



PHILIP B. IBARRA

President
Tarlac College of Agriculture
Camiling, Tarlac
CSC Pagasa Awardee, 2008
Individual Category

They say, “Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm.” But Dr. Philip Ibarra chose to steer his ship through rough waters. His ship is the Tarlac College of Agriculture (TCA), and the rough waters, the budget cuts and other resource constraints hampering the school’s growth.

“When I became the fourth president of the College, I prepared a vision to push TCA to become one of the best, if not the best, higher education institution through another TCA – Transparent and Caring Administration,” he said.

With this vision, he enjoined his constituents to implement austerity measures which generated annual savings of P2.5 million, and pursued viable and sustainable income-generating projects which earned around P1.5 million yearly. The added funds are being enjoyed by the faculty and employees through CNA bonuses and other cash incentives, professional and career development activities, and by the students through improved school buildings and facilities.

Dr. Ibarra cherishes every moment he serves the school that saw him rise from the ranks, starting as Instructor I all the way to being president. “I love my position neither because of prestige nor money, but because the position gives me the opportunity to make a difference in improving the Tarlac College of Agriculture,” he said. •