



DLSU pursues educational access, innovation with DepEd Manila, QC

De La Salle University (DLSU) and the Department of Education – Schools Division Offices (SDOs) of the City of Manila and Quezon City formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enhance the accessibility, innovation, and responsiveness of education in the Philippines. The signing was held last May 5 at the DLSU Br. Andrew Gonzalez Hall.

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In his message, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC emphasized the significance of the partnership for the institutions, as well as for every student, teacher, and community who will benefit from this partnership. He pointed out that the partnership is “a testament to our shared commitment to building a stronger, brighter, and more inclusive future for all learners. Together, we aim to create learning environments where students can dream bigger, learn better, and achieve greater heights.”

Gracing the event were Dr. Nerissa Lomeda, CESE (Officer-in-Charge, Schools Division Superintendent and Chief Education Supervisor of the City of Manila) and Assistant Schools Division Superintendent Juan Obierna, CESO VI, who represented Dr. Carleen Sedilla, CESO V (Schools Division Superintendent of Quezon City). In their remarks, they echoed the spirit of collaboration, affirming that working hand-in-hand with DLSU amplifies the impact of their shared mission.

Testimonials from Erwin Apostol of the Eugenio Lopez Sr. Center for Media Arts Senior High School in Quezon City and Michelle Lozano of Florentino Torres High School from the City of Manila highlighted the positive outcomes of the ongoing collaboration with DLSU.

Also present during the signing were key DLSU administrators: Fritzie Ian de Vera (Vice President for Lasallian Mission), Dr. Rochelle Irene Lucas (dean of the Br. Andrew Gonzalez College of Education), and Juanito Alcazar (DLSU Center for Social Concern and Action director). Dr. Frederick Talaue, director of the Lasallian Institute for Development and Educational Research, served as the event host. (Source: COSCA)



Photo shows, from left: Juanito Alcazar, Virgilio Santos, Juan Obierna (representing Dr. Carleen Sedilla), Br. Bernie, Fritzie de Vera, Dr. Rochelle Lucas

Photo: COSCA FB

La Salle profs recognized in UPLB Gandingan Awards

DLSU faculty members from the Department of History and Br. Alfred Shields FSC Ocean Research Center (SHORE) were recognized in the 19th University of the Philippines - Los Baños (UPLB) Gandingan Awards held last April 26 in Los Baños, Laguna.

History professor Dr. Michael Charleston “Xiao” Chua was honored with the Ka Louie Tabing Memorial Achievement Award in Community Broadcasting.

Chua’s documentary, “Quezon City: The Birthplace of the Nation”, received the Gandingan ng Kasaysayan for the Quezon City Government.

The documentary traces the city’s significance from the Cry of Balintawak to the People Power Revolution. It was produced by the Quezon City Public Affairs and Information Services Department.

The award for Most Development-Oriented Science and Technology Program went to “Saribuhay”, a YouTube segment on the official channel of the DOST Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development.

An episode on the winning segment featured the ExPERT Project led by SHORE’s Dr. Wilfredo Licuanan and Giannina Nicole Feliciano, which examines the impacts of eutrophication on the reefs in Tubbataha.

The Gandingan Awards was organized by the Community Broadcasters’ Society of UPLB. The theme for this year was “Tagahabi ng Kasaysayan Para sa Bayan” (Weaving History for the Nation), which underscored the importance of accurate and factual reporting in the media.



Photo: Xiao Chua/FB

Chua



Licuanan

DLSU AND UP STRENGTHEN ACADEMIC COLLABORATION

De La Salle University (DLSU) signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of the Philippines (UP) to strengthen academic collaboration particularly in the areas of social entrepreneurship and service learning.

The two universities will develop joint initiatives and innovations in research, academic programs, and social engagement. Under the partnership, they will share resources and work together in the implementation of the projects.

Social entrepreneurship is an innovative approach that seeks to create a positive impact on individuals and communities through businesses aligned with sustainable development goals. Service Learning is an approach that allows students to apply the theories they learn from the class to real-world issues.

The MOU was signed by DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and UP President Atty. Angelo Jimenez at the Board of Regents Room of UP Diliman last May 2.

DLSU representatives who witnessed the signing were Vice President for Lasallian Mission Fritzie Ian De Vera, Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu, LSEED Center Director Dr. Norby Roque Salonga, and COSCA Director Juanito Alcazar.

Joining them were UP Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Leo DP Cubillan and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs (Curriculum and Instructions) Dr. Maria Theresa Payongayong. (Source: LSEED)



Chemical Engineering faculty to receive PAASE award

The Office of the Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization (OVPERI) has announced that Full Professor Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla of the Department of Chemical Engineering has been selected to receive the 2025 Severino and Paz Koh Lectureship Award for Engineering from the Philippine American Academy of Science and Engineering (PAASE)..

The prestigious award will be presented during the 45th Annual PAASE Meeting and Symposium (APAMS), hosted by the University of South Carolina - Columbia, SC, USA, on July 19-20, 2025.

PAASE through the Severino & Paz Koh Lectureship Awards in Science and Engineering recognizes outstanding scientific work by PAASE members in their field of discipline. As an annual tradition, the award recipients will deliver their lectures at the 2025 Annual PAASE Meeting and Symposium. (Source: GCOE)



Promentilla



BALIK SCIENTIST TO SHARE EXPERTISE ON SUSTAINABLE URBANISM, RESILIENT BUILDING

De La Salle University will once again serve as a host institution for another Balik Scientist Dr. Sheila Maria Conejos, currently an Associate Professor and Head of Programme at the Singapore University of Social Sciences, will collaborate with DLSU to share her expertise in sustainable urbanism, heritage conservation, and building maintainability in the Philippines from July 2025 to June 2026.

Conejos brings impressive academic credentials and global experience to this role. With a PhD in Sustainable Development and Architecture from Bond University and a Master’s in Urban Development Planning from the Asian Institute of Technology, she has established herself as a leader in the field.

Her professional journey includes research fellowships at the National University of Singapore and Hong Kong Polytechnic University, as well as practical experience as a principal architect and urban planner in the Philippines. Conejos has helped develop significant innovations including the AdaptSTAR scan, Design for Future Adaptation

and Disassembly (DFAD) Tool, and established the Sustainable Built Environment and Facilities Management Lab. She also serves on Singapore’s Technical Committee on Architectural Works and contributes to national standards development.

During her time at DLSU, Conejos will spearhead several initiatives focused on sustainable urbanism and resilient building practices. She will lead seminars on Building Pathology, Adaptation, and Circular Sustainable Facility Management, along with workshops on Building Diagnostics, Maintainability, and Circular Building Materials.

She will work closely with the Gokongwei College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering, and the Thermomechanical Analysis Laboratory (TALa), led by Dr. Aristotle Ubando. Her contributions will include support for a Department of Science and Technology funded project that explores solar powered wall systems designed to reduce indoor humidity and lower energy use in tropical climates. In addition, she will mentor graduate

students working on sustainable construction, energy efficient design, and data driven building management.

This collaboration aims to address the Philippines’ growing urbanization needs while preserving built heritage through climate-friendly approaches. Conejos will work with DLSU faculty to establish partnerships with local institutions across the country. The program will culminate in several academic publications and a comprehensive sustainability action plan for DLSU as a living laboratory, bridging the gap between academic research and practical applications for a more sustainable built environment in the Philippines.



Conejos



DLSU hosts DLSP Executive Course on Incident Command System

De La Salle University (DLSU), through its Center for Social Concern and Action (COSCA), hosted the Executive Course on Incident Command System (ICS) Training organized by De La Salle Philippines (DLSP) last May 7 at the Br. Andrew Gonzalez Hall.

The training was facilitated by resource persons from the Department of National Defense – Office of Civil Defense and was spearheaded by DLSP’s De La Salle Brothers Inc. - Social Action Unit (DLSBI-SAU), under the leadership of Deputy Director Mr. Andyo Abusmas. It was co-organized by the Lasallian Justice and Peace Commission (LJPC),

represented by its National Coordinator and DLSU Political Science faculty member, Gladstone Cuarteros.

Participants included representatives from the social action units as well as security, safety, and disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) offices of La Salle schools across the country. Racy Martin Del Rosario, DLSBI-SAU DRRM Program Officer, served as the overall event facilitator. (Source: COSCA)

GCOE Dean appointed to Elsevier Atlas Award Advisory Board

DLSU Gokongwei College of Engineering (GCOE) Dean Dr. Kathleen Aviso has been appointed as a member of the Elsevier Atlas Award Advisory Board. The Atlas Award is a prestigious recognition by Elsevier, awarded to the best papers aligned with each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Aviso will serve as a judge, responsible for the monthly selection of one SDG award from a shortlist of the top 20 papers worldwide, starting May 2025. Elsevier is a scientific publisher and data analytics company, with large databases of research papers including ScienceDirect and Scopus.

She succeeds University Fellow Dr. Anthony SF Chiu, who concurrently takes the role of DLSU Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization and Sustainability Adviser to the University President.

Chiu announced that he would also be stepping down from the UN International Resource Panel (UN IRP) after 10 years of dedicated service to the panel. A retirement ceremony will be held in his honor at UNEP in São Paulo, Brazil. (Source: OVPERI)



Aviso

SDRC joins BARMM Baseline Survey project

The DLSU Social Development Research Center (SDRC) participated in the project “Baseline Survey: Regular Survey on Basic and Important Justice and Human Rights Issues and Best Way of Reaching BARMM Communities/People.”

Directed and supervised by Dr. Crisanto Regadio, Jr., the project team includes researchers from SDRC and the Al Qalam Institute of the Ateneo de Davao University.

This initiative is funded by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in collaboration with the Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission (BHRC) and the Suporta sa Bangsamoro Transition (SUBATRA).

Among the project objectives are the following: 1) identify and understand justice and human rights issues in Bangsamoro communities; 2) gather community perspectives on access to justice and legal services; 3) assess the effectiveness of current outreach methods; 4) promote meaningful engagement in the legal system; and 5) support policy development to strengthen justice and human rights in the BARMM.

The study includes courtesy calls and key informant interviews with stakeholders, highlighting collaborative efforts to uphold human dignity, justice, and rights in the Bangsamoro region. (Source: SDRC)



It is in the company of Jesus
“ that you work for the glory of God. ”

De La Salle

-Med 78.2

EHEMPLO 2025: The Lasallian Immersion Experience

From April 21 to 27, 2025, the Center for Social Concern and Action facilitated EHEMPLO 2025, which immersed students in a partner community in Luisiana, Laguna. The activity introduced them to members of the Luisiana Cacao Growers Producers Cooperative, with the aim of introducing them to service-learning as well as Lasallian formation.

PARTICIPANTS

DLSU undergraduate students **19**

Faculty member **1**

Co-academic Personnel **2**

PARTNER COMMUNITY

Luisiana Cacao Growers
Producers Cooperative

7 ACTIVITIES

- Creation of Cacao n' Cream polvoron using waste materials of cacao fruit
- Lala (Pandan Weaving) workshop with teens and storytelling with kids
- Lala documentary to highlight the culture (in progress)
- Infographics on the different types of cacao
- AVP of our partner community, Luisiana Cacao Grower Producers Cooperative (LCGPC)
- Documentary of Cacao growers (in progress)
- Organizational Chart with photoshoot for our partner community



Source: Center for Social Concern and Action



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>.