MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



SY 2025 – 2026 was a challenging year

Learner enrollment trends and global economic disruptions, particularly in the second semester, made SY 2025-2026 a challenging year.

Latest available Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Department of Education (DepEd) data indicate a flat to slightly declining total learner population, with contraction in K–12 enrollment partly offset by growth in tertiary enrollment across both public and private institutions. The National Capital Region (NCR), the main tertiary market for FEU, was the notable exception, where tertiary enrollment, both in public and private, declined in the latest available year.

Additionally, and during the second semester of the School Year, U.S. military operations against Iran began on February 28, 2026. On March 24, the Philippines declared a state of national energy emergency under EO 110. This burden was felt by students, the FEU community and indeed the entire country.

In spite of these, FEU was fortunate to still post a new student enrollment growth of 5.7%, which was better than the learner enrollment trend.

FEU Performed

FEU continued its focus on relevant accreditations, performance in external assessments, robust data-based decision making culture and selected deployment of AI, all with purpose to improve pace and level of student outcomes and institutional success measures.

Happy and proud to report that we continue, to see the fulfilling results of our pursuit of mission—that of inclusive admission, beyond simply beliefs and practices, but also varying educational foundations, supported by strong advising to allow students to perform well, at scale, and for greatest impact.



2025 Capping and Candle Lighting Ceremony

Two exemplar programs, Nursing and Psychology, combined high passing rates with exceptional scale. Nursing produced the 4th-largest cohort of passers nationally, with 567 new nurses and a 93.4% overall passing rate, the highest among the largest cohorts. Psychometricians performed even more strongly. FEU ranked No. 1 among top-performing schools with 300 or more examinees, producing 484 passers at a 98.0% overall passing rate.

Architecture and Medtech have also demonstrated our internally defined exemplar status, that of being within the top 5 in number of passers nationwide with exceptional passing rates.

Our first time passing rate across all programs and across the entire group is 86%. We are inclusive not selective admission, performing at scale, constantly working towards strong programs, several already at exemplar status.

At this point, I would like to extend my appreciation to our faculty, who are at the forefront of student development and outcomes, and who indeed make a difference in the initial humble but ever-growing aspirations of our students.

Our accreditation accomplishments continue to grow. These are pursued not simply as a listing of credentials, nor a guarantee of success, but as part of the holistic nature of any endeavor of continual improvement and validation.

69% of the programs of FEU Manila and FIT (FEU Institute of Technology) have undergone international accreditation with the ASEAN University Network (AUN).

Both FEU Manila and FIT have been granted autonomous status by CHED, a distinction held by only about 3.5% of the higher education institutions in the country.

We are QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) Asia ranked and for WURI (World University Rankings for Innovation), FEU Alabang achieved: Top 11 in Crisis Management and Top 32 in Student Mobility & Openness. FIT, on the other hand, ranked 9th globally in Funding for Sustainability, 22nd in Visionary Leadership, and 25th in University Brand and Reputation in the 2026 WURI.

We will embark on a sustainability ranking and are confident, given our deep commitment to this over the past years, as embodied in our current sustainability report, that we will achieve this.

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We have invested in data governance, infrastructure, and key personnel to enable data robustness and availability.

Our current business process systems have been enhanced or replaced, to better fulfill this need. We completed the transition at FEU Manila to a new enrollment system which allows not only greater concurrent usage to support our enrollment group growth, but also flexible seamless subject choice within a curriculum, to allow students to better plan their education journey and daily schedules.

Our goal is to notice sooner with the help of robust, relevant data at fingertips, to respond faster with tools including AI, maintain student journey and development in the hands of educators to judge wisely, and to constantly review student outcomes to see if our interventions have worked.

We are proud of the Navigate and Paraverse environments which were created internally, which provide students continuous and seamless interaction with school services and peers, particularly advising, whether on campus or out. Our aim is best response time for our students and our community, a work in progress still, but a commitment.

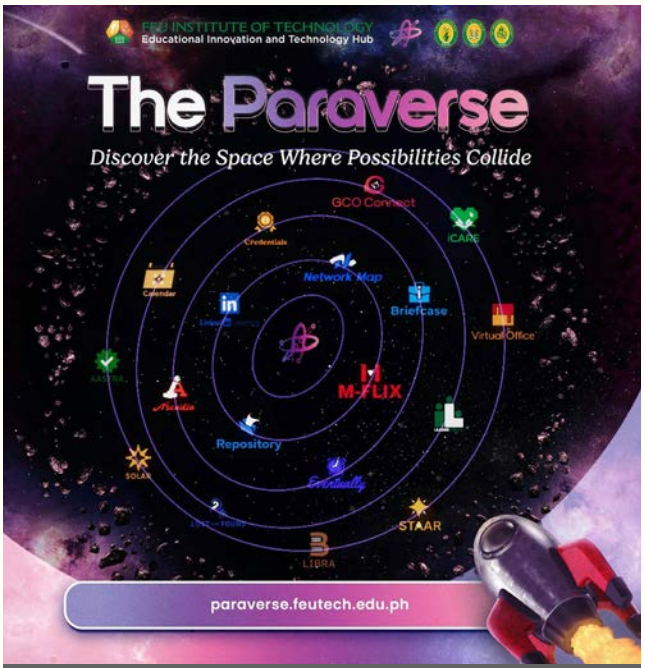
We likewise standardized an HR system across the group to allow us to tap skills and leadership development within own schools and across the group, both here and abroad, as in the case of our nursing school in Brunei, which proudly is the first and only one for nursing under the CHED Transnational Higher Education Law.

Our Leadership development skills initially for key positions and top management will be deployed to include those student fronting and curriculum management. We continue to invest in the academic qualifications and professional development of our faculty. To date, FEU has provided full support for 61 faculty members pursuing PhD degrees, including 11 studying abroad, and 22 pursuing master's degrees.

In terms of facilities and equipment, we provide best learning for students and teaching for faculty. We are constructing a 10-storey building in Alabang and an 8-storey building in Rodriguez, Rizal. Both exemplify our commitment to provide programs offered in the Manila campus to over a wider area. We expect to be completed within SY 2027-2028.



FEU Navigate is the University's all-in-one student companion mobile application.



The Paraverse is FEU Tech's dynamic and interconnected learning ecosystem.

Multifaceted, Excellence in All Areas

FEU continues to be recognized for operational governance and business sustainability. We are ICD consistent awardee for ASEAN Corporate Governance Scorecard Gold Arrow Awards and recognized in the Forbes Best Under A Billion ($) list for a second time. Both awards cover publicly listed companies but the latter, covers the Asia Pacific region with over 19,000 companies considered including that of the Philippines.

We are Season 89 UAAP hosts, and we hope to improve on our Season 88 performance. We were Champions in 29% of the events we joined last year and our Finals percentage was 57%, a strong performance in a very competitive and in our opinion, the best amateur league.



The FEU Lady Tamaraws captured their league-best 26th UAAP Collegiate Women's Athletics Championship.

Three cultural groups represented FEU in national and international competitions, earning nine podium finishes. The Drum and Bugle Corps and Chorale shared four championships.



The FEU Drumline earned several podium finishes at the 2026 Marching Arts Asia Championships.

The Theater Guild's Karne, a Filipino reimagining of Roald Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter," and Bangaw, inspired by William Golding's Lord of the Flies, received enthusiastic responses from critics and audiences.



'Bangaw' reimagines classic tale of survival

Investments Coming to Fruition – Looking Forward

We remain steadfast and continue with our strategic investments. Inflationary pressures from the Iran war still abound, possibly to be made worse by a projected super El Niño situation. Throughout difficulties, we aim to provide our students with needed support.

We are pleased to inform that group new student enrollment for SY 2026-2027 and including that of partner schools is strong at 21 k students, a 6.3% over the previous year. Total student population is now at 62 k students.

62K TOTAL STUDENT POPULATION

SY 2026-2027

As previously disclosed, our entry into the University of Nueva Caceres-Bataan provides us an opportunity to build on the school's academic offerings. We see the Bataan campus becoming an integral part of FEU's presence in the north.

We march on!

Juan Miguel R. Montinola
President
October 2026