DLSU AMONG THE WORLD’S MOST SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITIES

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY REMAINS TO BE AMONG THE WORLD’S LEADING UNIVERSITIES RANKED BY THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) FOR ITS SUCCESS IN DELIVERING THE UNITED NATIONS’ SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS).

Full story on Page 2
The University retains its standing in the 2022 THE Impact Rankings, placing in the 401-600 bracket. This is the fourth straight year that DLSU has been included in the listing.

This year, it was ranked in six areas, up from four in 2021. DLSU was ranked in the following SDGs: Clean Water and Sanitation (Top 101-200), Life Below Water (Top 101-200), Responsible Consumption and Production (Top 201-300), Partnership for the Goals (Top 301-400), No Poverty (Top 401-600), and Quality Education (Top 601-800).

DLSU was ranked in the category Clean Water and Sanitation, or SDG 6, for its initiatives in improving waste management and operating sewage treatment plants within university premises. Several faculty members have focused their research on stormwater and wastewater management.

For the category Life Below Water, or SDG 14, DLSU has several programs that promote this goal including citizen science, alternative livelihood program for fisherfolk in Talim Bay, coastal cleanups, and marine plastic pollution awareness drive. The Br. Alfred Shields FSC Ocean Research Center is DLSU’s flagship unit for this SDG. One of its more recent marine protection projects is the reef check monitoring at the Tingloy Marine Protected Area in Batangas.

In pursuit of SDG 12 or Responsible Consumption and Production, DLSU has implemented the ban on single use of plastics on campus. It also produces the institutional sustainability report to determine how the University tackles sustainability issues and manages sustainability-related impacts and risks.

One of the University’s key projects addressing SDG 17 or Partnership for the Goals is its partnership with various local government units and provinces for SDG monitoring through a community-based monitoring system. The Jesse Robredo Institute of Governance is also active in conducting SDG workshops for academe-LGU-business collaborations.

Leading the promotion of SDG 1 or No Poverty is the Lasallian Social Enterprise for Economic Development. LSEED provides various training and formation programs for students and community partners to become social entrepreneurs.

Another program that responds to SDG 1 is DLSU’s scholarship offering, which is enjoyed by more than 20% of its student population. Aside from financial assistance, support services like counseling are also provided to students.

DLSU has several efforts to localize SDG 4 or Quality Education. These include various training programs for teachers in online teaching and learning, research capacity building, and other specialized fields. The DLSU Annual Research Congress, Innovation and Technology Fair, and Arts Congress are some of the venues for sharing and networking with academic, government, and industry partners.

The 2022 Impact Rankings measured 1,406 institutions worldwide. Details of the rankings can be found at https://www.timeshighereducation.com/rankings/impact/2022/overall.

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Chemical Engineering prof receives 2022 NAST Environmental Science Award

DR. AILEEN HUELGAS-ORBECIDO, CHAIR AND FULL PROFESSOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, received a Special Citation during the 2022 NAST Environmental Science Award (NESA) Virtual Paper Presentation and Awarding Ceremony last April 26.

NESA aims to recognize outstanding scientific and technological research works that have significant contributions to environmental protection and conservation in the country. Spearheaded by the efforts of the late NAST PHL president National Scientist Perla D. Santos Ocampo, this award was established through the help of Dr. Hugh Greenwood, a philanthropist and founder of the Children’s Research Fund in the United States. This award was formerly called NAST-Hugh Greenwood Environmental Science Award.

Orbecido’s paper entitled “Evaluation of Efficiencies of Locally Available Neutralizing Agents for Passive Treatment of Acid Mine Drainage” was published in Minerals in September 2020. The co-authors are Engr. Casey Oliver Turingan, Mr. Giulio Singson, Ms. Bernadette Melchor, Dr. Arnel Beltran of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Dr. Richard Alorro of the Western Australia School of Mines, Curtin University, Australia.

See more here: https://www.facebook.com/nastphl/videos/528289528694265
University Fellow bats for citizen science in reef monitoring

IN THE 37TH ISSUE OF ASEAN FOCUS, DLSU University Fellow and Director of the Br. Alfred Shields FSC Ocean Research Centre Prof. Wilfredo Licuanan underscores the role of citizen science in the timely monitoring of reef covers in the region.

Licuanan’s research featured in the Singapore-based publication highlights the need to involve the public in scientific data collection, processing, and interpretation. This can provide the multiplier effect needed to maximize the impact of the reef monitoring work of a small number of marine scientists.

Traditionally, status reports from scientists are limited to information about changes in the health of coral reefs only after such changes have occurred.

His team has recently completed the online version of ongoing training on citizen science for monitoring coral reefs.

Licuanan reiterates that the marine life supported by coral reefs are essential to the food and livelihood security of mostly low- and medium-income countries. As self-regenerating breakwaters, coral reefs are also important in protecting coastlines from storm surges, tsunamis, and sea-level rise. Majority of coral reefs in the world are in the waters of Australia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Engineering student teams win top prizes in competitions

PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

INTER-UNIVERSITY QUIZ BEE
A student team from the Department of Industrial Engineering was declared Champion in the Inter-University Quiz Bee Competition at the 18th PIE National Student Congress of the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineers held last April 23.

Members of the team were Kent Louie Wong, Joshua Matthew Lee, Madeline Tee, and Cherry Magdaong, with Engr. Eric Siy and Dr. Jayne San Juan serving as their mentors.

SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS COMPETITION
Student representatives from the Department of Electronics and Communications Engineering and Computer Engineering, together with their mentors, won the top prize in Seven Seven Software Solutions 2022 held during SYNERGY: Electrical and Electronics Engineering Summit last April 27, hosted by the UP Engineering Radio Guild.

The winning team members were: Computer Engineering majors Ira Clark Ungos, Dave Galamgam, and Madelein Villegas; and Electronics Engineering majors Keane Sulit and Alyssa Joie Tablada. Engr. Dino Dominic Ligutan and Engr. Jose Martin Maningo served as their coaches.

2022 RED SPARTAN ENGINEERING CUP
Last May 4, GCOE students won the grand prize in “Marathon of the Minds: The 2022 Red Spartan Engineering Cup”, an intercollegiate quiz bowl hosted by the Batangas State University College of Engineering, Architecture and Fine Arts.

The champion team was composed of Jan Joshua Cruz, III-ChE; Rocelle Belandres, II-ECE; Mark Velasco, III-ECE; and Gian Brazil, III-ME.

Engr. Dino Dominic Ligutan and Engr. Jose Martin Maningo served as the coaches of the two DLSU teams that competed in the event.
NEW LASALLIAN CIVIL ENGINEERS

In the May 2022 Civil Engineering Board Exams, DLSU garnered an overall passing percentage of 89.47%, against the national passing rate of 42.35% (5,836 passers from a total of 13,781 examinees).

In addition, the following graduates were among the top notchers of this batch of examinees:

Engr. Dilton Chen (4th Place - 92.90%)
Engr. Angelo Louis Lucelo (9th Place - 91.85%)

LEAD ASSESSOR FOR AUN-QA

University Fellow and Industrial and Systems Engineering Department Full Professor Dr. Rosemary Seva has been selected to be the Lead Assessor for the Undergraduate Programme in Mathematics and Informatics in the ASEAN University Network’s 272nd AUN-QA Programme Assessment at Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam.

GCOE Achievements

Mini-Grants for Creative Writing 2021-2022 Awardees

THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS OFFICE OF RESEARCH & ADVANCED STUDIES, in cooperation with the Office of the Vice President for Research & Innovation and Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Center announced the recipients of the DLSU Mini-Grants for Creative Writing 2021-2022.

They are: Sanaysay: Christopher Bryan A. Concha (Doktor sa Pilosopiya sa Araling Filipino-Wika, Kultura, Midya); Billy N. De Guzman (Doktor sa Pilosopiya sa Araling Filipino-Wika, Kultura, Midya); Mark Anthony S. Salvador (Faculty – Departamento ng Filipino);

Tula: Christa I. De La Cruz (MFA Creative Writing);

Maikling Kuwento: AARichela Dela Cruz (Undergraduate Marketing Coordinator, Strategic Communications Office);

Poetry: Raphel A. Coronel (MFA Creative Writing), Jessie Isaiah A. Raymundo (MFA Creative Writing);

Creative Nonfiction: Patricia Amanda J. Dela Cruz (MFA Creative Writing); Jennifer J. Dugeña (MA in Education Major in Special Education); and Chuck D. Smith (MFA Creative Writing).

The DLSU Mini-Grant for Creative Writing seeks to lend modest assistance to DLSU writers and artists who are in need of minimal resources to produce creative work—poetry, fiction, drama, creative nonfiction, or film (screenplay). Each fellow will receive a mini-grant of Php 10,000.00.

For this year, the grant officially begins this 2nd Term 2021-2022. The grantees shall be given one year to complete the manuscript, which may be any of the following: five pages of poetry; one short story; one short play; one essay; and film script. The bursary will be given upon submission of the creative work.

Within a year after submission of the final output, the work must be submitted for publication, exhibition, or contest, whether local, national, or international. Grantees are also expected to acknowledge De La Salle University when the work is published (print or online), exhibited, performed (for drama), or filmed (for the screenplay).

The DLSU Mini-Grant for Creative Writing is a project of the College of Liberal Arts Research and Advanced Studies Office with support from the DLSU Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation and the Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Center.
Symposium tackles bioretention system to protect ecosystems

LAST MAY 19, DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY HOSTED AN INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM FOCUSING ON THE BIORETENTION SYSTEM, one of the integrated and holistic approaches for the protection, sustainable management, and restoration of ecosystems benefiting both the society and the environment.

The symposium focused on the paper entitled “An Optimization Algorithm Using Fuzzy Logic and Weibull Distribution for Bioretention Systems” co-authored by the Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering’s Dr. Aaron Don Africa, Department of Civil Engineering’s Dr. Marla Maniquiz-Redillas, Department of Mechanical Engineering’s Dr. Aristotle Ubando and University Fellow Prof. Alvin Culaba, and Department of Biology’s Dr. Mark Christian Felipe Redillas.

In the face of climate change and rapid urbanization that result in the impairment of the natural ecosystems and the deterioration of water quality, the researchers looked into nature-based Solutions (NbS) such as Green Infrastructure (GI) and Low Impact Development (LID).

LID and GI are ecologically-based approaches favoring soft engineering that manage rainfall and runoff on-site through a network of vegetated and distributed treatment landscapes.

One of the most practiced LID/GI is a bioretention system characterized by shallow landscaped depressions that facilitate infiltration typically under drained and rely on engineered soils as well as enhanced vegetation and filtration.

The results and findings from this research suggest that a fuzzy rough set algorithm could serve as a tool in forecasting and analyzing large datasets useful in developing bioretention design criteria.

In addition, the methodology employed could be useful in reducing the in-situ sampling time and data collection, thus reducing the expense associated in developing future bioretention systems.

Dr. Ivan Gue, Vice Chair of the DLSU Department of Mechanical Engineering and Architect and Engineer Emmanuel Jesus Avila of Miradel Development Corporation were the event’s discussants. Dr. Marla Maniquiz-Redillas facilitated the discussion.

DOS, NEDA reps visit Laguna campus for CALABARZON Science for Change Project

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST) UNDERSECRETARY DR. ROWENA CRISTINA GUEVARRA recently visited the DLSU Laguna Campus for the DOST CALABARZON Science for Change Project.

They were welcomed by DLSU Vice President for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan and Vice President for the Laguna Campus Dr. Jonathan Dungca.

Under the program, various research initiatives are undertaken at the facilities of the Laguna Campus, which the guests toured last May 10. The projects include Finite Element Analysis for Semiconductor and Electronics Packaging Systems for Automotive Applications under the leadership of Dr. Aristotle Ubando; the Center for Vector of Diseases of Public Health for Region 4, which aims to develop an action plan for the prevention and control of vector diseases like dengue, under University Fellow Dr. Divina Amalin; the De La Salle University - Institute of Biomedical Engineering and Health Technologies, which builds on technologies to develop health products, devices, and services, under the mentorship of Dr. Nilo Bugtai; the Flywheel Integrated Flywheel Storage Management System, which focuses on the integration of Flywheel Storage Management System as an alternative source of energy, under Dr. Roy Francie Navea; and the Central Instrumentation Facility, which caters to the research and analytical testing needs for the university, other institutions and industries, under Dr. Drexel Camacho.

“Earnestly ask Jesus that all your work be energized by his Spirit and draw all its power from him.”

MTR 3.3 (Med 195.3)
**FACTS and FIGURES**

**Lasallian Center for Inclusion, Diversity & Well-being**

**CARING FOR YOURSELF DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES**

The Lasallian Center for Inclusion, Diversity, and Well-being recognizes that this year’s election may have been challenging for many. As it draws to a close, some of us may be experiencing a host of conflicting thoughts and feelings. Some may feel depleted and may be finding it hard to go about their daily routines. No matter what it was that we stood for, feeling uncertain about the future may be something that most of us share at the moment. Here are some ways to tend to ourselves as we navigate the days ahead.

**FOCUS ON WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL.** Identify activities that may help you further your cause, and may provide you with a sense of control over the situation (e.g., joining groups or community organizations that share your advocacy).

**LIMIT MEDIA CONSUMPTION.** If staying online adds to your stress, take a break from watching or listening to the news, scrolling through social media, or reacting to postings. If you wish to stay informed, refer to credible information sources instead.

**RESPOND WITH KINDNESS AND RESPECT.** Recognize that we are all different. When necessary, engage in healthy dialogues, communicating with empathy and coming from a place of kindness and understanding.

**ACT ON YOUR VALUES.** Whilst some situations may feel out of our control, we can still choose to live our values. Find ways to act on these with those around you. In times of hardship, tapping into our sense of hope and faith may help us reframe difficult situations and see them from a hopeful lens.

**BE KIND TO YOURSELF.** Allow yourself to experience your feelings. You may have done what you can yet things turned out differently. It is natural to feel emotions such as confusion, disappointment, and even grief. Emotions look and feel different for everybody. Take your time. There is no timeline in going through it.

**TAKE CARE OF YOUR MIND BY TAKING CARE OF YOUR BODY.** Nourish your body by eating nutritious food and by staying physically active. Stretching, meditating, taking a short walk, or experiencing nature for a few minutes a day have proven to support our physical and emotional well-being.

**REACH OUT TO ONE ANOTHER.** There is power in the collective. Find your support where it is. Connect with people, whom you trust and who share your thoughts and feelings.

**IT IS OKAY TO RECEIVE HELP.** Remember that it is okay to ask for mental health support. For Individual Care Support for Faculty and Staff, please register at [https://bit.ly/dlsuhealthcare](https://bit.ly/dlsuhealthcare) or email us at mentalhealthcare@dlsu.edu.ph. For Student Counseling, please email ocss@dlsu.edu.ph.

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2401 (twoh·ee 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.