



# PSSN, Inc. NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the 2nd International Seminar and 12th Annual Scientific Conference of the Philippine Society for the Study of Nature (PSSN), Inc.

Vol. 1, Series 2012

East Asia Royale Hotel, General Santos City-May 22-27, 2012.



Dignitaries seated at the table are Dr. Sukendah, Dr. Nilda Burgos, Dr. Hugo Volkaert, Dr. Honorario Soriano, Gov. Arthur Y. Pingoy, Dr. Teresita L. Cambel, Dr. Jesusa D. Ortouste (President, PSSN, Inc.), and Dr. Naomi Tangonan (Left to Right).



## PSSN, Inc. holds 2nd International & 12th Annual Scientific Conference at General Santos City, Philippines

**THE PHILIPPINE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF NATURE (PSSN), Inc. 2nd INTERNATIONAL AND 12th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE** formally opened on May 23, 2012 with the theme **“Crossing Borders for a Sustainable and Healthy Environment.”**

The annual scientific conference was participated by 250 participants with 179 officially registered individuals and to include the guest and speakers from Indonesia, China, Thailand, USA and Philippines. The member scientists and researchers from Regions I to XII, CARAGA, NCR, CAR and ARMM, including representatives from private agencies and corporations converged at East Asia Royale Hotel, General Santos City, Philippines on May 22-27, 2012 to once again appreciate the beauty of nature and grasp the essence of science and technology in preserving,

protecting, maintaining and managing the natural endowments through the different plenary sessions and presentations.

The event was hosted by the Sultan Kudarat State University (SKSU) in collaboration with the Mindanao State University, Sagittarius Mines Inc., Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Agricultural Research, Pollution Control Association of the Philippines Inc., Local Government Units of General Santos City, Surallah and Lake Sebu, and Provincial Government of Sultan Kudarat and South Cotabato.

During the opening ceremony, the event was graced by the presence of Hon. Darlene Antonio-Custodio (Mayor, General Santos City) who warmly welcomed the participants to the City of Gensan and Hon. Arthur “Dodo” Y. Pingoy, MD (Governor, South Co-

**Natural** Laws of Economy on which all Human Economics and Conservation of any Resource should follow ( as cited by Dr. Solsoloy in his Keynote address) :

- There is no waste. No garbage, no trash, toxins or pollutions are generated in nature.
- Too much of any one thing is a bad thing.
- Living in connection with other systems is living in alignment with them.

tabato) who shared his inspirational message from the Local Government Units (LGU).

Highlighting the opening program was the Keynote Address of Dr. Teodoro S. Solsoloy ( Scientist/ Assistant Director DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research) who was introduced by the SKSU President Dr. Teresita L. Cambel.

In order to give light to the 4-day seminar and conference, Dr. Ricardo Bagarino (PSSN PRO & Website Master) presented the conference overview.

The opening program was immediately followed by the plenary session on **"Incidence and Distribution of Tapping Panel Dryness and Corynespora Leafspot Disease in Rubber-Growing Provinces of the Philippines"** presented by Dr. Naomi G. Tangonan,

By: May Nectar Cyrill  
Loja-Tabares



**" And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good."**

Genesis 1: 31

## PSSN-SKSU conducts GIS-WEPP and Aerobic Rice Technology training-seminar

The five-day international scientific conference of Philippine Society for Study of Nature (PSSN), Inc. commenced with the simultaneous preconference seminar and training on Geographic Information System (GIS) and Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) Modeling and Aerobic Rice Technology on May 22, 2012 at East Asia Royale Hotel in General Santos City, Philippines, the chosen venue for the event.

The one-day pre-conference training-seminar was attended by participants from the academe and local government units from various provinces of the country. The GIS-WEPP included computer hands-on on of the program application. The aerobic rice technology on the other hand, was shared to participants as the best alternative to drought prone areas of the country. Experts from Isabela State University headed by Dr. Orlando F. Balderama generously

imparted basic information and skills to the participants.

The activities were successfully facilitated by PSSN, Inc. in partnership with Sultan Kudarat State University Research Development and Extension Division spearheaded by the Vice-President for Research, Development & Extension, Dr. Rolando F. Hechanova and the RD&E Director, Dr. Ruby S. Hechanova and Isabela State University, Ilocos Norte.—by: GAC

## PSSN selects top 3 HS scientific papers for final competition

The Philippine Society for the Study of Nature, Inc. conducted a pre-listing and oral presentation for best paper final competition for the High School category on May 22, 2012 at East Asia Royale Hotel, General Santos City, Philippines.

There were seven (7) finalists who

competed for the top three best paper competition from different high schools. The three lucky papers which were able to make it to the finals were presented by Panabo National High School, Mary Knoll High School of Panabo and Sultan Kudarat State University Laboratory High School.

The High School finalists were included in the Best Paper Competition Professional Category held on May 23, 2012. The result of the competition will be declared on May 26, 2012 during the Closing Ceremonies.

by: Gemma A. Constantino





Dr. Mohammad Nurcholis of UPN Yogyakarta , Dr. Sukendah of UPN Surabaya, Dr. Jesusa Ortouste of PSSN and SKSU , Dr. Teresita L. Cambel, of SKSU, and Dr. Abdul Rizal AZ of UPN Yogyakarta

## SKSU signs MOU with UPN, Indonesia

The Sultan Kudarat State University President, Dr. Teresita L. Cambel signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the Universitas Pembangunan Nasional “Veteran” (UPN) of Yogyakarta Indonesia Campus and UPN East Java Surabaya Campus on May 23, 2011 at the East Asia Royale Hotel in General Santos City.

The rector of UPN Yogyakarta was represented by its Vice –Rector, Dr. Mohammad Nurcholis together with Dr. Abdul Rizal AZ., the Dean of Faculty of Agriculture while UPN East Java, Surabaya was represented by its Vice Rector Dr. Sukendah. Dr. Jesusa D. Ortu-

oste, the president of the Philippine Society for the Study of Nature, Inc. and Campus Director of the Colleges of Agriculture and Agribusiness and Environmental Science also signed as the witness.

The scope of the MOU is cooperation in the fields of Education, Research, Extension/Community Services, Training and Socio-cultural. After the signing of this Memorandum of understanding, the parties will form a Cooperative Technical Implementation Team that will conduct studies related to the purposes and objectives of this MOU. This MOU will stay effective in five (5) years from the date of signing and may be extended if necessary.

The Chancellor of the Mindanao State University-General Santos City, Atty. Abdurrahman T. Canacan also attended the MOU signing and delivered his words of inspiration and congratulations for the PSSN conference participants and guests. Messages from Dr. Nurcholis of UPN Yogyakarta, Dr. Sukendah of UPN Surabaya and Dr. Cambel of SKSU also highlighted the MOU signing.

The SKSU Las Cuerdas performed oldies but goodies songs to entertain the participants and song numbers from the MSU Choir were well-applouded.

**By: Doreen L. Barraca**

# PSSN, Inc. participants explore South Central Mindanao

The participants of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International and 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference sponsored by the Philippine Society for the Study of Nature (PSSN) and the Sultan Kudarat State University (SKSU) visited various places of South Central Mindanao on May 24, 2012.

There were 179 participants who joined the tour. The first stop was the municipality of Surallah, South Cotabato. The municipal mayor, Hon. Romulo O. Solivio gave a warm welcome to all the participants through a short program and the municipality's cultural dance troupe and "*rondalla*" rendered entertaining performances during the program held at the municipal plaza.

The participants proceeded to the municipality of Lake Sebu, South Cotabato. Mayor Antonio B. Fungan also welcomed the participants during the tree planting activity at the PSSN, Inc. adopted Park at Brgy. Tasiman, Lake Sebu. Punta Isla Lake Resort, where the best view of the lake can be seen hosted the lunch of the participants. While having their lunch, the T'boli artists performed several native dances and played the different musical instruments of the T'bolis. Everyone enjoyed the theatrical play depicting the lives of the T'boli tribes.

After lunch, the participants visited the spectacular seven

(7) falls and some courageously experienced riding the highest zip line in South East Asia with two stations at utmost height of 600 meters from the ground and 740 and 400 meters long of invigorating zip line fun. Everyone was overwhelmed with the breathtaking nature views and landscape of Lake Sebu despite of the rain showers and sticky rocky road they trailed through.

The participants then proceeded to the Provincial Capitol of Sultan Kudarat and they were welcomed by Maguindanaon musicians of the socio-cultural group of Sultan Kudarat province. There was a short program attributed to the participants by the officials of the province of Sultan Kudarat. Hon. Orfelina P. Segura, Sangguniang Panlalawigan member delivered a welcome address and Hon. Francis Eric E. Recinto represented the governor, Hon. Suharto "Teng" Mangudadatu in his speech. President Teresita L. Cambel, SKSU President also gave her words of welcome.

The provincial government sponsored the banquet while the SKSU Las Cuerdas and Teatro Kalakat entertained the guests during the dinner. The "Banda Ni Teng", provincial band also performed during the said activity. The participants enjoyed the short tour inside and outside the building while taking pictures of the magnificent and spectacular stature of the provincial capitol building.

The group moved back to General Santos City with happy and light hearts after discovering most treasured places of South Central Mindanao.—by: **Adrian V. Protacio**

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## Memories...



PSSN, Inc. participants pose at the Surallah Municipal Park.



Lake Sebu, Seven Falls Adventure and Zipline fun Experience!



Indonesian participants with the Sultan Kudarat Local Officials. SKSU Pres. Dr. Teresita L. Cambel and PSSN, Inc. President, Dr. Jesusa D. Ortouse at the SP Hall of the Provincial Capitol of Sultan Kudarat.