



The DLSU Laguna KIST Ecozone is an innovation hub for cutting-edge research, collaboration, and sustainable growth.



DLSU LAGUNA NOW A PEZA KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION, SCIENCE & TECH PARK

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY LAGUNA CAMPUS IS NOW A KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KIST) ECOZONE, following a proclamation by Malacanang Palace on July 30, 2025. It is the first Philippine private higher education institution to receive this recognition.

A KIST park is a specific type of ecozone created by PEZA. DLSU's KIST Ecozone is a dynamic space for fostering knowledge exchange, innovation, and technological advancements while promoting sustainability.

Continue on Page 2 >

What's inside

Partnership with National Central University to provide AI support for PHL farmers	2
International Studies prof elected to IPSA Executive Committee	3
Lasallians represent PHL, dominate SEA Quantum Hackathon	4
Innovation Week on Laguna Campus showcases multi-sectoral initiatives	5

It offers a collaborative ecosystem that develops transformative solutions for a sustainable future guided by Lasallian principles of ethical leadership, social responsibility, and a commitment to lifelong learning. It serves as a catalyst for progress in science, technology, and innovation.

In 2017, De La Salle University began the process of applying for a PEZA ecozone to host startups, entrepreneurs, and research centers working in collaboration with the university for program development, academic, research and development activities. This initiative aligns with the strategic direction of establishing knowledge, innovation, and sustainability-driven institutional goals.

Covering five hectares of the 51-hectare Laguna Campus, KIST Ecozone integrates academia, industry, government, and community in driving interdisciplinary research, innovation, and commercialization of green technologies, eco-friendly solutions and sustainable practices.

In a message to the Lasallian community, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC expressed hope that this development would inspire all to promote innovation, the commercialization of green technologies, eco-friendly solutions, and sustainable development.

PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIONAL CENTRAL UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE AI SUPPORT FOR PHL FARMERS



Prof. Raymond Tan, Br. Bernard Oca, Prof. Chih-Yang Lin, and Prof. Alvin Culaba presenting the signed MoU between DLSU and NCU.



Prof. Jeremy Jay Magdaong, Prof. Angelyn Lao, Prof. Alvin Culaba, Prof. Raymond Tan, Prof. Isack Farady, Prof. Chi-Wen Lung, Br. Bernard Oca, Prof. Chih-Yang Lin, Prof. Argel Bandala, Prof. Ronnie Concepcion II, Prof. Jose Paolo Bantang, and Prof. Jesson Del-amen after the signing of the MoU between DLSU and NCU.



The MECO-TECO AGRI-TECT project joint Philippines and Taiwan teams posing in front of the St. La Salle Hall at De La Salle University, Manila. (Left to right: Mr. Lorenzo Gabriel Janairo, Mr. Andy Desman, Engr. Toshiou Baba, Prof. Chi-Wen Lung, Prof. Chih-Yang Lin, Prof. Ronnie Concepcion II, Prof. Jose Paolo Bantang, Prof. Jesson Del-amen, Mr. Vincent Mataragnon, Mr. Ralph Samuel Lacambra, Engr. Hoshea Sophia Tañedo, Prof. Isack Farady, and Ms. Novelyn Maging).

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY (DLSU) SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING with the National Central University (NCU), Taoyuan City of Taiwan for Project AGRI-TECT, exploring the use of AI to detect pathogens infesting the local potato and tomato industries.

DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and NCU's Prof. Chih-Yang Lin represented their respective institutions at the signing held on campus last June 27. Other Taiwanese delegates in the event were Prof. Chi-Wen Lung (Asia University, Taiwan), Prof. Isack Farady (Yuan Ze University, Taiwan), and Mr. Andy Desman (NCU).

Joining the activity were VP for Research and Innovation Prof. Raymond Tan, VP for External Relations and Internationalization Prof. Anthony SF Chiu, Director of the Center for Engineering and Sustainable Development Research Prof. Alvin Culaba, Director of Center for Natural Sciences and Environmental Research Prof. Angelyn Lao, Gokongwei College of Engineering Dean Prof. Kathleen Aviso, and Chair of the Department of Electronics and Computer Engineering Prof. Argel Bandala.

The five-year MOU seeks to facilitate the following objectives: the promotion of student exchange and dual degree programs; the promotion of essays, publications, theses, and research-related information; and the promotion of institutional exchange by inviting faculty and staff for joint research projects.

The two universities have collaborated on the Agricultural Thermoelectric Plant Patch Integration for Pathogenic Disease Resiliency and Computational Intelligence-Embedded Decision Support System through Internet of Living Things (AGRI-TECT), with Dr. Ronnie Concepcion II (DLSU-DMEM) and Prof. Chih-Yang Lin as the principal investigators from each country.

AGRI-TECT is supported by the Manila Economic and Cultural Office – Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Joint Science & Technology Cooperation Program (MECO-TECO JRP).

Under their ongoing collaboration, the Taiwan team focuses on the implementation of AI to support farmers whereas the Philippine team is focused more on the development of a polymer-based plant wearable sensor with embedded intelligence for detection of pathogens such as Fusarium and Ralstonia that are infesting the potato and tomato industries.

The teams also visited relevant agencies and farm sites in Benguet Province, including Haight's Place farm which is one of the project's intended product deployment sites. They were joined by two representatives from the Atok Municipal Hall, Engr. Bonifacio Lipa-od from the Atok Municipal Planning and Development Office and Ms. Deling Betwag from the Atok Municipal Agriculture Office.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROF ELECTED TO IPSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FULL PROFESSOR AND RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES DR. JULIO TEEHANKEE was elected to the Executive Committee (EC) of the International Political Science Association (IPSA), becoming the first Southeast Asian and Filipino elected to the international scholarly association, founded under the auspices of UNESCO in 1949.

The election for the 28th EC was held on July 16, 2025, at the IPSA World Congress of Political Science in Seoul, South Korea. The EC is responsible for conducting IPSA's affairs between congresses.

Teehankee's nomination was endorsed by the Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA) to the IPSA Council. Previously, he served as an IPSA Council Member from 2019 to 2021. Additionally, he has served as President of the Philippine Political Science Association (2016-2019) and President of the Asian Political and International Studies Association (2009-2011).

He is the Regional Manager of the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) for Southeast Asia and the Pacific. For his first term as EC member, he was appointed to four committees: 1) Organization, Procedures, and Awards, 2) Membership and Participation, 3) Congress Program, and 4) Regional Dialogue.

Teehankee



ANNUAL NATIONAL OPERATIONS RESEARCH QUIZ COMPETITION 2025 CHAMPION

A TEAM OF STUDENTS FROM THE DLSU DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING was declared champion in the Annual National Operations Research Quiz Competition 2025, organized by the Operations Research Society of the Philippines.

Held last July 12 at the University of the Philippines, the competition was participated by five other universities, namely Ateneo de Manila University, UP – Diliman, UP – Los Baños, Mapua University, and Holy Name University.

The students, majors in Industrial Engineering with specialization in Operations Research, are Chun Yang Shi, Gabriel Cheo Carambas, Beatrice Andrea Cheng, Jared Earl Leyson, and Megan Daryl Sio. Dr. Jayne Lois San Juan and Dr. Miriam F. Bongo served as the faculty coaches.



The DLSU team (Beginning with the third person from the left: Faculty Coach Dr. Miriam Bongo, DLSU team Chun Yang Shi, Gabriel Cheo Carambas, Beatrice Andrea Cheng, Jared Earl Leyson, Megan Daryl Sio, and IEOPER3 Professor Engr. Eunice Cristyl del Pilar)

FACULTY RECEIVES 2025 SEVERINO AND PAZ KOH LECTURESHIP AWARD FOR ENGINEERING

DLSU GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FULL PROFESSOR DR. MICHAEL PROMENTILLA received the 2025 Severino and Paz Koh Lectureship Award for Engineering at the Philippine-American Academy of Science and Engineering (PAASE) Meeting and Symposium 2025 held at the University of South Carolina last July.

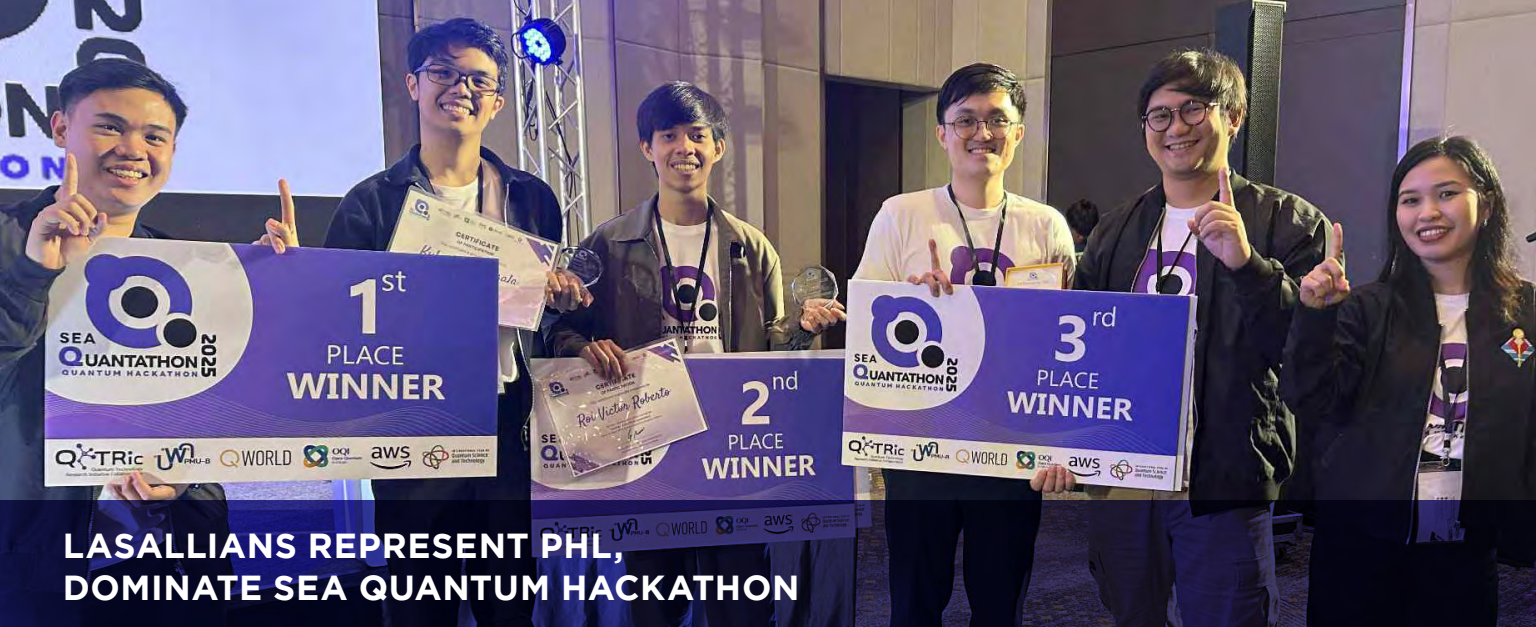
He was formally awarded during the 45th Annual PAASE Meeting and Symposium (APAMS), where he also delivered a lecture on "From Waste to Worth: Engineering Ways to Build the Circular Future."

Promentilla was recognized for his contributions to the academic field, embodying the spirit of innovation, leadership, and service.

Meanwhile, an MS Environmental Engineering and Management student, Engr. Ma. Christine Jaucian, bagged 2nd place for the poster presentation with her research on "Layered Explainable AI (xAI) for Understanding Performance Drivers in Geopolymers." Promentilla also served as Jaucian's mentor and co-author.

Out of 22 submissions, Engr. Jaucian was part of the selected 10 for the Rapid Fire Competition to present their research to the online plenary.

A number of other GCOE students and professors were also present as speakers, moderators, and participants at the annual event that brought together Filipino-American researchers in the field of science and engineering.



LASALLIANS REPRESENT PHL, DOMINATE SEA QUANTUM HACKATHON

IN A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT FOR PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATION IN QUANTUM COMPUTING, three De La Salle University students secured the top three spots at the Southeast Asia Quantum Hackathon (SEA Quantathon) 2025 held on August 1 to 3 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Kyle Lasala (MS-BSCS IV), Roi Victor Roberto (MS-BSCS III), and Edward Russchel Hernandez (MS Physics II) took the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd spots respectively after a 48-hour hackathon where they developed and pitched innovative quantum-based solutions to real-world problems.

The three who made up the official Philippine delegation were chosen from more than 100 applicants. Notably, they were later placed on different teams and each competed independently across six finalist teams.

The selection process was managed by the Quantum Computing Society of the Philippines (QCSP). DLSU Department of Computer Technology faculty Roger Luis Uy and Dylan Lopez joined QCSP in training delegates on technical methods, solution design, and pitch delivery.

The team also underwent intensive training facilitated by the South East Asian Quantum Network. Strong focus was placed on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), particularly Climate Change, Health, and Energy.

The competition's judging panel included global experts from the United Nations, Open Quantum Institute in Geneva, Amazon Web Services, other leading quantum technology companies, and regional organizations across ASEAN.

Funding for the event was supported by the Open Quantum Institute, a pioneering initiative under the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator, affiliated with CERN. Additional support came from UNESCO through its International Year of Quantum initiative, highlighting the importance of quantum science for sustainable development.

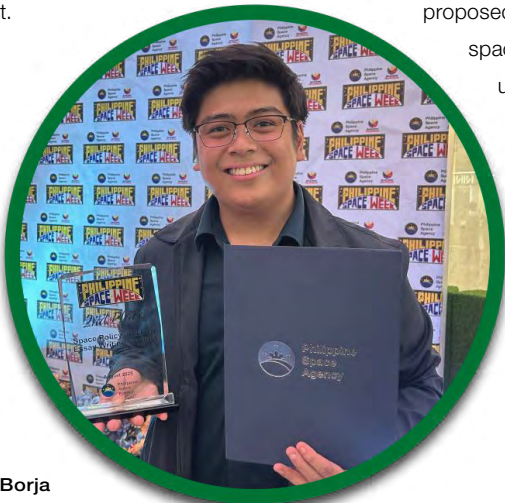
"This landmark achievement positions the Philippines at the forefront of quantum innovation in Southeast Asia. As quantum technology continues to evolve, the contributions of young Filipino scientists like Kyle, Roi, and Edward demonstrate that the nation is not just keeping pace, but is also leading the charge," team mentor Roger Luis Uy said.

LAW STUDENT BAGS 2ND PLACE IN PHILIPPINE SPACE AGENCY ESSAY COMPETITION

A STUDENT OF THE DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY - TAÑADA-DIOKNO SCHOOL OF LAW (TDSOL) ranked 2nd place in the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA) Space Policy and Law Essay Writing Contest.

The awarding took place on 9 August 2025, during Philippine Space Week celebrations hosted by PhilSA.

With the theme "What is outer space and how should our national laws define it?", the contest challenged law students nationwide to tackle a fundamental question at the intersection of law and science.



de Borja

In his essay, "Drawing the Line with the Pen of Law: Defining Outer Space", TDSOL student Justin Christopher de Borja proposed a Philippine legal definition of "outer space" that is rooted in scientific evidence while upholding the principles of governance, sovereignty, and international law.

By weaving together constitutional mandates, scientific reasoning, and state practice, his essay highlighted the Philippines' proactive role in shaping the future of global space policy – beginning with a definition that is both pragmatic and internationally recognized.



LAGUNA CAMPUS UPDATES

INNOVATION WEEK ON LAGUNA CAMPUS SHOWCASES MULTI-SECTORAL INITIATIVES

A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES HELD FROM JULY 14 TO JULY 17 AT DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY LAGUNA CAMPUS highlighted the Lasallian community’s commitment to promote a culture of innovation and sustainability.

Colleges and offices organized various events at the University Block – University Hall and Enrique K. Razon Jr. Building. During the opening day, the Laguna campus hosted a talk on Citizen Science for external service personnel. Meanwhile, the Student Affairs Office (SAO) hosted a career talk with Huawei for college students.

The event featured exhibits of current game prototypes developed by students themselves, booths, alternative classes, a quiz bee, an SDG Caravan on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, a SHS Service Learning expo, ongoing challenge-based learning projects, a makerspace activity, and fitness promotion.

A highlight of the week was the presentation of the ACEN Renewable Energy Solutions (ACEN RES) “Powered by Renewable Energy” badge

to DLSU Laguna Campus in recognition of the university's switch to renewable energy sources.

Vice President of DLSU Laguna Campus and Dean for the School of Innovation and Sustainability Dr. Jonathan Dungca and Executive Director of the University Sustainability Office Antonio Carlos Maralit received the badge on behalf of DLSU.

ACEN RES Senior Account Manager Ann Gabrielle Joseph also conducted a learning session on renewable energy on the fourth day of the event at the Function Hall.

In another discussion, Mr. Maco Custodio talked about the concept of reciprocity and the promotion of living sustainably at the EKR Learning Commons. The day ended with a talk by Dr. Julius Adam Lopez in TrendTalks 2025, exploring the Future of Drug Discovery in collaboration with EDA-IBAEHT.

DLSU TEAM WINS BEST CAN SATELLITE PROJECT AWARD

A TEAM OF DLSU STUDENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING won the Best Can Satellite Project Award in the Can Satellite - Rocket Category at the 1st Philippine Cansat and Rocket Competition. Held from July 17 to 21 at Lapu-Lapu and Medellin, Cebu, the event showcased space-related projects and innovations from students across different colleges and universities.

The DLSU Archernauts, composed of Dona Marabe, Luis Lugod, Heisei Mansanadez, Dayvee Montalbo, and Tobias De Leon, developed a novel pneumatic stage deployment mechanism and advanced communication systems for accurately recording flight performance.

The Indiana Aerospace University hosted the competition, which brought together the country’s most talented young people to design, build, and launch rockets that can deploy small, can-sized satellites.



“ Put up with the faults of others
and be generous towards them. ”
De La Salle

–Letter 105, to a member of a religious community of men,
date unknown

FACTS and FIGURES

DLSU

RESEARCH CONGRESS 2025

AI for a Green Future:
Reflecting on 10 Years of Sustainable Development Goals
June 26-27

1

Keynote Address – DLSU Golden Jubilee Honorary Professor

“Emotional Connections: Designing Artificial Skins, Sensing, and Hands for Meaningful Human-Robot Interactions,” Prof. John-John Cabibihan, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department, College of Engineering, Qatar University, Doha, Qatar

Plenary talks

Prof. Dominic Foo
Professor and Head, Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, University of Nottingham, Malaysia; DLSU Golden Jubilee Honorary Professors

Dr. Macario Cordel
Data Scientist, Asian Development Bank

Prof. Greg Foliente
Professorial Fellow, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, University of Melbourne, Australia; DLSU Golden Jubilee Honorary Professor

Jeanne Rachelle Dimalanta
Technical Projects Manager, Cebu Pacific Air

4

University Fellows' Talks

Dr. Susan Gallardo
Prof. Raymund Sison
Prof. Wilfredo Licuanan

3

6 Discussants for Research Center Directors' Panel Discussion
12 Parallel sessions
120 Paper presentations (onsite and online)
8 Research poster presentations
110 Papers selected for publication
2 Online workshops

Source: Vice President for Research and Innovation



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.

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