



RESEARCH AGENDA 2022-2027

The Research Production and Publication Center(RPPC) envisions the University of Mindanao to be a leading research institution recognized for its significant contribution in the generation of new knowledge to improve quality of life. It nurtures research culture among faculty, staff, and students demonstrating the love for truth and upholding the values of rigor, artistry and ethics. It aims to do this through the discovery of new knowledge, dissemination, and application of research within and across disciplines.

In light of the emerging directions under the new Institutional Strategic Plan for 2022-2027, the RPPC developed its new agenda framework dubbed “Excellence in Research Towards Sustainable Development in Mindanao”. This agenda framework provides the vital direction for the prioritization of research programs and projects in the University in the next five years. It shall ensure that research endeavors are geared towards the benefit of the people of Mindanao.

Moreover, the UM Research Agenda 2022-2027 is also a continuation of some of the research priorities of the previous 5-year agenda. It is a product of the two-day workshop attended by research stakeholders of the University last June 16-17, 2022.

Delivering Research Excellence

- 1. Research Reputation.** The RPC shall be a highly responsive research center by providing focus and capitalizing on its critical mass and interdisciplinary capabilities. It shall continue to earn reputation through the sustainability of its five research institutes: Biodiversity and environmental studies, Economy and enterprise studies, Social welfare and well-being studies, Emerging technologies, and Popular Opinion surveys. These institutes shall practice the highest standards of research integrity which are essential elements of quality.
- 2. Research Impact.** The RPC shall maximize knowledge exchange between the University and the wider society. It aims to do this through its regular public lectures where research findings are shared with stakeholders for utilization. It shall continue to publish its research journal in the world-wide Directory of Open Access Journals and EuroPub. It shall sustain its dissemination activities through paper presentations in various research conferences. It shall also maximize the impact of its research on public policy, and political stakeholders through its Institute of Popular Opinion(IPO) which shall take massive efforts to produce policy papers and press releases. RPC shall also seek to bring to market the intellectual property arising from faculty/students’ works through its Innovation Technology Support Office(ITSO).

3. **Research Funds.** The RPC shall draw upon its already established linkages, increase research collaborations with external experts in order to augment its funding resources. Research proposals shall be regularly submitted to both government and non-government funding agencies.
4. **Support for Research.** The RPC shall upscale its research arsenal through the acquisition of current software and technologies. It shall enhance its training program to capacitate faculty and students to produce quality research and effectively communicate their findings.

Research Priority Areas

Based on the evaluation of UM’s Research Agenda Framework (2017-2022) and aligned with the Harmonized National Research and Development Agenda (HNRDA) of the DOST, research priority clusters of the National Higher Education Research Agenda(NHERA) and the Mindanao Development Authority(MINDA), UM shall focus on the following interdisciplinary research themes in the next five years:

Research & Development Programs (2022-2027)



The three main themes identified during the evaluation of the previous agenda were Environment, Disaster Management, and Agriculture-Related research. Under the ***Environment Theme***, UM researchers could choose the following topics but not exclusive to biodiversity, climate change, environmental preservation and security, sustainable urbanization, green nanotechnology for the environment, taxonomy and systematics, and environmental impacts on species and society, and cultural and language preservation. ***Disaster Management Theme*** may include sustainable technology, innovations in disaster management, health and safety, human development and resilience during disaster, disaster prediction models, and language policies and literacy. ***Agriculture Related Research Theme*** may include the following topics: food and security, sustainable agriculture, smart agriculture, innovative agriculture for high value crops, agri-tourism, and community health.

Research Infrastructure

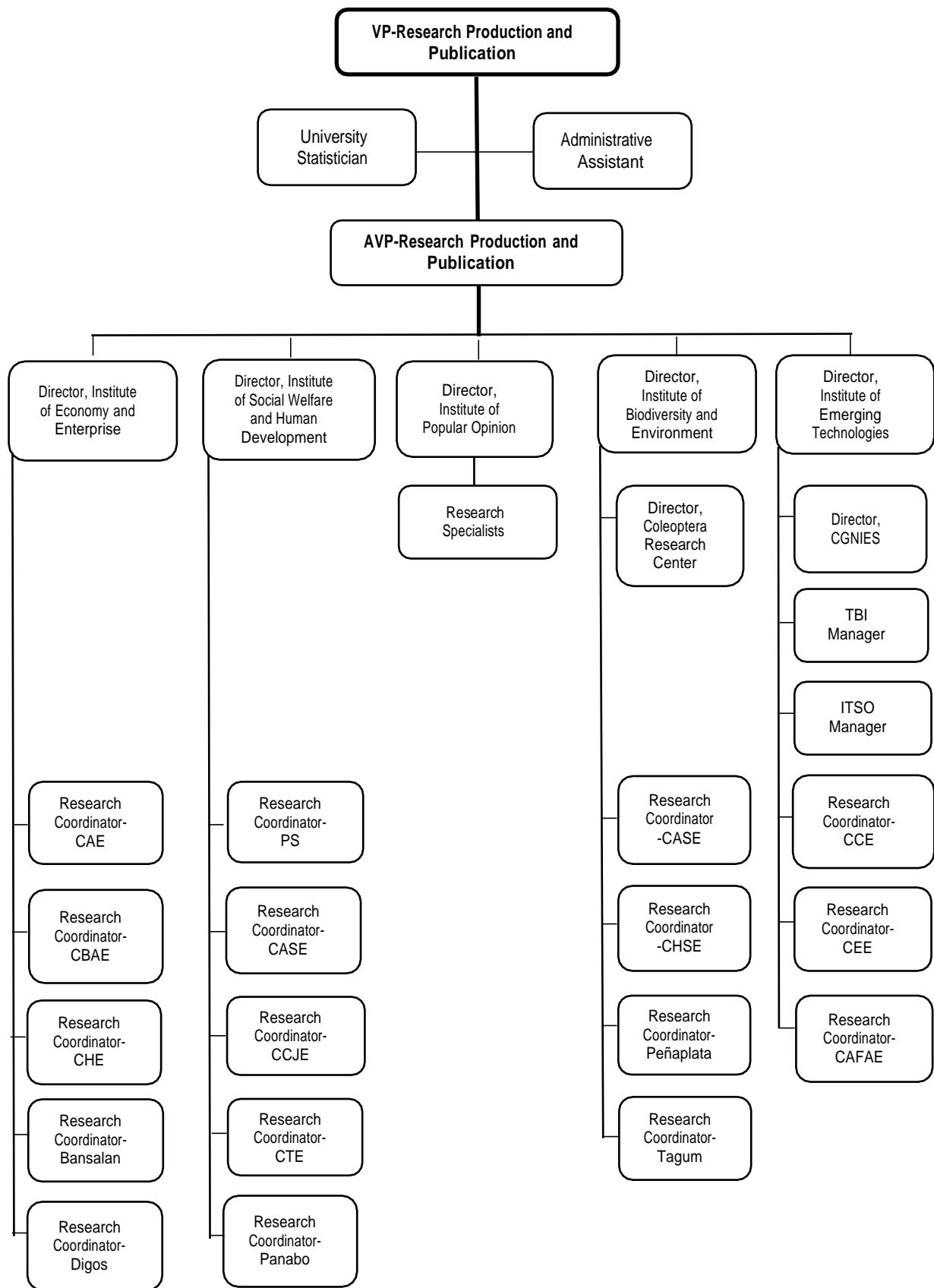
To effectively carry out its research agenda for the next five years, RPC's functional structure shall be sustained. The relationship of functions is presented in the functional chart below. Notably, the offices, institutes and colleges are included in the diagram. On top is the office of the VP for Research and Publication. The mandates, both administrative and technical, are issued by this office. There are five research institutes, each headed by a director who shall act with some degree of flexibility in order to meet the requirements of the industry.

Descriptions and Roles of the Institutes

Institute for Economy and Enterprise (IEE). This institute shall take lead in producing feasibility studies, business plans, marketing plans for firms. It shall also be responsible for crafting policy papers that has relation to economy, business policies, development perspectives and investment analysis. It is imperative that this Institute links with MINDA, NEDA XI, Chambers of Commerce, and DTI.

Institute for Biodiversity and Environment (IBE). This institute shall pioneer in the discovery of new species in the Davao Region. It shall take active role in translating to the mainstream public the variability and variety of life on earth with the aim of advancing, in whole or selectively, preservation and conservation of spaces. It shall dovetail climate change affecting hydrology and rapid environmental changes including disaster management and resilience. It is practical that this institute collaborates with DENR and other organizations that are actively working for environmental protection. Under the IBE is the Coleoptera Research Center which specializes in beetle research.

Institute of Popular Opinion (IPO). The Institute for Popular Opinion (IPO) will lead in publishing objective, relevant and informative opinion surveys on the dynamic areas of politics, environment, economics, health, education, youth and the marginalized.



Institute of Social Welfare and Human Development (ISWHD). This institute shall take lead in advancing ideas on welfare analysis, social protection, gender & development, welfare models. The institute shall take lead in producing policy papers that will be useful for the decision-takers, policy makers, and the public in general. It shall assume pivotal roles to bring together civic groups, private interested groups and government to discuss matters that deal largely on human protection, improvement of quality of life, welfare goals, and social equity. This institute will also take center stage the current debates happening in the society.

Institute for Emerging Technologies(IET). Technological advancements and innovation shall be the core of engagement of this institute. It shall endeavor towards patenting, copyrighting and/or licensing of the outputs. Also, it shall work towards simplification of process and procedures that will hugely benefit the farmers, fishermen, inasmuch address the direct manifest and explicit expressions of the manufacturing industries and service sectors. It shall also produce murals, paintings that bear social relevance and encourages deep introspection for preservation of life and human dignity. Under the IET are the UMasenso Hub, the Technology Business Incubation Center which is a facility where start-ups are hosted and business development services are provided; and the Innovation Technology Support Office which extends technical assistance to faculty and student inventors as regards trademark and patent searches as well as drafting of patent, utility model, and industrial design documents.



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