





















# DLSU UGA highlights revised strategic goals, shared commitment

IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AT THE VIRTUAL AY 2020-2021 UNIVERSITY GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UGA) LAST OCTOBER 23, DLSU PRESIDENT BR. RAYMUNDO SUPLIDO FSC FOCUSED ON THE INSTITUTION'S CONTINUING PURSUIT OF ITS SHORT- AND LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES, UNDERSCORING THE NEED TO ACCEPT NEW ROLES AND GROW IN RESILIENCE.

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"Ultimately, my appeal is for each one of us to renew our commitment to the tasks facing us. Let us carry out our responsibilities, or take on new ones, for the sake of our common mission. We go back to our heart of hearts, to listen and hear that Lasallian call, our mission to care for the youth entrusted to our care. Let us re-ignite our conviction, that we are on this mission, not alone, but together and by association, with Lasallian partners and colleagues," he said.

Br. Ray's message featured highlights of the past academic year, including institutional, faculty, and student achievements, the pursuit of key target areas, as well as the disruptions and the subsequent responses to the COVID-19 crisis.

Borrowing from anthropologists Victor Turner (1969) and Van Gennep (1960), Br. Ray used the imagery of "ritual process" to give a name to the journey of the past year, a process consisting of three phases: separation, threshold or liminality, and re-aggregation.

"We were 'separated' from our usual ways of doing things. We were obliged to shift from teaching face-to-face or blended, to fully online mode. We had to learn new platforms, new apps, new ways of delivering knowledge, values, and skills to our students," he said.

Pointing out that DLSU is now at the threshold, or limen—the boundary of "what was" and "what is to be"—Br. Ray talked about the University's revised Strategic Plan for 2020-2023. It includes points for reflection on how to achieve the academic, organizational, and financial goals.

The re-aggregation phase, according to him, requires communitas, or the experience of unity, of shared commitment, and of a common realization of meaningful action. "Let us journey past disruption, past liminality. Ultimately, we will discard the 'old normal' and live out brave new paradigms," he said.

To view the full UGA message of Br. Ray, visit www.dlsu.edu.ph.

# University Fellows in Asian Scientist 100





Two University Fellows—Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan and Dr. Susan Gallardo, both from the field of Chemical Engineering—were selected as part of the fifth edition of the Asian Scientist 100 by the Asian Scientist Magazine.

The Asian Scientist 100 list recognizes the region's outstanding researchers, highlighting their achievements across a range of scientific disciplines.

To be acknowledged on the list, the researchers must have received a national or international award in the preceding year for their research area, have made a significant scientific discovery, or took on a leadership role in academe or industry.

Tan was awarded the Gregorio Y. Zara Award for Advanced Research in 2019 for his significant contributions to the development of novel computational techniques for the design of sustainable industrial systems.

Gallardo received the David M. Consunji Award for Engineering Research also last year for her exemplary work in environmental engineering and catalysis and industrial and hazardous waste treatment and management.

## 2020 Outstanding Professional of the Year in the Field of Psychology

For his distinguished contribution to the field of psychology and his exemplary service in his profession, Distinguished University Professor and University Fellow Dr. Allan B.I. Bernardo was named as the 2020 Outstanding Professional of the Year in the Field of Psychology by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). The awarding ceremony will be held on December 4.

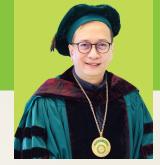
The award is bestowed by PRC upon a professional, based on the recommendation of his peers and for having sufficiently demonstrated professional competence of the highest degree as well as integrity in the exercise of profession.

The PRC citation notes his leadership in promoting science and research in psychology, his establishing the program for continuing professional development of psychology specialists, his leading the effort to advance the code of ethics for Philippine psychologists, and his vital role in the passage of the Philippine Psychology Act of 2009.

He is likewise cited for his extensive scientific contributions to psychology research, his policy work applying psychology principles in education and youth development programs, and his efforts to engage Filipino psychologists in the global community of psychologists.

He has served as President of the Psychological Association of the Philippines, the ASEAN Regional Union of Psychological Societies, and the Asian Association of Social Psychology.

For his commendable track record of accomplishment, he received various awards such as the UNESCO Institute for Education International Prize for Literacy Research, the National Research Council of the Philippines Achievement Award, the Psychological Association of the Philippines Outstanding Psychologist Award, and being elected Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology.



Bernardo

# **University creates Supply Chain Management Office**

As one of the outcomes of the BITUIN-ERP Project, De La Salle University establishes a new unit called the Supply Chain Management Office, which is the merging of the Procurement and the Asset Management Offices, Chancellor Br. Bernard Oca FSC announced last October 8.

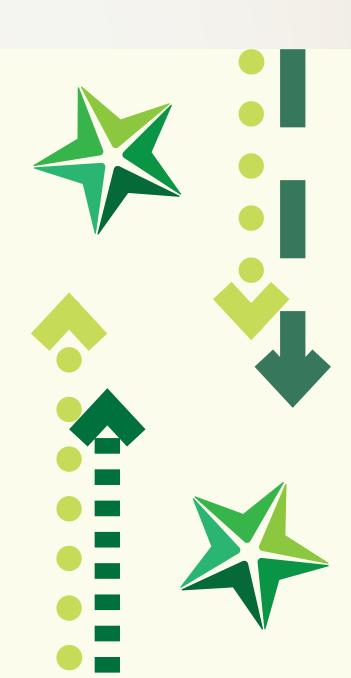
The new office primarily aims to shift the focus of procurement activities from buying on-demand to strategic sourcing and buying of goods and services. It also aims to adopt a more proactive and engaged approach to relationship management with all stakeholders.

Serving as the executive director of the new unit is Cynthia Ruth Abangan.

A leader in supply chain management, Abangan is also an organization development training designer. Her work experience includes part of the supply and asset management department of listed companies as well as being the chief supply chain officer of other companies.

She is an active member of the Philippine Institute For Supply Management (PISM), where she serves as a board member.

During the transition period, she will be supported by the directors of the Procurement Office and the Asset Management Office and will work closely with other departments.





Azcarraga

### New head of Society of Fellows

The Society of Fellows elected Dr. Arnulfo Azcarraga as its head effective Term 1 AY 2020-2021.

The Society is composed of faculty members who have been conferred the title of University Fellow in recognition of their distinguished teaching, research, and publications in their discipline, and their meritorious service to the University. Dr. Azcarraga succeeds Dr. Arlene Pascasio.

Azcarraga holds a PhD in Computer Science from INP Grenoble, France, an MS Computer Science from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Thailand, and a BS in Applied Mathematics, cum laude, from the University of the Philippines-Los Baños (UPLB-INTAPS program).

His research interests include data mining, text mining, music storage and retrieval, and various applications of self-organizing maps and neural networks.

He has held important administrative positions at DLSU, including Graduate Director, Vice Dean, and Dean of the College of Computer Studies, Assistant Vice Chancellor for External Relations, and Vice Chancellor for Research. He also served as Executive Vice President of De La Salle Canlubang (now DLSU Laguna Campus). As a Senior Research Fellow at the National University of Singapore's School of Computing, he managed

the Programme of Research into Intelligent Systems (PRIS). He served as Board member of the International Association of La Salle Universities (IALU), Philippine Science High School (PSHS) Alumni Association, and Computing Society of the Philippines.

For university leadership, he trained under the UNISTAFF programme of the University of Kassel and participated in the IALU Lasallian Leadership Programme in Rome. He helped organize the Lasallian Research Symposium in Minneapolis. He is the principal author of "Lasallians in the World Solving Real Problems of the World: Research Agenda of the International Association of Lasallian Universities (IALU)," with Br. William Mann, FSC, DMin., of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

Likewise, he helped assess several top universities in ASEAN as senior Quality Assurance assessor of the ASEAN University Network.

He has been awarded most outstanding alumnus of AIT, Ateneo de Zamboanga, PSHS, and UPLB. He is a member of the Mensa.

# SHS math whiz wins in International Math Olympiad

Two DLSU Senior High School students won in the 61st International Math Olympiad last September 28.

The International Math Olympiad was held online from September 19 to 28, originally slated to be held at Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Andres Rico Gonzales III won a gold medal, garnering the highest score as a member of the Philippine contingent with a score of 99.51% and making him 4th in the overall ranking. Meanwhile, Sarji Elijah Bona was awarded Honorable Mention for landing in the 371st spot.

The International Math Olympiad is a yearly competition participated in by 616 contestants from 105 countries.



Gonzalez

Bona

#### SDRC hosts webinar workshop on research

After a successful run with the first three presentations in its 41st anniversary webinar series, the Social Development Research Center conducted its initial online workshop on September 11 titled "A Guide to Qualitative and Quantitative Research."

College of Liberal Arts professors and Center fellows Dr. Antonio Contreras and Dr. Myla Arcinas served as the workshop's resource persons, and the half-day event targeted students, faculty, and social science researchers who were unfamiliar with the concept and distinctions between the two approaches to academic inquiry.

Over 300 registrants attended the workshop representing more than 100 schools, institutions, and agencies nationwide, indicating a clear need for capacity building in the area of remotely conducted research.

For his part, Contreras gave his lecture "Qualitative Research: Direct Observation during Lockdown" where he distinguished qualitative

research from quantitative, pointing out that researchers were concerned with process rather than outcomes or products, and that they were interested in meaning, or how people make sense of their

Moreover, he asserted the importance of researchers understanding the framework in which subjects interpret their thoughts, feelings and actions, and that through field study, researchers can explore the processes and meanings of events.

Arcinas, meanwhile, explained to participants the importance of quantitative methods in sociological research. Describing the process of evaluating when such an approach was appropriate, she hoped to cultivate an appreciation of quantitative research methods and designs.



#### Computing research pioneer conducts free online course in DLSU

The College of Computer Studies' Advanced Research Institute for Informatics, Computing and Networking (ADRIC) again partnered with Prof. Jennifer Widom, Dean of the Stanford University School of Engineering, to provide a free online short course to DLSU students and faculty last October 12 to 16.

Called "Data Science-COVID Edition," the special short course consisted of five half-day lectures and workshops focused on fundamental concepts drawn from materials that Widom has developed at Stanford. The course was directed at both students and lecturers of data management, data mining, and machine learning, and even senior high school students who have a background on Introductory Programming and basic mathematical concepts.

Widom was in DLSU in 2018 when she gave a free short course on teaching Big Data. Her research in the subject has started even before the term gained ground in the global computing research and industry arena.

She draws from over two decades of experience as a researcher and professor of computer science and electrical engineering to pursue an instructional odyssey of offering "free in-person short-courses and workshops worldwide". She has been described as a "Massive Open Online Course pioneer", traveling the world to teach various computer science concepts in developing countries, including Bhutan, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, and Vietnam.

CCS uses Widom's course materials in its Advanced Database Systems classes in the undergraduate level.

Nothing will draw down on you as many of God's blessings as fidelity in small matters.

Se La fallo

#### FACTS and FIGURES

## DLSU Strategic Plan 2020-2023

#### **Themes**







### Quality

An innovative and valuable academic experience for the Lasallian COVID-19 generation, manifesting our Zeal for Service.

### **Agility**

Responsive physical, cyber and governance systems, designed to thrive under stress, deepening our Spirit of Faith.

### Community

New partnerships to offer more of ourselves, heartening each other, and strengthening our Communion in Mission.

#### **Key Strategies**











#### **A**ccompaniment

Meaningful and valuable blended curriculum

Formation, culture, and support

Expanding into Continuing Professional Development

#### **N**iches

Supporting PH enterprise recovery

Ensuring pipeline of research outputs

Major SDG localization project for 2025

#### **I**mpact

Expanding network of industry partners

Further professionalizing advancement

Challenge-Based Learning (CBL) programs

#### **M**inistry

Successful BITUIN cutovers and go-lives

Project Communitas and staff development

Faculty-staff collaboration to improve processes

#### **O**pening

Migration of key services online

Mission Continuity, Disaster Recover Plans, etc.

DLSU Long-Term Planning think-tank

**SOURCE**: STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE





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.

Executive Director | Johannes Leo Badillo Editorial Supervisor | Ruby Carlos (ruby.carlos@dlsu.edu.ph) 2401 Issue 1 Artist-in-charge | Chana Garcia **Writers** I Anne Acuña, Arfie Koc, AA dela Cruz, Juan Horacio Gonzalez, Roy Monarch Sy, Kalikasan Castillo

Editorial Support | Alaric Lopez de Leon Multimedia Coordinator | Magsy Magbanua Creative Director | Peter Varona
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