

Milestones

Research Awards, Distinctions and Grants

This section highlights the significant recognition and support earned by our faculty, a testament to the College's vibrant research culture and its commitment to producing high-impact, nationally relevant work. Our success in securing competitive funding and earning institutional rewards is a clear indicator of the quality and distinction of our research endeavors.

CSU Receives Presidential Recognition for Pioneering Electromobility Program with documentation

Cagayan State University (CSU) was conferred the **Presidential Recognition as an Outstanding Development Partner in Accelerating Technology and Innovation** during the Presidential Awards 2025 ceremony, held on August 18, 2025, at the Heroes Hall in Malacañang Palace. The prestigious award was granted for the university's groundbreaking **Electromobility Research and Development Center (EMRDC) Program: Venturing on Electronic Transportation**, which has successfully advanced sustainable transport solutions and created a meaningful impact on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), local communities, and the nation.

This national honor recognizes the program's success in translating academic research into practical applications that address both economic and environmental goals. The achievement was led by CSU President Dr. Arthur G. Ibañez, with the award-winning program managed by former CSU President and current CESB Chair, Dr. Urdujah Gaerlan Alvarado. This recognition affirms the university's vital role as a leading innovation hub that effectively connects research with industry needs.

The accomplishment was also lauded by regional partners. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Region 2, represented by Regional Director Ma. Sofia G. Narag, congratulated CSU for the national achievement, describing it as proof of the region's growing strength in innovation. The DTI further emphasized CSU's dedication to technology and sustainable development, which continues to open greater opportunities for MSMEs and communities across Cagayan Valley.





2024 International Conference on Prairie and Indigenous Knowledge in Agriculture, Agriculture, Education, Culture & the Arts and Health (PIKAECAH)

The CSU-DOST Ivatan Houses Project team achieved significant international recognition at the 2024 International Conference on Prairie and Indigenous Knowledge in Agriculture, Education, Culture & the Arts, and Health (PIKAECAH), held from July 16-18 in Batac, Ilocos Norte. The event, which brought together academics from various state



universities, colleges, and private institutions, served as a major platform for academic and cultural discourse.

Representing the project, the team's presentation was met with high acclaim, culminating in Ralph S. Reyes earning the Best Presenter Award in Track 4, under the Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Management category. This prestigious award validates the project's core objective of sustaining indigenous culture and heritage and highlights its impactful contribution to the field. The research is also slated for publication in a Scopus-indexed journal, further cementing its academic significance.



Figure 1. Documentation of BSCE Faculty presenting at PIKAECAH





Figure 2. Best Presenter Award of Engr. Ralph S. Reyes



Figure 3. Engr. Ralph S. Reyes at PIKAECAH

3rd International Smart City Exposition and Networking Engagement (ISCENE)

Cagayan State University (CSU) cemented its role as a regional leader in innovation by emerging as the champion of the Hack4Resilience competition during the 3rd International Smart and Sustainable Cities & Communities Exposition and Networking



Engagement (iSCENE). The event, held on May 21, 2025, at the Isabela Convention Center (ICON) in Cauayan City, gathered top innovators to develop solutions for pressing urban and environmental challenges.

The winning CSU team secured First Place and a prize of P50,000.00 for their project, "Gridshield Analytics." The project triumphed under the theme "AI and Big Data for Disaster Risk and Reduction Solutions," showcasing the team's expertise in harnessing cutting-edge technology for real-world impact. The event was organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in collaboration with the local government of Cauayan City and Isabela State University (ISU).

The victory was a collaborative effort from a distinguished team of faculty from the College of Engineering and Architecture. A significant contribution came from the BSCE Department, with faculty members Dr. Emer T. Quezon, Engr. John Michael B. Casibang, and Engr. Ralph Angelo Estiller playing key roles in the development and success of the "Gridshield Analytics" project. Their involvement underscores the department's commitment to pioneering research and applying civil engineering principles to the critical field of disaster resilience and smart city solutions. The full team also included Engr. Michael B. Orpilla, Engr. Melody Paned, and Engr. Oliver Cagumbay.

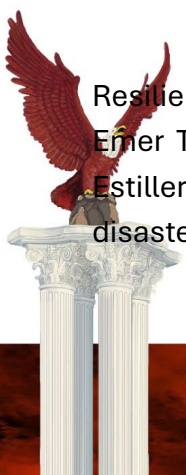


Figure 4. BSCE Faculty Receiving Gridshield Analytics 1st Place Award

Best Innovative Idea Pitching

Researchers from the College of Engineering and Architecture (COEA) showcased their remarkable ingenuity, securing top honors in the university's "Idea Challenge," an event dedicated to "Fostering Innovation Through Research Commercialization." The faculty's innovative projects dominated the Best Innovative Idea Pitching category, demonstrating the college's leadership in developing practical solutions to real-world challenges.

First Place was awarded to "GRIDSIELD Analytics," a cutting-edge "Typhoon Resiliency Simulation and Mapping Tool." This project, developed by a team including Dr. Emer T. Quezon, Engr. Michael B. Orpilla, Engr. Melody S. Paned, Engr. Ralph Angelo B. Estiller, Engr. John Michael B. Casibang, and Engr. Oliver P. Cagumbay, aims to enhance disaster preparedness and response through advanced data analytics.



Securing Second Place was "SMART AGRIGATE," a self-powered, intelligent irrigation gate system designed for remote monitoring and control. With the mission of "Mastering Water, Empowering Farmers," this project by Dr. Emer T. Quezon, Engr. Michael B. Orpilla, Engr. James B. Cabildo, and Engr. Ian C. Pagulayan offers a technological leap forward for the agricultural sector.

The college also excelled in the Best Technology Pitch category, with the "C-Trike" project earning First Place. These victories reflect the brilliant and impactful work being done within the college, supported by the visionary leadership of the Campus Executive Officer and the RDE team.



Figure 5. Gridshield Analytics Awarding



Figure 6. SMART AGRIGATE Awarding

Hack4Resilience: AI for Disaster Resilience (IDFA+) Challenge

Cagayan State University secured a prestigious spot in the Top 10 Finalists of the Hack4Resilience: AI for Disaster Resilience (IDFA+) Challenge, a flagship event spearheaded



by the DOST-ISU Smart City Technology Business Incubator (DISC-TBI). Out of 22 competing teams from across the region, CSU's entry, "Gridshield Analytics," impressed the selection panel with its forward-thinking application of artificial intelligence and big data in safeguarding disaster-prone communities.

The project was developed by a multidisciplinary team from the College of Engineering and Architecture, composed of Engr. Michael B. Orpilla, Dr. Emer T. Quezon, Engr. John Michael B. Casibang, Engr. Melody Paned, Engr. Oliver Cagumbay, and Engr. Ralph Angelo Estiller.

This achievement earned the team a place in the final project demonstration, held from May 22-24, 2025, at the Isabela Convention Center. This culminating event served as a platform for the finalists to showcase their prototypes and implementation plans before a panel of experts and industry stakeholders, further asserting the university's growing influence in innovation-driven research and excellence.



The certificate is a red and orange document with a large eagle illustration on the right. It features the following text and logos:

- Top center: Logos of Bagong Pilipinas, Cagayan State University, and AACUP 1987.
- Center: *Congratulations!* in white script, followed by **CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY** in yellow.
- Below that: **TOP 10 FINALISTS** in large white letters, and **HACK4RESILIENCE: AI FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE** in white.
- Left side: Cagayan State University logo with the motto *AD OPTIMUM EDUCANS MCMXXVIII*.
- Center: **GRIDSHIELD ANALYTICS** in large white letters.
- Below the title: "Engr. Michael B. Orpilla, Dr. Emer T. Quezon, Engr. John Michael B. Casibang, Engr. Melody Paned, Engr. Oliver Cagumbay, and Engr. Ralph Angelo Estiller" in white.
- Text block: "GridShield Analytics will be featured during the final project demonstration set to take place at the Isabela Convention Center in Cauayan City on May 22–24, 2025. The demo phase marks the culmination of the challenge and serves as a platform for finalists to showcase their prototypes and implementation plans before a panel of experts and industry stakeholders."
- Bottom left: "Smart City Technology Business Incubator" logo and four small circular icons.
- Bottom bar: Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/CollegeofEngineeringandArchitecture> and email coe@csucarig.edu.ph.

Figure 7. Hack4Resilience Award