

Support for Projects at Payap University and Silliman University

The United Board has been notified by the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) of grant awards totaling \$1,050,000 in support of projects at two of its partner institutions, Silliman University in the Philippines and Payap University in Thailand. ASHA provides grant assistance to U.S. organizations on behalf of selected overseas schools, libraries and hospitals that are founded or sponsored by U.S. citizens and that incorporate America's high educational standards.

A \$500,000 grant will enable Silliman University to make improvements at its College of Nursing and the Allied Health Sciences (SUCN). SUCN will acquire and install the equipment and technology needed to set up a clinical simulation laboratory and related resource center. The upgraded facility will give students at SUCN and neighboring institutions greater opportunities for hands-on learning through clinical simulations in its virtual laboratory, intensive care unit, delivery room and operating room. Based in Dumaguete City, SUCN provides education to nurses, allied health professionals and faculty at hospitals, health care institutions and nursing schools in the Negros Oriental region.

ASHA funds totaling \$550,000 will be used to help Payap University conduct a much needed upgrade of its information technology infrastructure and equip its facilities with up-to-date computing equipment. This upgrade will improve faculty teaching capability and student learning accessibility by replacing outdated equipment and enhancing wireless access throughout the campus.

The United Board has worked with the ASHA program since 1976, receiving grants for 20 projects totaling more than \$13.7 million for projects in five Asian countries with seven partner institutions.