



**119<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING**

**BOR RESOLUTION NO. 47**

Series of 2025

**APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR SOCIO-CULTURAL RESEARCH AND HERITAGE STUDIES (CSCRHS) IN THE VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY, THE DETAILS OF WHICH ARE REFLECTED IN THE DOCUMENT HERETO ATTACHED AND MADE PART HEREOF**

**WHEREAS**, under Section 4(m) of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997," the Board of Regents/Trustees of a State University or College (SUC) is empowered to establish research and extension centers where such will promote the development of the institution;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9158, the University's enabling law, declares it a policy of the State to strengthen higher education institutions as centers of excellence and development in instruction, research, and extension;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed establishment of the Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies addresses the growing need for incorporating the social dimension, the significance of cultural heritage, community engagement, and indigenous perspectives in sustainable development in many research initiatives of the University;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the CSCRHS is a facilitative entity and collaborative platform that supports research initiatives requiring sociocultural perspectives, extending its support across various academic and research units;

**WHEREAS**, the CSCRHS shall collaborate with academic partners and local communities in fulfilling its mission of a holistic and inclusive academic environment, ensuring that the cultural heritage of the Visayas remains a central pillar of scholarly inquiry and regional development;

**WHEREAS**, the proposal has been thoroughly reviewed and evaluated by the University Administrative Council (UADCO) at the March 10, 2025, meeting and obtained favorable endorsement;

**WHEREAS**, finding the recommendation in order, the Governing Board has approved the proposal and enjoined support and cooperation from relevant internal units and external stakeholders to ensure the sustainability and impact of the Center's programs and services;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion, duly seconded, and unanimously approved, be it;

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, that the Board of Regents of Visayas State University approves the establishment of the Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies in Visayas State University, as reflected in Annex "X" attached hereto and made an integral part of this Resolution.

**IN WITNESS** of our approval thereof, we affix our signatures this 29th day of April 2025 at VSU, Baybay City, Philippines.

**VSU BOARD OF REGENTS**

  
**HON. ETHEL AGNES P. VALENZUELA**

CHED Commissioner and Chairperson  
VSU-Board of Regents

  
**HON. PROSE IVY G. YEPES**

VSU President, Vice Chairperson  
VSU-Board of Regents

(Absent)

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Chairperson, Senate Committee on Higher,  
Technical and Vocational Education  
Member, VSU BOR

  
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Representing Hon. **MARK O. GO**  
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Villaba, Leyte

  
**HON. RUPERTO O. APARRI, III**

Member, VSU BOR  
Tacloban City, Leyte



SP# 8364  
2/17

Dear Mam,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to formally endorse and request the inclusion of the proposal titled **"Strategic Objectives and Roadmap of the Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies"** in the agenda of the forthcoming Special University Administrative Council Meeting.

This proposal, developed after receiving comments from the Office of the Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Extension and following a brainstorming session with the Technical Working Group, outlines the Center's long-term vision, strategic goals, and operational roadmap aimed at advancing socio-cultural research and heritage studies within our institution. Given its significance in enhancing academic excellence, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and promoting cultural preservation, we believe that its discussion at the highest administrative level is crucial for ensuring institutional alignment and support.

We believe that the insights and guidance of the University Administrative Council will be invaluable in refining and implementing these strategic objectives. As such, we respectfully request your endorsement and approval to include this matter in the upcoming Special Council Meeting agenda.

We would be grateful for your support and guidance in this endeavor and remain at your disposal for any additional information or clarifications. Thank you for your attention to this request, and we look forward to your positive response.

Regards,

**MAX TEODY T. QUIMILAT, PhD, MAEd, LPT.**

Director (OIC), Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies (CSHRS)

Associate Professor 2, Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences (DPSS)

Visayas State University, Baybay Leyte

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STATE UNIVERSITY**A CENTURY  
OF EXCELLENCE**  
1924 - 2024

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte, Philippines 6521-A

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**VSU's Vision:** A global green university providing progressive leadership in agriculture, science and technology, education, and allied fields for societal transformation.

**VSU's Mission:** Produce graduates equipped with advanced knowledge and lifelong learning skills with ethical standards through high quality instruction, innovative research, and impactful community engagement.

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**Proposed Research and Development Roadmap of the Center for Socio.pdf**  
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## Proposed Research and Development Roadmap of the Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies

Center: Center for Socio-Cultural Research and Heritage Studies (CSCRHS)

### Technical Working Group:

Max Teody T. Quimilat, Chairman  
Glenn Pajares  
Jerry Imbong  
Lillian Nunez  
Mary Ann Cobico  
Precious Domingo

### Introduction

Access to comprehensive heritage and social science research remains limited in the Visayas, creating a "gray area" in sociocultural studies that has yet to be fully addressed (Nadal, 2019; Mateo, 2018). Despite the region's rich cultural diversity and deeply rooted indigenous knowledge systems, research efforts often lack a structured approach to integrating sociocultural dimensions across various academic disciplines. While technical fields such as agriculture, marine science, and environmental studies drive regional growth, incorporating social perspectives into these domains remains a challenge. Without a clear avenue for addressing sociocultural concerns, valuable knowledge, practices, and insights from local and indigenous communities risk being underrepresented or even lost in broader academic and policy discussions (de la Cruz, 2020).

The Visayas, home to diverse ethnic groups and long-standing cultural traditions, possesses a wealth of indigenous knowledge that has traditionally guided sustainable practices and local livelihoods. However, sociocultural aspects of research remain overshadowed by scientific and technical studies (Santos & Cruz, 2021). While these fields are crucial for development, understanding their social implications is equally vital. Many research initiatives at Visayas State University (VSU), regardless of their technical focus, increasingly incorporate social dimensions, recognizing the importance of cultural heritage, community engagement, and indigenous perspectives in sustainable development.

To address this growing need, Visayas State University proposes the establishment of the Center for Sociocultural Research and Heritage Studies (CSRHS) as a facilitative entity that supports research initiatives requiring sociocultural perspectives. CSRHS will serve as a collaborative platform, extending its support across various academic and research units. The center will assist in integrating social science perspectives into ongoing projects without being confined to specific research centers. Moreover, CSRHS will actively engage with university stakeholders, including faculty, students, and external partners, to ensure that sociocultural dimensions are meaningfully represented in research efforts (Villanueva, 2020).

CSRHS will prioritize initiatives that document, preserve, and advance indigenous knowledge and local cultural heritage, fostering an inclusive research environment that enhances interdisciplinary collaboration. By providing expertise, resources, and guidance, the center will enable researchers to incorporate sociocultural insights into their studies effectively. Furthermore, CSRHS will build partnerships with local, national, and international organizations dedicated to cultural preservation and sociocultural research, ensuring long-term sustainability and impact.

Through this approach, the Center for Sociocultural Research and Heritage Studies will serve as a vital resource in strengthening VSU's research initiatives, enhancing the integration of cultural and indigenous perspectives across diverse academic fields. By facilitating sociocultural research, CSRHS will contribute to a more holistic and inclusive academic environment, ensuring that the cultural heritage of the Visayas remains a central pillar of scholarly inquiry and regional development.

- **Vision:** A leading institution in sociocultural research and heritage preservation, aligned with Visayas State University's commitment to societal transformation through interdisciplinary collaboration. The Center for Sociocultural Research and Heritage Studies (CSCRHS) fosters cultural resilience, sustainable development, and social justice by advancing indigenous knowledge and sociocultural insights. Guided by the values of

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Service, Trust, Resilience, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence, and Social Justice, CSRHS strives for research excellence and meaningful community impact.

- **Mission:** CSRHS facilitates the integration of sociocultural perspectives into research initiatives across Visayas State University, enriching studies in agriculture, science, technology, and allied fields. Rooted in the values of Service, Trust, Resilience, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence, and Social Justice, the center promotes inclusive, transformative research and active community engagement. By supporting the documentation, preservation, and promotion of the Visayas region's rich cultural heritage, CSRHS champions equity, sustainability, and collaborative innovation in addressing social and environmental challenges.

#### Goals:

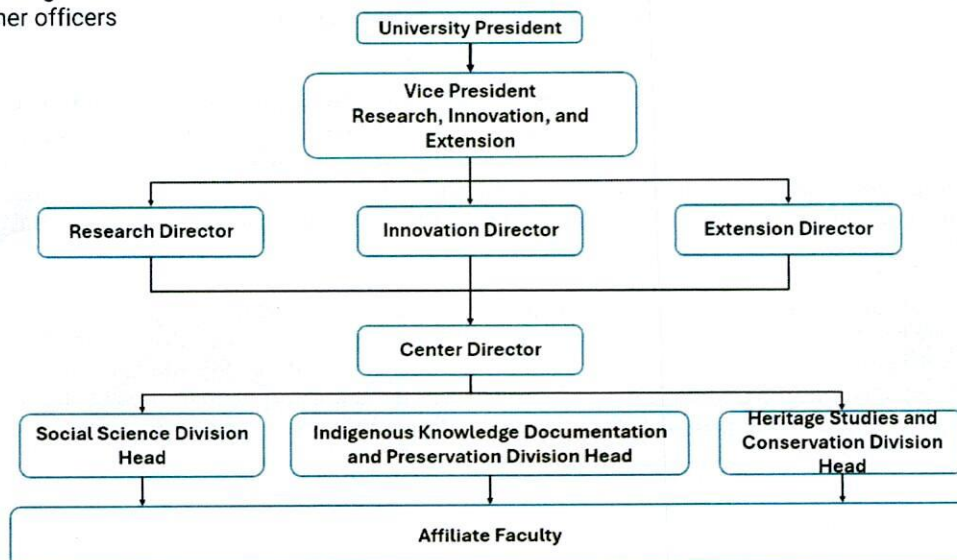
1. Serve as a resource hub for sociocultural research at Visayas State University, offering interdisciplinary perspectives that enhance research initiatives across various academic fields. CSRHS aims to integrate social dimensions into studies that recognize diverse community experiences and regional social dynamics.
2. Document and preserve the indigenous knowledge systems of the Visayas with respect and cultural sensitivity, collaborating with rural and indigenous communities to protect their contributions to sustainable practices and cultural identity.
3. Conduct heritage research that upholds and values cultural traditions, ensuring the preservation of community identities and practices. Through scholarly inquiry, CSRHS fosters cultural continuity that strengthens local customs and reinforces a sense of belonging for future generations.
4. Establish and strengthen partnerships with educational institutions, heritage organizations, and cultural conservation groups to expand knowledge accessibility and preservation efforts. CSRHS will collaborate in research, teaching innovations, and best practice sharing to promote inclusivity and respect for all communities.

#### Objectives :

1. Supports VSU research centers by providing a social science foundation that integrates cultural, socio-political, and community-based perspectives into interdisciplinary research, enriching studies across diverse fields.
2. document and preserve indigenous knowledge with respect and collaboration, developing accessible archives and educational materials that highlight the region's traditional wisdom.
3. promotes heritage studies that uphold cultural continuity through community-based research, awareness programs, and resources that foster local pride and identity.
4. partners with national and international institutions, advances collaborative research, knowledge sharing, and best practices to ensure inclusive access to education and cultural preservation in the region.

#### CSRHS Organizational Structure

The organizational structure defines the duties and responsibilities of the Director, heads, and other officers



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## **Social Science Division**

**[SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals]**

The Social Science Research Division at CSRHS leads efforts to integrate social science perspectives into interdisciplinary studies across Visayas State University. This division explores the social, cultural, and economic dynamics that shape communities in the Visayas, generating insights that promote inclusive development and address local challenges. Recognizing the vital connection between social sciences, arts, language, and literature, the division employs diverse approaches to understand social and cultural narratives, enriching research and community engagement efforts.

### *Research:*

The division conducts and supports research on key themes such as peace and social justice, cultural identity, gender equity, and community resilience. By incorporating sociocultural insights into its framework, the division creates a body of work that highlights the lived experiences of rural and marginalized populations. Through rigorous academic inquiry, it seeks to inform policy, shape development strategies, and contribute to the broader discourse on social and cultural transformation.

### *Innovation:*

To foster interdisciplinary collaboration, the division integrates social science methodologies with advancements in digital humanities, participatory research models, and cultural documentation. Through innovative research approaches, it seeks to bridge traditional knowledge with contemporary solutions, ensuring that the region's heritage remains relevant and accessible for future generations.

### *Extension:*

The Social Science Research Division collaborates with non-government organizations, local government units, and community leaders to apply research findings in ways that empower communities, enhance public understanding, and support sustainable practices. By linking academic research with practical applications, the division fosters meaningful engagement and reinforces VSU's commitment to community-centered social development.

## **Indigenous Knowledge Documentation and Preservation Division**

**[SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 14: Life Below Water, SDG 15: Life on Land, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals]**

The Indigenous Knowledge Documentation and Preservation Division is committed to the respectful recording, preservation, and advancement of indigenous knowledge and cultural practices within the Visayas region. With a particular focus on Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR), the division collaborates with indigenous and local communities to document traditional ecological knowledge, sustainable resource management, and agricultural practices vital to both cultural heritage and environmental stewardship.

### *Research:*

The division systematically documents indigenous systems related to AANR, including agroforestry, fisheries management, and natural medicinal practices, recognizing these as critical to sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. It employs participatory research methods, valuing community members as co-researchers and ensuring that cultural protocols are respected. The division also integrates arts, language, and literature into its research framework, acknowledging their role in preserving and transmitting ecological knowledge and cultural identity.

### *Innovation:*

To enhance the preservation and promotion of indigenous knowledge, the division utilizes creative and technological approaches such as digital archiving, storytelling, and artistic

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expressions. Indigenous languages, songs, and oral traditions serve as dynamic platforms for passing down ecological wisdom and cultural narratives. Through these methods, the division ensures that the cultural narratives and sustainable practices of indigenous communities remain vibrant and relevant.

*Extension:*

The division develops accessible educational resources, digital archives, and outreach programs that incorporate indigenous knowledge into broader academic and public discussions. By linking traditional wisdom with contemporary research on AANR, the division fosters greater appreciation and application of indigenous practices in sustainable development. It collaborates with local communities, non-government organizations, and policymakers to integrate indigenous knowledge into governance, education, and environmental conservation efforts, ensuring its continued relevance and impact.

### **Heritage Studies and Conservation Division**

**[SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 14: Life Below Water, SDG 15: Life on Land, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals]**

The Heritage Studies and Conservation Division at CSRHS is dedicated to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the Visayas region, with a specialized focus on heritage related to Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR). The division documents and conserves historical knowledge, practices, landscapes, and artifacts that illustrate the region's longstanding relationship with its natural environment and resource management traditions.

*Research:*

The division explores the intersection of heritage and sustainable practices in AANR, including traditional agricultural methods, coastal and marine conservation, and culturally significant land-use patterns. By examining these elements, it highlights sustainable resource management techniques passed down through generations. The division also investigates the role of arts, language, and literature in preserving and transmitting cultural heritage, recognizing their function as repositories of ecological and agricultural knowledge.

*Innovation:*

To enhance heritage conservation, the division integrates arts, language, and literature with tangible cultural practices, ensuring that traditional knowledge remains relevant and accessible. By utilizing digital archiving, oral history documentation, and interactive storytelling, the division bridges historical practices with modern conservation strategies, fostering a holistic approach to cultural and environmental preservation.

*Extension:*

The division works with local communities, conservation groups, and educational institutions to develop heritage conservation programs, resource-based cultural education, and outreach initiatives that support both cultural and environmental stewardship. Through these efforts, the Heritage Studies and Conservation Division fosters a deeper understanding of how cultural heritage contributes to sustainable AANR practices, ensuring the protection and relevance of traditional knowledge in addressing contemporary environmental challenges.

### **Manpower**

The following are the positions of the center and the proposed faculty members to manage these posts.

<b>Position/Designation</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Expertise</b>
Center Director	Max Teody T. Quimilat, PhD.	Anthropology, Social Science
Social Science Division Head	Jerry D. Imbong, PhD.	Philosophy, Social Science
Indigenous Knowledge and Documentation Division Head	Bethlehem Ponce, PhD.	Anthropology, Social Science, Political Science

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Heritage Studies and Conservation Head	Errol Fernandez, MA	History, Philosophy
Affiliate Faculty	Glenn Pajares, PhD.	Philosophy, Literature
Affiliate Faculty	Michael Carlo Villas, MA.	Literature, Folklore, Language
Affiliate Faculty	Daisy Acoritay, Ed.D.	Language, Education
Affiliate Faculty	Ianvie Norian Miaga, MEd.	Social Science, Education
Affiliate Faculty	Mary Ann Cobico, MA	Psychology, Guidance and Counseling
Affiliate Faculty	Christian Bacolod, MAcand.	Arts History, Humanities
Affiliate Faculty	Precious Domingo, DA	Language, Literature

## Milestones/Timelines

### CSCRHS Three-Year Roadmap

#### Year 1: Establishment and Initial Research

##### Q1: Center Establishment and Infrastructure Development

- Formal establishment of the center, securing university and external funding.
- Identification and allocation of office space within the university.
- Planning and sourcing phase for a dedicated CSRHS building.
- Appointment of division heads and core research staff.
- Development of initial research agenda and institutional linkages.
- Stakeholder consultation meetings for identifying key sociocultural research areas.

##### Q2: Research and Program Development

- Launch of baseline studies on sociocultural heritage and indigenous knowledge.
- Creation of the center's digital repository for research and documentation.
- Initial training for faculty and researchers on sociocultural research methodologies.
- Partnership development with government, NGOs, and local communities.
- Establishment of the Social Science Research Division's interdisciplinary research program.
- Indigenous Knowledge Documentation and Preservation Division begins oral history collection projects.
- Heritage Studies and Conservation Division initiates preliminary heritage mapping.

##### Q3: Research Implementation and Extension Programs

- First research projects initiated by each division:
  - Social Science Research Division: Community social dynamics study.
  - Indigenous Knowledge Documentation and Preservation Division: Traditional ecological knowledge documentation.
  - Heritage Studies and Conservation Division: Survey of cultural heritage sites.
- Establishment of innovation strategies integrating arts, language, and literature into research.
- Pilot extension activities, including community forums, heritage workshops, and outreach initiatives.

##### Q4: Assessment and Infrastructure Expansion

- Mid-year review and assessment of research progress.
- Submission of research findings for publication.
- Planning for year two expansion initiatives.
- Strengthening institutional collaborations for research sustainability.

#### Year 2: Expansion and Innovation

##### Q1: Scaling Research and Infrastructure Completion

- Enhancement of research methodologies based on year-one findings.
- Implementation of new interdisciplinary research projects.
- Development of innovative educational tools integrating indigenous knowledge.
- Expansion of digital archives and public accessibility initiatives.
- Commencement of the construction of the CSRHS building, including dedicated research spaces and archive facilities.

##### Q2: Program Expansion and Community Integration

- Launch of new heritage conservation programs in partnership with cultural organizations.
- Social impact assessments of ongoing projects.

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- Training of local researchers and community leaders in documentation techniques.
- Strengthening collaboration with international institutions.
- Development of a community-led research program under the Social Science Research Division.

**Q3: Institutionalization of Programs**

- Establishment of an on-campus heritage and indigenous knowledge exhibition space.
- Pilot interdisciplinary courses and learning modules incorporating sociocultural research.
- Scaling up of extension programs, engaging more local communities.
- Publication of research findings in national and international journals.
- Launch of specialized programs for each division:
  - Social Science Research Division: Regional/Local policy research initiative.
  - Indigenous Knowledge Documentation and Preservation Division: Cultural archives and linguistic preservation project.
  - Heritage Studies and Conservation Division: Traditional architecture and landscape conservation program.

**Q4: Evaluation and Policy Integration**

- Second-year evaluation and roadmap adjustment.
- Securing additional funding for further research and innovation.
- Development of policy recommendations for integrating sociocultural insights into local governance and education.
- Strengthening CSRHS's collaboration with academic institutions and cultural organizations.

**Year 3: Sustainability and Long-term Impact**

**Q1: Institutional Growth and Policy Influence**

- Full integration of sociocultural research into university-wide research initiatives.
- Expansion of funding sources and institutional partnerships.
- Hosting of an international conference on sociocultural and heritage research.
- Strengthening the center's role in policy advocacy and public education.
- Launch of a fellowship program to train new researchers in sociocultural studies.

**Q2: Community Empowerment and Global Outreach**

- Continued research on emerging sociocultural issues in the Visayas.
- Advanced training workshops for researchers, educators, and community leaders.
- Establishment of a community-based heritage conservation network.
- Further development of innovative sociocultural research tools.
- Expansion of CSRHS's influence through international collaborations and cultural programs.

**Q3: Research Dissemination and Long-Term Sustainability**

- Launch of a research-based digital and print publication on Visayan heritage.
- Strengthening alumni and researcher networks for sustained collaboration.
- Policy dialogues with stakeholders to integrate research findings into governance.
- Expansion of research to more indigenous and rural communities.
- Development of a financial sustainability plan, including endowment initiatives and grant funding strategies.

**Q4: Comprehensive Review and Future Planning**

- Comprehensive assessment and publication of the center's impact.
- Finalization of long-term sustainability strategies, including endowment initiatives.
- Strengthening CSRHS's institutional identity as a leading sociocultural research hub.
- Roadmap revision for the next three-year period.



## Budgetary Requirements (Based on Road Map)

### CSCRHS Three-Year Proposed Budget

#### Year 1: Establishment and Initial Research

Description	Amount
<b>Personnel Services</b>	
Department Document Records Controller:	132,000.00
Messenger	132,000.00
	<b>264,000.00</b>
<b>Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses</b>	
Office supplies and materials	100,000.00
Utilities (electricity, water, internet)	60,000.00
Research-related travel and fieldwork	200,000.00
Training and capacity-building programs	150,000.00
Stakeholder consultation and outreach activities	100,000.00
	<b>610,000.00</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	
Basic office furniture (desks, chairs, cabinets)	150,000.00
Computers and peripherals (laptops, printers, scanners)	250,000.00
Digital storage and research software	100,000.00
	<b>500,000.00</b>
	<b>1,374,000.00</b>

#### Year 2: Expansion and Innovation

Description	Amount
<b>Personnel Services</b>	
Department Document Records Controller:	132,000.00
Messenger	132,000.00
	<b>264,000.00</b>
<b>Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses</b>	
Office supplies and materials	120,000.00
Utilities	70,000.00
Research-related travel and fieldwork	250,000.00
Training and capacity-building programs	200,000.00
Heritage conservation and community engagement programs	150,000.00
	<b>790,000.00</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	
Additional office equipment and maintenance: PHP 150,000	150,000.00
Expansion of digital archives and research tools: PHP 200,000	200,000.00
	<b>350,000.00</b>
	<b>1,404,000.00</b>

#### Year 3: Sustainability and Long-term Impact

Description	Amount
<b>Personnel Services</b>	
Department Document Records Controller:	132,000.00
Messenger	132,000.00
	<b>264,000.00</b>
<b>Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses</b>	
Office supplies and materials	140,000.00
Utilities	80,000.00
Research-related travel and fieldwork	300,000.00
Advanced training workshops	250,000.00
Community-based heritage conservation network support	200,000.00
	<b>790,000.00</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	
Upgrading of research and digital storage systems	250,000.00
Additional office technology for research dissemination	200,000.00
	<b>450,000.00</b>
	<b>1,684,000.00</b>

#### Total Three-Year Budget Summary:

Year 1: PHP 1,374,000

Year 2: PHP 1,404,000

Year 3: PHP 1,684,000

**Grand Total: PHP 4,462,000**

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## Funding Source

The center will not solely depend on the university's budget but will actively seek external funding through research grants, industry collaborations, and strategic partnerships. By securing financial resources from partner institutions, private organizations, and international funding agencies, the center ensures its sustainability while minimizing reliance on university funds. All projects will be designed to attract external investment, with funding primarily sourced from outside entities, while the center contributes its expertise and human resources. This approach reinforces the center's commitment to self-sufficiency and academic excellence.

## Sustainability Plan

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the Center for Sociocultural Research and Heritage Studies (CSRHS), the center will actively seek external funding through research grants, institutional collaborations, and partnerships with both national and international organizations focused on heritage conservation, social sciences, and indigenous knowledge preservation. Establishing formal agreements with government agencies, NGOs, and private institutions will provide additional financial and logistical support, allowing the center to expand its programs and strengthen its impact. Furthermore, the center will develop a revenue-generating mechanism through consultancy services, publication sales, and training programs, which will help sustain research, innovation, and extension initiatives beyond the initial three-year period.

Operational sustainability will also be supported by integrating the center's initiatives into existing university programs and leveraging shared resources to minimize costs. By embedding sociocultural research into interdisciplinary projects across different academic units and research centers, CSRHS ensures that its work remains relevant and well-utilized. The center will also focus on capacity building among faculty, researchers, and students to create a strong internal network of experts who can continue the center's mission. Establishing a database and digital repository for indigenous knowledge and heritage studies will provide an accessible and enduring resource for both academic and community stakeholders.

Lastly, community engagement and stakeholder involvement will play a critical role in sustaining the center's long-term impact. By fostering active participation from local communities, CSRHS will ensure that its research and conservation efforts remain culturally sensitive, community-driven, and widely supported. The center will conduct periodic evaluations and impact assessments to refine its strategies, making necessary adjustments based on feedback from partner institutions and local groups. Through these efforts, CSRHS will not only preserve and promote cultural heritage but also remain a vital institution that contributes to sustainable development, social equity, and the holistic advancement of knowledge at Visayas State University.

## Intersections with Related Units in the University

The CSRHS actively collaborates with various existing units within Visayas State University to ensure a multidisciplinary approach to research, innovation, and extension. These collaborations allow for a more comprehensive understanding of sociocultural dynamics and their implications for development, community engagement, and policy-making.

1. **Gender Resource Center (GRC)** – CSRHS intersects with the Gender Resource Center in advancing gender-responsive research and community engagement. Through joint projects, the center integrates gender perspectives into sociocultural studies, ensuring that research on indigenous knowledge, heritage conservation, and cultural identity is inclusive and equitable. CSRHS supports GRC's initiatives by providing historical and cultural insights into gender roles in local communities, particularly in the context of Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR).
2. **Institute of Social Research and Development Center (ISRDC)** – CSRHS and ISRDC work together to strengthen interdisciplinary social research within the university. While ISRDC focuses on broader social development concerns, CSRHS complements this by incorporating cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge into development research. This partnership enhances studies on peace, social justice, and sustainable development, ensuring that sociocultural dimensions are given due recognition in social research and policy advocacy.

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3. **BIDANI** – As the extension arm of ISRDC, BIDANI plays a vital role in providing financial and technical assistance to rural communities. CSCRHS intersects with BIDANI by ensuring that cultural heritage and indigenous practices are acknowledged and preserved in community-based development programs. The center provides research-backed recommendations on how traditional knowledge can be integrated into modern agricultural and livelihood strategies, reinforcing BIDANI's mission of holistic rural development.

Through these collaborations, CSCRHS serves as a vital resource for integrating sociocultural perspectives across research, extension, and community engagement initiatives in the university. This synergy strengthens VSU's commitment to interdisciplinary research, sustainable development, and inclusive societal transformation.

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BOR ACTION: APPROVAL

  
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BOR & University Secretary  
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