



DLSU promotes E-mobility research, curriculum development

In pursuit of UN Sustainable Development Goals, De La Salle University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines (EVAP) to collaborate on e-mobility-related curriculum development, research, and other initiatives.

DLSU participated in the 13th Philippine Electric Vehicle Summit held last October 24-25 at SMX Convention Center, MOA Complex, Pasay City, where the MOU signing was held. University President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and EVAP President Edmund Araga represented their respective organizations.

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Under the MOU, the two parties will integrate mobility topics into the curriculum, establish a student chapter that will actively participate in all academe-related mobility activities, host forums, symposiums, and other information-sharing activities related to mobility, and pursue mobility-related research and development initiatives.

The two-day summit featured an e-kart demo unit in order for students to replicate and draw inspiration from. The e-kart project involves the DLSU Central Instrumentation Facility Fabrication Lab, De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde's Industrial Design Department, and DLSU Electric Vehicle Racing Team, composed of students from the DLSU Mechanical Engineering Department.

Mechanical Engineering faculty member Dr. Jose Bienvenido Manuel Biona, who also serves as EVAP Executive Director, delivered a two-part talk on e-CVs and its relevance to corporate and government fleet operations. A DLSU exhibit booth about the DLSU Central Instrumentation Facility was also featured in the event .

In his message, DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC said “Our partnership with the Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines marks an important milestone – one that brings together the strengths of academia and industry to accelerate the country’s transition toward cleaner, safer, and more sustainable mobility for all.”



UN SDGs: 4 7 9 11 12 13 17

Laguna Campus inaugurates KIST Park

De La Salle University formally opened the DLSU Innovation Hub as a Knowledge, Innovation, Science and Technology (KIST) Park on its Laguna Campus last October 8.

Held at the Enrique K. Razon, Jr. Hall, the inauguration was attended by top University administrators, industry representatives, and key government officials.

The event commenced with a Thanksgiving Mass followed by the opening remarks of DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC and keynote address of Department of Science and Technology Secretary Renato Solidum, Jr.

Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) OIC Director General and Management Information System and Corporate Planning Group Manager Rowena Naguit gave a message on behalf of PEZA while DLSU



Photo: PEZA FB

Laguna Campus Vice President Dr. Jonathan Dungca delivered the closing remarks.

Malacañan Palace officially designated DLSU Laguna Campus as KIST Ecozone via Proclamation No. 985 on July 30, 2025. It is the first Philippine private HEI to receive such 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 aimed at sustainability.

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

Sec. Solidum stated in his address that “DLSU innovation hub has opened its doors to the world — building linkages, forging partnerships, and participating in local and international consortium. In doing so, it has shown that science and innovation know no borders, only shared aspirations for progress.”

In his message, Br. Bernie said “As an ecozone, DLSU Innovation Hub shall be a catalyst for innovation-led economic activity, empowering our scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and students to co-create solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. This place offers opportunities to discover and develop solutions to various concerns, from climate resilience and digital transformation to health systems and food security, among many others.”

UN SDGs: 8 9 12 17



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP FORUM HONORS CORY LEGACY

In honor of the legacy of the late President Cory Aquino, the De La Salle University Jesse M. Institute of Governance (JRIG)

hosted the inaugural women leadership forum of the Ninoy and Cory Aquino Foundation (NCAF) last October 16 at the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall of the DLSU Manila campus.

The President Corazon C. Aquino (PCCA) Memorial Forum on Women in Leadership was the third installment of NCAF's Legacy Series, recognizing the enduring leadership and public service of the Aquino family, including Sen. Ninoy Aquino and President Noynoy Aquino.

Highlighting the leadership and legacy of President Cory Aquino, the forum also sought to amplify the vital role of women in local and national governance, public service, and community leadership.

Four women leaders were featured in the event, namely former Presidential Appointments Secretary Margie Juico, Magallanes Cavite Vice Mayor Aina Mari Sisante Maligalig, Dinagat Islands Representative Kaka Bag-Ao, and former Commission on Audit Commissioner Heidi Mendoza.

Journalist Marites Vitug moderated the panel discussion, while Department of Political Science faculty member Dionessa Bustamante hosted the forum.

DLSU Vice President for Research and Innovation Prof. Raymond Tan and JRIG Director Dr. Francisco Magno delivered welcome messages to the participants.

Juico gave a short talk about her experience working closely with President Cory, whose

leadership she described as having "courage that wears a gentle face." She noted Cory's leadership as a moral act, done with a humble heart, accountability, and integrity in both private and public spaces. Mendoza delivered a message via Zoom, wherein she cited the quiet strength of Cory as she stressed that "integrity in public service is not a dream, but a duty".

During the forum, DLSU alumni Bag-Ao and Maligalig both mentioned how their Lasallian education helped mold their sense of leadership and values in their public service.

UN SDGs:



SDRC contributes to national dialogue on evidence-based policy

The Social Development Research Center (SDRC) of De La Salle University was among the key participants in the 12th Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Network Forum held at the Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria last September 29.

Organized by the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev), the event adopted the theme "Shaping Change: Reinforcing M&E for Evidence-Driven Growth" and brought together government agencies, academic institutions, and development partners to strengthen evidence-informed decision-making.

SDRC contributed to the forum through research presentations and an exhibit. Dr. Arlene Inocencio presented findings from the KADIWA Process Evaluation in the breakout session "From Proof to Progress: Using M&E Insights for Policy Action." Meanwhile, Dr. Marites Tiongco and Bernard Cielo shared results from the Telemedicine Process Evaluation, highlighting lessons on health service delivery and digital innovation.

At the exhibit area, Ms. Joanna Cayton and Ms. Cathy Domingo showcased SDRC's research portfolio through a booth featuring over 300 projects since 1979, underscoring the Center's long-standing contributions to program evaluation, health systems research, and social policy development.



From left: Research Coordinator and Project Manager Joanna Cayton, Project Manager Dr. Marites Tiongco, Bernard Cielo Co and Apple Vinteres, representatives of the DLSU SDRC and the Konsulta, Telemedicine, and Kadiwa Process Evaluation Project Teams.

UN SDGs:





DLSU retains position among world's top universities

De La Salle University is once again ranked among the leading universities in the world based on the 2026 Times Higher Education World University Rankings, maintaining its position in the 1,501+ bracket for the past three years.

The rankings assess research-intensive universities in their primary functions including teaching, research environment, research quality, industry engagement, and international outlook.

Vice President for Research and Innovation Dr. Raymond Tan in his statement said, "University rankings are an important barometer of the global competitiveness of higher education institutions. This year's results provide valuable information in DLSU's pursuit of continuous

improvement in education, research, and social engagement. I want to congratulate all my colleagues who have contributed to our current standing, but also pose the collective challenge to do even better in the future."

2,191 HEIs from around the globe met the criteria to be included in the rankings.

For more information, visit: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/latest/world-ranking>

UN SDG:

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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE PRESENTS PROFESSORIAL CHAIR LECTURES

The College of Science featured five professorial chair lectures last October 8 in Velsaco Hall.

Academician and Cesar A. Buenaventura Distinguished Professorial Chair in COS Dr. Wilfredo Roehl Licuanan opened the lectures with a reef assessment report and coral community type analysis via his presentation "The Status and the Coral Community Types of the Tubbataha North and South Atolls in 2024".

Evelyn D. Ang Distinguished Professorial Chair in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Dr. Jose Isagani Janairo followed with a demonstration of machine learning findings

on the relationships between insect olfaction and the molecular and structural complexity of odors in "Examining the Role of Molecular Complexity in Olfaction".

In "A Messy Talk: The Case of Regulated Necrosis in Colorectal Cancer", Evelyn D. Ang Distinguished Professorial Chair in Medical Biochemistry Dr. Rafael Espiritu identified metabolomic and transcriptomic signatures of cell lines induced to undergo regulated necrosis and clinical colorectal cancer resection samples, in order to find putative novel molecular actors that can be used against disease.

Evelyn D. Ang Distinguished Professorial Chair

in Mathematics and Statistics for the Health Sciences Dr. Angelyn Lao demonstrated how network-based modeling and systems-level analysis can be applied to investigate health and disease, as well as develop strategies to address emerging public health challenges and improve patient outcomes in "Systems Medicine: Modeling Health for a Safer World".

Lastly, "Philippine Fibers in the Service of Medicine: Abaca Nanotech for Shielding and Sensing" by Evelyn D. Ang Distinguished Professorial Chair in Medical Physics Dr. Gil Nonato Santos showcased the convergence of indigenous materials and nanotechnology thru interdisciplinary efforts and applications in both terrestrial and space medicine.



Photo: DLSU Department of Biology



University hosts MB’s Sustainability Focus Session on financial literacy

Key resource persons from established financial institutions gathered for the third edition of Manila Bulletin’s Sustainability Focus Session. Exploring the theme “Spend Smart, Live Wise: Financial Literacy for a Sustainable Future,” this event was held at the Verdure of the DLSU Henry Sy, Sr. Hall last October 22.

Students mostly from the DLSU Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business attended the event, which provided a venue for them to learn and ask questions about the crucial role of sustainability principles in strengthening money management skills.

Manila Bulletin Publisher Herminio Coloma, Jr. delivered the opening remarks and Project Co-lead Philip Cu-Unjieng gave a background of the MB program. This was followed by a video message from Senator Bam Aquino, chairman of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, who encouraged such discussions on education and sustainability.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Monetary Board Member Benjamin Diokno delivered the keynote message, wherein he shared indicators on how Filipino households and the country in general perform in terms of expenditures and savings compared to ASEAN counterparts. He also gave a glimpse

of the financial literacy landscape in the country as well as BSP’s financial education initiatives.

Speakers included Dave Jesus Devilles, head of the Sustainability Office at EastWest; John Garcia, head of Customer Success for Wealth Management of Gcash; Kristina Lim, Payments Strategy manager; Ceejay Hernandez, head of Sustainability at HSBC; and Japhet Luisto, Senior Talent Capability manager of the Learning and Development at UnionBank.

UN SDGs:

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DLSU Tañada-Diokno School of Law holds forum on national budget

The DLSU Tañada-Diokno School of Law hosted a forum on the national budget process and implementation titled, “Behind Closed Doors: The National Budget and the Politics of Corruption.” The event was held last October 22 at the DLSU Rufino Campus, Bonifacio Global City.

Former Secretary of Budget and Management and currently with the Ateneo School of Government, Atty. Florencio “Butch” Abad, was the main speaker. The two reactors were invited: Atty. Victoria Loazon of the TDSOL Political Law Department, who discussed the constitutional provisions related to public spending; and Judge Augusto Jose Arreza of the Criminal Law Department, who discussed the criminal liability of legislators in the budget process.

The forum tackled the government budgeting process to provide valuable insights into the ongoing investigations on corruption and “ghost projects” under scrutiny in Congress and by the Executive Department’s special commission.



Arreza



Loazon



Abad

UN SDGs:

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Let us pray before starting whatever we need to do.

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De la Salle

-Med 107.1

AUN-Health Promotion Network Ratings for De La Salle University

Healthy University Rating System (HURS) is a tool used to track the progress and success of a health promotion university. The HURS is developed based on the Healthy University Framework (HUF) of ASEAN University Network – Health Promotion Network (AUN-HPN).

The ratings recognize DLSU's commitment to pursuing a healthy and safe campus environment for its students and employees.

For the HUF document, visit:

https://info.aun-hpn.or.th/document/file/HURS%20Manual%20version%202023_030823.pdf

5-STAR RATING

- **Healthy University Rating System (HURS) 2024**
Received on March 11, 2025
Awarding ceremony on November 27-28, 2025
in Manila, Philippines
- **Healthy University Rating System (HURS) 2023**
Received in Term 1, AY 2024-2025
Awarding ceremony on December 3-4, 2024
in Bangkok, Thailand

22 Areas in the Healthy University Framework of the AUN Health Promotion Network

42 Self-assessment questions based on the 22 areas listed in the Healthy University Framework

Source:

Office of the Vice President for External Relations and Internationalization



2401 (tweñ'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>.