

# AIDE

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CONTINUING OUR  
MISSION OF PROVIDING  
ACCESSIBLE,  
INCLUSIVE,  
DISTANCE &  
EQUITABLE  
LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ALL





Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

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# P r e f a c e

*With great pride and profound gratitude, we present this Memorabilia in celebration of the remarkable journey of the Asian Institute for Distance Education, Inc. (AIDE) as it marks its 40th Founding Anniversary.*

*Founded on the principles of accessibility, equity, inclusivity, excellence, and innovation, AIDE has been a beacon of hope and opportunity in the realm of distance education in the Philippines. Within these pages lie a testament to the unwavering commitment and dedication of the AIDE community—its leaders, stakeholders, educators, students, staff, and alumni—who have tirelessly championed the cause of distance and flexible education, open learning and empowered countless individuals to reach their academic and professional aspirations. Through a collection of achievements, heartfelt messages, and inspiring stories and accomplishment, this Memorabilia serves as a tribute to the rich legacy of AIDE and the transformative impact it continues to make in the lives of learners across the nation.*

*Again, happy 40th Founding Anniversary to AIDE. Together, let us continue to advance the cause of open learning and distance education in the country.*

  
**Dr. Cecilia Junio Sabio**  
 Dean, Academic Affairs

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# PART 1.

## MESSAGES



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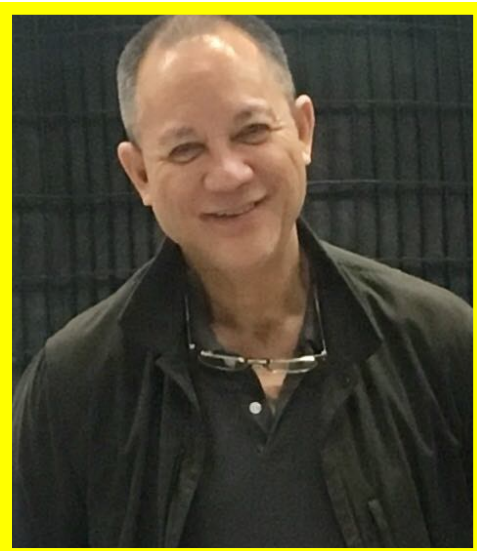
**Messages from the Chairman of the Board/  
President & CEO and other Members of the  
Board of Directors**



## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the CEO & President:

## ANTONIO O. COJUANGCO



I would like to greet the entire academic community of AIDE, specially our students, faculty, module writers, our administrators and staffs, Happy 40th Founding Anniversary to all of us.

AIDE is an institution of higher learning which exercises an open admission process employing the distance instructional system. Through AIDE's open and flexible modality, learners and instructors do not need to meet regularly in per-

son, but learners can study by themselves via the use of various multi-media instructional materials provided by the Institute such as printed media and learning resource materials, Audio-Visual resources, e-books, e-learning modules available at the LMS, face-to-face evaluation system, and interactions with the tutors/ staffs in an off-campus advising sessions.

When I assumed the leadership of AIDE some decades back, I only have two things in my mind; widening **Access** and **Equity to education**. I am of the view that open learning and distance education can provide a catalytic role in higher education by widening student access to quality open tertiary education thereby making higher education more inclusive and equitable to more Filipinos. This is very much reflected in our mission which is to provide quality higher education to persons, who, because of time, space, work, physical or medical reasons, cannot avail themselves of regular schooling.

Through the years, we have succeeded in achieving our goal of providing affordable college education to persons who are unable to avail themselves of the formal or conventional system due to time, space, work or physical and economic constraints. Given the high cost of private education in most private colleges/universities and limited access to state universities and colleges due to restricted number of intakes, we thought of democratizing access to tertiary education through AIDE's open admission system. I thought of taking care of AIDE from its former Foundation to make higher education more inclusive, open, and flexible to many students especially for those who were previously deprived of the opportunity to go to school for various reasons and limitations. See Page 4 for the continuation

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the CEO & President:

**ANTONIO O. COJUANGCO**

#### *Continued from page 3....*

Today, as we mark our 40th Founding Anniversary this year, I am so happy to see our graduates succeed in their respective fields in the government and private sector. To become an instrument of their success, by giving them the chance to pursue college through distance education means is already a big feat for us. We've helped a lot of students like Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW), Police Officers, government employees, those in the rehabilitation centers, private sector employees, among others to obtain tertiary education and succeed in their chosen career. I am pretty sure that our provision of open learning system, as a philosophy of access to educational services, have well-served as a milestone accomplishment to many of our graduates.

Our 40th anniversary is not just a testament to our past successes but also a springboard for the future of education which has been prominently digital and online especially in the post pandemic era. Let's continue to innovate, inspire, and make a difference in the world, staying true to our mission and goals of access and equity. To all our partners, supporters, and friends – thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Here's to the next 40 years of growth, collaboration, and making a positive impact in the lives of many underserved Filipinos whom we serve. In the coming years, we will continue to be at the forefront of quality distance higher education in the country. Recognizing the important role of education as a main driver of development, we will continue, in the coming years, to help achieve UNDP's Sustainable Development Goal No. 4; that is to, *"ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."*

*"I thought of taking care of AIDE from its former Foundation to make higher education more inclusive, open, and flexible to many students especially for those who were previously deprived of the opportunity to go to school for various reasons and limitations."*

- A.O. Cojuangco

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from AIDE's Board of Director:

### **Dr. Ramon Nivera**

This year, we are thrilled to commemorate a remarkable milestone in the history of AIDE – our 40th anniversary! For four decades, we have been dedicated to making education more inclusive and equitable to many Filipinos, striving to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. As we reflect on our journey, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our academic community, faculty members, students, partner institutions and donors. It is your collective commitment, passion, and generosity that have propelled us forward, enabling us to achieve incredible milestones and positively impact countless lives who are now productive members of both public and private sector, here and abroad. Over the past 40 years, we have weathered storms in our academic operations but we successfully embraced opportunities, and adapted to change, all while staying true to our core values and principles of making education more accessible to all.



We are truly proud to carry on our educational journey, which started in 1982, when the Asian University of Independent Studies (AUIS) was initially conceived to be the first open and flexible higher learning institution in the country given (at that time) the task of providing open and distance education in order to expand the access to higher education services in our country. Today in our 40th year, we served not only students within the country but mostly OFW working globally and also foreign students who believe in the quality of our educational delivery.

This year, we are thrilled to commemorate a remarkable milestone in the history of AIDE – our 40th anniversary! For four decades, we have been dedicated to making education more inclusive and equitable to many Filipinos, striving to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. As we reflect on our journey, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our academic community, faculty members, students, partner institutions and donors. It is your collective commitment, passion, and generosity that have propelled us forward, enabling us to achieve incredible milestones and positively impact countless lives who are now productive members of both public and private sector, here and abroad. country but mostly OFW working globally and also foreign students who believe in the quality of our educational delivery. See page 6 for the continuation

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from AIDE's Board of Director: **Dr. Ramon Nivera**

.....Continued from page 5

Distance learning, as a technology-based teaching-learning model, is a mode open to continuous improvement, development, and innovation. With the rapid technological developments of today, the need for radical innovation and educational transformation is apparent. This has become more evident during the Covid-19 pandemic where most institutions of higher learning experienced on a massive scale disruptive changes in the teaching-learning processes. While most higher education institutions (HEIs) have started to accelerate their digitalization process only during the pandemic, AIDE's technology-enabled learning system has already been institutionalized long before the LMS was massively introduced to HEIs. The use of ICT-based learning became part of AIDE's system even before the pandemic happened.

As we celebrate this significant anniversary, let us not only honor our past achievements but also look forward to the future with optimism and determination. Together, let us continue to innovate, collaborate, and drive positive change, ensuring that our organization remains a beacon of hope and inspiration for generations to come. To each and every individual who has been a part of our journey – thank you for your unwavering dedication, passion, and support. Here's to the next 40 years of making a difference in open tertiary education and shaping a brighter future together in distance and lifelong learning for all!

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the Senior Vice President/Treasurer:

**MR. ARTURO B. DIAGO JR.**

Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary to all of us!

In 1982, AIDE was initially conceived as the country's first university for independent learning called the Asian University of Independent Studies which was already presented to and passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Congress. Things did not materialize due to changes in the government then. In 1984, with the intention to further widen the access of Filipinos to higher education, the prime movers of then AUIS proceeded to its planned institutionalization of a school which mode of delivery is basically independent, open and flexible which subsequently gave birth to AIDE. It is the first stand-alone open higher learning institution in the Philippines and probably the second in the Southeast (next to STOU of Thailand which was founded in 1978) to teach via distance education. Given the accreditation and permit we got from the former Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) to operate as a full-blown higher education institution, we offered full range of programs using a flexible open learning system, allowing anyone, anywhere to take advantage of the potential and benefits of higher education opportunities through AIDE. This implies that our programs serve the educational needs of working professionals in both public and private sector, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), traditional bachelor's degree students, school leavers and learners who might find it difficult to attend a traditional conventional university, such as the disabled, those living in the provinces and remote areas, those in the rehabilitation centers and prison inmates. See page 8 for the continuation



*"Open and Distance Learning has never been more timely and important, especially given the increased demand for higher education and training throughout the region."*

-Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi,  
Director of UNESCO Bangkok

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the Senior Vice President/Treasurer:

**MR. ARTURO B. DIAGO JR.**

.....*Continued from page 7*

In four decades of existence, AIDE has had a significant impact on Philippine society; its graduates have gone on to apply their knowledge and skills for the benefit as well as development of society. AIDE has also widened its provision of distance education, offering its courses to Foreign students here and abroad after it obtained the necessary permission from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Further we also employed the use of various innovations and technologies related to distance learning to achieve the mission of excellence as an open and flexible institution of higher learning.

Through the years, AIDE succeeded in employing an open education system. The Open Education System is an education system that provides education not only to Filipinos within the boarder of the Philippines but also those outside the country working in different parts of the world. Currently, there are OFWs who are students of AIDE working in the Middle East, Europe and other Asian countries. The Open Education System also allows individuals to enroll anytime— without the constraints of a structured academic calendar and enrollment system.

Truly, AIDE has gone a long way and has helped uplift the lives of its graduates. I feel privileged and lucky to be a member of its Board. Finally, I would like to thank all of you (out stakeholders) who continue to trust in our mission of democratizing access to higher education. Without you this journey of AIDE, its 40<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary, would not have been possible.

Again, Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary to all of us!

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# **Messages from the Academic and Administrative Officers**





## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the Executive Director:

**MRS. ZENAIDA VILLAESCUSA**

*Happy 40th Founding Anniversary to AIDE! Our Forty years of successful operation has helped many school leavers to be given second and many chances in obtaining a college degree. The people behind the operations of AIDE is also to be congratulated as their hard-work, patience, dedication and service has been helping a lot of students to become successful employees/workers in their chosen field. Being a long-standing distance education in the country is such a great privilege and I thank all the people I work with everyday for their perseverance and continued service to AIDE.*

*I also thank the forerunner of this institution for continuously supporting the operations of this notable higher education institution as it strives to provide wider access to quality distance education. I thank also the content developers and module writers of AIDE for being with us writing our content and improving them.*

*For 40 years, we do not only help the former school leavers but we also provide opportunities to other people who have been previously deprived of the chance to continue college education due to some limitations on resources and time. Again, we congratulate AIDE.*



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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from the Head of Finance & Admin.:

**MRS. TESS ALCUAZ**

To the people I worked with, my bosses, my colleagues, especially the dedicated staffs whom I am fortunate to be with for more than two decades in this institution as well as the students, teachers and module writers, who continue to believe and advocate on the concept of distance learning and open education, my heartfelt gratitude to everyone.

Congratulations to all of us and Happy 40th Founding Anniversary. Through the years, I have witnessed how AIDE has been helping a lot of students to finally have their dreams realized; that is, to have a college diploma while they painstakingly deal with their respective obligations and responsibilities either at work or at home. Most of our students are day job workers, if not abroad working as an OFW. We also served those in prison and rehabilitation centers obtain college education so that they would be able to transform their lives in the future and become productive members of our society. Some are out-of-school-youths while some are foreign students who believe on the quality of our educational system.



We have also partnered with different government institutions and other non-profit institution here and abroad so that their employees can study with us while still serving public office and while continuously working. Education in the government is an important qualification standard (QS) where employees can only be promoted with this QS as an important parameter. We have also partnered with some GOCCs like those employees in PAGCOR among others. With this, we are truly happy to have a valuable contribution in their career and growth in their respective fields. In the coming years, we will continue to be of service to most of our students providing not only open learning and distance education modality but education that is quality, equitable, inclusive and accessible to all Filipinos. Congratulations to AIDE for our 40 years of successful operations. God bless us always!

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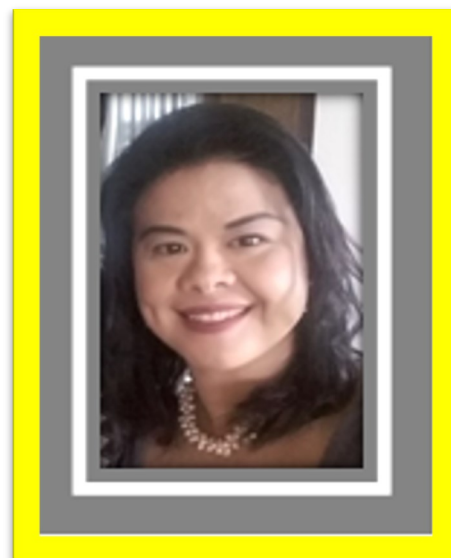
### Message from the Dean, Academic Affairs

**DR. CECILIA JUNIO-SABIO**

Congratulations to the administration, staffs, students and faculty of AIDE. Our mission to further widen student access to quality higher distance education is in keeping with the law on ODL which provides under Section 2 that:

*“it is the policy of state to expand and further democratize access to quality tertiary education through the promotion and application of open learning as a philosophy of access to educational services, and the use of distance education as an appropriate, efficient and effective system of delivering quality higher and technical educational services in the country.”*

In an effort to help the government democratize access of students to higher education, the concept of AIDE as a non-traditional higher education came about forty years ago.



Back then, we envision a higher learning which will advocate the principle of openness and flexibility whereby teaching-learning processes are non-conventional. ***Open learning* refers to a philosophy of learning that is based on flexibility of access for equity in education, an educational system accessible to every individual with minimal restrictions and emphasizing the flexibility of the system to eradicate problems caused by barriers like age, geographical location, time constraints and economic situation.** (Section 3(f), RA 10650) Today, we continue to provide distance education to many students, helping not only local students but also Filipinos working overseas so that their educational status can further be upgraded. Our solid 40 years of experience in this field has made us, not only a pioneering stand-alone DE provider in the country, but also an expert in the field, having delivered four decades of continued operations; graduating and helping many Filipinos obtain college degrees.

Again, I congratulate the efforts and support of the leaders behind this great institution for their commitment to furthering independent learning that is student-centered; making higher education more inclusive and flexible to many. I also thank all the staffs, students and module writers for their support and dedication to AIDE. Happy 40th Anniversary!

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## **Messages from the Module Writers**





## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from our Module Writers

### **DR. MAYBEL F. VALLADO**



*A blessed 40th anniversary to the Asian Institute of Distance Education Inc. (AIDE)! I am honored and privileged to be part of the pool of Consultants and Module Writers from 2017-2020. Creating modules for distance learning was not only challenging but also enlightening. I had to conduct pilot tests in order to revise some of the activities to suit particular target students of the program. As a pioneer in distance learning in the Philippines, AIDE has certainly been a game changer, especially for adult learners*

*who wanted to upgrade and earn a College Degree while working. I admire the men and women who have taken on the difficult task of learning new things while providing for the needs of their families and aiming for a better life, not only for themselves, but also for their respective workplaces. The men and women in AIDE have made a great impact in the Philippines and even in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and to other Filipinos abroad who wanted to earn a Bachelor's degree. With God's guidance and good graces, many graduates of AIDE have been promoted and are in more stable jobs and have pursued other interests to improve their craft. I thank and praise God for the opportunity to be part of AIDE and gain a deeper respect and love for distance learning.*

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from our Module Writers

### **DR. ANA ISABEL N. SOTOMANGO**



*On this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Asian Institute for Distance Education (AIDE), I am privileged to extend my deepest gratitude for the opportunity bestowed upon me to be a part of your noble mission as a module writer; it is invaluable experience filled with learning and growth as an educator.*

*As the AIDE celebrates this milestone anniversary, let us reflect on the incredible impact and meaningful difference it has collectively made in the lives of countless individuals in the power of education that create positive change and uplift communities.*

*Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to AIDE and wishing you many more years of empowering future generations to reach their full potential.*

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.



**Message from**  
**DR. RALPH A. SABIO,**  
**BSBA Module Writer**

This year marks a significant milestone in our journey – the celebration of our 40th anniversary! It's with great joy and pride that we reflect on the incredible journey we've undertaken together as an academic community over the past four decades. From humble beginnings in its distance education operation, starting very small in the early 80's to remarkable achievements of having to graduate a lot of students in the field of business, political science, linguistics and even arts courses. AIDE has grown and thrived over the years, thanks to the dedication, passion, commitment and hard work of each and every employee and member of our team especially those in the management (our dedicated and supportive Officials) those in the academic operations, our module writers and our academic support services who painstakingly attend to all of our students' needs, starting from enrollment, assessment and evaluation, giving of grades up to the graduation process of our students.

As a Module Writer and Content Developer of AIDE's business courses, I feel honored to be a part of this noble institution whose vision is to become the leading distance education provider in the country focused on giving lifelong learning to Filipinos here and abroad. The intention to provide greater access to tertiary education is something I find philanthropic specially that most private HEI's of today operates on the basis of profit orientation. The advocacy to provide open access to the knowledge created by the module writers over the years and with our Open Education System guarantees that there is equality and inclusivity in educational opportunities which enable individuals of all ages to have greater access to flexible but high-quality educational services.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the administration of AIDE for giving me the opportunity to develop learning modules for the BSBA curriculum. Together, we've overcome academic challenges (like those times when we have to immediately conform to CHED on the updating of our contents following our courses' new policies, standards and guidelines (PSGs) and when there were only few students' intake due to the country's implementation and transition to K-12 curriculum) but we embraced these challenging times and instead made innovative changes in the way we deliver our teaching-learning processes. I'm pretty sure that during the last 40 years, we made a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve our students, our graduates.

As we commemorate this special occasion, let's take a moment to honor the visionaries who laid the foundation of this academic institution, the leaders (specially our Management/Administrators, all the previous Executive Directors and Academic/Module Writers of this institution) who guided us through the years and the countless individuals (our administrative personnel and staffs) who have contributed their talents, dedication, hard-work and commitment along the way.

Again, I extend my anniversary greetings to all who have been part of our academic community. Happy Founding Anniversary, AIDE

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## **Messages from the Alumni**





## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from our Alumni

### **DR. CONCESA T. CORTEZ**

Greetings!

The Asian Institute for Distance Education continually thrives in the midst of many colleges and universities in the region because of its unique methodology of learning and relevant curriculum that it offers to meet the needs of the different industries and businesses. To individuals deprived of time to attend face to face classes due to personal and family priorities, distance and medical reasons, AIDE is an excellent choice. The Institution's existence is a great answer to those who want to pursue learning whether locally or internationally. It is continually reaching far and wide to persons who find education as an open door to better career opportunities and self-improvement. AIDE continually responds to those who are willing to enhance themselves by obtaining a college degree and to be someone in the society.



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### Message from our Alumni

### **DR. CONCESA T. CORTEZ**

My life testimony with AIDE is such an excellent experience and sweet memory of the past. I almost gave up my goal in life to finish a college education. I stopped in college when I earned 2 years in my Bachelor of Arts course because I realized that my parents cannot afford to finance my schooling for another 2 years for me to graduate. It was my priority then to earn an income, not to finish college. But thank God, the company I worked with introduced to me this Institution- AIDE in 1993 Little by little, I took units to complete my AB English course. I cannot deny that there were obstacles along the way to finish my course. I felt discouraged because I hardly find time to read my Modules, being a mother and an office worker at the same time. But I had a strong determination to finish the course, and finally... I nailed it! I was inspired to learn more, while working with DOST, I availed the DOST Scholarship Program and took a masteral degree course, and again I successfully finished Master in Public Administration in 2010. I desired to enhance more my education ... I again applied under the same scholarship program, a doctorate degree program, and in 2012, I earned the Doctor in Public Administration by God's grace! It was AIDE that made the start, and bridged the transition of who I was, and who I am now in terms of obtaining a higher education! Thank you AIDE for making me the person that God wants me to be ...to be of service to students and other individuals whom I can share my knowledge and skills.

More power and God's bless to this Institution!

**DR. CONCESA T. CORTEZ** (AIDE AB ENGLISH ALUMNI)

OIC, Dean – College of Arts and Sciences and Chairperson,  
Bachelor of Public Administration Program, Taguig City University

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Message from our Alumni

**MS. VANESSA ISABEL AQUINO DE-VERA**

## MOTHERING WHILE STUDYING IS POSSIBLE AT AIDE

*"While I was pregnant, a friend of ours informed me that there's a school in Makati offering distance education program.*

*It felt like I was given another chance to fulfill my dreams again.*

*Then, I gave birth while still pursuing my studies in this institution."*

While I was pregnant, a friend of ours informed me that there's a school in Makati offering distance education program. So, we went there and submitted the requirements needed. It felt like I was given another chance to fulfill my dreams again. Then, I gave birth while still pursuing my studies in this institution.

There are times when I wanted to give up and just stop because I want to focus on my child but there was my husband pushing me to keep it up because he believes that I can do it. It was April last year that I finished my course. Do you know the feeling of fulfillment and satisfaction of something that's finally on your hand? Because for me, until now, I am so thankful with AIDE because they gave opportunities for those who have work and still wanted to earn a degree and for those like me, stay at home and soon to be mothers/young mothers actually, wanting to finish their studies without the hassle of rumors and malicious eyes staring at you while you're pregnant and studying. So, if you think that there's no more hope because you were not able to finish college? Think again. Because there are institutions who will accept, who and what you are despite of what you are going through. They will help you reach your dreams and guide you. Same as what happened with me, when I got pregnant on an early age I thought it's the end of the road for me. But, God never gave a problem we cannot solve. I once failed the expectations, the dreams of my family for me and even hurt them but with the help of AIDE, by the word itself. AIDE... Assisted/helped me prove to those who doubted me that I can change my destiny and mold my life into something better. Even better than I thought. I feel so blessed and proud that I am graduate of Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation. Because, now that I am a permanent employee of DENR-ABRA. I owe my success to you. My greatest thank you to all of you Ma'am Juvy, Ma'am Susan, Ma'am Chu, and Ma'am Zenaida Villaescusa.



*"I feel too blessed and proud that I am a graduate of AIDE. I owe my success to AIDE now that I am a permanent employee of DENR-Abra."*

**-Vanessa Isabel Aquino-De Vera,  
BSBA Graduate**

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Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

## Short Messages from our Alumni



*AIDE provided me with quality higher education at a minimum cost. AIDE's program of instruction was intended for distance learning, which provided me flexibility to attend in my full-time work and at the same time chase my goal of attaining a bachelor's degree. They me enough time to study and work for the take-home materials. All the modules given seem to be much more challenging. It was not easy to study in a distance learning institution compared to a normal classroom instruction, but AIDE gave me reasons to study hard and finish my studies. With my stay at AIDE, I can say that it was very fulfilling. This has been possible because of my willingness to learn. But still, this would have been nothing without the helo of our Alma Mater, the AIDE and the hardworking spirit and dedication of staff and personnel of this institution. Thank you, AIDE, thank you, Ma'am. To the staff and management of AIDE, once again, thank you!*

—Noli Reamico, AB Political Science Graduate

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Short Messages from our Alumni



Gonzaga, Medeliza T.  
AB-English  
Date Graduated: Feb. 3, 2011

*The time spent for pouring over countless modules, reference books and searching for materials in the internet, and reviewing for and taking the final examinations is very meaningful. We have surmounted all the struggles and difficulties that go with student life. Our success in studying at AIDE, is undoubtedly the result of our incessant toil, patience and determination. Not a few of us here had any opportunity before to earn a college degree, either some opted to work because there was a need to help augment the family income or there was lack of interest to pursue higher studies back then and it only later or that some of us realized that having a diploma after all, is a requisite in aiming for a successful career. Of course, we thank AIDE for facilitating our quest for higher education and therefore realizing our dream of having a college diploma.*

*May kasabihan tayo – “Ang hindi marunong lumingon sa pinggalingan ay di makararang-ing sa paroroonan.” Today, let us all a together look back and think of the people who moulded us, supported us, and brought us to where we are this moment – our school. The Asian Institute for Distance Education duly accredited by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) the government agency regulating Institution of Higher Education Learning/Tertiary Education. And of course, our teachers for the comprehensive and challenging modules that have honed our knowledge, skills, and abilities and brought about the BEST in us, our loving parents for their sacrifices and unwavering support, our relatives and friends for their words of encouragement, for without them, we would have never made it. There are lots that could be said in gratitude, but all we can say is THANK YOU, from the bottom of our hearts.*



MIGUEL R. PEREY  
AB English Graduate

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### Short Messages from our Alumni

*"Thru AIDE I was able to finish my Bachelor's Degree which used to be so impossible as I was already working then. Looking back, it was so hard to find a stable and rewarding job as I didn't have the Diploma. Through the support of AIDE and inspiring support of it's staff, I was able to finish my course on Sociology in 2003, though I was not able to attend the commencement exercises after. Consequently, this led to tons of opportunities that enabled me to get meaningful, stable and better paying jobs both in the Philippines and abroad, and became a ticket to pursue a master's degree in Social Work from Singapore Institute of Management. This just proves that the programs from AIDE are of quality and recognized internationally. Thank you AIDE, you have been an instrument to me and my family to have a better life! Ku dos to you."*

—Mr. Norman Torres, AIDE Graduate



BONGHANNOY, JUANITO S.  
BSBA-Management  
Graduated: March 12, 2013

*"Let us  
compete,  
aim high and  
discover the  
world of  
professionalism;  
we have to go the  
distance, proud of  
being a product  
of AIDE."*

BONGHANNOY, JUANITO S.  
BSBA-Management Graduate

*"I am of the very first batch of graduates of AIDE. I can say with all my heart that AIDE honed my discipline when it comes to studying."*

— Theresa Gustilo  
Source: AIDE Official FB Page

AIDE is .....

- A – chieving one's goal by overcoming the barriers of on campus education
- I – improving individual person and society
- D – elivering the right content of knowledge and learning
- E – ducation matters a lot

— Prepared by and submitted Concesa T. Cortez, DPA

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### Short Messages from our Alumni

*As a students of AIDE these are certainly the advantages we have as to regular students, advantages that I happily availed myself of. Surprisingly however, I got more than what I would have derived if I had enrolled in a regular school. I can say without question that I would not be who, and where I am today, were it not for the lessons I learned from AIDE and by lessons I mean much more than academics.*

*For by far of more importance, and of more lasting value are the lessons of determination, independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliance, of finding motivation and inspiration within oneself rather than from outside sources, of the virtue of doing things on your own, of looking inside yourself to find out what it is that drives you and to discover what you truly want out of life. To strive ever toward it with honesty, integrity and the will to finish what you've started, and to finish it well, regardless of the outcome. These are the lessons which stay with you, which change you and which you value all your life. It is for these lessons that I will always be grateful to this outstanding institute of learning, for which I have nothing but utmost pride and respect for having been a part of, and one which I have no doubt, will gain more ground in the future, as viable and legitimate alternative, to a conventional and sometimes overrated system of education.*

- Fernando Basa, AIDE Graduate, PAO Lawyer



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God directed my path to the Asian Institute for Distance Education which gave me the opportunity to fulfill my dreams to be a Bachelor's Degree holder. My time wasn't wasted coming back and forth to the Philippines. I believed that working and at the same time studying is not easy. However, as they say "a winner never quits and a quitter never wins," despite the hard times I experienced. I managed to submit my modules even though not always on time but always within the deadline. The faculty and staff of AIDE were so flexible and accommodating. Thank you so much, AIDE, for all your support, love and care that you gave us. We wouldn't be where we are at today without your help.

**-Hamad Abduljabbar A. Alessa**

*Nine years ago, after finishing my secondary school level, I didn't have any dreams or goals. I decided to study Engineering but went to two different schools and ended up with nothing. My transcripts with those two schools were flooded with "dropped" remarks but I didn't care. It was in 2016, when perception turned 360 degrees; that's when I started studying at AIDE. I realized that I needed to step-out, set plans and goals for my life. Despite age, AIDE encouraged me that it will be better to continue studying and keep moving forward.*

*This second chance given to me by our school is an experience that will be treasured in my heart. I want to express my sincerest gratitude to Nazareth and AIDE which made me realize the great importance of education.*

**—Jonas Ernell Hornilla, BSBA Class 2019**

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### AIDE: Four Decades of Providing Accessible, Inclusive, Distance and Equitable Lifelong Learning For All

For four decades, the Asian Institute for Distance Education (AIDE) has been at the forefront of providing accessible, inclusive, and equitable open learning opportunities for learners across the Philippines. As we commemorate our journey of dedication and service, it is fitting to reflect on the milestones that have shaped our institution and reaffirm our commitment to our vision and mission.

#### **Vision: Leading the Way in Distance Education**

Since its inception, AIDE has been driven by a bold vision: *to be a leading institution in the field of distance education in higher education across the Philippines*. This vision serves as our guiding principle, propelling us to innovate, adapt, and excel in delivering quality education to learners regardless of their geographical location or personal circumstances.

#### **Mission: Bridging Gaps, Transforming Lives**

At the heart of AIDE's mission lies a commitment to provide higher education to individuals who face barriers to traditional schooling. Whether due to time constraints, geographical distance, work commitments, or physical limitations, AIDE strives to bridge the gap and make education accessible to all. Our mission is grounded in the belief that education is a transformative force that empowers individuals and communities to thrive and succeed.

#### **Tracer Study: A Testimony of Success**

One of AIDE's proudest achievements is the comprehensive Tracer Study conducted to assess the impact and effectiveness of our programs. The study delved into the employment characteristics of AIDE graduates, examining their achievements and contributions to the workforce. Results revealed that a significant number of our graduates found employment immediately after graduation, with many securing positions locally and abroad as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). Remarkably, most AIDE graduates have maintained tenure in their respective positions, underscoring the quality and relevance of our education in meeting industry demands.

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## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

### AIDE: Four Decades of Providing Accessible, Inclusive, Distance and Equitable Lifelong Learning For All

#### AIDE's Objectives: Driving Educational Excellence

As a non-profit organization authorized under Philippine laws, AIDE is dedicated to advancing education through research, extension, and related activities. Our institution operates on the principles of continuing education, utilizing non-formal, ICT-enabled, and non-conventional delivery systems to reach learners across the country. With government recognition for our academic courses, AIDE stands as a beacon of educational excellence, equipping learners with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate an ever-evolving world.

#### Providing Higher Education Opportunities to OFWs

A study delved into the Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) intake of the Asian Institute for Distance Education (AIDE), one of the longest-standing providers of stand-alone distance education in the Philippines. The study examined efforts to enhance the educational attainment and professionalization of OFWs, including endeavors to pursue higher education degrees while working abroad.

Central to the research was an exploration of AIDE's initiatives to expand student access to higher education by facilitating OFWs' pursuit of college degrees through innovative methods such as distance education. This underscores AIDE's commitment to empowering learners from diverse backgrounds and circumstances, driving positive societal change through education.

#### Looking Ahead: Embracing the Future of Learning

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, AIDE remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence, innovation, and inclusivity. We envision a future where education knows no boundaries and where every learner has the opportunity to unlock their full potential. With the rapid advancements in technology and the changing landscape of education, AIDE is poised to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, continuing to shape the future of distance education in the Philippines and beyond. In closing, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have been part of AIDE's remarkable journey – our dedicated faculty, staff, partners, and, most importantly, our learners. Together, we will continue to write the next chapter of AIDE's legacy, inspiring generations to dream, learn, and thrive. Here's to 40 years of empowering education and many more years of transformative impact!

—Written by: Engr. Cylene J. Sabio

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## **AIDE @ 40:**

### **Quality Open Learning For all**

Today, forty years ago, (on April 11, 1984), AIDE was formally recognized as an educational institution when it was granted a permit to open and conduct a two-year course leading to the degree of Associate in Arts and a four-year general course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. But the concept of the Asian Institute for Distance Education really began as early as 1981 when Filipinas Foundation embarked on a project to help the Philippine Foundation for Independent Study, Inc. (PFIS) set up an educational institution which would utilize the non-formal system of instruction. AIDE was initially conceived to be the Asian University of Independent Study (AUIS) which charter was already proposed to the 1982 Batasang Pambansa Parliamentary Bill No. 1033 but changes in the country's political landscape untended the initial plan to institutionalize AIUS. Setting aside all the impediments, the Filipinas Foundation proceeded to establish the school under the provisions of existing rules and regulations on accrediting institutions utilizing the non-formal delivery system. With its name slightly altered – from Asian University of Independent Study to Asian Institute for Distance Education – thus was AIDE born.

For forty years, the AIDE adheres to the Higher Education's mandate to protect, foster, and promote the right of all citizens to affordable quality open education at all levels and it has taken appropriate steps to ensure that education shall be accessible to all. As a non-profit organization, AIDE likewise ensure and protect academic freedom and continue to promote its exercise and observance for the continuing intellectual growth, the advancement of learning and research, the development of responsible and effective leadership, the education of underserved individuals and the enrichment of our historical and cultural heritage. As an institution of higher learning authorize to provide non-formal and non-conventional education, AIDE anchors its programs to national development plans and exemplify in its teaching-learning processes intellectual and scholarly undertaking. (Section 2, Republic Act [R.A.] 7722)

Although beset by challenges (specifically on low student intake and the preference of many over universal access to free higher education given by state-funded institutions), AIDE heeds to unequivocal call to formulate and continuously strategize education interventions in the midst of all these limitations. With all these mentioned, we take cognizance, that it is incumbent upon us to continue to provide inclusive, equitable and accessible quality open learning for all—one that is anchored on expanding and further democratizing access to quality tertiary education through the promotion and application of open learning as a philosophy of access to educational services, and the use of distance education as an appropriate, efficient and effective system of delivering quality higher and technical educational services in the country. (R.A. 10650)

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## AIDE @ 40:

### Quality Open Learning For all

Given the need to execute quality and relevant programs, AIDE, for the past years, has continuously perform the trifocal function of higher education institution in the areas of instruction, research and extension. Its accomplishment in these areas can be summed up in the following:

- Access and digitalization efforts
- Improving curriculum and instruction
- Developing body of knowledge through research
- Extension, partnership and collaboration

#### 1. ACCESS AND DIGITALIZATION EFFORTS

##### 1.1. Expanding Access to Higher Education

- From 1988-2023, awarded Baccalaureate degrees to 809 students excluding those we graduated in Associate degree courses in Arts, Port Administration, Business, Language and Political Science. The figure also excludes those we helped pursue law courses by allowing them to cross enroll and take additional units in English Language.
- Over the years, we also graduated students and enrolled a lot of OFW from different parts of the world, police officers, government employees, working students, mothers and former school leavers
- Provided cross boarder education by allowing foreign students to enroll at AIDE.
- In December 2016, AIDE was cited as one of the longest Distance Education provider in the Philippines in an international conference held at the International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan

- In June 2019, AIDE started to hold its Commencement Exercises at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC)
- The CHED Executive Director, Atty. Julito Vitriolo, in his graduation speech, during AIDE's 31<sup>st</sup> Commencement Exercise, congratulated AIDE for its success in advancing the cause of ODL in the country making higher education more accessible and equitable to many Filipinos.

##### 1.2. Educational Technology & Patent

- Starting Academic Year (A.Y.) 2017-2018, AIDE started to apply in its teaching-learning processes a Learning Management System (LMS) in partnership with NEO Cypher Learning. To be able to hone the competencies of the AIDE faculty and staffs a hands-on workshop on the use of NEO LMS was conducted in February 2018
- In December 2018, NEO Cypher Learning offered an hands-on training workshop on the use of LMS for the Tanghalang Pilipino arts educators and staffs
- In October 2019, TechCellar Business Solutions proposed a new IT design and interactive digital media that eventually led to the upgrading of AIDE's website

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- Beginning A.Y. 2020-2021 – AIDE forged a partnership with Quipper as the new third-party provider of its learning management platform.
- In May 2021, AIDE's trademark and official logo was officially registered to IPOPHIL.

#### 1.3. Electronic Publication

- AIDE's electronic newsletter called "AIDE INFOBOARD" was officially launched in January 2017 and already recognized by the National Library beginning December 2017. AIDE INFOBOARD was granted its official ISSN number as the official online newsletter/publication of AIDE; ISSN 2599-3537. The objective of the institutionalization of an electronic publication is to be able to provide a wider audience and to have a better platform to communicate with its students. To date, AIDE was able to release eight (8) Volumes of AIDE INFOBOARD.
- Of the 8 volumes, a total of eighty-seven (87) issues were already published, as of this writing (March 2024).
- In 2019, CHED acknowledges the new BSBA curriculum of AIDE which is in compliance to CHED CMO 17 s.2017 as well as its AB English program pursuant to CMO 24 s.2017.
- The course descriptions of all general education subjects, which is in accordance with CMO 20 s.2013, have been written and were published in March – July 2020 issues of AIDE Infoboard, Volume 3; this is to better inform students of the coverage/scope of these subjects.
- In July 2020, all the course descriptions of BSBA course Major in Marketing Management (e.g. professional subjects, common business and management courses and other core/major subjects) were written and published in July to October 2020 Issues of AIDE Infoboard, Volume 3
- Starting October 2020, all the course descriptions of the subjects under the AB English curriculum, in compliance with CMO 24 s. 2017, were written and published at the October to December 2020 Issues of AIDE Infoboard,. The courses under the said program, are designed to integrate theory and practice to prepare the students for effective communication in English in diverse contexts and situations.
- In March 2021, AIDE started to offer BSBA Major in HRM and the writing of all the modules also started during this period.

## 2. IMPROVING CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

### 2.1. AIDE Degree Courses

- From 2017 – 2020, AIDE has been taking serious steps to write, revise and update the modules on Business courses as well as its English subjects and general education curriculum pursuant to CHED CMO and PSGs.

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- In August 2021, AIDE started to develop the modules on BSBA Major in Business economics
- Beginning December 2022, the writing of BSBA Major in Operations Management module started and was all completed in February 2024
- To beef up the profile of the AIDE faculty pool, the hiring of qualified and competent faculty members, with Doctorate degrees, happened in 2018. These are: Dr. Maybel Vallado from UP Visayas, Dr. Ralph Sabio from St. Scholastica's College Manila, Dr. Ana Sotomango from Fatima University, Dr. R. Abundo from DLSAU, including faculty members and writers from prestigious universities like DLSU, PLM BSU, PUP, among others.

### **2.2. Short courses on Culture & Arts**

- In 2018, AIDE forged a partnership agreement with Tanghalang Pilipino to offer short courses on Culture and Arts. The course was called Acting Workshop Towards Self-Actualization. From 2018-2020, there were three (3) batches of students who graduated from these courses. 21 students in 2018, 12 students in 2019 and 13 students also in 2019.
- In March 2019, we also provided a free acting workshop to more than fifteen (15) students/participants who are residents of Paranaque and Cavite.
- In May 2019, the awarding of certificates happened for the graduates of the Certificate Course on Acting where there were twelve (12) students who joined the graduation ceremony.
- On September 8, 2019, the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of enrollees for AIDE-TP course on Theater Acting Workshop for Self-Actualization, composed of 13 students graduated and received their Certificate of Completion at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP)



The President & CEO of AIDE, Pres. Antonio O. Cojuangco, during the awarding of certificate for the course on Acting Workshop Towards Self-Actualization together with AIDE officials and TP Artistic Director, Dir. Nanding Josef.



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### 3. DEVELOPING NEW BODY OF KNOWLEDGE THROUGH RE-SEARCH

Over the past decade, AIDE has taken significant strides in the area of research in so far as production and dissemination. Among the works of its academic staffs and faculty members are as follows:

#### **3.1. Funded Research & Book Chapters**

- In February 2021, a paper prepared by AIDE Dean entitled: "Multi-modal remote learning (MORELEARN) strategies amidst covid-19 pandemic: Basis for policy recommendation", was approved for funding by the Philippine Educational Assistance Committee (PEAC).
- In a book edited by Dr. Ritimoni Bordoloi and Dr. Prasenjit Das published by Nova Science Publishers Inc., the Asian Institute for Distance Education (AIDE) has been invited to write a book chapter on Open and Distance Learning (ODL), entitled "Open and Distance Learning in the Philippines: Development, Policies and Challenges
- The paper entitled: "AIDE: Providing Higher Education Opportunities for OFWs" was published at the e-proceedings of the International Conference on Distance Learning, published online by researchgate.net and the Association of Southeast Asian Institute for Higher Learning (ASAIHL)

### **3.2. Relevant Articles Written on Education and Distance Learning; Published at the AIDE Infoboard:**

- The Use of FB for Effective Learning, Nov. 2020
- The Effects Of COVID-19 Pandemic in Education, Nov. 2020
- Educational Policies in D.E. as Applied in Basic Education, November 2020
- AIDE Contributes to Expanding Access to Higher Education as called for in the 2017-2022 PDP
- Revisiting the Definition of Distance Education and Remote Learning, June-July 2021

### **3.3. Researches Published at the AIDE Infoboard**

- Utilization of M-Learning Device Among Selected Senior High School Students in the Post Covid-19 Era in the Philippines *by Dr. Wan Jin and Dr. Cecilia J. Sabio July Issue*
- Learning through the use of Mobile Open Online Courses (MOOC) *By Engr. Cylene Sabio, February 2019 Issue*
- Understanding the Use of Mobile Open Online Courses (MOOC) *By Engr. Cylene Sabio, March 2019 Issue*
- What learning modality do students prefer? LMS or Printed Materials? *By Dr. CJ Sabio, January 2021 issue*
- Gauging the Use and Application of Massive Open Online Courses in the Philippines, *January 2022 issue*
- Student Support Services: The Case of AIDE, *August 2022 issue*
- Quality, Flexibility and Openness at the Core of AIDE Operations, *September 2022 issue*

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### 3.4. International Conferences/Paper Presentation

- In December 2016, AIDE Consultant, Dr. CJ Sabio wrote a paper on: *"The Growth and Potential of Distance Education in Asia: A Country Report from the Philippines"*. The same paper was presented as keynote speech of Dr. Sabio during the International Conference on Distance and E-Learning (ICDEEL) in Asia held on December 19-20, 2016 at the International Islamic University (IIU), Islamabad, Pakistan. The conference was sponsored by the Pakistan's Ministry of Higher Education and Distance Education Department of IIU
- In ASAIHL's 2016 Conference (Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning) a paper written by Dr. R. Sabio, AIDE Module Writer for business courses, entitled: "Policy Issues on the Institutionalization of Distance Education Act of 2014" was presented and published. The Conference was sponsored by the University of Putrajaya Malaysia (UPM) and was held at the Le-Meridien Hotel, Putrajaya Malaysia
- On October 8-10, 2018, AIDE presented a paper entitled "AIDE: Providing Higher Education Opportunities for OFW" at the 6<sup>th</sup> Global Higher Education Forum (GHEF) presented paper, organized by the Ministry of Education of Malaysia, University Sains Malaysia, University of Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Higher Education Research Association, held at Le Meridien Hotel, Putrajaya Malaysia.
- In August 1-3, 2019, AIDE Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr. Cecilia J. Sabio and AIDE Module Writer for Business Courses participated in the International Conference on Distance Learning which was held at the Sukothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU), Nonthaburi, Thailand co-sponsored by UNESCO, in celebration of STOU's 40<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary. In the same conference, the paper written by Drs. Sabio entitled: "Retrospective Review of Legislations and Policies on Distance Education in the Philippines" was presented, published and won the Best Paper Award. The said paper was also funded by the Philippine Education Assistance Committee (PEAC)
- The Research, Extension and Development Office of the Governor Alfonso D. Tan College, a local university in Tangub City, Mindanao, through the efforts of its Director Dr. Rogielou Andam, has recently invited the Dean of AIDE's Academic Affairs, as the Speaker in the College's Faculty Development Program (FDP). The objective of the FDP/research capability building which was held on March 30 and April 6, 2022 is to provide the faculty and members of the academic community a better understanding of *"Technical Research Writing and International Journal Publication"* which is the main topic during the two-day seminar.

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***E****quitable*

*lifelong learning for all*



## Asian Institute for Distance Education Foundation, Inc.

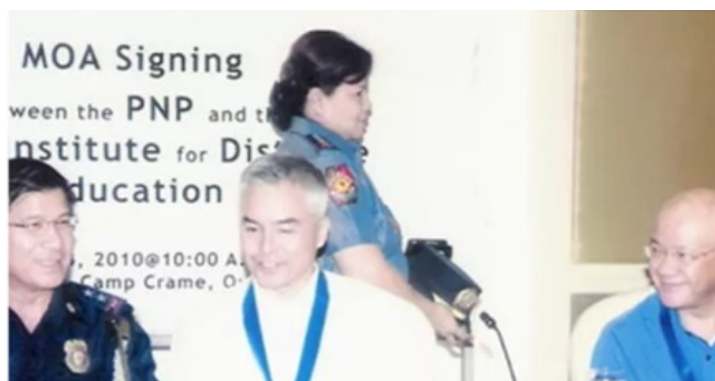
### AIDE @ 40:

### Quality Open Learning For all

#### 4. EXTENSION, PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

To be able to strengthen AIDE's curricular offering, the institute has also forged a number of organizational joint ventures as follows:

- Since 1991, AIDE has earmarked itself to actively engage in an academic/professional organization that would pursue its common interests and vision of propagating the cause of non-traditional higher education in the country. AIDE has been an active member of the Association for Non-Traditional Education (ANTEP) from its inception in the early 90's.
- AIDE is also an active member of the NCR School Registrar's Association up to the present.
- In the year 2003, AIDE signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Batangas State University. In accordance with CMO 25 series of 2000, the objective of the said collaboration is to be able to conform to the policy to maintain faculty-student dialogues in strategic sites by establishing Learning Centers or linkages with other Higher Education Institutions to ensure greater access to its clientele for tutorial, counseling, library access and testing activities.
- On March 24, 2010, the PNP in its partnership with AIDE was given recognition for the latter's invaluable contribution to the PNP Comprehensive Educational Assistance Program. It must be noted that it was in the year 1989 when the first batch of PNP personnel graduated from AIDE's AB Political Science program. See next page



AIDE Board of Directors Mr. Ramon Nivera and Mr. Bingle Diago together with the PNP Chief during MOA signing of AIDE & PNP



The token of appreciation given to AIDE by the PNP for contributing to the educational needs of PNP personnel, March 2010.

#### **AIDE @ 40 :**

*Continuing our mission of providing  
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**I**nclusive,  
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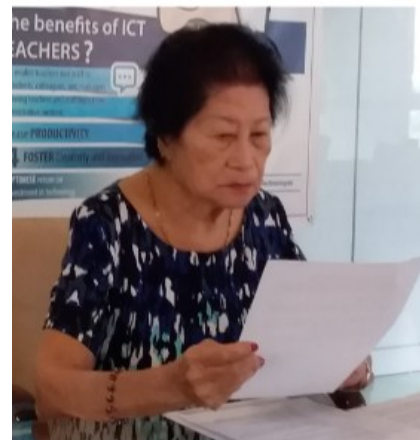


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## AIDE @ 40:

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- AIDE also pursued a collaboration with the Barasoain Center for Innovative Education (BARCIE) to serve as a partner institution in responding to the need to provide tutorial, library and counseling services for AIDE students which is pursuant of CMO 25, s.2000.
- In S.Y. 2015-2016, AIDE forged a partnership with the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) so that AIDE students can enjoy the library facilities of PLM including its school facilities like the laboratory facilities, gymnasium, etc. PLM may also be used as a testing center of AIDE in case students would require the same. PLM's faculty members may also provide assistance to AIDE students should the latter require counselling, advising and tutorial services.
- In 2018, SAS and AIDE explored the possibility of incorporating some Business Analytics courses in the BSBA curriculum. SAS offered the inclusion of the following modules as minor courses in BSBA program:
  - ⇒ Fundamentals of Business Analytics;
  - ⇒ Fundamentals of Data Warehousing;
  - ⇒ Fundamentals of Descriptive Analytics;
  - ⇒ Fundamentals of Predictive Analytics; and
  - ⇒ Fundamentals of Prescriptive Analytics
- In June 2018, AIDE explored the possibility of offering short courses on Digital Proficiency for Teachers in partnership with Experts Academy.
- In 2019, AIDE forged a partnership with Tanghalang Pilipino (TP) to offer the following online theater arts programs:
  - ⇒ Certificate in Script Writing;
  - ⇒ Certificate in Creative Group Dynamics;
  - ⇒ Certificate in Acting;
  - ⇒ Certificate in Community Arts Development (Kamalayang Pilipino Workshop in the Arts – KAPWA)
- In May 2021, AIDE joined CHED the celebration of the First National Higher Education Day. President Rodrigo Roa Duterte recently signed Republic Act (RA) No. 11522 declaring the 18th day of May as "National Higher Education Day" to commemorate the founding anniversary of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The CHED led the celebration of the "First National Higher Education Day" which was also joined by both public and private higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country.



AIDE's Executive Director, Mrs. Zenaida Villaescusa during the MOA Signing between AIDE and Experts Academy in 2018.

Written by: Dr. Cecilia Sabio

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