



Senate recognizes DLSU for research efforts on education reform

The Senate of the Philippines has commended De La Salle University for its contributions to help improve the state of education in the country through its partnership with the Second Congressional Commission on Education or EDCOM II, which celebrated its first anniversary last January 23.

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Senate recognizes DLSU, from Page 1

In a resolution adopted by the upper chamber and co-sponsored by all 24 members of the Senate during its second session held on the same day, DLSU was recognized for its “laudable act of entering into a research partnership agreement with EDCOM II and supporting our aim of improving the quality of Philippine education.”

DLSU Provost Dr. Robert Roleda, together with Academician, Distinguished University Professor, and University Fellow Dr. Allan B.I. Bernardo, and several research fellows represented DLSU during the Senate commendation.

EDCOM II is a national commission undertaking a three-year comprehensive assessment and evaluation of the performance of the education sector. DLSU signed a Memorandum of Agreement with EDCOM II last June 2023.

Under the MOA, the University will submit research inputs for EDCOM II; submit concept notes/research proposals from researcher fellows that will be vetted by the EDCOM II Advisory Council and Technical

Secretariat and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies; organize and set up research teams that will respond to the policy questions of EDCOM II; and produce policy papers that EDCOM II and DLSU shall co-publish.

These are several DLSU priority research areas for EDCOM II, which include bullying in Philippine schools, among them: a) mapping the regions where bullying is most rampant; b) characterizing these hotspots; c) reviewing factors associated with bullying among Filipino students; d) policy development related to addressing bullying; and e) proposals for a framework for safe and supportive school environment.

Other DLSU studies look into the following areas: curriculum congestion in basic education; availability of infrastructure for tech-mediated learning resources in developing foundational and digital literacy; professional development programs for Filipino teachers; career destination and labor market outcomes of teacher education graduates; and factors that shape the research productivity of Philippine higher education institutions.



The DLSU team working on EDCOM II led by Dr. Allan B.I. Bernardo (5th from left), together with Provost Dr. Robert Roleda (6th from left), receive the recognition at the Senate.

2023 Universitas Indonesia GreenMetric World University Ranking

With its inclusion in the 2023 Universitas Indonesia GreenMetric World University Ranking (UI GreenMetric WUR), De La Salle University has maintained its standing as one of the region’s Sustainable Universities.

DLSU is among the top 31% of HEIs out of 1,183 school-entries based on the following Sustainability criteria: Education and Research, Transportation, Water, Waste, Setting and Infrastructure, and Energy and Climate Change. The University also placed high among the ten top-ranked greenest Philippine campuses based on the same list and year.





DLSU receives Agora “Marketing School of the Year”

The 42nd Agora Awards recognized De La Salle University as “Marketing School of the Year” in ceremonies held in Bonifacio Global City last January 19.

In a *Manila Times* column, Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business faculty member Noel Sajid Murad enumerated the efforts initiated by the Department of Marketing and Advertising which were presented to Agora Award jurors.

Murad highlighted the department programs that were aligned with the University and college’s sustainability-oriented direction, particularly partnering with United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education (UN PRME) to help achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Murad also reported that the department has incorporated various opportunities in their syllabi that allow students to work with NGOs and vulnerable sectors of society. It likewise made steps to allow students to present their research papers in international conferences to raise the University’s productivity index. The department also increased doctoral

degree holders among their faculty along with publications in Scopus-indexed journals.

He furthered: “Through the DLSU Center for Business Research and Development (CBRD), headed by Dr. Luz Suplico-Jeong.. and the Marketing and Advertising Research Sub-Center (MARS) headed by Assistant Professor Nelson Guillen, Jr., we offer consultancy services to SMEs to help their business thrive.”

The Agora Awards is an annual recognition program run by the Philippine Marketing Association.

Top photo:
The RVR COB team led by Dean Dr. Emilina Sarreal.

Right photo:
Dr. Rayan Dui , chair of the Department of Marketing and Advertising, accepts the award on behalf of DLSU.



La Salle, Gourmet Farms ink partnership on Coffee Science program

Pushing for the development of the local coffee industry, De La Salle University through its La Salle Food and Water Institute has introduced the country’s first multidisciplinary elective on coffee in collaboration with Gourmet Farms.

DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and Vice President for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan, together with Gourmet Farms Chairman and Founder Ernest Escaler and Special Projects Director Roldan Capito, signed a Memorandum of Agreement and Deed of Donation last January 6 in Silang, Cavite.

The 10-year partnership involves the further development of the pioneering program under the Department of Chemistry, open to all students in the university.

The elective, centered on the chemistry of coffee, involves a multidisciplinary approach to addressing issues, research gaps, and concerns surrounding coffee. An endowment fund was also established to support activities that would also serve the public interest, particularly the actors involved in the coffee value chain.

An integral part of the agreement is setting up

a laboratory specifically for coffee experiments and classes. The laboratory features state-of-the-art coffee-making and coffee sensory equipment for roasting, brewing, and espresso-making, as well as physico-chemical devices and apparatuses.

Dr. Mel Garcia, Chemistry professor, director of the La Salle Food and Water Institute, and chairperson of the Philippine Coffee Guild, shared that the program is a product of years of working and exchanging notes with members of the coffee industry and is aimed at responding to the clamor of these industry actors.



From L-R: Gourmet Farms Special Projects Director Roldan Capito, Chairman and Founder Ernest Escaler together with DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and Vice President for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan during the MOU signing in Silang, Cavite.

GCOE faculty, fellow academics establish Asia-Europe for AI Network

Gokongwei College of Engineering
Department of Manufacturing
Engineering and Management faculty member Dr. Robert Billones co-founded the Asia-Europe for Artificial Intelligence (AE4AI) Network launched by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Shanghai, China recently.

The AE4AI Network was formed at the 4th ASEF Higher Education Innovation Laboratory (ASEFInnoLab4), co-organized by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and Fudan University in Shanghai, China on October 23-28, 2023.

Discussing the role of universities in AI innovation ecosystems, 20 academics and managers of higher education institutions (HEIs) co-created a joint statement at the

launch of the AE4AI Network.

The HEI representatives noted the immense potentials of AI alongside the risks and challenges that have manifested with the transition from Narrow Intelligence to Generative AI. Pushing for a global perspective, they underscored the need for a robust collaboration among different stakeholders of HEIs in Asia and Europe.

Their joint statement laid down sets of guiding aspirations, principles, and actions on AI Governance, AI in Education, and AI for Sustainable Development.

Billones will be working as the Asia coordinator for the working group on AI Governance together with Dr. Lampros Stergiolas,



Dr. Robert Billones

UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence and Data Science for Society; The Hague University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands; Prof. Raphael Weuts, Visiting Professor of Artificial Intelligence at UC Leuven, Belgium; and Katerina Cernavska of the Riga Business School, Latvia.

For the joint statement, click here: <https://bit.ly/GCOEAINetwork>



Sociology prof represents PHL in waste experts congress

DLSU faculty member Dr. Marlon Era, chair and associate professor of the Department of Sociology and Behavioral Sciences (DSBS) and concurrent president of Solid Waste Management Association of the Philippines (SWAPP), presented his paper at the ISWA World Congress 2023 in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman held from October 30-November 1.

ISWA, which stands for International Solid Waste Association, is an international network of waste professionals and experts from around the world whose mission is “to promote and develop sustainable and professional waste management worldwide and the transition to a circular economy.”

With the theme “Global Action Towards a Net-zero Future”, the Congress focused on areas such as climate change, circular economy, new technologies, good governance and inclusion, and occupational health and safety in the waste sector.

Era presented his paper entitled: “Utilizing Social and Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) in Improving Solid Waste Management



Dr. Marlon Era

Implementation in selected cities of Metro Manila, Philippines”. On the same occasion, SWAPP was confirmed by the ISWA General Assembly as the National Member of the Philippines starting January 1 this year.

SWAPP is one of the NGO representatives of the National Solid Waste Management Commission of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as part of the implementation of the Extended Producers Responsibility Law, which is an amendment of RA 9003 Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2001.

CLA holds talks with foreign universities

In line with its globalization thrust, the DLSU College of Liberal Arts (CLA) conducted exploratory meetings with representatives of four international universities and a foreign policy community, who visited the Manila campus from October to December last year.

The meetings were conducted under the auspices of the CLA Dean, Dr. Rhoderick Nuncio, and the CLA Assistant Dean for External Affairs and Lasallian Mission, Dr. Jose Victor Jimenez.

In a meeting with Dr. Helen Sullivan, Dean of the College of Asia and the Pacific of The Australian National University (CAP-ANU) and Dr. Bjoern Dressel, associate professor and director of the ANU Philippines Institute last October 23, the CLA team discussed potential areas of cooperation at the undergraduate and graduate levels, including a possible partnership with the Crawford School of Public Policy.

Last November 24, CLA administrators and faculty delved into a potential collaboration between DLSU CLA and Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts in Kyoto, Japan. They welcomed Prof. Namie Saeki, director of the Division of International Affairs and Professor of the Department of International Studies, and Prof. Lisa Rogers of the Department of Social Systems Studies. They discussed faculty and student exchanges as well as short-term joint student online and in-person projects.

Another collaborative meeting was held on December 11, with a delegation from the Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY) led by Dr. Idham Badruzaman, head of the International Relations Office, Office of Cooperation and International Affairs, and lecturer of the International Relations Department, Faculty of Social and Political Science. He was joined by Dr. Fitriah Suud, secretary of the Doctoral Program in Islamic Political Psychology, Jihan Chandra, and Aurellia Nindy.

They talked about the scholarship opportunities for DLSU undergraduate and graduate students and preparations for a double degree program.

Likewise, representatives from the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia (FPCI) visited on December 11 for a discussion of its project, the Southeast Asia Lecture Hall. Khanid Rachmadia Nova Putri, FPCI Partnership and Project Administration officer, and Cindy Annemarie Mandagi, program manager of the Southeast Asia Lecture Hall, talked about potential collaboration in organizing conferences and DLSU participating in the upcoming surveys by the Southeast Asia Lecture.

Meanwhile, members of the CLA Department of History met with Thammasat University representatives last December 20 to discuss plans for a joint student exchange program. Dr. Piemsak Hongjamrassilp, coordinator of the Philippines Studies Program of Thammasat University, accompanied a group of five students who have enrolled in courses related to the Philippines.



“ Fulfil your ministry with all the affection of your heart. ”

De La Salle

-MTR 9.1 (Med 201.1)

ANIMO INTELLIGENCE AY 2023-2024 Scholars' Recognition Event

January 24, 2024, Henry Sy, Sr. Hall

54

Total number of new scholars under DLSU's flagship scholarship programs (AY 2023-2024), composed of the following:

15

Star Scholars

The Star Scholars Program is the country's most comprehensive scholarship program, providing some of the country's best and brightest students full scholarship from undergraduate to graduate studies and close mentorship by University Fellows, among others.

1

Gokongwei Grantee

Provided by the Gokongwei Brothers Foundation, this scholarship is offered to exemplary students of the Gokongwei College of Engineering.

8

Vaugirard Scholars

This scholarship is offered to outstanding graduates of public high schools.

30

Archer Achievers

Recipients of this scholarship program are among those who topped the DLSU College Admission Test.

Source: Office of Admissions and Scholarships



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.

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>.