



La Salle earns patent for new method of creating a chemical compound

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY HAS EARNED ITS 16TH GRANTED PATENT WITH AN INVENTION IN THE FIELD OF CHEMISTRY by Full Professor and Central Instrumentation Facility Director Dr. Drexel Camacho and his student, PhD student Jose Paolo Bantang, who is now a full-time faculty of the Department of Chemistry.

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The patent titled: "Method of making Potassium Sulfate from Carrageenan" was granted this year by IPOPHL, 5 years after it was applied in 2018. The patent remains in effect until October 9, 2038, with the life of a patent spanning 20 years from filing.

Carrageenan is a polysaccharide extracted from seaweeds and is economically important as it is used in a lot of consumer product formulations. Potassium sulfate is dominantly used as fertilizer for crops and is used as a salt substitute.

According to the study, the method of making potassium sulfate includes "subjecting an aqueous carrageenan mixture to hydrothermal carbonization inside a pressure vessel to produce a potassium sulfate sludge, filtering the potassium sulfate sludge to obtain a potassium sulfate filtrate, drying the potassium sulfate filtrate to produce a potassium sulfate residue, and washing the potassium sulfate residue, followed by drying to obtain potassium sulfate."

"The discovery of the novel process is somewhat serendipitous when Dr. Bantang, who was then a PhD student at that time, was working on carrageenan and observed a white powder precipitate. Upon characterization with SEM-EDS, XRD, and Raman spectroscopy, the identity was confirmed as potassium sulfate in the form of $K_3H(SO_4)_2$. The process is a sustainable, simple, and robust technique that utilizes

a renewable starting material, producing a compound that is useful in agriculture as fertilizers or in industries as salt," Camacho shared.

As of February 2024, DLSU has 3 international patent applications via the Patent Cooperation Treaty, 2 of which were converted into 8 foreign patent applications (4 per international patent application) in the US, Singapore, Vietnam, and South Korea. One foreign patent was granted in Singapore. Additionally, DLSU has 35 local patents (17 granted, 18 pending) and 8 granted local utility models, 2 of which have expired.



Camacho

DLSU SYNERGIZES WITH DLS-CSB FOR BENILDE OPEN DESIGN + ART COMPETITION

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY TEAMS UP WITH DE LA SALLE-COLLEGE OF SAINT BENILDE IN MOUNTING THE "BENILDE OPEN DESIGN + ART,"

an initiative that opens an opportunity for Filipino creatives to bring to fruition their unrealized projects.

Benilde Open is among the initiatives of DLS-CSB on its 35th year celebrations. DLSU supports this unique and first-of-its-kind initiative as it seeks to contribute to developing positive enablers in the creative industries in the country.

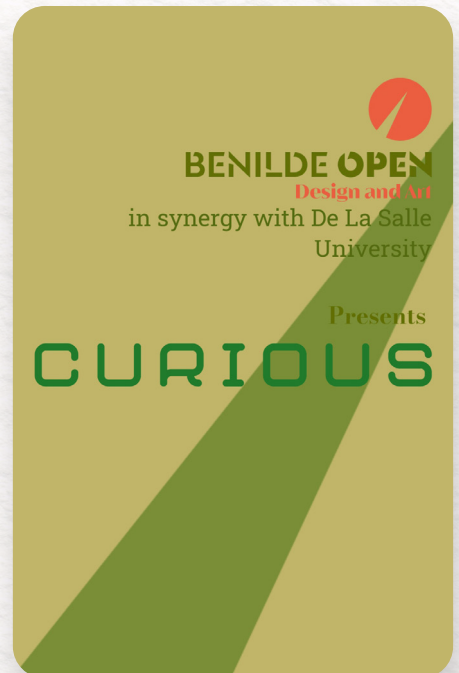
"The partnership redounds to the benefit not only of the two academic communities, but also to the realization of the immense potential of Filipino creative professionals and put them on the map, not only nationally but globally as well," DLS-CSB

President Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC said.

Benilde Open has sought unique and innovative proposals that cut across and cross-pollinate the arts, science, technology and even business. Up to 10 projects will receive up to P300,000 in grants.

DLSU and DLS-CSB will coordinate in mounting the appropriate works of the chosen grantees. The University will also support the Benilde Open 3D exhibition on the facade of the St. La Salle Hall of the Manila campus.

The succeeding events of the Benilde Open include a major show of the Swiss artist Heidi Bucher, the Benilde Open exhibition of grantees' works, and workshops with the jury and creative professionals, among others.



FAIRWORK PROJECT HOSTS VISITORS FROM MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG



WHAT SHOULD LABOR PLATFORMS CHANGE TO MAKE WORK CONDITIONS BETTER?

This was among the many questions addressed during a visit to DLSU by faculty and students of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg on February 15.

Dr. Boris Michel, professor of Digital Geography of the University's Institute for Geoscience and Geography, and research associate Michael Keizers led a group of 20 students from both the Bachelor and Master levels to meet with experts from politics, academia, and civil society and discuss urban geography and urban development in Metro Manila.

Specifically, they expressed interest in the Social Development Research Center study "Fairwork Philippines: Towards Fair Labor Conditions in the Philippine Platform Economy," headed by Department of Communication professor Dr. Cheryl Ruth Soriano.

The study, now completing its second year, examines whether labor platforms operating in the Philippines facilitate fair labor arrangements for workers and in what ways, while also interrogating the global conditions and labor regimes that give rise to them and that surround their future viability. Soriano was joined by Fairwork project manager Margreta Medina during the presentation of the study.

The group discussed with members of the National Union of Food Delivery Riders (RIDERS-SENTRO), national spokesperson John Jay Chan, and organizers Mary Rose Evardone from San Fernando and Mark Larson from Angeles, Pampanga.

DLSU College of Liberal Arts Assistant Dean for External Affairs and Lasallian Mission Dr. Jose Victor Jimenez and SDRC Director Dr. Homer Yabut welcomed the participants and expressed interest in future collaborations with the research group.

BAG CED Vice Dean receives Fulbright Advanced Research and University Lecturing Program Award

THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BOARD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED

that Br. Andrew Gonzalez FSC College of Education Associate Dean Dr. Rochelle Irene Lucas has been selected as a principal recipient of the Fulbright Advanced Research and University Lecturing Program award in Columbia University New York during Academic Year 2024-2025.

According to the PAEF, Lucas was chosen for her impressive academic and professional accomplishments. As a representative of the Philippines, she "can help fulfill the principal purpose of the Fulbright Program, to increase

mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and the Philippines using educational and cultural exchanges."

A faculty member of the Department of English and Applied Linguistics, Lucas has published, presented, and conducted research on psycholinguistics, bilingualism, language learning in children, motivation, alternative assessment, language documentation, and discourse analysis.

She is a member of the Board of the Linguistics Society of the Philippines (LSP) and the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL). She has served as the Philippine secretariat

of the Resource Distribution and Training Centre (RDTC) UNESCO Bangkok. She has been appointed as Field Contributor for Ethnologue (Languages of the World) Language Documentation website.



Lucas

UNIVERSITY, PARTNERS INTENSIFY FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT ON CAMPUS

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY AND ITS PARTNERS, THE WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE-PHILIPPINES AND THE SOILMATE COLLECTIVE INC., have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to intensify the University's Waste Management Program, specifically its Food Waste Management.

The University announced this development as it underscored its vision-mission as a leading university that is attuned to a sustainable Earth and supportive of the growing efforts to localize the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Signing the MOU were DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and the Director of the Sustainability Hub-Manila Joseph Rosal, for DLSU; World Wide Fund For Nature-Philippines Executive Director Katherine Custodio; and Chief Soilmate and President Catherina Papio.

The World Wide Fund For Nature-Philippines is implementing "SoilMate: A Systematic IT Solution to Food Waste Landfill Diversion through Composting" funded by WWF International, WWF-Switzerland, and WWF-United States. The platform is designed for the food service industry to divert food waste from landfills.

The Soilmate Collective Inc. is a private company that focuses on bokashi composting. Bokashi is a Japanese word that means "fermented organic matter." Soulmate Collective will collect all the food waste of the University for composting, which is a process of turning it into fertilizer.

DLSU eyes the start of the Implementation of the food waste collection by Term 2 of AY 2024-2025, with a plan of adopting this process for its other campuses in Laguna, BGC, and Lian in Batangas.



AnyWay, DLSU sign climate-resilience deal

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY AND ANYWAY SOLUTIONS, a global expert in providing climate-resilient solutions in the transport industry, have signed a memorandum of understanding to exchange knowledge on climate-adaptive infrastructure over the next five years.

DLSU and AnyWay agreed to understand, collaborate, and discuss specific programs to: identify opportunities for the exchange of faculty and research staff; identify other areas of possible research interest and collaboration;

and make faculty and students aware of the educational resources of both parties.

AnyWay and DLSU will work together to bring joint teaching opportunities to the students on various aspects of climate resiliency for transport infrastructure, including pavement design, pavement rehabilitation, low-volume road engineering, and rehabilitation and upgrading of road pavement structures through implementing techniques and technologies of soil stabilization to develop graduate research projects.

A mentorship program will also be established to continue research into these topics.

"As we look to the future of our industry workforce, programs like the ones we are embarking on with DLSU will prepare the next generation of engineers for the challenges ahead of them, specifically to benefit the Philippines and build local capacity." AnyWay CEO Zeevik Halber said.

FTK 2024 PACKS FUN AND SURPRISES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

THIS YEAR'S FOR THE KIDS (FTK), DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY'S MINI OLYMPICS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, returned to the University grounds last February 18, bringing together participants from 29 Special Education Centers from Metro Manila and neighboring cities, together with volunteer aates and kuyas.

On its 35th year, the FTK Program of the Center for Social Concern and Action (COSCA-LOVE) centered on the theme, "Elysia: Where Magic Unfolds" as it offered games and surprises to 285 kids with special needs.

Volunteers for the event included students, employees, and other members of the Lasallian community. COSCA-LOVE tapped Flowerstore.ph as co-presenter, Ferdi Trumperdi as major partner, and the following companies as minor sponsors: Biogenic Alcohol, NOAH Business Applications, and Bunny Banana.

Media partners were Edge TV, Diyaryo Milenyo, The LaSallian, The Animo, and student organizations including DLSU AIESEC, Dalubhasaan ng mga Umuusbong na Mag-aaral ng Araling Pilipinas (DANUM), Development Initiative, DLSU USG Commission on Audit, Google Developer Student Clubs - De La Salle University, and the Student Discipline Formation Office.



DLS Lipa partnership to promote Lasallian social entrepreneurship



DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY (DLSU) AND DE LA SALLE LIPA (DLSL) formalized a three-year memorandum of understanding (MoU) last February 20. The partnership involves the integration of social entrepreneurship into the curriculum, social engagement, and research agenda of DLSL through the Lasallian social entrepreneurship model of the LSEED Center.

The partnership is rooted in both institutions' joint dedication and vision to promote the advancement of the social enterprise sector in the academe.

Seated, from left: Dean Nerissa Lucasia of DLS-Lipa College of Business, Economics, Accountancy, and Management; DLS-Lipa Chancellor Dr. Erickson Martinez; DLSU Provost Dr. Robert Roleda; and DLSU Vice President for Lasallian Mission Fritzie Ian De Vera

Back row, from left: General Management Entrepreneurship Chair Dr. Marcielo Delica, and faculty members Dr. Joseph Angelou Ilagan Ng and Ms. Maria Theresa Magsino. Founding Director of LSEED Center Dr. Norby Salonga provided an overview of the partnership via Zoom.

“Ask Jesus for the grace needed to bring about the conversion of the hearts of those in your care.”

De La Salle

MTR 4:1

GAWAD SALIKSIK: OVPRI Research Recognition for Students and Faculty Members 2024



Faculty members who published with local & international collaborators in Scopus, WoS, ACI, or AGCPI listed Journals.



Students who published in Scopus, WoS, ACI, or AGCPI listed Journals.



Faculty members who completed externally-funded project/s.



Faculty members with accumulated Scopus papers.

Source: Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation



2401 (twen'te fôr'ô, 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.

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