



PARAMI
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

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President's Message

If there is one year that tested the resilience and innovation of the Parami University community since its founding as a Washington D.C.-licensed university, it is 2024.

The year started with a nationwide panic in Burma caused by the February announcement from the Burmese military that they would be implementing a military conscription law. Given the Burmese army had lost significant territorial control and suffered major military casualties after a string of humiliating defeats by resistance forces, this forceful conscription was supposed to fill in the growing military personnel vacuum and boost the morale of its active members. Any man between 18 and 35 and any woman between 18 and 27 will be required to serve in the Burmese military upon notice. All our students and staff in Burma were worried that they would be next to receive such conscription notifications sent to them. The University went into an alert mode to support our students and staff by providing them with relocation assistance,

issuing student status letters to apply for conscription exemption in collaboration with our partner community schools, creating more dormitory space in our learning hubs, and providing mental health support via a professional counseling service provider. While there was no perfect solution, those measures significantly reduced the overall anxiety and effects of the conscription law. I want to thank our administrative staff who supported the students in need during those months.

Then came the time for graduation for associate degree students in June. Since Parami University no longer officially maintains its physical university operation in Burma, holding a graduation ceremony in Burma would pose several security and compliance challenges. Yet, it was an event that many students, faculty, and staff had been looking forward to so they could all be together in one space simultaneously. The University decided to hold the commencement ceremony in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Notwithstanding the absence of the entire administrative crew in Thailand, we made it happen, thanks to everyone involved: many administrative staff flew in a few days earlier to prepare for the event, several trustees of the University came to bless the ceremony, and our faculty walked to the stage to commemorate the occasion. All came to celebrate the achievements of our graduates, who were awarded dual associate degrees from Parami University and Bard College. What a unique, joyful memory for the students during seemingly dark times for all of us!

The downtime of summer break following graduation was far from quiet. In fact, the University was bustling with a lot of experiential learning activities. Students participated in many in-person learning programs Parami University or the Open Society University Network (OSUN) organized. The University developed and created several experiential learning programs for the summer in collaboration with

our partners. One was a program in Thailand in collaboration with our partner organization, Learning Across Borders (LAB). Ten Parami students were selected to participate in the program. They interacted and formed friendships with Japanese students who came to Thailand on the LAB program. All of them learned together from scholars and guest lecturers. They discussed contemporary issues of Burma and Southeast Asia, the political and economic ramifications of the Burmese military coup, and potential future scenarios for Burma and its people. Another experiential learning trip organized by the University was to Taiwan in collaboration with the Yale Club of Taipei, the Rotary Club of Taipei, and Shih Chien University. The cultural immersion program provided an opportunity for fifteen Parami students to visit culturally and historically significant places to learn about Taiwan's past, present, and future, to learn about senior citizens' efforts in environmental conversation at the Tzu Chi Foundation, and to experience the Taiwanese food scene at the night

market. Many of our students also participated with full funding in many in-person learning activities organized by the Open Society University Network (OSUN) in Germany, Kenya, Colombia, and Hungary.

I had the joy and privilege of organizing one of the most gratifying experiential learning programs--the Rising Generation Summer Internship Program in the United States! Thanks to the visa documentation support provided by Bard College, respective internship programs created by our partner organizations in Washington D.C., and accommodation offered by generous host families, we managed to bring nine rising junior students of Parami to the United States for an eight-week internship program. To minimize security issues due to the conscription law during their departure from Burma, the students had to come to Thailand first and apply for visas in Chiang Mai, Thailand, just in time before their internships started. The organizations that partnered with Parami University to create those internship opportunities included Accion International, Asia Foundation, Cassidy Levy Kent, Center for Advanced Defense

Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies, East-West Center, International Center for Nonviolent Conflict United States Institute of Peace, and US-ASEAN Business Council. That was also the first time I had a chance to meet with many Parami students!

Due to a great deal of insecurity caused by the conscription law and the availability of scholarships offered by foreign aid agencies such as USAID to place students in universities in Southeast Asia, we were uncertain whether we could recruit as many students as in previous years. Yet again, we were surprised by the successful enrollment of 101 students, more than what we recruited in previous years. In fact, a few students decided to enroll in Parami University even though they were offered scholarships and placements in some of the in-person universities in Southeast Asia. I believe that Parami has curated a unique and quality program with a differential value that many of our students have now come to believe in. It was all because of the hard work and commitment of our faculty and staff, who have believed in the mission of our University to prepare next-generation future leaders

in Burma and beyond, and the current students who have taken ownership and agency of their studies at Parami University and demonstrated student leadership to inspire more students to join. I am very grateful to all of them for making this happen.

The year 2024 has witnessed a cohesive and strong university community with over 230 students, 19 full-time academic staff, and over 20 administrative staff. We would not be able to create such a community without the unwavering guidance from our trustees and the dedicated support of our donors and stakeholders. I thank them for believing in Parami University and lending their assistance to Parami University. I look forward to growing our university community and amplifying our impact even further in the year 2025.

Dr. Kyaw Moe Tun

President of
Parami University



Dean's Letter

The year 2024 saw Parami University continue to grow as an academic institution, both in terms of numbers and its program. Numbers wise, in Fall 2024, we welcomed our largest cohort of students yet, over 100 students! It appears that Parami is developing a reputation as a legitimate higher education institution and more young people in Myanmar and the region are feeling confident that this is where they want to study.

We are also filling out our teaching ranks with more full-time faculty. Fall was particularly successful in terms of hiring, so that we will start the new year with all of our teaching positions filled. This is a first, and an important stage in the development of the Academic program. Being fully staffed in terms of our full-time faculty allows us to hire visiting faculty to offer a yet wider and more diverse range of classes for our students. We no longer have to focus only on those classes that have to be offered, but we can now ask what more can we offer to enrich the learning experience of our students.

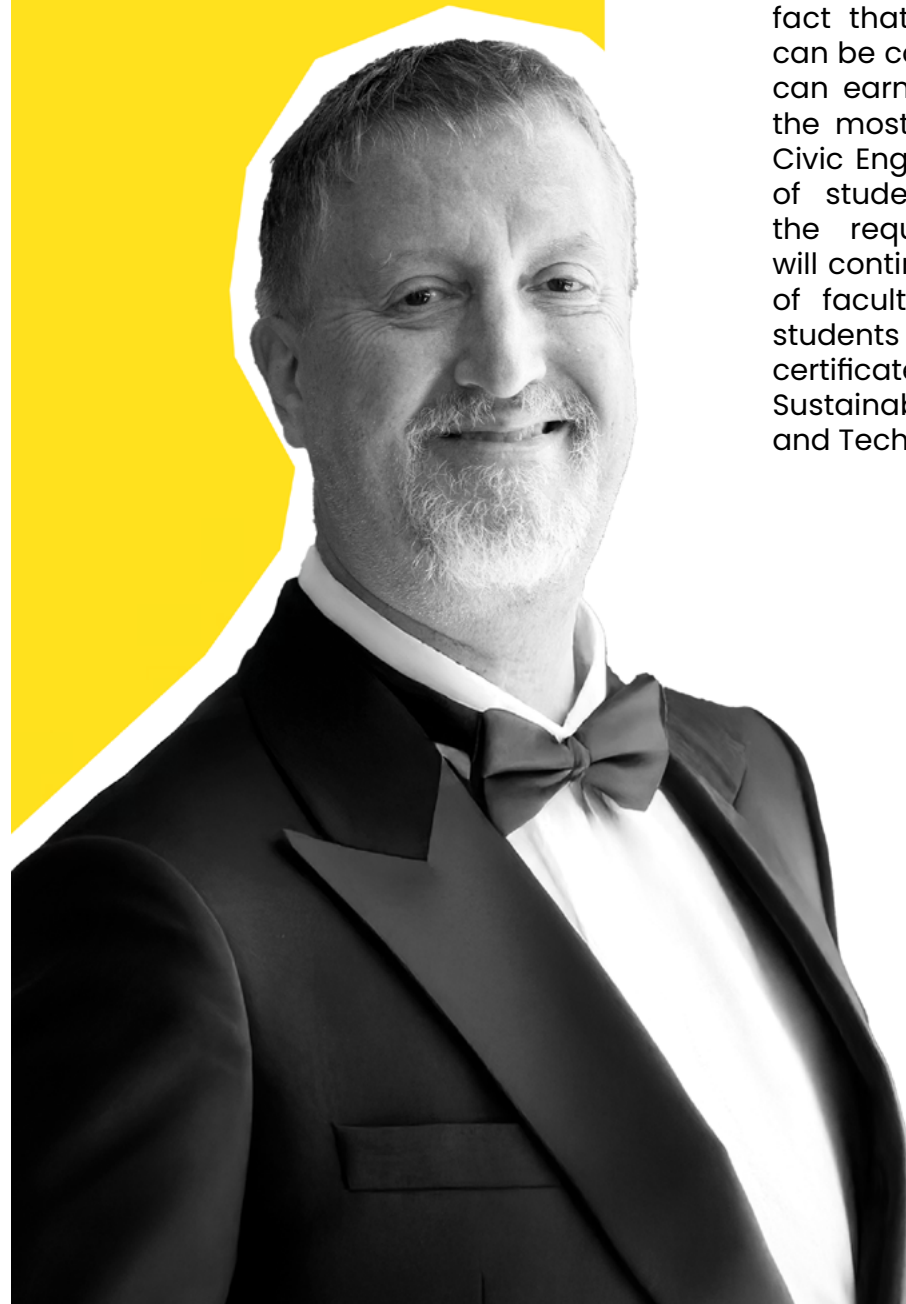
In terms of enriching the learning experience, participation by our students in the Open Society University Network (OSUN) continues to grow as they take advantage of classes being offered at institutions around the world. The benefits for our students lie not only in the individual classes they take, but also in the fact that many of these classes can be combined so that students can earn a certificate. At Parami, the most popular certificate is in Civic Engagement, with a number of students already completing the requirements. Opportunities will continue to grow as a number of faculty have agreed to help students pursue additional certificates in Climate Change and Sustainability, Global Humanities, and Technology and Society.

This past year also brought significant challenges for many of our students. In the early part of the year, a conscription push by the regime in Myanmar threatened many of our students, causing them to be afraid of being in public and traveling, where they might be grabbed and forced into military service. In the Fall, serious flooding threatened the lives and well-being of a number of our students, with some of them cut off from their studies for two weeks or more. To their credit, our students have carried on despite these hardships, speaking to the importance they attach to their studies. And I would also like to acknowledge the support and flexibility of faculty and staff as they adapted to the needs of students. There is much to be proud of at Parami University!

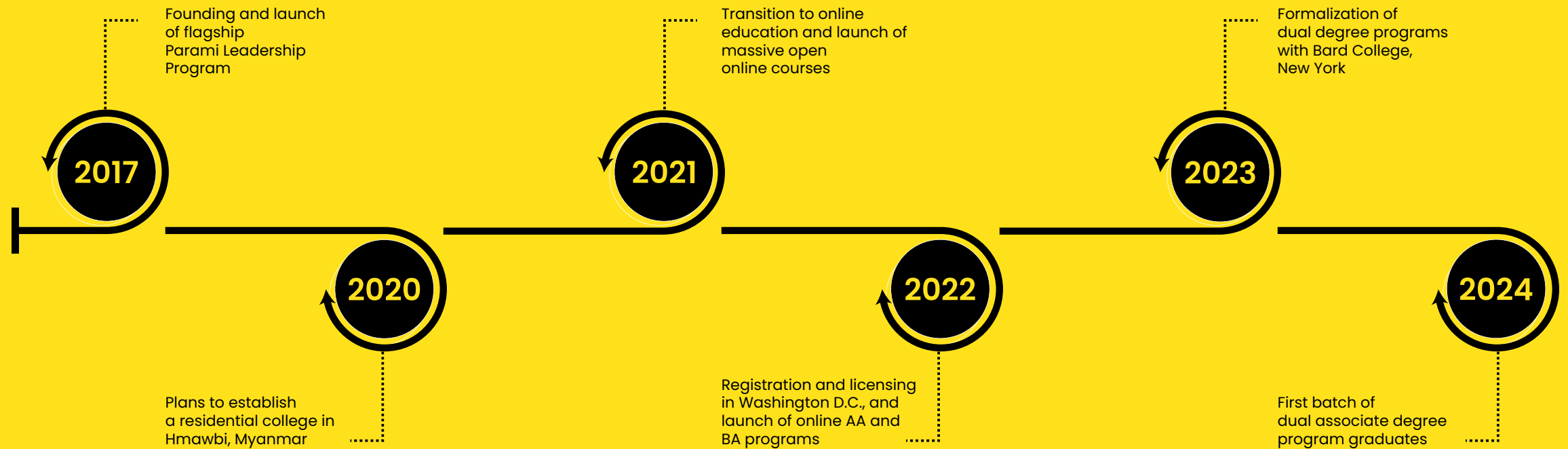
"We don't know what 2025 will bring, but as we look back on this past year, we can be confident that Parami University is heading in the right direction for providing quality higher education for underserved young people in Myanmar and the surrounding regions, and we are prepared for the challenges that might come."

Dr. Phil Enns

Dean of Academic Affairs at
Parami University



About Parami University



Founded in 2017 in Yangon, Myanmar, as Parami Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Parami University aspires to create change agents, compassionate leaders, and responsible global citizens from all walks of life. To date, we have educated thousands of youth through Parami Institute of Continuing Education (PICE). Parami University's online undergraduate programs are licensed by the Higher Education Licensure Commission (HELC) in Washington, D.C., and provide rigorous liberal arts and sciences education to students in Myanmar and the global south.

2024 At a Glance

43

Associate Degree Graduates

Launched with 57 students in August 2022, Parami online undergraduate programs awarded dual associate degree diplomas from Parami University and Bard College to the first batch of graduates this year.

247

Undergraduate Students

We welcomed 101 first-year students this year. At full capacity, we aim to enroll up to 400 undergraduate students in the online, synchronous AA and BA programs.

900+

Continuing Education Students

Continuing education programs are offered to young professionals and the general public via both synchronous and asynchronous programming.

96%

Tuition Covered by Aid and Scholarships

The University was able to provide need-based scholarships to meet the financial needs of students in the challenging context of conflicts and economic crisis.

75

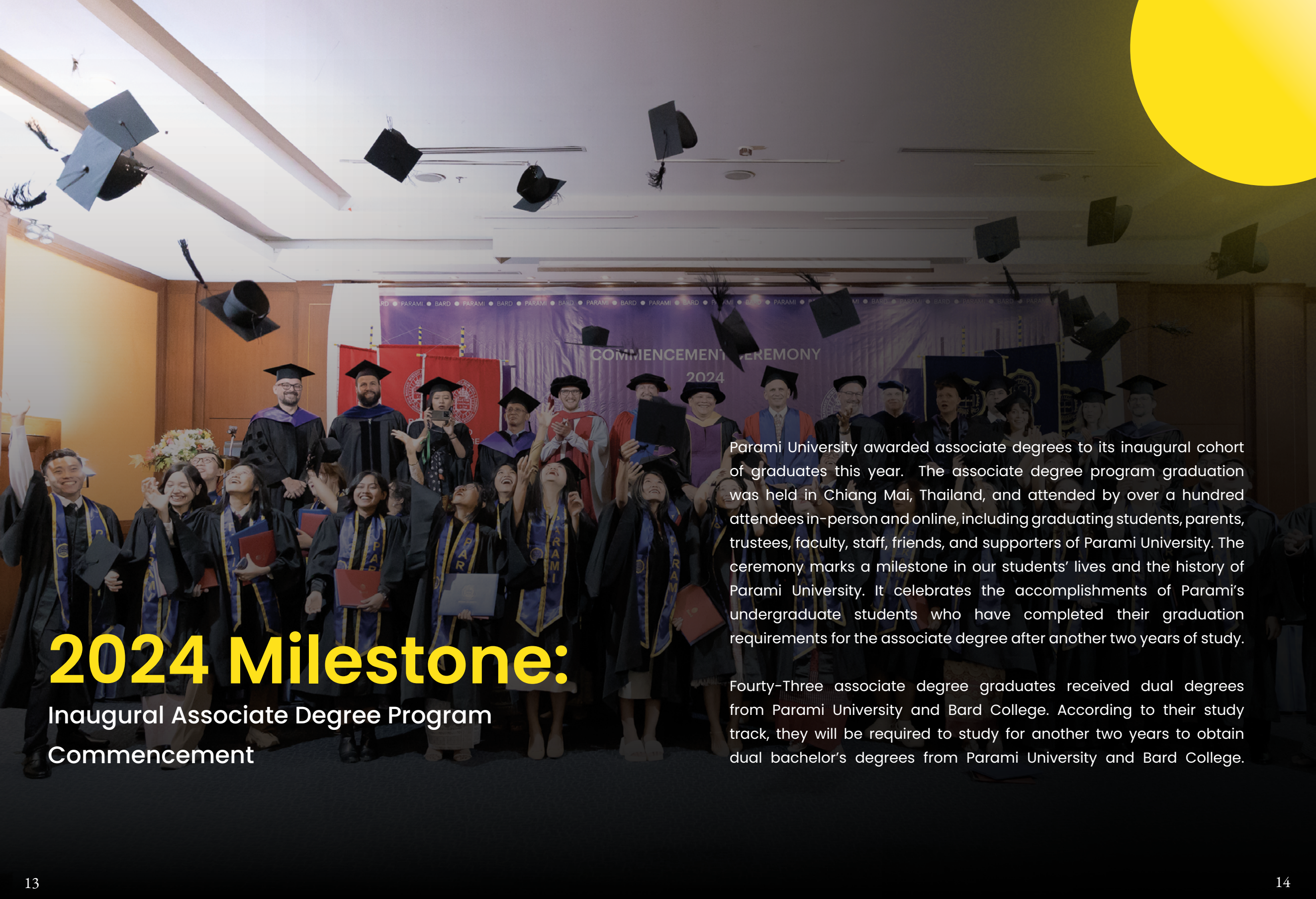
Students on Residential Support

Although all instructional classes are delivered online, we also offer residential assistance to make online education accessible to all. The learning hubs in Myanmar and Thailand, and stipend support are a lifeline for our refugee and displaced students.

Globally Distributed Operations

With roots in Myanmar, licensure in the U.S., faculty from around the world, and students in Myanmar, Thailand, and the global south, we are transcending national boundaries to deliver quality education to those in need.





2024 Milestone:

Inaugural Associate Degree Program Commencement

Parami University awarded associate degrees to its inaugural cohort of graduates this year. The associate degree program graduation was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and attended by over a hundred attendees in-person and online, including graduating students, parents, trustees, faculty, staff, friends, and supporters of Parami University. The ceremony marks a milestone in our students' lives and the history of Parami University. It celebrates the accomplishments of Parami's undergraduate students who have completed their graduation requirements for the associate degree after another two years of study.

Forty-Three associate degree graduates received dual degrees from Parami University and Bard College. According to their study track, they will be required to study for another two years to obtain dual bachelor's degrees from Parami University and Bard College.

Parami University Programs



Undergraduate Degree Programs

Parami online undergraduate programs are designed to equip students with essential skills for navigating a rapidly changing world. These programs focus on fostering analytical and interdisciplinary thinking and preparing students to address complex social challenges.

We currently offer a dual associate degree program and a dual bachelor's degree program, in partnership with Bard College, New York. Students receive dual associate degrees from Parami University and Bard College after successfully completing two years of full-time coursework. They may choose to continue in Parami's dual bachelor's degree tracks for 2 more years, declaring a major in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) or Statistics and Data Science (SDS) in their third year of study.



16

Students in PPE

The bachelor's degree program in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) provides a broad range of knowledge and skills across the social sciences and humanities.

15

Students in SDS

The bachelor's degree program in Statistics and Data Science (SDS) prepares students to apply statistics and data science to solve real-world problems.

84%

First Year Retention Rate

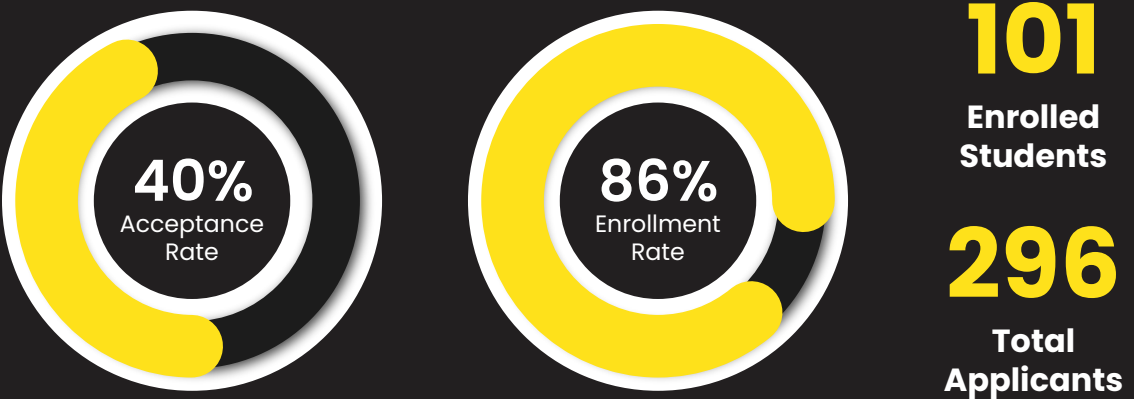
First year retention rate is an important measure of the success of an online program. Parami invests in high-quality academic services as well as online and in-person extracurricular opportunities to retain high levels of student engagement.

Starting in 2022, Parami University launched the online undergraduate programs after successful licensing from the Higher Education Licensure Commission (HELC) of Washington, D.C. In September 2024, Bard College's institutional accreditor, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, approved the partnership between Parami University and Bard College to award dual associate and bachelor's degrees to Parami undergraduate students.

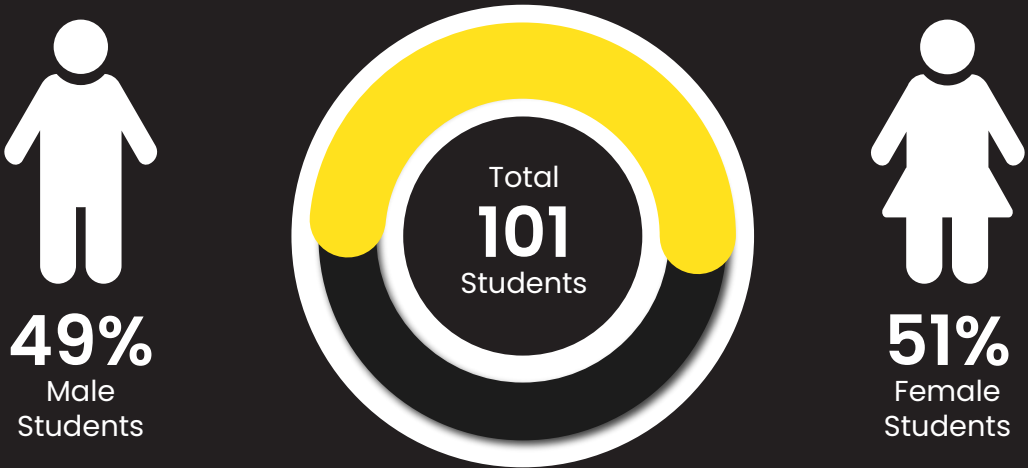
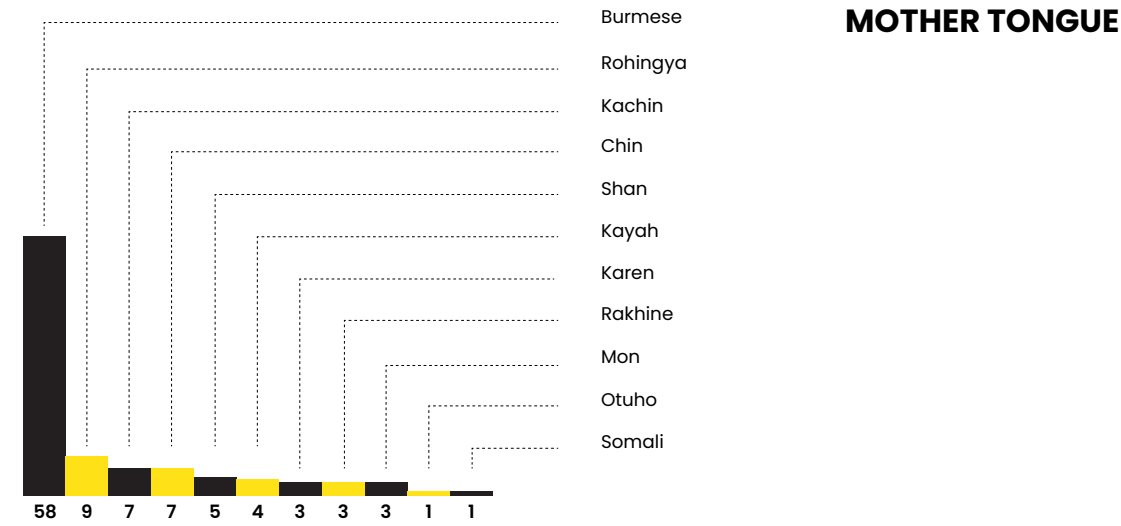
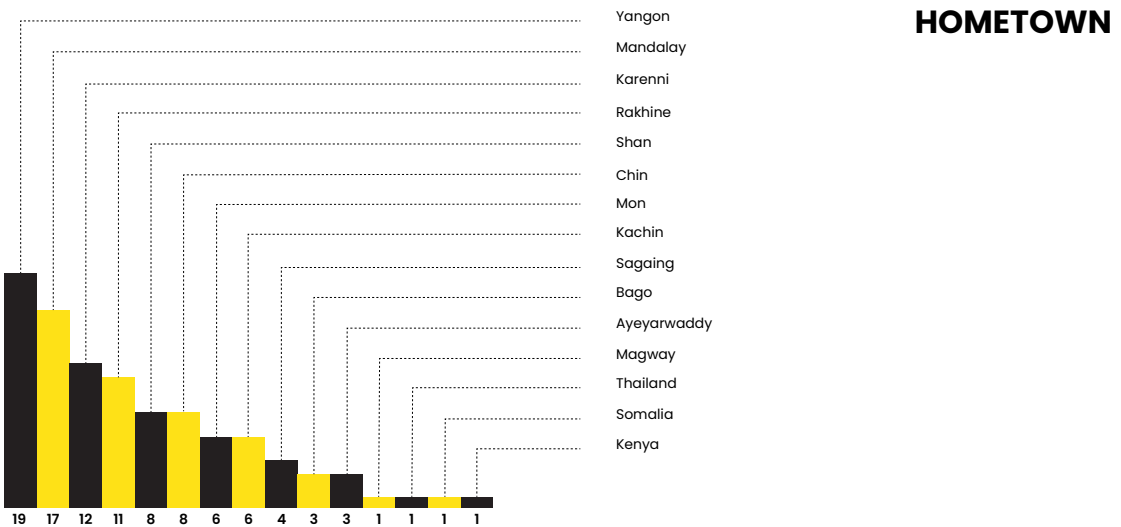
Class of 2028

The incoming Class of 2028 began their first year in August 2024 with the mandatory 2-week Language and Thinking Program. The Class of 2028 is the biggest cohort so far, featuring 101 students from various regions in Myanmar and Thailand, and several refugee students from Kenya, Sudan, and other locations undisclosed for security reasons. Gender ratio is almost equal with 50 male students and 51 female students enrolling.

Class of 2028 Data



Of the 296 total applicants, 118 students were offered admissions, out of which 101 students enrolled in the undergraduate programs. Most of the students have origins in Myanmar, regardless of their current locations. Of the 98 students whose hometowns are in Myanmar, 36 are from Yangon and Mandalay, the biggest cities in Myanmar, and 62 are from other states and regions. The incoming class speaks diverse languages under 11 major language groups as their mother tongue. This geographical and ethnic diversity was achieved through stringent outreach process during the admission period. The admissions team worked closely with several community education organizations in various regions to reach out to underserved students outside of big urban areas, who face more challenges and have fewer opportunities to access higher education.



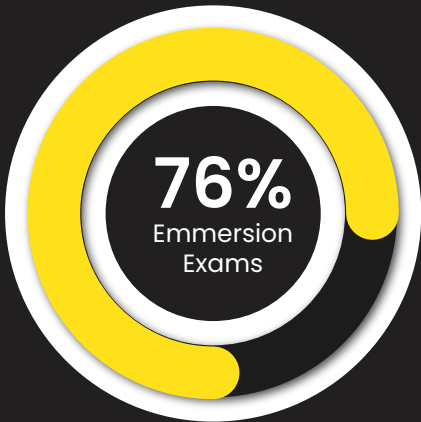
Accessibility and equity in higher education is a primary focus for Parami programs. In addition to accepting formal high school diplomas, the University also recognizes the unconventional education pathways of many of our students, and provides alternative forms of admission. This includes offering proctored entrance exams and English language proficiency exams free-of-charge for students from alternative education systems as well as accepting the General Education Development (GED) and IGCSE diplomas. In the 2024-2025 admission season, 17% of the applicants took the entrance exam, and 76% took the English language proficiency test.

A crucial aspect of equity in education is affordability. Parami students come from various socioeconomic backgrounds and are often affected by conflicts and economic challenges. The University strove to meet the financial needs of the incoming students on the basis of need. All students in the Class of 2028 received some financial aid, with 28% of the students receiving 100% tuition waivers. The total contribution from the Class of 2028 amounted to only 4% of the tuition receivable, while the rest of the tuition was waived in the form of need-based financial aid.

Accessibility



Percentage of applicants who took Parami-proctored entrance exams for students from alternative education systems



Percentage of applicants who took Parami-proctored English language exams for those who do not have TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo test scores

Financial Aid

\$ 700,940

Total Tuition Fees
Receivable

\$ 26,540

Student Family
Contribution

\$ 674,400

Total Financial Aid

96%

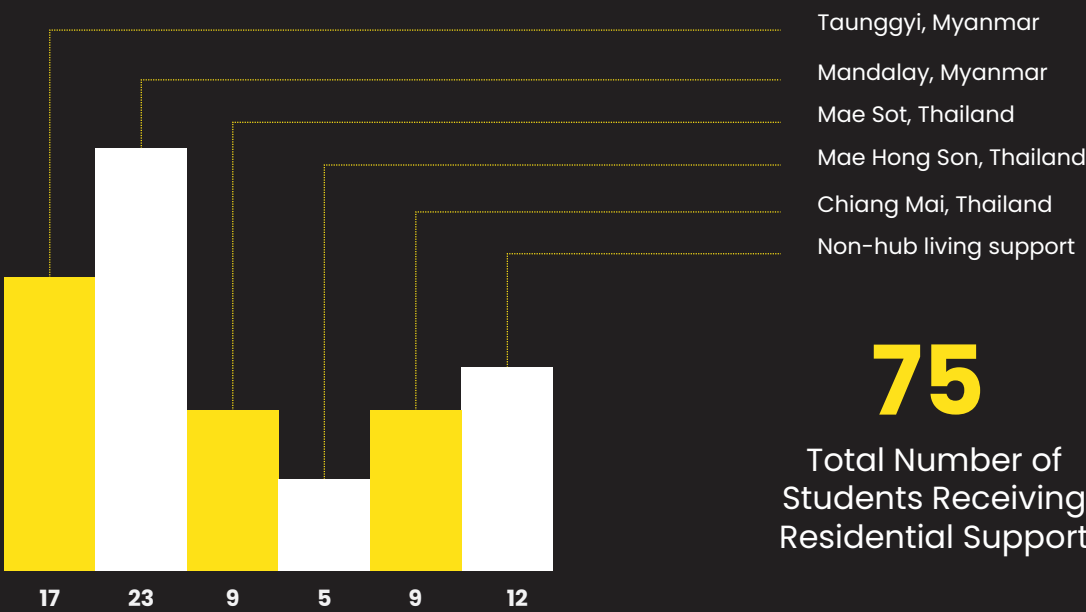
Total Financial Aid
Percentage





In addition to providing need-based financial aid, students from remote areas also received residency and living stipend support. Learning hubs had been established in Mandalay and Taunggyi in Myanmar, and Chiang Mai vvand Mae Sot in Thailand to provide residential assistance to those who need internet, electricity, safety and security. These learning hubs are provided in partnership with local education partners who have the local expertise and knowledge to offer much needed facilities and care for our students. In 2024-2025 academic year, 75 students across three undergraduate cohorts qualified for the University’s residential support.

Students at Learning Hubs by Location



This year, Parami also expanded residential support to 4 refugee students in Mae Hong Son in Thailand as well as 9 refugee students in other locations undisclosed for security reasons. In addition, 2 refugee students in Kenya from Bard College’s education network also enrolled at Parami this year. These students face restrictions in accessing higher education opportunities due to their limitations in mobility and legal status. Our education model helps the refugee youth as well as youth displaced by conflict access globally recognized university education regardless of the restrictions imposed on them.

Continuing Education Programs

The Continuing Education Program at Parami University is designed to provide continuous education opportunities for individuals seeking to enhance their knowledge, skills, and personal development throughout their lives. This program offers a range of non-credit-bearing courses that are accessible to learners of all ages and backgrounds.

ParamiX Courses

In 2024, Parami University continued to advance its commitment to offering innovative, synchronous online courses that span various disciplines, including humanities, social sciences, arts, and sciences. ParamiX courses are carefully selected to address gaps in conventional educational offerings, focusing on the holistic development of participants and emphasizing critical 21st-century skills such as soft skills and critical reasoning. Despite being non-credit-bearing, these courses are delivered by experienced university faculty and industry experts. Conducted entirely in English, the courses are designed to be intensive 12-week programs, which include a 3-week project period.

In 2024, the ParamiX initiative successfully launched five new courses in different disciplines.

2024 ParamiX Courses

- True Stories Go Global
- Globalization and Capitalism in the Contemporary World
- Global Supply Chains
- Editorial Illustration
- Documentary Film-making

5

Total
ParamiX
Courses

67

Total
Learners

35

Learners who
Completed the
Courses

Google Professional Certificate Programs

Parami University partnered with “Grow with Google” to offer 10 Google Professional Certificate programs aimed at equipping participants with job-ready skills in high-growth career fields. The available programs are *Data Analytics*, *Advanced Data Analytics*, *Business Intelligence*, *Digital Marketing & E-commerce*, *IT Support*, *IT Automation with Python*, *Cybersecurity*, *Project Management*, *UX Design*, and *AI Essentials*. These programs are available through the Parami Institute of Continuing Education (PICE) at no cost to participants, provided they commit fully to the program. While these programs are typically offered for a fee on Coursera for certification, Parami University offers them free of charge and provides study support for effectiveness.

500

Enrolled
Learners
from January to
December 2024

10

Google Career
Certificates
Programs

160

Learners who
Completed the
Programs in
2024

DataCamp Courses

Our partnership with DataCamp Donates this year brought new courses in computer and data science to learners at every stage, from beginners to advanced professionals working on topics such as supervised machine learning and natural language processing. Starting in November 2024, the partnership provides free access to over 510 DataCamp courses covering Python, R, SQL, and more. In addition to providing access to these self-paced asynchronous courses, Parami team organizes study groups and guest speaker sessions with industry experts to enhance participants’ educational experiences. Around 400 learners are currently enrolled in the DataCamp courses.

Community Engagement Programs

Community engagement programs are services offered to local partner education institutions and their students to strengthen Parami's relationships with local stakeholders. Two services are primarily offered: the English for Further Studies (EFF) program offered by Parami faculty online to college-aspiring students from post-secondary partner schools and education technology resources provided by the Parami EdTech team to local partners.

English for Further Studies Program

In 2024, Parami University's English for Further Studies (EFS) program continued its commitment to empowering students with essential academic English skills and supporting their preparation for university admissions. This 11-week synchronous online course was offered in collaboration with four community organizations in Karenni, Mon, Taunggyi, and Kachin states, targeting students aspiring to pursue international higher education.

2024 EFS Program Data

4

Local
Partner
Schools

110

Students

54%

Completion

198

Total Class
Hours

The EFS program focuses on developing critical academic writing skills, enhancing students' readiness for scholarship opportunities, and providing comprehensive support for the university application process. In addition, Parami extended its support to partner schools by providing educational technology and internet access, ensuring that students could engage fully in the learning experience.

Education Technology Support

The Parami EdTech team continued to help enhance the online presence of community schools by developing custom websites. These platforms were designed to reflect each school's unique identity and improve communication with their respective communities, aiming to improve user engagement, and foster stronger relationships with students, parents, and key stakeholders. In 2024, we successfully developed custom websites for Cherry Myay Academy, Yangon School of Social Work (YSSW) and LAS Collaborative.

In addition, the EdTech team set up a learning management system for a community college and provided Google workspace and institutional email support for a community education organization. Throughout 2024, Parami offered 12 education technology trainings at no cost to various partner organizations.





Academic Department and Student Services



This year, the academic divisions were restructured and consolidated into two divisions: the Division of Social Science and Humanities, and the Division of Mathematics and Science. Each division is responsible for supporting the University's academic programs through a comprehensive offering of foundational and major-specific courses.

In addition, the Parami Language and Learning Center (LLC) was established under the Academic Department to develop targeted programs and extracurricular support to help strengthen academic foundations and professional skills. The Center provides one-on-one tutoring support as well as a variety of academic workshops on plagiarism, academic reading, logical reasoning, and research skills.



Parami Faculty

The University continued to focus on building academic committees and structures with the support of fulltime faculty. Total number of fulltime instructional faculty is 19 while 4 visiting faculty taught various elective courses. Out of the 19 faculty members, 16 hold terminal degrees in their respective fields.

Parami University's faculty members are distinguished by their resilience, flexibility, and goodwill, all of which are essential qualities for educators working with students in crisis and conflict situations. They bring diverse academic expertise, with a strong focus on interdisciplinary learning and cross-divisional collaboration. This allows for a holistic approach to education that aligns with Parami University's mission to nurture well-rounded global citizens.

Faculty Highlight

Dr. Lina Kassem joined Parami University, bringing with her a wealth of experience from academic institutions across the Middle East, South Asia, and the United States. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Cincinnati and has taught at William and Mary in the U.S., as well as at Zayed University in the UAE, Qatar University, and the Asian University for Women in Bangladesh. Her research focuses on gender and law, Palestine, human rights, women in Islam, and Middle East politics. Dr. Kassem's broad expertise not only enriches the academic landscape at Parami but also reflects her dedication to global education and her commitment to fostering critical perspectives on social justice.

Dr. Lina Kassem
Faculty of Social Science
and Humanities



Zahnur Rofiah (Zee) is an accomplished educator with over 15 years of experience in teaching and academic development across Asia and Africa. Her journey in education has taken her to diverse roles, including working with renowned organizations such as Madania School, Thabyay Foundation, and the British Council.

Zee holds a master's degree in Education and International Development from the Institute of Education, University College London. She also earned a CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults) from Cambridge Assessment English in 2014 and a Project Management Certificate from Chester University in 2016, further solidifying her expertise in education and program management.

Currently based in East Java, Indonesia, Zee teaches remotely at the Parami Language and Learning Center (LLC), where she leverages her extensive experience to support students' academic growth. The LLC provides essential services focusing on academic skills, such as writing, communication, and research. Zee plays a critical role in mentoring students, fostering their leadership skills, and guiding them to overcome academic challenges. Her dedication and expertise make her an invaluable asset to Parami's mission of holistic education and student success.

Zahnur Rofiah (Zee)
Faculty of Language and
Learning Center



Language and Learning Center: Supporting Academic Growth

The Language and Learning Center (LLC) plays a vital role in supporting academic growth at Parami University in 2024 through a range of personalized services and programs aimed at enhancing students’ academic skills, fostering leadership development, and facilitating mental well-being. The LLC’s Writing Center and Academic Skills Center focused on enhancing students’ writing, communication, and study skills, while academic advisors offered personalized guidance on course selection, time management, and overcoming academic challenges. These initiatives contributed to the holistic academic development of Parami students, equipping them with the tools needed for academic success.

Student Support Services

In 2024, Parami University’s EdTech team organized a comprehensive four-part series titled “How to Deploy Your Linear Regression Machine Learning” during the Spring semester. These sessions provided students with hands-on experience in deploying machine learning models, enhancing their technical skills. The Student Affairs department also offered a diverse range of activities, including the in-person Parami Leadership Conference, Guest Speaker Sessions, Mental Health Counseling Services, Global Exchange Program, and various Student Clubs. These initiatives supported students’ personal, academic, and professional growth, fostering a well-rounded university experience.

177

Individual
Advising
Sessions

391

Total Support
Sessions (LLC)

6

Skills
Development
Workshops

119

In-person Parami
Leadership
Conference
Attendees

34

Global Exchange
Program
Participants

48

Mental Health
Counseling
Sessions for
Students

9

Total Guest
Speaker
Sessions

14

Student
Clubs



Experiential Learning

Experiential learning at Parami University is not just an educational tool but a transformative experience. By immersing students in real-world challenges, we prepare them to be proactive, thoughtful, and effective leaders in their communities and beyond. As we continue to expand these opportunities, we are confident that our graduates will carry the lessons learned through these experiences throughout their lives.

One of our key initiatives in experiential learning has been the Citizen Science Program, which was introduced as a mandatory three-week program for all first-year students. In early 2024, students were tasked with addressing pressing environmental issues, specifically focusing on climate change. They formed four distinct focus groups, each working on different themes related to climate change, allowing them to explore community challenges and develop practical solutions. This hands-on approach not only deepened their understanding of environmental issues but also honed their problem-solving and collaboration skills.

Another significant aspect of our experiential learning model is the Parami Leadership Conferences.



Held in various locations across Myanmar, including Taunggyi, Mandalay, Pyin Oo Lwin, and Yangon, these conferences provided students with the opportunity to apply their academic knowledge in real-world contexts. In Taunggyi, for example, 30 students participated in community service activities, such as painting and decorating classrooms at Cherry Myay Academy, and engaged with local students in meaningful dialogues about community development. In Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin, students collaborated with the Environmental Conservation Department at Phaung Daw Oo, engaging in intellectual discussions and practical exercises led by experts in environmental conservation and social enterprise. These experiences not only reinforced their leadership skills but also instilled a strong sense of social responsibility.

In addition, Parami students also have numerous opportunities to engage in-person globally through various conferences, short-term exchange programs, and internship programs. Parami students participate in these international programs across Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas.

U.S. Summer Internship

Through the Rising Generation Summer Internship Program, nine Parami undergraduate students joined competitive eight-week internships with prominent international organizations in the United States, including the East-West Center, Accion International, the US-ASEAN Business Council, the United States Institute of Peace, the Asia Foundation, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and Center for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS). During their internships, students engaged in meaningful research and program implementation across various sectors, including international trade, global development, and international finance.



This experience strengthened their leadership and professional skills and amplified the voices of Myanmar's youth on a global stage. The students returned to Thailand in August, equipped with invaluable experiences that would enhance their academic journey and contribute to their development as future leaders in Myanmar.

Exchange Trip: Germany

In 2024, three students, Pone Nyet Aung, Theint Thadar Phyu and Phyo Thiha Aung, from Parami University attended the Get Engaged Conference at Bard College Berlin from June 24 to July 1. The conference, which gathered 49 student leaders from 22 partner institutions in the OSUN network, provided a platform for students to present their community development projects, engage in professional training, and collaborate with peers.

The following three projects were presented by the Parami students at the conference.

Health Journal Club project was presented by Theint Thadar Phyu, aimed at making complex health research accessible to the community.

Phyo Thiha Aung presented a project titled Vitalizing Student Research Initiative, focused on addressing educational deficits and fostering research-based solutions for social issues in Myanmar.

Pont Nyet represented Parami's student-led EvolveMinds Club to present a mental health project promoting peer support and empathy, with plans to expand support for



young immigrants in Chiang Mai and Mae Sot. The conference offered global exposure and networking opportunities, enabling students to collaborate on grant submissions and project implementations and enhance their leadership skills. These experiences reflect Parami University's commitment to fostering innovation and a global perspective in addressing community challenges.



Cultural Immersion Trip: Taiwan

In parallel, Parami University organized a transformative cultural immersion program in Taiwan for 15 students, collaborating with Shih Chien University, the Rotary Club of Taipei Social Enterprise, and Yale Day of Service (Taipei). This program allowed the students to explore Taiwan's rich cultural heritage and gain insights into its socioeconomic and political landscape.

The trip included visits to historical landmarks such as Taipei 101 and the National Palace Museum, along with workshops on traditional calligraphy and tea ceremonies. The Students participated in seminars

that delved into Taiwan's historical events and current developments, further enriching their understanding of the region. This intensive exchange strengthened the students' global perspectives and fostered intercultural skills essential for their personal and professional growth.

Through these initiatives, Parami University continues to fulfill its mission of providing high-quality education and nurturing well-rounded youth leaders equipped to navigate the complexities of a globalized world.

Exchange Trip: Thailand

In 2024, Parami University participated in the Learning Across Borders (LAB) program, which brought together eight Parami students and seven Japanese students for a 10-day immersive experience in Thailand. The program included visits to academic institutions, civil society organizations, and cultural sites across Bangkok, Chiang Mai, and Mae Sot. These activities provided the students with insights into Thai and Myanmar cultures, as well as the socioeconomic context of diaspora communities in Thailand.

Led by Max Erdstein, the LAB program emphasized cross-cultural learning and self-reflection. The experience allowed the students to explore new perspectives and build lasting connections. Despite returning to their home countries, the participants continued to engage with one another, fostering a network of friendships and future collaborations. The LAB program reinforced Parami University's commitment to experiential learning and cross-cultural understanding.



Service Learning

Service learning at Parami University is more than just community service—it integrates meaningful community engagement with academic learning. The students apply classroom knowledge to real-world situations, which helps them grow as individuals and as responsible members of their communities. Through service learning, students develop critical thinking skills, a sense of civic responsibility, and a deeper understanding of the world around them. This approach not only enriches their learning experiences but also fosters a strong commitment to making a positive impact on society. At Parami University, service learning projects address community needs while helping students develop essential skills, such as critical thinking, communication, and teamwork. These projects often involve collaborations with local organizations, allowing students to contribute positively to society while gaining practical insights.

Parami University's commitment to service learning reflects our belief in education as a powerful tool for social change. We encourage our students to use their knowledge and skills to make a tangible difference in the communities they serve.

"Parami has such a great vision and intention of providing and leading the program for service learning for its students. The service learning allowed me to expand my professional network in my field of interest."

Mozart Brang
Class of 2027



Student Highlights



Student-led Clubs

Student-led clubs at Parami University operate both virtually and in person, contributing meaningfully to the university and the communities they engage with. The clubs play a significant role in university students' lives, enriching them personally, academically, and professionally. Their projects and activities are a testament to Parami's education to nurture students with leadership skills, a compassionate service mindset, and critical thinking skills.

Environmental Club

Many parts of Myanmar experienced devastating floods and landslides in September after Typhoon Yagi affected half a million people, including Parami students. Parami student-led Environmental Club joined forces with volunteers from Cherry Myay Academy, Summer Shelter Library, and Parami Taunggyi Learning Hub to help clean up the flood-affected community in Kalaw. They helped clear out the mud, clean the road, and move furniture from inundated houses. The students expressed that it was a powerful reminder to take responsibility for the environment and civically engage in our communities.

The Environmental Club encourages youth to become responsible and critical citizens of environmental issues, raise environmental education awareness, and elevate youth's role in environmental challenges and changes.



EvolveMinds Club

Mental well-being is as important as physical well-being for university students when dealing with academic pressure and external stresses. EvolveMinds, a student-led club, initiated peer-to-peer mental support for their classmates. The club members believe mental health is as crucial as physical health, especially when times are hard.

The club's goal is to raise awareness of mental health issues and provide a comfortable space where students can talk openly about their mental health issues and get support.



Media Club

The Media Club launched its creative project, "Geometric Echoes," which showcased expressive photography that captivated participants and spectators alike. The project allowed participants to explore the profound significance of shapes and colors in their lives and fostered a sense of catharsis and self-discovery by encouraging students to channel their thoughts and emotions into artistic endeavors. The project was conducted with the support of the civic engagement grant offered by the international universities network (OSUN), of which Parami University is a proud member.



Featured Students

Parami University undergraduate students are self-driven individuals who are motivated to dedicate themselves to personal and academic development to inspire and impact the Parami University community. At the Associate Degree Commencement Ceremony in June, awards were given to students who have demonstrated excellence in academics, civic engagement, creativity, online community building, and leadership, setting a remarkable standard for future generations.



Myat Moe Kywe
Class of 2026

“The word “community” has been the center of my life. I love to engage with and work for the community. As we mainly attend our classes online, we cannot meet in person often, so it is essential to foster a sense of community and belonging.”

Myat received an Online Community Builder Award for her efforts to create a vibrant and supportive online environment for her fellow students and faculty members. She is the founder of the student-led Public Speaking Club, which has organized projects that build a sense of community among professors, mentors, advisors, and fellow classmates.



Pone Nyet Aung
Class of 2026

“I am honored to receive this award. I love working with teams and organizing workshops, such as a cross-cultural workshop for youths in Mandalay, a cultural exchange program, and a digital literacy workshop for youths in Taunggyi.”

Phone received a Civic Engagement Excellence Award for her dedication and efforts in addressing pressing social issues and inspiring others to engage in meaningful civic activities. She is the founder of the student-led EvolveMinds Club, which raises awareness of mental health issues and provides a comfortable space for students to talk openly about their mental health issues and get support.

“There are mistakes I have made and still need to improve my leadership skills. Receiving this award makes me confident that I can continue supporting and helping others achieve their goals through my leadership.”



Bhone Khant Theim
Class of 2026

Bhone received a Leadership Excellence Award for his contribution to making a lasting impact through his leadership and vision. Bhone is the founder of Datalliance Club. The club aims to fill this gap by forming a student-led data science club where Parami students can come together and explore data science.

Featured Alumni

We celebrate Parami University alumni whose experiences have shaped their futures and contributed to their communities. Parami is more than just an institution; it's a springboard for personal and professional growth. Alumni like Thu Riya Tun and Zin Myo Kyaw show how Parami's transformative programs inspire individuals to pursue greater ambitions. Their stories reflect the power of education to empower individuals and make a lasting impact on the world.

“Parami is doing great—more than I ever expected.”

Thu Riya Tun
Undergraduate Program
Alumnus



Parami alumnus Thu Riya Tun is now studying at Bard College in upstate New York, majoring in Computer Science, after completing his associate degree online at Parami University this year. As he reflects on his journey, he recognizes the unique strengths of Parami's education model and its lasting impact on his academic and personal development.

Parami University was key to his academic growth, providing a strong foundation in online learning and support. “Bard and Parami both offer great student guidance,” he said, crediting Parami for his smooth transition to Bard.



“Parami became more than just a workplace or a school—it became the foundation of my future.”

Zin Myo Kyaw
Parami Leadership Program
Alumnus

Zin Myo Kyaw joined the Parami Leadership Program (PLP) in 2018 and worked for Parami University from 2020 to 2024. He was particularly inspired by the individuals in Parami University's leadership, who returned to Myanmar after completing their studies abroad to contribute to the country's development, which sparked a similar desire in him. This inspiration led him to pursue further studies for a Master's degree in Global Studies at Bard College this fall, where our president, Dr. Kyaw Moe Tun, went to college.



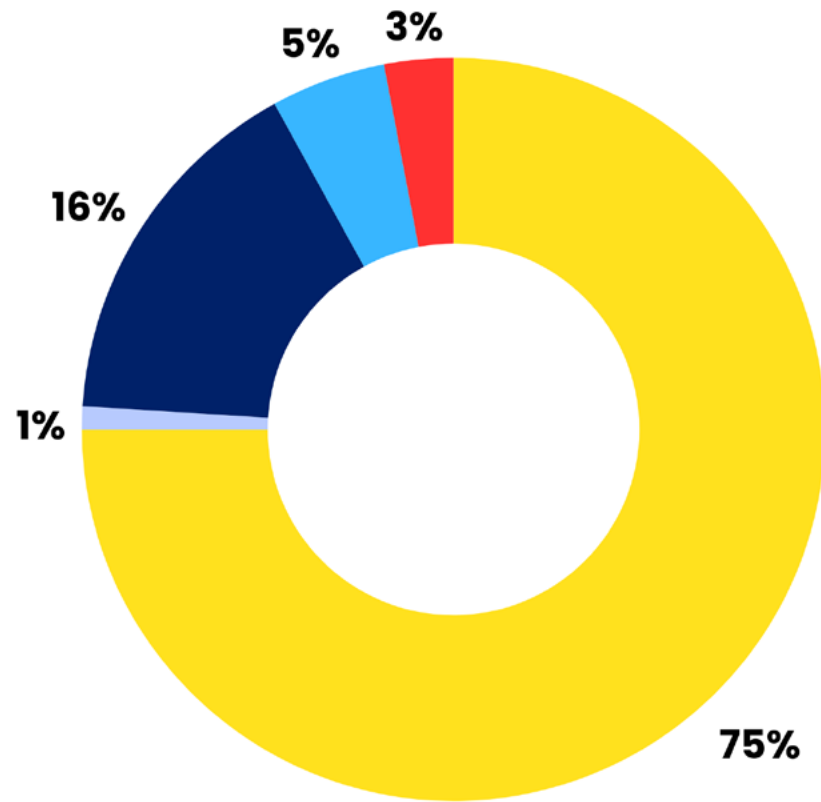
Financials & Sustainability

The continued success of Parami University's mission to provide accessible, high-quality education relies on the generosity of philanthropic foundations, individual donors, and strategic fundraising efforts. In 2024, contributions totaling USD 1.3 million enabled the University to support over 200 undergraduate students and thousands of learners through diverse continuing education programs.

Throughout the year, we launched several targeted fundraising initiatives to enhance key aspects of our educational offerings, made possible through the generosity of our donors. These included summer internships, academic exchange programs, and cultural immersion trips, which provided students with valuable global exposure and practical experiences. These donor-supported opportunities reflect Parami's commitment to fostering cross-cultural understanding and holistic student development. Additionally, the undergraduate service learning fund offered critical travel and living stipends for students engaging in hands-on community service projects, while the annual scholarship fund ensured that financial barriers did not prevent deserving students from accessing transformative education opportunities.

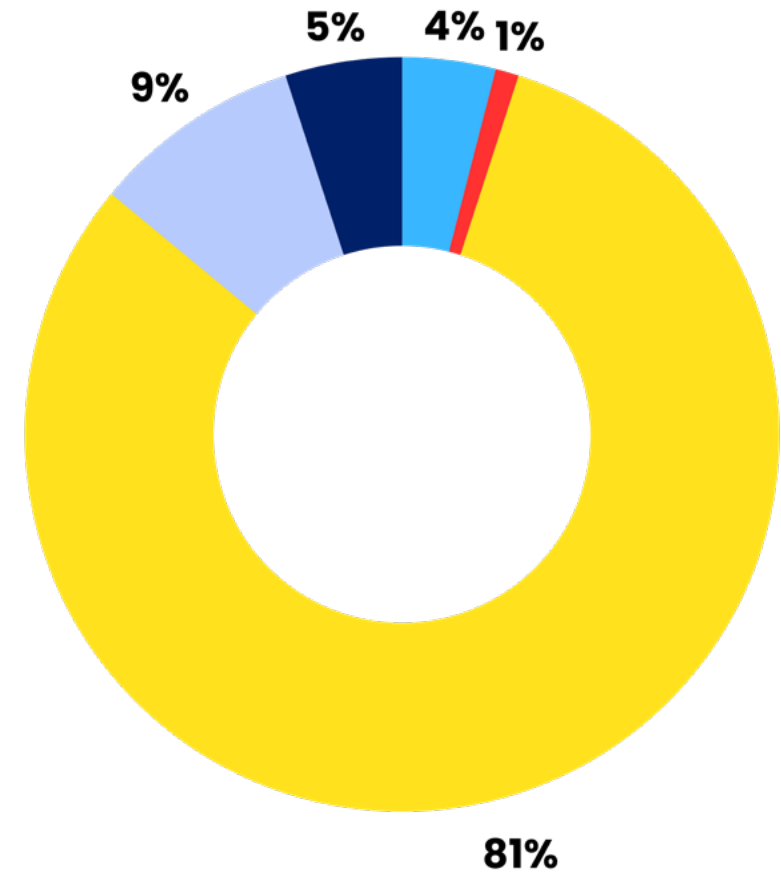
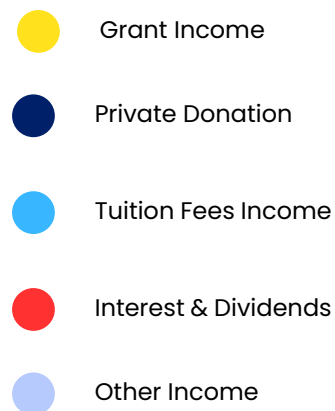
Our year-end fundraising campaign, held from 15 November to 31 December 2024, surpassed its USD 25,000 goal, with funds allocated to scholarships for the 2025–2026 academic year. These contributions highlight the shared belief in education's transformative power and Parami's dedication to inclusivity.

Amid ongoing challenges, Parami remains committed to expanding opportunities and creating a sustainable future. With the continued support of donors and partners, we aim to deepen our impact and transform lives through education.



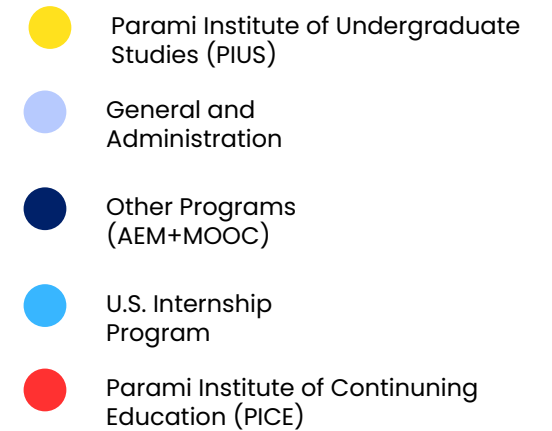
Total Revenue

\$1,371,242



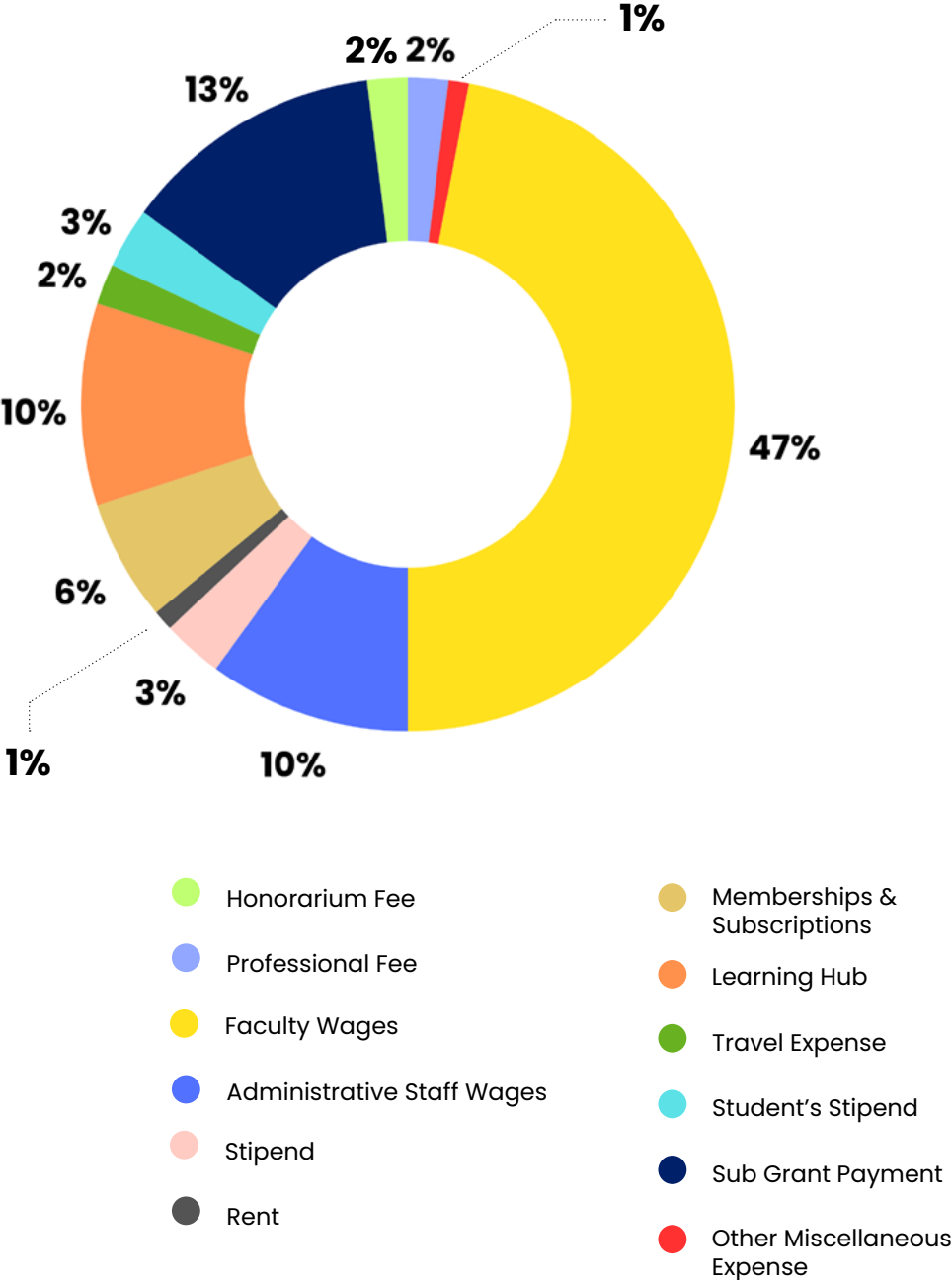
Total Expenditure

\$1,732,756



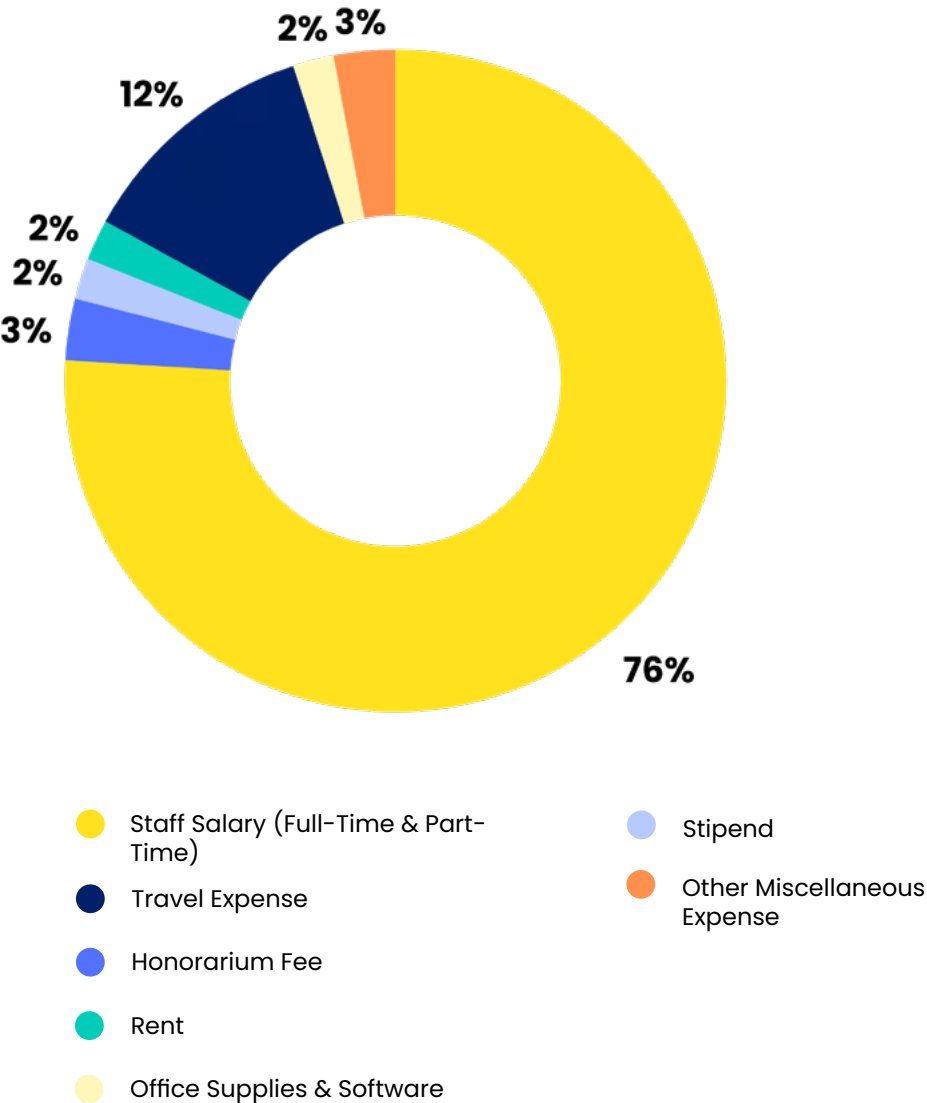
Parami Institute of Undergraduate Studies (PIUS)

\$1,409,637



General and Administration

\$152,938



Looking Forward 2025

As we step into 2025, Parami University anticipates another year of growth and significant milestones, building on the achievements of 2024. In June, the second cohort of undergraduate students will graduate with dual associate degrees from Parami University and Bard College, marking a momentous achievement that reflects their perseverance through extraordinary challenges, which continue to persist, such as unstable conditions, intermittent electricity, and internet issues in Myanmar and refugee camps. In August, we will welcome the Class of 2029, expanding our academic community and continuing to provide high-quality education despite ongoing instability. Global engagement opportunities, including internships, academic exchanges, and cultural immersion programs, will remain central to our mission of fostering cross-cultural understanding and equipping students with skills for a globalized world. At the same time, the Institute of Continuing Education will further broaden its offerings, creating new pathways for learners of all ages to develop critical skills and pursue higher education. Through the resilience and commitment of our students, faculty, and staff, Parami University will continue to overcome challenges and deepen its impact, charting 2025 as another year of transformative progress for the communities we serve.



Acknowledgment

2024 was a transformative year for Parami University, marked by significant progress with the commencement of our inaugural Associate Degree Program graduates. We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support and generosity of the individuals and organizations who have made this milestone possible. Your dedication to expanding access to high-quality education has been the driving force behind our success and continues to inspire our vision for the future.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Parami University Board of Trustees, whose visionary leadership and unwavering commitment have been critical to our growth and success. A special note of thanks goes to our donors—philanthropic individuals, grant-making organizations, and corporate partners—whose generosity has been instrumental in supporting our initiatives and creating a meaningful impact.

To our partner institutions and community organizations, we are profoundly grateful for your collaboration. Your partnerships have enriched our programs and expanded opportunities for learners from diverse backgrounds.

The dedication and contributions of the Parami community—our students, faculty, staff, and scholars—have been essential to our success. Your resilience, innovation, and commitment have shaped our achievements and continue to inspire our pursuit of excellence.

As we look to the future, we carry the achievements of 2024 with a renewed determination to strengthen partnerships, explore new possibilities, and make an even greater impact on the communities we serve.





Our Team

2024 Parami Institute of Undergraduate Studies (PIUS) & Parami Institute of Continuing Education (PICE)

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Jack van Dokkum
Anna Dolan

Academic Advisors

Anny Lin
Brooke Taffler
Alexandra Dingle
Janhvi Kulkarni
Navya Mohan

 +95 9 793 030555

 info@parami.edu.mm

 www.parami.edu.mm

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