DLSU team receives DOST funding for geo mapping project

JOHN GOKONGWEI JR. COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING DEAN AND FULL PROFESSOR DR. JONATHAN DUNGCA, TOGETHER WITH HIS TEAM OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS AT DLSU, RECENTLY RECEIVED FUNDING FOR THEIR PROJECT 3D PHILIPPINES: 3D VISUALIZATION AND ANALYSIS OF SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE DATA IN THE PHILIPPINES - PROJECT 1: GEOTECHNICAL MAPPING OF METRO MANILA (GEMMS) BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST).
The project aims to produce a digitized map containing information on the geological and geotechnical properties of Metro Manila subsoil, showing its soil profile and classification, SPT N values, and groundwater table elevation.

The mapping and analyses of borehole data provided by partner government agencies, such as the Department of Public Works and Highways and Philippine Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), will be done using 3D geological and geotechnical software.

A priority project of the DOST, it will receive funding worth 13.5 million pesos under the DOST-GIA funds for a period of two years.

The team, composed of Dr. Mary Ann Adajar, Dr. Irene Olivia Ubay-Anongpouth, Dr. Erica Elic Uy, Engr. Joenel Galupino, and Engr. Miller Cutor, will also be proposing policies on use of 3D software that will be adopted and implemented by government agencies. They will provide training on 3D software to field experts and research assistants, as well as technical staff and engineers of the Metro Manila DPWH district offices.

DLSU papers garner awards in Asian ergonomic and design congress

DLSU University Fellow Dr. Rosemary Seva and Dr. Alma Maria Jennifer Gutierrez of the Industrial and Systems Engineering Department, together with their students, won best paper awards in the recently held Joint Congress Asian Council of Ergonomics and Design (ACED) & South East Asian Network of Ergonomics Societies (SEANES) last December 2 to 4.

The paper of Seva and her students, Alexis Gea Inocencio and Bianca Talidong, entitled “The Distracting Effects of Navigational and Conversation Among Transport Network Vehicle Service Drivers at Driving Scenarios,” tackled the exposure of Transport Network Vehicle Service (TNVS) drivers such as Grab to driving distractions such as conversation with passengers and the use of navigational devices. Driver situational awareness (SA) and reaction time (RT) were measured in a naturalistic driving scenario.

Meanwhile, the paper of Gutierrez and her students Princess Camille Fajardo and Juliene Rois Poniente, entitled “Redesigning the Form and Label of Waste Bins to Promote Waste Sorting Behavior in De La Salle University-Manila,” evaluated the waste bin set of DLSU with respect to the waste separation performance of the users, through naturalistic observation and needs analysis.

The study shows that there was a 62.29% error in waste separation and was mainly caused by difficulties in using the waste bin, lack of knowledge in waste sorting, inconvenience when sorting, and confusion brought about by mixed waste. It was aimed to improve the waste bin set by modifying its label & form to improve waste separation.

Succeeding designs were generated through iterations derived from empirical data and user-on-site interviews from the naturalistic observation in prototype testing. Appropriate adjustments were applied until the target percent error in waste sorting was achieved.

ACED-SEANES 2020 was co-hosted by DLSU and Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of the Philippines. A total of 250 participants from 15 countries attended the virtual conference. Selected quality papers were published by Springer in the Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing indexed in Scopus.
Faculty member wins Malaysian Finance Association Best Paper Award

A faculty member of the Financial Management Department, Ray Anthony Almonares, received the Best Paper Award at the recent Malaysian Finance Association Conference 2020, a virtual event held last November 17-19.

His study entitled, “Degree of Internationalization and Firm Value: Evidence from Japanese Banks,” investigates whether investors value the internationalization strategy of a firm by using data from Japanese banks, which are among the world’s largest lenders.

The paper did not find any relationship between the degree of internationalization and firm value as the strategy of foreign markets seems to be concentrated only on the three Japanese megabanks. Additionally, the findings seem to support the existing literature that Japanese banks operate abroad mainly to provide support to the internationalization strategy of their domestic clients.

He is currently on study leave for his Ph.D. in Finance at Thammasat University and represented both Thammasat University and De La Salle University at the conference.

The conference served as a platform for academicians and practitioners to discuss and exchange ideas related to finance, and featured finance experts from all over the world as keynote speakers.
New unit to promote inclusion, diversity, and well-being in DLSU

In its commitment to maintain a safe and nurturing environment for all its members, De La Salle University recently approved the policies on the implementation of the Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313) and the Mental Health Act (RA 11036).

In line with this, the University is establishing a unit called the Lasallian Center for Inclusion, Diversity, and Well-being under the Office of the Vice President Lasallian Mission effective AY 2021-2022.

Consistent with the Lasallian principles of inclusivity and respect for all persons, this new unit responds to the requirements of the Safe Spaces Act and the Mental Health Act. This will help ensure a learning and working environment that values the well-being, diversity, and dignity of persons in the community.

During its transition year AY 2020-2021, the unit will propose and implement processes, programs, and activities on inclusion, gender sensitivity, diversity, and well-being in collaboration with key offices in the University.

Dr. Estesa Xaris Que Legaspi will lead the unit effective Term 2, AY 2020-2021.

Lasallian 2020 Christmas Season celebrates hope and healing

With the lighting of the St. La Salle Hall last December 1, DLSU signaled the opening of the University’s activities this Advent under the program Animo Christmas! The program commenced with a Holy Mass, followed by performances of DLSU culture and arts groups, as well as the lighting of buildings on other DLSU campuses.

Aside from Christmas lights, the iconic main DLSU building features the nativity scene with the word “HOPE” in front of the facade, in line with this year’s theme “A Celebration of Hope and Healing.” The theme hopes to inspire the Lasallian family during this Yuletide season amid the challenging times.

In his message to the Lasallian community, DLSU President Br. Raymundo Suplido FSC says, “As we light up our Christmas decorations, we remind ourselves that the Father sends us Emmanuel, God with us. He sends us Jesus, the light and savior of His people. Jesus is the light that conquers darkness.

This Christmas, let us again welcome Jesus, the Word into our hearts and from our hearts and homes, let us share His light, His hope, His healing with other persons, other families, and other communities. Let Christmas be truly an Animo Christmas!”
Civil Engineering (CE) faculty members Engr. Miller Cutora and Dr. Mario de Leon won for their paper, "Developing course materials for hydraulics laboratory course suited for online learning," during the 6th International Conference on Engineering Education-Philippines held last December 4 via Zoom.

The virtual conference centered on the theme, "Achieving Quality Engineering Education Through Flexible Learning".

Two other research papers from the John Gokongwei Jr. College of Engineering CE Department were also presented during the event: “Implementing Online Teaching and Learning for the Course on Matrix of Theory of Structures in an ‘Open’ Environment at De La Salle University” by Dr. Andres Winston Oreta and Rodolfo Mendoza, Jr. (presenter) and “Implementing a Modular Technique in Teaching Mechanics of Materials in an Online Setting” by Paolo Ian Lucero (presenter) and Dr. Mary Ann Adajar.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Magsaysay Future Engineers/ Technologists Award 2020

Two Engineering students, Jadin Zam Doctolero (BS/MS Chemical Engineering) and Aaron Jules del Rosario (BS/MS Mechanical Engineering), bagged the second and third places, respectively, in the Magsaysay Future Engineers/ Technologists Award 2020.

The Award aims to recognize outstanding research outputs on engineering and technology at the collegiate level and to encourage young Filipino students to pursue a career in science.

The awarding ceremony was held on December 3 via Zoom and Facebook Live.

Battle of the Brains by SMART EDGE ECE Review Specialist

Two Electronics and Communications Engineering (ECE) students, Grant Lewis Bulaong and Samuel Alexander Pasia, landed 1st runner-up and final round qualifier, respectively, in the Quiz Bee “Battle of the Brains” hosted by SMART EDGE ECE Review Specialist held from November 18 to 20.

The quiz bee focused on four areas of ECE: mathematics, electronics engineering, general engineering and applied sciences, and electronic systems and technologies. The competition was joined by 46 contestants from 19 different universities/colleges.

“It is in the company of Jesus that you should labor unspARINGLY for the glory of God.”

B. La Salle

Med. 78.2 (Battersby)
(Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle)
De La Salle University is the top Philippine university in five disciplines in the 2021 THE World University Rankings by Subject

**Business and Economics**
RANKED 601+
Lone Philippine university

**Computer Science**
RANKED 601 - 800
Top Philippine university

**Physical Sciences**
RANKED 601 - 800
Top Philippine university

**Social Sciences**
RANKED 601+
Only Philippine private university

**Engineering**
RANKED 601 - 800
Top Philippine university

The future begins here.