

Santuario de La Salle now open for Lasallians, pilgrims

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE FAITHFUL WITH THE CONSECRATION OF SANTUARIO DE LA SALLE LAST NOVEMBER 21 AT ITS LAGUNA CAMPUS IN THE CITY OF BIÑAN.

Santuario de La Salle is a gift of the Lasallian Family to the Church, which celebrated the culmination of its 500th Anniversary of Evangelization in the Philippines this year. The Santuario seeks to promote the devotion to St. John Baptist de La Salle as the Patron Saint of Teachers.

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Members of the Villavicencio family with the De La Salle Brothers and DLSU administrators

Conceptualized in 2011, constructed during the tercentenary celebration of the death of St. John Baptist de La Salle in 2019, and consecrated in 2022, the sanctuary serves as a repository of the Founder’s relic and opens its doors as a pilgrimage site for educators. The sanctuary’s overall design and concept came from the architectural firm CAZA, inspired by the Lasallian Star of Faith—the Signum Fidei.

The relic of St. La Salle was transferred from its prior home in De La Salle University Dasmariñas to the Laguna Campus and was enshrined on the same day.

Present during the consecration were the family of alumnus Ramon “Chito” Villavicencio (De La Salle College Commerce ‘62, MBA ‘64), who donated the main sections of Santuario de La Salle in their shared mission to support the holistic development of students and the spiritual nourishment of the Lasallian community members and pilgrims.

In a message read by former DLSU President Br. Raymundo Suplido FSC, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC shared the special significance of November 21 for Lasallians: “on this same day, the 21st of November in the year 1691, at a time when the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools was in deep crisis, John Baptist de La Salle, Nicholas Vuyart, and Gabriel Drolin promised to remain together in Society even if they would have to beg and live on bread alone. This was to be known as ‘The Heroic Vow’. In Tagalog, it simply means, *walang iwanan*.”

The Eucharistic Celebration to consecrate the Santuario de La Salle was led by Bishop Buenaventura Famadico D.D. from the Diocese of San Pablo, together with other priests from neighboring parishes, and was attended by Lasallian Brothers from various La Salle schools.



University wins Asian sustainability award

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY WAS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE MOST SUSTAINABLE INSTITUTIONS IN ASIA DURING THE ASIA CORPORATE EXCELLENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS (ACES) event held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last November 18.

The University received the Green and Community Initiative Award for its “robust approach to how the organization seeks to support and fulfill its community-centric goals.”

ACES Awards highlighted DLSU’s Sustainability Policy, which is geared towards being a sustainable green campus and aimed at contributing to climate change research, action, and advocacy through its communities.

Vice President for Research and Innovation and University Fellow Dr. Raymond Tan received the award on behalf of the University.

Now on its ninth year, the ACES Awards is one of the most prestigious recognition programs honoring exemplary leaders and sustainability advocates in the region. DLSU is the lone academic institution awardee in the 2022 edition.

The selection process included preliminary research by MORS Group, open-ended ethics clearance through secondary data, and benchmarking and score-carding by the jury panel.

The Office of the Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization spearheaded DLSU’s ACES Awards campaign, with support from the Center for Social Concern and Action, Campus Sustainability Office, and other university units.

2022 Institutional Christmas celebrations shout out, “Mabuhay Ka, Hesus!”

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY OPENED THE 2022 CHRISTMAS SEASON LAST DECEMBER 2 WITH THE THEME "MABUHAY KA, HESUS!", an invitation for the Lasallian community to let God dwell in the heart as the Christian world celebrates the birth of the child Jesus.

The program commenced with a Holy Mass at the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall grounds, followed by a program featuring performances of different DLSU students and staff, and a mini-concert by the different culture and arts groups.

At 6:00 pm, the University lit up the 15-meter high Animo Christmas Tree and showcased a light and sound show at the St. La Salle Hall, signaling the opening of the Lasallian Christmas celebration.

In his message to the community, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC said “may we be able to see the brightest star in the darkness of the world, not only to receive God’s gift, but also to give something back to God, who is ever present in the lives of those who are frail like a child. May we all proclaim, ‘Mabuhay ka, Hesus!’”

To enliven the yuletide spirit, the campus also opened a Christmas bazaar, a project that embodies Filipino family, tradition, and pride during this season of giving. Aside from the Manila campus, other DLSU campuses simultaneously lit up their buildings and Christmas trees.

Meanwhile, the Institutional Christmas Family celebration, “*Ngayong Pasko, Kislap Lasalyano*”, was held online last December 7.

At 5:30 am from December 16-24, there will be Simbang Gabi at the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall grounds. The Christmas Eve Mass will be at 8 pm. The Eucharistic celebrations will be presided by Fr. Luis Lorenzo, LC/ Fr. Alex Mijangos, LC.

Photo by Zoila Caga and Angela Romero



IALU establishes linkage between DLSU, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LA SALLE UNIVERSITIES (IALU), THROUGH ITS COLLABORATIVE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING (COIL) PROGRAM, established a new partnership between the DLSU Ramon V. Del Rosario College of Business and the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán School of Economics in Merida, Mexico.

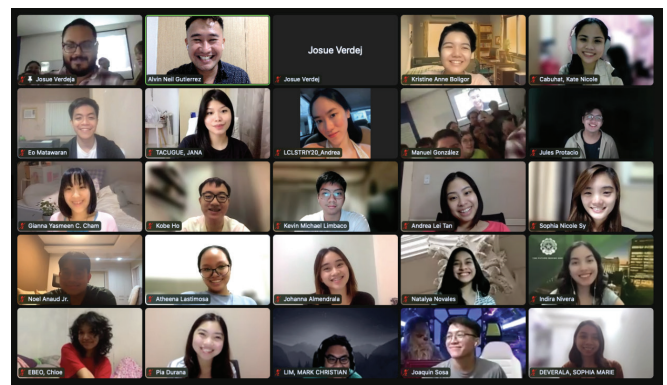
The Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán School of Economics and RVR COB’s Management and Organization (DMO) had their Mirror Classes last October 14 and November 8.

In the first round of classes, Prof. L.C.I. Josué Omar Verdeja Dorantes, M.D.O. from the Facultad de Economía conducted a lecture to all the students of Organizational Development and one section of Strategic Human Resources Management.

He discussed Hofstede’s Six Cultural Dimensions and exposed Filipino students to stereotypes against Mexicans and Southeast Asians. The students from both countries interacted through padlet, an online forum platform where they exchanged ideas on the various stereotypes and cultural dimensions of Hofstede.

For the second session, DMO Assistant Professor Alvin Neil Gutierrez, MHRIIR delivered a lecture on the Introduction to Organizational Development, Individual and Team Interventions.

After discussing the concepts, the students from both countries critiqued a coaching video and collaborated on their findings using the breakout rooms in Zoom.



The lectures used thematic slides and online tools that aimed to make virtual learning fun, exciting, and interactive.

Top Filipino psychologist named as Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR DR. ALLAN B.I. BERNARDO HAS BECOME THE FIRST FILIPINO SOCIAL SCIENTIST AND THE FIRST FILIPINO PSYCHOLOGIST ELECTED TO THE WORLD ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (TWAS).



Bernardo

For one to be considered as a TWAS Fellow, the individual must have made significant contributions to the advancement of science in the developing world. TWAS, a pioneering, merit-based academy focused on scientific excellence in the developing world, gives permanent membership to those elected.

Bernardo is a member of the DLSU Society of Fellows and an Academician, a title conferred by the National Academy of Science and Technology. He is also one of the most prolific researchers in the country, and has been included in the [2022 list of the world's top 2% researchers across all disciplines](#), and has been recognized by various award-giving bodies.

His research applies to cognitive psychological and sociocultural perspectives on various societal concerns including student learning, well-being of vulnerable groups, socioeconomic inequality, and intergroup relations.

The TWAS list of new members includes 50 Fellows from 22 countries, including only two Filipinos. To date, only six Filipinos have been elected to TWAS.

Click [here](#) to read more.



La Salle clinches back-to-back Best Poster Award at youth camp in Singapore

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY GARNERED A BACK-TO-BACK BEST ENVIRONMENTAL POSTER AWARD IN THE ANNUAL YOUTH ENVIRONMENT CAMP (YEC) organized recently by the Temasek Foundation-National University of Singapore.

Titled “New Kings of the road: Modernization of Philippine Jeepneys for sustainable public transportation”, the research aims to propose sustainable solutions to mitigate the environment, health, and economic impact of the Philippine Jeepney through an evidence-based approach. It was the second straight year that a DLSU team won in the same category of the competition.

The DLSU delegation included Mechanical Engineering student Rjaymz Dela Cruz, Biology students Maria Charisma Estrella and Hanzelle Barizo, and Senior High School students Alyssa Ang Gaeid and Kirsten Gavin Co. They were mentored and chaperoned by DLSU Department of Mechanical Engineering faculty member Conrad Allan Jay Pantua.

The five-day YEC is intended for the youth (17-20 years old) in Singapore and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to be immersed in climate change and environmental sustainability. With the theme “Carbon Footprint”, it gathered 20 teams from across the ASEAN region.

Multilingual chatbot research wins Best Paper Award in international conference

A STUDENT TEAM FROM THE DLSU COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES (CCS) WON THE BEST PAPER AWARD AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 2022 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASIAN LANGUAGE PROCESSING held last October 27-28, with the physical event hosted simultaneously in Singapore and Shenzhen, China.

The team, composed of students Denzel Co, Schuyler Ng, Gabriel Tan, Adrian Ty, and Jon Blaise Cruz under the mentorship of Department of Software Technology Associate Professor Dr. Charibeth Cheng, built an automatic response model that used synthetic data generated by the language models built by French mathematician, philosopher, and physicist Blaise Pascal.

Their research, which is part of a project on a multilingual chatbot for health monitoring funded by the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development, aims to develop a Filipino-Bisaya chatbot.

According to them, automatic response generation is an AI task where a model is trained to respond to human statements. While machine learning techniques exist to create these models, massive amounts of data are typically required to produce favorable results.

They demonstrated how synthetic data can be generated to supplement existing data. They likewise presented how data augmentation improved the performance of a Filipino-speaking conversational AI, using data collected from selected channels of the PinoyExchange portal.



CCS faculty introduce novel “gaming” approach in dehazing images

A DEEP LEARNING OR AI APPROACH IN DEHAZING IMAGES PROPOSED BY FACULTY MEMBERS FROM THE COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES was published in the Scopus-based Elsevier during the 2nd quarter this year.

PhD candidate Neil Patrick Del Gallego, with his adviser Dr. Joel Ilao and mentors Dr. Macario Cordel II and Dr. Conrado Ruiz Jr., came up with a novel approach for training a dehazing network using only artificially generated hazy images from a game engine.

With it, a clear image can be produced from a single foggy or hazy image without any need for fine-tuning or manual editing.

The method eliminates the necessary but painstaking process of gathering hazy-and-clear image pairs in the real world, as these are just simulated on the computer.

Based on Del Gallego’s dissertation topic on exploring artificial images for various computer vision applications, the group worked with generated transmission and atmospheric maps from RGB images and depth maps from the virtual environment. Depth maps represent the distance between the camera and its subject and are used in various applications, such as the blurring of backgrounds in smartphone cameras and detecting nearby objects in self-driving vehicles.

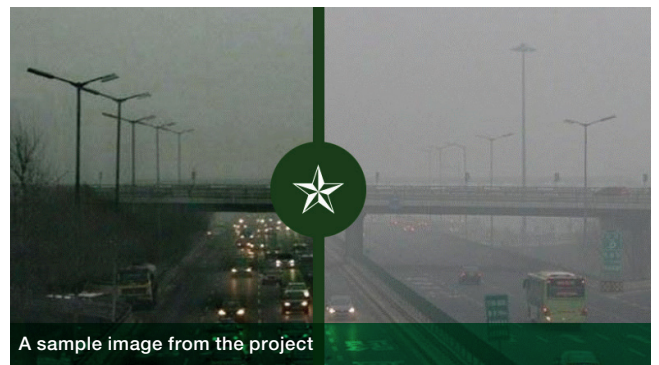
One of the core recipes in their work allows for near-perfect simulation of fog and haze through the use of accurate depth maps. The synthetic hazy dataset, a collection of artificially produced hazy

images, was also released to the public and called DLSU-SYNSIDE (SYNthetic Single Image Dehazing Dataset).

They claim that the approach makes training stable and easier as compared to other methods. Experimental results demonstrated the competitiveness of their approach against state-of-the-art dehazing works using known benchmarking datasets such as I-Haze, O-Haze, and RESIDE.

Along with DLSU URCO, the Department of Science and Technology and the Google Cloud Research program funded the project.

Details about their work can be found in <https://neildg.github.io/SynthDehazing/>



“The Son of God has come to earth and wishes to come into our hearts to make us sharers in his nature.”

De la Torre

Med 85.3 (Vigil of the Nativity)

13th DLSU Institutional Christmas Family Celebration

“Ngayong Pasko, Kislap Lasalyano!”

Animo Christmas



Bling your Eco-Bag winner
 1st Place Lauren Tangsoc
 2nd Place Audrei May Verzosa
 3rd Place Dunric Cross Gueco

Kislap Maskara Winner
 1st Place Michelle Mendoza
 2nd Place Edward Pasaporte
 3rd Place Rowena Domingo

Pakitang Gilas Lasalyano Winner
 Grand winner, Balay Miguel
 1st runner up, Balay Solomon
 2nd runner up, Balay Benilde
 3rd runner up, Balay Mutien

Source: Institutional Christmas Committee



2401 (twen'te 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>.

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Consecration of Santuario de La Salle DLSU Laguna Campus

Santuario de La Salle was conceived as a gift of the Lasallian Family to the Church on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Evangelization of the Philippines. It especially honors teachers and the noble vocation of teaching, an apostolic ministry in the Church. It strives to continue and develop the legacy of St. John Baptist de La Salle, the Universal Patron of All Teachers of Youth. Barangay Villavicencio and countless donors and friends have generously supported the construction of this teachers' sanctuary at the campus of De La Salle University–Laguna. May the Lord, in His abundance and generosity, bless you, and may this strengthen your resolve to contribute to countless other ministries of the Church and the evangelization of peoples.

This iconic religious space was conceptualized as a holistic design process anchored on Lasallian values and tradition as well as Catholic liturgical guidelines. These were then translated coherently into the different facets of the Santuario, including its spatial and sensory experience, artistic intent, furniture design, and the selection of sacred objects. This Lasallian edifice is a celebration of the Christian faith and Filipino talent. May all those who participated as members of the project team, those who were part of the architectural design, those who will maintain this sacred edifice, and all those who will eventually come to worship experience God's holy presence and merit the divine grace that comes from the sacraments.

This sacred space is not exclusive to Lasallians but will especially welcome young people, teachers and educators, catechists and formators, parents and pastors from far and wide. All are welcome to bring their hopes and dreams, their anxieties and fears, and their noblest aspirations, all woven into their human frailties before Christ, the Teacher who will guide us to the Truth.



The centerpiece of this sacred space is a visualization of the road to Emmaus, where two disciples with downcast eyes were discussing the events, the frustrations, the tears, and the fears that have passed in their lifetime. In their casual conversation and as they listened to each other, they encountered another presence: a listening ear and a welcoming heart of one who broke bread with them, who explained things for them, and to whom they asked, "Stay with us, Lord." In this holy sanctuary, we welcome students, both those who are struggling with disbelief as well as those who have encountered the light of human knowledge and divine wisdom. We welcome teachers who are celebrating their commitment, the many years of service of walking with their students, and of accompanying them on this earthly road towards the road to heaven. We welcome educators who are working to create nurturing spaces where the young can feel that they are loved, those who are struggling with administrative bureaucracies, and those who have to deal with the current learning crisis. In this sacred space, we encounter the Lord who walks with us, illuminates our disbelief, and brings us to trust in Him. We welcome parents struggling with the difficult ministry of caring for their children, the difficulty of understanding them, and their fears and anxieties about what the future will be. In this sacred space, we ask Christ the Teacher to also lead us into the joy of heaven.

Dear friends, Santuario de La Salle, is also the permanent repository of the precious relics of our holy Founder: his dry bones. Today, we hear the prophecy from Ezekiel (37:46): "Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: 'I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life... Then you will know that I am the Lord.'" You who have participated in our celebrations today and those who will enter this sanctuary are invited to open your hearts so that we may always remember that we are in the holy presence of God. Graced with the Lord's presence, we go with faith and zeal to provide a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor.

It is my prayer that Santuario de La Salle will provide a breathing space, a resting place, and a holy dwelling for generations of teachers in the Philippines and East Asia so they may rediscover the nobility and grace in the educational ministry, a ministry handed down to us by the Apostles from Christ the Teacher who commands us even today: *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28:19-20).

"I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Live Jesus in our hearts forever.

Br. Armin A. Luistro FSC

Superior General, De La Salle Brothers

2022 November 21

