



PARAMI UNIVERSITY

2022

ANNUAL

REPORT



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year 2022 is best described as a testing year for Parami University. It tested how innovative we were to reorganize our programs. It tested how resilient we were to face monumental challenges thrown at us. It tested how spontaneous we were to meet the needs of our students. It tested how committed we were to the mission of the university. I can say, without a shadow of a doubt, that we stood all those tests, and I must add, successfully.

After a year of instabilities and uncertainties, the year 2022 is also best regarded as a strategic turning point for Parami University. To provide formal educational opportunities and expand educational access for our students, we incorporated and registered Parami in Washington, DC as a not-for-profit synchronous online university licensed under the Higher Education Licensure Commission (HELC) of the Washington DC government on June 2, 2022. This licensing granted us the authority to confer our own degrees and afforded the flexibility to meet the needs of our students.

With the degree-granting authority in hand, Parami launched an intensive recruitment campaign that resulted in welcoming the first undergraduate class of 2026 with 57 enrolled students. With only two months in June and July, the Parami admissions team was able to employ a flexible, and yet rigorous, admissions process, an instrumental feature since many of our student populations come from unconventional educational backgrounds. The majority of students are from Burma and Thailand. With the help of the OSUN learning hubs based in Kenya, we also recruited three refugee students from Kenya.

The Fall 2022 semester began smoothly as planned. Commencing a program is one, but maintaining the program's quality is another. While we will continue to monitor and improve the program, the end results of the first semester showed excellent promise. Other than four students who were either suspended due to academic violations or advised to take leave of absence due to personal challenges, not a single student dropped out of the program at the end of the semester. This is a testament to the high quality of education and student support services provided at Parami.

In addition to undergraduate programs, we successfully expanded offerings under the Parami Institute of Continuing Education (PICE). With a goal to create educational opportunities for students with different needs in mind, the PICE was able to grow its offerings exponentially. For those who needed



to improve their English language proficiency, we offered American English Myanmar-Parami (AEMP) English language courses tailored for different demographics. For those who wished to improve their critical thinking in the Burmese language, we delivered a Connectivist Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). For those who wished to improve their technology-oriented skills, we partnered with Google to provide Google professional certificate courses. For those who wished to build their general professional skills in small class sizes, we organized ParamiX courses. In addition, we collaborated with Princeton and Yale to give tailored courses for specific needs. All those offerings

spoke volumes of our commitment to broaden serving students with diverse needs and backgrounds.

While the future will still hold a plethora of uncertainties, the mission of Parami University has stood strong. We are here to 'educate underserved students in developing countries so that they will become effective change agents and contributing members of the global community.' That is exactly what we have done. I personally pledge to continue serving to the best of my ability to carry on that mission, and I welcome all those who believe in our mission to create more educational opportunities for our students.

Yours sincerely,
Kyaw Moe Tun

YEAR AT A GLANCE

In 2022, Parami became an institute of higher education licensed in the US, with its own degree-granting authority to award online associate degrees and bachelor's degrees in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) and Statistics and Data Science (SDS). The University also entered into an agreement with the long-standing institutional partner Bard College to award dual degrees to the graduates of its undergraduate programs. This opens a new chapter in the history of Parami University with its goal to become a full-fledged university with degree-granting authority finally accomplished.

The new chapter also took Parami University in new directions, opening up opportunities not imagined before. Its transformation into a virtual university with fully-online synchronous instruction means the University can now reach out to and serve student populations without geographic barriers. There is potential to build the University into a truly global community serving students across developing countries in Southeast Asia and the Global South. New possibilities emerge to deliver higher education across insurmountable structural barriers. The University continues its journey to provide high-quality education to students from all walks of life and to enable them to become change agents. With newfound opportunities, a new vision arises.

A New Vision



Parami University aims to be an institution of choice for students in Southeast Asia seeking top-quality higher education opportunities via advanced delivery technologies.

Mission



Parami University is committed to educating underserved students in developing countries so that they will become effective change agents and contributing members of the global community. Parami accomplishes this by nurturing critical thinking, inspired leadership, and compassionate service through globally competitive liberal arts and sciences education.

Highlights 2022

6
Continuing education programs

2
Undergraduate majors

974
Total graduates*

76
Total courses offered*

8098
Applications processed**

** all programs*

*** all programs including on-going ones*

37

Community education institutions met

73

Undergraduate admission and information sessions offered

9

Education technologies used

10

EdTech sessions for undergraduate students

3

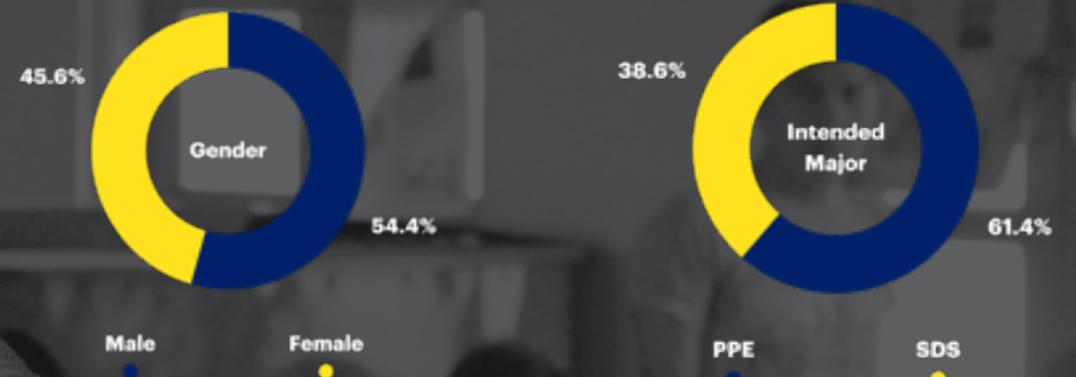
EdTech workshops for undergraduate faculty

4

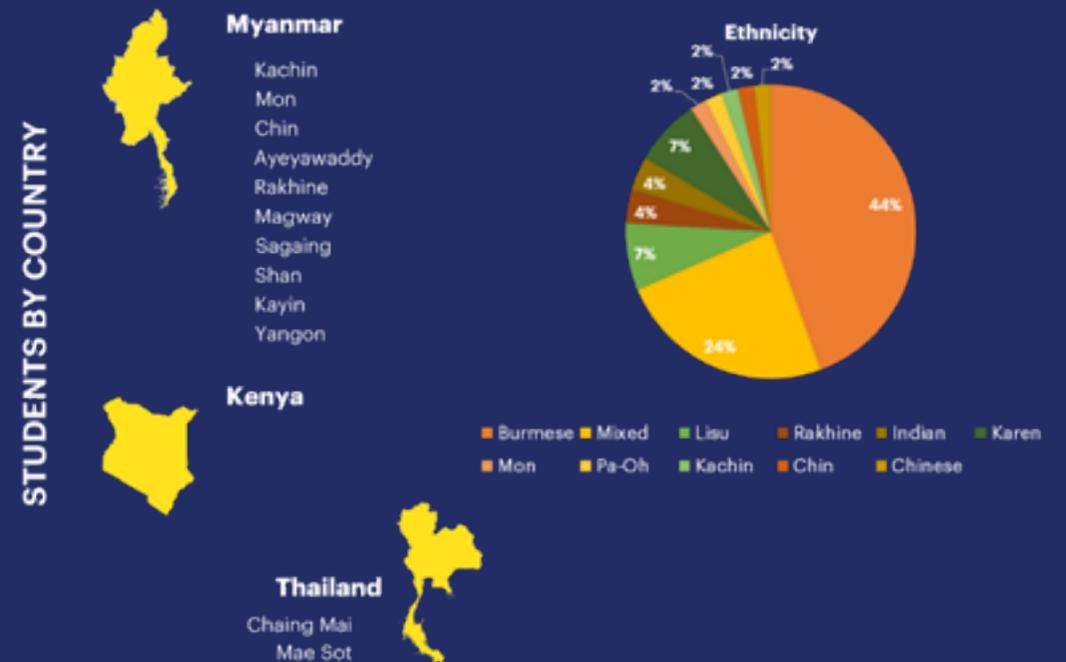
EdTech skill workshops for partner organizations

A NEW APPROACH FOR DELIVERING HIGHER EDUCATION TO STUDENTS IN PROTRACTED CRISES: PARAMI UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Class of 2026 Demographics



Parami undergraduate programs were launched in June 2022, and the first cohort Class of 2026 began their studies in August 2022. The classes are offered fully synchronously online, with students and professors engaging in face-to-face instruction virtually. Students will receive an associate degree in general education upon successful completion of 2 years of study, and a bachelor's degree after 4 years of study. They can major in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) or Statistics and Data Science (SDS) with specializations of their interests for the BA degree.

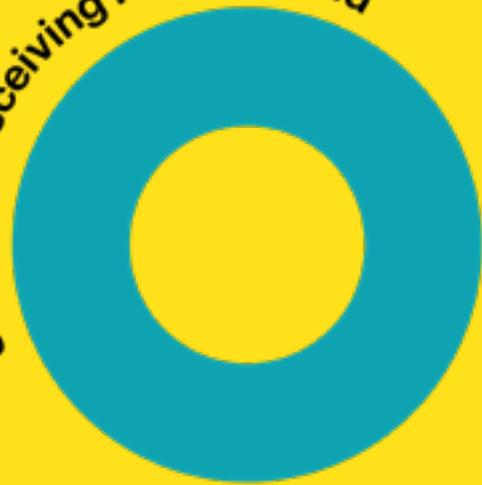


187 Applied **66** Accepted

109 Interviewed **57** Enrolled

The inaugural cohort Class of 2026 comprises 57 students from all over Myanmar, select regions in Thailand, and Kenya. They will study for their associate and bachelor's degrees online at Parami University and receive a holistic education with strong focus on critical thinking, inspired leadership, and compassionate service.

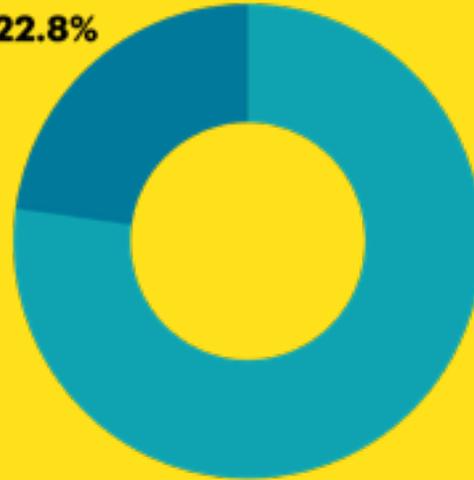
Students Receiving Financial Aid



100%

Full Financial Aid

22.8%



77.2%

Partial Financial Aid

Parami Need-based Scholarship

9

Fully Funded Students

44

Partially Funded Students

Named Scholarship

4

Fully Funded Students

Student Financial Aid

100 percent of students in the Class of 2026 received financial aid. Financial aid at Parami University is need-based, depending on how much the individual students and their family members can contribute toward education. About 23 percent of students were awarded full financial aid and 77 percent received partial financial aid with varying amounts. Students are eligible for financial aid for all four years, but it will be reviewed every year based on students' academic performance and financial situation.

Language & Thinking Program

The Language and Thinking Program (L&T) curriculum focuses on intensive reading and writing to introduce students to critical reading and writing skills required in academia as well as other skills such as respectful and active listening, and communication for productive discussions. This provides a solid foundation for the students to transition to higher education. Students engage in their writing process through various state-of-the-art writing-based teaching techniques. They undergo guided exercises that enhance their writing, thinking, editing, brainstorming, and analyzing skills. This intensive two-week program is developed in partnership with Bard College, a private liberal arts college in New York. Over the summer of 2022, facilitators of Bard's Institute of Writing and Thinking (IWT) trained Parami instructors to become L&T instructors.

All incoming students in the Parami undergraduate programs are required to join the Language and Thinking Program (L&T) and orientation before the beginning of the fall semester. Class of 2026 attended and completed the program in August 2022.

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE



"We did a lot of writing in the L&T program. Writing, which is also related to reading, is crucial for our academic year. I had a great time."

Ei Mon Soe, Class of 2026

"The seminar topics [shared] during the orientation session are very important for students before starting their education. We have learned the relationship between learning and thinking through the L&T program. We all come from different backgrounds and diverse communities. The program has prepared me to think from different perspectives."

Swan Htet Linn, Class of 2026



"During this two-week program, we went through an interpersonal journey. In L&T class, I met amazing people [students] who have the same ideas. They are participating, engaging, and sweet too. They are very open and share unique perspectives from their lives. The L&T program is special to me. I think it is for most of the students. Our instructor made the class engaging and welcoming, and I feel like I am a part of the school."

Thant Thaw Tun, Class of 2026



Student Clubs

In the fall of 2022, the students at Parami created five students clubs to freely connect and collaborate with other like-minded students, organize a platform that invokes curiosity and innovation, and develop leadership experience and collaborative spirit.

Current student clubs are



Media Club

Public Speaking Club



Social Issue Club

Voice Acting Club



Fitness Club

Student Support Services

Undergraduate students can also access a variety of student support services to supplement their academic performance and student life experience.

4 Monthly guest speaker sessions

Students hear from industry leaders and practitioners on a variety of subjects such as 'Exploring SOGIESC' and 'Changing the Cocoa Industry.'

EdTech support workshops 10

The EdTech sessions train students in basic digital literacy and the use of education technology tools such as the use of citation and referencing tools, google slides timer, password and 2FA, Prezi software and Google Data Studio.

208 Tutoring & advising sessions

Students have access to one-on-one tutoring sessions, weekly group tutoring workshops, monthly skills workshops, and course registration & advising sessions with the academic advisors.

6 Students received mental health counseling services

Free student counseling and coaching with a professional counselor is available to undergraduate students as they cope with their personal and academic issues.

Accessibility and Inclusivity

As a non-profit education institution with a social mission, Parami University aims to provide quality higher education to youth from all walks of life. The University is committed to providing education to underserved students in developing countries, and believes that everyone should have an equal opportunity to access quality education regardless of where they live and their socioeconomic background. To promote accessibility and inclusivity, the University identifies structural barriers that prevent students from accessing higher education, and tackle them through innovative programming.

Education Delivery Online

As online education becomes more mainstream, it opens a plethora of opportunities that did not exist before. One of them is the possibility of enabling students with limited mobility and geographic barriers to access education. Youth from vulnerable populations such as those in crisis situations or displacement or those from migrant and refugee backgrounds often are not able to travel physically to access degree programs at recognized higher education institutions. Under the licensing of HELC and providing classes online synchronously, Parami brings recognized quality undergraduate education to those communities.

In addition, the University invests in education technology to enhance virtual classrooms and make learning effective. These include technology to monitor student progress in real time, detect irregularities in academic performance and integrity, and make academic resources and databases accessible entirely online.

Parami uses Canvas learning management system where students can access course materials and classes, communicate with instructors and peers, submit assignments, and many more. Parami has also invested in creating Parami University's virtual campus with Topia. It will become a community where students can interact with each other in a game-like environment.

Education technologies used at Parami University:

 Canvas	 Dropout Detective
 Zoom	 Copleaks
 H5P	 Moodle
 Pear Deck	 Topia
 Labster	 Padlet

2 Learning hubs
(Mandalay and Taunggyi)

Learning facilities **2**
(Yangon and Chiang Mai)

9 Students using
learning hub
services

Students using **23**
learning facilities

Offline Learning Hubs and Facilities Support

To make online education accessible, it is important to take note that the infrastructure necessary for online learning is often lacking outside of big cities. Many students face difficulties studying online from their homes due to a variety of factors, including lack of internet connectivity, electricity stability, and family support. Parami University's partner, US based Parami Liberal Arts and Sciences Fund, Inc. provides room and board support for those students without online access.

Students can receive residential support at learning hubs or use computer and internet facilities at learning facilities located across Myanmar and Thailand, operated through partnerships with community education institutions and supporters. In addition, three students in Kenya are supported through a learning hub provided by Bard College.

Academic texts and databases are made accessible through the following services.

- EBSCO Discovery Service
- Research4Life
- Library and Information Resources Network
- Perlego
- Free subscription to New York Times, Economists, and Daily Chatter

"I am originally from Kachin State, and now I am staying at Parami's learning hub situated in Mandalay. In my hometown, I couldn't join classes and study coursework due to the bad connection and electricity cut off. When I told Parami's team about my difficulties, they assigned me to this learning hub. Here, Parami offers not only shelter but also internet and electricity without charges so it is a great place for us to study with full facilities."

Hkawn Nu Mai, Kachin State



"I couldn't focus on my study at my house in Pakokku due to many difficulties such as electricity and poor internet connection. I discussed my difficulties with Parami team and they said I could move into one of the learning hubs. Currently, I am living in the Parami Learning Hub in Mandalay, and it is such a great place because I can focus on my studies. Parami offers many facilities such as electricity and internet, and whenever we have any kind of problem, we can contact the learning hub coordinator or directly with Parami team and they take action immediately."

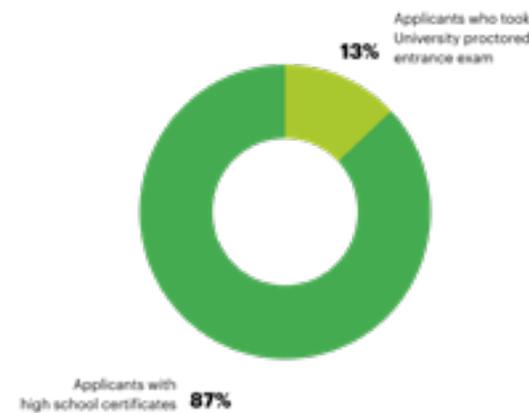
Nyan Htet Htay Win, Pakokku, Magway Region

Flexible Admissions System

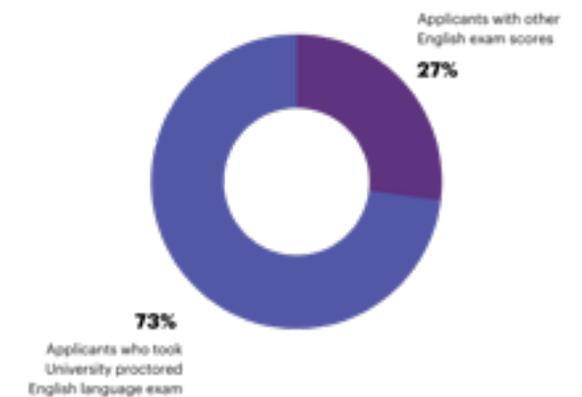
One of the biggest structural barriers to higher education faced by students from vulnerable communities is the lack of recognized secondary education certificates. They often enroll in secondary education institutions that are operated outside of the public education systems due to pre-existing structural barriers, and there tends to be little transferability between these schools and the traditional higher education institutions. This includes students from ethnic areas, migrant schools, and refugee camps who are often unable to obtain high school certificates that meet standard academic requirements from colleges and universities. Moreover, there are also barriers associated with taking equivalency exams, such as the high cost and payment issues to access these services, difficulty in preparing for standardized tests, and barriers to access test centers. Taking into account this non-linear path to higher education, Parami University assesses and accepts non-formal high school transcripts, transcripts from high school equivalent exams such as GED, as well as administers university proctored entrance exam free of charge to those with no high school transcripts or equivalents. In addition, the university administers its own English language proficiency exam for those who cannot afford to take standardized English exams.

The flexible admissions system enables qualified students with non-traditional education backgrounds to access quality higher education provided by Parami University.

University proctored entrance exam



University proctored English language exam



Admissions and Outreach

Admissions and outreach play a crucial role in recruiting students from diverse backgrounds. Due to time limitations, however, the admissions for the 2022-2023 academic year was conducted entirely online, from information sessions and admission workshops to student interviews. Despite the unstable internet connections, frequent electricity blackouts, and students' unfamiliarity with the online application system, Parami University received 187 applications during the two months of intensive recruitment and accepted 57 students from Myanmar, Thailand, and Kenya for the Class of 2026. One strategy the admissions and outreach employed is to reach out to community-based post-secondary education organizations to ensure the admissions information reaches prospective students outside of big cities and those with limited internet access. The team provided separate information sessions for youths from those schools.

The information sessions for admission for 2023-2024 began in October 2022. In addition to the weekly online information sessions, in-person information sessions were organized in Mandalay, Taunggyi, Mawlamyaing, Hpa-an, and Mae Sot. The in-person sessions allowed the team to expand its scope of outreach and meet with more interested individuals and organizations.

Class of 2026

35%

Acceptance rate

86%

Matriculation rate

33

Information sessions for undergraduate programs

Class of 2027

(up to 31 December 2022)

27

Online information sessions with **248 attendees**
(general public)

8

Online information sessions with **355 attendees**
(community-based schools)

5

In-person information sessions with **700 attendees**

Inspired Leadership and Compassionate Service

Inspired leadership is crucial for the youth to develop a clear vision and the ability to execute one's vision to bring about personal and societal change. Parami University students will have opportunities to engage with industry-specific leaders and professionals who positively impact their communities and benefit from university-industry partnerships.

Compassionate service is a unique characteristic of all students and stakeholders at Parami University. We believe that civically engaged individuals are necessary for the balanced development of our communities and societies. Students at Parami are required to take a seminar course sequence that raises the issues of morality and ethics in society, to form the basis for compassionate service outside of the university in their engagements with communities. Global civic engagement opportunities are offered through collaboration with Parami University's global partner organizations, such as global civic engagement micro-grants and global community service coalitions.

Quality higher education at Parami is based on the holistic development approach that the liberal arts and sciences curriculum offers. The liberal arts curriculum provides students with a well-rounded education that exposes them to diverse perspectives and interdisciplinary thinking in all aspects of their lives, regardless of a specific major or profession. Following the liberal arts curriculum, Parami students are required to take courses across various disciplines in the first two years before they declare and focus on their major studies in the last two academic years. As a liberal arts university, we believe that liberal education prepares an individual to best hone 21st-century skills, such as critical thinking, creativity, effective communication, and complex problem-solving.

Global exposure opportunities are available through Parami's strong network with many well-known universities and colleges worldwide, such as Bard College and Arizona State University in the United States, the American University of Central Asia in Kyrgyzstan, London School of Economics in the United Kingdom, Sciences Po in Paris, European Humanities University in Lithuania, and National Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan and many more. Undergraduate students at Parami University can take several credit-bearing online courses from any university in Parami University's network. By taking these courses across institutions, our students are able to interact with students from universities worldwide to exchange ideas and gain intercultural experience.

INSIDE SCOOP 1: STUDENT AFFAIRS AT PARAMI

Academic classes and coursework tend to be the central feature when one thinks of university education. As much as credit hours and academic requirements are important for the learning journey of university students, student affairs also play an essential role in supporting the holistic development of students. Student Affairs at Parami University organizes extracurricular activities and creates opportunities for student engagement, provides personalized monitoring and support to maintain student participation in the online learning environment, and offers on-ground student support.

Each student affairs officer conducts one-on-one sessions where undergraduate students can talk about the challenges and issues they are facing and receive support or referrals where possible. The University also employs 11 class fellows who are assigned to individual classes to monitor student attendance and participation, and identify accessibility and other issues. They then convene with student affairs officers and academic advisors weekly to troubleshoot issues and find solutions. Prominent issues include difficulty accessing the internet, frequent electricity blackouts, and personal

issues. The Student Affairs team works with the Academic Department to ensure the faculty at Parami understand these issues and design their coursework to accommodate the challenges, for example, providing make-up classes and quizzes, and adjusting deadlines.

In terms of on-ground support, the Student Affairs team and learning hub coordinators create localized offline student activities each semester where possible. Before the end of the fall semester, the team and the coordinators organized an in-person gathering in Yangon, as well as field trips and community engagement in learning hub locations. Such activities will be offered every semester and are expected to reduce isolation, increase connectivity, and deepen friendships.

Moreover, Student Affairs organizes monthly guest speaker sessions and community meetings, facilitates student clubs, and identifies engagement opportunities at Parami's partner universities globally. Going forward, it will offer more student activities as well as facilitate service learning, career and skill development opportunities.

NURTURING THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AT A SCALE

Parami has created a space where young learners can engage in critical dialogue and develop thinking skills. With an interdisciplinary approach, our year-long programs and semester-long programs aim to provide students with the well-rounded liberal arts and sciences education they need to develop holistically.

Parami Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship Programs

Parami started the Parami Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 2017 to provide quality education to adult learners in Burma. Parami Leadership Program (PLP) is the flagship program that accepts university graduates of Burma from all across the country to cultivate critical thinking, leadership skills, and a compassionate service mindset through a year-long intensive liberal arts and sciences curriculum.

In the Fall of 2021, the Parami Institute of Continuing Education introduced a new education program called Parami Social Entrepreneurship Program (PSEP) as well as reconfigured PLP to offer more flexibility. Both PLP and PSEP were designed to offer maximum flexibility in that students take modular courses and complete a set amount of credit hours within 1–2 years to graduate from the programs.

2022 is the last year that Parami University offers PLP and PSEP. It has been an honor to serve some of the most talented and driven individuals from all over Myanmar for the past 6 years. Some PLP alumni are pursuing further study abroad, while some have returned to their hometowns to work in the fields they are passionate about. With the launch of the undergraduate degree

programs and new continuing education programs, Parami University has, for now, decided to stop one-year certificate programs in the coming year.

9

Students in PLP
8th cohort

147

PLP alumni from
the 1st to 7th cohort

3

Students in PSEP
1st cohort

Modular Courses

The eight-week long modular courses were launched in the summer of 2021 and were designed to provide PLP and PSEP program students with more flexibility in learning. Working professionals who want to improve their skills and advance their careers could also sign up for these individual short courses. The modular courses were offered in three modular periods this year. They consistently received high student satisfaction and covered a wide range of subject areas taught by university-level lecturers.

82

Total Modular Courses

2477

Total Applications

1282

Total Admitted Students

689

Total Graduates

Overview of modular courses (Summer 2021–Summer 2022)

Massive Open Online Course in Burmese Language

Parami University successfully launched the Massive Open Online Course in Burmese Language (MOOC) in July 2022 and welcomed 20 instructors teaching 582 students from different parts of Myanmar. The semester-long program includes 40 study groups. Inspired by the first-year seminar courses offered at US liberal arts colleges, Parami has developed the MOOC program to allow participants to explore different types of readings, including classical and contemporary work in humanities, philosophy, political thought, history, literature, social science, and religion.

This is the first course offered in Burmese language at Parami and aims to reach to a wide population of students who wish to improve their critical reading and thinking skills without language barriers. The course syllabus, developed by a course design committee composed of nine Myanmar scholars and academics, covers multiple themes. To ensure diverse views and perspectives, the course advisors fine-tuned the themes for each session, nominated and selected course readings, and developed critical reading questions.

The main concept of the course is to help form a solid basis for the students in their transition to academia and scholarship, help develop critical thought and inquiry regarding the foundational norms of one's own society and community, and enable them to notice the cultural cornerstones as well as prejudices that govern the society, with the hope that they will learn to think critically about societal challenges of our times and form a basis for action.

MOOC Fall 2022 Intake

582

Total Enrolled Students

942

Total Applications

287

Total Graduates

MOOC Spring 2023 Intake

613

Total Enrolled Students

1143

Total Applications

INSIDE SCOOP 2: SYSTEMS BUILDING

One of the most intensive parts of Parami's license application process and preparation for the launch of the undergraduate programs is the development of university policies. The development and implementation of policies ensure that the University is in compliance with licensing regulations, provides clarity to the stakeholders as to what their rights and responsibilities are, enables due process for a multitude of issues and scenarios, and lays ground for monitoring and quality assurance. The policies are divided into institution-wide policies which are applicable to all stakeholders, academic policies and administrative policies. Some of these policies are applicable to the students, while others concern the administrative staff, academic staff and trustees. The policies are accompanied by implementing procedures, processes and protocols.

In 2022, there are a total of 65 policies and procedures implemented across various departments of the institution. Examples of institution-wide policies include academic freedom policy, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policy, and grievance and non-retaliation policy. Administrative policies include handbooks for administrative and academic staff. Academic policies regulate issues such as student attendance and participation, credit hours, satisfactory academic progress, student performance assessment, academic integrity (plagiarism and other forms of dishonesty), and undergraduate graduation requirements. The University also uses management systems—*Orbund* student information system and *Canvas* Learning Management System—to streamline operations.

Here is an example of how a university department builds systems to administer its functions.

The Registrar's Office is not an office familiar to many people. It is an administrative department that keeps accurate student records such as enrollment status, credit hours, grades and graduation transcripts. It also coordinates with faculty to roll out new courses each semester, and registers students in courses. The University has developed extensive policies, processes and forms to administer the functions of the Registrar's Office, such as Registrar's Policy and Protocol, Undergraduate Graduation Policy, Identity Protection and Data Management Procedure, and Student Probation, Suspension and Expulsion Procedure.

The University also uses *Orbund*, a customized student information system that helps to manage and store the student data in a secure environment. It integrates students, faculty, and administrative functions in one place. The system coordinates online class enrollment, and updates students' profiles with changes as they happen. An in-house customized Course Inventory Management and Review System (CIMRS) has also been developed to manage course roll-outs each semester and keep archives of old courses.

"I work with information management system technicians to configure and customize the Orbund software for the operations of Parami University in various aspects and functions and train the administrative staff at Parami to use the application for their respective tasks. In terms of registrar services, I am responsible for developing policies, systems, and forms to collect, process, and record student information in the Student Information System, as well as oversee the operation and maintenance of the student records database."

**Phyu Thet Wai, Information System Manager/Registrar
of Parami University**

LIFELONG LEARNING AND CRITICAL THINKING IN SOCIETY

Parami Institute of Continuing Education offers courses to young students and adult learners who wish to further the horizon of their education and advance their professions. All the courses and programs offered by the Parami Institute of Continuing Education are non-credit bearing. They are offered to learners as part of the service of the University. The courses and programs are tailored to meet the needs of learners and equip them with leadership, analytical, critical thinking, and articulate communications skills.

ParamiX Courses

Starting in the Fall of 2022, we introduced ParamiX courses to further our impact by reaching a wider group of learners. The courses are similar to modular courses yet have a different target group of learners.

These new courses in diverse fields of studies are best tailored for young adult learners and professionals who wish to keep developing themselves even though they are no longer studying at University. With flexibility and accessibility in mind, ParamiX courses are organized outside of work hours.

Courses are twelve weeks long, including time to implement final projects. For at least nine of the twelve weeks, participants engage with each other and the instructor in online, synchronous meetings of 1.5 hours twice a week. There are office hours but fewer synchronous

meetings during the project period. After the project period, the group gets together for the final week of presentations, reflections, and learning.

Fall 2022 ParamiX courses

90
Total Applications

59
Total Enrolled Students

4
Total Courses Offered

36
Total Graduates

(Not including PLP and PSEP program students)

Courses to be offered in Spring 2023

- Supervised Machine Learning
- Diversity and Social Inclusion
- The Business of Impact: How Entrepreneurs Can Save the World
- Telling Stories: the Art of Fiction
- Climate Change Advocacy
- Consumerism: The Good, Bad and Ugly Aspects of Consumer Culture in Our Society

176

Total Applications

98

Total Enrolled Students

Courses offered in Fall 2022

- Public Finance for Developing Countries
- Data Science in Python for Beginners
- The Story of Us – Different Perspectives of the History of Humanity
- Organizational Culture, Workplace Communication and Conflict Resolution

Collaborative Courses

Parami also provides students in the University community with an opportunity to join courses offered by other universities in our network and study together with students from around the world. Students who participate gain international experience and exposure, which will not only be helpful for their preparation to study abroad but also to work in a dynamic and culturally diverse workplace.

Princeton Global History Lab

The Global History Lab “History of the World”–GHL HOW Course is a semester-long online course offered by Princeton University. In this intensive course, participants are required to meet 3 times weekly (1.5 hours per session). They learn world history through videos, discussions, presentations, case studies, and weekly town hall meetings throughout the semester. All the reading materials are also available on the university learning platform. The participants get to learn with individuals from different backgrounds and professions.

8 students from Parami have joined the **Global History Lab “History of the World”** –GHL HOW Course–in fall 2022.



Yale Course

Parami University has partnered with Yale University to provide students from our community with an opportunity to remotely take a course offered at Yale University and study with Yale students taking the course on campus. The first course, Colonialism, Nationalism and Identity in Myanmar, by Dr. David Moe and Dr. Frances O’Morchoe, will be offered this coming Spring, 2023.

6 students are enrolled in the course.

INSIDE SCOOP 3:

GOVERNANCE

As a private non-profit higher education institution, Parami University is under the supervision of a board of trustees. The Board of Trustees is the official governing body of the University, overseeing the strategic planning, overall growth and well-being of Parami University. The University management is responsible for answering to the Board regarding the achievement of the organization's vision and mission, setting and meeting the annual work plan and targets, and planning strategic direction. The Board also holds the management accountable for fiscal responsibility, and approves the annual budget.

Parami University has selected a group of individuals with diverse expertise in academia, non-profit, business, and legal sectors to serve on the Board. These trustees have supported the vision and mission of Parami University since its founding, and have shown their dedication through advising,

investing time, and financial support. Twelve trustees currently serve on the Parami University Board in 2022. Having distinguished individuals with diverse expertise on the Board, Parami University can ensure its long-term sustainable development and relevant impact on society.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The programs at Parami University are generally characterized by liberal arts and sciences education. Undergraduate degree programs and PICE programs such as the MOOC in Burmese language and ParamiX courses are conducted in liberal arts style small discussion classes with intensive reading, thinking and discussion components. In 2022, Parami University also began offering skills development courses relevant to academic and professional pathways in the modern world. Proficiency in

English language is fundamental for many academic programs and opportunities, and forms a basis of the global knowledge database. Beyond general language skills, Parami University offers English language courses that are tailored to the specific needs of students, academicians and professionals. Through Google career certificate courses, the University enables students to tap into industry-endorsed courses in specific fields instrumental to the digital world.

American English Myanmar-Parami English Language Initiative

In partnership with the American Center of Yangon and the Embassy of the United States, Parami University is offering American English Myanmar-Parami English Language Initiative courses (ELI). ELI seeks to develop the critical thinking, presentation, and language skills of learners, and enable effective communications in speaking and writing.

ELI offers four English language courses for specific needs in academia and professional fields:

 English for **Study Abroad**

 English for **Academic Purposes**

 English for **Professional Purposes**

 English for **Vocational Purposes**

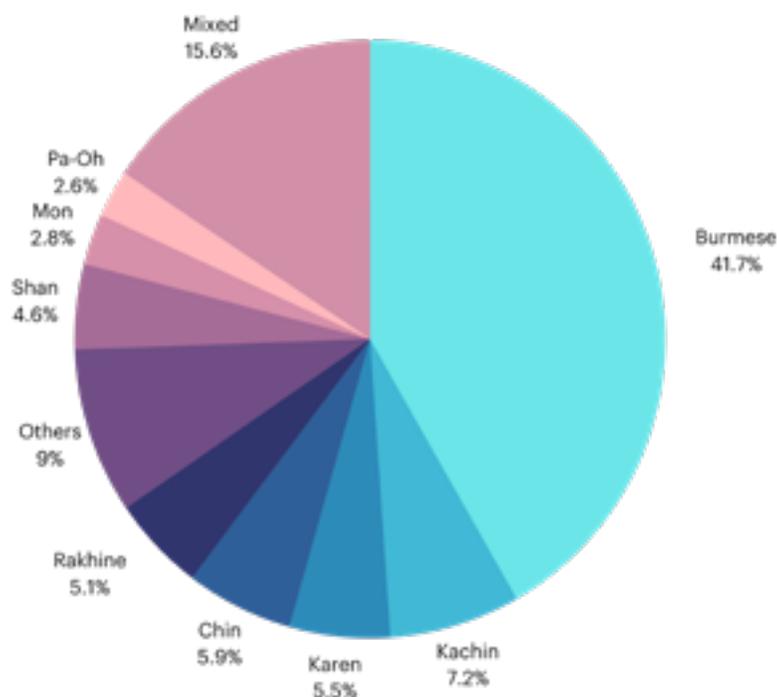
ELI combines English language and skill-building into courses for a unique educational experience. These courses allow students to learn and apply English in the context of their professional or academic careers. For example, English for Study Abroad identifies and teaches language skills and cultural knowledge relevant to those who are aiming to study abroad. English for Academic Purposes includes intensive academic writing and reference techniques necessary for scholars publishing papers in English language. English for Professional Purposes and English for Vocational Purposes help students use the language in various work scenarios such as email communication or report writing for effective communication. In 2022, ELI ran 18 courses, divided into two intakes: Intake 1 from February 2022 to August 2022 offering 8 courses, and Intake 2 from September 2022 to January 2023 offering 10 courses. During Intake 1, 393 students, joining from all over Myanmar as well as from diaspora communities of Myanmar origin, completed the courses. Intake 2 is ongoing as of 31 December 2022.

ELI also offered 14 public webinars and 61 conversation classes in 2022. The conversation classes covered various topics ranging from food to family, focusing on allowing participants to practice their English speaking.

The public seminars covered different topics to reflect the interest of the targeted audience in public:

- American Higher Education
- Building Resilience & Coping with Uncertainty During Difficult Times
- Choosing a Major and Career Planning
- Navigating Study Options and Leveraging Your Experience
- Email Etiquette: Tips and Tools for Effective Email Writing
- Educational Paths and the Liberal Arts
- Presentation Skills
- Tips for Writing Resume/CV
- Digital, Life and Soft Skills for 21st Century
- Writing an Effective Personal Statement
- Coping with Unhealthy Thoughts During Crisis

Ethnic Diversity of Enrolled Students Intake 1



5726

Total Applications**

393

Total Graduates*

18

Total Courses**

* Intake 1

** Intake 1 and 2

AEM-Parami ELI (Intake 1)

50

Weekly Conversation Classes

11

Total Webinars Offered

1569

Total Participants

1473

Total Participants

Google Professional Certificate Programs

Parami University has partnered with Grow with Google to provide Google Professional Certificate Programs, which offer industry-endorsed certification in high-growth career fields. These Programs are self-paced and generally accessible only through Coursera for a fee to obtain the completion certificates. However, Parami University obtained an agreement with Grow with Google to offer scholarships to 500 Myanmar students who join the programs through Parami. In addition to processing applications and recruiting students, the University uses a structured approach with set assignment deadlines, study buddy pairings, and tech support to ensure student support and higher completion rates. The application was opened in December 2022, and the Programs are set to commence in January 2023.

Five self-paced Google Career Certificate training programs offered under PICE are



Data Analytics



Project Management



Digital Marketing & E-commerce



UX Design



IT Support

938

Applicants

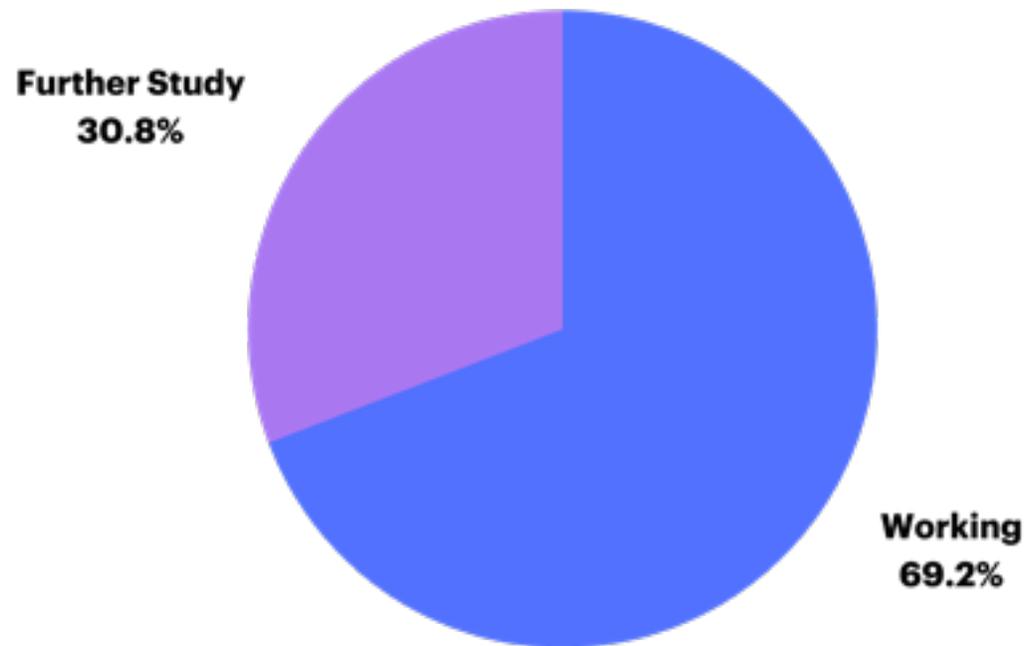
475

Accepted

UPDATES: ALUMNI NEWS

Since 2017, Parami Institute of Continuing Education at Parami University has provided liberal arts and sciences education to nearly 150 young people from diverse ethnicities, religions, and walks of life who aspired to become responsible leaders and contributing members of the society regardless of their academic and career paths. After graduating from the Parami Leadership Program (PLP), our alumni are involved in different development sectors and professional fields, have continued their education abroad, and have started their own organizations.

It has been difficult to track the post-graduate pathways of PLP alumni in the past year, given data privacy and security concerns. An alumni survey was conducted for those who had the liberty to provide their current updates (39 responses).



In career highlights, a Cohort 6 alumnus is serving as an Assistant Lecturer at Chin Christian University. Three alumni from Cohort 1, 3 and 7 have taken research and program positions in civil society organizations, and three from Cohort 1, 2 and 7 are advancing their careers in the private sector in education, finance and technology fields.

In further study, a Cohort 7 graduate was admitted into the M.A. in Global Studies program at Bard College/Central European University. He has completed the first year of studies at the Central European University in Vienna, Austria, and is continuing the second year at Bard campus in New York, US. The programs that the PLP alumni are currently attending include:

- Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Lausanne (Switzerland)
- M.A. in Human Rights and Democratization, Mahidol University (Thailand)
- M.A. in Sustainable International Development, Brandeis University (US)
- M.A. in Global Innovation Studies, Tokyo University (Japan)
- M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, Asia-Pacific International University (Thailand)
- M.A. in Social Science and Sustainable Development, Chiang Mai University (Thailand)
- B.A. in International Education Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University (Canada)
- B.A. in Education, Asia-Pacific International University (Thailand)
- M.A. in Global Studies, Bard College (US) and Central European University (Austria)

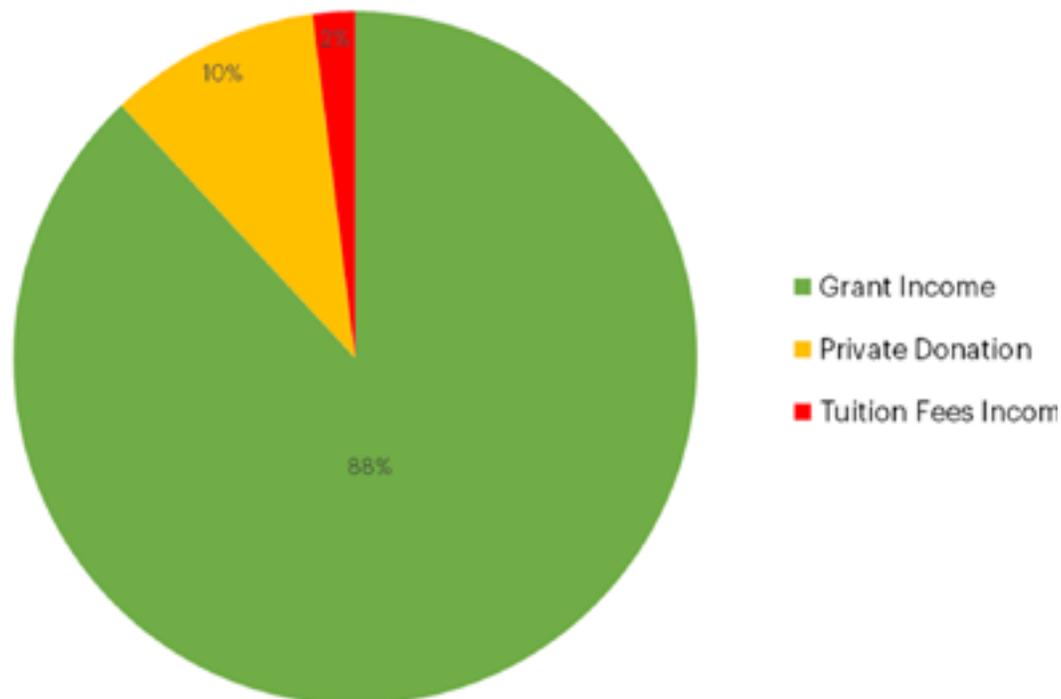
FINANCIALS AND SUSTAINABILITY

2022 Year-End Fundraising Campaign

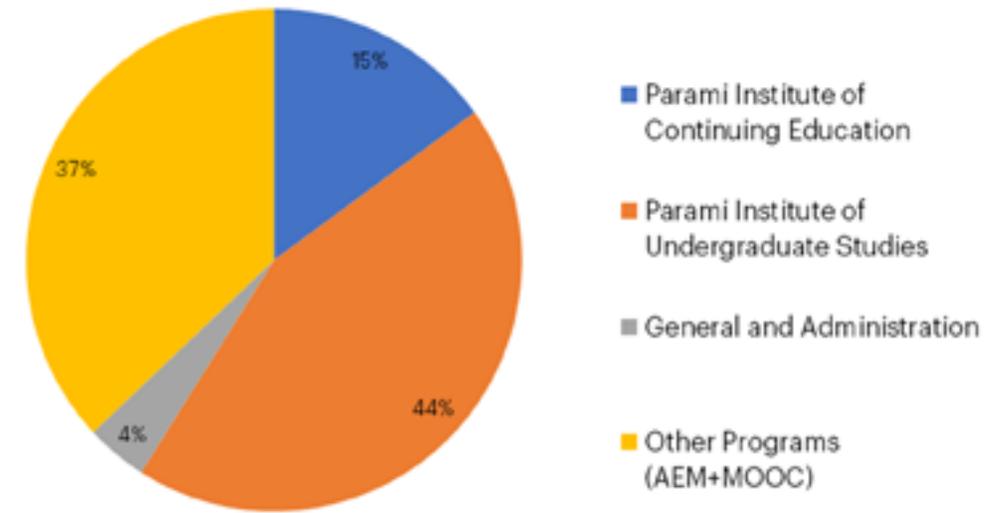
The University ran the 2022 Year-End Fundraising Campaign from November to December 2022, to raise scholarship funding for five students in the 2023-2024 academic year. The campaign was run on the Donor Box platform, and exceeded our goal thanks to the generosity of our friends, supporters, staff and trustees. The campaign raised \$40,608.29 which will go towards providing 5 full tuition scholarships to well-deserved students in the upcoming academic year. Approximately 100 incoming students are expected for the 2023-2024 academic year, and the University aims to meet the financial needs of all qualified students.

Financial Chart (Jan to Dec 2022)

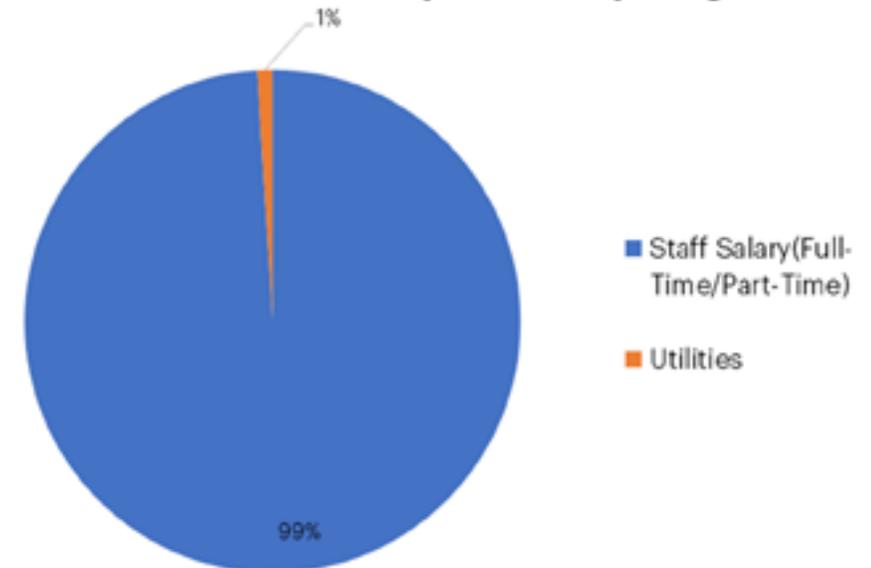
TOTAL REVENUE
\$ 843,447.14

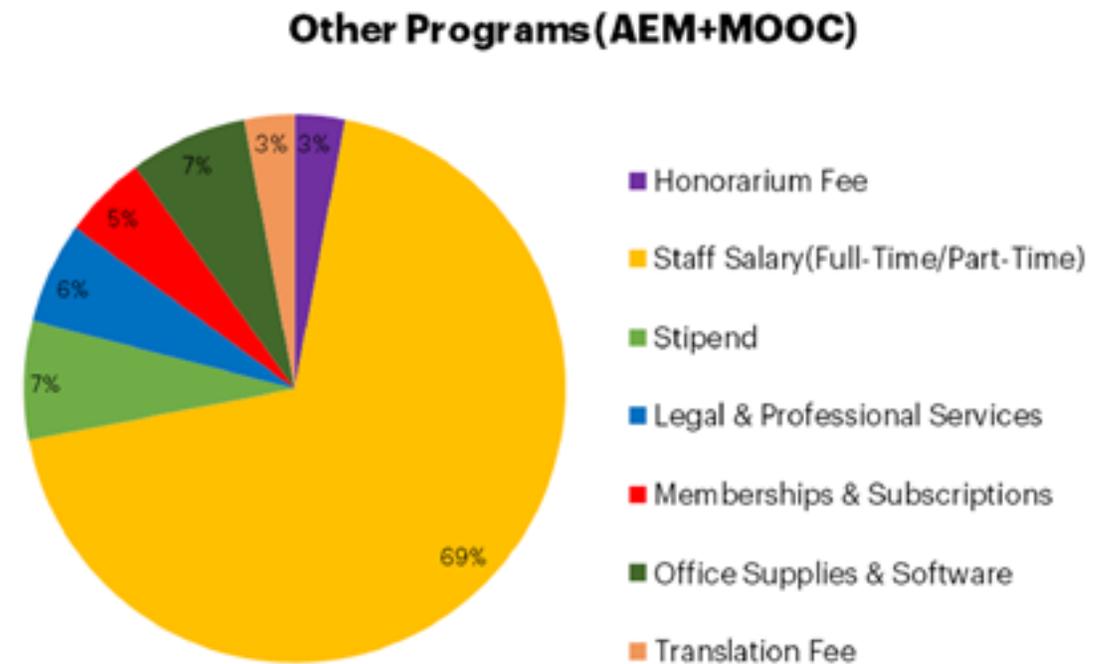
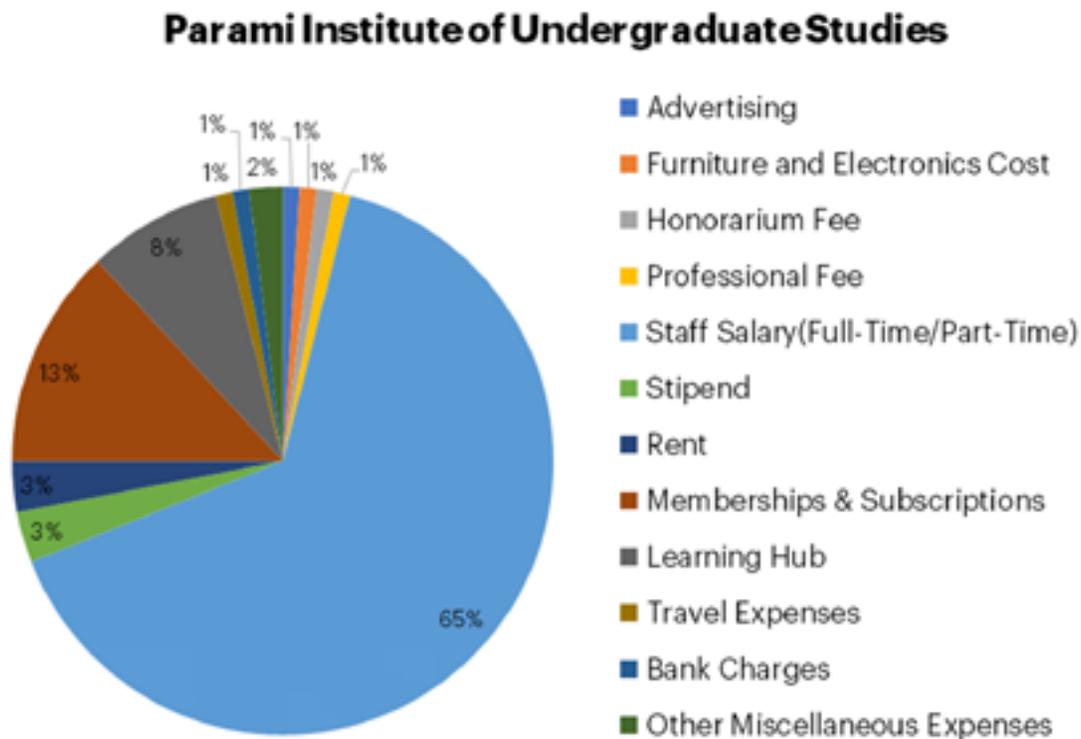
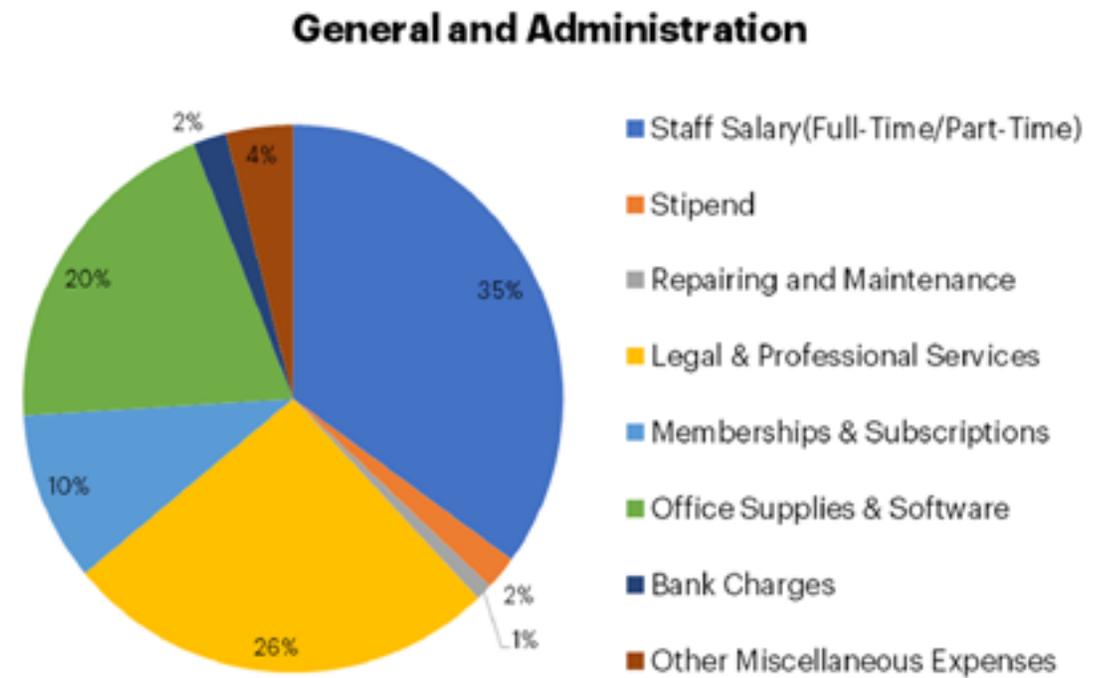
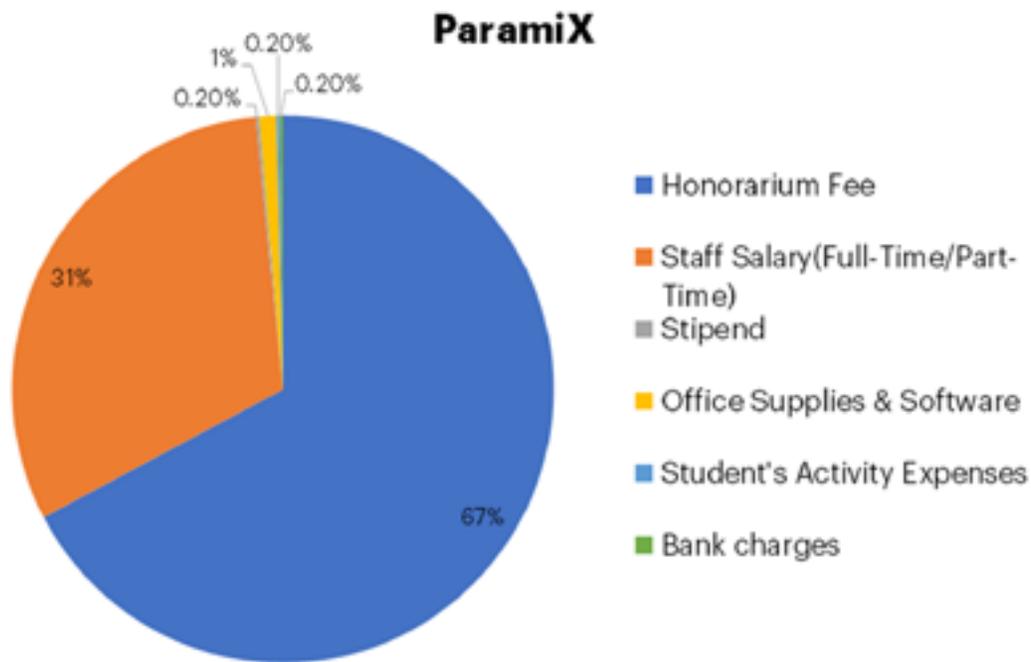


Expenses



Parami Leadership Program/ Parami Social Entrepreneurship Program





LOOKING AHEAD IN 2023

The Spring semester (January-May) 2023 looks to be promising as the Class of 2026 undergraduate students begin the three-week-long Citizen Science Program, where they will learn how to read and interpret basic scientific data and publications and analyze scientific issues faced by the society today. The admissions period for Class of 2027 will end in March, and the incoming cohort will begin their first year at Parami in August. Parami Institute of Continuing Education programs will also begin new classes in Spring 2023. The second round of the MOOC in Burmese language, the newly launched Google Professional Certificate Programs, ParamiX Spring courses, and Princeton and Yale collaboration courses will all begin in January, serving over 1,000 students.

Parami University looks forward to expanding education opportunities and pathways in the coming year, and continuing to march on its journey to fulfill its purpose, and missions.

Acknowledgement

Parami University would like to express gratitude to all the individuals and organizations that helped fulfill its mission over the past six years. We would like to express appreciation in particular to Parami University Board of Trustees which had provided steadfast guidance through thick and thin, grant organizations and philanthropic individuals who financially supported Parami's education programs, education institutions and community organizations that had partnered with the University to help expand access to higher education, and Parami community of learners composed of faculty, students, staff and scholars. 2022 has been an extraordinary year for Parami University due to the dedication and support of the Parami community, and we look forward to stronger ties and collaborations in the years to come.

UPDATES: OUR TEAM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Zali Win

Chair of the Board
Managing Director of Credit
Agricole Corporate and Investment
Bank

Bob Tseng

Trustee
Managing Partner of Thanlwin Legal

Abby Pratt

Trustee
Founder of New World Fund of
the Berkshires

Show Ei Ei Tun

Deputy Chief of Party at Nathan
Associates in Burma

Lynn Lynn Tin Tun

Trustee
Managing Director of Mango
Marketing

Daniel Siegfried

Trustee
Co-Founder and Managing Director
of Child's Dream Foundation

Kyle David Anderson

Trustee
Vice President of Strategic
Programming at Academic
Programs International

Jonathan Becker

Trustee
Executive Vice President and Vice
President for Academic Affairs at
Bard College in
Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

Kevin Quigley

Vice-Chair of the Board
Former President of Marlboro
College

Lex Rieffel

Secretary of the Board
Founder of From the Bridge
Foundation

Stan Sze

Treasurer of the Board
President of B.K. Kee Foundation

David Shein

Trustee
Dean of Studies & Associate Vice
President for Academic Affairs and
OSUN-Bard Network Programs at
Bard College in
Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

Nan Hlaing Tin Maung

Trustee
Deputy Director of the Coronavirus
Science Branch at the California
Department of Public Health

Dwight Clark

Trustee
President of Learning Across
Borders

PARAMI INSTITUTE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES (PIUS) AND PARAMI INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION (PICE)

PIUS Full-time Staff

Romina de Jong

Dean of Academic Affairs, Chair of the Division of General Education, Ph.D. in Educational Studies from Leiden University (Netherlands)

Win Maw Hlaing Oo

Chair of the Division of Mathematics and Data Science, Ph.D. in Materials Science from Washington State University (US)

David Golding

Chair of the Division of Social Studies, Ph.D. in Education and Social Justice from Lancaster University (UK)

Kyaw Moe Tun

Faculty of Mathematics and Data Science, Ph.D. in Chemistry from Yale University (US)

Mia Sasaki

Faculty of General Education, M.Sc. in International Education Development from the University of Pennsylvania (US)

PIUS Visiting Faculty

Dale Mineshima-Lowe

Faculty of Social Studies, Ph.D. in Politics from the University of Durham (UK)

Doan Nhat Minh

Faculty of Mathematics and Data Science, Ph.D. in Engineering from Keio University (Japan)

Emily O'Dell

Faculty of General Education, Ph.D. in Literature from Brown University (US)

Kit Young

Faculty of General Education, M.M. from New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, Massachusetts (US)

Myo Thida

Faculty of Mathematics and Data Science, Ph.D. in Computer Vision from Kingston University (UK)

Ne Myo Aung

Faculty of Social Science, M.A. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Washington (US)

Thazin Nyein Kyaw

Faculty of General Education, M.A. in International Education and Development from SIT Graduate Institute (US)

Thiyagaraja Waradas

Faculty of General Education, Ph.D. candidate at University of Bath (UK)

Will Buckingham

Faculty of Social Studies, Ph.D. in Philosophy from Staffordshire University (UK)

Zaw Lin Myat

Faculty of Mathematics and Data Science, Master of Architecture and Master of Science in Historic Preservation from Columbia University (US)

Zahnur Rofiah

Faculty of General Education, Master's candidate of Education and International Development at University College London (UK)

PICE Visiting Faculty and Instructors

Akary Tun Thein

Instructor of ParamiX Course, M.Sc. in Construction, Engineering and Infrastructure Management from the Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand)

Bruce Bolnick

Instructor of ParamiX Course, Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University (US)

Jack van Dokkum

Instructor of Paramix Course, M.A. in Development Studies from Radboud University (Netherlands)

Anna Ezekiel

Instructor for Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. in Philosophy from McGill University (Canada)

Alaire Rieffel

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, J.D. from Boston University School of Law (US)

Frances O'Morchoe

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. in History from University of Oxford (UK)

Hannah Stevens

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. in Creative Writing from University of Leicester (UK)

Jerry Schiff

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin (US)

Khin Thandar

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, LL.M. in International Maritime Law from the IMO-International Maritime Law Institute (Malta)

Kyle Anderson

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. from Penn State University (US)

Mark Brown

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. in International and Community development from Murdoch University (Australia)

Max van Wijk

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, M.Sc. in Infectious Diseases and One Health from the Université de Tours (France), the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain), and the University of Edinburgh (UK)

Nang Hlaing Tin Maung

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ph.D. from University of Massachusetts Medical School (US)

Soe Yu Naing

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, M.Sc. in Infectious Diseases and One Health (IDOH) from the Université de Tours (France), the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain), and the University of Edinburgh (UK)

Win Min

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, M.A. in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (US)

Ye Pyae Thu

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, Ed.D. candidate at University of North Dakota (US)

Zay Yar Myint

Instructor of Parami Modular Course, M.Sc. in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering from Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand)

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT**Kyaw Moe Tun**

President

Myat Su San

Director of Institutional Advancement

Zin Myo Kyaw

Senior Development Officer

Zar Nee Phyo

Senior Public Relations and Communications Officer

Nyi Nyi Aung

Digital Marketing and Communications Officer

Kyaw Thet Tun

Visual Design and Communications Officer

Tint Sabei Soe Win

Research Fund Coordinator

Eint Pyae Pyae Khin

Director of Admissions and Student Affairs

Phyu Thet Wai

SIS Manager/ Registrar

Htet Aung Hlaing Myint

Senior Admissions and Student Affairs Officer

Thu Yein Myint Thein

Admissions and Student Affairs Officer

Su Su Thant

Admissions and Financial Aid Officer

Soe Moe Thwin

Admissions and Financial Aid Officer

Min Htun Myat Wai

Student Affairs Officer

Aye Marlar Htet

Director of Finance and Operations

Nyein Pyae Sone

Senior Finance Officer

Khin Wint Wah Maw

Finance Officer

Pyae Phyo

Administrative Officer

Zaw Htut Aung

Senior EdTech Officer

AEM-Parami English Language Initiative**Thazin Nyein Kyaw**

Program Director

Mia Sasaki

Lead Instructor

Yin Mon Naing

Digital Media and Communications Officer

Shoon Lae Ko

Recruitment and Admissions Officer

Burmese Language Massive Online Open Course**Kyaw Win Tun**

Program Director

Nang Zei Leng

Grants and Program Manager

Thazin Oo

Administration and Monitoring Officer

Win Zayar Tun

EdTech Officer

Pyae Phyo Aung

Digital Media and Communications Officer



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