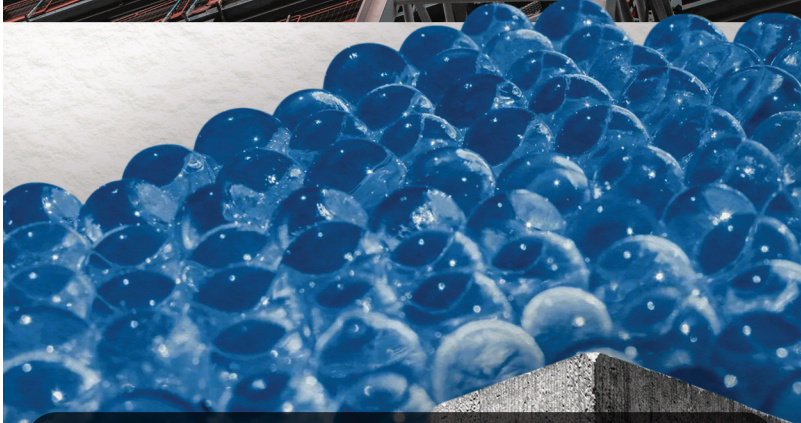




# O 2



## Engineering faculty teams receive research grants

FIVE PROJECTS FROM THE GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING WERE RECENTLY AWARDED RESEARCH GRANTS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

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Two research projects from the Department of Civil Engineering (CE) are under the DOST CRADLE or Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy Program: "Steel Manufacturing and Assembly for a Rapid Technology in House Construction: Development of an Innovative CFS-based Structure with Screw Piles using Design for Manufacturing and Assembly Technology," with Engr. Cheryl Lyne Roxas as the principal investigator, and "Foamed and Innovative Biochar ingredients with Environmentally Recycled Plastic in Concrete" with Engr. Richard de Jesus as principal investigator.

Meanwhile, the DOST Philippine Council for Health Research and Development provides the funding for the project, "Hydrogel from Pig Kidneys: Preparation, Characterization, and Pre-Clinical Assessment for Kidney Tissue Regeneration," which will start on April 1, 2022. The project lead is Dr. Nathaniel Dugos of the Department of Chemical Engineering (ChE), with project team members Engr. Joseph Rey Sta. Aguada of the Department of Manufacturing Engineering and Management; Dr. Mariquit De Los Reyes of the Department of Biology, and Dr. Sigrid Agcaoili of the National Kidney and Transplant Institute.

Receiving funding from the DOST Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development is the program "The Hybrid Ferrite-Bimetallic process: An integrated approach for the sustainable management of acid mine drainage (AMD)." Under this program is the project titled, "A novel two-step neutralization ferrite process as active remediation technique for environmental treatment of AMD." ChE faculty member Dr. Aileen Orbecido serves as the program and project leader. Joining her in the project are fellow ChE faculty members Dr. Arnel Beltran and Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla. The project started this March.

For the project, "Decentralized Approach to Domestic Wastewater Management System in the Philippines: A Systematic Review and Policy Recommendations," the National Research Council of the Philippines provides the grant to the team headed by Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla. Project members include CE's Dr. Renan Tanhueco, ChE's Dr. Kathleen Aviso, Dr. Arnel Beltran, and Dr. Aileen Orbecido, and Department of Political Science's Dr. Ador Torneo. The project started last January.



## DLSU SHORE TO LAUNCH PASIG RIVER PROJECT VS PLASTIC POLLUTION

### **ON MARCH 25, 2022, THE DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY BR. ALFRED SHIELDS OCEAN RESEARCH**

**CENTER (SHORE)** is launching the #EcoSquadGoals Competition called Pasig River Communities Against Plastic Pollution (PRCAPP) with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Philippines and the City Government of Pasig.

The six-month competition will engage barangay youth groups and select homeowners associations to monitor plastic pollution in the Pasig River.

The data collected by these groups will support rehabilitation studies of the river.

The competition will start with a capacity building workshop to educate participants on the impact of plastic waste on the environment and vulnerable groups. It will also teach communities a practical approach to determining the types and approximate amount of plastic waste along the Pasig River.

The groups will document their process for data collection. Based on their research, participating groups will develop project

proposals to minimize or manage plastic waste in the river. The top three proposals will be awarded the Pasig River Grant, a seed fund to implement their projects. Special prizes will also be given for proposals that incorporate the empowerment of women and youth.

The competition is part of #CircularPasig, a larger initiative of Pasig City and the UNDP Philippines, which envisions Pasig as a model circular city that adheres to economic growth that is inclusive, resilient, and sustainable.

THE 2022 LASALLIAN SCHOLARUM AWARDS

# Kabanata ng Kabataan



# LASALLIAN SCHOLARUM AWARDS RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING MEDIA COVERAGE OF YOUTH AND EDUCATION STORIES

**TO CELEBRATE OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL AND STUDENT MEDIA COVERAGE OF YOUTH AND EDUCATION STORIES**, De La Salle University held the 2022 Lasallian Scholarum Awards (LSA) on March 9 via live streaming.

The journalism awards centered on the theme, “Kabanata ng kabataan,” in view of the challenge to the Filipino youth to create a new chapter in our history, as the country continues to combat the pandemic while preparing for the May national elections.

This year’s winners are: “Lasallian heroes against Martial Law honored on International Day of Peace” by Aurora Quadra-Balibay of Good News Pilipinas for Outstanding Feature Story on De La Salle University; “Munting Bisig” by GMA Network’s The Atom Araullo Specials for Outstanding Video Feature Story on Youth Education; “‘Old-school’ ways a thing of the past as pandemic paves new learning landscapes” by Rizal Raoul Reyes, Claudeth Mocon-Ciriaco and Mike Policarpio of Business Mirror for Outstanding Published Feature Article on Youth and Education in a Nationally Circulated Publication; “Digital Sex Crimes in Asia: The Filipino Mothers Selling their Children for Online Sexual Abuse” by Neil Jayson Servallos of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism and OneNews.PH for Outstanding Online Feature on Youth and Education; and “Seeking justice: The uphill battle for safer spaces in academic institutions” by Alexandra Simone Enriquez and Criscela Ysabelle Racelis of DLSU’s The LaSallian for Outstanding Published Feature Story on Youth and Education in a School Organ.

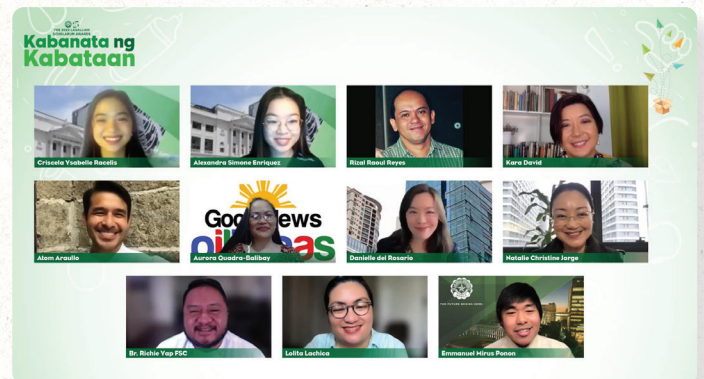
Special commendation honors were also given to “Pandemic Teachers” by Kara David of GMA’s I-Witness for the Outstanding Video Feature Story on Youth and Education and “DLSU researchers use machine learning for a deeper meaning of data from international assessments”

by Noel Pabalate of Manila Bulletin for Outstanding Feature Story on De La Salle University.

This year’s board of judges included PHINMA Corporation Vice President, Chief Risk Officer & Director for Strategy Danielle del Rosario, Asia Foundation Chief of Party, Youth Leadership for Development Nathalie Christine Jorge, Signum Fidei Association National Brother and DLSU Senior High School faculty member Br. Richie Yap FSC, Independent executive producer and writer Lolita Lachica, and multi-awarded Lasallian student leader Emmanuel Mirus Ponon.

Winners in the professional categories each received a sculpture especially designed and crafted by renowned sculptor Toym De Leon Imao.

Now in its 17th year, the Lasallian Scholarum Awards contracted an independent media-monitoring agency for the screening of youth and education news and feature stories.



## Accountancy student wins third place in global competition

**DLSU ACCOUNTANCY MAJOR HENRICO GUSTAV MIKHAIL SANCHEZ** won third place in the Ernst & Young [EY] Young Tax Professional of the Year 2021 International Competition, held in Dubai last February 20-23.

Of the 43 finalists that represented 62 countries, only the top 10 competed in the final round. Sanchez represented EY Global Delivery Services (GDS) professionals from Argentina, India, and the Philippines.

This year’s competition centered on how tax could help to incentivize sustainability across the business world. Finalists presented their ideas to a panel of judges, including various EY leaders, as well as Clodagh Power from the OECD’s Centre for Tax Policy and Administration.

The EY Young Tax Professional of the Year (YTPY) competition is one of EY Tax’s annual flagship events and is designed to recognize and nurture the next generation of tax leaders.



# DLSU CREATES NEW ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**DLSU PRESIDENT BR. BERNARD OCA FSC ANNOUNCED THAT DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY** takes the first step to revising the Administration Manual by rationalizing its organizational chart, taking into account the implementation of the BITUIN Project that digitizes its key life cycles—the Student Life Cycle, Finance Life Cycle, and Human Resources Life Cycle.

Units and offices at DLSU shall now be classified as either under Academics or Support. Academics is the umbrella term for the three core functions of education, research, and social engagement. Support units enable these core functions.

The President shall now be supported by two senior figures: a Provost, formally the University's Chief Academic Officer, and a Senior Vice President to lead the Support units. Br. Bernie explained that these are not two new positions. Each represents additional responsibilities that shall be carried by the current Vice President for Academics, Dr. Roberto Roleda, who will serve as Provost, and the current Vice President for Finance, Ramon Trajano, who will be SVP.

Br. Bernie pointed out that the new org chart also aims to minimize unnecessary gatekeeping and encourage responsible autonomy.

There will be three categories of 17 DLSU administrators: Top Management (President, Vice-Presidents, and Deans), Senior Management (Executive Directors and Associate Vice Presidents), and Middle Management (Directors).

Three Councils shall serve as final approving bodies, each chaired by DLSU's most senior officials: the President's Council, the Provost's Council, and the Operations Council.

He mentioned the introduction of Standing Committees as permanent recommendatory bodies that are organized according to DLSU's strategic priorities. There will also be Task Forces, which shall be ad hoc fact-finding and recommendatory bodies, convened for specific time-bound purposes.

The new arrangements shall be reviewed at the end of Term 2.

## University recognizes new batch of scholars

**THE NEW BATCH OF STAR, GOKONGWEI, AND VAUGIRARD SCHOLARS** was formally welcomed in an online event organized by the Office for Strategic Communications in partnership with the Office of Admissions and Scholarships held last March 4.

The new 13 Star scholars, 13 Vaugirard scholars, and one Gokongwei scholar are among the top applicants of last year's DLSU freshman admission. From different private and science high schools around the Philippines, these scholars are considered among the best and the brightest in the country.

With the theme, The Animo Class, the event was a celebration of the meeting of DLSU's top-tier education and top-tier students as well as the continued growth of this distinguished network of Lasallians.

During the event, Gokongwei Scholar Carla Felise Salgado (BS in Chemical Engineering, 2021, honorable mention) also shared her scholar journey and how her scholarship inspired her to work harder and helped her develop into who she is today. Salgado placed 8th in the 2021 Chemical Engineering Board Exams.

De La Salle University  
The future begins here.

**THE ANIMO CLASS**  
DLSU Scholars Recognition

**THE ANIMO CLASS**

Congratulations and welcome  
DLSU Scholars Batch 2021!

# Community members collaborate on web-based app for voters

WITH A FEW MONTHS BEFORE THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS, the Committee on National Issues and Concerns (CONIC), the Office of the Vice President for Lasallian Mission (VPLM), College of Computer Studies (CCS), and the La Salle Institute of Governance (LSIG) are collaborating on an interactive web-based application which will match voters with candidates based on their values and social concerns.

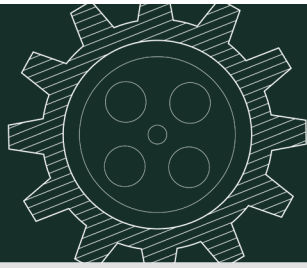
Called Pili na Pinas App, the project aims to be the most comprehensive database of candidates for national positions, providing verified and reliable information to voters as they discern for the forthcoming elections.

LSIG, with support from VPLM, is taking the lead in the overall direction of the app, particularly in ascertaining the quality of the data that will be used.

The original design was created by a group of MA Communications students Sed Arce, Sofia Costales, Carlito Matoog, and Carmel Puertollano under Dr. Mike Rapatan. A class taking up IS Project Management under Dr. Diane Ramos-Lim worked on the project plan. Dr. Briane Samson of the CCS oversees the app development of the students.

For their part, the Office of the Vice President for External Affairs and the Office of Executive Secretary of the University Student Government, under the leadership of Lara Jomalesa and Jewel Limjoco, took the lead in student volunteer recruitment and management, as well as in the branding and design.

The project is one of the main initiatives under the Boto Lasalyano, Sulong Pilipino program of CONIC.



## ME Board topnotcher

IN THE FEBRUARY 2022 MECHANICAL ENGINEER LICENSURE EXAM, DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY posted a passing percentage of 69.57%, against the national passing percentage of 56.11%. Lasallian Engr. Troy Alisther Alemania placed 6th among all board passers.

# Lecture series presents women in STEM

IN CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S MONTH, the College of Science is hosting a lecture series entitled "Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)" this March 25 via Zoom. Three resource speakers are featured in the event.

College of Computer Studies Associate Dean and DLSU Center for Language Technologies Senior Researcher Dr. Charibeth Cheng will talk about "Ability to Generate Text Data: Some Applications and Ethical Considerations".

In natural language processing, the ability to generate data can be provided by a transformer model, which is a deep learning

model whose attention mechanism considers the relationship of all the words in a sequence (such as a sentence). Given a corpus of text data, the transformer's attention mechanism associates the words in that corpus, allowing it to automatically "learn" the language, thus it can eventually generate new "sensible" text.

Another featured speaker, Medical Scientist, Professor of Medicine, and DLSU Scientist-in-Residence Prof. Maria Nilda Muñoz will discuss "Drug Innovation and the Technology Gap". Her presentation takes note of the growth of biological data over the last two decades, and seeks for ways to harness and use that data to create new knowledge as a business imperative. It will also highlight the need for a tight working connection

between data scientists and biologists, chemists and physicians to ensure the effectiveness of AI technology and drug innovation.

For her part, Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering Full Professor and Research Fellow Dr. Charle Sy will share about her experiences as "The Reluctant Academic". She will also discuss an algorithmic framework that she developed called Target-Oriented Robust Optimization.

“Receive Jesus today with respect and thanksgiving.”

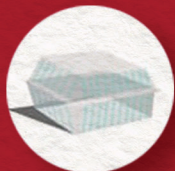
*De La Salle*

Med 58.1

## Help reduce waste, say no to single-use!

The Campus Sustainability Office reminds the Lasallian community of the General Policy on Ecological Management of Solid Waste, which includes the single-use plastics ban on campus.

### Banned items



Clear sandwich plastic



Cling wrap



Plastic bags (Sando bags and plastic labo)



Plastic straws and stirrers



Plastic utensils



Laminated products



PET bottles and plastic cups



Sachets

### Strongly discouraged items



PET bottles and plastic cups



Sachets

### Alternatives



Paper bags and eco bags



Microwavable food containers



Wax paper



Bamboo/Stainless straws and stirrers



Stainless/Reusable utensils



Microwavable food containers



Reusable tumbler, bottles, and mugs

### Alternatives



Reusable tumbler, bottles, and mugs



Bottles

Source: Campus Sustainability Office



2401 (twen'te fór'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>.