### THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY



Volume 55 • Number 09 • 14 February 2023









## DLSU, CIT-U, BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXPLORE KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIP

IN AN EFFORT TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, De La Salle University hosted a dinner reception for the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce last January 30. The event was dubbed as "Knowledge Partnerships for Sustainable Development."

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce delegation led by President Randy Peers was on an official trade mission in the Philippines. Other key attendees were Consul General of the Philippine Consulate in New York Senen Mangalile, Cebu Institute of Technology–University President Engr. Bernard Nicolas Villamor, Toon City Animation, Inc. President and CEO Miguel Del Rosario, Maharlika Investment Corporation President and CEO Rafael Jose Consing Jr., DLSU Board of Trustees, university administrators, business leaders, media, and alumni.

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Lasallian alumnus Dingdong Avanzado and his band rendered musical numbers while fellow Lasallian Marybeth Nave emceed the gathering.

In his message, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC highlighted the University's aim to contribute to the localization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through data-driven solutions under the SDG City partnership. He then invited the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to explore possible areas of collaboration with universities in the Philippines, which provide a rich source of talent and expertise for sustainable growth.

"In an ecosystem of co-production and knowledge partnership, DLSU, CIT-U, and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce can pursue joint initiatives such as the establishment of innovation hubs, implementation of collaborative research projects, the conduct of internship programs, provision of support for start-ups, and forging of strategic partnerships between scientific experts and entrepreneurs," he said.

Held at the Pardo Hall of the Manila campus of DLSU, the event was co-organized by Cebu Institute of Technology-University, SDG City Lab Director Dr. Francisco Magno, New York-based community advocate and alumnus Roberto Dumaual, and the Office of the Vice President for External Linkages and Internationalization.

#### **GCOE FACULTY MEMBER RECEIVES AWARD FROM HITACHI GLOBAL FOUNDATION**

ENGR. ISIDRO MARFORI III, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING OF THE GOKONGWEI **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING,** received the Encouragement Award in The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award 2023.

He was cited for his research project, "Open-source hydro technology-A small scale hydro technology in the Philippines free for all," which can be implemented with minimal skills and tools for rural communities that still have no access to electricity.

> The award recognizes Marfori's achievement in research and development and encourages the implementation of the technology in society with the aim of contributing to the SDGs. The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award was launched in 2020 to promote science, technology, and innovation and contribute to solving social issues and realizing a sustainable society in the

ASEAN region.

The Office of Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization facilitated DLSU's participation in this initiative.

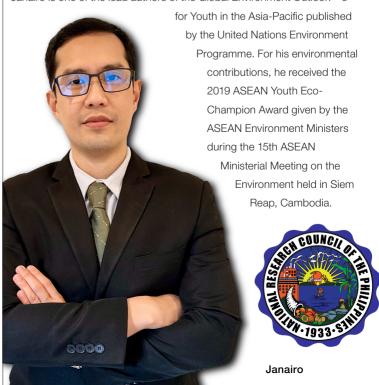
Marfori

#### NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF NRCP JOURNAL

DR. JOSE ISAGANI JANAIRO, FULL PROFESSOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY, was elected as the new Editor-In-Chief of National Research Council of the Philippines' the NRCP Research Journal.

Each of the 13 NRCP Divisions has appointed editorial board members for the journal, and from among these appointed editors, Janairo was selected for the post through an election.

Janairo is one of the lead authors of the Global Environment Outlook - 6





# MOA WITH DIOCESE OF BOAC EXTENDS GRAD PROGRAMS TO MARINDUQUE TEACHERS

**DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BOAC, MARINDUQUE** entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) providing for advanced educational opportunities to Marinduque's teachers through specialized graduate programs offered by the Br.

Andrew Gonzalez FSC College of Education (BAG CED).

Joining them are University administrators and faculty.

The partnership was formalized last January 23 at the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall, with DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and Bishop Marcelino Antonio Maralit, Jr. signing for their respective institutions. BAG CED Dean Dr. John Addy Garcia and Fr. Martin Puertollano, Jr., a parish priest of the Diocese, served as witnesses.

The graduate programs will cover relevant education courses, addressing the specific needs of Marinduque's educators. These

programs aim to equip teachers with advanced pedagogical techniques, leadership skills, and subject-specific expertise, eliminating geographical barriers to make higher education more accessible.

The collaboration envisions academic enrichment and the creation of a supportive learning environment, fostering collaboration among teachers. DLSU will leverage its faculty's expertise to deliver high-quality instruction, considering the unique challenges and opportunities in Marinduque.

DLSU and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boac anticipate that this innovative approach to extending graduate programs will serve as a model for similar collaborations between academic institutions and other dioceses.

## PRC RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING DLSU PROFS

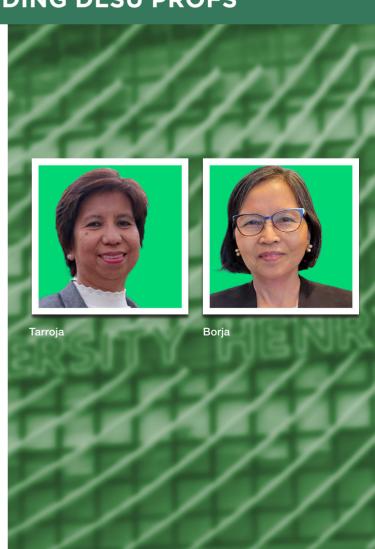
DLSU FACULTY MEMBERS RECENTLY RECEIVED RECOGNITION FROM THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS.

In the field of Psychology, Dr. Maria Caridad Tarroja, professor at the Department of Psychology, was presented with the PRC 2023 Outstanding Professional of the Year Award last December 10.

Tarroja is a former director of the DLSU Social Development Research Center. She is a licensed Clinical Psychologist, and a certified Assessment and Clinical Psychologist of the Psychological Association of the Philippines.

Last November 30, Dr. Josephine Borja of the Department of Chemical Engineering received the Professional Regulatory Board of Chemical Engineering Recognition Award and the PRC Service Award.

Borja has been involved in various research projects in the area of hazardous waste treatment and production of bioethanol. She is also very active in the Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers (PIChE). She is one of the advisers of the Metro Manila Academe Chapter and is a member of PIChE College of Fellows Governing Council.



# DLSU, SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGISTS HOST MEETING ON POLYCULTURALISM IN ASIA-PACIFIC

FOCUSING ON THE THEME. "UNDERSTANDING POLYCULTURALISM ACROSS SOCIETIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC", the Asian Association of Social Psychology held a small group meeting on the DLSU Manila campus last February 1-3.

Hosted by the DLSU Department of Psychology, the three-day meeting was joined by representatives from the Philippines, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, the United Kingdom, Australia, and North America.

The meeting was aimed at developing active research on polyculturalism in the Asia-Pacific by bringing researchers with shared interests together for a dialogue and scholarly exchange.

The keynote presentations were: "The Fate of Cultural Borrowing: Diversity Ideologies and Accusations of Cultural Appropriation" by Prof. Melody Chao, associate professor at the Department of Management and associate director of undergraduate studies at the HKUST Business School, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; "'妈妈, I miss you ': Emotional Multilingual Practices in Transnational Families" by Prof. Xiao Lan Curdt-Christiansen, professor in Applied Linguistics at the Department of Education, University of Bath, UK: and "Diversity Ideology And Music Collaboration: Insights into the Community-Diversity Dialectic" by community psychologist Trisna Fraser. Academician, Distinguished University Professor, and University Fellow Dr. Allan B. I. Bernardo presented his research on "Dual Implications of the Polyculturalist Ideology on Intercultural Relations: Distinguishing between Mutualist and Asymmetrical Polyculturalism."



the Asian Association of Social Psychology.

# **SECOND PLACE IN PAES 2023 STUDENT ENGINEERING DESIGN CONTEST**

A TEAM OF DLSU STUDENTS BAGGED THE SECOND PRIZE AT THE 2023 STUDENT ENGINEERING DESIGN CONTEST by the Philippine Association of Engineering Schools for their thesis, "PnP MEDER: A Plug-and-Play P2P Modular DC Microgrid Solution for Rural Areas" held recently.

Mentored by faculty member Engr. Jose Antonio Catalan from the Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering, the team composed of ECE majors include Angelo Casimiro, Lois Raniel Closa, Juan Miguel Sanchez, and Pierre Randell Yao. They received a certificate of recognition and a cash prize of P15,000.

The study focuses on addressing the challenge of providing electricity to rural areas by developing a plug-and-play remote DC microgrid system called PnP-MEDER. The system incorporates modular components that can be easily configured to meet various electrification needs.

Unlike existing microgrid solutions, PnP-MEDER allows individuals to join a peer-to-peer microgrid pool, enhancing affordability and system reconfiguration based on specific requirements. The study highlights the advantages of the PnP-MEDER system.

With its features that encourage individuals to participate in the implementation, the PnP-MEDER system aims to empower microgrid communities and optimize DER utilization. It ultimately seeks to contribute to the efforts of sustainable development and improvement of energy access in rural regions.



Photo Credit: PAES Facebook Page

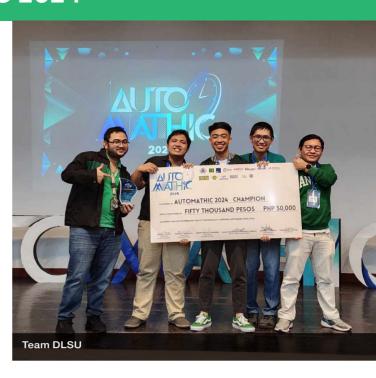
## **CHAMPIONS IN AUTOMATHIC 2024**

GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS EMERGED AS
CHAMPIONS in AutoMATHic 2024: A National Intercollegiate Mathematics
Quiz Contest.

Hosted by the University of the Philippines Civil Engineering Society, the national intercollegiate mathematics quiz was held last February 10 at University of the Philippines, Los Baños.

Team DLSU is composed of Jan Joshua Cruz (ChE), Edric Castel Hao (CpE), Mark Lawrence Velasco (ECE). Faculty members Engr. Dino Dominic Ligutan and Engr. Jose Martin Maningo served as their coaches.

AutoMATHic 2024 featured engineering students from more than 30 universities and colleges nationwide. The competition aims to foster analytical and critical thinking skills by adapting elite-level mathematical concepts.



# DLSU LAGUNA CAMPUS UPDATE



THE DLSU LAGUNA CAMPUS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED ITS BIKE-SHARING PROGRAM, Padyak Lasalyano last January 22, making eco-friendly and convenient transportation for students, faculty, and staff.

Padyak Lasalyano provides bicycles for those who need to navigate between the different facilities within the Laguna campus, while promoting a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

At the same time, members of the community are encouraged to bring their own bicycles when commuting to campus. Through this initiative, DLSU Laguna Campus seeks to foster a sense of shared responsibility for environmental well-being, and towards reducing reliance on cars and contributing to a cleaner and healthier campus community.

Bike stations are located at the Milagros R. Del Rosario Building and George S. K. Ty Advanced Instrumentation Building.

Show much kindness and love for the young people you teach. 33

Med. 107.1, Feast of St. Matthias

# **FACTS and FIGURES**

# 12TH ANNUAL PILLAR OF LASALLIAN EDUCATORS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

26 January 2024

St. Jean Baptiste de La Salle
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award
Dr. Diving Amalin

St. Miguel Febres Cordero
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award in Research
Dr. Aileen Orbecido

St. Benilde Romancon
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award in Teaching
Roger Luis Uy

St. Jaime Hilario
Pillar of Lasallian Excellence Award in Community Engagement
Dr. David Michael San Juan

#### MOST PRODUCTIVE IN RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS

## **Science and Technology Cluster**

Biology (big department)

Manufacturing Engineering and Management (small department)

### **Business and Social Sciences Cluster**

Psychology (big department)
International Studies (small department)

### **Education and Humanities Cluster**

Theology and Religious Education (big department)
Filipino (small department)

Source: Office of the Provost



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.