



New infra projects to support future-proofing of Manila, Laguna campuses

IN ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PROVIDE QUALITY LEARNING SPACES AND TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS that respond to industry and government needs, De La Salle University held a series of activities showcasing ongoing infrastructure projects for its Manila and Laguna campuses.

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Last August 8, administrators led groundbreaking ceremonies on the Laguna Campus for two major infrastructure projects: the University Hall and the Enrique K. Razon Jr. Hall.

Modern learning spaces

Benchmarked after the latest educational design trends in the region, the University Hall will showcase modern learning spaces, student hubs, advanced laboratories, collaborative spaces, and other state-of-the-art facilities.

The Enrique K. Razon Jr. (EKR) Hall will be the new state-of-the-art facility that will house the Enrique K. Razon Jr. Logistics Institute (ERLI). ERLI was established in June 2018 and offers research and training programs in corporate supply chain and logistics.

The EKR Hall will have a flexible and adaptable learning environment to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and researchers. Aside from ERLI, the EKR Hall will house learning spaces for executive offices, research, modern learning centers, and breakout rooms. It will also feature the first bi-level digital learning commons to include a 24/7 section for students and a makerspace equipped with the latest technology.

Redefining the logistics landscape

During the EKR Hall groundbreaking event, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC expressed gratitude to Dr. Razon, Chairman and CEO of International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) and DLSU honorary degree recipient, for his unwavering support, trust, and commitment to the Lasallian community. He earlier gifted the University with the Enrique M. Razon Sports Center, named after his father who was an alumnus

and athlete of La Salle. His company, ICTSI, is also one of the major team sponsors of the Green Archers basketball team.

Manila Campus teaching laboratories

At the DLSU Manila campus, administrators led the blessing and inauguration of 34 teaching laboratories last August 9.

These teaching laboratories include classrooms, thesis rooms, research areas, computer laboratories, workshops, and offices, located at the Gokongwei Hall, Enrique Razon Sports Center, Miguel Hall, Science and Technology Research Center, and St. Joseph Hall.

The spaces are used by the students and faculty members of the College of Computer Studies, Gokongwei College of Engineering, and College of Science.



University Hall

The ceremonial groundbreaking and laying of the time capsule was led by DLSU President Br. Bernard S. Oca FSC along with DLSU Science Foundation Inc. President Br. Raymundo B. Suplido FSC, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Mr. Ramon Trajano, Vice President for Laguna Campus and Dean of the School of Innovation and Sustainability Dr. Jonathan Dungca, Principal Architect of The Sage Group, Architect Duke Sage, and President & COO of DMCI Mr. Jorge A. Consunji.



EKR Hall groundbreaking

Gracing the EKR Hall groundbreaking ceremony were Dr. Enrique K. Razon Jr., his wife, Felicia "Lizzy" Razon, Vice Chairman of Bloomberry Resorts Corp. Jose Eduardo Alarilla, Head of Global Public Relations of ICTSI Narlene Soriano, and his Executive Assistant Ms. Lilibeth Bonga.

Others who attended the event were DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC, DLSU Science Foundation Inc. President Br. Raymundo Suplido FSC, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Ramon Trajano, Vice President for Laguna Campus and Dean of the School of Innovation and Sustainability Dr. Jonathan Dungca, Principal Architect of The Sage Group Architect Duke Sage, President & COO of DMCI Jorge Consunji, President of DCI Sonny Salvacion, and Managing Director of DGC Digidcost Sharon Gay Pascual.



From left: Dr. Enrique K. Razon, Jr., Br. Bernie, and Mrs. Felicia "Lizzy" Razon

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR PRODUCTION RESEARCH ELECTS DLSU UNIVERSITY FELLOW TO ITS TOP POST

Last July 23, University Fellow and Gokongwei College of Engineering Distinguished Professor Dr. Anthony SF Chiu of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering was elected president of the International Foundation for Production Research (IFPR) at its Board Meeting in Romania, in conjunction with the 27th International Conference of Production Research (ICPR) hosted by the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca.

Chiu is the first Filipino and the first from ASEAN to be elected president of this global production research community since 1961.

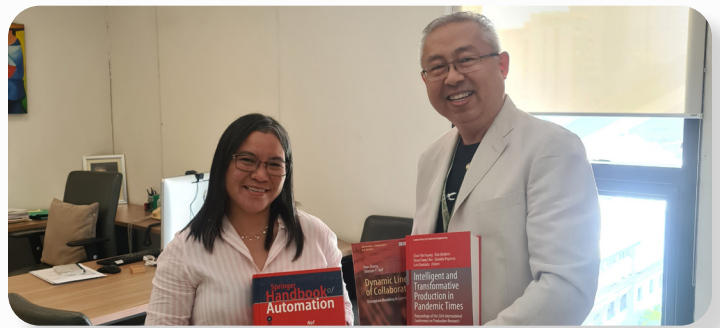
He was elected to the Board of the IFPR in 2011 at Stuttgart, Germany, and chaired the international conference in 2015 at Manila, as hosted by the Philippine Institute of Industrial Engineers (PIIE) and De La Salle University (DLSU).

IFPR has two official high impact ISI journals; namely the (Taylor) International Journal of Production Research (IJPR) and the (Elsevier) International Journal of Production Economics (IJPE). IFPR currently provides PhD and early career training workshops back-to-back with its biennial international conference and the annual European regional conferences. ICPR events release Springer Proceedings and special issues of both IJPR and IJPE.

Chiu shared his views on the directions of ICPR at the regional and global levels, which include:

- better research venues for the women and the youth
- attract more top researchers from major production countries, such as China and India
- continue to provide PhD and early researcher career workshops
- FPR Board should provide a strategic global production research roadmap
- FPR Board should identify future trends of production research, such as Industry 4.0, IoT, AI, Industry 5.0, to name a few

The IFPR Board has 52 board members from 22 economies worldwide. Board members include the president of German Academy of Sciences, the president of the (American) Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, senior administrators of world-class technical universities, and editors-in-chief of high impact journals.



Chiu presents an IFPR book donation to the DLSU Libraries.



DLSU PROFESSOR DR. JAZMIN LLANA WAS ELECTED AS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES INTERNATIONAL, becoming the first person from the Global Majority to take on the role and the first one who comes from outside the traditional centers of the field, which have always been Anglo-American centric.

Performance Studies international (PSi) (www.psi-web.org) is a premier professional association of academics, artists, and activists working in the field of performance, a dynamic field of encounters where scholarly and artistic research are engaged with a wide variety of topics and strongly rooted in the interaction between theory and practice.

New president of Performance Studies international

Since its foundation in 1997 and its first conference in 1995, PSi has been an avenue for interdisciplinary exchange, communication, and collaboration in the field of Performance Studies. PSi represents this field and stimulates its development by initiating conferences and other events, by means of awards and bursaries, by facilitating the circulation of information and knowledge, through working groups dedicated to important issues in the field of performance research, by means of an archive and oral history project, and with a network and a lexicon aimed towards the further development of performance research and education in a global context.

Llana teaches drama, theatre, and performance studies at the Department of Literature, De La Salle University. She earned a PhD at Aberystwyth University,

UK, and MA Theatre Arts at UP Diliman. Her research interests are in the areas of religion and performance, cultural performance, performance and politics, and the radical deployments of performance as method.

She began her duties as PSi president during the last conference, “PSi#28: Uhambo Luyazilawula: Embodied Wandering Practices,” held at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa last August 2-5.

“Other than preparing for the next conference which will be in London in 2024 on the theme ‘Assemble’, my priority concern is establishing strategies for performance studies to more strongly engage with and address themes and issues of the Global Majority, continuing the work I started with the conference on ‘Hunger’ in 2022, inspired and informed by the hunger action advocacy at De La Salle University,” she shared.

SOE PROFESSOR OFFERS LONG-RUN VIEW OF PHL ECONOMY



Before industry leaders at the Ayala Economic and Treasury Summit 2023 last August 8 in Makati, School of Economics

Distinguished Professor and Director of the Angelo King Institute Dr. Jesus Felipe posited that what the country needs to attain and sustain growth in the next decades is for large conglomerates to become exporters that compete in international markets with innovative products.

His presentation, “A long-run view of Philippine economy, Implications for Ayala Corporation,” suggests that the country’s small and medium companies could not be the engines of economic transformation that will attain and sustain the 6.5-8 percent annual growth targeted in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028. “They have neither the knowledge nor the financial muscle to do it,” he echoed in a Manila Times commentary last August 14.

“Instead large conglomerates of the nation could lead the way, with their better knowledge of the economy and financial power,” although they “will need to innovate and export.”

Felipe emphasized that avoiding sustained deficits is the most significant constraint on growth for most developing nations, including the Philippines: “The problem is that the Philippines is not an exporter like South Korea or Germany. The Philippines exports simple manufactures, e.g., assembled electronics that hardly pay for its imports, such as machinery.”

Felipe forecasted that growth is almost guaranteed to continue for some time as a result of positive labor force and productivity growth. “But this situation will end,” he predicts, “and when it does, the country will be left with an economy that will continue without being able to compete in international markets.”

“The conglomerates have to become exporters that compete in international markets with products that are more and more sophisticated,” he stressed.



University renews partnership with Amber Kinetics

De La Salle University and Amber Kinetics reactivated its partnership with a Memorandum of Agreement signing held last July 14.

The partnership focuses on a five-year industry-academe engagement through direct collaborations with colleges, development of curriculum that is aligned with research and development goals of the university and to provide internship and employment opportunities.

Also included in the agreement is the establishment of AKP Research and Development Center, where two (2) Flywheel Energy Storage Units will be used for as study educational and research activities.

Attendees from DLSU were Br. Bernard Oca FSC, President; Dr. Jonathan Dungca, Vice President for Laguna Campus and Dean of the School of Innovation and Sustainability; Dr. Roy Francis Navea, Assistant Dean for Research and External Affairs.

Amber Kinetics Philippines, Inc. representatives included Mr. Edgard Magpantay, Global Vice President for Supply Chain, and Mr. Xavier Broncano, Program Manager.



A Celebration of Lasallian Women in STEM

Dr. Charlle Sy: Embracing Uncertainties to Transform Decision-Making

Meet Dr. Charlle Sy, Chair and full professor in the Industrial and Systems Engineering Department of De La Salle University. A holder of BS-MS Industrial Engineering from DLSU and PhD in Industrial & Systems Engineering from the National University of Singapore, her work on the algorithmic framework, Target-Oriented Robust Optimization (TORO), has earned her recognition as a nominee for the prestigious ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women.

Sy's TORO framework is a transformative approach that integrates uncertainty into decision-making processes, yielding robust solutions for complex challenges. As she explained, "TORO considers uncertainty at the point of decision-making, ensuring solutions that can withstand unintended events." This emphasis on uncertainty ensures that TORO-designed solutions remain resilient even in dynamic and unpredictable environments.

As an example of TORO's utility, TORO was recently used for a micro hydro project in Barangay Parina in Calanasan, Apayao. Sy said, "In micro hydro, there are lots of uncertainties. We do not know how strong the river will be. So for all of these planning decisions, TORO can actually facilitate. It works well with planning problems because it allows you to make decisions knowing that certain things would not happen as expected." By considering factors such as river flow variability, TORO designs adaptable and

resilient solutions over time, revolutionizing the field of renewable energy.

Empowering Women in STEM

The ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women, established in 2014, is aimed at advancing gender equality in science and technology. The Prize is a collaborative effort between the United States Government and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Its primary goal is to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of female scientists in the ASEAN region, while also promoting gender equality and inspiring more women to pursue careers in STEM fields. With women representing only 30 percent of the world's researchers, the significance of recognizing women scientists like Sy is more important than ever.

When asked about her initial reaction upon learning about her nomination for the 2023 ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women, Sy shared, "At first, obviously, there was the shock factor. Then honored, grateful, and overwhelmed— these are the three emotions I felt when I learned about the news because I am not really used to getting recognized for the things I do."

With the Prize recognizing female scientists as role models for others pursuing careers in STEM, she expressed hope that more women would embrace STEM and recognize

their potential in driving innovation and solving global challenges. "Diversity is key to innovation, and women should realize that there is room for them in STEM. It is not a man's world anymore."

She also encouraged young people to take more chances: "I did not reach this far because of not taking chances. I took chances. There are defeats. It is really just putting yourself out there."

When asked about her vision for the impact of her work and nomination, Sy pointed out: "I hope that it brings to light the importance of STEM in solving today's problems. If we invest in scientists, we could solve a lot of today's problems and get more opportunities for growth." **(by Ezekiel Wilson Doromal)**



“To touch the hearts of your students is the greatest miracle you can perform.”

De La Salle

Med 139.3—feast of St. Peter

De La Salle University Manila Campus Teaching Laboratories

DLSU recently inaugurated 34 facilities that support student-centered learning, research, and other collaborative activities.



St. Miguel

- 5 Water Laboratories
- 3 Soil Laboratories
- 1 Intelligent Systems Laboratory
- 1 Center for Engineering and Sustainable Development Research
- 1 CE Specialization Laboratory
- 1 CE Transportation Laboratory
- 2 ECE Thesis Rooms



Science and Technology Research Center

- 1 CE Structural Laboratory
- 1 Meeting Room
- 2 Mixing Laboratories



St. Joseph Hall

- 4 Comparative Anatomy Laboratories
- 1 General Biology Laboratory
- 2 Physics Laboratories
- 3 Chemistry Laboratories



Gokongwei Hall

- 3 Computer Laboratories
- 1 Advanced Research Institute for Informatics, Computing and Networking (AdRIC)



Velasco Hall

- 2 Computer Laboratories

Source: Project Management Office



2401 (twe'n'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.

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2401 may be accessed online through the URL: <http://www.dlsu.edu.ph>.