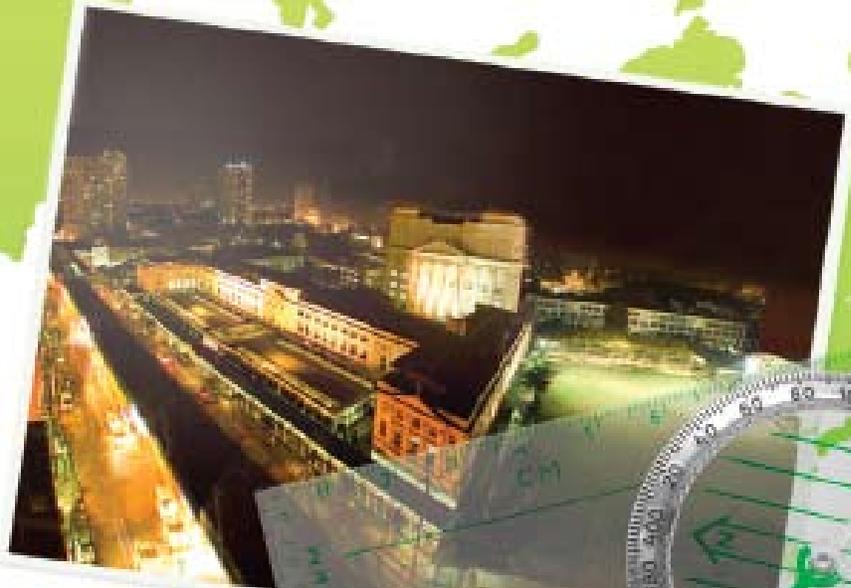




2401 (twen 'tē fôr', ò, wun) is a landmark number along Taft Avenue. It is the location ID of De La Salle University-Manila, home to outstanding faculty and students, and birthplace of luminaries in business, public service, education, the arts, and science. And 2401 is the name of the official newsletter of DLSU-Manila, featuring developments and stories of interest about the University.

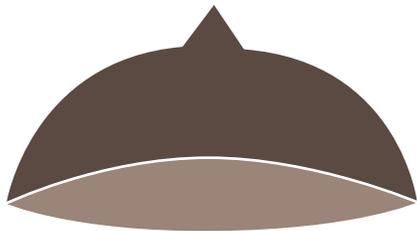
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FACULTY MEMBERS ATTEND CONFERENCE ON FILIPINO AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE

Five faculty members from the Filipino and Computer Technology Departments shared their expertise in the first international conference titled “Filipino as a Global Language: Future Directions and Prospects” at the University of Hawaii-Manoa last March 17-19.

The conference was organized to bring together scholars, writers, language teachers, researchers and practitioners from around the world to discuss issues pertaining to the role of Filipino as a global language.

Three faculty namely, Charibeth Cheng of Computer Technology Department, and Evangeline Encabo and Dr. Teresita Fortunato of the Filipino Department, read their papers. Cheng presented “e-Wika: Philippine Connectivity Through Language,” Encabo, “Teaching Language and Culture Beyond the Classroom: AFAP Method,” and Fortunato, “Program Development, Administration and Coordination: Advanced Filipino Abroad Program Experience.”

Dr. Aurora Batnag, part-time faculty member from the Filipino Department, conducted translation

workshop while Dr. Rizalina Mendoza of the same department gave a poster presentation titled “Innovating Filipino Language/Studies Through Open and Distance Education.”

A welcome dinner reception held on the first night was attended by over 120 participants together with the SANGGUNIAN: Filipino Program Advisory Council and friends of the UH Filipino Program.

The conference concluded with a presentation of focus group reports on: 1) language teaching and materials; 2) language policy; and 3) advocacy and activities, and the youth track



presentation of creative arts/ performances.

Plenary lecturers were National Artists Virgilio Almario and Bienvenido Lumbera and Dr. Ambeth Ocampo of the National Historical Institute. Dr. Elynia Ruth Mabanglo, noted poet and former faculty member of DLSU-M, was the conference director.

Fortunato attends a two-day language proficiency workshop in UH

Dr. Teresita Fortunato, associate professor of the Filipino Department attended a two-day workshop of 14 hours training on “Proficiency Oriented Instruction: Focus on Speaking and Writing” last March 15-16 at the Webster Hall, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

The training, organized by the School of Pacific and Asian

Studies, was conducted by Dr. Robert Vicars, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Certified Proficiency Trainer, and was coordinated by Dr. Teresita Ramos, project director of the Advanced Filipino Abroad Program in the Philippines.

Thirty participants from different universities and language institutions in the United States attended the workshop.

DLSU-M PURSUES STRONGER EXTERNAL RELATIONS FOR SY 2008-2009

Internationalization, quality assurance and innovations in teaching are just some of the directions that the University must pursue this school year, De La Salle University-Manila President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC said in his address at the Faculty General Assembly held at the Most Blessed Sacrament Chapel last May 22.

In his speech, Br. Armin explained that the University, as part of its internationalization efforts, must strive to become a first-rate academic institution in the global arena.

“We must now begin to envision our respective departments as centers of excellence, our six colleges as seedbeds of future leaders in various fields, and the University as a whole as a world-class educational institution,” he said.

He added that the newly created Vice Chancellor for Lasallian Mission and External Relations post, which was given to Br. Bernie Oca FSC, “will take the lead not only in engaging the academic community in the articulation of our shared vision and concrete targets for internationalization, but also with respect to our connectedness with industry, government agencies, non-government organizations, embassies and international bodies, respected universities here and abroad, alumni chapters of Lasallian institutions, and religious groups.”

Other newly appointed administrators for this school year are Agnes Yuhico as Vice Chancellor for Administration, Dr. Arnulfo Azcarraga as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Lasallian Mission and External Relations, and Edwin Santiago as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and University Registrar.

Meanwhile, newly appointed deans are Dr. Rachel Edita Roxas for the College of Computer Studies, Dr.

Roberto Borromeo for the College of Education, and Dr. Exaltacion Lamberte for the College of Liberal Arts. The new Vice Dean for the Ramon V. Del Rosario Sr. Graduate School of Business of the College of Business and Economics is Pia Manalastas.

Also during his faculty address, Br. Armin said that he intends to make the University part of an international leadership series featuring ex Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and former US Vice President Al Gore. Former East Timor President and Nobel Laureate Jose Ramos-Horta, who was unable to visit last school year as part of the International Peace Foundation’s Bridges Program, is also being scheduled for this school year.

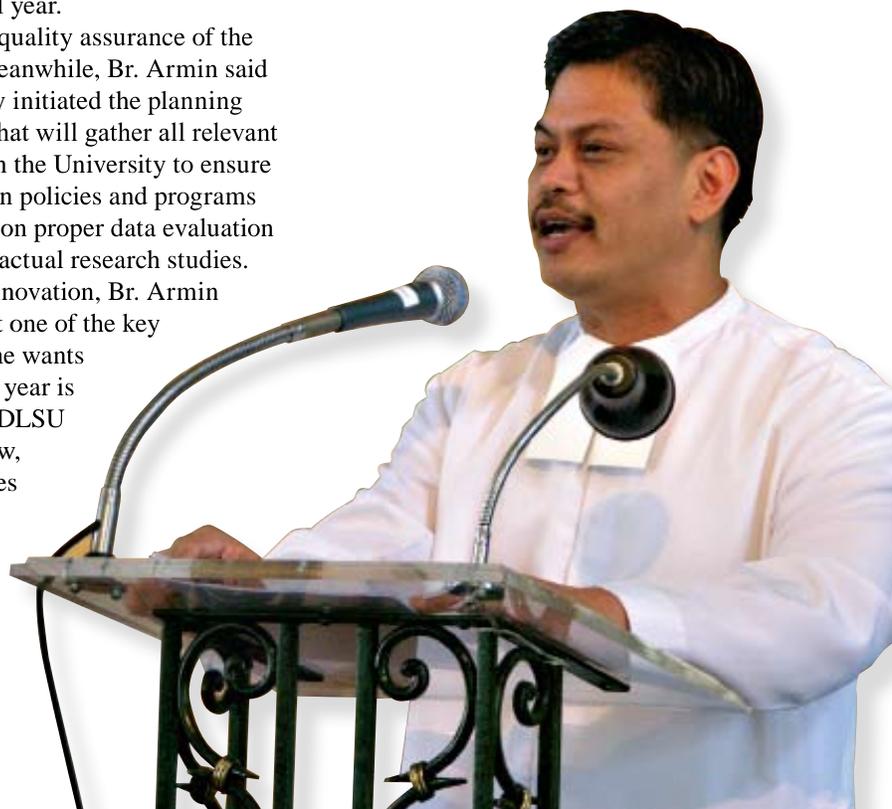
For the quality assurance of the University, meanwhile, Br. Armin said he has already initiated the planning for an office that will gather all relevant information in the University to ensure that changes in policies and programs will be based on proper data evaluation supported by actual research studies.

As to innovation, Br. Armin explained that one of the key projects that he wants to pursue this year is the proposed DLSU College of Law, which he hopes “to serve as a catalyst for

generating and propagating new knowledge in the legal field for social transformation.”

Also, with the re-integration of the Ramon V. Del Rosario Sr. Graduate School of Business with DLSU-M, Br. Armin said there will be more opportunities for innovation, and that the schools in Makati and Ortigas can now be included as part of the campus.

However, Br. Armin, in his end note, emphasized the importance of going back to the Lasallian roots to successfully pursue the University’s directions this year. “This means going back to the Lasallian Mission of providing a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor.”



AWAKENING THE FILIPINO IDEOLOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

In a survey among public school children at the close of the last century, it was found that Filipino children would rather be an American, Japanese, or Arab because of various reasons—politics, economics, or one’s lack of love for the country.

This issue was discussed during the 1st De La Salle University-Manila Think Tank sponsored by the Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing and Asean Literatures Center and the College of Liberal Arts on campus last April 23. Respected and notable speakers explained to participants why there is a strong need for the re-emergence of the Filipino ideology in the 21st century.

The conference aimed to inspire student leaders to awaken the idealism that lies dormant within the youth, and revive love of country among the young, intellectuals, professionals, and civil servants.

The discussions in the conference will be published in a “green book” that

will be made available to every student, young professional and civil servant. Just like the “red book” of the 1970s, this “green book” will seek to stimulate the idealism of the youth, who represent the hope of the Motherland.

Fr. Albert Alejo, Dr. Nagasura Madale, Dr. Melba Maggay, Dr. Bienvenido Lumbera, Dr. Nick Tiongson, Dr. Leni Garcia, F. Sionil Jose, Rodolfo Lozada, Nicanor Perlas, Lutgardo Labad, Fray Paulo, Boni Ilagan, Fernando Josef, and Sr. Mary John Mananzan shared their insights in the confab.

Students from Miriam College and University of the East also participated in the proceedings.



QUESTIONS, QUESTS, QUELLE

by Br. Armin Luistro FSC

*Delivered at the Faculty General Assembly last May 22
at the Most Blessed Sacrament Chapel*

There is a Wizard of Id comic strip by Parker and Hart which I find particularly relevant to today's gathering. The comic strip shows the King preparing to appear before his subjects to administer a loyalty oath. The King asks his assistant, "How long should I make the loyalty oath?" The assistant answers, "Try not to give them time to find rocks." When they reach the stage, the assistant says, "Your subjects are ready to repeat the loyalty oath." So the King says to the crowd, "Repeat after me: I promise to love and obey my King!" His words are met by silence. So he turns to his assistant and asks, "Do they not hear me?" The King looks at the crowd again and asks his assistant, "And what are they pointing at?" The assistant replies, "I don't think those are pointer fingers, Sir."

I am not sure what finger you use to point when you refer to me. But I would like to use my pointer finger to point at directions which I think, feel and believe De La Salle University should pursue for School Year 2008-2009. Let me address this concern with three Q's.

First Q: QUESTIONS.

Several of our stakeholders have asked me why I participate actively in the political movement, why I am too visible with the political opposition and why I wear the religious habit of the Christian Brothers when I march in the streets. On many occasions I have tried to explain that mine is a moral crusade, not a political one; that in the unfolding of history are many teachable moments which educators must make use of; that my faith convictions urge me to struggle and live out the values of the Gospel in the church and in the marketplace; and, that the search for truth and the condemnation of structural evil carries no partisan colors.

Should we insulate the University from potential attack leveled by those who feel referred to when we press for truth, accountability and reform? Should university presidents remain silent in the face of corruption and lies, abuse of power and the trampling of our dignity and rights? Should educators remain indifferent to political machinations that devour the very soul of our nation? Should students continue to slumber in apathy when their very future is at stake? Can De La Salle University rest on its laurels as a leading educational institution in our country and not be an authentic resource for Church and Nation at a juncture in our history when the very credibility and integrity of institutions are in question?

In all honesty, I dare say that my participation becomes hot news not because what I say or do matters but simply because I am associated with De La Salle University. The same is true with all of you here. Our words and deeds, our successes and failures, yes, even our private lives become the talk of the town in large part because of our association with De La Salle University. Humbling. Numbing. Agonizing. We carry on our shoulders the great responsibility of being part of a leading university in the country and, whether we like it or not, we are thus subjected to the prying eyes and demanding scrutiny of our publics. I must confess that I have wrestled with these thoughts on many a dark night during the

past year and have agonized much like Shakespeare:

To be, or not to be: that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them? (Hamlet 3 / 1)

Today, I may not be able to present clear answers but I urge you to take these same questions to heart, live these questions, sleep on them, perchance to dream.

Second Q: QUESTS.

Dante Leoncini, in a paper he recently delivered on Inter-Faith Dialogue, quotes Daniel Graham who reminds us that: “Most people sleep-walk through life, not understanding what is going on about them. Yet experience of words and deeds can enlighten those who are receptive to their meaning.” As we set our targets for this academic year, I suppose we need to spend time in an honest review and reflection of what we have accomplished so far and what we have been doing these past years in order to better understand the significance of our quests. Our quests are best described by three I’s.

Internationalization. While we have initiated some discussions and programs to address the issue of internationalization, we would still need to articulate realizable targets that are in keeping with the Lasallian Mission and our role in nation-building. The newly created office of the Vice Chancellor for Lasallian Mission and External Relations will take the lead not only in engaging the academic community in the articulation of our shared vision and concrete targets for internationalization, but also with respect to our connectedness with industry, government agencies, non-government organizations, embassies and international bodies, respected universities here and abroad, alumni chapters of Lasallian institutions, and religious groups. We need to keep pace with a world that is shrinking, a globalizing world—with its lights and shadows—but knowing exactly where we stand as a Filipino Lasallian educational community. We would need to open the doors and windows of DLSU to the refreshing winds of change that are happening within and without, recognizing that leading institutions not only adapt to changes in the world, but more importantly also change the world. In my mind, that is what we mean when we say the future begins here.

In this quest, I would like to see DLSU actively engaged in transforming lives, creating history and leading without necessarily competing. We need to discover ‘blue oceans’ that are not within sight of our so-called ‘competitors’. In the Lasallian tradition, this is best located at the frontier, among those who are the last, the lost and the least. This would require creativity, innovation and passion for excellence. How do we optimize our industry linkage so that we engage them in reviewing our curricula and at the same time give inputs to contribute to their growth? How do we engage the present government administration and other government agencies so

that our critique of their programs leads to the real development of our people? How do we engage international bodies and foreign universities so that they begin to seriously consider us as a real partner and resource in Manila? How do we engage our partner communities so that we do not just view them as areas where we carry out our social responsibility but also where we learn about the realities of our world and undertake research that we can bring to scholars and policy-makers? How do we engage the network of Lasallian communities in 80 countries with more than 900 thousand students, 73 thousand Lasallian Partners, and five thousand Brothers so that DLSU can actualize its quest to connect with the global village?

As a Lasallian community of achievers, our brand of excellence should not only be focused on a personal level. We cannot afford to merely have individuals who shine. If we do it, we must do it together. We must now begin to envision our respective departments as centers of excellence, our six colleges as seedbeds of future leaders in various fields, and the University as a whole as a world-class educational institution. I challenge our academic units to go farther in search of new academic talents who will enhance our programs and academic reputation without feeling threatened with the best and the brightest outside. We must provide more opportunities for our promising young faculty members to do research and pursue further studies that will integrate their respective disciplinary knowledge with other disciplines, as well as with co-curricular activities. Of equal importance are opportunities for mentoring our young researchers, teachers and administrators, so that the wisdom gained from years of experience may be passed on. Likewise, it is necessary that we continue to employ competent and trustworthy co-academic personnel, hopefully stars in their own right, who will work with us on this quest.

This year we would like to continue the program that we have started last year in partnership with the International Peace Foundation to bring in prominent individuals on campus so we can all begin to interact and converse with the most influential minds in the world. I ask our Deans to continue the relationship that we have initiated with the visiting Nobel Laureates. I intend to invite other eminent individuals of the likes of former President Jose Ramos-Horta (who was unable to visit us last year), former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, former NY Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and former Vice President Al Gore. While there are many



more things we would need to do to truly make our campus international (including housing facilities for them), we can already begin by ensuring that the different minority cultures and races present in our campus truly feel welcomed, respected and affiliated.

Information. Beginning this school year, the Information Technology Center will join the other academic services units under the merged position of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and University Registrar. With this, we hope to harness the synergy among the academic services units and move closer into the realm of seamless operations for the community. Together with this decision, I have also begun laying the foundations for an office to handle quality assurance with the main responsibility of

gathering all the relevant information in the University that are essential for decision-making. This is to ensure that any changes in our policies and programs will be based on a careful evaluation of data that we have gathered and that their implementation will be monitored and improved with the help of actual research studies on those same policies and programs. We also need to gather data and do a comprehensive study and a financial plan of our funding sources to reach our 20% target for scholarships, as well as our needs for research, faculty and staff development, etc.

These will be especially helpful since our campus will be visited by many distinguished international and local accrediting units. As some of you may already know, our Economics and Chemical Engineering programs will be visited by the AUN-QA team in August. In March 2009, PAASCU will be

visiting us to accredit five of our colleges. These visits should help us understand our gains better and the many other improvements that we need to make.

I look forward to setting up within this school year an Environment Committee that will gather actual data and review our existing policies on areas that affect the environment and eventually conceptualize, adopt and implement schemes on how the academic community can be actively involved in the protection of our ecosystem, focusing on energy conservation, waste management, recycling, and enhancing the natural beauty of our campus.

Innovation. During the past two school years, we overhauled the General Education Curriculum and implemented Transformative Learning. The ITEO evaluation of the GE Curriculum and Transformative Learning reveal that "key findings show a general positive direction and [that] the faculty is to be commended for these initial results, considering that the evaluation was done in the second year of the program's implementation. While I am of the conviction that there is no turning back on the move towards Transformative Learning it is important that we continue to study the students' inquiry and thinking skills. For this reason the Vice Chancellor for

Academics will oversee the study monitoring the progress of the students' growth. For this first term, we are establishing with the incoming froshies baseline data through the use of parallel tests involving internationally-used testing forms as well as our own. While there are still a lot of areas to strengthen, the study's comments about the program's weaknesses are there for the faculty to work on and improvement of these areas should raise the current rating from 'good' and 'very good' to 'excellent.'"

As we pursue greater innovation, we move towards redefining



It means going back to the basic Lasallian values of Faith, Service and Communion.



our academic, research and development culture. We must also enhance our students' interest and initiatives in innovative research. We will leave the detailed targets on these to the Vice Chancellor for Research.

One of our key projects for innovation is the proposed DLSU College of Law. I will present to the BOT the recommendation to pursue our vision of a College of Law which hopes to serve as a catalyst for generating and propagating new knowledge in the legal field for social transformation. At the core of its curriculum shall be the promotion and protection of human rights especially the rights of minority and indigenous groups, women and children, as well as the rights of future generations to enjoy the same God-given gifts of Mother Earth.

To promote greater innovation, scholarships must also be readily available for our best faculty and students to reward their high quality performance in research, and to facilitate the development and application of their findings. We can achieve all these if our linkages with our collaborators and partners in industry are strengthened alongside with the development of new links with our peers in the international stage.

The past year saw a number of DLSU-Manila's applied research projects come to fruition, such as the Philippines' first-ever solar car-Sinag, a product of the ingenuity and hard work of our faculty members and students from the College of Engineering in cooperation with various industry sponsors. We must continue to encourage these kinds of projects as well as continue to push technology, not only among us, but beyond its current boundaries. For this reason, we will ask the Vice Chancellors for Academics and for Administration to review our services and recommend the integration of the latest technological advancements to improve the efficiency of university services.

This school year we also welcome the faculty, students, and staff of the Ramon V. del Rosario, Sr. Graduate School

of Business as they are reintegrated back into DLSU-Manila. We look forward to harnessing the potentials of this reintegration and translating such potentials into more innovations as we begin to widen our perspective with respect to our campus and program offerings. Now we can begin to see our campus as including Makati and Ortigas. We should begin looking at new possibilities.

Third Q: Quelle, the Q Source.

In hermeneutics, the Q source, as proposed by some scripture scholars, is a common source of information for both evangelists Matthew and Luke, aside from Mark's text. "Q" comes from the German term "quelle," meaning "source." Although there is no clear proof that this document existed, this proposal has gained some acceptance among scholars due to the very close similarities and identical written accounts found in the gospels of Matthew and Luke.

I bring up quelle as the last Q to emphasize that in order to answer our questions and successfully pursue our quests, we must return to the beginning. In order to find real answers and to see our way clearly, we must go back to our real source.

This means going back to our Lasallian roots and the Lasallian Mission of providing a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor. It means going back to our fundamental work of teaching minds, touching hearts and transforming lives. It means going back to the basic Lasallian values of Faith, Service and Communion.

Ultimately, it means understanding that behind all the teaching, research, development work and community service, our real source is God, and that the work is not just ours. It is God's work we do. It is God's life we share.

Live, Jesus, in our hearts. Forever!

LA SALLE OPENS DOORS TO INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

De La Salle University-Manila, through the College of Liberal Arts' Committee of Emergent Program on Worldviews and Beliefs, held the National Conference on Theories and Practices of Interfaith Dialogue in the Philippines last April 24-26 at the Br. Andrew Gonzalez Building.

About 150 delegates from the academe, non-government organizations and religious sectors attended the conference.

Plenary lectures were delivered by Br. Karl Gaspar of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (CSsR), otherwise known as the Redemptorists; Dr. Guru Hadji Mashur Bin-Ghalib Jundam, dean of the UP Institute of Islamic Studies; Dr. Susan Reyes, who is currently working with Buddhists in the construction of an Interfaith Retreat Center; Dr. Nagasura Madala of Mindanao, who represented a family with mixed religious backgrounds; Dr. Leni Garcia of DLSU-M's Philosophy Department;

Dr. Cecilia Medina, who discussed Catholic inter-religious initiatives in Mindanao; and Joseph Raymond, who gave a discourse on the early American Protestant Missions in the Philippines.

Eight DLSU-M faculty members who were among those that gave paper presentations were Dante Leoncini, Dr. Eduardo Domingo, Dr. Ferdinand Dagmang, Dr. Ismael Maningas Jr., Dr. Max Felicilda, Dr. Napoleon Mabaquiao, Dr. Rito Baring, and Jeremiah Joaquin.

In his lecture, Br. Karl shared his first-hand experiences of the application of interfaith dialogue in Mindanao. He emphasized that interfaith dialogue would be more meaningful if it was practiced not only by religious or academic

scholars in formal conferences, but also by people in ordinary situations.

For his part, Guru Jundam showed how Islam views interfaith dialogue, with special focus on how such dialogue could transpire among Islam, Judaism,

and Christianity. He identified certain similarities among these three great religions, among them their belief in one God, their belief that man was created in the best stature and from God's own breath, and their common kinship, being all descendents of Adam and Eve. He pointed out that in all these religions the highest kind of love for humans is their love of God.

Reyes gave a discourse on the culturally-rooted contemplative education and dialogue. She shared her experiences as a student and researcher of the mystics in Mt. Banahaw. As a professor and administrator, she talked about her latest project—the establishment of an Interfaith Retreat Center.

Madala inquired into the real goal of interfaith dialogue. He cited the ideals of interfaith dialogue, but also reminded the participants of the sensitive issues that come with it.

Garcia argued that the best way to make interfaith dialogue a reality is to cultivate a pluralistic attitude toward religion. This could be done by exposing one's self to various religious beliefs, re-examining the various stories or "myths" through which the faiths of the different religions have been articulated, and studying the lives and thoughts of thinkers, philosophers, poets, and spiritual leaders who transcended the limitations of their concrete situations in life in order to embrace a holistic attitude towards spirituality and life in general.



Br. Karl Gaspar



LSIG CONFAB FOCUSES ON ICT ROLE IN NATION BUILDING

To highlight the emerging roles of the different stakeholders in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), the La Salle Institute of Governance gathered around 150 participants to an international conference last April 24-25 at New World Renaissance Hotel, Makati City.

The conference “ICT and Sustainable Development: Leadership, Governance, and Innovation in the Knowledge Society” was held in partnership with the International Academy of Chief Information Officers and the Asian Center for Information Technology and Telecommunications.

It featured relevant research and development efforts of innovation champions in the government, the private sector, and the academe. It also focused on the emerging roles of ICT in facilitating environmental sustainability; fostering human capital for global competitiveness; and addressing issues and challenges in the Knowledge Society.

ICT and development experts – researchers, policy makers and practitioners from the government, private sector, the academe, and civil society served as resource speakers in the confab.

DLSU-M College of Computer Studies (CCS) faculty Sherwin Ona delivered a speech on “Agri-Portal and SMS for Farmers: Lessons from the Spider Project” that highlighted how ICT became useful to the livelihood of farmers. Ona is the associate director of the Spider Project of the University.

Dr. Lloyd Espirtu, also from CCS, discussed how the ICT helped fill a void in the educational system via the talk “E-Skuwela Content Development: Leveraging ICT for Education.”

Sen. Edgardo Angara, chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology of the Senate of the Philippines, gave the confab’s keynote speech.



DLSU-M, TOYOTA INK DEAL ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

De La Salle University-Manila's Behavioral Sciences Department (BSD) will provide technical assistance and research expertise to Toyota Autoparts Philippines, Inc. (TAPI) for the expansion of the "School-based Solid Waste Management (SB-SWM) Program" of the automotive company.

The external linkage was established with the signing of a memorandum of understanding last May 19 at the Office of the President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC.

Br. Armin and TAPI President Yasuro Takeuchi signed the MOU together with College of Liberal Arts Dean Dr. Exaltacion Lamberte, BSD Chair Dr. Romeo Lee, Associate Professor Dr. Elena Javier, and TAPI General Administration Division Section Manager Ronnel Andaya as witnesses.

Under the MOU, BSD will provide technical assistance to TAPI in expanding the SB-SWM Program. TAPI, in exchange, will provide a grant for two graduate theses, which will also benefit the socio-physical environment of Sta. Rosa, Laguna. The MOU is for an initial period of one year and renewable by mutual agreement.

During the signing, Br. Armin expressed his appreciation for the collaborative effort of BSD and TAPI, explaining that a solid waste management program with schools would create awareness among children on the importance of recycling.

TAPI initiated the program last year, which involved only 15 public and private high schools in the area. Together with BSD, TAPI developed a broad framework for a four-year SB-SWM Action-Research Program.

The project targets the involvement of all 64 high schools in Sta. Rosa, the local government, pertinent national agencies, and private corporations like Coca-Cola Philippines. It aims to integrate the concept, principles, and practice of solid waste management in the high school curriculum.

From left: Dr. Elena Javier, Dr. Exaltacion Lamberte, Br. Armin Luistro FSC, and TAPI President Yasuro Takeuchi.





BR. ARMIN JOINS U.S. SUMMIT ON ACADEMIC INNOVATION

De La Salle University-Manila President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC attended the Higher Education Summit for Global Development that showcased innovative approaches to academic, educational, business, and scientific collaboration of different higher education institutions (HEIs) in the US and other foreign countries.

The summit, which took place last April 29-30 at Washington D.C., USA, was convened by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and US Education Secretary Margaret Spellings in an effort to expand globally the role of HEIs in social and economic development.

Focusing on innovation, the two-day summit aimed to broaden partnerships and networks among HEIs from the US and other foreign countries as well as with the private sector and foundations; highlight and expand emerging and innovative approaches to teaching, research, technology transfer

and business development; and develop strategies to establish new and enduring higher education relationships for international development, particularly in science and technology, engineering and other fields that support innovation and economic growth.

Br. Armin is only one of two university presidents in the Philippines that attended the summit, the other being Francisco Estrada, president of the Asian Institute of Management and an alumnus of DLSU-M.

Various presenters from universities around the world shared their experiences

in innovative approaches to teaching and research through different breakout sessions, while US dignitaries and other foreign leaders shared their insights on higher education during the plenary sessions.

Dignitaries who joined the summit were USAID Administrator Henrietta Fore, Republic of Rwanda President Paul Kagame, US Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman, National Knowledge Commission of India Chairman Sam Pitroda, US Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt, and US Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao.



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