

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

The presence of the UST student council has been enormous in voicing out the concerns and needs of each and every Thomasian. This November, a new set of highly esteemed officers have been elected to be part of the UST Student Council.

The RCSSD, in collaboration with the province of Siquijor, USAID, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), spearhead the Sustainable, Regenerative Siquijor (SURE) project with the goal of stronger collaborative governance, support for cultural presentations and conservation education initiatives, and promotion of sustainable livelihood in the province. The signing of Memorandum of Understanding was done last February 21, 2024.

The same unit also pitched research-based policy recommendations to legislators in first policy expo, with 4 government officials taking part and listening to the presentation of 11 UST researchers. The expo highlights its newly minted Research Utilization Unit which provides a platform for researchers to use their study's recommendations as bases for policy. Among the possibilities are inclusion as bases for bills and ordinances, among others.

The SIMBAHAYAN Community in their webinar titled Araw ng Katutubo at Ang Panahon ng Paglikha 2021 highlighted the importance of Indigenous People's (IP) community as a contributing factor to environmental care. With the threats of destruction influenced by outside sources that the IPs face, one of the speakers emphasized the importance of dialogue, participation, and co-responsibility especially on the issues of development aggression and red-tagging of the indigenous leaders.