



# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO College of Agriculture PhD in Agricultural Science (Animal Science)

# ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL LINKAGE

University of Southern Mindanao, Philippines

and

Maejo University, Thailand

Prepared by:

Josephine R. Migalbin, PhD
Prof VI
Program Head, PhD in Agriculture Science (Animal Science)

# 1. International Linkage Established

The University of Southern Mindanao (USM), through its PhD in Agricultural Science major in Animal Science program, has established an international academic and research linkage with the Maejo University of Thailand under a partnership for collaborative research and academic exchange in the field of livestock and poultry production and sustainable pasture management. This linkage was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2022 (Figure 1).



This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Recognition of existing and good relations that have been developed between the UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO (USM), Philippines and MAEJO UNIVERSITY, Thailand, and in anticipation of the need to further strengthen this partnership in the future.

The two parties commit themselves to expand and enhance the degree of cooperation and collaboration between their institutions through the following ways:

- Exchange of faculty members and students for lectures, seminars, discussions, and cultural activities;
- Organization and participation in academic activities such as conference, workshops, publications, and seminars:
- 3. Joint collaboration in the development of programs and learning content;
- 4. Joint research and development in areas of common interests; and,
- 5. Cooperation and collaboration in other forms to be agreed upon by both Parties.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create binding or legal obligations on either party. However, if and when details of any of the above activities are developed, such details, especially those requiring financial resources, shall be set forth in an agreement to be separately and mutually agreed upon by both parties as executed in this Memorandum.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective on the date of signing and may be modified, changed, or terminated at any time by mutual consent. In case any ongoing collaborative activities may be affected by such termination, the parties shall undertake to resolve issue amicably by mutual agreement to ensure minimum disruption on the ongoing activities.



Fig. 1. Screenshot of the Memorandum of Understanding of the University of Southern Mindanao and Maejo University, Thailand.

# 2. Faculty and Student Participation

Several faculty members and graduate students are actively engaged in this partnership. Details are summarized below:

Table 1. Faculty and Students of USM under the engagement

Name (Faculty)	Role/Position	Particular Activity
Dr. Josephine R. Migalbin	Faculty, Coordinator	Collaboration on large and small ruminant production
Dr. Mary Joy Caňolas	Faculty	Collaboration on livestock and poultry breeding
Name (Students)		
Mr. Rayan Ysulat	PhD student	Forage Production
Mr. Alimudin Belon	PhD student	Ruminant Production
Mr. Ar-jay Valenzuela	MS Student	Poultry Productioj

# 3. Nature of Activities and Coverage Period

The partnership activities spanned from January 2024 to present and included the following:

- Online seminar on livestock production and biotechnology
- Research Engagement
- Short-term laboratory engagements

#### 4. Benefits and Outcomes

The collaboration generated significant benefits to the faculty, students, and the program:

Stakeholder	Benefits
Faculty	Enhanced research capacity, co- publication opportunities
Students	Exposure to international research, advanced methodologies
Program	Strengthened global visibility, improved curriculum alignment

# 5. Future Directions and Sustainability of the Linkage

Moving forward, the University of Southern Mindanao seeks to sustain and expand its international linkage with the Maejo University.

#### Plans include:

 Development of joint doctoral dissertation supervision and co-advising schemes.

- Establishment of long-term collaborative research projects on climate-smart livestock systems.
- Institutionalization of annual exchange programs for both faculty and graduate students.
- Exploration of joint funding opportunities from international agencies and research consortia.
- Integration of lessons learned from the partnership into local curriculum development and policy advocacy.

These forward-looking strategies will not only ensure the sustainability of the current partnership but also enhance the program's global competitiveness, ultimately contributing to national and international goals in agricultural development and food security.

#### 6. Documentation



















