

PRESS RELEASE 05 July 2024

Megawide Corporate Foundation, Inc. enables ADMU scholars to finish their studies thru stipend provision



(L-F: ADMU VP for Higher Education Dr. Maria Luz Vilches; ADMU Office of Admin Director Dr. Jose Maria Tirol; MCFI Executive Director Tata Saavedra; and MCFI Consultant Atty. Mia Castro)

Megawide Corporate Foundation, Inc. (MCFI), the corporate social responsibility arm of engineering and infrastructure conglomerate Megawide Construction Corporation (Megawide), formalized its affiliation with Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) though a student financial support program.

By way of the Megawide Scholarship Program, the collaboration will involve the provision of monetary assistance to select and qualified Management students under ADMU's John Gokongwei School of Management (JGSOM) that will help partially cover their education-related expenses.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the two institutions was signed by MCFI's Executive Director Tata Saavedra and Consultant Atty. Mia Castro and their counterparts from ADMU, led by Vice-President (VP) for Higher Education Dr. Maria Luz C Vilches and Office of Admissions and Aid director Dr. Jose Maria Edito K. Tirol at the University's Xavier Hall.

Under the MOA, MCFI will provide regular monthly stipend initially for five (5) college scholars in various levels – from the time of grant until they finish schooling – to be disbursed by MCFI directly to the scholars, who are either taking Bachelor of Science in Business Management or Management Engineering at the ADMU's JGSOM.



Saavedra shared that the conglomerate is a proponent for radical changes and MCFI endeavors to apply similar methods in a constructive manner by creating extra meaningful changes to the communities —starting with the local education sector — through the foundation's social pillar.

"More than just constructing and creating infrastructure, Megawide would like to make lasting impressions on our educational system," Saavedra shared. "For us, it's not just about the financial support—our goal is to provide a holistic personal development, starting from quality education and values formation to deserving students, to help build the building blocks of a strong society."

For her part, Atty. Castro explained that they partnered with ADMU since they both share the same value of excellence: "This is embodied in the University's motto of 'Magis,' or 'going above and beyond in all areas in one's life.' We are certain that our support for the JGSOM scholars will bear much fruit, as we mold future leaders whom we can work alongside to realize our quest for a First-World Philippines."

Dr. Vilches concurred with the MCFI officials, as she remarked that both positive disruption and holistic education are needed "in a society that aims to build the nation," and that "ADMU is providing these to its students with its formation program through its core curriculum as their bedrock."

On top of their core curriculum being disruptive itself, ADMU's VP for Higher Education also talked about how the institution was more than about the intellect, but more about "the heart:" "You need to have people who have empathy, who can reach out to those who are in need. We felt the 'heart' and sincerity of MCFI for our management scholars, that is why we engaged with them for this undertaking."

In his address, Dr. Tirol noted the importance of receiving support from donors such as MCFI for the scholars' allowances, especially as they face financial challenges brought about by unabated inflation: "Any support really helps. It helps them go to school, pay for books, look for food, and helps them study more." ###

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About Megawide

Megawide is one of the leading infrastructure and engineering innovators in the Philippines. Publicly listed since 2011, it is one of the largest contractors for private sector construction projects in the country and a partner of the Philippine Government for flagship infrastructure projects such as he Mactan-Cebu International Airport (25-year development contract) and the Paranaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (35-year development contract). Megawide also designed and constructed the Clark International Airport New Passenger Terminal Building.

It is currently undertaking the construction of the Malolos-Clark Railway Project Package 1, Metro Manila Subway Contract Package 104, and the modernization of Cebu's historic Carbon Market District. In 2012, the company established Megawide Corporate Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization focusing on social development projects.



