Nation-building webinar tackles innovation, volunteerism during pandemic

“There is no better time than now to engage in innovation.”

These were the words of Ayala Corporation Chairman and CEO Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala during the Ignite the Spark: RVR SIKLAB Youth Nation Builders Webinar last July 25. He talked about how people-centric innovation and having a spirit of unity and commonality of purpose can move us forward the challenges of these times.
Zobel de Ayala was among a distinguished line up of speakers in the webinar jointly organized by PHINMA Corporation, De La Salle University, and JCI Manila. The virtual event brought together business and socio-civic leaders to share their insights on nation-building to the next generation of changemakers.

The webinar opened up with former Department of Education Secretary and Visitor of the Lasallian East Asia District Br. Armin Luistro FSC who set the tone of the virtual event and cited the importance of nation builders in inspiring Filipinos to bounce back from the current crisis.

“The call to ‘Ignite the Spark’ is definitely one reserved only for heroes and heroines—those who will not merely make a difference or will be content with adjusting to a new normal,” Br. Armin shared. “I dare say that a few brave hearts will have to disrupt the disruption that has already created havoc in our lives. A few good men and women need to rename our future, start the change we want to see and pave the way to re-imagine our world.”

Another speaker, the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI) Dr. Jaime Aristotle Alip, discussed the role of microfinance in revitalizing the national economy. CARD MRI supports Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises through available financial products and services, particularly for the agriculture and health sectors.

For his part, iVolunteer Philippines and The Good Store Philippines co-founder Jan Bernard Tan shared his experiences and challenges in volunteerism during the global health crisis, discussing the skills needed and the things to remember in volunteering during these uncertain times. Lastly, Got Heart Foundation and the Bunny Project PH founder Melissa Yap talked about millennial leadership in times of crisis by harnessing the skill of the Filipino youth. She likewise shared how her organization was able to connect farmers to consumers at a time when there’s a disruption in the economic chain, and how the Bunny Project was able to immediately respond to the needs of hospitals around the country.

PHINMA Corporation President and CEO Ramon del Rosario, Jr. closed the webinar encouraging the country’s future nation builders to step up and be recognized.

“I enjoin all of you to help us in our search for promising young leaders - individuals who are destined to blaze a trail towards progress and social change. These are individuals who may lead in big and small ways,” del Rosario said.

“They’re the leaders who are creating innovations within their own company, their own community or even within their own group of friends. Allow us to provide a platform for them to inspire others and create ripples of change towards a better tomorrow for the future generations.”

The RVR SIKLAB Youth Nation Builders Webinar served as a springboard for the launch of the 2021 RVR SIKLAB Awards, which seeks to recognize the country’s future business leaders and achievers for nation building. The nationwide search aims to bring to light young nation builders who embody the entrepreneurial and patriotic spirit of Ambassador Ramon V. Del Rosario.

PHINMA, DLSU, and JCI Manila are set to host succeeding webinars featuring other RVR SIKLAB Awardees this coming September and November.

To know more about the awards program, please visit https://bit.ly/RVR-SIKLAB2021OnlineNomination

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COMMUNICATIONS AWARD IN THE 2020 SHELL YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

**DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY’S INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING SOCIETY (IMES) BAGGED THE COMMUNICATIONS AWARD IN THE 2020 SHELL YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM (SYLP)** for their excellence in executing social media communication campaigns.

IMES was represented by its Executive Board officers: Thomas Sebastian, Mary Hazel Sarmiento, Ian Aggabao, Errol Uy, Benito Male VII, Margarita Penson, Kristine Pua, Rachel Hernandez, Michelle Macoy, Sofia Piñon, and Charles Sindac.

Beginning its pilot run in September of last year, the SYLP is an 8-month program that strengthens and supports school organizations through skills workshops and various mentorship programs. It aims to strengthen leadership skills at the university level to produce well-rounded and future-ready Filipinos once they begin pursuing their respective career paths.

The challenging circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic became the training ground for the participants from the country’s top universities. Throughout the program, participating organizations applied their newly gained skills internally and through various community projects, such as donation drives for the benefit of communities impacted by COVID-19.

This year, 15 organizations from 7 universities across Metro Manila participated in the SYLP. The awarding ceremony was held online last July 27.
Lasallians part of national team to the 61st International Mathematical Olympiad

Two students from the DLSU Integrated School in Manila have been chosen as part of the national team to compete in the 61st International Mathematical Olympiad this year, which will be held online for the first time from September 19 to 28.

The Mathematical Society of the Philippines announced the six members of the team, which include Andres Rico Gonzales III and Sarji Elijah Bona from De La Salle University Integrated School’s Manila campus.

The national team members were determined during the Mathematical Olympiad Summer Camp (MOSC), which was also held online in the past months. The MOSC is a rigorous training program that serves as selection phase among the national finalists and winners of the Philippine Mathematical Olympiad (PMO).

On July 13 and 14, all of the six won in the first Cyberspace Mathematical Competition (CMC). Organized by the American Mathematics Competitions in partnership with Art of Problem Solving, the CMC also served as preparatory test for the team.

Gonzales bagged a bronze medal in CMC and won the bronze medal in last year’s IMO where the Philippines ranked 31st out of 112 countries.

The Social Development Research Center (SDRC) celebrates its 41st anniversary with a webinar series that addresses global issues of inequality.

DLSU’s longest serving research center adopted the anniversary theme, “Reducing Disparities, Sustaining Solutions,” in keeping with the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals.

Anniversary activities kicked off last July 31 with “Queering the Social Determinants of Health”, by Dr. Cameron McKenzie, an assistant professor in the Faculty of Social Work at Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario, Canada. McKenzie is a social justice advocate, social worker, researcher, community organizer, and educator.

The second presentation “Art of Reciprocity (Fefoaiki’aki) in Oceania: Gross National Generosity (GNG) as a Sustainable Model for a Post Covid-19 Society” was held on August 7 featuring Dr. Kaitu’u ‘i Pangai Funaki of the Royal Oceania Institute. Funaki is the founder of Dignified Pacific Initiative and co-founder of the Emerging & Developing Economies Network Seminars.

The third webinar is “Sex, Soap, and Social Change: PMC’s Social and Behavior Change Communication Methodology,” by Dr. Kriss Barker, Vice President for International Programs of the Population Media Center in Vermont on August 20, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM.

Vulnerable populations have often been the subject of SDRC’s studies, as part of its primary mission of conducting research on issues responsive to the changing needs of society, and in keeping with the University’s mission of advancing learning and knowledge use.

To register for Barker’s presentation go to this link: https://forms.gle/7LyyVMBucrebLgXLA
DLSU AQUAFEED LAB-LAB PROJECT BOOSTS FISH FARMING SECTOR

THROUGH THE DLSU ALGAE BIO-INNOVATION GLOBAL HUB (DLSU ALGAE BIG HUB), the University has helped the country’s aquaculture industry with the development of a lab-lab harvester. Lab-lab is a mass of microscopic algae chiefly of the Myxophyceae found on the mud in fishponds, serving as fish food.

The DLSU Aquafeed Lab-lab Project was undertaken in partnership with the Santeh Feeds Corporation and has received support from the Science for Change Program (S4CP) of the Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy (CRADLE) Program, started by the Department of Science and Technology in 2017.

Academician, University Fellow, and Full Professor of DLSU's Mechanical Engineering Department, Dr. Alvin Culaba, serves as the project leader.

CRADLE seeks to accelerate the growth of Filipino companies through research and development support by academic institutions. The DLSU team used a strategy called “industry-pull approach,” wherein the research was designed in response to the needs identified by the company.

For the project, Santeh Board Chairman Phillip Ong sought the help of DLSU Algae BIG Hub to maximize the use of lab-lab as food for milkfish (bangus). Based on the company’s experience, lab-lab grows excessively during sunny days but not during the rainy season. Through the DLSU-Santeh partnership, the research team was able to identify dried lab-lab as a partial substitute for the bangus diet, which can be up to 25% of the fish feed formula. It was also through this linkage that the DLSU project team was able to develop an automated lab-lab harvester that would allow the company to collect, dry, and utilize lab-lab for commercial feeds more efficiently and economically.

“The industry is doing R&D, too but we cannot do so much due to cost constraints and we don’t have all those skills set to do the job. With this kind of arrangement – the academe partnering with the industry, and the government providing funds – it helps us innovate at less cost and more effectively because there is a focused and knowledgeable team doing the job,” said Patricia Rico of Santeh Feeds Corporation.
DLSU Laguna will expand its research facilities with the addition of the wind tunnel testing laboratory to be housed at the Richard L. Lee Engineering and Technology Block.

The state-of-the-art lab will use Eiffel-type wind tunnel equipment for research and experiments in conducting airflow measurements, visualization, equipment calibration services, and simulations.

Relevant research areas to be studied include the wind effects of super typhoons on rural and urban structures, wind tunnels for buildings and structures, lift and drag measurements for aeronautical equipment and aircraft; wind turbine generators, and aerodynamic performance of high-speed train models.

Seeking to aid DLSU’s community and industry partners, the DLSU Wind Tunnel Laboratory is an initiative of the DLSU Central Instrumentation Facility, under the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation.

Faculty members of the Mechanical Engineering (ME) Department will serve as the lead group of the facility, among them Dr. Laurence Gan Lim, who will be the laboratory manager; Dr. Gerardo Augusto, who will serve as director for experimentation; and Engr. Jeremias Gonzaga, who will be the assistant director for experimentation.

The facility will also have its research affiliates from the Mechanical and Civil Engineering Departments, namely: Dr. Aristotle Ubando, Dr. Neil Lopez, Dr. Jose Bienvenido Manuel Biona, and Engr. Conrad Pantua of the ME Department; and Dr. Lessandro Estelito Garciano of the Civil Engineering Department.

Dr. Raouf Naguib of BIOCORE International and Liverpool Hope University and Dr. Horizon Gitano-Briggs of Focus Applied Technologies, Malaysia will be tapped as external research consultants.

ERIO head tapped for 2020 James Dyson Award

THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONALIZATION, DR. LAURENE CHUA-GARCIA, served as a member of the board of judges for the James Dyson Award, the national edition of an international design award that celebrates, encourages, and inspires the next generation of design engineers.

The Award is sponsored by the UK-based James Dyson Foundation, which provides the money, materials, and mentorship that budding inventors need, so that they can get hands-on with problems, think laterally, and find solutions.

Current university students of engineering, product design and industrial design, as well as those who have graduated in these subjects in the last four years, are eligible for the Award.

Lasallians won the James Dyson Award Philippines back-to-back during its inaugural and second year. In 2018, a team of Gokongwei College of Engineering students won for the project Semi-Automated Laparoscopic Instrument (S.A.L.I.). Last year, Mechanical Engineering student Ange Palma was recognized for AirDisc Cooling Technologies, an environment-friendly air conditioning system.

According to the Award website, (https://www.jamesdysonaward.org/en-ph/how-to-enter/), national winners and finalists will be announced in September, and the shortlist of Dyson engineers in October. The International Winner and Sustainability Winner will be announced in November.

God feels such great tenderness for us that He gives us His own Son to nourish our souls.”

Med 51.1
(cf. Jn 3:16)
De La Salle University Relief Efforts Leveriza Fire Incident
As of June 22, 2020

2401 (twen’e för’, 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.

FACTS and FIGURES
Source: Center for Social Concern and Action