

rotunda

The Official Magazine of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas | Vol. 1 No. 1 May 2023

DLSU-D's North Star:
Charting New Paths...



Br. Francisco 'Sockie' de la Rosa VI FSC
9th President
De La Salle University-Dasmariñas

DLSU-D's North Star: Charting New Directions with the University's ^{Revitalized} Vision- Mission

Table of contents

- 2 DLSU-D's North Star: Charting New Directions with the University's Revitalized Vision-Mission
- 3 DLSU-D Symphonic Band Scholars Hit the Right Note in Pursuing their Dreams
- 5 Lasallian Lent: Witnessing a Life of Faith
- 6 Sustainability at the Heart of the Greenest Campus
- 8 DLSU-D's Care-Centered Model: Challenges-Adjustments-Relevance
- 10 Student Engagement Program- Education Beyond the Classroom Rotunda
- 12 DLSU-D Rotunda: An Iconic Landmark of Dreams, Opportunities, and Aspirations

The only way to succeed is to move further ahead. This is the new mantra that the revised DLSU-D Vision-Mission wants to uphold. Together with the faculty, staff, and students, they have now converged with a shared purpose through the revised Vision-Mission. This did not happen overnight, rather, it was a journey to several crossroads that allowed the DLSU-D community to respond and be driven by a common agenda to pursue excellent education, determined leadership and governance, and a sustained community climate. As the University President, Br. de la Rosa VI FSC puts it, the most important part of the planning is not much of the outcome but the process. *"You must be open when listening to people's ideas. When you listen to people's ideas, they feel much more engaged because they are participating. He furthers that "the process may seem to be little steps, nevertheless, when directed towards the right direction it creates positive ripple effects."*

Our Vision-Mission is anchored on the belief that possibilities are endless when people journey together bringing their aspirations, dreams, and conviction. This is how DLSU-D, a premier University, pursues its dreams.

Weaving the fiber of "Dreams"

Those who dream are the happiest people because they know they can touch the future. They know they are part of something greater than

themselves. This is embracing the opportunities given to them. The odds may have been apparent, but when we aspire for good and commit to our goals, the possibilities are endless.

On sustainability

Creating an impact on society by taking care of our planet is our commitment to the next generation. The University is still the most sustainable Philippine University for the ninth year in a row, based on Universitas Indonesia Greenmetric World University Ranking for 2021. The UI Greenmetric World University Rankings is the first and only university rankings in the world that measures each participating university's commitment to developing an 'environmentally friendly' infrastructure.

On research

The University Research Office remains to intensify the research involvement of faculty. In 2021, around 12 million research funding was awarded to DLSU-D coming from national and international funding agencies. The research engagement was part of the data gathering which included several faculty members traveling to various provinces in the country to conduct Focus Group Discussions (FGD). These were collaborative and interdisciplinary, both internally and externally funded research projects, more of which are related to sustainability which involve more than 100 faculty researchers.

to page 11

DLSU-D Symphonic Band Scholars Hit the Right Note in Pursuing their Dreams

by Zeus Legaspi & Rechilda Estores

Paolo couldn't help but grin from ear-to-ear as he recounted one of the most thrilling moments of his musical journey with the De La Salle University - Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) Symphonic Band. It was the time when they played the epic Avengers theme, and the crowd went wild! *"I still remember the excitement in the air as we played the piece at Ugnayang La Salle. The audience was jumping, and I swear I saw a few doing superhero poses. It was as if we were all transported to the Marvel Cinematic Universe!"* he chuckled.

From his days as a neophyte in the organization, Paolo Barbacena is now the Symphonic Band's President. He is also in his 4th year at the University—the final year of his Civil Engineering course.

His modest charm and soft-spoken nature make it easy to forget that he plays perhaps one of the loudest instruments there is—percussion. The beating of the drums is just as loud as his desire to continue playing in college, this time, as part of the University.

Prior to joining the Symphonic Band, he was already a member of the Citizens Brigade Band of Dasmariñas which competes at home and abroad. After going through the audition

and subsequent panel interview, the young musician made it through. Being a part of the DLSU-D Symphonic Band eventually gave him his coveted scholarship grant. But he had to work for it first. After all, only official members of the Performing Arts Group (PAG) were given scholarships. Paolo had to start as a trainee.

Just like Paolo, Matthew Paul, is also a DLSU-D Symphonic Band's member and was a former President. He entered the organization a full year before Pao auditioned. Being a part of the band is more than just about being a musician. *"We are not just student leaders. We are student performers,"* Matthew said. But being a leader, a performer, and a Lasallian scholar all at the same time poses challenges. *"It was really hard for me as a student sa CEAT [I was] also pressured to keep the scholarship grant. It was fun...but eventually, I felt pressured,"* the former President recalled.

Paolo is also a student at the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology (CEAT). So, he can't help but echo his bandmate's sentiments. As an engineering student, he found his responsibilities difficult to manage. But both of them pushed through. After all, they needed the scholarship grant.

"It was a challenging time for me

financially. That's why I had to consider the scholarship grant. I thought, 'Okay, I will join the band on top of my academics and my civil engineering course. I will manage it so that I can continue receiving a consistent scholarship from the Symphonic band,'" Pao expressed. It was at that moment, when he realized that music was the bridge that would help him achieve his dream of becoming an engineer.

The pandemic of 2019 put a dent in the Philippine economy. Paolo together with the other DLSU-D scholars took the brunt of the global health and financial crisis by tightening their belts which was the only way to survive in this crisis. This was after the University was forced to regulate its scholarship grant. Despite this, they remain grateful to the University, though they hope that this situation will improve as they brave the new normal.

Being part of the Symphonic Band as a scholar, aside from the financial grant, also builds camaraderie while they are enjoying each other's company as students. *"[The] most important opportunity [is] to spend time with the people from the organization because once we've graduated, we will become busy individuals as working professionals so it will limit our time to interact with*

to page 4

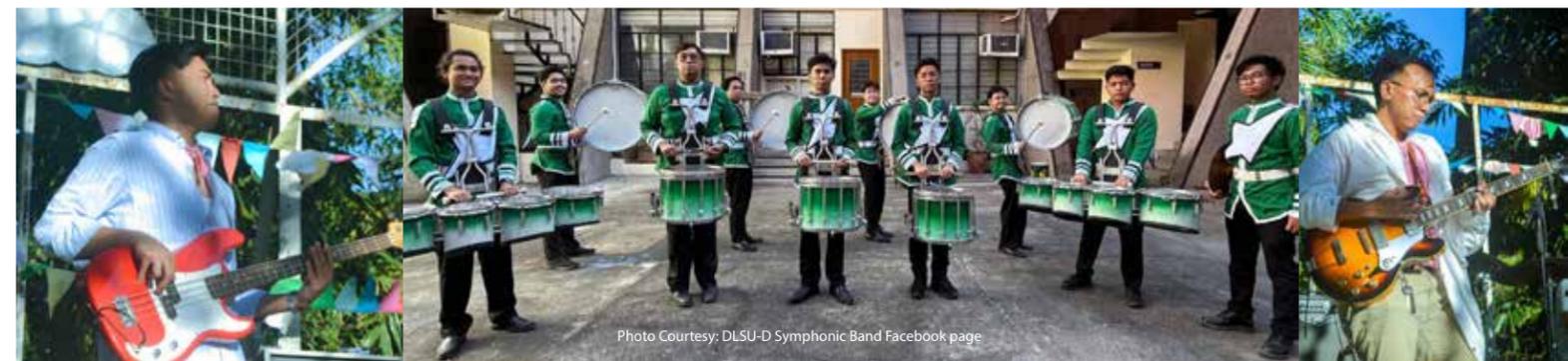


Photo Courtesy: DLSU-D Symphonic Band Facebook page

DLSU-D Symphonic... from page3

one another. So, every time I have an opportunity to spend time with them, I don't miss the chance because maybe in the coming years, we might not have it anymore." Matthew shared.

When asked what sets a scholar student performer from the rest, the two Presidents said that the responsibilities are heavy, but so are their rewards. tMatthew revealed.

Apart from helping them pursue their degrees through its scholarship grant, the Symphonic Band also assisted Pao and Matthew in other ways. Primarily, the band trained them to be better student leaders.

"When I entered Performing Arts Group, I learned how to manage an organization. It was a fresh experience for me because managing (an) organization, setting deadlines for us, and completing them – that's new," Paolo said.

"What I want to highlight is the training that we got from the Symphonic Band as a member...my confidence was developed. I also learned time management skills. It's very important that you manage your time because after completing your academics [for the day], you still have rehearsals, meetings, performances," Matthew claimed.

"Most people would think that if you are a part of PAG, you'll only be taught how to perform, how to play music, how to sing, how to act. But actually, most of what we learn are interpersonal skills," he added.

One of the greatest joys of being a musician is the opportunity to perform. The band's President fulfills this passion by being active in the organization. Pao gleefully shared that they are often swarmed with invitations to perform, both within and outside the University, to the point where they have had to regretfully decline some due to scheduling conflicts.

The two student performers think highly of their seniors. As a matter of fact, Pao made it clear that one of the benefits that a member of the Symphonic Band could receive is a strong connection with alumni and previous members of the organization.

"They guide us if they have the time. They [even] offer us opportunities for internships," he mentioned.

The Symphonic Band alumnus, Engr. Rick Donald Manzon, is a stellar example. Much like Pao and Matthew, he was also a scholar and a student at CEAT who also faced the challenge of balancing his responsibilities in the organization and in his academics.

Engr. Manzon successfully graduated from the institution with the help of the scholarship program, completing what used to be a five-year engineering course. He then pursued two PhD courses, a post-doctoral, and became a lecturer at several universities while also working for the local government of Marilao. When asked if having a lot on his plate takes its toll on him, he replied, "Life is not life without pressure."

Being a part of PAG and his college's

"Apart from helping us pursue our dreams, the band trained us to be better student leaders."

student council helped provide opportunities for young Engr. Manzon. "There are lots of opportunities that DLSU-D gave us. We were sent to different local destinations like the City of Bislig, Ilocos, and Cebu; I've been everywhere. There were lots of opportunities that came, lots of connections," he recalled.

The Symphonic Band alumnus echoed Pao and Matthew's statements about what they learned as a member of the organization. "If there's something that I learned as part of the band, it's how to write letters, how to communicate with people. That is the first thing that you need after graduation," he claimed.

Given the challenges that come with membership in the Symphonic Band, some students may feel discouraged to join. But Paolo has a message for those who are aspiring to be a part of the band. "Don't be afraid to join. It may be scary at first but know that your bandmates are students like you. They will understand your situation. Don't lose sight of the reason why you started," he advised.

Matthew encouraged Lasallians to join the PAG. "My advice to aspiring scholars, make your college life louder and (more) colorful. You can do that by joining the Performing Arts Group," the former band President said.

"Music is more than a passion for these three Lasallians" – it is their ticket to their sought-after success.

Students at DLSU-D may learn more about the Symphonic Band by visiting the Symphonic Band Office at Gregorio Montoya Hall (GMH 206).

Lasallian Lent: Witnessing a Life of Faith

by Rechilda Estores

Faith without good deeds is dead. The Lasallian Lenten activity reminds us that faith is a continuing journey of being in God's grace through our everyday work. To live a life of faith is an opportunity to choose to be kind, to talk about what is good, and to forgive.

The DLSU-D Religious Education Department and Campus Ministry Office spearheaded a spiritual event. The Lenten Youth Fellowship composed of four activities: the Lenten Recollection, the Praying with the Songs of Taize, the Lasallian Pilgrims Prayer Kiosk, and the Mini Lenten Concert and Fellowship; all of which aims to strengthen the faith and participation of the students as a Lasallian community.

According to Amiel Relox, one of the project heads of the event, the resumption of the onsite operations and events inside the University opens an opportunity for the church to come together as a Lasallian community.

"Lent invites and prepares us into a deeper journey to ourselves as we seek God's peace and appreciate Christ's resurrection. The Campus Ministry Office (CMO) initiated this event to give students a moment of encounter with God to keep the flame in their hearts burning," Relox said.

"Pope Francis invited us into our own transfiguration, both in ourselves and towards other people. He also stressed the

importance of listening so, this Lent, let us listen more to Jesus, and as we listen to Him, we also heighten our ears to the needs of our brethren and act on them." Relox added.

Moreover, Mary Grace Paras, also an attendee of the event, realized that everyone is together in this journey. "The solemnity of the event and the collaborative effort I've seen in the Campus Ministers and Campus Peer Ministers made me realize that we are all together in the journey of renewal of our lives." Paras shared.

The activities held during the Lenten fellowship also became a way to discover more about their faith in God. "To love and to forgive, like Christ, are the two core things that this event has taught me," Paras revealed. This has also helped the students to be involved in the likeness of Christ as they live by the Holy Spirit. She furthers that, "This one event will not spiritually change a person in a snap, but this is a starting phase towards a faith-centered and spiritual person like me."

For Dr. Nornelyn Cachuela, Communication and Journalism Department (CJD) chair, this Lenten activity is a way to increase our faith. "Recollections are opportunities for reflection and inspiration. It allows us to check our spirituality and reminds us that we are called to grow in our faith." Cachuela said. As an academe

professional, she emphasized that being spiritually active in serving the Lord is also important.

"Apart from achieving academic excellence, it is also part of our commitment to nurture and develop our Catholic faith and service for others



Photo Courtesy: Campus Ministry Office

by engaging in various church activities" Cachuela stated. She furthers, "I was able to reflect on God's goodness, faithfulness, and grace in my life. I am reminded to seek His guidance more with trust, gratefulness, and humility irrespective of what is happening around me."

Cachuela, Paras, and Relox are journeying together as part of the Lasallian community to encourage others to be more engaged in their Christian faith. Through this event, they became more engaged in their faith and take initiative to encourage others to do the same. All it takes is a little bit more time to reflect and examine oneself, especially those shortcomings we did so that we won't do them again.

The recollection became a channel to embody the true Lasallian identity together with Christ by participating in church events.

"I believe this is a great opportunity to experience God and understand ourselves as we continue to serve in solidarity with others. Everyone's involvement is part of our journey in faith towards strengthening our Lasallian identity." Relox shared.



Photo Courtesy: Campus Ministry Office

Sustainability at the Heart of the Greenest Campus

by Zeus Legaspi



Amid the dense urban jungle of Dasmarinas City is a 27-hectare piece of land that stands within a bustling residential and industrial community. DLSU-D as an academic institution is taking the lead in the province of Cavite in providing sustainable solutions to global challenges.

DLSU-D has officially been on track as being the greenest in the country since 2011 when it was hailed as the Most Eco-friendly and Sustainable School in the Philippines by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).



It was in the early 2000s that the school had a problem with solid waste management. 10,000 students generated around 12 dump trucks worth of trash every month. In response to this, the University created the Environmental Resource and Management Center or what is now known as the Ecology Center.



The University also found that about 70% of the school's waste is recyclable, prompting the institution to build an Ecology Center – the first of its kind among other schools in the De La Salle Philippines.



Hailed as the Greenest University in the Philippines for the tenth time in a row by Universitas Indonesia (UI) GreenMetric World University Rankings. This year 2023 marks more than a decade of sharing the responsibility of taking care of the planet.



The "Black Out, Green In – Project Carbon Neutral" saw the University's shift from fluorescent lamps to using LED bulbs to increase energy efficiency. In its September 2021 report, the University stated that it reduced 14,161 metric tons of its carbon emissions from 2019 to 2020 and an estimated 8,756 metric tons from 2020 to 2021.

As of November 2022, the University's total spending is 60% geothermal energy. The campus is now powered by LEDs and energy-efficient appliances on the campus.



"If we prioritize green technology, it will be better for us in the long run," said Jocelyn Luyon, Campus Sustainability Office (CSO) Director. But this endeavor is met with challenges. She noted that the University takes time in prioritizing sustainable technology because it is quite expensive. "Cost and practicality are the reasons why we have to gradually replace fluorescent lamps at school. We cannot just replace them in one go," she added.



At present, the University is working to meet its promise of attaining net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

As environmental champions, DLSU-D is working on its environmental policy. Making Green- "Greenest", which aims to institutionalize sustainable measures within the University. One of which is to introduce the role of biodiversity in the achievement of sustainable development goals in their curriculum. Making it a shared responsibility among its stakeholders.



Ms. Geraldine C. Zamora, a certified Pollution Control Officer, has been appointed to oversee the University's compliance to environmental policies set by the government.

DLSU-D's Care-Centered Model: Challenges-Adjustments-Relevance



To date, the Course design framework's Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) has undergone three consecutive revisions since its implementation. Admittedly, the IRR committee head, Mr. Jerome Buhay said that "all these adjustments and clarifications require attention and are necessary to arrive at choosing the best learning experience. As such, the ongoing open discussion will continue to address each concern systematically to allow the committee to create more practical means of resolving issues concerning learning engagement and assessments. To be fair, the University has significantly benefitted from the Care-centered model since its conception." To investigate this matter further, we sat with Mr. Buhay to discuss the implementation of the Care-centered Model.

The Care-Centered Model for online learning is DLSU-D's course design framework which began in SY 2020-2021. This was adapted at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic as part of the University's learning continuity plan. The primary intention was to create an online learning experience sensitive to students' welfare during the pandemic and until the new normal. However, with its Implementing Rules and Regulations, it seems to show some constraints.

"We are prompted to see the urgency in addressing the fast-changing and complicated challenges of the global world and to rethink our purpose as a University; during which, despite all the difficulties, we see the potential and possibilities of new modes of teaching and learning as part of our resiliency, to adapt and reinvent."

were reasonably inept at technology are forced to learn it overnight. While some students were caught unprepared mentally and psychologically with virtual learning.

I have observed that now we're back to the new normal, students and teachers are happy to be back to face-to-face learning engagement and I believe that they're not looking to go back to full online learning. The University's physical spaces are now busy with group work, as students want face-to-face interactions with their classmates.

I realized that during the pandemic, we learned to use technology efficiently to our advantage. It has its own merit as the situation calls for. Technology indeed allows us to continue learning during the pandemic but at the same time challenges our human nature. Right now, the question is how can we continue to exploit online resources without limiting human engagement?

SCO: During the pandemic, students with laboratory classes in sciences and engineering have been appealing for authentic assessments that require real and physical set-up of equipment and infrastructures. Could the online class provide authentic assessment required in these courses?

JB: First of all, authentic assessment during the pandemic was impossible due to strict government health protocols. Universities around the globe as well, find this demand

challenging. However, this does not excuse us from delivering what we promised. With the new and revised IRR, assessments are now carefully monitored so that even if conducted online, students need to apply what they've learned in a new, complex circumstance or situation. Through the help of subject coordinators and department chairs, the assessments demand the highest learning experiences to test students' skills and knowledge in realistic situations to replicate real-world contexts. Most of the outputs are graded based on rubrics where students are assessed according to the extent of their accomplishment with the work at hand. Some assessments even require collaborative output to mimic an engaging learning environment. The environment may be unnatural, yet it provides rich engagement opportunities via active online participation. As part of the evaluation, regular conversations are taking place to monitor the efficacy of these grading procedure.

SCO: Should by any chance, will DLSU-D curriculum veer away from conventional exams in the future?

JB: I strongly believe in the importance of relevance and relatability in learning and teaching, and authentic assessment is a way to achieve this. As a Math and statistics professor, I strongly agree that when students are guided to apply their knowledge and skillsets to address real-world issues and situations, their relationship with learning and knowledge changes – they feel the impact and hence the importance of their learning directly



industry partners; a research program that maximizes competence of faculty in tapping local resources to help the community, especially in terms of learning and livelihood and addressing the UN SDG targets, particularly on culture and climate change; and parental and alumni partnership towards shaping independent, self-driven, and resilient learners.

These aggressive moves shall define how the University curriculum, with its current framework, adopts or harmonize itself with new methods of teaching and learning. Some of you might think that the Care-centered model is a temporary measure to tackle the pandemic, but the pandemic has impelled us to rethink our Lasallian education systems.

We are prompted to see the urgency in addressing the fast-changing and complicated challenges of the global world and to rethink our purpose as a University; during which, despite all the difficulties, we see the potential and possibilities of new modes of teaching and learning as part of our resiliency, to adapt and reinvent.

SCO: As the key person in the implementation of the Care-centered model through the IRR, how do you personally feel about our response as a University as compared to other Universities during the pandemic?

JB: I think a global crisis such as this should never go to waste. The pandemic has made us question our ability to teach as teachers yet, it has also enabled us to see the vista of possibilities of change. I'm not immune to any criticisms but the many times I made miscalculated judgments, it taught me to be adaptable to moment's notice, to take risks regardless of the outcomes and impact of my actions. This, I think, is responding to change responsibly.

and become more engaged. More so, all these I assume, require higher-order thinking and questioning skills, critical and creative thinking, and open-mindedness.

SCO: The IRR as the implementing arm of the Care-centered model seems to be perceived as a tight-knit of rules and regulations. With the pandemic almost coming to an end and schools now open for physical engagement, will it be receptive to emerging practical methods of learning and teaching?

JB: Yes, I'm positive. Currently, with the revised Vision-Mission on inspiring excellent education, there are six items that are part of the priority agenda that would systematically and effectively execute and monitor integrated curriculum and instruction programs such as: faculty development program; effective and efficient academic supervision program; aggressive recruitment, promotions, and marketing program; a sustained program for local and international linkages with academic institutions, research organizations, and



Student Engagement Program-Education Beyond the Classroom

by Rechilda Estores

When students are engaged in University other than academics, it helps them explore, create, and make great things happen. This is how DLSU-D fosters the value of enabling students to join, form, and participate in various events; thus, the creation of the Students Engagement Program or SEP through the Office of Students Services (OSS). Through this program, students are provided with avenues to join and organize events accredited by the OSS.

Activities beyond the four walls of the classroom are in fact meant for scaffolding the value of self-confidence, a mindset of choosing to be proactive and heightened social consciousness. These traits are crucial in building mature and responsible citizens of society. The University believes in holistic character building, that is teaching minds, touching hearts, and transforming lives.

The Student Engagement Program Coordinator head, Mr. Domingo Reblora, Jr., said there's a challenge in accrediting student events due to lack of organization advisers. "Some student organization events are not being accredited because they don't have an adviser." He furthers.

To maintain the organization, Reblora stated that he appoints students despite the lack of participation during events. Reblora hopes that by directing students towards different involvements, hopefully, they find meaning in it and remain to be members of our organization."

One of the student attendees of the SEP-accredited events, Jeanna Visca, stated that the events encouraged her and her classmates to participate. "I believe that events accredited are significant

as students are involved in meaningful activities, building social and leadership skills, as well as upholding the Lasallian values of faith, zeal, and communion." Also, through these, the opportunity to communicate and build new connections with other fellow Lasallian students in the University becomes easy. In fact, "SEP accredited events allow me to expand my horizons by meeting and engaging with students from different block sections, programs, and colleges, and find learnings and new experiences within these activities that I participate in." Visca shared. Likewise, it encourages collaboration with different organizations. This means that it prompts collaborative efforts between organizations and individuals. Hence, helping the students improve their social skills.

Similarly, Ysabelle Nicole Aguinaldo, a 3rd year Medical Biology student has another exciting story to tell. From being a committee member to student council member, she is now the current Governor of the College of Science and Computer Studies, she has witnessed how changes in the University and the student government engagement are gradually unfolding. She thinks that even with the best intention, this sometimes is not enough to convince students to take part in some University activities. Some of the major reasons are heavy academic workload and conflicting schedule. Despite all the ups and downs, "I have learned to absorb stress and frustrations as part of fueling my commitment and to brave the tide of criticisms. At the end of the day, I always remind myself that the position I have is a chance to serve my fellow students. More than what I have achieved, I'm proud that my small actions of hard work and patience have travelled to the many student programs and activities the CSCS student government has provided."



Photo Courtesy: Rex Cedric Camia



DLSU-D's North Star... from page 2

On innovation

Basically, innovation is to find any solution to do the best possible. However, that innovation should be ethically towards a just, peaceful, and sustainable society. DLSU-D strongly advocates that any innovation without conscience is nothing short of destructive. In support of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, DLSU-D commits to aligning the University's plans of development that comply with international safety and sustainability standards.

To drive innovation, creativity should never be curtailed. DLSU-D incorporates in its curriculum a more dynamic way of assessing and evaluating students' performance. It is no longer just a pass or fail mark but instead, they are practically assessed according to their working understanding of the task. What is good about this system is it allows students to identify their strengths and weak points while producing the best output. This approach increases their critical thinking skills, questioning their individual skills and capabilities, and becoming intuitive individuals.

On Academic Excellence

With the revised Vision-Mission, championing the human

and Christian Education shall be DLSU-D's focal point. De La Salle education operates on the premise that true learning happens when we do not stifle the young people's hopes and dreams.

"The University shall be relentless in its mission to develop faculty members to deliver updated, relevant, and quality teaching," says the Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research (VCAR), Dr. Salibay.

The VCAR believes that to raise the bar of academic climate in the University, open-mindedness, creativity, and innovation are key ingredients to internationalization. This is another step to faculty engagement where international academic exchange is to be expected as part of the University's priority agenda. This international engagement shall strategically position our faculty to recognize the value of diversity, equality, and inclusion.

The University also recognizes the significant role of support staff in the continuous systematic and effective execution and monitoring of the daily operations of the University. Working not just for but with the University faculty, the task of delivering Lasallian education to students becomes a manageable responsibility.

ROTUNDA The Official Magazine of De La Salle University- Dasmariñas

Rotunda is an offshoot of Newsette, the official publication of the University with more than three decades of existence, managed by the Strategic Communications Office.

The creation of Rotunda is rooted from the desire of the office to meet the changing needs and preferences of our readers in the digital publication era. The SCO team conducted a series of brainstorming sessions and started curating a publication that brings together the best of digital content, featuring the relevant happenings in the campus, catering to the interests and lifestyle of the modern readers inside and outside the University,

particularly those from the academic institutions.

The name was derived from the University's Rotunda, a structure that serves as the central hub of the University situated at the main entrance, gate 1 of the Magdalo Gate, where it provides the four main points--the access roads leading to major areas of the University.

With the publication's initial sections such as "I-quote" which features interviews from the University's key administrators; "Byaheng Lasalyano" presents stories of the members of the DLSU-D or the University itself

as they take their journey as Lasallians or as a Lasallian institution, this particularly features milestones or achievements; "Para Po" serves as the listening ear of the administration in which members of the community talk about issues or concerns that need clarifications— and all these sections are artistically executed and disseminated through the DLSU-D's official Social Media accounts.

Moreover, as Rotunda was born initially as a digital publication, offering a seamless experience across various digital platforms, the SCO plans to venture into print publication in the future to meet the constantly evolving dynamic landscape of media. With Rotunda, we aim to revolutionize the way publications are consumed, delivering relevant and captivating content that resonates with our readers and keeps them engaged in the University. Generally, Rotunda Magazine is a reputable and insightful

publication that offers comprehensive coverage of the latest news and happenings on DLSU-D campus, providing the academic community, partners and stakeholders with a panoramic view of all happenings within and around the Campus. It specifically offers a comprehensive and insightful look into the academic world, exploring everything from student life to cutting-edge research and innovations.



DLSU-D Rotunda: An Iconic Landmark of Dreams, Opportunities, and Aspirations

When life comes in full circle, it's like resetting everything to its original state. The University Rotunda does otherwise. Unlike most crossroads where people wait or just simply pass through, the University Rotunda is where every direction reveals what we truly believe in creating and making possibilities happen. It signifies one's journey towards a purpose and keeps us focused on our goals.

The University Rotunda may be best described in four ways: Likhain ang Pangarap – the possibilities when we dream; Linangin ang Pagkakataon – the possibilities of opportunities; Tuparin ang hangarin – the possibilities to achieve one's aspirations and dreams; and Ibahagi ang Sarili – the possibilities of giving back.

Likhain ang Pangarap – the Possibilities when we Dream

I think we're all meant to be part of a greater good. No matter how mundane our role in the University, we should never be caught in routine and ambivalent to the possibilities that lie waiting all around us. Every day, as we enter the University, the Rotunda remind us that the world has several crossroads with each of us meant to experience them in the most unexpected way. These crossroads could represent exciting adventures and sometimes misadventures made up of several smaller adventures. We are in the University to discover the various ways of creating a myriad of possibilities. Anything less would be a missed opportunity.

Some may have thought that dreaming would be unproductive. In reality, the

opposite is true. In fact, we become more hopeful, which in turn, increases productivity and well-being. That's why the Rotunda represents a continuous motion. A process of learning to keep on looking forward.

Linangin ang Pagkakataon – the Possibilities of Opportunities

The Rotunda shall always be a landmark of Christian education where learning opportunities shall cultivate care in its academic landscape. This means the individual learning experience changes from a repetitive and 'recycling' thinking of giving and reciprocating knowledge into a constellation of learning and teaching engagement that inspires excellent education.

DLSU-D is taking a bold step to influence its students not by manipulating them but by shaping their potential. This inspires students to think about change. Harnessing the power of learning opportunity is to inspire students to look at the harder, more complex social issues and challenge themselves to apply their skills to shape the kind of community they aspire to.

Today's generation is driven to make a difference. DLSU-D shall continue to provide education in helping them realize their potential and make real changes across whichever discipline or industry they choose.

Tuparin ang Hangarin – the Possibilities to Achieve One's Aspirations and Dreams

The Rotunda is part of the continuing journey of the Lasallian community. You may not be aware that in one of those

journeys you have lifted someone up and inspired them to keep going because you believe that more than the pursuit, each one is equally important as the goal itself.

The University is shaped by its people. To achieve its goal, the University believes in nurturing empathic individuals. This is putting the human aspect alongside innovation in our curriculum and community engagement as one of its key priorities. Part of its plan is to cultivate a strong sense of belonging to create an inclusive environment where each one in the community is encouraged to spark open communication, share ideas, and work together to effect positive change and shape DLSU-D into a forward-looking institution.

Ibahagi ang Sarili – the Possibilities of Giving Back

The University Rotunda is where a gamut of experiences describes students' backgrounds. While they may have different cultural backgrounds, it's the tie that binds them. The gift of sharing one's experience is the most powerful weapon to change the world. Lasallian education will continue to commit to delivering a learning experience that respects diversity, encourages social participation, and considers each student's learning needs and preferences.



De La Salle University
D A S M A R I Ñ A S
Strategic Communications Office

2nd Floor Ayuntamiento de Gonzalez
Building, DLSU-Dasmariñas
Cavite, 4115 Philippines

Trunkline:
Cavite +63 (46) 481.1900 local 3031
Manila +63 (2) 8.779.5180

Rotunda welcomes contributions, comments, and suggestions from the community. E-mail articles to scodlsud@dlsud.edu.ph. Rotunda reserves the right to screen and edit articles submitted for publication.

Michael del Rosario, *Director*
Jacquelyn Torres, *Social Media Manager*
Mary Joy Gofredo, *Secretary*
Raymond Peter Ibasco, *Writer*
Christopher John Catapang, *Graphic Artist*
Neil Joseph Romerosa, *Multimedia Artist*
Evie Rose San Jose, *Multimedia Artist*
Regina Bianca Tayo, *Production Coordinator*
John Dominique Fernandez, *Multimedia Intern*
Xyries Zeus Legaspi, *Publications Intern*
Rechilda Mae Estores, *Publications Intern*