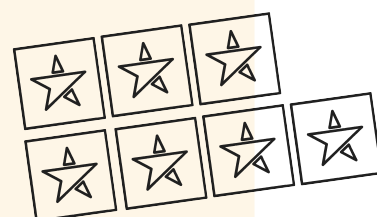




# QS Stars: A testimonial by Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU)

Envisioned to be a premier Philippine university by 2028, MMSU aims to develop virtuous human capital and sustainable innovations in a knowledge-driven global economy.

Through the years, the university has defined itself through excellence in its core functions: instruction, research, extension, and resource generation. It is recognized as a model for the rest of the SUC system in the Philippines for its notable R&D activities, international linkages, and commercialization of innovations.



We at Mariano Marcos State University have always been clear in our vision: to be a premier Philippine university – on a par with the world's best – by 2028. It is a lofty, ambitious goal – but one that we can achieve by maximizing our opportunities for growth.

Undergoing the QS Stars Audit in 2019 was one such opportunity. While the rigorous evaluation was immensely challenging, we now prove that the benefits far outweigh whatever challenges we faced along the way. Hence, we proudly beam to the world that we are a QS-rated institution.

For this, I wish to thank the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for including us in the Fostering World-class Universities Project, and particularly, CHED Chairperson J. Prospero De Vera, and International Affairs Staff Director Lily Freida Milla for motivating us to achieve this milestone.

Indeed, our being QS Stars-rated has enabled us to establish our brand in the international community. Our participation in QS-organized events and the publication of MMSU stories in the QS Wow News, among others, boost our visibility, helping us expand our global network. With this strengthened reputation, we are now at the receiving end of proposals for partnerships, instead of being the one chasing after potential partners.

QS Stars continues to serve as a quality control mechanism as we maximize our strengths and address our limitations. With the QS Stars metrics as our yardstick, we continue to build MMSU and aim for more stars in the future.



Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis, PhD  
University President  
Mariano Marcos State University, Philippines



## QS Stars explained

QS Stars is a globally recognised rating system for higher education institutions. Ratings are achieved through an in-depth assessment across at least eight categories, resulting in an overall rating of 1 to 5+ Stars and a rating of 1 to 5 Stars for each category.

Following the assessment, QS provides a detailed report summarising the results in each category. This allows institutions to recognise their strengths, as well as weaker areas which may require attention and improvement.

The QS Stars package also includes a set of badges with the ratings achieved overall and in each category. Institutions may use these in their own marketing materials to show perspective students their strengths in areas that matter most, such as Teaching and Employability.

**GOOD**



Teaching



Academic Development



Facilities



Social Responsibility



Employability



Internationalisation



Innovation



Education and Training



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