



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs

credibility and honor
defined.

Beyond
NUMBERS

2024 ISSUE NO. 012

**#AOCWinStories:
Celebrating the 34th AOC Milestone**

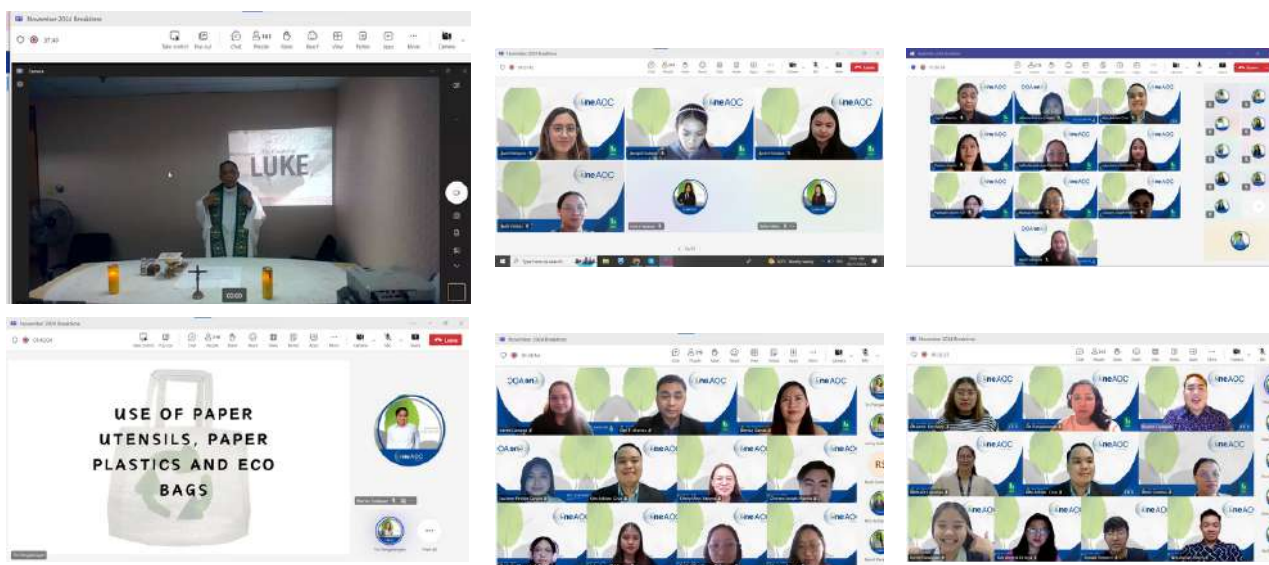


Breaktime: Celebrates 34th AOC Milestone

On November 6, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs held a meaningful virtual celebration, marking their second-to-last monthly Breaktime event for the year. With the theme “34th AOC Milestone,” the firm proudly celebrated 34 years in the industry, bringing together over 200 members from its 13 offices nationwide.

The event commenced with a spiritual mass officiated by Father Ogie Orpiada, who shared uplifting gospel reflections. Following the mass, Mr. Marvin Cadapan enthusiastically hosted the Breaktime, warmly welcoming all attendees. The event also highlighted the introduction of new hires, the celebration of November birthdays, and the recognition of employees marking significant work anniversaries.

A key highlight of the event was a segment led by the SF-Audit Alabang Earth Warriors, who showcased their efforts in promoting sustainability through Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) initiatives. In the video, they emphasized the importance of ESG practices and shared their steps to support the firm’s sustainability goals. These included investing in GForest to offset carbon footprints, hosting monthly virtual Kamustahan sessions for governance, and organizing activities to promote environmental and social responsibility. Their commitment proved that small actions can make a meaningful impact on building a sustainable future.

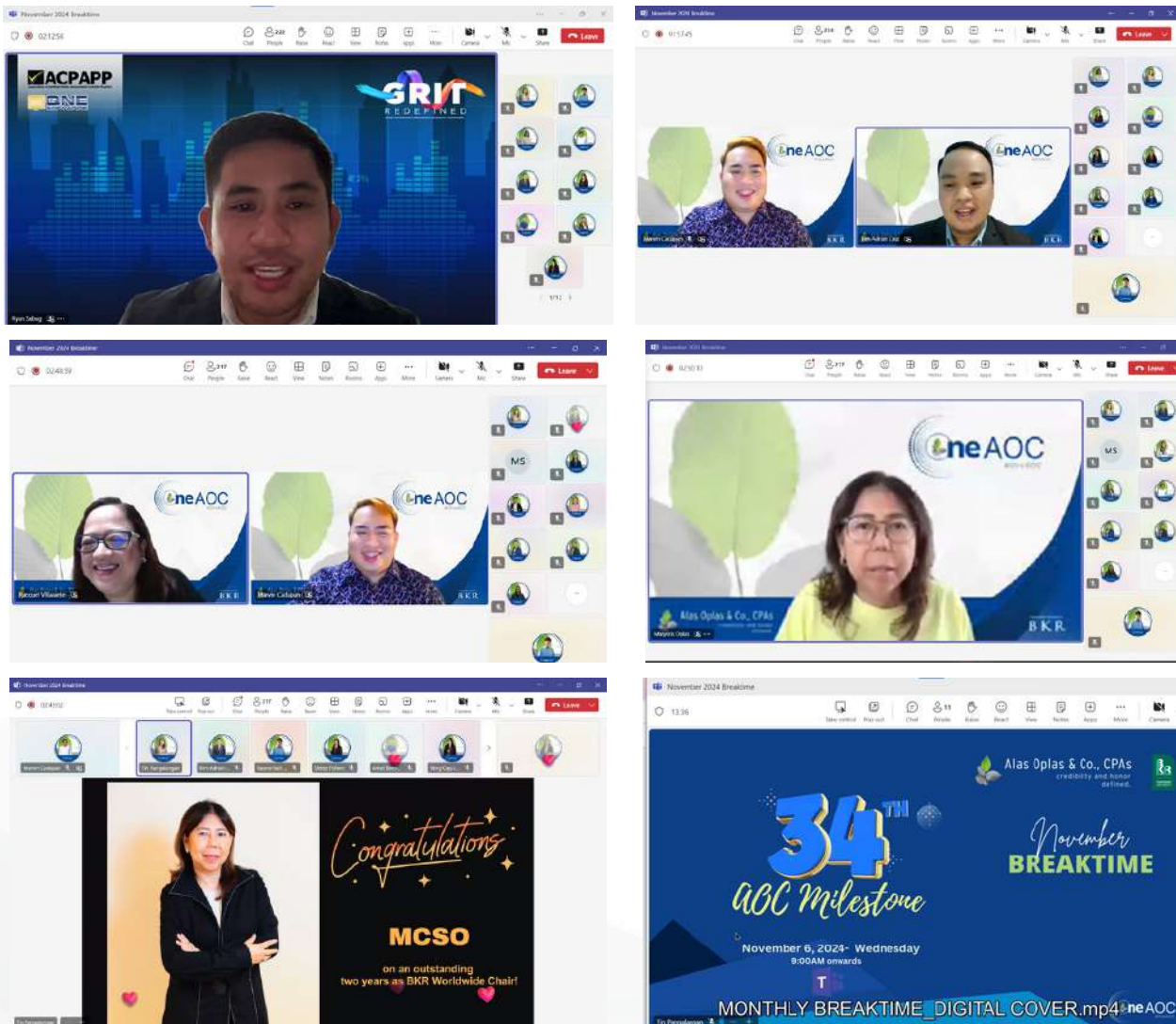


Adding to the vibrant atmosphere, Director Kim Adrian Cruz, Managing Partner Ryan Sabug, and BSU Managing Director Racquel Villarante shared their inspiring AOC Win Stories. They recounted meaningful experiences from both local and international engagements, highlighting their dedication, commitment, and passion for the field of accountancy. Their stories left a lasting impression, inspiring attendees with their achievements and perseverance.

Breaktime: Celebrates 34th AOC Milestone (cont.)

The celebration continued with a video recap of the 2024 BKR International Conference held in Tokyo, Japan, an esteemed event that brought together BKR International's global leaders in the accounting industry. Following the video, Ms. Oplas addressed the attendees with a sincere message, reflecting on her transformative journey as Worldwide Chair. She discussed how the Tokyo conference marked a significant and fulfilling conclusion to her tenure, expressing deep gratitude for the opportunity to lead and collaborate on a global scale. Looking forward, Ms. Oplas conveyed her enthusiasm for focusing on creating additional international opportunities and engagements for the firm. She took pride in the firm's continued growth and expanded reach, highlighting that the milestones achieved are a direct result of the collective commitment and dedication of the AOC family.

As the curtains fell on the celebration, it became clear that the 34th AOC Milestone was more than just a recognition of past achievements. It reaffirmed the firm's unwavering commitment to excellence, sustainability, and innovation—values that continue to propel Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs toward even greater heights.



AOC Celebrates a New Milestone with the Grand Opening of Its 13th Branch in La Union

On November 19, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs proudly expanded its reach by opening its 13th branch in La Union, located at Unit 7C Municipal Market Building, Ili Sur, San Juan, La Union, Philippines 2514.

The momentous event was highlighted by a ceremonial ribbon-cutting and a blessing of the new office, officiated by Rev. Father Crispin Reyes. Leading the celebration were the firm's newest partners, Carl F. Martos, Partner-in-Charge of the La Union branch, and Rexzon M. Balacano, alongside Founding Partner and CEO Donnies T. Alas, Partner Noel A. Geraldo, HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang, and Corporate Communications Director Mary Ann Duguran.

Lending further honor to the occasion was the presence of guest of honor Atty. Reginald Manipon Nang and his wife, Athena Nang, Councilor of San Juan, La Union, along with a representative from the City Mayor's office, Lawrence Ople, HRM Officer of LGU San Juan and Acting Executive Secretary to Mayor Arturo P. Valdriz. Also gracing the celebration were the supportive wives of the new partners, Lalaine Martos and Angela Balacano, whose encouragement embodies their shared commitment to supporting their husbands' growth and success in this new professional chapter.



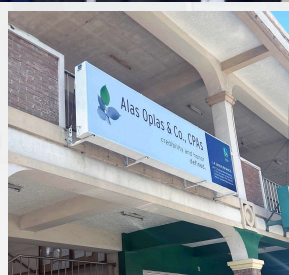
Photo from left to right: Noel A. Geraldo, Carl F. Martos, Donnies T. Alas, Athena Nang, Lawrence Ople, Rexzon M. Balacano, and Atty. Reginald M. Nang.



AOC Celebrates a New Milestone with the Grand Opening of Its 13th Branch in La Union (cont.)

In a heartfelt message, Mr. Alas expressed his sincere gratitude for the warm reception from the La Union community and emphasized the firm's ongoing dedication to excellence, integrity, and strong partnerships across the region. He underscored that this expansion is not just a milestone for the firm, but a pledge to provide top-tier services to local businesses and communities.

The La Union branch opening not only marks a pivotal moment for AOC but also reinforces the firm's continuous efforts to expand its services, reach more clients, and contribute to the economic development of the region.



AOC Cavite and Bulacan Teams Enhance Skills in Tax Return Preparation

On November 5, 2024, the AOC Cavite and AOC Bulacan local outsource teams came together for a comprehensive session on Tax Return Preparation, focusing on 0619E and Annualization processes. The training was led by Kate Clarisse Delantar, an Associate from AOC Cavite, who shared valuable insights and practical guidance on the correct preparation of tax returns and understanding the complexities of 0619E forms and the annualization process.

The session was designed to provide team members with the necessary tools and knowledge to handle tax-related tasks efficiently, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements. Kate Clarisse's expertise in tax preparation and her clear, engaging presentation helped the team gain a deeper understanding of the intricacies of tax return filing.

Through this training, team members were equipped to deliver high-quality tax services to clients while adhering to the latest regulations.



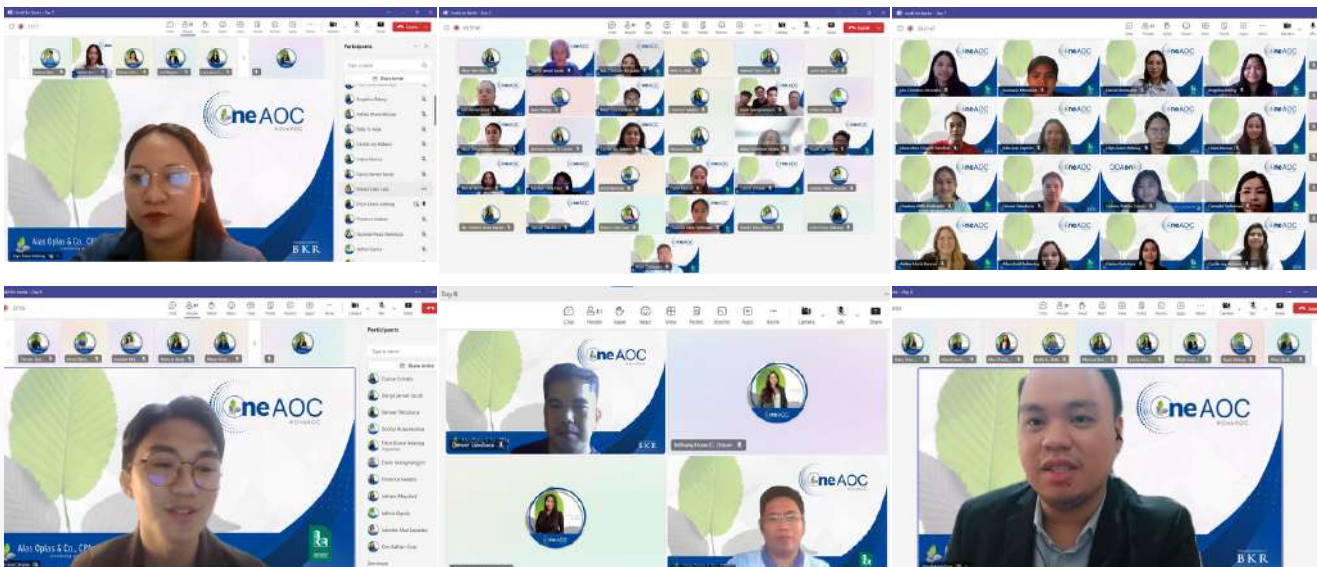
AOC Concludes the Audit for Banks Webinar Series with Valuable Insights and Learnings

November 8-9, 2024 – The Audit for Banks webinar series culminated in two impactful days of learning, reflecting Alas Oplas' commitment to professional excellence and continuous growth.

On the 7th day of the series, November 8, our team delved into comprehensive sessions on critical topics, including Validation/Reading of BSP Report on Examination, Minimum Internal Control Measures, Reading and Summarizing Minutes of Meetings, Security Program, and Tests of IT General Controls. The sessions were expertly facilitated by Audit Manager Erlyn Grace Adaoag and Senior Auditor Ma. Victoria Anne Basilio from the Santiago branch, emphasizing the importance of robust auditing practices and compliance measures.

The series concluded on November 9 with discussions on BSP Common Findings and Common Tax Issues. Audit Manager Erlyn Grace Adaoag and Audit Supervisor Allan Quibuyen led the sessions, joined by Managing Partner Ryan Sabug, who shared insightful perspectives, and Director Kim Adrian Cruz, who offered hands-on support and delivered the closing remarks.

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs remains steadfast in fostering a culture of lifelong learning. This webinar series not only enriched our team's expertise but also reinforced our ability to deliver exceptional service to clients. Through initiatives like these, we continue to empower our team, uphold industry standards, and enhance our commitment to excellence.



The Next Gen Leader of AOC



On November 7-8, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs held its annual leadership program for senior-level employees at the scenic Brizo Hotel & Mountain View Resort in Silang-Tagaytay. This transformative two-day event brought together 48 senior-level employees from 13 branches, aiming to develop their leadership potential and strengthen their sense of teamwork.

The first day of the program focused on equipping senior employees with the tools and mindset needed to transition from associates to accountable leaders within the firm. Ms. Cris Lorenza, Chief Inspiration Officer of TrainingEdge Inc., captivated participants with her expertise, offering practical insights and strategies for leadership empowerment. This inspiring session was thoughtfully organized by the AOC HR team, led by HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang, showcasing the firm's dedication to professional growth.



The Next Gen Leader of AOC (cont.)



On the second day, the participants embraced a series of engaging team-building activities, fostering collaboration and camaraderie. Divided into four spirited teams—Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow—they competed in various dynamic games that emphasized teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. The day culminated in a well-deserved relaxation period, where attendees enjoyed swimming and meaningful conversations, further solidifying bonds across the team.

The senior leadership program is a testament to Alas Oplas' unwavering commitment to cultivating a strong leadership culture. By investing in its people, the firm continues to empower its team to excel professionally and contribute to the company's success.

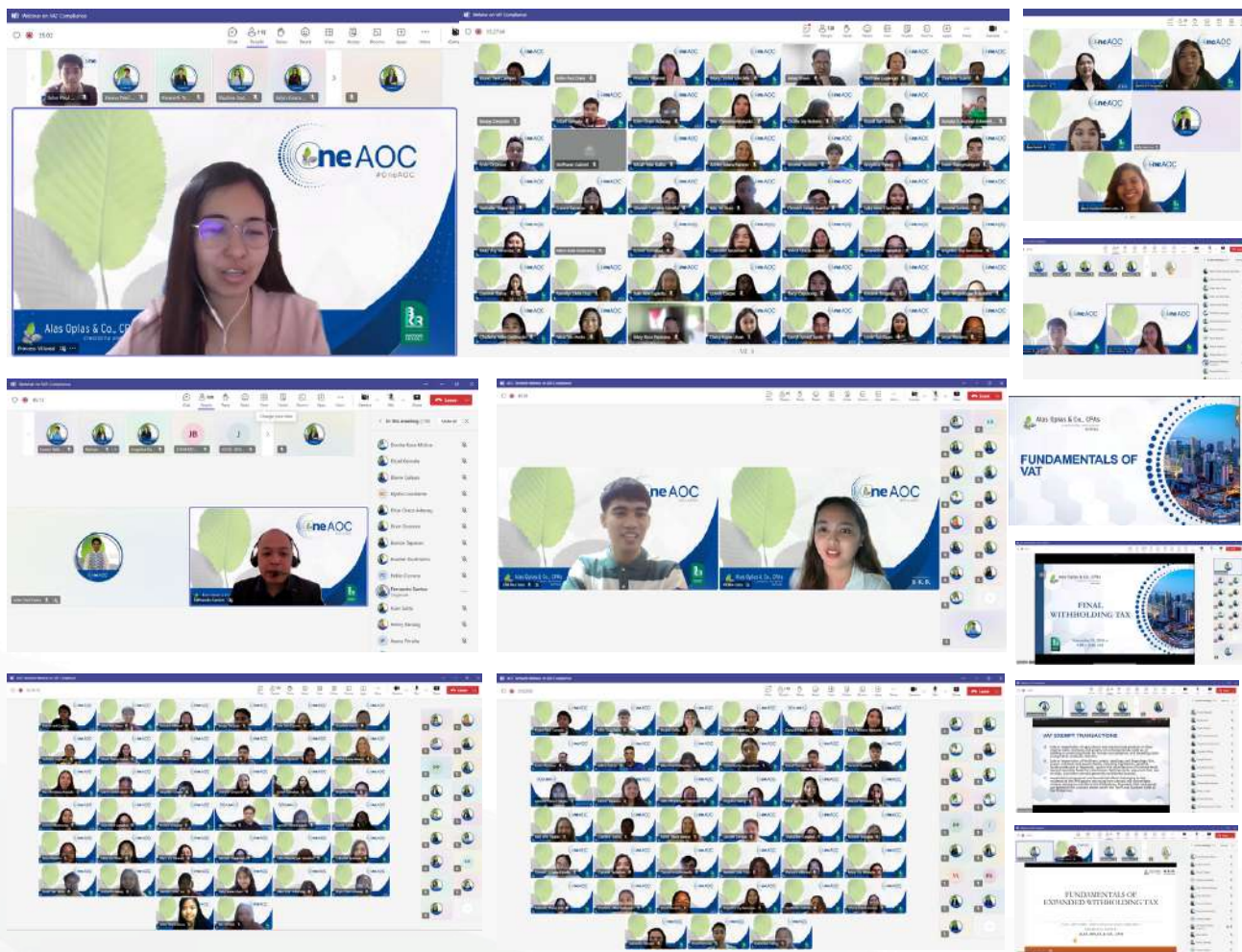
The event not only inspired attendees to embrace leadership roles but also reinforced the value of unity and collaboration, hallmarks of Alas Oplas' thriving workplace culture.

AOC Reinforces Expertise with Firmwide Tax Compliance Training Series

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs demonstrates its unwavering commitment to excellence and client service through its comprehensive firmwide Training Series on Tax Compliance. From November 21-22, 2024, a two-day session on VAT Compliance was led by Tax Manager Princess Villareal, bringing together employees from all 13 branches nationwide. This initiative reflects the firm's dedication to equipping its team with the latest knowledge and strategies to excel in VAT compliance and advisory services.

The series continued with insightful webinars addressing key tax topics. On November 28, Tax Partner Fernando Santos conducted a session on Expanded Withholding Tax, sharing his expertise and encouraging active participation throughout the webinar. On November 29, Tax Supervisor Pauline Galsa presented on Final Withholding Tax and Final Withholding VAT, including VAT on Digital Transactions. These sessions were efficiently moderated by John Paul Daria, ensuring seamless delivery.

Through these specialized training programs, Alas Oplas continues to strengthen its team's expertise, solidifying its reputation as a reliable partner in navigating complex tax compliance and delivering top-tier advisory services to clients nationwide.



AOC Legazpi Branch Welcomes the Festive Season with Team Dedication



The holiday spirit is in full swing at the AOC Legazpi branch. AOC Legazpi Partner-in-Charge Nathalie Lupango, alongside her associates Ashley Marie Rances and Ma. Christina Atrasado, has beautifully set up a nativity scene in the office, spreading festive cheer among the team and clients.



Beyond celebrating the season, the AOC Legazpi Team remains committed to strengthening connections within the region. The team actively engages with local businesses, ensuring they maintain strong relationships and provide exceptional service to their contacts.

November 7, 2024 - Courtesy Visit to JMH Microfinance, Inc. (L-R): Mr. Paulo R. Honrado (Chairman of JMH Microfinance, Inc.), Ashley Marie J. Rances (AOC Associate), Nathalie R. Lupango (AOC Partner in Charge) and the IT Consultant of JMH Microfinance, Inc.

The combination of holiday spirit and dedication to client relationships highlights the team's unwavering commitment to excellence and community engagement.



Rural Bank of San Jacinto (Sorsogon City Branch). (L-R) Ashley Marie J. Rances, Nathalie R. Lupango, Mr. Christian G. Dominguez (Field Marketing and Collection Manager - Sorsogon Branch) and Mr. Loreto Carpio.

People's Alternative Livelihood Microfinance Foundation of Sorsogon Incorporated (PALMFSI). (L-R) Ms. Norina J. Calupit (CEO of PALMFSI), Nathalie R. Lupango and Ashley Marie J. Rances.



Divine Healer Academy of Sorsogon (DHAS) Inc.. (L-R) Sr. Odelle, SSDH (School Directress / PDO), Mr. Loreto Carpio, Nathalie R. Lupango and Ashley Marie J. Rances.



November 25, 2024, AOC Partner in Charge Nathalie Lupango and her associate, Ma. Christina Atrasado visited Maogma Credit Corporation and met with its President, Mr. Arlon Rances. The corporation celebrated its 14th year anniversary in its new office in Legazpi.

Internship Experience at AOC Cabanatuan Branch

November 11, 2024 – The AOC Cabanatuan Branch celebrated the successful completion of its on-the-job training program, honoring the dedication of four outstanding interns: two from Central Luzon State University and two from La Verdad Christian College.

During the send-off party, the interns shared heartfelt reflections on their enriching internship at AOC. They expressed deep gratitude to their mentors and peers, emphasizing how the experience helped shape their personal and professional development. The interns highlighted the invaluable lessons they learned, from technical skills in auditing to the importance of teamwork, communication, and adaptability. They also acknowledged the support and guidance from their mentors, which played a key role in building their confidence and preparing them for their future careers. This internship has truly been a transformative and unforgettable experience for each of them.

The AOC Cabanatuan Branch takes pride in contributing to the development of future accounting professionals by providing meaningful learning opportunities.



From left to right: Student Intern from Central Luzon State University – Grace Ara Campbell Hizon and Cyril Vedania. Student intern from La Verdad Christian College – Edlyn Jane Calayag and Ahyen Espino.

AOC Bacolod: Sending Off Trainees and Welcoming New Hires

November 15, 2024 – The AOC Bacolod team gathered at Time-Out Restaurant in Bacolod to bid a heartfelt farewell to their dedicated on-the-job trainees and warmly welcome their newly hired team members. The send-off was a celebration of the trainees' hard work, growth, and meaningful contributions during their time with AOC. The team is incredibly proud of their achievements and wishes them continued success as they embark on new journeys.

At the same time, the team warmly embraced the new hires, excited about the fresh perspectives and energy they bring to the organization. Together, we are fostering a stronger, more dynamic team and eagerly looking ahead to the future.

Cheers to new beginnings, shared growth, and the continued success of the Alas Oplas Bacolod family!



AOC Cabanatuan Welcomes Visitors from General De Jesus College and Central Luzon State University

November 22, 2024 – The AOC Cabanatuan office welcomed visitors from two esteemed institutions, General De Jesus College and Central Luzon State University, further strengthening its collaboration with academic partners.

The Representatives from General De Jesus College, including Mr. Bryan C. Barlis, Finance Manager, and Mr. Allan R. Reyes, Dean of the College of Accountancy, visited the AOC Cabanatuan office. During their visit, they met with two students currently completing their OJT at the firm. As a token of appreciation, the college presented a certificate to AOC in recognition of the firm’s support in providing valuable internship opportunities for their students.

Associate Professors Mr. Jeremy S. Lumibao and Assistant Professor Ms. June Ann J. Casimiro from Central Luzon State University visited the AOC Cabanatuan office to express their gratitude to the firm. CLSU appreciates the valuable opportunity provided to their students during their OJT, and they acknowledged the support and guidance the firm has offered in helping students gain practical experience. The visit was a gesture of appreciation for the firm’s commitment to fostering student growth and development.



Central Luzon State University (CLSU)

(L-R) CLSU Assistant Professor Ms. June Ann J. Casimiro, Grace Ara Campbell Hizon (OJT), Julie Ann Espiritu, Eunice Tapaoan, Cianadel Tadiaman, and CLSU Associate Professor Jeremy S. Lumibao.

General De Jesus College

(L-R) Mr. Bryan C. Barlis, Finance Manager, GJC, Mr. Allan R. Reyes, Dean, College of Accountancy, GJC, Catrina Anne C. Bagan (OJT), Mikaela Jade D. Paguyo (OJT), Julie Ann Espiritu, Eunice Tapaoan, and Cianadel Tadiaman.

The AOC HR and Payroll Team's November Monthly Meeting

The AOC Human Resource and Payroll Team gathered for their monthly meeting on November 26, 2024, at the Talent Hub in the Paranaque Office to assess progress, build camaraderie, and plan upcoming firm events. The meeting began with a festive lunch and a celebration of the November birthday celebrants, Tin Pangalangan and Anna Karmela Panaligan. Kenneth Navarro and Luningning Cajucom, recent delegates of the Skills and Leadership Program (SLP) Training, shared their experiences and key takeaways, inspiring the team to adopt innovative approaches, remain open-minded toward change and growth, and position themselves as the new generation of leaders at AOC. The team also brainstormed ideas for the upcoming year-end party, with HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang leading the planning for an inclusive and memorable celebration. By the end, the team left with a renewed sense of purpose and excitement, reflecting their dynamic culture of teamwork, growth, and collaboration as they prepare to finish the year on a positive note.



University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos' Tribute to AOC Bacolod



Photo from left to right: Leumhell Huevos (Student Intern), Emmylou V. Tolosa, CPA, MBA, LPT (Accountancy Program Head), Grace L. Lopena, CPA, PhD, CBA (Dean, Internship Adviser), Jorge Vian Castillon (AOC Bacolod, Junior Compliance Officer), Lyka Jane Chicherita (AOC Bacolod, Junior Associate Auditor) and Vincent Sun (Student Intern)

November 26, 2024 – The Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Bacolod team was honored with a certificate of recognition by the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos during "A Tribute to Guiding Stars" at Fr. Cuenca Hall. This acknowledgment celebrates the team's unwavering dedication and support in nurturing aspiring professionals and fostering meaningful collaborations.

AOC Bulacan Team Gears Up for Year-End Success

On November 27, 2024, the AOC Bulacan Branch's Local Outsource Team came together for their monthly meeting, inspired by the theme "Mission Possible: Navigating the Final Stretch for 2024 Success." The session delved into strategic preparations for the upcoming year-end closing and audit season, highlighting the critical role of teamwork, efficiency, and shared commitment in meeting their objectives.

Following the productive discussions, the team took a moment to unwind and strengthen their camaraderie by enjoying a movie together. This bonding activity not only celebrated their unity but also served as a reminder of the collective effort required to close the year successfully and start 2025 on a strong note.



Month-End Dinner of AOC Bacolod Team

November 30, 2024 – As the month comes to a close, following an incredibly busy period filled with deadlines, challenges, and hard work, the AOC Bacolod team took a well-earned break to reconnect and recharge. They gathered for a month-end bonding dinner with Managing Director, Ms. Krizza Alisson Oplas, at The Samgup Premium Grill in Ayala Mall Bacolod. It was the perfect opportunity to reflect on all they had accomplished together. Over a delicious meal, they shared stories, celebrated milestones, and strengthened the sense of camaraderie that makes their team so unique. The evening was filled with gratitude and meaningful conversations, reminding the team of the importance of balance, teamwork, and taking the time to appreciate one another. Here's to a successful month and the continued growth of the AOC Bacolod Team!



AOC Prepares for New Laguna Office Opening

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Chairman, Mr. Donnies Alas, is excited to announce a significant milestone in the firm's growth. In the first quarter of 2025, a new branch will open in Laguna, marking the firm's 14th office. This expansion will be led by Mr. Rodel Bascon, Ms. Roda Bascon, along with two executive partners of the firm, Mr. Donnies Alas and Ms. Glesie Martinez.

The team held an initial meeting on November 13 at the Talent Hub in Paranaque, followed by a second meeting on November 29 to finalize details and visit the new office.



From left to right: Mary Ann Duguran, Roda Bascon, Rodel Bascon, and Donnies Alas during the meeting at the AOC Talent Hub in Paranaque on November 13, 2024.



From left to right: Glesie Martinez, Donnies Alas, Rodel Bascon, and Roda Bascon during the meeting on November 29, 2024, at Italianni's Restaurant, SM City Sta. Rosa, Laguna.



Gathering with the November and December New Hires

November 5 and December 2, 2024 – The AOC HR team organized a virtual gathering via Microsoft Teams to warmly welcome the new hires from various offices who joined in November and December, respectively. Led by HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang and HR Specialist Rogielyn Barroga, the event encouraged lively conversations and provided an opportunity to introduce the new team members to the AOC family. Also joining the session was Managing Director of BSU, Racquel Villarante, who shared her valuable experiences at AOC, inspiring the team with her insights and journey.

Welcome to the AOC family! We are thrilled to have you on board and excited to see the fresh perspectives and energy you bring. Together, we will continue to foster growth, collaboration, and success as we embark on this journey!



November 5, 2024 – November new hires check in meeting.



December 2, 2024 – December new hires check in meeting.



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Beyond Numbers by:

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

We welcome your comments and feedback.

Please email us at aoheadoffice@alaso plascpas.com

or you may visit our

Website: www.alaso plascpas.com

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