

- 100% in Architect Licensure Examinations
- Lasallians going above and beyond
- Centennial Celebration kickoffs

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What's
inside



De La Salle University-Dasmariñas

newsette

ECO-
DRIVING?
GO BIKING

BLACK OUT GREEN IN

DLSU-D goes greener
through Project Carbon Neutral



faithful&committed

BY FRANK VILLANUEVA, EdD

A COMPILATION OF SONGS
IN CELEBRATION OF THE
100 YEARS OF LASALLIAN PRESENCE
IN THE PHILIPPINES

featuring

DLSU

DLSU INNERSOUL

DLSL

DE LA SALLE VOICES

DLSZ

JAMMERS

DLSZ

DE LA SALLE ZOBEL YOUNG SINGERS

USLS

LA SALLE CHORALE

DLSU-D Alumni

FORMER CASTS OF
"ALL FOR THE LOVE OF THEE"

DLSU

DLSU CHORAL

DLS-CSB

CORO SAN BENILDO

DLSHSI

SARINGHIMIG

LSGH

KUNDIRANA

DLSU-D

DLSU-D CHORALE

DLSC

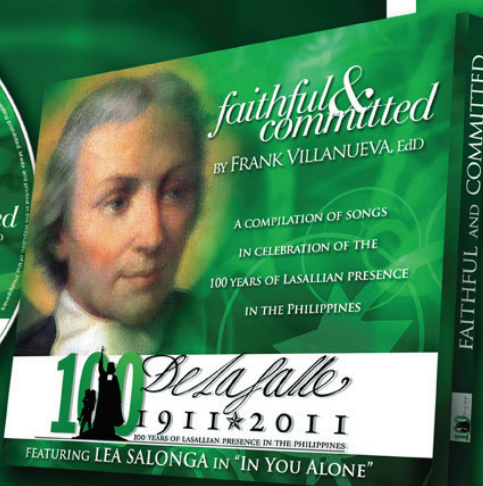
KORO LASALYANO

AND

Ms. LEA SALONGA

WITH THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE
FILHARMONIKA

UNDER THE MUSICAL DIRECTION OF
MR. GERARD SALONGA



Contents

8

**Black out,
Green in**



14

**Centennial
Celebration
kickoff**



15

**Lasallians going
above and beyond**

2

Newsbriefs

7

Renamed Offices

22

**Administrators for 2011-2012
1st semester**

24

@25: Hot spots in DLSU-D

28

Snapshots



en newsette

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100% ALE passing rate for 4 years



The Professional Regulation Commission has just released the results of the June 2011 Architect Licensure Examination where only 1,082 out of 2,054 test takers passed the board exam. Once again, DLSU-D posted a 100 percent passing rate, giving DLSU-D the perfect passing rate for four consecutive years. The board passers came from BS Architecture Batch '09. The new architects from DLSU-D are Marlon Abalayan, Jennifer Ajero, Jenifer Barairo, Elaine Rose Manzano, James Tepace, and Jasper Valdez.



The one millionth tree



One million trees seemed too big a number when the Green for Life: One Million Trees and Beyond was first launched. But through unity and the Lasallians' spirit of volunteerism, the Lasallian schools in the Philippines have surpassed its target. As of May 2011, Lasallians were able to plant 1,054,985 tree caps all over the country. DLSU-D was able to contribute around 100,000 seedlings and still aims to plant more.

[to page 6](#)

Celebrating the Philippines' 113th Independence Day



Cavite's premier university celebrates one of the milestones in Philippine history. A re-enactment of the Declaration of the Philippine Independence was held at Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo on June 23 to commemorate the 113th Independence Day of the Philippines from the Spanish colonial rule. It is on the same

date 113 years ago, June 23, 1898, when Emilio Aguinaldo issued a decree establishing the country's revolutionary government.

Cavite Studies Center Events Coordinator Aquino Garcia read the Act of Proclamation of Independence of the Filipino People. Arch. Francis

Gerald Abaya and Cesar EA Virata, president of Cavite Historical Society, both from the lineage of Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, were present for the waving and hoisting of the Philippine flag alongside DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC, EdD and Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research Olivia Legaspi.

IALU's 5th Leadership Program

Vice Chancellor for Mission, External Affairs, and Advancement Myrna Ramos and University Controller Deodoro Abiog II attended as DLSU-D's representatives in the 5th International Lasallian University Leadership Program organized by the International Association of Lasallian Universities (IALU). The two-week immersion program participated in by 23 Lasallian schools around the globe was held at the Generalate of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome, Italy, from June 5 to 18.

Through the series of seminars and workshops facilitated by the Lasallian Brothers, the delegates were honed to become catalysts in promoting the Lasallian charism and Catholic identity in their local institutions.



Dr. Ramos and Abiog with the Founder's relic in Rome, Italy

"[The program has] strengthened our commitment to the Lasallian mission," reflects Dr. Ramos. Abiog agrees that being one of the delegates is indeed

a great experience. "I learned many things about our Founder and the

to page 5

From scraps to scholarships



From left: College of Business Administration Dean Danilo Merais, Cavite Institute President Jose Belamide, Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research Olivia Legaspi, and Business Management Department Chair Oscar Lacap during the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement.

The College of Business Administration (CBA), through Students in Free Enterprise De La Salle University-Dasmariñas Chapter (SIFE-DLSU-D), signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Cavite Institute (CI) on June 24 at the Severino de las Alas Hall Auditorium. The agreement specifies SIFE DLSU-D's adaptation of Wishcraft, the brainchild of CI, a non-profit school in Silang, Cavite, and the roles of both parties for the success of the endeavor.

The meaning of Wishcraft, "We Integrate Scholarship with the Collection of Recyclables and Frequently-generated Trash," will already give readers a grasp of what the project is about. Well-deserving students are granted scholarships wherein the fund is generated from recyclables like papers, plastics, bottles, cans, and other used containers.

In CI, students who bring recyclables are given corresponding tuition discounts. SIFE-DLSU-D, in cooperation with the

CBA Student Council, gave the project a twist through organizing a contest that will hopefully involve more students and teachers: the Search for the "Most Eco-Friendly Section/Student Organization" and the "Most Eco-Friendly Professor." The students will earn points based on the amount raised from the recyclables turned in. A receiving station will be set up at the Environmental Resource Management Center and Campus Development Office where students will turn in papers, bottles, old DLSU-D uniforms, appliances and computers, doypacks, tin cans, and all kinds of containers on dates specified by SIFE-DLSU-D.

Aside from the integration of scholarship with biodiversity conservation and environment protection, SIFE-DLSU-D will also conduct seminars and workshops as part of their livelihood projects. CI, on the other hand, will provide trainings and other forms of assistance to SIFE-DLSU-D as deemed necessary for the realization of Wishcraft.



Photos with this icon have an online gallery at www.dlsud.edu.ph/mco

AEA opens satellite library in CEAT

Students from the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology (CEAT) no longer have to walk too far for their library research. Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo (AEA) has just opened a satellite library located at the ground floor of the CEAT Building. According to the memo released by AEA Director Sonia Gementiza on June 12, the library aims to accommodate more student researchers from the college. The CEAT Library houses latest editions of books, journals, and magazines on architecture, engineering, and technology.

Language Culture Communication in Asia

The Language Learning Center (LLC) has recently launched the maiden issue of its international online journal, *Language Culture Communication in Asia*. LLC's refereed international journal is a quarterly online publication on language, culture, and communication in the pan-Asian contexts. Fundamental areas of the journal range from studies on language, language learning, language teaching, language assessment and/or evaluation, to sociolinguistics, to areas of applied linguistics, among others.

The maiden release includes the following titles: Localized Communicative Competence in English and the Challenges to ELT in the Philippines; A League of their Own: Reflections on Documenting Rare and Obsolescent Tagalog Words; Powerless in Policy, Powerful in Practice: Critical Insights on Pedagogical Code Switching in the Philippine Context; and Sounding off the Philippine English to a Sea of Englishes.

The next issue is set to be released on August 15. Visit <http://www.dlsud.edu.ph/languagelearningcenter/journal.htm> to read more on *Language Culture Communication in Asia*.

A visit from Cambodia's Ministry of Education

As part of PAASCU's internship program, officials from Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport Department of Higher Education visited DLSU-D on June 27. Quality Assurance Director Cristina Salibay presented the university's profile, major thrusts, and most importantly, the fundamentals of DLSU-D's institutional self-survey process and good practices.

DLSU-D is the first university that the delegates have visited in their internship program under PAASCU. PAASCU Vice President Herminia Torres expressed her confidence in the university as an excellent training ground for accreditors,



“DLSU-D has good facilities, [it has] an Accreditation Office...DLSU-D is a good model for schools who want to know more about quality assurance.”

The delegates from Cambodia's Ministry of Education, together with PAASCU Executive Director Concepcion Pijano and Vice President Herminia Torres and Quality Assurance Office Director Crisitiina Salibay, during their courtesy call with DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC, EdD.

The first campus-based National Book Store

The community better get their *Laking National* cards ready as National Book Store (NBS) opens its first campus-based branch here in DLSU-D. “Here in La Salle, we want to go beyond what a store of books is all about... We can work together, journey together, and help



13,000 students appreciate what books are about,” enthused DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC, EdD during his remarks in the opening and blessing of NBS, DLSU-D.

This branch, which is just a few steps away from the students' classrooms, is expected to provide students easier access to books and help lessen the hassle of going to faraway cities scouting for books. The De La Salle Health Sciences Institute, where Br. Gus is also the president, will also benefit from this endeavor as books needed by its students will also be ordered from this NBS branch.

IALU's 5th... *from page 3*

different things about the other La Salle schools and how they handle their schools,” shares Abiog.

As an output for the program, the delegates from the La Salle schools in the Philippines came up with a project proposal dubbed Beyond 100: Envisioning Lasallian Higher Education in the Philippines.

One component of the proposal is holding a seminar on the framework of bringing Lasallian heritage in a globalized setting with Br. Louis De Thomas FSC as the proposed facilitator. Ramos and Abiog further took advantage of the opportunity to invite fellow delegates to the upcoming major events for the Centennial Celebration.

Not a million. A billion.



Manuel Blas II has remarkably raised the P1 billion target for building the Philippines' first world-class science museum: The Mind Museum.

Thankfully, his fundraising secrets no longer remained secrets through the seminar organized by the University Advancement Office on June 23. Blas shares how he conquered the dream that seemed unachievable—from the inspiring anecdotes to the technical side of fundraising. Attended by students, faculty, and staff, the seminar dubbed Secrets to Successful Fund raising: The Mind Museum Story is very fitting as the university needs to become more aggressive in raising funds for scholarships and Centennial and Jubilee projects.

Manny Blas is a former part-time faculty of the Religious Education Department. He is currently the vice president of Ayala Land, Inc. and managing director of Bonifacio Art Foundation, Inc.

2011 Outstanding Staff and ASP



Mercado



Lontoc

Eleanor Mercado, secretary of the Communication Arts Department, was hailed as the Outstanding Staff of the Year for SY 2010-2011 after the rigorous selection process. Staff Services Head of the Human Resource Management Office **Eugenia Lontoc**, on the other hand, was awarded Academic Service Personnel (ASP) of the Year. The awarding was held during the Staff Recognition 2011 at Ugnayang La Salle. Staff members with good attendance and long years of service, new master's degree holders, past *Kabalikat ng DLSU-D* officers, and finalists for the Outstanding Staff and ASP of the Year were also honored during the event.

The one millionth... from page 2

To celebrate this success, DLSU-D held a ceremonial one millionth tree planting on June 14. The symbolic one millionth tree *balitbitan* (*Cynometra ramiflora*) represents the university's commitment to environmental conservation as the *balitbitan* is a tree that absorbs toxic pollutants. It was planted near the parking space behind Ugnayang La Salle. As Environmental Resource Management Center and Campus Development Office Director Marlon Pareja puts it, "There is no other place more fitting. It can be easily seen by pedestrians passing through the covered walk and by motorists that traverse this



driveway. More importantly, it is beside Ugnayang La Salle... a place in DLSU-D where people converge and interact." One Million Trees And Beyond Project Director Jorge Buenaventura and DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC were there to witness the planting of the symbolic tree.

10% employee discount in Figaro and Generika



Through the University Linkages Office, DLSU-D renewed its partnership

with Generika Drugstore, Dasmariñas Bayan Branch and Figaro Dasmariñas. Through this, DLSU-D employees may enjoy 10 percent discount on food and beverages in Figaro for a minimum purchase of Php200. Generika Drugstore Dasmariñas Bayan, on the other hand, offers 10 percent discount for generic medicines for a minimum purchase of Php50. A valid DLSU-D ID has to be presented to avail both discounts.



Equipping freshmen through CELM

The Language Learning Center implemented for the first time the Core English Language Test (CELT) to confirmed freshmen students of SY 2011-2012. CELT, a 50-item criterion-referenced test, strategically measures the students' abilities to purposely use grammatical structures.

Students who were advised to take a review of the grammatical units, as based from the test results, underwent a 30-hour modular instruction on English structures in spoken and written discourses. Trained language specialists facilitated the Core English Language Module (CELM) from June 2 to 11. "[CELM] equips the froshies with the needed Academic English demands of communication at the tertiary level," explains LLC Director Christopher Gabriel.

Congratulations, Br. Gus



DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC, EdD was conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, Honoris Causa by St. Mary's College of California Board of Trustees. The conferment took place during the 2011 Annual Academic Convocation, where Br. Gus was the guest of honor, held at St. Mary's College of California, U.S.A.

Br. Gus is one who "embodies the spirit of faith and zeal, believing that God will provide where there is a need... [he] has reached out and touched the hearts of students as teacher, mentor, principal, and university president," commends Br. Ronald Gallagher FSC, president of St. Mary's College of California, during the conferment of the honorary degree. Br. Gus, being the president of DLSU-D and De La Salle Health Sciences Institute, has been effectively managing the two universities while continually working towards the realization of his 14-point agenda.

Renamed Offices

Vice Chancellor for Mission, External Affairs and Development	Vice Chancellor for Mission, External Affairs and Advancement
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Services	Assistant Vice Chancellor for Finance and Ancillary Services
Planning Office	Planning and Development Office
Accreditation Office	Quality Assurance Office
University Development Office	University Advancement Office
Environmental Resource Management Center	Environmental Resource Management Center and Campus Development Office
Treasury Office	Treasury and Ancillary Services
Center for Educational Multimedia	Educational Technology Center

*The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research now has two assistant vice chancellors:
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Scholarship and Academic Services and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research.*



IGHT
SS

THINK
GREEN

SLOWDOWN
THE
BURN

WALANG
DIESEL
KITO
VOID CO.
MISSION

PADYAK
THE is going
CARBON
NEUTRAL
NO
POLLUTION



Black out. Green in.

"DLSU-D is in the forefront of environmental education. We set the example. We're going to talk about it and we're going to live it."

-Br. Gus Boquer FSC, EdD





Long before all the hype on climate change has started, the university has already made its contributions to the preservation of nature. Recognized as the *Academic Center of Excellence in Biodiversity Conservation*, *Dark Green School Status*, *Regional Winner of the 2009 Search for Eco-friendly and Sustainable Schools*, and *Most Outstanding Materials Recovery Facility*, DLSU-D has consistently proved to be a true steward of nature. But even after all the awards and recognitions, there is no stopping DLSU-D in doing further steps to fulfill its duty to the nature and help combat the growing threats of global climate change.

This is where DLSU-D's Project Carbon Neutral (PCN) comes in the picture. In support of Lasallian Institute for the Environment's (LIFE) PCN, DLSU-D has created its local PCN Team tasked to create innovative ways to offset the university's carbon footprint and mitigate carbon emissions to become carbon neutral.

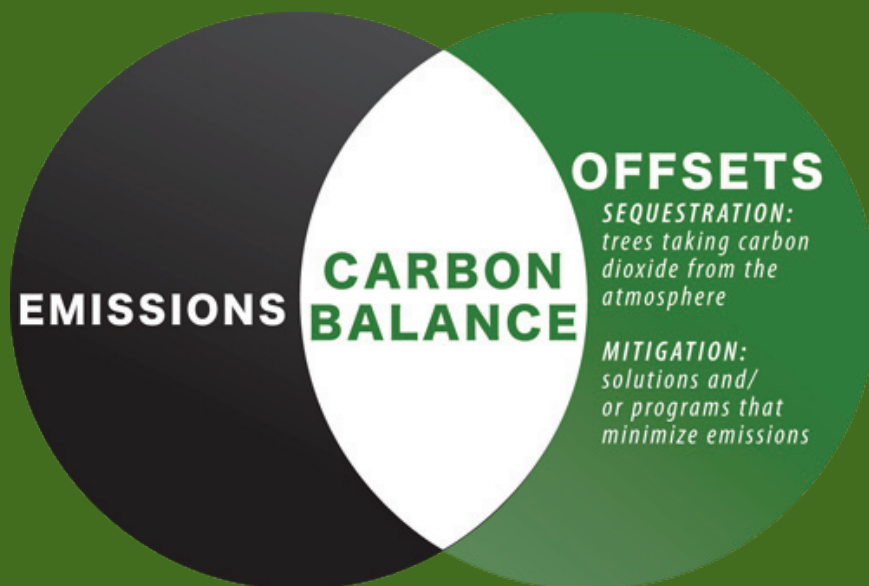


Want to know how big your carbon footprint is?

www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx

Wait a minute. Carbon footprint? Carbon neutral? What on earth is that?

In spite of all the “green” hype, many still have the vaguest idea what carbon footprint and going carbon neutral really mean. Simply put, carbon footprint is the measure of how much greenhouse gases are produced while going carbon neutral is removing as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as we put in.



For information, tips and photos on DLSU-D's Black Out - Green advocacy, please visit: www.dlsud.edu.ph/mco/pcn/index.html

Diagram from: 100years.lasallian.ph



Going greener

PCN launching and support activities

June 29 marked the awaited launching of the university's local PCN efforts dubbed Black Out, Green In: Project Carbon Neutral. The Environmental Resource Management Center and Campus Development Office (ERMCD, former ERMaC), in partnership with Lasallian Community Development Center, Marketing Communications Office, Student Development and Activities Office and Biological Sciences Department, came up with support activities that will orient the community on the

different ways that can help in reducing and offsetting carbon footprint.

ERMCD Director Marlon Pareja oriented the audience of the university's three major approaches to become carbon neutral. First is the implementation of policies geared towards going greener. Use of electronic devices as the major means of communications is just one aspect being looked into. Another approach is through technology and engineering which include replacement of electronic equipment that consumes high amount of energy and adoption of green architecture for buildings in the campus. Lastly, through education. All the efforts being



done today by the university will be close to futile if the essential values are not imbibed to the future generations.

The logo for DLSU-D's Black out, Green in: Project Carbon Neutral was also unveiled by DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC together with Dr. Olivia Legaspi and Dr. Epifania Anfone, vice chancellors for Academics and Research and Finance and Administrative Services, respectively. Representatives from students, staff, faculty, administrators, Parents of La Salle Cavite, and DLSU-D Alumni Association pledged their support to the university's endeavor and described specific ways on how they can help the university in going carbon neutral.

In the Bike Ride Campaign, bikers rode their bicycles bearing slogans around the campus to help raise awareness of the positive effects of biking.

DLSU-D did not only support the Earth Hour but actually adopted the concept of the campaign. Dubbed Green Hour, every office will turn off their air-conditioning units from 8:00 to 9:00 in the morning and 5:00 to 6:00 in the afternoon. If regularly done, this effort can help save 100 kilowatt hour each month, thus helping minimize 100 lbs of emitted carbon dioxide (Blueskymodel.org) every month.



The *kubos* along Lake Park Avenue were busy with people buying "green finds" from the Green Market where Gourmet's Refreshers offered their best sellers. In the same venue is the carbon footprint calculator where participants can compute their domestic carbon footprint vis-a-vis the number of trees that need to be planted every year to absorb their carbon footprint. It is still with the hope that participants, upon knowing their carbon footprint, will make actions to help lessen their greenhouse gases contribution.

On the same date is also the University Paperless Day where teachers were encouraged to conduct oral examinations instead of written ones, have the students submit their homework through e-mail, and discourage students from photocopying notes

and handouts. Employees are likewise advised to use IP Messenger and e-mails in writing communications and use recycled paper if really needed. In a nutshell, this project aims to encourage the community to consciously exert effort in reducing the use of papers in the campus.

A series of seminars on climate change and going carbon neutral and Green Photo competitions are further slated together with other events that will help the community become aware of the university's PCN Projects.



Photo by ERMCD

The launching isn't the beginning

DLSU-D's PCN Team has long started its efforts supporting this project prior the launching on June 29. Since the primary goal is to become carbon neutral, PCN Team's lead unit, ERMCD, conducted steps that would quantify the amount of carbon emission in the university by taking an inventory of the school's carbon-generating activities as against activities offsetting the carbon emitted.

In August 2010, ERMCD made an inventory of trees in the campus to compute the carbon amount absorbed by the campus. In September 2010, the DLSU-D PCN Team began its data gathering for foot printing on energy and lighting. For starters, they collected information on number, type and wattage of lighting systems and appliances in the university buildings.

The team gathered the Electric Consumption Report of all departments and buildings from January 2008 up to present through the Accounting Office, as well as the fuel and oil usage of the Transportation Office from 2008 until May 2010. These steps were taken for the formulation of recommendations and measures to be taken to offset the university's carbon emissions.

One of the major steps toward going carbon neutral is the holding of various tree-planting activities. For this year alone, a total of 18,748 seedlings and propagules were already planted by DLSU-D in Mt. Palaypalay Protected Landscape and Seascape, Ternate, Cavite and in Calatagan, Batangas, to mention some. Modest plant nurseries were also established in the campus for growing trees and other ornamental plants. DLSU-D has undeniably contributed to help offset the university's carbon emissions but as Br. Gus shared, "We have plenty of trees, but we'll have more." He further emphasized that planting trees in the campus is not enough. What should be planted are the right kinds of trees that will help the university in going carbon neutral. And this is just what the university will do.

To date, among DLSU-D's partners towards going carbon neutral are the Philippine Marines, Samaka (Calatagan, Batangas), The Orchard Golf and Country Club, Dasmariñas City Local Government, and Jabez Christian School. Linkages for environmental programs are further being strengthened especially with the local government unit of Dasmariñas and other partner organizations. **n**



DLSU-D is One La Salle

www.dlsud.edu.ph/centennial/index.htm

The statue of the Great Founder, St John Baptist de La Salle, during the procession from the chapel to Ugnayang La Salle.



The kickoff was capped by a boodle fight along Acacia Lane. The faculty, staff, and students all enjoyed eating with their bare hands.



Students and faculty members flocked to the Ugnayang La Salle on June 16 as DLSU-D celebrates its Centennial Kickoff Celebration together with the 16 La Salle schools in the Philippines. Highlights of the event are the launching of the major Centennial contributions of DLSU-D: the Centennial CD, The Life of St. La Salle, Human Lasallian Star, and Dalaw Juan.





Lasallians going above and beyond



A testament of God's greatness

For three consecutive years, DLSU-D has brought home the FINEX-CITIBANK Rafael B. Buenaventura Regional Outstanding Finance Educators Award for Luzon with Allied Business Department (ABD) faculty Don Malabanan in 2007-2008, former College of Business Administration Associate Dean Vivian Pascual in 2008-2009 and former ABD Chair Alice Valerio in 2009-2010. For the fourth year, Accountancy Department faculty and Chief Compliance Officer Mary May Eulogio bagged the OFE Award Luzon. This year, however, marks a huge leap as Eulogio not only brought home the OFE Award. She was also chosen as the national winner, receiving the Most Outstanding Finance Educator Award.

Newsette goes beyond this award and gets to know May a little deeper, from the classroom and her students, to her personal beliefs and the very core of her existence – her deep and unwavering faith in God.

Let His will be done

In the previous years, then College of Business Administration Dean Willington Onuh had offered May the nomination. Time and time again, she would

decline, as if she felt it was not her time just yet. For this year, she was only asked once and she agreed. It was not because she was already confident enough. On the contrary, she was still very hesitant in accepting the nomination. She has yet to revive pursuing her doctorate degree, and with only case studies done in collaboration with a consultant to back up the nomination's criteria for research and consultancy, filling out the nomination form already intimidated her. But upon completing the form, seeing the bigger picture, she realized that her works complemented the true meaning of teaching.

After submitting the nomination, May's entire hope was built on prayer. She and her small group in church prayed to, at the very least, be one of the semi-finalists, and, eventually, bring home the regional award for Luzon. But as she elaborates, "If it would be for the greater glory of God to bring home the national award, then let His will be done."

The regional winners were announced and May attained the Luzon title she was praying for. When her name was called and announced as the Most Outstanding Finance Educator Award for 2010-2011, May's only thought at that moment was, "God is so good, He is so faithful in answering prayers." She said that all she felt was immense gratefulness.

"With all sincerity, [I was filled with gratefulness. No doubt, all of us finalists prepared well for that final stage of screening (interview by a panel of industry and academic leaders). Though being in this profession for a

Mary May Eulogio

Religion: Christian

Member: Maria C. Eulogio

Birthday: May 01, 1973

Father: Edgardo S. Eulogio (deceased)

Siblings: Edgar Allan C. Eulogio, Amelie C. Eulogio

In one word, I would describe myself as rather I would be perceived as "purpose driven"

My most unforgettable colleagues at DLSU-D are my then professors, now colleagues: Ms. Del Norvaca, Ms. Loida Hano & Mr. Dwight Cortijo

When I'm stressed, I try to unwind through drinking coffee, and @ Tagaytay

I work best when time is running out ?!

My favorite hangout at DLSU-D is @ the 3rd Basement of CBA Bldg. (borrowing the stairs) and @ the open field near the creek.

My goofy side shows when during unexpected moments, outside the classroom/campus

One thing that people don't know about me is the softer, gentle emotional side of me



couple of years, decades even for some, we were still all so nervous during the entire screening up to the announcement of the judges' decision. And for DLSU-D to finally bring home the national title, we consider that a big, big favor from God."

Indeed, it was a prestigious award. To be named the Most Outstanding Finance Educator Award was not an easy feat. But to May, the experience was beyond winning the award. She believes that getting an award is not an integral part of the purpose of our existence. May explained her sentiment that, "we consider these recognitions, these awards as a bonus of the things we do. [If other people think that your contributions are commendable] and you deserve it, thank God. The end is not just for the sake of winning. Rather, if it could be an exhibit of what God could possibly do to an ordinary person, so be it." She revealed that it was not part of their intention to win the award just to have something to brag about. They prayed to win the award as a testament of God's greatness because if it was given to an ordinary person. "It was more of God's hand that moved, more of God's grace and favor, not merely man's effort," May reflected.

An integrative case of sorts

Every teacher has a personal style, a unique strategy on how they could make a mark in their students' lives. For May, she believes that the success of a class is a fifty-fifty effort between the teacher and the students. In a nutshell, she begins the class discussion by giving a synthesis of the topic and the application is more of an effort of students.



Whenever possible, May also prefers to "give illustrations that are seen in a real scenario [and] not just something theoretically [discussed] in the books."

She challenges her students' capabilities by giving advanced problems as homework, constant seatwork or boardwork, quizzes, and even on-the-spot presentation of solutions. May said that it's a common complaint among students that there are items in the exams which were not discussed during class. What they don't realize is that's the dynamics of the subject. "You shouldn't expect to encounter the same problems discussed in the classroom. [We are not merely teaching the] content of and solution to a specific problem. Rather, we teach the principles behind and the manner of solving a problem," May furthered.

Towards the end of the semester, May uses integrative cases, cases that cover more than one topic, where the students can apply what they have learned. The class would be divided into groups, each assigned with a different case infused with ethical values. This exercise "[tests not only the students'] technical knowledge [but also their] decision-making abilities and how they would apply values in [the] cases," May explained.

One of the ways a teacher would know her adeptness in teaching is through the students' evaluation at the end of every semester. May gleefully shared that she has been receiving good ratings for her mastery of the subject and jokingly followed it with, "That's probably because I've been teaching the subject for more than 10 years now." Beyond that confidence lies May's mark of a truly dedicated teacher. Even though she has been teaching the subject for more than 10 years, she still makes it a point to review the chapter to be discussed before going to class.

to page 26



Beyond & honors & titles

Eighteen years ago, a naughty three-year-old boy spits and throws pebbles at kids who would dare pass by their front yard. His Lola will scold him whenever he's playing up, but to no avail. The poor little kids will still get a dose of his mischief if they dare pass by their front yard again.

Fast forward to April of 2011.

What comes out from the mouth of the very same boy is no longer the spit that irks her Lola but the inspiring words that got the crowd riveted all throughout his graduation speech. The standing ovation after his speech came as no surprise.

This guy inspired the audience when he gave them a picture of his life and how he broke the intricate link between poverty and being uneducated.

One teacher even remarked that in the twenty years that she has attended the graduation ceremony, it was the first time that she was actually moved to tears.

His average grade is 3.81, making him the top graduate of Class 2011. He is the first summa cum laude from the Communication Arts Department. He is one of the first two graduates to get the highest Latin honors in DLSU-D history. He is the graduate whose speech made a dent in the minds of those present during the commencement rites.

He is Mervin Teo Wenke.

When asked what inspired him while writing his speech, Mervin answered in a heartbeat. "[My mother and my grandma. They are my inspiration. They were the ones who supported me, worked hard and sacrificed for my sake. Studying and working hard is one way that I know I could honor them.]"

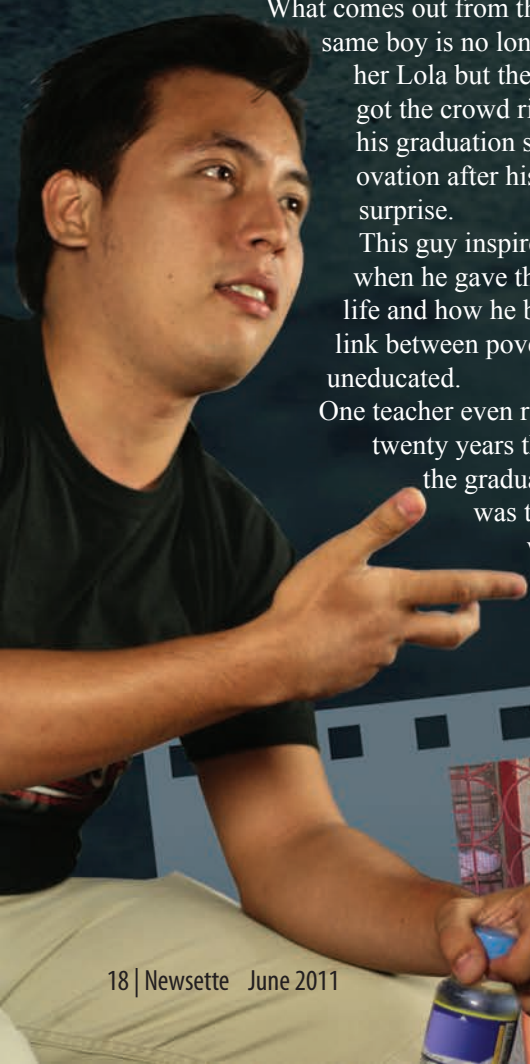
The ladies in Mervin's life

Mervin's achievement goes beyond mere numbers, honors, or titles. Behind his high grades is a story of trials and triumphs, of struggles and victories. But he wasn't alone amidst all these. With him who were there all the way were his Lola Dominga "Ingga" and Mama Yolanda "Yoly" Villegas-Wenke.

Mervin grew up without a father. Despite this, he did not grow resentful of the fact that he did not even know what his American father's name was and how he looked like. "[My mother and grandma raised me with so much love that I did not even ask for more. I didn't feel like something was missing because they were like mother and father to me.]"

Mervin witnessed how hard his mother and grandma has toiled to sustain their daily needs. As early as six in the morning, they will push their *kariton* (cart) to a nearby public school where they would sell fishballs and other goods. He saw how his Lola Ingga would make *kakanin* (sticky rice cakes) or other dainties that her mother will then sell from house to house. That was how they earned the money to send Mervin and his older brother to school.

One could easily jump to the conclusion that when the son is working as a seaman, there is no need for the parents to work



My favorite subject
The subject that ste
The lowest grade th
taught by Dr.
When a teacher giv
My most unforgette
Arts Dept. CCA
When I'm stress
riding off
I work best when
My favorite hang
When I was a stu
surfing the net v
My goofy side sh
One thing that p

The daunting challenge

After graduating salutatorian from a national high school in Dasmariñas in 2006, Mervin had to stop his schooling for a year. He worked at a fastfood chain at 16 years old. He left shortly after seeing how employees were treated and the same happened when he was teaching Koreans. It was in a mall where he worked as a salesman for five months. After working there, it was back to being a student for him.

“[My brother wanted me to take up engineering. It was practical but I do not want to waste my five years studying something I don’t want.] Mervin wanted to take up Communication Arts in DLSU-D. Instead of studying in a state university, which would be much more practical for them, he still pushed for a Lasallian education.

And it was not just his brother who was trying to steer him to a different course. “I was hard headed. There were people who were discouraging me from taking up AB Com since it’s not in demand. [They say] it’s not always passion, [that I should get a reality check].”

It was a sensible advice
without a doubt.
But despite

the odds, Mervin let neither poverty nor practicality become his compass in taking the course he would pursue in college. And his Lola Inga and Mama Yoly supported him in his decisions. It was still AB Com for him.

He applied for an academic scholarship in the university but there were still the miscellaneous fees that need to be paid. “[It was like reaching for the moon,]” Mervin recalls. The miscellaneous fees alone cost around seven to nine thousand. Add the expensive maintenance that has to be regularly provided for his mother. “[It’s just really hard work and faith in God’s plans.] *Kung plano N’ya, plano N’ya.*”

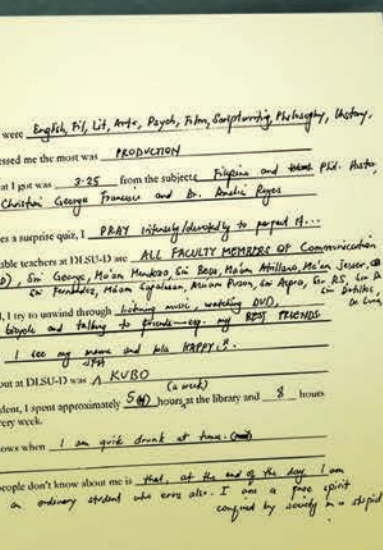
How he was able to make it through graduation was beyond him. Aside from his brother's support, Lola Inggá still sold food in her tiny stall in their front yard. Whatever little profit she gets from it is used to support Mervin's daily allowance. There were times that he could not afford the required books for certain subjects. There would be times that he had to study with an empty stomach and walk his way home from school if not for the help of his classmates and teachers.

When he entered college, he did not really expect to finish the four years he had to spend in the university. Though he took the risk of following his passion, he was still in touch with the reality that he might have to stop his schooling anytime. “[The maintaining grade is really high. So that I wouldn’t die with such high expectations, I told myself that I can stop at any time.]” He can then heave a sigh of relief every end of the semester once he sees his grades are still within the maintaining range.

Wenkepedia

Mervin was nicknamed “Wenkepedia” by his classmates since he seems to have an explanation ready to every question thrown at him. His typical day as a student is far from how a usual day of most students is like. Home,

to page 26





his community. With these technologies, their farmers are not just reaping the farm products but their dignity as well.

Joselito's first and foremost consideration is health and environment. This is the main reason why he continually adopts and promotes organic agriculture to reduce the health risks to farmers and consumers. He aspires to "[extend the] life expectancy [of the] new generation. [With] less chemicals, [not only would the] cost of production [go lower, we would also be producing] safe food [for the Filipinos.]" He believes that organic farming is the solution to the country's agricultural crises and the government should support and implement it.

Even though Joselito only has a high school degree due to financial constraint, he has studied a number of college courses in his own way. "[Farming is not merely tilling soil and planting seeds – it encompasses the application of several studies such as engineering, microbiology, entomology, pathology, among many others.]"

For his persistence and efforts, several organizations recognized his contributions in the field of agriculture, including the Department of Agriculture and Department of Science and Technology. The most recent addition to his accolades, one that recognized him beyond his agricultural feats and technological expansions, is the DLSU-D Gawad Bayani award.

The Gawad Bayani

Of the men and women who have achieved great things and have shown distinguished courage and noble qualities, some are given due recognition while others equally deserving remain unrecognized. Heroes in their own right by virtues of their significant contributions in serving people, they should be searched out and once found, be given the laurels they truly deserve. This is the raison d'être, the reason for being, of the Gawad Bayani.

He started as a warehouseman in a drug company. In 1987, he lost his job in a company that stopped its operation due to the national financial crisis at that time. A blessing in disguise, so they say, for the crisis opened a new life for Joselito Tibayan.

When he decided to pursue farming, the occupation of his parents, Joselito attended a training on vegetable production. He was inspired by the craft he learned during the training and thus began his exploration of scientific, modern and inventive ways of farming. He explained that "[The Philippines is] prone to calamities, especially typhoons [which make] farming [difficult. When there is a typhoon, you can expect the floods to follow.]" Because of these weather conditions, Joselito is currently promoting what he calls "zero tillage technology." He shared that this technology is very simple and does not even need modern technology to work, "[when a typhoon comes and damages your crops, there's no need till the soil anymore. Just pull out the damaged crop and plant new ones. You'll surely get your profit.]"

That is just one of the many farming innovations that Joselito is applying and introducing to the farmers in Naic and the entire province of Cavite. He likes attending seminars, reading books, watching educational videos – anything related to farming. He combines the various technologies he learns, experiments with them and once successful, Joselito would share it with the other farmers in

Not your run-of-the-mill farmer



**My revolution is no
longer in the mountains
or in the streets.
My revolution is now in
technology.**



A hero is defined as a person who performs extraordinary deeds for the benefit of others. While there are many unsung heroes, to be recognized as one is not only an immense honor but, more than anything, a great challenge. As such was Joselito's sentiment when Naic Municipal Mayor Edwina Mendoza endorsed and nominated him for the Gawad Bayani. "[I never dreamed of receiving awards. I felt unworthy of such accolades but who am I to refuse the Mayor's request? But this award, like all the other recognitions I received, is a challenge because I want to prove that I am deserving of the awards given to me]," Joselito shared.

As Joselito never expected anything would result from the nomination, he was a bit surprised when an evaluator from DLSU-D visited his home and told him that he was one of the finalists. Recalling that day, Joselito was "[surprised and at the same time ecstatic because what I've been doing is being recognized by] award giving bodies." Joselito took this as an opportunity to further promote his advocacy to his fellow Caviteños.

When asked what a hero is for him, Joselito simply replied, "a hero is someone who stands by and fights for his principles even until death. As long as you know you are right, fight for it."

to page 27



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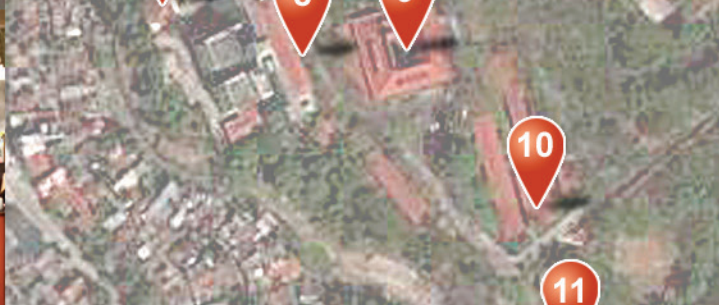
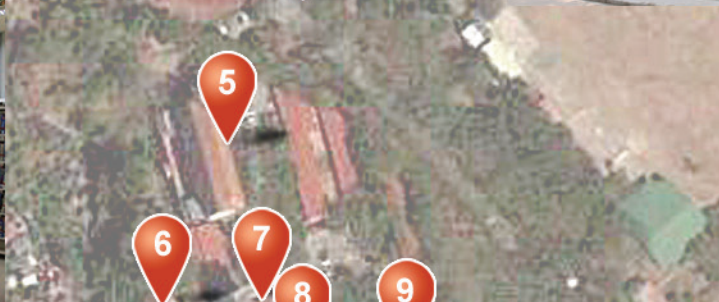
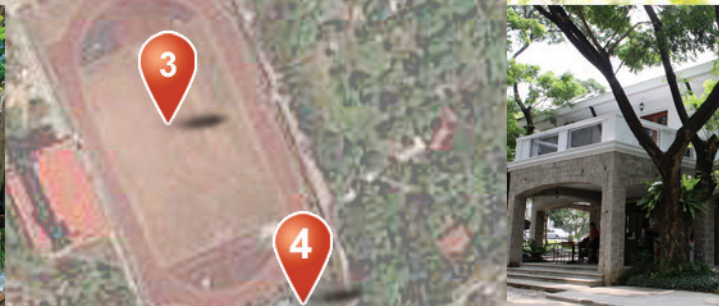
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DLSU-D's 25 Hot Spots

With its serene atmosphere and picturesque buildings patterned after historic places in the Philippines, DLSU-D never fails to awe its visitors from around the country. Obviously, it was not granted the Dark Green Status for nothing.

From East to West, here are the hot spots in DLSU-D where people, Lasallians and non-Lasallians alike, frequently come together, either to hold major events and discuss important matters or simply to hang out and unwind.

1. Bahay Pag-asa, Dasmariñas
2. Ugnayang La Salle
3. Track Oval and Grandstand
4. Batibot (at the CBA parking area)
5. Chapel of the Magnificat
6. Kindled Nest Diner
7. St. Joseph Chapel (College of Engineering Architecture and Technology Building)
8. College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology Library
9. Administration Building quadrangle
10. Faculty Association Office
11. University Square
12. Lake Park
13. Students' Dormitory
14. Severino de las Alas Hall Auditorium (More commonly known as the Alumni Auditorium, this is one of the places where major assemblies and seminars take place.)
15. Hotel Rafael
16. College of International Hospitality Management Lobby
17. Rotunda at Magdalo Gate (Gate 1)
18. Julian Felipe Hall Kubos
19. Residencia La Salle
20. Mila's Diner
21. Botanical Garden
22. Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo
23. Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Chapel
24. Cultural Heritage Complex Grounds
25. Museo De La Salle

Satellite photo by Google Earth

Google

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A look inside... from page 16

The other side of the coin

It is a common testament among students that they have a teacher or two who managed to change their lives – those who moved and pushed them beyond what they thought their limit was; those whose “quotable quotes” still remain clear in their minds even after 10 or 20 years of graduation.

For May, she encountered one of her unforgettable students mainly because of how that student described her. “*Si Ms. May ay ‘yung tipo na kung titingnan mo siya, bato siya. Pero putik siya sa loob,*” was the student’s daring description. (On the surface, Ms. May is a rock but deep inside, she is soft-hearted.) May almost got offended with the description, but the student immediately explained it was based on the way she portrays herself in class and her colleagues – serious, strict, and seldom smiling. “[The common first impression of me is that I have a] strong personality. That student probably said I am soft-hearted because there were instances when we have gone out as a group and they saw how I laugh at simple jokes, or how I am easily moved, especially if they’ve hit my soft spot.]”

May revealed that she gets emotional when she shares her faith. Her strong faith is even expressed in the classroom, through the Gospel Reading sessions. In the more recent semesters, it has been her practice that at the beginning of the semester, she gives out copies of Bible verses that students will read and share in the class. May’s special twist is, aside from simply reciting, she requires the student to give a personal reflection on the verse read. “It would be ideal if [the student’s reflection is connected to the topic for that day] or



even something personal, [how the student understood or has personally experienced the verse.]” After the student’s sharing, May would also add something from her own reflection to give life to the verse.

As May is also the university’s Chief Compliance Officer, juggling time and tasks between teaching and her position can be taxing at times. When the pressure is too much and the stress is at its maximum, May finds relief in leaving the task for a while to clear her head. “[How can you think clearly if you are under that kind of stress?] It pays to stop [and] clear your thoughts.” She often goes to Tagaytay with her friend, Belinda Narvaez (chair, Accountancy Department), with whom she shares a common love for organic food and other products. “[When we discover a] new spot offering organic products, eventually, [it’ll be one of our favourites.]” When under extreme duress, Tagaytay is her go-to place. “[I am aware of the reality that I’d go back to doing the task and I also know that taking a break from this task, thinking about other things, even merely closing my eyes, would be a lot of help.]”

Going back to our roots, we are in a Lasallian institution for a specific purpose – to teach minds, touch hearts and transform lives – our *raison d’être*, so to speak. But more than anything, being a teacher is not a job, it’s a calling. And that’s exactly what happened to May. “My primary reason for applying at La Salle-Dasma was to teach.” Even as an administrator who does it for “the virtue of service,” in her heart, May is still a teacher. She firmly believes that “even if I am only teaching, I would still be serving a purpose. [To become an] influence to the younger generation...that’s already serving a purpose.” **n**

Beyond honors... from page 18

school, home, study and review. He describes himself as an absolutist. If there’s school, he would focus solely on his studies and when it’s semestral or summer break, it’s time for fun and relaxation.

When it’s exam week, Mervin’s Lola Ingga could only scratch her head when she had to miss an episode of her favorite teleserye, *Agua Bendita*, because Mervin needs a perfectly quiet place to study. He pulls all-nighters, determined to get a perfect score in his exams and frustrated when he gets grades lower than what he expected.

He was teased by his classmates that he is committing a “social suicide” with the kind of life he lives, but he remained unfazed. There was even a time when all his classmates in

their Speech class got mad at him. “[I got too engrossed reading about the topic. When it’s time for me to recite, I mentioned all the answers and nothing were left for them when it was their turn. I was commended by my professor but my classmates got mad at me.]” Thankfully, his public apology to his classmates settled the conflict.

Mervin recalls how he became the kind of student that he is. “[When I was in Grade 1, my mother told me I had to learn how to read because if I don’t, I would have to go back to first grade. So I told myself that I really have to learn how to read!]”

He was able to memorize the *Abakada* but when the syllables were combined to form a word, he still could not read what was written. “[She got so mad at me that I cried hard. I asked her if

she doesn't love me and then she hugged me. That was the last time she taught me but that's when I realized how motivated she was to help me learn.]" Mervin told himself that he would not waste whatever efforts her mother spent to spark in him the love for learning.

Aiming for the second

Mervin is diligent, driven, and exacting, almost to a fault. Ironically, he did not aim for the top, his goal was to be the second. Back in his high school days, what he aimed for was to be the class salutatorian. And he got what he asked for. "[I get easily contented. I'm happy to just become the second, I don't want the highest.]"

A few days before his classes started in DLSU-D, he went to church and prayed to God. "[Lord, please help me graduate as a magna cum laude. I'll study and work hard, I'll do what I can so that I can be one.]"

Evidently, God had better plans. Mervin Teo Wenke, together with Dennis Plimaco of the College of Education, made history when they achieved the highest Latin honors and graduated summa cum laude.

Giving back

The book of Ecclesiastes says there is a time for everything under the heavens. And as Mervin gets his taste of success, this is indeed his time to dance and be merry, together with the ladies in his life, of course. Giving Mervin his medal on stage was indeed a time for his mother and grandma to bask in the success of their son's hard work.



Mervin remains indebted not only to his family, but to his alma mater, too. He plans to pursue graduate studies in the field of liberal arts and through teaching, give back to the university that created possibilities for him through scholarship. At present, he is set to work with Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia (CLSA) Exchange Capital, Inc. He was invited by the CEO, Luis Juan Virata himself, right after the graduation ceremonies. It was an opportunity he couldn't say no to but he still sees himself teaching one day, inspiring the students who he was once like. **n**

Not your run... *from page 20*

A farmer for farmers

Joselito is currently the manager of the Palangue Agrarian Reform Cooperative in Naic, Cavite. He humbly said that he is only a "manager by accident." His system works well for the cooperative as he is, first and foremost, a farmer. He understands the members' problems and needs. "[I know what the members need. It would be contradicting if the manager is someone who doesn't know anything about soil treatment or anything about farming.]"

He is constantly encouraging other farmers to never give up. "[We just need one correct system, the best system. What we need from the government isn't money but on how they can train us and give us ways on how we can increase our harvests, lower the cost of production, thereby increasing our income.]" Joselito calls on to his fellow farmers to join him in his advocacy to enrich their lives and provide educational needs to their children towards a prosperous Philippines.



The drive

Joselito has been through many difficulties a man could possibly encounter in his life. An activist of sorts, he has

experienced living by the seashore, he climbed mountains, even took part in the EDSA People's Power Revolution. But he later realized that none of them helped in alleviating poverty from his life. And now, as he got older and so much wiser, Joselito shared, "[My revolution is no longer in the mountains or in the streets. My revolution now is in technology. I want to prove, with the little land the government gave us, that my aspirations then to have a college degree can be achieved through modern technology. That is the only way we can send our kids to school. And so that farmers can break away from the notion of] being 'no read-no write'."

He already proved that through his children. Joselito's eldest daughter is already a degree holder while his other two children are both in college. He even made a projection that in 10 years, there would be college graduates in their little *barangay*. But the outcome of his advocacy exceeded his expectations, "[It has only been four years and many have college degrees – children of farmers who are] 'no read-no write' [but were able to finish college.]"

"[When my daughter was on stage during their graduation rites, I felt like I was the one there because I am a part of her. I am very happy because my dreams, my advocacies and legacy are slowly becoming a reality.] **n**



Little egret (*Egretta garzetta*)
Photo by Ely Teehankee



white-collared kingfisher (*Halcyon chloris*)

Don't just take pictures,
share them! If your shot can
indeed paint a thousand words,
send them to
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together with your full name and
brief info about the photo.



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re-accreditation
status

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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY

MASTER OF ARTS IN MATHEMATICS

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT

MASTER OF ARTS IN FILIPINO

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

MAJOR IN GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

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MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING
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