knowledge of students on the Millennium Development Goals, especially on issues regarding their implementation	22 August 2006	30
Human Rights Forum - Housing Rights - Women's Rights - Malpractices of the Philippine National Police: Some Violations of Human Rights	To make the students become aware of some important rights and of malpractices of human rights duty-holders	24 August 2006	45

INCHRE also provides training for students, as part of the integration of human rights in instruction. It offers several training programs:

1. Training for National Services Training Program (NSTP) Students.

From its inception, INCHRE has been holding human rights training for NSTP students. The NSTP is a required subject for all first year students. In the training, the accredited human rights educators serve as resource speakers on the following topics:

- a. Definition and Classification of Human Rights
- b. Human Rights Principles
- c. Rights of the Child
- d. Rights of Students.

INCHRE holds an annual training on human rights (usually during the first semester) for NSTP students and for Instructors and College Extension Coordinators in nine colleges. This training is held in collaboration with the Student Services Department, College of Arts and Sciences, and NSTP. See Table 2 for the number of students trained.

Table 2. Human Rights Trainings for NSTP Students Held by INCHRE, 2004-2008

Year	Number of Colleges Covered	Number of NSTP Student-Participants
2004	8	1,452
2005	5	1,153
2006	5	493
2007	8	1,025
2008	9	1,205

2. Training for Secondary Students. This is given to junior and senior secondary students of the university. In all these trainings, the trainers or resource speakers are the Accredited Human Rights Educators in the university (Table 3).

Table 3. Number of Human Rights Trainings Held by INCHRE, 2003-2008*

Year	Number of Trainings	Number of Participants
2003	2	67 Faculty and staff
2004	1	1,452 NSTP students
2005	2	1,153 NSTP students 116 Secondary school students
2006	2	493 NSTP students 48 BA Sociology students
2007	1	1,025 NSTP students
2008	5	205 Women leaders and Barangay Chairperson 25 Faculty and staff 1,205 NSTP students 82 Barangay Human Rights Officers (BHROs) and Local Government Unit (LGU) officials and employees

* Trainings include those held with NSTP students

3. Training for Members of the Faculty and Staff. The faculty members are prepared for human rights education through trainings jointly provided by INCHRE and CHR Region 1 Office. These trainings increased the knowledge of the INCHRE Working Team and other faculty members as advocates of human rights and developed their skills as human rights trainers. See Table 4 for the list of trainings held.

Table 4. Number of Human Rights Trainings Attended by MMSU Faculty and Staff, 2003-2008

Year	Number of HR Trainings	Number of Participants
2003	2	20
2004	5	18
2005	4	4
2006	3	3
2007	4	25
2008	5	20

Note: CHR Region 1 Office held these trainings

B. Human Rights Research

INCHRE facilitates research on human rights by both students and the members of the faculty in line with the university functions.

Student Research. Senior or graduating students in the BA Sociology program who are required to prepare an undergraduate thesis in their Socio 200 subject are encouraged to consider human rights issues as study problems. Table 5 provides a list of thesis topics on human rights that have been taken up by students. Moreover, the students are encouraged to present the results of their thesis-related research in a forum by joining the annual Search for the Best Undergraduate Thesis, in the Arts and Social Sciences category, held by the Research and Development Directorate of the university. Several of these students' theses received recognition in this forum. See Table 5 for the list of students' theses. (Award winning theses are listed in Annex B.)

Table 5. Research Projects Undertaken by Students

Title	Student Researcher	Adviser	Year
1. Knowledge of OFWs on Human Rights and Their Awareness of Government Programs	Ms. Lea Malicad	Prof. Jacqueline Ugale	2004
2. Indigenous People's (Isneg) Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of their Human Rights	Ms. Anavie Tunac	Prof. Marivic M. Alimbuyuguen, PhD	2005
3. Child Labor in Rice-based Farming Communities	Ms. Joyce Rallojay	Prof. Marivic M. Alimbuyuguen, PhD	2006
4. Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of Human Rights of MMSU Students	Ms. Loida Bagaoisan	Prof. Marlyn Cacatian	2006
5. Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of Human Rights of Workers	Ms. Kristine Urbi	Prof. Mayvelyn Tajon	2007
6. Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of Human Rights of Women	Ms. Imelda Cajigal	Prof. Dyrma I. Sabas	2007
7. Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of Human Rights of Prisoners	Mr. Mark Anthony Ruiz	Prof. Marivic M. Alimbuyuguen, PhD	2007

Faculty Research. The accredited human rights educators of MMSU have been involved in a research on Millenium Development Goals in Ilocos Norte province. The CHR Region 1 Office implements this project.

C. Human Rights Extension Activities

From inception, the INCHRE activities have been aligned with the activities of the Extension Directorate of MMSU. Hence, most of the activities of INCHRE are geared towards extension work, such as the following:

1. Training for Various Stakeholders. As an outreach program, the INCHRE holds human rights training in various towns in the province. (Please refer to Table 4 for the trainings held.) The participants of these trainings include women, out-of-school-youth (OSY), prisoners, parents and guardians of nursery children, local government officials, employees of various government organizations (GOs), and officers and members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

2. Extension activity of the Social Sciences Department and Socio Guild. The Social Sciences Department and the Socio-Guild, a student organization of the BA Socio program, have adopted as extension activities the human rights training and other activities of the NSTP students. The BA Socio students, through the Socio Guild, assist in holding the training.

3. MMSU-SIFE. INCHRE takes the mandate of not only enriching and enhancing the knowledge of individuals on their human rights but also educating them on mechanisms for the protection and/or fulfillment of these rights. In line with this perspective, INCHRE has accepted the proposal of the CHR Region 1 Office to join the Pilipinas Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) program.¹ MMSU has a SIFE team that has been participating in SIFE competitions for the past five years (see Table 6 for projects developed by MMSU SIFE team). INCHRE relates the projects under SIFE to right to food and adequate nutrition, as well as the right to work or livelihood. Thus INCHRE supports the MMSU SIFE team in developing projects that address the needs of communities. This involvement of INCHRE in SIFE had also brought laurels to the university, not only in national but also international arenas. (Please refer to Annex B for the awards received by the team).

Table 6. MMSU SIFE Activities/Projects and Beneficiaries, 2004-2008

Project	Project Objective	Beneficiaries
Improving the Ilocano Women's Lives through Shell-craft Enterprise (2004 to present)	Aims to augment the income of women folk in fishing villages through entrepreneurship, by enhancing their knowledge and skills in the production and marketing of shell-craft products.	150 fishing households
2. Improving the lives of Rural folks through Bamboo Enterprise (2007 to present)	Aims to augment the income of rural folk through the production and marketing of various engineered bamboo (e-bamboo) products.	20 women, farmers and OSY
3. Transforming the lives of the Ilocanos through Sustainable Entrepreneurial Development (2008 to present)	Brings desirable changes in the lives of rural folk with the implementation of various entrepreneurial projects.	
	3.1. "Projecting Bayanihan [Community Cooperation]"	21 Indigent Families of the Gawad Kalinga Foundation
	3.2 "Threading the Shells of Hope"	50 women folk
3.3 "Shooting the Bamboo Persistence"	20 women, farmers and OSY 23 Detainees in the Bureau of Jail and Management Penology	

D. Advocating Human Rights in Print and Media

To widen its reach and to serve more people in the Ilocos Norte province and neighboring provinces, the INCHRE utilizes both print and broadcast media for its human rights advocacy. Several articles or news items on the activities of INCHRE have come out in various publications in the university. (See Table 7 for the media materials).

Table 7. Human Rights Articles/ News Items in MMSU Publications

Article	Publication	Date Published
Jail Partners tapped from MMSU	News for the Week, vol. 11, no. 9	May 28, 2009
Livelihood training-workshop conducted in jail	News of the Week, vol. 11, no. 12	July 16, 2009
BJMP Detainees are beneficiaries of skills training	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 1	June-July 2009
MMSU-SIFE Team to compete in the National SIFE Exposition	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 1	July 2008
MMSU-SIFE TEAM is 3rd Runner Up in the 2008 SIFE National Competition	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 2	August 2008
MMSU-SIFE Team off for the national expo	News for the Week, vol. 10, no. 7	August 2008
BRDC Assists Pagudpud Shellcraft Producers	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 3	September 2008
CAS Extension Sets off Human Rights Education for NSTP Students	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 3	September 2008
MMSU-CHR conducts BHRAO Orientation Seminar	Extensionist, vol. 1, issue 4	October 2008

The INCHRE Working Team has also been invited to join a radio program entitled *Rimat ti Ilocandia* (Light of Ilocandia), hosted by the MMSU Extension Directorate and aired every Wednesday though the radio station DWFB from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte.

Tapping all available mediums of communication within the university widens the reach of the INCHRE and serves more “human-rights-in-need” people.

Lessons Learned

The INCHRE experience provides some lessons in institutionalizing human rights education in a higher education institution or the academe as a whole. The options and strategies employed by INCHRE for this purpose constitute lessons learned.

The INCHRE took the initial step of creating a sense of responsibility among the various colleges and units in the university. INCHRE ensured that these colleges and units were able to recognize their role as duty-bearers as far as human rights were concerned.

From this initial step, INCHRE clearly and properly defined goals that should be aimed at, and on which its organizational structuring and organizing of human resources depended. Such structure and resources were bases of its program implementation.

MMSU's officially sanctioned creation of a Working Team with the primary purpose of mobilizing human resources for INCHRE was a significant move. Based on the policy of the University of using its existing resources, MMSU through the Working Team tapped the human resources of its extension program by turning them into human rights advocates. With training provided by the CHR Regional 1 Office, the extension work providers of MMSU's different colleges became important human resources of INCHRE. The members of the Working Team themselves became Accredited Human Rights Educators, who later on helped in program implementation both within and outside the university.

INCHRE basic programs consist of academic and practicum-oriented activities. These programs subscribe to the mandated functions of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the Philippines. MMSU, being a state university, mainstreamed human rights education in three of these functions, namely, instruction, research and extension. INCHRE facilitated this human rights education mainstreaming in MMSU's system.

Fully aware of the major constraints in implementing human rights education programs or projects, INCHRE overcame this problem during its first years of operation through collaboration with the different colleges and units of MMSU. Since the colleges and units have funds for training, INCHRE takes the opportunity of including human rights as topics in the training activities of the colleges and units. For example, in the livelihood training for women being implemented by GAD, a topic on the rights of women is discussed. INCHRE also undertakes activities jointly with the Extension Directorate.

By integrating human rights education into the three major functions of MMSU, no additional cost was incurred in implementing INCHRE programs, and most of all, the sustainability of the INCHRE activities was ensured and institutionalized.

Finally, INCHRE established both formal and informal linkages with institutions outside the MMSU to support its program implementation. It anchored its program implementation on the principle of "participation and partnership" that involved unity of action, resource sharing and complementation between and among human rights duty-bearers and stakeholders/rights-holders. INCHRE maximized its partnership with CHR Region 1 Office, and cultivated links with local government units at the village, municipal and provincial levels. These local government units (LGUs) play im-

portant roles in the implementation of the human rights education activities within their respective jurisdictions. Their roles consisted of 1) direct involvement in getting participants to the INCHRE program activities such as human rights trainings; 2) sharing of resources by providing the training venues and other needed training resources; and 3) taking responsibility in ensuring that the INCHRE trainings will improve and transform the lives of the participants by putting in action whatever they learned in these trainings. With these links, the working relationship between MMSU and the LGUs is strengthened, as both institutions collaborate towards realizing their roles in human rights advocacy.

INCHRE also established informal links with other institutions such as the National Federation of Centers for Human Rights Education (NFCHRE)² and the Philippine Association of Extension Program Implementors (PAEPI). Both institutions have been instrumental in holding trainings for human rights volunteers and accredited human rights educators among the members of the MMSU faculty. Through these linkages, INCHRE also provided consultancy services by providing resource speakers to various training activities. See Table 8 for the list of these training activities.

Table 8. Consultancy Services Provided by MMSU-INCHRE, 2004-2008*

Year	Number of consultancy services (Resource Speakers)	Number of faculty involved
2003	2	Center Coordinator
2004	2	Center Coordinator
2006	5	Center Coordinator and INCHRE Working Team
2007	4	Center Coordinator and INCHRE Working Team
2008	5	Center Coordinator and INCHRE Working Team

* Human rights trainings for NSTP students excluded

Insights and Program Sustainability

The INCHRE experience in implementing human rights education programs using various options and strategies is a unique albeit limited experience that may not apply outright to other SUCs or HEIs in the country or even abroad. However, such experience provides invaluable lessons and insights in human rights advocacy. It can be adapted and tried in other similarly situated human rights programs and projects.

The sustainability of any program is one of the biggest and most important challenges faced by any implementing institution. More often than not, a project is sustainable when it enjoys a stable financial support. INCHRE is not an exemption to this challenge, especially since it does not enjoy a clear budget allocation.

But there are other factors that contribute to the sustainability of an institution. As earlier discussed, INCHRE collaboration with colleges and units within the university and well-established place in the university organizational structure (with well-defined direction and goals) provide sustainability in program implementation.

The integration of human rights in the MMSU curriculum ensures institutional support for INCHRE programs and likely will transcend uncertainty brought by change in the university leadership.

The commitment and support of the members of the faculty, the staff and the administration officials of MMSU brought laurels to INCHRE and the university and recognition at the national and international levels. (See Annex B for the list of awards and recognitions).

Simple and small-scale strategies and practices helped INCHRE create a niche in developing a human rights culture, not only in the academe but also in the province of Ilocos Norte and the Philippine society in general. Through these strategies, INCHRE is contributing in building a violence-free, peaceful, and orderly Philippines.

Endnotes

¹SIFE is a partnership between business and higher education institutions that prepares the next generation of entrepreneurs and business leaders to create a better world for everyone. SIFE teams develop outreach projects that specifically meet the unique needs of some communities. The projects are then presented at the regional, national and international competitions. Business executives judge the competitions and select the winners based on which teams they believe were most effective at helping others through their projects (SIFE Team Handbook, 2008-2009).

²As of 2009, the National Federation of Centers for Human Rights Education (NFCHRE) has the following members: twenty-five Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), one Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), and fourteen Division Schools of the Department of Education (DepEd).

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Annex A

Profile of the MMSU-INCHRE Working Team

Faculty	Educational Attainment	Academic Rank	Area of Specialization
Shirley Mina	Doctor of Education	Assoc. Prof. V	Education
Perla Marders	LIB/MAPA	Assoc. Prof. IV	Political Science
Marivic M. Alimbuyuguen	Doctor of Philosophy	Assoc. Prof. III	Sociology, Anthropology, Rural Development
Henedine Aguinaldo	MS Biology (CAR)	Asst. Prof. IV	Biology
Maita Ancheta*	MAEd (Social Science)	Instructor II	History
Sosima Demandante	Doctor in Philosophy (CAR)	Asst. Prof. I	Crop Science, Rural Development
Jacqueline Ugale*	BS Social Sciences	Instructor I	Sociology, Economics
Angelica Salas	BS Social Sciences	Instructor I	Sociology, Psychology
Marlyn Cacactian	BS Sociology	Instructor I	Sociology
Bella Gervacio	MAPA	Training Specialists I	Extension
Weena Guiang	BA Social Sciences	Instructor I	Sociology
Marjorie Garcia	MS Rural Development	Instructor II	Economics/Rural Development
Lorma Quibilan	BA Political Science	Instructor I	Political Science
Dyrma Sabas	BA Political Sciences	Instructor I	Sociology
Bella Ramos	MA History	Instructor II	History
Elizabeth Marfel Gagni	MAEd Guidance & Counseling	Instructor I	Psychology/Guidance & Counseling
Romel Dascil	AB Philosophy	Instructor I	Philosophy
Fides Bitanga	AB Philosophy	Instructor I	Philosophy
Mayvelyn Tajon	BS Sociology	Instructor I	Sociology
Herdy Yumul	MS Sociology (CAR)	Instructor I	Sociology
Joyce Rallojay	BA Sociology	Instructor I	Sociology
Leslie Kaye Rivera*	BS Sociology	Instructor I	Sociology/History
Cristina Coloma	Doctor of Education	Professor	Public Administration

* No longer connected with the University

Annex B

Awards and Recognitions Received by the INCHRE

Activity	Award/Recognition	Date/Place
Inter-CHRE Regional Competition	First Place – Human Rights Quiz First Place - Human Rights Logo Making Contest Second Place – Human Rights Postermaking Contest	3 December 2003, Pangasinan Colleges of Science and Technology, Urdaneta City, Pangasinan
Search for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis (Arts and Social Science Category)	Most Outstanding Student Thesis (Knowledge of OFWs on Human Rights and Their Awareness on Government Programs)	March 2004, University Training Center (UTC)-MMSU, Batac, Ilocos Norte
Search for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis (Arts and Social Science Category)	Most Outstanding Student Thesis (Indigenous People's Level of Knowledge and Enjoyment of their Human Rights)	March 2005, University Training Center (UTC)-MSU, Batac, Ilocos Norte
2006 National SIFE Exposition	National Champion (Improving Women's Lives through Shellcraft Enterprise)	15-16 June 2006, Manila
SIFE World Cup Exposition	Semi-Finalist (Improving Women's Lives through Shellcraft Enterprise)	10-20 September 2006, Paris, France
Search for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis (Arts and Social Science Category)	Second Place – Most Outstanding Student Thesis (Child-Labor in Rice Farming System)	March 2007, University Training Center (UTC)-MMSU, Batac, Ilocos Norte
Ilocos Agricultural Research Resources and Development Consortium (ILARRDEC) Regional Research and Development Symposium	Third Place – Most Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis (Child-Labor in Rice Farming System)	June 2007, Regional Education Learning Center (RELC), San Fernando City, La Union
2008 National SIFE Exposition	Third Runner-Up – (Improving the Lives of the Ruralfolk through Bamboo Enterprise)	2-4 August 2008, Makati, Metro Manila
2009 National SIFE Exposition	National Champion (Transforming the Lives of the Ilocanos through Sustainable Entrepreneurial Development)	As an incentive, the MMSU SIFE Team was part of the SIFE Pilipinas Official Delegation to World Cup in Singapore 17 July 2009, Asian Institute of Management, Makati, Metro Manila
Regional Awards for Human Rights Education	INCHRE - Most Outstanding CHRE in Region 1	4-6 October 2009, MMSU SIFE Team represented the Philippines in the SIFE World CUP in Berlin, Germany
Regional Awards for Human Rights Education	Most Outstanding CHRE Coordinator	10 December 2009, Provincial Capitol, San Fernando, La Union