DLSU IS PHL’S TOP UNIVERSITY IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES

FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR, DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY IS THE COUNTRY’S TOP HEI IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject. In the 2022 edition of the global rankings, DLSU is in the 801-1000 bracket.

The global rankings apply the rigorous performance indicators as the World University Rankings, but have been adjusted to suit the specific field.
DLSU LITERATURE DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. JOHN IREMIL TEDORO won the Southeast Asian Write Award (S.E.A Write Award) 2019.

A pre-awarding activity was held online last September 25, in an event called “Garland of Words Across the Sky: Celebrating 2019 and 2020 S.E.A. Write Awardees.”

Teodoro teaches creative writing, literature, and art appreciation. He is also the associate for regional literature of the DLSU Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Center (BNSCWC) and an affiliate at the DLSU Southeast Asia Research Center and Hub (SEARCH).

He was born and grew up in the province of Antique on Panay Island in central Philippines. A multi-awarded writer, he has published 18 books of poetry, short stories, and essays in Kinaray-a, Filipino, Hiligaynon, and English.

He is currently the secretary general of Unyon ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas (UMPIL) or the Writers Union of the Philippines, and a member of the Philippine Center of International PEN.

Since 1979, the S.E.A. Write Award, or the Southeast Asian Writers Award, has been presented annually to poets and writers in Southeast Asia. This ceremony aims to recognize the creativity of writers and create a wider awareness and understanding of literary wealth in the region, and to bring together these great minds.

The formal awarding ceremony is being scheduled for early to mid-2022 in Bangkok, Thailand.
College of Science holds Professorial Chair Lecture Series

LAST SEPTEMBER 11, THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE HOSTED AN ONLINE PROFESSORIAL CHAIR LECTURE SERIES featuring five of its top faculty members.

Prof. Divina Amalin, University Fellow of the Biology Department and concurrent holder of the Cesar A. Buenaventura Distinguished Professorial Chair in the College of Science, delivered a lecture on “Cacao Bio-based Pest Management Program: Strengthening Sustainable Cacao Farming System in the Philippines.”

Her study focused on sustainable intensification of the cocoa farming system to enable farmers to address climate variability and extreme events in the future.

University Fellow Prof. Wilfredo Roehl Licuanan, also of the Biology Department, shared his research on “Box jellyfishes, the box jellyfish problem, and proposed solutions to this problem in the Philippines.”

Licuanan holds the Br. H. Alfred Shields Chair in Biology and Br. Cresentius Richard Duerr FSC Chair in Biochemistry. His presentation briefly reviewed the biology and ecology of box jellyfishes and discussed the latest findings and implications of the DOST-PCAARRD-funded Jellyfish Ecology and Envenomations Project (JEEP).

Another University Fellow, Prof. Drexel Camacho of the Chemistry Department and holder of the Br. Goslin Camillus Chair of Life Sciences & Don Jose Cojuangco Chair in Chemistry, delivered a lecture on “Designing Cellulosic Materials for Practical Applications.” His lecture presented the various approaches on natural cellulosic materials for non-food applications.

For her part, Prof. Angelyn Lao, full professor of the Mathematics and Statistics Department and holder of the Br. C. John Lynam Chair in Mathematics and Br. Albinus Peter Chair in Mathematics, shared her research on “Graph Theoretical Analysis of Biological and Ecological Systems.” She offered new perspectives on established biological and ecological theories as well as tools to address new challenges.

Lastly, Physics Department Full Professor and Br. Henry Virgil Pellant Chair in Physics and Salvador R. Gonzalez Chair in Physics, Prof. Romeric Pobre, delivered a talk on the “Effects of Pulsed Electromagnetic Field (PEMF) on BxPC-3 Human Pancreatic Cancer Cells and Normal Human Dermal Fibroblast (HDFn) Cells.” His study showed that PEMF has significant cytotoxic and genotoxic effects on human pancreatic cancer cells.
Lecture explores communicative control on freelance work

THE PANDEMIC HAS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE EXPONENTIAL RISE OF FILIPINOS entering the global and local gig work platforms catering to local demand for food, transportation, and general service delivery such as Grab, FoodPanda, and Angkas.

These workers, who often face difficulties attributed to precarious working conditions and their debatable status not as employees but as partners, service contractors, freelancers, and entrepreneurs, are the focus of a recent professorial chair lecture by Dr. Cheryll Ruth Soriano, DLSU Communications Department faculty member. She is concurrent holder of the Angel and Celerina Reyes and Br. Marcian James Professorial Chair in the Humanities and principal investigator of Fairwork Foundation.

Delivered last September 14, her lecture titled, “‘Free(lancing) but everywhere in chains’: Technologies of control in ‘on-demand’ gig work,” focused on the unregulated labor arrangement that workers face in the era of global and local gig work.

She shared insights on the discursive construction of ‘free and flexible’ labor categories and the cultural normalization of such labor management techniques as mechanisms of biopower in the digital economy.

Soriano’s work with Fairwork Foundation advocates for fair working conditions. Moreover, the lecture sheds light on the current condition of Filipino workers and what can be done to protect gig workers from the risks and dangers of this growing industry.

The Philippine research team of the Fairwork Foundation is working on the Philippine report, which highlights the best practices of the country’s platform economy.

This report will give the local platforms a ‘fairness score’ which is based on the five core gig work principles of Fairwork Foundation: fair pay, fair conditions, fair contracts, fair management, and fair representation.

Fairwork Philippines, part of the global Fairwork network funded by the University of Oxford, seeks to advance fair conditions for labor in the gig economy. Soriano’s research can be accessed here.
THE DLSU SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS (SOE) CLOSED ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION with a panel discussion featuring five economic experts on the topic, "Evidence-Based Recovery and Resilience", livestreamed on the DLSU SOE Facebook page last September 17.

SOE Dean Dr. Marites Tiongco served as the moderator of the event, which tackled the country’s prospects for economic recovery and resilience, as well as the role of the government, academe, civil society, and private sector in economic growth and progress.

Panelists included University Fellows Prof. Tereso Tullao, Jr. and Prof. Myrna Austria; Dr. Krista Danielle Yu, SOE full professor; Dr. Caesar B. Cororaton of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; and Dr. Felipe Medalla, Monetary Board member of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

Tullao is adjunct professor of Economics, and the director of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies. He has been teaching for more than four decades at DLSU and has been a visiting professor and scholar at various institutions abroad. A prolific researcher, he is the current editor-in-chief of the DLSU Business and Economics Review.

Austria, full professor at SOE, specializes in trade, investment and industrial policy, development economics, competition policy, and regional economic integration. She has published journal articles, monographs, chapters in books, and policy along these areas. Prior to joining the academe, she has worked with government and international agencies.

Yu, also an SOE full professor, conducts research on areas such as the development of quantitative models for disaster risk and vulnerability analyses and the application of input-output modeling techniques on sustainability issues. She has received various awards for her work.

Cororaton works on issues related to poverty and agricultural trade and development in developing countries. In the last 5 years, he has done policy research work for several Philippine agencies.

Medalla is currently a member of the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. He also served as NEDA Director General and Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning. He was a founding member and former chairman of the Foundation for Economic Freedom.

THE BIENVENIDO N. SANTOS CREATIVE WRITING CENTER (BNSCWC) IS INVITING YOUNG CRITICS AND SCHOLARS to apply for fellowship to the 10th KRITIKA La Salle National Workshop on Art and Cultural Criticism. As part of BNSCWC’s celebration of the Philippine National Arts Month, KRITIKA 10 will be held from February 2 to 24, 2022 on four consecutive Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 5 p.m. via Zoom.

Dr. Rolando B. Tolentino, esteemed cultural studies scholar and BNSCWC Associate for Criticism, is workshop director.

For this edition, KRITIKA assesses the landscape of arts and cultural productions during and about the COVID-19 pandemic, including the successes and remissions of what went right and wrong in the art and cultural works and spaces, institutions, personalities, and creative and critical processes.

Manuscript should be an unpublished critical essay written in English, Filipino, or any other Philippine language. The manuscript must be accompanied by an abstract (150 to 200 words). Ideally, the manuscript should range from 5000 to 7500 words inclusive of notes and references. It should be on work/s by Filipino artist/s. It may involve the examination of more than one art form. Manuscripts in languages other than English and Filipino must be accompanied by a translation into English or Filipino and the consent of the translator.

To submit the application portfolio, access the Google form: https://tinyurl.com/10thKRITIKALaSalleFellowships. Required PDF files include a cover letter explaining reason for applying; an unpublished critical paper; and curriculum vitae with photo.

Sample published work may supplement the portfolio. Deadline for application is October 15, 2021. For inquiries, please email bnsccwc@dlsu.edu.ph.
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