



## DLSU announces guidelines on results-based telecommuting work

IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVES ON TELECOMMUTING WORK DUE TO COVID 19, De La Salle University has released its guidelines on Interim Telecommuting Arrangement, which allows work to be temporarily performed from home or an alternate location as a means of physical distancing due to COVID-19.

The faculty will be guided by the provisions of the Faculty Manual as modified to meet the current requirements of the University.

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For non-teaching employees, the University shall ensure that the work-from-home setup shall follow the same official work schedule and should not exceed their regular work days and hours of work. While working remotely, employees should remain accessible during the remote work schedule and check in with the supervisor to discuss status and open issues.

Remote work-hours of telecommuting employees can only be generally supervised as it is results-based, and could not be heavily supervised by the University. The official work schedule of the employee remains unchanged, with a regular workday that spans 7.5 productive hours for five days, from Monday to Friday plus 4 hours on a Saturday for CAP; and 8 productive hours a day for five days for other employees.

In a message to the academic community last May 8, DLSU President Br. Raymundo B. Suplido FSC encouraged heads of office to proactively take steps to ensure that the department will be able to

meet expectations in terms of key result areas and re-invent action plans intended to contribute to the performance goals of the University for AY2019-20.

To manage the department's performance for the rest of the year, employees are asked to identify which of the deliverables will stop, start, and continue; and to identify what can be accomplished through work-from-home, office-based work (once allowed by the government); or both modalities.

The department or unit should also be able to discuss and re-assign tasks based on current circumstances. "We want to ensure that all are able to contribute and perform in any situation because we need to continue to deliver results for the University," he said.



## On remote work set-up

Employees are responsible for designating a remote workspace which is typically a space at home or an alternate workspace near home.

### PLEASE BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 Have a clearly defined workspace that is kept clean and orderly, well-ventilated, and well-illuminated.



- 2 Designated work area is secure to manage confidentiality of work being performed.



On video conferencing/remote meeting:

- 3 For confidentiality and data privacy, headsets must be worn while working from home unless you can guarantee room security. Please dress appropriately (no sleeveless or sando tops) for work-related meetings. Even if WFH, employees shall show respect for the purpose of these meetings.





## Food and Water Institute supports coffee sector during COVID-19 pandemic

**DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY'S FOOD AND WATER INSTITUTE (FWI) HAS UNDERTAKEN RESEARCH-BASED INITIATIVES** to help the Philippine specialty coffee sector take on the challenges of Covid-19 pandemic.

FWI director and coffee scientist Dr. Emmanuel Garcia said that “the current situation is a huge setback for the coffee industry, especially the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Right now, the International Coffee Organization is projecting a 0.95 reduction in growth for global demand for coffee for every single percentage drop in GDP growth, or about 1.6 million 60-kilo bags.”

According to Garcia, the whole situation is a good opportunity for the academe to provide and share its expertise through a case study on how a commodity that can be considered somewhere between being essential and non-essential will survive the changing business landscape.

The Institute with key stakeholders of the sector gathered information and released the Policy Brief on The Covid-19 Crisis and Philippine Coffee MSMEs: Status and Prospects (Consumer Demand). The team hopes that their efforts would provide guidance for policy makers and business leaders in formulating policies and providing assistance to help the sector survive the effects of the ECQ.

The sector has reported logistical challenges in both local and international transactions, delay in collections, client orders halted, as well as closures of coffee shops and training schools. At the same time, it has reported an increase in demand in the coffee bean retail market with more home consumers ordering coffees online. Post-quarantine, all key stakeholders are exploring strategies and looking at alternative avenues to help their recovery.

On the policy brief, the sector provided eight recommendations seeking the support of various government agencies on (1) stimulating current and future demand, (2) encouraging flexible lease terms with landlords; provide grants or loans and tax holidays, (3) establishing safeguard mechanisms for online payment platforms / intensified public service advisories to protect consumers from cybercrime, (4) supporting research and innovation for product value-addition, (5) facilitating movement of farm produce; establish and enforce fair prices for and trading of green coffee beans, (6) providing support and assistance to café employees, (7) ban collection, consumption, and sale of animal feces-matrixed coffee, and (8) establish an industry-specific mini-task force in line with the Philippine coffee road map.



## Psychological support for the Integrated School during COVID-19

**THE UNIVERSITY EXTENDS PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT FOR DLSU INTEGRATED SCHOOL STUDENTS** during this period of extended community quarantine due to COVID-19.

To avail of the Online Consultation and Telebehavioral Health Services, please contact the Counseling Director, Von Karlo Gonzales, by sending him an email at [von.gonzales@dlsu.edu.ph](mailto:von.gonzales@dlsu.edu.ph). The screening for service qualification will be provided initially.



## New Lasallian lawyers

**THE DLSU COLLEGE OF LAW** registered a 51.80% passing rate in the 2019 bar exams, or 72 out of 139 examinees. Of the bar passers, 48.94% were first-time takers. The national passing rate was 27.36%.



## DLSU listed in 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings

**FOR ITS RESEARCH, GOVERNANCE, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY RANKED IN THE TOP 200** in four of the UN Social Development Goals, according to the 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings. In its second year, the Impact Rankings rate universities according to their contributions to the 17 UN SDGs. Over 750 universities were ranked, including four from the Philippines.

DLSU's work in the areas of Zero Hunger (SDG2), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG6), Life Below Water (SDG14) and Life On Land (SDG15)

ranked within the Top 200 worldwide, while its contribution to No Poverty (SDG1), Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG7), and Climate Action (SDG13) placed it in the Top 300.

Institutions from New Zealand and Australia dominated this year's Impact Rankings, which represent THE's expanded efforts to spotlight and measure the diverse missions of universities, in addition to its research-intensive annual World University Rankings.

## Accounting majors bag top prizes in online competition

**DLSU ACCOUNTING MAJORS BAGGED SEVERAL AWARDS, INCLUDING THE TOP PRIZES**, in the 13th Annual Grand Summit (AGS) Academic League, an online academic competition, held last April 25-26.

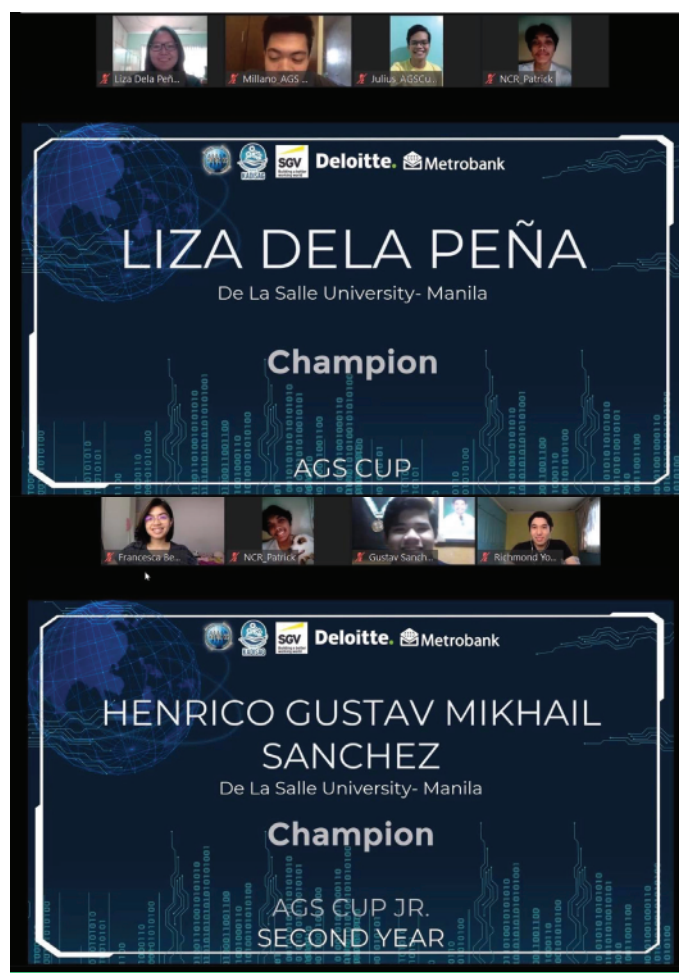
AGS Academic League is an academic quiz bee competition in the Annual Grand Summit hosted by the National Federation of Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants – NCR Council. This was the first time that the summit was conducted online because of the threat of COVID-19.

Liza Dela Pena emerged as the champion of the AGS Cup, with fellow Lasallians Romina Marie Amboy and Evelyn Annie Andojoyan taking the 4th and 6th places, respectively.

For the AGS CUP Jr. participated in by 2nd year accounting majors, DLSU's representatives swept the Top 3 prizes: Champion - Henrico Gustav Mikhail Sanchez; 1st Runner up – Francesca Beatriz Reyes; and 2nd Runner Up – Richmond Lloyd Young. Another Lasallian, Carl Frederick Sayson, garnered the Top 6 slot.

The 13th AGS Academic League was divided into two parts namely: AGS Cup and AGS Cup Jr. The AGS Cup Jr. was further divided to AGS Cup Jr. 1st year and AGS Cup Jr. 2nd year, where the former covered Financial Accounting and the latter covered Intermediate Accounting and Cost Accounting.

There were 50 participants representing 15 local chapters/schools that competed in the AGS Cup last April 25. The AGS Cup Jr. was held the following day with 64 competitors representing 16 local chapters/schools.



# Amplifying “Laudato Si” with epigenetics

**E-JOURNALS.PH RECENTLY FEATURED AN ARTICLE OF DR. FERDINAND D. DAGMANG OF THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**, entitled “Amplifying Laudato Si’ with the Science of Epigenetics” (MST Review 21 no. 2 (2019): 1-20).

The paper illustrates how a trans-disciplinary research may broaden the message of “Laudato Si”, Pope Francis’ second encyclical, which focuses on the “care for our common home.”

Dagmang’s article shows that findings in epigenetics have important implications for the way environmental ethics and the language of sustainable development will be formulated in the coming years.

Epigenetics is a term used to describe how it is not only DNA or genetic codes that make us. It also refers to how the typical DNA expressions are affected and modified by the natural and built environments. For example, workplaces may induce high levels of stress that could disturb or modify the typical genetic expressions meant to regulate the production of insulin and the way the body metabolizes sugar, thus disposing one to acquire type 2 diabetes.

According to the article, epigenetics provides some evidence that humans may have to surrender a central position in the ecosystem in order to give it due respect, which is really more for their own benefit than the planet. Dagmang further posits that epigenetics could make people more aware of the limits of what are branded in economics and development studies as “sustainable.”



**DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY RECENTLY MADE A TELEGRAM CHANNEL** in addition to its Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This is to better inform its students and the rest of the Lasallian community about DLSU news and announcements.

A Telegram channel is a broadcasting tool that can inform a large audience. The app also allows an unlimited number of members to join a public channel as well as uploading a file of up to 1.5GB. By default, all members of the DLSU channel will get a push notification about a newly published post making the information very accessible to its audience.

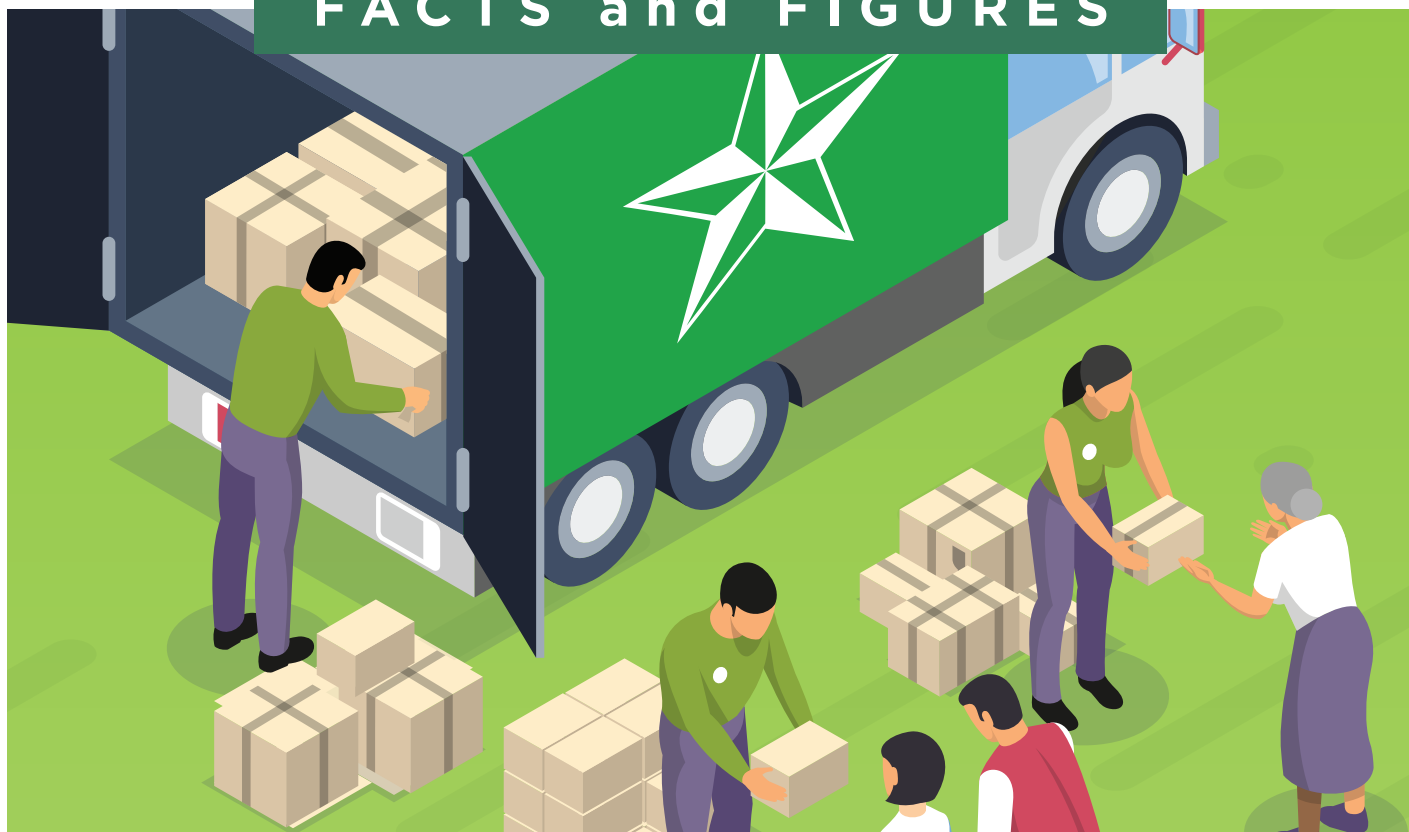
Currently, the channel already has 1,722 member since its launch last 24 April 2020. You can join the channel through [t.me/DeLaSalleUniversity](https://t.me/DeLaSalleUniversity). Telegram is available for free download from Google Play and App Store.

“God has chosen you to make Him known to others.”

*De La Salle*

Med 146.2 (Battersby)

(On St. Anne, Mother of the Most Blessed Virgin)



## Lingkod Lasalyano: COVID-19 Project Update

As of April 24, 2020

This relief drive seeks to assist families and area coordinators from the partner communities and organizations of COSCA by providing them food supplies.

**601** Assisted Area Coordinators and Families

**15** Assisted Areas

**50** Assisted Organizations

**57** Donors

**Php 186,602.67** Worth of donations

Source: Center for Social Concern and Action



2401 (twen'te fôr'o, 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.

2401 is published bi-weekly by the Office for Strategic Communications (AH-21F, intercom 144). Editorial deadline is 3 p.m. Tuesdays. Contributions should include the name, office and signature of the sender. Materials may be edited for clarity or space.

2401 may be accessed online through the URL: <http://www.dlsu.edu.ph>.

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