DLSU Research Congress 2020 highlights building resilient societies

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation organized this year’s DLSU Research Congress last June 17-19 with plenary talks of DLSU faculty members broadcasted online.

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With the theme, “Building resilient, innovative, and sustainable societies,” this year’s research congress focused on the need for societies to cope and recover from challenges by generating knowledge and pursuing resilient, innovative, and sustainable development approaches.

Plenary topics included: “The Economic Impact of the Metro Manila (NCR) Enhanced Community Quarantine” by Dr. Krista Danielle Yu, Dr. Kathleen Aviso, and Dr. Raymond Tan; “Potential Economic Effects of Lockdown in the Philippines due to COVID 19: Lessening the Impact on Poor Households” by Dr. Caesar Coronaton, Dr. Marites Tiongco, and Dr. Arlene Inocencio; “Business Ethics for Sustainability” by Dr. Benito Teehankee; and “Can Innovation Save Us? Understanding the Role of Innovation Systems in Mitigating COVID-19 in ASEAN-5 Economies” by Paul John Peña and Jerk Joshua Meire Layos.

In addition, plenary topics on teaching, research, and publication were the following: “Learning with Friends: A Rational View of Remote Learning with Network Externalities in the Time of COVID-19” by Paul John Peña and Dr. Dickson Lim; “Introduction to Publishing and Tips from Journal Editors” by Dr. Jose Isagani Janairo, Dr. Tereso Tullao, Jr., and Dr. Romeo Lee; and “The Scientific Method Revisited: Can the hypothesis come after data collection?” by Dr. Arnulfo Azcarraga.

A number of research were about the effects on institutions and the role of community during the pandemic, including: “COVID-19 in the Philippines: Potential Implications in Modernizing the Armed Forces of the Philippines” by Dr. Sherwin Ona and Dr. Rodolfo Tor; and “Introducing Wages in Determining Sectoral Contributions to Aggregate Labor Productivity Growth: Implications of Wage Trends on Labor Reallocation in the Philippines” by Dr. Jesus Dumagan.

Speakers also touched on COVID-19 response strategies, which included: “Setting up a COVID-19 Community Response Strategy in Local Government Units: Immediate, Transitory, and Medium-Term Considerations for Planning” by Dr. Ador Torneo, Dr. Audrey Angeli Andres, Dr. Joseph Angelo Rayo, Dr. Kristoffer Berse, Anthony Lawrence Borja, Romelyn Nazareno, Matthew Ordoñez, Dr. Joseph Angelo Rayo, Dr. Redento Recio, Felipe F. Salvosa II, and Dr. Cheryl Ruth Soriano; “Setting Up a Health Communication Strategy for Local Government Units during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights and Recommendations” by Dr. Cheryl Ruth Soriano, Dr. Jan Michael Alexandre Bernadas, Felipe Salvosa II, Dr. Ador Torneo, and Dr. Carlo Magno Figueroa; and “Setting Up a Community Response Strategy for Local Government Units: Practical Advice for Reorienting Existing Systems to Deal with COVID-19” by Dr. Ador Torneo, Dr. Audrey Angeli Andres, Dr. Kristoffer Berse, Anthony Lawrence Borja, Romelyn Nazareno, Matthew Ordoñez, Dr. Joseph Angelo Rayo, Dr. Redento Recio, Felipe Salvosa II, and Dr. Cheryl Ruth Soriano.

A research colloquium by the Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business featured “Making the Pivot to Digital Marketing” by Chay Mondejar-Saputil and “Culture of Innovation @ Amazon” by Joel Garcia.

The latest edition of Questions magazine, an annual publication on research and creative endeavors by the faculty, features COVID-19-related studies and other lessons from different fields, offering insights on managing the new normal.

Questions is produced annually by the Office for Strategic Communications for the DLSU Research Congress. The publication showcases the University’s research culture, through the featured research projects from the different colleges.

The publication seeks to encourage not just the participants of the DLSU Research Congress, but also the public to engage in research, help promote it, and make it a part of their daily lives.

Questions is now available at the DLSU website, www.dlsu.edu.ph
Webinar on Flexible Online Teaching and Learning

In line with its commitment of being a resource for learning and providing teacher training programs to partner institutions, De La Salle University, through Networked Learning PH (NLPH) and the Office of Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, organized the webinar titled, “The New Normal: Flexible Online Teaching & Learning for Basic and Higher Education,” last June 19 to 20.

The two-day online training aimed to help participants transition to online learning. Invited speakers were seasoned online learning educators who shared their expertise and learnings as participants from various institutions navigate the new normal in education.

Among the attendees of the New Normal webinar were educators sponsored by the Interactive Discourse for Administrators and Educators Seminar or IDEAS 2020. Spearheaded by the Office for Strategic Communications, IDEAS hopes to help teachers and administrators gain the necessary skills to adapt to the changes and to manage various challenges in this time of unprecedented shifts in the field of education.

Participants of IDEAS 2020 joined more than 300 attendees of the webinar that took part in learning sessions on: flexible online teaching and learning; Google tools for education; designing online learning modules; psychology of online teaching and learning; learning management system; and 21st Century education technical support and requirements for teachers.

There were also breakout sessions on contextualized online teaching demonstration and strategies per subject area, college and graduate studies, and research collaboration.

NLPH is a professional organization composed of online teachers and ICT for education (ICT4E) researchers in the Philippines. The organization promotes education for all by providing reliable eLearning materials and platforms for learning and teaching.
De La Salle University crossed the threshold of 4,000 publications in Scopus, the largest abstract and citation database of global research literature.

As of May 2020, the University listed 4,113 Scopus-indexed publications, the second highest among higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country.

Three Lasallian faculty members—Dr. Allan Benedict Bernardo and Dr. Alvin Culaba, who are both National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) Academicians and University Fellows, and Mechanical Engineering Full Professor Dr. Aristotle Ubaando—reached the career milestone of 100 or more Scopus-indexed publications. DLSU now has 10 faculty members with at least 100 Scopus-indexed publications, which is the highest among local HEIs.

These faculty members are Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, University Fellow, NAST Academician, and Chemical Engineering Full Professor Dr. Raymond Girard Tan; University Fellow and Manufacturing Engineering and Management Full Professor Dr. Elmer Dadios; University Fellow and Chemistry Full Professor Dr. Consolacion Ragasa; Electronics and Communications Engineering Full Professor Dr. Argel Bandala; Gokongwei College of Engineering Assistant Dean for Research and Advanced Studies and Chemical Engineering Full Professor Dr. Kathleen Aviso; Chemical Engineering Full Professor Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla; and University Fellow and Industrial Engineering Full Professor Dr. Anthony SF Chiu.

In a recent update on the Scopus citation database, the University’s 2019 statistics are up to 729, still maintaining its standing as the country’s leading Philippine research institution during the period.

DLSU’s publications comprise an estimated 15% of the national research output.

Its major research efforts are in areas such as sustainable cities, biomedical engineering, disaster management, artificial intelligence, coastal and marine life protection, renewable energy, regional peace, and cultural preservation, among others.

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**2020 Outstanding ASEAN Science Diplomat**

DLSU Civil Engineering Associate Professor Dr. Marla Redillas was selected as one of the 2020 Outstanding ASEAN Science Diplomats. The official announcement was held through livestream on June 13 during the ASEAN Science Diplomats Assembly (SDA).

SDA was a five-day event designed to facilitate discussions between scientists and policymakers on their program and research priorities and funding opportunities.

Redillas is among the 14 who were selected for the 2020 Outstanding ASEAN Science Diplomats. This year, more than 350 applied from 10 ASEAN member states.

Now on its fourth year, the AMS awarding ceremony will be held on October 26-30 in Malaysia.
A robotics project of a DLSU-led team was recently featured in an article by SciDev.Net, an international source of news, views, and analysis on science and engineering, with a monthly readership of over 75,000 professionals, entrepreneurs, and innovators.

The article, “Robotics can assist physiotherapy in COVID-19 times,” highlights the ongoing AGAPAY project led by Manufacturing Engineering and Management (MEM) Department Full Professor Dr. Nilo Bugtai.

Seeking to provide a cheaper alternative to existing options, the project is being developed for post-stroke rehabilitation by having a biomimetic exoskeleton for the upper body, particularly for the shoulders, upper and lower arms, wrists, and hands.

“We anticipate the exoskeletons from the AGAPAY Project to be more affordable than others currently in the market,” DLSU lecturer Peter Tenido, who is project director of the University’s Innovation and Technology Office, tells SciDev.Net

The AGAPAY project will allow a single therapist to handle several patients at the same time, “while also providing reliable, easy to use, safe, affordable, and effective treatment to patients,” according to Tenido.

The Online Distance Learning (ODL) option will have structured online lectures for the whole three terms of the academic year, while the Independent Home Learning (IHL) option will provide students with the flexibility to learn lessons assisted by a parent or guardian.

Through the FLx program, official online learning materials are provided for students to aid them in learning and to address security and privacy.

Online guidance services are also available to help students cope in these trying times.

To know more about the DLSU IS FLx program, the primer is made available through this link.

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DLSU RESEARCH CONGRESS 2020
Theme: Building, Resilient, Innovative, and Sustainable Societies
June 17-19, 2020

1,828
Pre-registered participants
(60% from public, 40% from private educational institutions)

56,659
Number of engagements on the DLSU Research Congress Facebook Page

90
Accepted manuscripts

43
Pre-recorded videos for parallel sessions

12
Plenary sessions with live presentations

Source: University Research Coordination Office