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The event featured keynote and plenary presentations, panel discussions, and workshops led by various local and international resource persons.

Headlining the event were three keynote speakers: Dr. Romulo de Castro, a Balik Scientist, director for the Center for Informatics at the University of San Agustin, and consultant at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Nuclear Medicine Diagnostic Imaging (NMDI) Section; Dr. Peta White, co-director at the Center for Regenerating Futures and associate professor at Deakin University; and Dr. Miguel Rapatan, associate professor at the Department of Communication at DLSU.

de Castro, who has extensive background in biochemistry, genetics, neuroscience, and data science, shared about his work focusing on underserved communities. White likewise shared her experiences as a long-term activist and practitioner in the field of environmental education. Rapatan talked about the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) in reshaping research practices across disciplines and educational levels.

The conference also featured a lineup of plenary speakers: one of them was Mary Brydon-Miller, a professor at the University of Louisville Department of Educational Leadership, Evaluation, and Organizational Development, College of Education and Human Development. She shared insights about her continuing work as a participatory action researcher in school and community settings.

Dr. Syafiq Mat Noor from University College London, a Climate Change Education lecturer, guided the participants in reflecting on the critical intersection between traditional (indigenous) ecological knowledge and schooling practices.

Dr. Decibel Faustino-Eslava, professor at the University of the Philippines School of Environmental Science and Management and a Lead Researcher for Action for Climate Change, explored approaches to mainstreaming climate education into the overall education goals, with due consideration of current limitations and challenges.

Workshops were also conducted by Dr. Jennifer Tan-de Ramos, the ESTA (Educating Science Teachers for All) Team, Dr. Raymund Vitorio, Dr. Jeane Peracullo, Dr. Christine Joy Ballada and Dr. Marife Mamauag, Dr. J. Aleta Villanueva, and Dr. Denis Dyvee Errabo.

LA SALLE PROFESSORS AMONG BEST SCIENTISTS LIST

THREE DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS - ALL MEMBERS OF DLSU'S DISTINGUISHED SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

—are included in Research.com's World's Best Scientists in their respective fields.



PROF. ALLAN B.I. BERNARDO
NAST Academician and TWAS Fellow, is ranked No. 2 in the list of outstanding scientists in the field of Psychology in the Philippines.



PROF. ANTHONY SF CHIU
Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization and concurrent Sustainability Adviser to the University President, is ranked No. 1 in Social Sciences and Humanities in the country.



PROF. RAYMOND TAN
Vice President for Research and Innovation, NAST Academician and TWAS Fellow, is ranked No. 1 in Best Engineering and Technology Scientists in the Philippines.

DLSU's position in the rankings of the universities in the Philippines runs parallel to the faculty rankings: No. 1 in the list of Best Engineering and Technology Universities (one of only two PHL universities ranked); No. 1 in the list of Best Social Sciences and Humanities Universities (the only PHL university to be ranked in this field); and the No. 2 in Best Psychology Universities in the Philippines 2025.

The 4th edition of Research.com ranking of the best researchers in various fields relies on data combined from various data sources including OpenAlex and CrossRef. The bibliometric data for estimating the citation-based metrics were collected on November 27, 2024. Position in the ranking is based on a researcher's D-index (Discipline H-index), which takes into account only publications and citation data for an examined discipline.

Read more: [Research.com](#)



UNIFFIED 2025 OUTSTANDING COLLABORATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AWARD

DLSU PRESIDENT BR. BERNARD OCA FSC EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO THE UNITED FEDERATION OF FIL-AM EDUCATORS, INC. (UNIFFIED) for honoring the University with the 2025 Outstanding Collaboration in Higher Education Award given during the UNIFFIED Gala and Awards Ceremony held at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott last May 25.

The award recognizes “his visionary leadership and collaborative spirit in higher education.” DLSU has a collaborative project with the Cebu Institute of Technology University (CIT-U), which was also honored by UNIFFIED.

“This affirms the shared vision and hard work of both institutions in pushing for the localization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Philippines,” Br. Bernie said.

As part of the collaboration under The Asia Foundation’s Youth Leadership for Democracy (YouthLed) Program, DLSU and CIT-U have worked together to establish the Sibika Hub at CIT-U, which serves as a crucial knowledge hub for civic education in the Central Visayas region.

This initiative aligns with DLSU’s mission to create accessible and impactful educational platforms that foster the values of democracy and active citizenship, Br. Bernie pointed out. He also shared that the partnership aims to establish an SDG Policy Center at CIT-U to advance the SDG localization and SDG City Program in Cebu Province.

The event was attended by UNIFFIED officers and members, with host chapters Queens, New York, New Jersey, Southern Arizona, Massachusetts, and Maryland.

CCS FACULTY JOIN ASEAN STI COORDINATION EFFORTS

TWO FACULTY MEMBERS FROM THE COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES (CCS) are strengthening DLSU’s regional presence in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) through active participation in ASEAN-led initiatives.

Dr. Joel Ilao, Director of the Advanced Research Institute for Informatics, Computing, and Networking (AdRIC), represented DLSU at the ASEAN-Japan STI Coordination Symposium 2025 held last March 3 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The event gathered experts and institutional representatives from across ASEAN and Japan to explore sustainable STI platforms, cross-sector collaboration, and capacity-building for research leadership. Dr. Ilao joined delegates from UP, ADMU, and MSU in representing the Philippines.

In parallel, Dr. Marnel Peradilla, chair of the Department of Computer Technology and head of the Center for Networking and Information Security (CNIS), was recently appointed as a regional STI coordinator under the ASEAN University Network (AUN).

He participated in the STI Coordination Training Workshop last May 28–30, also in Bangkok. Organized by AUN, AUN/SEED-Net, and JASTIP, the training aimed at equipping next-generation STI leaders with practical skills for fostering impactful research partnerships across the region.



Dr. Joel Ilao





CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE DLSU DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

“WAWI NAVARROZA: SELF AND SURROUNDING” OPENS AT THE MUSEUM AT DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

THIS JUNE, THE MUSEUM AT DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY OPENS A LANDMARK SOLO EXHIBITION by internationally recognized contemporary artist and DLSU alumna, Wawi Navarroza, titled “Self and Surrounding”. On view from June 27 to December 11, the show is a major highlight of the 50th Anniversary of the DLSU Department of Communication.

Known for her evocative self-portraits and staged contemporary landscapes, Navarroza’s work is a powerful exploration of identity, place, and the gaze. “Self and Surrounding” offers a striking dialogue between

the artist’s recent works and selected pieces from Filipino National Artists and key figures of Philippine modernism, drawn from The Museum’s Wili and Doreen Fernandez Collection and university archives.

Presented in collaboration with Silverlens Gallery, the exhibition reflects The Museum’s commitment to fostering a conversation between past and present, student and master, image and identity.

Open to the public starting June 27, the exhibition runs until December 11, with special activities continuing through November.

UNDERGRADUATE PHILOSOPHY STUDENTS WIN FIRST RUNNER- UP IN SMEC ETHICS BOWL 2025

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY STUDENT DELEGATES WON FIRST RUNNER-UP IN THE SOUTH MANILA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM (SMEC) ETHICS BOWL 2025 held last February 28 at the Augusto Rosario-Gonzalez Theater, De La Salle College of Saint Benilde.

Undergraduate philosophy majors Sophia Ysabelle Creselda Baldonado, Khristia Angela Canta, Jose Gerard Luis Esguerra, and Moira Ann Therese Inocencio represented the university in this annual competition organized by the South Manila Educational Consortium. Department of Philosophy faculty members Dr. Joseph Martin Jose and Joyce Estelle Fungo served as their coaches.

The annual Ethics Bowl Competition provides students from the member universities and colleges of SMEC an avenue to exercise critical and ethical thinking through engagement with a set of ethics cases. With the rise of the use of generative artificial intelligence in the academe, this year’s competition had for its theme: “Exploring the Ethical Challenges of Artificial Intelligence, Misinformation, and Cultivating Intellectual Virtues in the Digital Age.”

This year, Adamson University bagged Champion, while De La Salle College of Saint Benilde secured Second Runner-Up. From each winning team, a best speaker was awarded. For DLSU, Jose Gerard Luis Esguerra was recognized as best speaker.

Other participating institutions included St. Scholastica’s College, Philippine Women’s University, St. Paul University-Manila, Lyceum of the Philippines University, Mapua University, Philippine Normal University, University of the Philippines-Manila, Emilio Aguinaldo College, Philippine Christian University, Santa Isabel College, and Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila. The board of judges were Dr. Eva Aurora Callueng, Dr. Maria Asuncion Magsino, and Fr. Kenneth Masong.



Photo Credit: De La Salle College of St. Benilde, Center for Learning Resources



Photo Credit: Laguna Water FB

The participants of the first DLSU-EU-LAWC seminar

LAGUNA CAMPUS UPDATES

DLSU PARTNERS WITH EHIME UNIVERSITY FOR WATER SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

WITH EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES ON WATER SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY, the DLSU Institute of Biological Control and Central Instrumentation Facility in partnership with Ehime University - Center for Marine Environmental Studies (EU-CMES) in Japan and Laguna Water (LAWC) hosted the seminar, “Ensuring Safe Water for Laguna through Advanced and Analytical Technologies.”

DLSU, EU, and LAWC had their project kick-off and first joint seminar last April 21 at the Enrique K. Razon, Jr. Hall on the DLSU Laguna Campus.

For the DLSU side, the project is led by Dr. Anna Karen Laserna, Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF) Scientific Director, with Dr. Aileen Orbecido of the Center for Engineering and Sustainable Development Research - Waste and Resource Management Unit (CESDR-WARM) and Dr. Renan Tanhueco of the Department of Civil Engineering.

The Japan team is composed of project lead Dr. Kunisue Tatsuya, director of the EU - CMES Environmental Specimen Bank and professor of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology; Dr. Kozo Watanabe, head of the CMES Office for International and Social Cooperation and director of the DLSU-EU International Collaborative Research Laboratory; and Dr. Tanoue Rumi, associate professor of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology, also of EU - CMES.

The seminar explored the need to bring together academic rigor and practical expertise to address the pressing issue of water security, particularly in Laguna. Attending the event were students and researchers of DLSU, who joined the discussions with Ehime University professors and Laguna Water representatives.

Delivering introductory messages were DLSU Vice President for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan; Dr. Kozo Watanabe; and LAWC Key Accounts Management Head Jennifer Belen.

The event also featured the following speakers and their topics: Dr. Laserna, who gave a talk on “Mass Spectrometry and its Applications in Water Analysis”; Dr. Tatsuya and “Monitoring Survey of POPs using es-BANK: Aiming to Analyze PFAS”; Dr. Rumi and “Practical Guide to PFAS Target Analysis and Non-Target Screening in Surface and Drinking Water”; Dr. Orbecido and “Wastewater Management in the Philippines and Ongoing Projects Under CESDR-WARM Unit”; and Laguna Water Analytical Services Unit Manager Kristeen Alday and “Green Chemistry: Synthesis of Zero-Valent Iron using Madre de Cacao to Reduce Chemical Oxygen Demand in Wastewater.”

NEW STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM AGREEMENT

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY, THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY and Ehime University formally entered into a Student Exchange Program Agreement.

Under the Memorandum of Agreement, students from both universities will have the opportunity to engage in international learning experiences, participate in collaborative research projects, and immerse themselves in diverse scientific environments. Ultimately, this partnership seeks to cultivate globally competitive scientists and strengthen the international academic network of both institutions.

The signatories were Dr. Kozo Watanabe, head of the EU Center for Marine Environmental Studies (CMES) Office for International and Social Cooperation and director of the DLSU-EU International Collaborative Research Laboratory, and Dr. Mary Jane Flores, dean of the DLSU College of Science.



“How to correct others depends on knowledge and discernment of character.”
De La Salle
-Med 33.1

FACTS and FIGURES



TOP PERFORMANCE IN BOARD EXAMS

CHEMICAL ENGINEERS BOARD EXAM MAY 2025

100% DLSU PASSING RATE

DLSU is also recognized as one of the top performing schools

Top 1 - Engr. Patricia Isabel Soriano

Top 5 - Engr. Errol John Suarez

Top 7 - Engr. Aloysius Gerard Lubi

LICENSURE EXAM FOR TEACHERS MARCH 2025

Elementary Level

100% DLSU PASSING RATE

46.77% National passing rate

Secondary Level

88.89% DLSU PASSING RATE (8 OUT OF 9)

62.27% National passing rate

CIVIL ENGINEERS BOARD EXAM APRIL 2025

77.42% DLSU PASSING RATE

29.21% DLSU passing rate (8 out of 9)

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT BOARD EXAM MAY 2025

79.33% DLSU PASSING RATE

33.11% National passing rate

Top 2 - Aleya Francis de Guzman

Top 8 - Louie Jen Coderes

Source: Professional Regulation Commission



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>.

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