



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region XI
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DIGOS CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

July 22, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

SGOD-2025-420

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs (CID & SGOD)
Public Schools District Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public School Heads
Public School Teachers
All Others Concerned

Subject: **INVITATION TO THE 2025 STEM STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

This is in reference to the 1st Indorsement dated July 15, 2025, signed by Allan G. Farnazo, Director IV, the herein letter of Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, Officer-in-Charge-Chair, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science, College of Science and Mathematics, University of the Philippines, Mindanao re: "STEM Level: The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference" on September 19, 2025.

Participation in the activity should only be voluntary and prior arrangement of the concerned school heads and teachers shall be made in compliance with DepEd Order No. 9 s. 2005 re: "Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith" ensuring that no classes shall be disrupted and no DepEd funds shall be used.

Relevant details and information are provided in the enclosures.


Attendance/participation is on official time only.

For information and wide dissemination.


MELANIE P. ESTACIO, PhD, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent

DepEd Schools Division of Digos City
RECORDS SECTION

RELEASED
75-73601

DATE: JUL 22 2025 TIME: 12:50 PM
BY: 

Enclosed: As stated.
SGOD/jsa



Address: Roxas Street cor. Lopez Jaena Street, Zone II, Digos City 8002
Telephone No: (082)553-8396 | (082)553-8376 | (082)553-9170
| (082)553-8375

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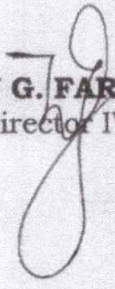
Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DAVAO REGION



1st Indorsement
July 11, 2025

Respectfully referred to all Schools Division Superintendents, inviting attention to the attached letter of Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, Officer-in-Charge – Chair, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science, College of Science and Mathematics, University of the Philippines, Mindanao re: “STEM Level: The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference” on September 19, 2025. Participation to this activity is at the discretion of the Schools Division Superintendents. Further, the No Disruption of Classes Policy as stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9 s. 2025, entitled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time on Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith, must be strictly observed.

ALLAN G. FARNAZO
Director IV



Re: Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, PhD
OIC-Chair, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORDS SECTION
RELEASED

Enclosed: As stated
ROC2/mlib

Date: July 16, 2025
Time: 1:16 PM



Address: F. Torres St., Davao City (8000)
Telephone Nos.: (082) 291-0051
Email Address: region11@deped.gov.ph
Website: www.depedroxi.ph





DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
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Tel. +63 82 223 0303 | Email: dmpcs@upmindanao.edu.ph

3 July 2025

Allan G. Farnazo
Director IV
Department of Education (DepEd) Region XI

09 JUL 2025

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11.48

SUBJECT : DepEd endorsement of the UP Mindanao – Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science (DMPCS) student research conference "*STEM Live!*" on 19 September 2025 (with possible postponement until up to December 2025)

Dear Director Farnazo:

The Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science (DMPCS) is the largest department at the University of the Philippines Mindanao, dedicated to excellence in research and public service. We plan to hold an academic event titled¹

STEM Live!

The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference.

The event is planned to take place at the Center for the Advancement of Research in Mindanao (CARIM) Complex, University of the Philippines Mindanao, on 19 September 2025. Due to previous difficulties in coordinating with various senior high schools, we kindly request your office's permission to hold the event at any time up to December 2025. This flexibility will help us ensure comprehensive participation even if postponements are necessary.

STEM Live! aims to showcase the expertise of the DMPCS faculty in research and communication while offering STEM students valuable feedback on their projects. Through this event, we hope to build new connections and attract senior high school students to support the "Road to 5K" vision of increasing awareness and enrollment in our degree programs at UP Mindanao².

We plan to conduct *STEM Live!* in three parts:

- Part 1 (*STEM Research Seminar*) will put the STEM high school students on the main stage. Each student will give a 15-minute presentation and receive feedback from the

¹ Our event name, "*STEM Live!*", is italicized and ends with an exclamation mark. Its full official name is "*STEM Live!: The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference.*"

² "UP Mindanao Expands Degree Programs, Touts New Inclusive Admission Policies," University of the Philippines Mindanao Public Relations Office, published 7 May 2024, <https://upmindanao.edu.ph/news/2024/05/07/upmindanao-expands-degree-programs-touts-new-inclusive-admission-policies/>



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Date: JUL 07 2025

Time: 11:48 AM

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resource faculty. Students can present **research at any stage**—whether it be a proposal, implementation, or completion.

- **Part 2 (*Lunchtime with DMPCS*)** is the ideal opportunity for participants to learn about DMPCS, its degree programs, and some of its research projects and initiatives. This is also an opportunity for participants to network in a casual setting.
- **Part 3 (*The Experts Talk*)** is an expert lecture series in which the resource faculty share their knowledge on effectively communicating research. These faculty members are experts from various DMPCS research and extension initiatives.

We plan to recognize the top three projects at the end of *STEM Live!* and give special recognition to an ongoing project that demonstrates exceptional promise and innovation, called the "*Rising Star*".

Below is a summary of our planned activities.

Time	Activity
Pre-Event	
07:00 – 08:00	Registration and Uploading of Presentation Files Briefing with Presenters
Opening Ceremony	
08:00 – 08:15	Invocation and <i>Lupang Hinirang</i> UP Mindanao Quality Assurance video
08:15 – 08:30	Welcome address by Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera, Ph.D.
Part 1: STEM Research Seminar	
08:30 – 08:45	Introducing the participants, judges, and presentation guidelines
08:45 – 11:15	Research presentation of STEM students. Each presentation is allocated 15 minutes, broken down as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: up to ten (10) minutes.• Q&A: remaining allocated time.
11:15 – 11:20	Quick commentary from a judge: common research themes from the presentations and how they may line up with DMPCS.



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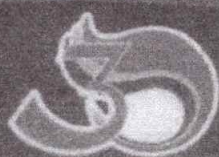
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E – 6152 241 0903 E, dmpcs@upmindanao.edu.ph

Time	Activity
Part 2: Lunchtime with DMPCS	
11:20 – 12:50	Early lunch and deliberation for the judges
11:30 – 13:00	General lunch and networking (11:30 – 13:00) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotion of degree programs and research programs, and other initiatives• Degree program pitching
Part 3: The Experts Talk	
13:00 – 15:30	Presentation by the judges (as resource speakers): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Twenty minutes per judge to share their insight into effective research communication based on their experience
15:30 – 16:30	Roundtable discussion on effective communication Open discussion
Closing Ceremony	
16:30 – 17:00	Awarding of certificates Awarding of the top three best research projects Awarding of the “Rising Star” Closing remarks by Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, Ph.D., DMPCS OIC-Chair University Hymn
17:00 – 18:00	Egress

We plan to invite participants from various senior high schools under the STEM strand, including the following:

- Calinan National High School
- Catalunan Pequeño National High School
- Daniel R. Aguinaldo National High School
- Davao City National High School
- Holy Cross College of Calinan, Inc.
- Holy Cross of Mintal, Inc.
- Los Amigos National High School
- Mintal Comprehensive National High School



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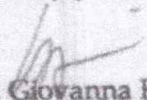
- Optaciano Hilay National High School
- Philippine Science High School - Southern Mindanao Campus
- Sto. Niño National High School
- Tacunan National High School
- The Holy Child College of Davao

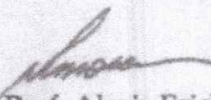
Besides active participation from students, this activity will incur no additional expenses for the schools mentioned.

To overcome the communication issues that led to delays in contacting senior high schools and repeated postponements of *STEM Live!*, we are attaching a copy of our **invitation letter** for dissemination. This document details the program, presenter instructions, award details, and other pertinent information. It also provides registration guidance and contact details. We believe this will facilitate communication and help ensure the success of the event. Interested schools that wish to give a presentation may contact our faculty in charge, Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera, Ph.D. (erich.almocera@up.edu.ph) and our department, as listed on the letterhead.

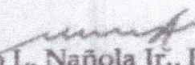
In this regard, we respectfully request your endorsement of this activity. Thank you very much for your kind attention and support.

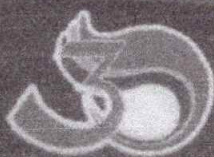
Very respectfully yours,


Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, Ph.D.
OIC-Chair, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines Mindanao


Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera, Ph.D.
Faculty-in-charge, *DMPCS Live!*
Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines Mindanao

Endorsed by:


Prof. Cleto L. Nañola Jr., Ph.D. JUL 03 2025
Dean, College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines Mindanao



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3 July 2025

SUBJECT : Invitation to participate in "**STEM Live! The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference**" at the Center for the Advancement of Research in Mindanao (CARIM) Complex, University of the Philippines Mindanao on 19 September 2025

Dear _____:

Madayaw!

The Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science (DMPCS) is the largest department at the University of the Philippines (UP) Mindanao, Mintal, Tugbok District, Davao City. As part of our commitment to research, we are organizing "**STEM Live! The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference**" at the Center for the Advancement of Research in Mindanao (CARIM) Complex, UP Mindanao, on 19 September 2025. This one-day event will showcase the expertise of DMPCS faculty and high school STEM students, offering a unique platform for research and mentoring.

If you have a student engaged in a **research project at any stage of completion**, we cordially invite you to send the student, along with their faculty adviser, to participate. Participants will receive mentorship from a panel of departmental faculty experts, earn recognition for outstanding research presentations, and have the chance to network with fellow students and faculty in STEM.

We are planning the following lineup of activities:

- **Part 1 (STEM Research Seminar)** is a unique opportunity for your students to present their research in a university setting. Each student will give a fifteen-minute presentation and receive feedback from the judges.
- **Part 2 (Lunchtime with DMPCS)** is not just about food but also about fostering connections in a relaxed and casual setting. This is the perfect opportunity to learn about the DMPCS, its degree programs, and various research projects and initiatives. It also serves as an excellent networking opportunity for your representatives.



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- **Part 3 (*The Experts Talk*)** is our afternoon lecture series. Now acting as resource speakers, the judges will share their knowledge on effectively communicating research, drawing from their professional experience. This lecture series is a unique and valuable opportunity for your students to learn from the best in the field.

We will recognize the top three research projects and offer special acknowledgment to an ongoing project demonstrating exceptional promise and innovation—the *Rising Star*.

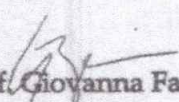
Your participation will surely make this activity a success! **Registration is free**; however, we can only accommodate **one (1) student and one (1) faculty adviser per school**. We are also limited to ten (10) presenting schools. Should you accept our request, please register **by July 2025** by emailing our faculty in charge Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera, Ph.D. (asalmocera@up.edu.ph) with the following information:

- Complete name of the school
- Complete names of the representatives (student and faculty), including pronouns
- Title and abstract/summary of the research project
- Contact details: email and telephone/mobile number
- Dietary restrictions (example: vegan, halal), if any


Attached to this invitation letter is our planned *STEM Live!* Program, presenter guidelines, and other pertinent information. We will provide additional information using the contact details you provided. If you have any questions, please contact the DMPCS at (082) 293-0303 or our faculty in charge (Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera) at 0918-922-3735.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our invitation! We're thrilled to offer your students a chance to engage in our dynamic DMPCS experiences at this special event. We trust you will derive meaningful academic insights from *STEM Live!*

Sincerely,


Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Fae R. Oguis, Ph.D.
OIC-Chair, Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines Mindanao

Prepared by:


Assoc. Prof. Alexis Erich S. Almocera, Ph.D.
Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
College of Science and Mathematics
University of the Philippines Mindanao



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STEM Live! Program

Time	Activity
Pre-Event	
07:00 – 08:00	Registration and Uploading of Presentation Files Briefing with Presenters
Opening Ceremony	
08:00 – 08:15	Invocation and <i>Lupang Hinirang</i> UP Mindanao Quality Assurance video
08:15 – 08:30	Welcome address
Part 1: STEM Research Seminar	
08:30 – 08:45	Introducing the participants, judges, and presentation guidelines
08:45 – 11:15	Research presentation of STEM students. Each presentation is allocated 15 minutes, broken down as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation: up to ten (10) minutes.• Q&A: remaining allocated time.
11:15 – 11:20	Quick commentary from a judge: common research themes from the presentations and how they may line up with DMPCS.
Part 2: Lunchtime with DMPCS	
11:20 – 13:00	Early lunch and deliberation for the judges (11:20 – 12:50) General lunch and networking (11:30 – 13:00) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotion of degree programs, research programs, and other initiatives• Degree program pitching
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13:00 – 15:30	Presentation by the judges (as resource speakers): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Twenty minutes per judge to share their insight into effective research communication based on their experience
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Closing Ceremony	
16:30 – 17:00	Awarding of certificates Awarding of the top three best research projects Awarding of the "Rising Star" Closing remarks University Hymn
17:00 – 18:00	Egress



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STEM Live! Presenter Guidelines

Overview

"*STEM Live!* The 2025 STEM Student Research Conference" is an initiative of the Department of Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science (DMPCS) at the University of the Philippines Mindanao, as part of the *DMPCS Live!* project. It is designed to celebrate research projects by senior high school students in STEM fields. The conference offers a unique platform for students to network with participants and receive feedback on their research from distinguished faculty members of DMPCS. Additionally, *STEM Live!* aims to raise awareness of the DMPCS and the expertise of its faculty among other institutions in the Davao Region.

Eligibility

- Senior High School students enrolled in the STEM track
- Research projects can be at any of the following stages:
 - Proposal – formulating a research problem and methodology
 - Implementation – conducting the methodology
 - Completion – drawing insights from the methodology
 - The latest stage of the project will be considered.
- Projects may be undertaken individually or as a team.
- Each school can present only one (1) research project.
- Each school must be represented by one (1) student and one (1) faculty member. For team projects, the student project leader represents the school.
- The student presents the research project.

While eligible for presentation, projects in the proposal stage may not receive points under the "Execution: Data Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation" judging criterion. However, they will qualify for the "Rising Star" special award.

Presentation File

Presentation files must be prepared **at least one day before the event.**

- File format: PDF or PowerPoint (PPT or PPTX)
- Presentation time: Up to 10 minutes
- The presentation will be done live and not pre-recorded.
- All presenters are encouraged to practice before the event to stay within the time limit.
- You are encouraged to have a local presentation copy saved in an external storage device (USB flash) in case of technical issues.
- The final presentation file must be submitted at the registration desk by 8:00 AM on the event day; no last-minute changes will be allowed after this time.



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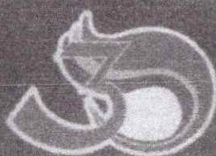
- All presenters must remain until the end of *STEM Live!*, where the awarding ceremony will take place.

Judging Guidelines¹

All presentations will be evaluated by the panel of judges using the following rubric, with a maximum score of 100 points.

Criteria	Details
I. Research Question (10 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear and focused purpose• Identifies contribution to the field of study• Testable using scientific methods
II. Design and Methodology (15 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Well-designed plan and data collection methods• Variables and controls are defined, appropriate, and complete
III. Execution: Data Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation (20 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proportional to the amount of completion of the project since its implementation. More points are rewarded if the project is closer to completion. Projects in the proposal stage may receive no points under this category. Judges are reminded that the points awarded in this category should directly reflect the project's progress towards completion.• Systematic data collection and analysis• Reproducibility of results• Appropriate application of mathematical and statistical methods• Sufficient data collected to support interpretation and conclusions
IV. Creativity & Potential Impact (20 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For projects beyond the proposal stage: demonstrates significant creativity in one or more of Criteria I, II, and III.• The project has an impact or potential in its field and/or technology, economy, environment, or society.

¹ Based on <https://sarsef.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Updated-HIS-Judging-Criteria.pdf>



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- Some key characteristics of the "Rising Star" include:
 - **Originality and Innovation:** The project introduces a novel concept, a unique approach to an existing problem, or explores an under-researched area.
 - **Scientific Merit and Foundation:** The research question is well-defined, the theoretical background is solid, and the proposed or initial methodology is sound and logical.
 - **Future Potential and Impact:** The project demonstrates significant promise for future development, yielding meaningful insights, practical applications, or advancements in its field or society.
 - **Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving:** The student demonstrates strong critical thinking in identifying the research problem and designing a solution or approach.
 - **Clarity and Vision:** The presenter clearly articulates the project's vision, objectives, and the steps taken or planned, even if preliminary.
- **Selection Process:** The "Rising Star" award will be decided by discussion and voting among the judges. They will collaborate to determine which project best meets the "Rising Star" criteria, highlighting the one with the most potential for future scientific contributions, regardless of its total score in the main competition categories.



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General Code of Conduct & Expected Behavior

STEM Live! is dedicated to providing a harassment-free and inclusive conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), or technology choices. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form.

All participants are expected to adhere to the following principles throughout the event:

1. Respectful and Professional Conduct:

- Always treat all participants—fellow students, faculty, judges, organizers, and guests—respectfully, courteously, and professionally.
- Engage in constructive dialogue and provide feedback in a supportive and polite manner.
- Avoid personal attacks, insults, or derogatory comments.

2. Academic Integrity:

- Uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. All presented work must be original or properly attributed if it incorporates the work of others.
- Questions and discussions should focus on the research content, not personal attacks or accusations.

3. Inclusivity and Safety:

- Foster an inclusive environment where all individuals feel welcome, safe, and valued.
- Refrain from any form of harassment, discrimination, or intimidation. This includes, but is not limited to, offensive verbal comments, sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, unwelcome sexual attention, and disruptive behavior.
- If you experience or witness behavior that violates this code, please report it immediately to any event staff. All reports will be handled with discretion and seriousness.

4. Appropriate Engagement:

- Maintain decorum during presentations and discussions. Keep phones on silent or vibrate.
- Participate actively and thoughtfully in Q&A sessions and discussions, focusing on the scientific content and encouraging intellectual exchange.

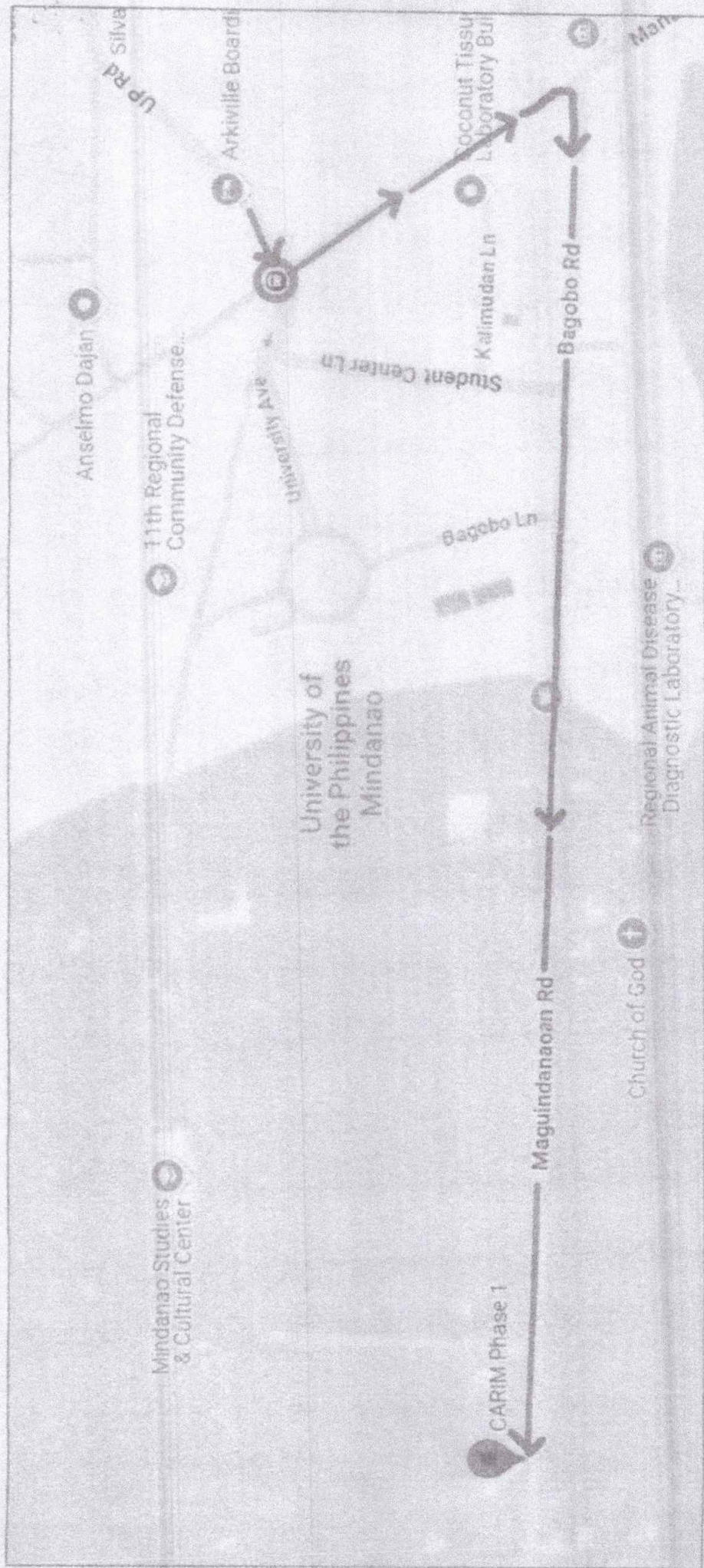
5. Adherence to Venue Rules:

- Respect the rules and property of the University of the Philippines Mindanao campus and event venues.
- Follow any instructions from event staff or university personnel.



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Source: Google Maps

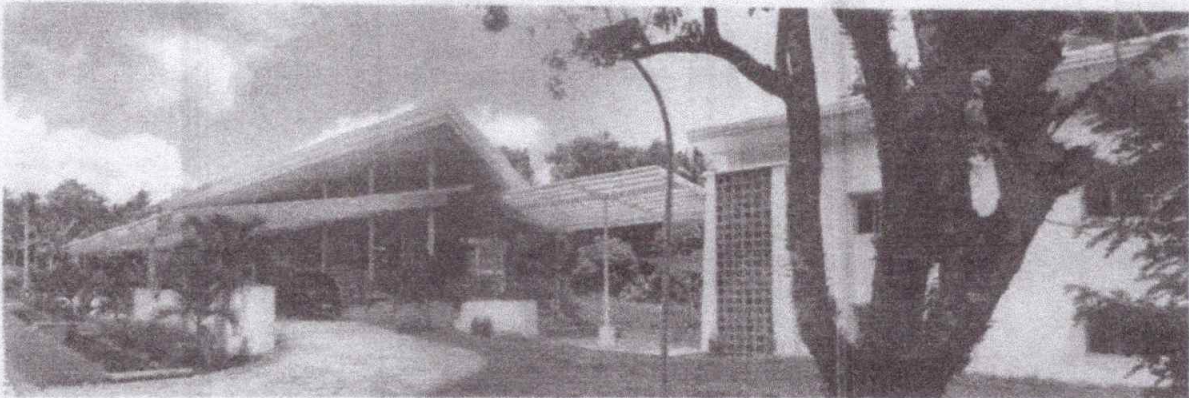
Red arrows: typical route to CARIM from UP Road, Barangay Mintal
Blue circle: by the UP Mindanao campus entrance



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The Venue



Source: Google Maps

The **Center for the Advancement of Research in Mindanao Complex (CARIM)** is located on the University of the Philippines Mindanao (UP Mindanao) campus along Maguindanaoan Road. The center is situated in Barangay Mintal, Davao City, about 21 km from the city proper.

To reach CARIM, take private or public transportation to Barangay Mintal and head for the UP Mindanao campus entrance. From there, you can ask directions from security personnel. The map shown on the next page illustrates a typical route from the campus entrance, located on UP Road, Barangay Mintal, to CARIM. *STEM Live!* will be held at the **CARIM 3 Building**.

CARIM is located adjacent to the College of Science and Mathematics, which is home to the Department of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science (DMPCS).



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