



## URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY STRENGTHENS GENDER EQUALITY EFFORTS BY TRACKING WOMEN'S ACADEMIC SUCCESS

**Urdaneta City, Philippines** — In line with its strong advocacy for gender equality and empowerment, Urdaneta City University (UCU) continues to reinforce its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5): Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls by implementing proactive measures to track and promote women's academic success across all programs.

Through its data-driven approach, UCU monitors the graduation likelihood of women compared to men, identifying trends and potential barriers that may affect female students' academic completion rates. This initiative aims to ensure that every student—regardless of gender—has equal access to education, opportunities, and support needed to reach graduation and beyond.

### Empowering Women Through Data and Inclusion

Recognizing that education is one of the most powerful tools for gender empowerment, UCU uses gender-disaggregated data to track enrollment, retention, and graduation rates. This enables the university to identify areas where gender disparities exist and implement timely interventions to close any gaps.

By focusing on equitable outcomes, UCU reaffirms its vision of creating an academic environment where women are encouraged to pursue all fields of study—including those traditionally dominated by men.

**MAKE SDG#5 A REALITY**

**5 GENDER  
EQUALITY**







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### Schemes and Programs to Close the Gender Gap

To address disparities and promote women's participation and success, UCU has established several gender-responsive programs and support schemes, including:

- **Scholarships and Financial Assistance Programs:** Designed to assist women, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds, in completing their education without financial strain.
- **Mentorship and Leadership Development Programs:** Female students are paired with mentors who guide them in their academic and professional growth, fostering confidence and leadership skills.
- **Gender Sensitivity and Awareness Training:** Conducted regularly to cultivate an inclusive campus culture that values respect, equality, and empowerment.
- **Support Services for Student-Parents:** Through initiatives like childcare facilities and flexible scheduling, UCU helps women balance academic pursuits with family responsibilities.
- **Career Development and Empowerment Seminars:** The university organizes workshops encouraging women to enter diverse professions and leadership roles, ensuring their equal representation in the workforce.

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## Building an Equitable Academic Environment

UCU's gender-responsive policies are implemented through collaborative efforts between the Gender and Development (GAD) Office, the Office of Student Affairs, and various colleges. Together, these offices work to create a system of accountability that guarantees women's voices are heard and their educational rights protected.

Tracking gender equality in education goes beyond numbers—it's about ensuring that every woman who enters the university has the same chance to graduate, succeed, and lead.

## A Continuing Commitment to SDG 5

Through these sustained efforts, Urdaneta City University continues to set an example in advancing SDG 5 within higher education. By integrating gender equality into its institutional framework, UCU demonstrates that the path toward inclusive and quality education is built on equity, empowerment, and opportunity for all.

The university remains steadfast in its goal to narrow any existing gender gap in education, ensuring that women not only enroll but also graduate with the skills, confidence, and opportunities to contribute meaningfully to society.

In championing women's academic success, UCU reaffirms that achieving gender equality in education is not just a goal—it is a continuous commitment to building a future where everyone can thrive.

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