



# Sole PHL private university in THE Emerging Economies University Rankings

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY IS AMONG THE LEADING GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) EMERGING ECONOMIES UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2021.

*Full story on Page 2* ➤

## What's inside

- Paper co-authored by University Fellow receives Best Paper Award **2**
- Management faculty members join global research project 'EntResilience' **3**
- Dr. Aristotle Ubando: Asia's Rising Scientist **4**
- Enrique K. Razon Logistics Institute holds webinar on supply chain and logistics **5**

The emerging economies rankings cover institutions in countries classified as developing and progressive. This year, only 606 universities from 48 countries were included in this year's rankings.

The rankings apply the same research-intensive indicators as the THE World University Rankings to assess HEIs on their core functions, including teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook, but are recalibrated to reflect the development priorities of institutions in emerging economies.

In December 2020, THE released its World University Rankings by Subject, wherein DLSU was ranked in five subject areas: Engineering, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Business & Economics, and Computer Science. The institution is top-ranked in the Philippines in four of these five areas.

The exclusive THE rankings list only research-intensive institutions and the criteria used put a premium on research resources, global outlook, productivity, and impact.



## Paper co-authored by University Fellow receives Best Paper Award from top international journal



**A STUDY MADE BY AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF RESEARCHERS THAT INCLUDED UNIVERSITY FELLOW DR. ANTHONY SF CHIU OF THE DLSU GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING** was recognized as one of

the Top 3 papers featured in *Resources, Conservation and Recycling (RCR)*, a leading journal with an impact factor of 8.086.

Collaborating with Chiu for the research were Dr. Hua Cai and Dr. Zhaoyu Kou of Purdue University and Dr. Xi Wang of IHS Markit.

Their paper, entitled “Quantifying greenhouse gas emissions reduction from bike-share systems: a model considering real-world trips and transportation mode choice patterns,” received the 2020 Best Paper Award from *RCR*.

From about 4,000 submissions, the journal picked and published 501 papers during the period.

Chiu, concurrent professor and research fellow as well as Graduate Program coordinator of the Industrial Engineering Department, said that the bike-sharing scheme is one mode of shared economy to make better use of common resource while utilizing today's digital technology in order to reduce environmental impact on the ecosystem.

He also shared that their paper proposed a model to quantify the sustainability impacts; it stochastically estimates the transportation modes substituted by bike share trips, considering factors such as trip distance, trip purpose, trip start time, the accessibility of public transits, and historical distributions of transportation mode choices. Emission reductions per trip range from 283 to 581 g CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. computed from studies in eight cities in the USA with bike sharing schemes.

## Management faculty members join global research project 'EntResilience'

**A DLSU RAMON V. DEL ROSARIO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS TEAM IS TAKING PART IN A YEARLONG GLOBAL RESEARCH PROJECT TITLED "ENTREPRENEURIAL RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY DURING AND AFTER THE COVID-19 CRISIS: FIRM- AND COMMUNITY-LEVEL RESPONSES IN WUHAN (CHINA), MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND, AND THE UK."**

Members of the team are Dr. Raymund Habaradas and Shieradel Jimenez from the Management and Organization Department (MOD) and Ian Benedict Mia from the Center for Business Research and Development.

Led by Imperial College London, UK, this global research project dubbed '[EntResilience](#)' looks into the business model learning processes of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) during the COVID-19 outbreak and lockdown in Wuhan, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, and London. It aims to address the urgent need to strengthen entrepreneurial resilience as societal and economic activity adjusts to a post-pandemic world.

Among the primary research questions of the project are: (1) How do entrepreneurs reinvent their business models in response to a pandemic crisis? (2) How do they harness digital technologies to build resilience? and (3) What are the effective firm-level and community-level responses?

The project adopts a qualitative approach to explore effective firm- and community-level responses and resilient business model practices among MSMEs. Its outcomes will support entrepreneurial adjustment and post-COVID-19 recovery in emerging economies, as well as inform UK policy responses.

Led by principal investigator Professor Erkkö Autio from Imperial College London, the project is a collaboration of Asian School of Business, De La Salle University, Imperial College London, Mahidol University, Tsinghua University, Wuhan University, Asian Development Bank, and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It is supported by the UK Research and Innovation. Habaradas is the head of the Philippine team.



Habaradas



Jimenez



Mia

## ECE students win in national quiz bowl

**A TEAM OF ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING (ECE) STUDENTS FROM DLSU EMERGED AS CHAMPION IN A NATIONAL QUIZ COMPETITION** hosted by the Institute of Electronics and Communications Engineers of the Philippines - Manila Student Chapter (IECEP-MSM) and Excel Review Center last February 28 via Zoom and IECEP-MSM Facebook Live.

The IECEP-MSM Nationwide Mini Quiz Bowl, ECCENTRIFY - The ECE Quizzers Cup, which centered on the theme "Spellbinding Academic Excellence," was participated in by 43 teams from 26 different universities and colleges.

Members of the winning team were Grant Lewis Bulaong; Samuel Alexander Pasia; and Benjamin Emmanuel Uy. Bulaong, who was also the Top 1 Scorer in the Individual Elimination Round - Set C: MATH-ESAT.

Another team composed of Christian Anabeza, Galvin Lim, and Gregory Pe made it to the final round. Engr. Dino Dominic Ligutan and Engr. Jose Martin Maningo served as coaches of the teams.

IECEP-MSM is the duly accredited organization of Electronics Engineering students of Manila and Bulacan formed as the governing body to serve ideals of every member as well as to promote its objectives for the advancement of science and technology and to disseminate vital technical information in developing potential of its members.





## Dr. Aristotle Ubando: Asia's Rising Scientist

**FOR FULL PROFESSOR DR. ARISTOTLE UBANDO, CHAIR OF THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, A VOCATION FOR RESEARCH IS CULTIVATED BY PERSISTENCE AND HARD WORK.** He credits his father for nurturing his early interest in engineering and helping him break through a highly competitive field. However, it was neither just influence nor talent that kept him on the academic path for more than two decades but the fulfillment he derived from succeeding through dogged perseverance.

"The biggest excitement in conducting research is to be able to see that your research results have tangible impact in the industry," he enthuses, giving a peek into his *raison d'être* of pursuing nation-building research. Currently, he leads a project to help the country's semiconductor industry under the DOST Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy (CRADLE) project.

Ubando has so far produced 135 Scopus-indexed papers, with 695 citations and an H index of 15. He has filed two patents (pending approval) to his name. As a Research Fellow, he is clearly among peers, from being the National Winner in Engineering at the 2016 Republica Awards to "Asia's Rising Scientist" in the February 2020 Issue of Singapore's *Asian Scientist Magazine*.

The academe was not always a straight path for Ubando, who launched his academic career amid calls to help in his family's printing business. "It was a time when I was learning the ropes in scientific writing and dealing with the fear of rejection. It was a challenge on its own," he recalls.

In his journey, he benefited from having as mentors some of the more prolific researchers of the University. In 2010, when the DLSU undergraduate alumnus returned as an Assistant Professor

in the Gokongwei College of Engineering, where he also began work on his PhD, he met University Fellows Dr. Alvin Culaba and Dr. Raymond Tan. He joins them at the Center for Engineering and Sustainable Development Research (CESDR), where he was exposed to the research projects of national impact that he sought.

In 2013, Ubando received a grant from the Fulbright Philippine Agriculture Scholarship Program that allowed him to conduct his dissertation research at the University of Arizona and Texas A&M University. Later, USAID STRIDE funded an extension of his PhD work on the assessment of algal biofuel production. The project was further extended in 2017 to focus on the process improvement in the Philippine algae industry. Realizing the lasting impact of this research, NAST conferred on him the 2016 Outstanding Young Scientist in the Field of Mechanical Engineering.

To aspiring researchers, he advises, "Find your passion—the thing that makes you excited to wake up each morning. Mine is research, I am happiest discovering, excited in thinking up new concepts or solutions and repeating the process every day. We need bright young minds who have the power of ideas to make this world a better and safer place for us to live in."

Ubando



## 14th DLSU Arts Congress highlights resilience during pandemic

**DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY HELD ITS ANNUAL WEEKLONG CELEBRATION OF ARTISTIC CREATIVITY, PERFORMANCE, AND RESEARCH, ARTS CONGRESS, LAST MARCH 8 TO 12. THE DLSU ARTS CONGRESS 2021 WAS HELD ONLINE DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

Now on its 14th year, DLSU Arts Congress is an annual event that aims to provide researchers, artists, creative writers, students, and art enthusiasts a venue to present and celebrate their creative works and research.

With the theme "Pandemic, Resilience, and the Arts," this year's congress featured paper presentations, art performances, and a virtual exhibit. Different scholars and artists discussed the challenges and opportunities from the current global pandemic, reflected on its profound impact on freedom and mobility, and shared their narratives and experiences during these unprecedented times.

Highlights of the congress included a keynote address from National Artist for Film Kidlat Tahimik and Rep. Christopher De Venecia of the 4th District of Pangasinan during the congress opening and conference opening, respectively.

# Enrique K. Razon Logistics Institute holds webinar on supply chain and logistics

**THE DLSU ENRIQUE K. RAZON LOGISTICS INSTITUTE (ERLI), IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ZARAGOZA LOGISTICS CENTER (ZLC), IN COOPERATION WITH THE CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN BUSINESS, HOSTED A FREE WEBINAR ON "TRENDS AND INNOVATION IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS" LAST MARCH 10.**

The free webinar showcased European trends in research in the field of supply chain management, sustainability, digitalization, and mobility. The session presented the impact of these trends on supply chain management as well as the logistics research and innovation projects in Europe.

Additionally, the session explained the concept of Physical Internet (PI), which aims to transform the way goods are handled, transported, stored, packaged, and used across the supply chain by applying concepts from Internet data to real world shipping processes.



ZLC Research Director Carolina Cipres served as the resource speaker. ZLC is a research and educational institute affiliated to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of Zaragoza (UZ). It is ranked 17 among the top supply chain universities in the world by SCM World.

Another part of the webinar was a presentation of a research paper related to supply chain done by DLSU professors. The research was entitled "COVID19 Vaccines: From laboratory to the People", presented by Dr. Charlle Sy, associate professor from the Industrial and Systems Engineering Department.

In a related development, the DLSU ERLI and ZLC are offering a **54-hour diploma course** from March 30 to July 29. The course provides an overview of Supply Chain and Logistics and is divided into seven (7) modules, namely: Trends and Innovation in Supply Chain and Logistics; Inventory Management; Supply Chain Resiliency, Security and Risk Management; Distribution and Transportation Management; Manufacturing and Logistics Analytics; Retail Supply Chain; and Supply Chain and Finance.

The course will require asynchronous activities and synchronous lectures, where participants will be guided to solve case studies facilitated by professors from DLSU Enrique K. Razon Logistics Institute. The synchronous lectures will be delivered by a resource person from ZLC.

## 2021 CFA Institute Research Challenge runner-up

**LAST FEBRUARY 25, LASALLIAN STUDENTS COACHED BY THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT BAGGED THE SECOND RUNNER-UP PRIZE DURING THE 2021 CFA INSTITUTE RESEARCH CHALLENGE.** DLSU was one of only 4 schools that qualified into the final round.

The members of the team, dubbed as "Dark Horse Investment Researchers," were Warren Chua, Keanna Faye Wan, Kylie Anne Nicolasora, and Michaelangelo Macabuhay. Dr. Tomas Tiu served as their coach. They took home a Php 30,000 cash prize and a plaque.

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is a nationwide financial competition to buy, hold, or sell shares of stocks of a company

assigned by the CFA to the team. The different teams from various universities were tasked to study, research, evaluate, report, present, and compete to win. Each team organized meetings with company insiders, and finance/operations people, conducted an interview, and other activities to complete their report.



“The more fully we abandon ourselves to the care of Providence, the more attentive God is not to let us want for anything.”

*Bella Salle*

Med 59.1 (cf. Mt 8:1-9: Feeding of the 4,000)

# Small Actions Big Leaps



The BITUIN Project (Banner Initiative to Transform, Unify, Integrate, and Navigate) is the De La Salle University's journey to digital transformation, involving financial management, human resources management, and student life cycle.

Among the first to go live is the online processing and approval of RFP (request for payments) transaction.



Processing of leave eligibility for employees.



Enhanced online approval of faculty plantilla.

The road to digital transformation requires an improved platform and processes. **BPMs** or *business process management software* is a tool dedicated to improving university operations through process automation and analytics. The software easily manages processes that recur frequently, assisting employees in the efficient completion of their daily tasks. It enables them to transact online for various requests, financial management reports, and procurement. Ultimately, it allows the University to make informed decisions based on the comprehensive monthly records, quarterly reports, accounts receivables, and budgets.

Source: BITUIN Project Team



2401 (twen'te för, 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 Vol 52 No. 09 Artist-in-charge | Thomas Miranda

**Writers** | Arfie Koc, Anne Alina-Acuña, AA dela Cruz,  
Roy Monarch Sy, Juan Horacio Gonzalez,  
Kalikasan Castillo

**Editorial Support** | Alaric Lopez de Leon

**Multimedia Coordinator** | Magsy Magbanua

**Creative Director** | Peter Varona

**Art Director** | Mark Louie Esteves

**Graphic Artists** | Chris Perez, Rhea Boholano, Miguel Pabello, Chana Garcia

**Secretary** | Virginia Umacob-Gases

**Office Assistant** | Raymond Menor