Faculty members win in 2022 NAST Awards

DLSU FACULTY MEMBERS RECEIVED RECOGNITION AT THE 2022 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NAST) AWARDS for their outstanding research and significant contributions to their respective fields.

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From the Gokongwei College of Engineering, two received The Outstanding Young Scientist (OYS) Awards, which are given to young Filipino scientists below the age of 40 years–Dr. Arnel Beltran in the field of Environmental Engineering and Dr. John Frederick Tapia in the field of Chemical Engineering.

In the National Talent Search for Young Scientists, the top prize went to Dr. Virgilio Ebajo, academic service faculty of the Central Instrumentation Facility at DLSU Laguna Campus, while the 2nd place was handed to Dr. Melchizedek Alipio of the Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering. For the same category, special citations were received by Dr. Renann Baldovino of the Department of Manufacturing Engineering and Management and Dr. Miriam Bongo of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Meanwhile, Prof. Aileen Orbecido of the Department of Chemical Engineering bagged a special citation for the NAST Environmental Science Award, which recognizes outstanding scientific and technological research work that contributes to environmental protection and conservation.

Two research outputs were cited as Outstanding Scientific Papers, which are given annually for papers published in Thomson Reuters or SCOPUS listed journals in the Philippines within five years preceding the award.

One of these is “Community of Care Amid Pandemic Inequality: The Case of Filipino Migrant Domestic Workers in the UK, Italy, and Hong Kong” (Asia-Pacific Social Science Review, 21(2), 184-201), authored by Dr. Ron Vilog of the Department of International Studies and Dr. Carlos Piocos III of the Department of Literature.

The other winning paper is “Women on Boards of Philippine Publicly Traded Firms: Does Gender Diversity Affect Corporate Risk-Taking Behavior?” (Asia-Pacific Social Science Review, 21(2), 11-30), authored by the School of Economics’ Ailyn Shi, Michelle Kris Ong Yiu, Angelo Louie Ricasfrente, Prof. Angelo Unite, and Prof. Michael Sullivan of University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The NAST is the highest recognition and scientific advisory body of the Philippines under the Department of Science and Technology. The awarding ceremony will be held during the NAST Annual Scientific Meeting at the Manila Hotel on July 13-14, 2022.

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Scimago ranks *The Asia-Pacific Education Researcher* among Tier 1 journals

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY’S *THE ASIA-PACIFIC EDUCATION RESEARCHER*, PUBLISHED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SPRINGER, HAS BEEN RANKED TIER 1 ON SCIMAGO (SJR).

Scimago extracts citation and other pertinent data from Scopus, and these details are used for, among other purposes, university rankings such as the Times Higher Education (THE). Academics in Australia and New Zealand refer to Scimago regularly to choose journals for their academic output. It is also used by the Australian government to select journals for the quadrennial Research Assessment and Evaluation (RAE) exercise to rank universities in the country.

The TAPER editorial team is headed by Dr. Timothy Teo. The journal receives close to 900 submissions yearly and less than 60 are accepted for publication.
Society of University Fellows welcomes new member

THE SOCIETY OF UNIVERSITY FELLOWS FORMALLY WELCOMED ITS NEW MEMBER, PROFESSOR LAWRENCE DACUYCUY OF THE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, during the 10th Annual Pillar of Lasallian Educators Excellence Awards held last May 20 via DLSU’s Facebook Page.

The announcement was made by Society of Fellows President Prof. Arnulfo Azcarraga, who noted that “Professor Dacuycuy exemplifies the Lasallian value of service by his dedicated teaching in both undergraduate and graduate programs, rigorous research in both theoretical and empirical economic analysis, and his democratic style when he carried out various administrative tasks in the recent past.”

Dacuycuy joins the Society of Fellows, composed of all faculty who have been recognized for their distinguished teaching, research, and publication in their field of study, and their meritorious service to the University. Among other functions, the Society serves as a body that recommends to the President/Chancellor policies and strategies that will advance the development of the University and the welfare of the academic community.

Dr. Lawrence Dacuycuy: Engaging in research that socially matters

UNIVERSITY FELLOW AND SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS PROFESSOR DR. LAWRENCE DACUYCUY DESCRIBES HIS ACADEMIC JOURNEY AS "A LIFE IN TRANSITION, CHARACTERIZED BY INTEREST SHIFTS AND EPISODES OF SELF-IMPROVEMENT."

His journey as an economist has come a long way. After earning his BS Economics and MA Economics degrees from the University of the Philippines-Diliman, he attended Kyoto University, where he obtained his Doctor of Economics degree.

Over the years, he has completed research grants and projects submitted to International funding agencies, including: the ASEAN Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), East Asian Development Network (EADN), Human Development Network (HDN), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, and International Labor Organization (ILO), Bangkok.

For his outstanding and impactful work as a researcher in the field of Economics, he has received national awards including the Outstanding Young Scientist from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) in 2009 and the Outstanding Scientific Paper Award at the NAST Awards in 2012.

Today, he is full professor and research fellow at the School of Economics, pursuing two distinct fields of economics: macroeconomics and labor economics.

He points out that he is fascinated by macroeconomics because “it demands adherence to a particular school of thought and instills the values of patience, hard work, and resilience.”

As to labor economics, he focuses on a fundamental societal obligation to ensure that all individuals, irrespective of family backgrounds, must have the opportunity to be successful. “I find social mobility a topic relevant but rarely promoted as a core problem to solve. Just like macroeconomics, social mobility is characteristically complex,” he says.

Aside from doing research and teaching, Dacuycuy has also taken various leadership and administrative roles. At DLSU’s School of Economics, he went from being chair to vice-dean to dean, the last of which he held from 2013 to 2015. At the Philippine Economics Society, he also took various positions, including ex-officio member and president until 2020. He is also a member of the CHED Technical Panel for Economics since 2012 and the editorial board of the Philippine Review of Economics since 2013. He is currently director of the Angelo King Institute (AKI).

Recently elected as chair of the NRCP Social Sciences Division, where he previously served as section chair of Economics and Business Administration, he underscores the role of NRCP, which is “to promote frontier and problem-oriented research in the sciences and humanities that provide solutions to pressing and anticipated national issues.”

He says: “Whether basic or applied, research has social value. As researchers, we must empathize with key stakeholders by making their problems our inspiration. We need not push the envelope of theoretical knowledge all the time. Instead, we engage in research that socially matters. Yes, seminal work matters, but we can initiate impactful research in simple ways. We design policy interventions that improve welfare, no matter how marginal their effects are, as long as they transform ordinary lives. Finally, we endeavor to communicate the underlying research value in the simplest possible way.”
“INKLUSYON, EKSKLUSYON AT TRANSISYON: ISANG KASAYSAYAN NG ISLA NG CALAUIT, 1976-2013” WAS THE FEATURED WORK in the webinar series “Pandayan: The DLSU History Department Students Lecture Series” held last May 19.

Based on the master’s thesis of the presenter, DLSU alumnus Jyferson Villapa (MA History ’21), “Inklusyon” tells a history of the Calauit Game Preserve and Wildlife Sanctuary from its establishment in 1976 to recent times. Villapa examines the government agencies involved in its administration as well as the challenges and controversies that the project faced through the years.

Villapa was an academic fellow in Environment and Natural Resources Management in 2018, under the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative program of the United States’ Department of State. At present, he works as Communications Development Officer of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - MIMAROPA Region.

The “Pandayan” lecture series is organized by the DLSU Department of History and the student organization Sociedad de Historia.

New projects under DOST CRADLE push for innovative, sustainable engineering

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING (CE) FACULTY, SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT with the Department of Science and Technology - Collaborative Research and Development to Leverage Philippine Economy Program (DOST CRADLE) and the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD) in a bid to address some of the country’s perennial problems requiring innovative civil engineering solutions.

Held last May 25, the virtual MOA signing formally introduced two CE research projects that are receiving the DOST CRADLE grants: Project FIBER and Project SMART.

For Project FIBER, which stands for “Foamed and Innovative Biochar ingredients with Environmentally Recycled Plastic in Concrete”, Engr. Richard de Jesus serves as the principal investigator. This project aims to address problems such as the need for proper disposal and management of plastic wastes, the heavy load imposed on structures attributed to construction materials, and the alarming amounts of greenhouse gases.

For Project SMART, or “Steel Manufacturing and Assembly for a Rapid Technology in House Construction: Development of an Innovative GFS-based Structure with Screw Piles using Design for Manufacturing and Assembly (DfMA) Technology,” Engr. Cheryl Lyne Roxas is the principal investigator. This project aims to address the need for innovative building systems that can be utilized in the construction of post-disaster temporary shelters, with housing units built out of cold-formed steel structural members and screw piles as the foundation while employing DfMA technology.

Gracing the event were Br. Bernard Oca FSC, President of De La Salle University, Dr. Rowena Cristina Guevarra, Undersecretary of DOST for Research & Development, Dr. Enrico Paringit, Executive Director of PCIEERD, and Dr. Kathleen Aviso, Dean of the Gokongwei College of Engineering, as well as private industry partners Green Antz Builders CEO Engr. Rommel Benig and Accutech Steel and Service Center CEO Jimmy Tan Chan.
La Salle profs elected to NRCP posts

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBERS WERE RECENTLY ELECTED TO HEAD DIVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES (NRCP), which is mandated to promote research in all sectors of society, foster linkages with local and international scientific organizations, and provide advice on problems and issues of national interest.

Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla, full professor of the Gokongwei College of Engineering Department of Chemical Engineering, is the new chair of NRCP’s Engineering and Industrial Research Division (Division VII). This division pushes for interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research in various fields of engineering and industrial processes.

School of Economics professor Dr. Lawrence Dacuycuy takes the helm of the Social Sciences Division (Division VIII), the unit that studies areas of concern such as Philippine investment, information network, indigenous technology and knowledge, and cultural tourism, among many others.

Under the Social Sciences Division, two DLSU full professors are also serving as section chairs: Departamento ng Filipino’s Dr. Feorillo Petronilo Demeterio III for the Anthropology Section and School of Economics’ Dr. Krista Danielle Yu for the Economics and Business Administration Section.

LASALLIAN ATHLETES AND COACHES MADE THE FILIPINO NATION PROUD DURING THE 31ST SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES IN HANOI, VIETNAM LAST MAY 12-23. The event was participated in by 11 ASEAN member countries, with some 10,000 athletes competing in 40 sports and 526 events.

Three athletes from DLSU took home the gold: Chloe Isleta in Swimming - 200m Backstroke, Russel Aron Usi in ESports-Mobile Legends, and Patrick Nuqui in Bowling - team event. Isleta also snatched two silver medals for the 100m Backstroke and the 100m Back Leg Medley Relay.

Another silver medalist is Patrick King Perez, who competed at the Poomsae - male team event.

Seven athletes bagged their bronze medals in various events: Raven Alcoseba in Triathlon; Bernalyn Bejoy in Athletics - 4x400 Mixed Relay and Athletics - 4x100 Women’s Relay; Jessel Lumapas in Athletics - 4x400 Mixed Relay; Anicka Chabeli Castañeda, Alisha Clare Del Campo, and Tara Allison Shelton in Football; and Johann Olano in Archery - men’s team compound.

Lasallian alumni who also snagged awards include: Ana Alicia Katrina Castillo, gold in Women’s Basketball; Charmea Quelino, silver in Kurash; Raphael Enrico Mella, silver in Poomsae - male team event; and bronze medals for Inna Kristianne Palacios in Football; Marie Antoinette San Diego in Chess - team rapid event; Maureen Schrijvers, Athletics - 4x400 Women’s relay; and George Baclagan, Kurash.

Coaches from DLSU who also participated in the events were: Jeoffrey Chua in Athletics; Lauro Crisostomo, Table Tennis; Ramil Endriano, Fencing; Almario Vizcayno, Fencing; and Susan Grace Neri, Chess.

God feels such great tenderness for us that He gives us His own Son to nourish our souls.

Med 51.1 (cf. Jn 3:16)
10th Annual Pillar of Lasallian Educators Excellence Awards

Pillars of Lasallian Excellence

St. La Salle Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award
Prof. Ma. Carmen Ablan-Lagman

St. Jaime Hilario
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award in Community Engagement
Dr. Eric Punzalan

St. Miguel Febres Cordero
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award in Research
Prof. Drexel Camacho

St. Benilde Romancon
Pillar of Excellence Award in Teaching
Ms. Sonia Tan

Most Productive Departments in Research

Small Department Category

Business and Social Sciences
Department of Sociology and Behavioral Sciences

Humanities and Education
Department of Science Education

Science and Technology
Department of Manufacturing Engineering and Management

Big Department Category

Business and Social Sciences
Department of Political Science and Development Studies

Humanities and Education
Department of Literature

Science and Technology
Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering

Source: Office of the Provost