

EMB underscores crucial role of academe in environmental protection and management, meets with board members

The Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR), in a recent meeting with the board members of the Philippine Association of Tertiary Level Education Institutions in Environmental Protection (PATLEPAM) renewed discussion to identify sustainable environmental projects, activities, and research.

This is to bolster efforts in response to environmental protection and disaster risk reduction programs of EMB-DENR, especially during pandemics.

PATLEPAM, organized in 1995, has been an active partner of EMB in seeking to work towards greater local empowerment among colleges and universities nationwide in environmental management.

The consultation meeting with the PATLEPAM board of directors and College/University Coordinators nationwide came up with possible research studies that will strengthen the cascading of environmental education and management to local universities and colleges.

The research studies will help the EMB-DENR in mainstreaming its campaign in solid waste management, improved water quality of coastal and marine waters and other bodies of water, air quality management, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and other environmental concerns.

Dr. Antonia Tanchuling, PATLEPAM chairperson said that this collaboration with EMB “is our way of helping promote strategic thinking for sustainable development and see the economic benefits of a well-managed and sustained environment and natural resources.”

Other concerns that were discussed during the consultation meeting were the increase of PATLEPAM membership from the present 300-member colleges/universities; election of officers to replace retired/retiring members; and the annual general assembly in November 2021.

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