

# Towards innovative community building

DLSU FACULTY MEMBERS PRESENTED PAPERS at the 5th Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre in Australia last August 8-12.

Civil Engineering (CE) faculty members Dr. Andres Oreta, Dr. Danilo Terante, and Dr. Alexis Fillone shared their respective papers, which tackled innovative civil and structural engineering projects. Other presentations during the conference came from academia and industry leaders.

Oreta presented the paper "A Concept for the Campaign of Promoting Safe Schools and Hospitals," which he co-wrote with Dr. Jerry Velasquez of United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, fellow CE faculty member Dr. Renan Tanhueco, and DLSU Software Technology faculty member Dr. Florante Salvador.

Terante, for his part, shared a collaborative research entitled "Risk-Based Analysis of a Flood Plain: A Case in the City



of Malabon, Philippines." The paper was co-written by CE students Albert Lamberte and Emilia Sevilla.

Fillone discussed his research on "The Use of Remote Sensing and GIS for Parking Inventory Study," which he co-wrote with Dr. Maria Cecilia Paringit, also of CE Department.

# Google scholar from La Salle

A STUDENT FROM THE COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES, Nellie Margaret Chua, joined two other recipients of the Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship in a ceremony held last August 4 at the Google's Engineering Center located in Seoul, Korea. Together with Chua for the retreat and workshops in Korea was co-finalist and also a DLSU-CCS student, Jennifer Sing. Both Chua and Sing are in the Software Technology Department of CCS.

The scholarship program, which is exclusively for female students, was sponsored by Google as part of its ongoing commitment to pursue Dr. Anita Borg's vision, which is to revolutionize the way people think about technology and dismantling barriers that keep women and minorities from entering computing and technology fields.



Each scholarship recipient received a \$3,500 scholarship. The scholarships

were awarded based on the strength of candidates' academic background, as well as their demonstrated leadership.



# FACTS and FIGURES



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# DLSU holds Henry Sy, Sr. Hall groundbreaking



DLSU community members and distinguished guests witness the groundbreaking of the building that will serve as the cornerstone of the Centennial Renewal Plan.

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY COMMENCES the campus-wide Centennial Renewal Plan with the

groundbreaking ceremony of the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall held on August 9 at the University football field.

2401 (twe'n'te fór',c, wun) is a landmark number along Taft Avenue. It is the location ID of De La Salle University, 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, featuring developments and stories of interest about the University.

## Empathic Space Project

College of Computer Studies (CCS) faculty member Dr. Merlin Teodosia Suarez presented the DLSU CCS Empathic Space project of the Center for Empathic Human-Computer Interactions entitled “Can Computers Empathize? Solving the Novel Problem of Empathic Space Development” at the annual National Science and Technology Week’s Scientific Forum held at the Maynila Ballroom of the Manila Hotel last July 20.

The theme of this year’s forum was “Filipinnovation: The Way Forward.” It aims to stress the call for the local science and technology community to develop innovative, value-adding technologies with the end goal of commercialization. The presentations at the forum ranged from topics on medicine and health, agriculture, ICT and water quality among others.

The Empathic Space project is a 3-year research project funded by the Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development of the Department of Science of Technology. It is currently on its second year. Initial research results have been published in various local and international research fora.



## Crossroads for campus activities

**HENRY SY, SR. HALL**, a 15-story modern and eco-friendly building, will house various academic service units, study areas, learning spaces, and select offices.

It will also be home to the Learning Commons—a central hub that will serve as the intellectual crossroads for studying in the University. More than a repository of books and

reference materials, the Learning Commons is envisioned to be a place of connection where community members can relax, commune, and hold official university activities.

The hall features a concourse linked to other buildings and offers a security solution as it centralizes areas where public has access.

## A positive side to brain drain

**IN HIS TALK** on the migration of skilled workers delivered before DLSU students and faculty, renowned Polish scholar Oded Stark offered a positive spin to the phenomenon of brain drain.

He said that if societies are compelled to enhance the number, skills, and capabilities of its workers, production will increase and may result to a state that he calls a “social optimum.” This, he said, may spell better welfare for laborers who remain in the country.

Oded Stark, a researcher on migration, made invaluable contributions to the study of applied microeconomics, labor, development, population, and urban and evolutionary economics.

His writings include the critically acclaimed books that have spurred great

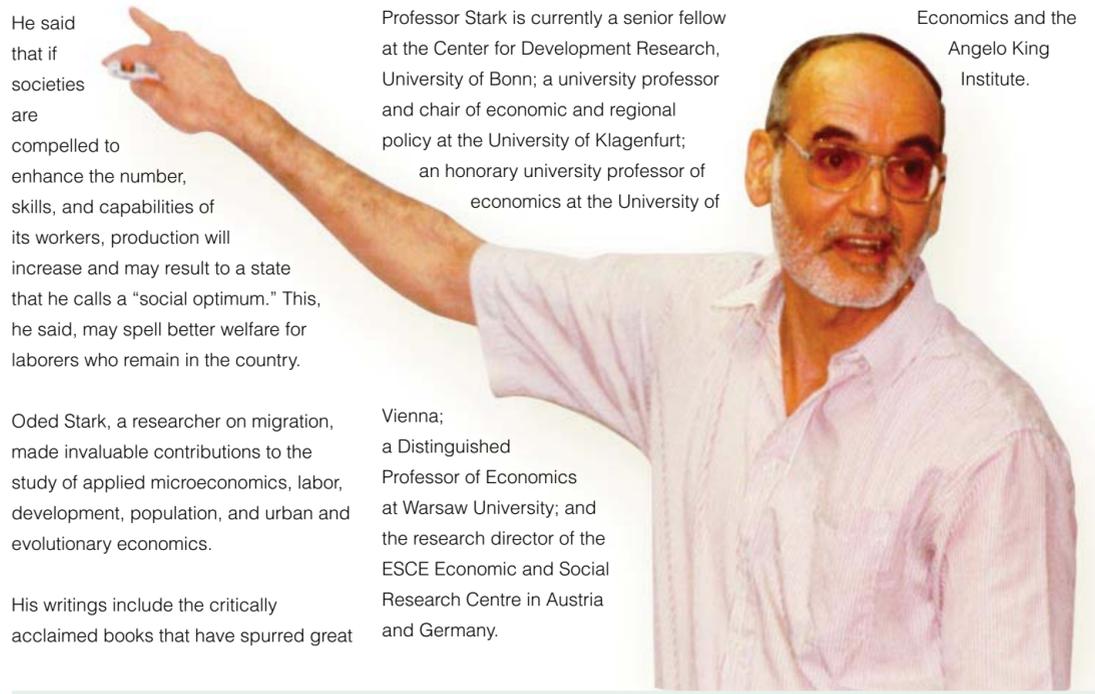
interest in research on migration and the family—The Migration of Labor, Altruism and Beyond, An Economic Analysis of Transfers and Exchanges within Families and Groups.

Professor Stark is currently a senior fellow at the Center for Development Research, University of Bonn; a university professor and chair of economic and regional policy at the University of Klagenfurt; an honorary university professor of economics at the University of

Vienna; a Distinguished Professor of Economics at Warsaw University; and the research director of the ESCE Economic and Social Research Centre in Austria and Germany.

Professor Stark is a Humboldt Awardee, and a Presidential Professor of Economic Sciences in Poland.

His talk was sponsored by the De La Salle University School of Economics and the Angelo King Institute.



## DLSU Chorale bags international awards

**DLSU CHORALE BRINGS HOME THREE AWARDS** from two international competitions, LLangollen International Musical Eisteddfod held in North Wales and the 49th European Choral Grand Prix held in Italy.

With their repertoire comprised of classic pieces “Exultate Deo” by Scarlatti, “Speme Amorosa” by Gastoldi, and a classic Filipino piece, “Padayon” by Grace Nono, the DLSU chorale landed 2nd place in the Chamber Choir Category of the LLangollen Internation Musical Eisteddfod. They also landed on 3rd

place at the Renaissance and Baroque Category and won the Public’s Choice Award in the Pop Songs and Folk Music Category in the 49th International Competition of Choral Singing.

The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod is an annual six-day festival of music, dance, and song that takes place in the small town of Llangollen in North Wales. The European Grand Prix for Choral Singing is also held every year and is a competition between previous winners of any European choral competitions.

Go **green** with centennial shirts

CENTENNIAL SHIRTS (Environmental Series) are now available @ P265 each. Payment should be made at the Accounting Office.

For inquiries, call Virgie at local 246 or 144 or visit the STRATCOM office, 21st floor Br. Andrew Gonzalez Hall.

Visit [centennial.dlsu.edu.ph](http://centennial.dlsu.edu.ph) for other DLSU merchandise.



### DLSU, from page 1

Named in honor of the Philippine retail magnate, the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall will be the first major building under the Centennial Renewal Plan, a long-term redevelopment master plan to rationalize the whole campus setup and respond to the current and future needs of the University.



Renowned architectural firm LV Locsin Partners designed the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall.

The building is likened to a “habitable tree”, a concept that seeks to capture DLSU’s continuous and growing role in Philippine education, as well as the institution’s stand on environmental responsibility and sustainability.



Photo shows the donor (middle) with his sons, SM Prime Holdings President Hans Sy (second from left) and SM Supermarket President Herbert Sy (third from left), together with some members of the DLSU board of trustees and administration, and LV Locsin Partners representatives. Also gracing the event was Viel Aquino-Dee (front row, fourth from left), representing the family of the late President Corazon Aquino.

## Promoting literacy among public school children

**TO ENCOURAGE READING AND LEARNING** among schoolchildren, De La Salle University has partnered with the Philippines Dictionary Project, PDP, in providing elementary public school students access to quality children’s dictionaries.

DLSU will serve as dictionary bank, pooling the books that will be loaned to 16 partner schools in Metro Manila. Each of these schools will receive 50 sets of illustrated English dictionaries.

The books were formally presented to recipient schools during a formal launch in DLSU last month. The affair was attended by DepEd Secretary and former DLSU President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC.

The project will also provide DepEd school teachers supplementary training on various subjects.

PDP, the brainchild of literacy advocate Nina Patawaran, was launched in Negros Oriental in November 2008 and is now operational in 94 public elementary schools in five Visayas provinces. The partnership with DLSU marks the expansion of PDP to Luzon. There are plans to bring the project to Mindanao in November 2010.



Ask of God the understanding you need for your guidance.

---St. John Baptist de La Salle

