



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 NEGROS ISLAND REGION  
 DIVISION OF SAGAY CITY

OCT 03 2025

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 619, s. 2025

**26<sup>TH</sup> BIOTA-WV ANNUAL REGIONAL CONVENTION AND SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
 Chief Education Supervisors - CID & SGOD  
 Public Schools District Supervisors  
 Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
 All Others Concerned

1. The Schools Division Office, through the Curriculum and Implementation Division (CID), informs the field of the invitation from the Biology Teachers Association of Western Visayas (BIOTA-WV) to participate in the 26<sup>th</sup> BIOTA-WV Annual Regional Convention and Scientific Sessions, with the theme: "Empowering Biology Educators in the Age of AI and Emerging Technologies" on December 5-6, 2025 at the University of St. La Salle – Bacolod City.

2. This year's convention offers a unique opportunity for educators, students, and researchers to come together in a dynamic and thought-provoking environment. Over the course of two days, participants will engage in meaningful discussions on the transformative role of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies in advancing biology education and research. The program will include plenary lectures, concurrent sessions, and creative competitions—all thoughtfully designed to support professional development and encourage cross-institutional collaboration.

3. Attached to this Memorandum is the communication letter for further details.

4. Travel and other incidental expenses incurred during the activity will be charged to school MOOE and other local/school funds subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

5. It is understood that in the conduct of this activity there shall be no discrimination in the provision of such partnership on account of age, school, gender, civil status, disability, religion or other similar factors, personal circumstances that run counter to the principles of equal opportunity.

6. Immediate and wide dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

**DANNIE CLARK M. UGUIL, CESE**  
 Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
 Officer-in-Charge  
 Office of the Schools Division Superintendent



Enclosure : as stated  
 Reference : Invitation letter from BIOTA-WV  
 Allotment : N/A  
 No. of Pages : 7  
 To be indicated in the **Perpetual Index** under the following subjects:  
 ROBOTICS                      COMPETITION                      STEM  
 FN: CID\_MLS 1032023





# Biology Teachers Association of the Philippines, Inc. (BIOTA-Phil) Western Visayas Chapter

Mobile Nos. 09917580700/ 09608198410/ 09209559124  
E-mail: l.sombito@usls.edu.ph; m.baldevarona@usls.edu.ph; sadaba09@gmail.com

## BIOTA WV - CHAPTER Officers (2023-2025)

La Vera U. Sombito  
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(University of Antique –  
Tario-Lim Memorial Campus)  
**Vice-President**

Michelle B. Ballesteros  
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(UPV – Miag-ao)  
**Consultant / Adviser**

September 22, 2025

**Dannie Clark M. Uguil, CESE**  
OIC - Schools Division Superintendent  
Division of Sagay City  
Sitio Chloe, Brgy. Rizal, Sagay City

Dear ASDS Uguil,

Warm greetings!

On behalf of the Biology Teachers Association of Western Visayas (BIOTA-WV), it is with great enthusiasm that we invite your division to participate in the **26th BIOTA-WV Annual Regional Convention and Scientific Sessions**, with the theme:

**“Empowering Biology Educators in the Age of AI and Emerging Technologies”**  
**December 5–6, 2025 | University of St. La Salle – Bacolod City**

This year's convention promises to be an inspiring gathering of educators, students, and researchers as we explore how artificial intelligence and emerging technologies can reshape biology education and research. The two-day program will feature plenary lectures, parallel sessions, and creative contests designed to enrich professional growth and foster collaboration across institutions.

We are pleased to offer **discounted early registration rates** for participants who register on or before **November 24, 2025**.

### Registration Fees

Participant Category	Early Bird (until Nov. 24, 2025)	Regular (after Nov. 24, 2025)
Professionals		
Members	₱2,500	₱2,700
Non-members	₱2,800	₱3,000
Students	₱2,000	₱2,200

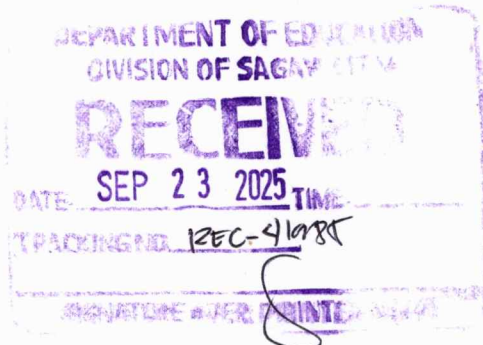
To make the convention more engaging for students and teachers alike, we are also organizing two special contests:

- **Scientific Poster Presentation**
- **SineBIOTA: A Biology Short Film Contest**

The **guidelines and mechanics** for both contests, along with the **program flow**, are attached for your reference.

We hope for your strong support by endorsing the participation of your teachers and students in this regional gathering. With your encouragement, we are confident this convention will not only inspire but also empower our academic communities to advance biology education in meaningful ways.

For inquiries and registration details, kindly contact our Secretariat at [biotawvchapter@gmail.com](mailto:biotawvchapter@gmail.com) or 0960-8198410.





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(UPV – Miag-ao)  
**Consultant / Adviser**

Thank you very much for your continued partnership in advancing science education in the region. We look forward to welcoming your delegation in Bacolod this December!

Respectfully yours,

La Vera U. Sombito  
President, BIOTA-WV

## 26<sup>th</sup> BIOTA-WV Annual Regional Convention and Scientific Sessions

Theme: Empowering Biology Educators in the Age of AI and Emerging Technologies

Dates: Dec. 5-6, 2025

Venue: University of St. La Salle, Bacolod City

### PROPOSED PROGRAM

#### DAY 1

8:00-9:00	Registration	
9:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony	
	Invocation	
	National Anthem	
	BIOTA Hymn	
	Entrance of Officers	
	Opening Remarks	La Vera Sombito, WV Chapter President
(10 min)	Welcome Remarks	From Host Institution
(10 min)		From Host Province, SDO - Negros Occ.
	Recognition of Schools	Michelle Ballesteros, WV Chapter Secretary
10:00-11:00	Keynote Lecture	Dr. Aimee Lynn Dupo, BIOTA-PH President
11:00-1:00	Photo ops, announcements	
	Opening of poster exhibits/Start of judging	
	Lunch	
1:00-1:45	Plenary Lecture 1	Dr. Pablo S. Crespo, Jr., UA
1:45-2:30	Plenary Lecture 2	Dr. Stephen Sabinay, WVSU
2:30-3:15	Plenary Lecture 3	Mr. Phillip Raymund De Oca, BCNHS
3:15-4:00	Break / Evaluation of Day 1 / Viewing and Judging of SineBIOTA	
4:00-5:30	Business meeting / Election of Officers for 2025-2027	

#### DAY 2

7:45-8:00	Registration for Day 2	
8:00-10:00	Parallel Workshops	
	A – Ms. Michelle Ballesteros	
	B – Dr. Resurreccion Sadaba	
	C – Dr. Bob Damasco	
	D – Mr. John Dale Mateo	
	E – Mr. Jan Raymund Tirado	
	F – Dr. Jim Decripito	
10:00-10:30	Break / Wrap-up / Evaluation of Day 2	
10:30-12:00	Closing Ceremony	
	Lunch Fellowship	



# SineBIOTA Contest Guidelines and Mechanics

26th BIOTA-WV Annual Regional Convention and Scientific Sessions

Theme: "Empowering Biology Educators in the Age of AI and Emerging Technologies"

December 5-6, 2025 University of St. La Salle, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental



## Categories:

- Secondary (Grades 10-12)

## General Guidelines

### **Content Alignment**

- The content must be aligned with the convention theme or at least with either utilizing AI tools or emerging technologies in biological research or biology education.

### **Abstract Submission**

#### 1. Format of Abstract

- **Title:** Bold, concise, and reflective of the study.
- **Authors:** Full names, with the presenting author underlined.
- **Affiliation:** School/Institution name and location.
- **Body of Abstract** (maximum 300 words, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt):
  - **Introduction/Background:** Rationale and objectives of the study.
  - **Methodology:** Brief description of methods used.
  - **Results:** Key findings.
  - **Conclusion:** Summary and relevance of the study.
- **Keywords:** Maximum of five.

#### 2. File Format & Submission

- Submit in **MS Word (.doc/.docx)** format.
- File name format: *Category\_LastName\_FirstWordOfTitle.docx* (e.g., *Tertiary\_DelaCruz\_Effects.docx*).
- Email submissions to: [biotawv.posters@gmail.com](mailto:biotawv.posters@gmail.com) with the subject line: *Poster Abstract Submission – [Category]*.

#### 3. Deadline for Submission

- All abstracts must be submitted on or before **November 8, 2025** for screening.

#### 4. Screening & Notification

- Abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Screening Committee based on **clarity, scientific merit, and relevance to biology/biological sciences.**
- Notification of acceptance will be sent via email by **November 15, 2025.**

### ***Requirements Upon Acceptance***

#### 1. Entry Fee

- The entry fee for accepted abstracts is P 500, which must be paid through GCash.

GCash Number    09064367599  
Account Name    Reah Ann A. Torres

- Proof of payment must be emailed along with the poster file.

#### 2. Poster File Submission

- Accepted participants must submit a digital copy of their poster (PDF format) for initial review by **November 22, 2025.**
- Poster size: **3 ft (width) × 4 ft (height), portrait orientation.**
- Font must be clear and readable from a distance of 1 meter.

#### 3. Poster Content

- Must include: Title, Authors and Affiliations, Introduction, Objectives, Methodology, Results (with figures/tables), Conclusion, and References (if applicable).
- Acknowledgments and funding sources may also be included.

#### 4. On-site Presentation

- Participants must bring and set up a **printed copy of the poster** at the designated venue on **December 5, 2025.**
- Presenters must be available during the **poster viewing and judging session** for evaluation and possible Q&A.

#### 5. Ownership and Originality

- Posters must present **original work** and must not have been previously published or presented in another competition.
- Plagiarism will lead to automatic disqualification.

### **Criteria for Judging**

### 1. Scientific Content (40%)

- Clarity of research objectives, methods, and conclusions.
- Relevance to the convention theme.
- Contribution to the field of biology and/or education.

### 2. Visual Presentation (30%)

- Layout and organization (clear, easy to follow, logical flow).
- Use of graphics, images, and figures to enhance understanding.
- Aesthetic appeal and creativity.

### 3. Engagement and Impact (20%)

- Ability to engage viewers and communicate ideas effectively.
- Connection to citizen science and community involvement.

### 4. Oral Presentation (10%)

- Clarity and conciseness in answering the questions.
- Confidence and ability to answer questions during the session.

### **Prizes and Recognition**

- Winners in each category (Secondary, Tertiary, Professionals) will receive **certificates and cash prizes.**