



Lumina, the bridge stretching across DLSU-D's man-made lake, affords Lasallians a renewed appreciation of nature and its many gifts.

DLSU-D joins world's top-tier universities IN PURSUIT OF SUSTAINABILITY

AS OF JULY 24 THIS YEAR, De La Salle University-Dasmariñas has become the first Filipino university to be a member of ISCN (International Sustainable Campus Network).

ISCN is “a global forum for universities pursuing sustainability [by employing sustainability principles and measures in] their educational and research missions, and operations.” Founded in January 2007, ISCN now has over 60 members representing top-tier colleges and universities from 26 countries all over the world, including Harvard University, Yale University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Joining ISCN, DLSU-D has pledged to support the ISCN/ GULF Sustainable Campus Charter, which basically comprises sustainability principles for all ISCN members to adhere to.



Sustainability

Sustainability, as defined by the US EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), is the creation and maintenance of “conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony.” When these conditions are met, the fulfillment of “social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations” is made possible.

This definition is based on the principle that “everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either

directly or indirectly, on our natural environment.”

Thus, sustainability is important, continues the US EPA, “to making sure that we have, and will continue to have, the water, materials, and resources to protect human health and our environment.”

Marlon Pareja, director of DLSU-D’s ERMaC (Environmental Resource Management Center), explains that DLSU-D follows the “pedagogy of place” education principle. This means that education here at DLSU-D is “place-based”—“learning that is rooted in what is local—the unique history, environment, culture, economy, literature, and art of a particular place...” (Wikipedia).

In terms of sustainability, Pareja says that “our physical



ISCN
International Sustainable Campus Network

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DLSU-D ‘Guardians’ win 2nd in business competition



Guardians of Eden (from right) Eden Cabrera, Coleen Asiman, Maica Nato, Sancho Castro (team adviser), Ralph Cruz and Maverick Sangolan pose for a photo with Dr. Epifania Anfone, dean, College of Business Administration and Accountancy (extreme left).

Guardians of Eden—a team of DLSU-D Accountancy students—won Second Runner-up at the 2014 CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) Global Business Challenge held at the Century Park Hotel, June 20.

The team, composed of students Ralph Justine Cruz, Maverick Sangolan, Maica Nato and Coleen Asiman with their adviser Sancho T. Castro, was one of two DLSU-D teams who were among the six finalists shortlisted from more than 45 teams from different colleges and universities all over the country.

The other DLSU-D team was Team Paragons, composed of Shennalyn Nual, Daniel Cadius Dela Cruz, Krystel Princess Valenzuela and Zaira Camille Javier under the guidance of their adviser Loida Ilano.

The six finalist teams presented their case answers to a panel of five judges coming from different business disciplines.

CIMA Global Business Challenge is an international business competition for college undergraduates around the world, designed to bring out the best in the young business leaders of tomorrow.

environment complements [the] environmental education incorporated in [our] curriculum or classroom instruction.”

Thus, at DLSU-D, environmentalism is not just a lesson students learn through books and confined within their classrooms. More importantly, it is a lesson that they learn and apply—evidently—in their immediate environment that is the DLSU-D campus.

“It’s practicing what we preach,” Pareja simply puts it.

Membership

Yet despite its already apparent adherence to sustainability principles, DLSU-D still deemed it important that the University should be a member of ISCN. Why?

Pareja explains: Because ISCN “compels [its] members to submit charter reports... based on standards created by [ISCN] members themselves.”

As an ISCN member, DLSU-D has pledged “full strategic commitment” to support the ISCN/GULF Sustainable Campus Charter, which was developed

by ISCN with collaboration from the World Economic Forum’s GULF (Global University Leaders Forum).

The ISCN / GULF Charter has three principles:

Principle 1: To demonstrate respect for nature and society, sustainability considerations should be an integral part of planning, construction, renovation, and operation of buildings on campus.

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Accountancy prof among outstanding PICPA chapter heads

DLSU-D Accountancy faculty Sancho Castro has been named one of the Outstanding PICPA Chapter Presidents for the fiscal year 2013-2014 during its Awards and Recognition rites at the PICPA National Office on June 21.

PICPA gives out the award to chapter presidents who are able to perform their functions properly as determined by their compliance with PICPA’s national requirements. The awarding rites this year was themed “A.C.T. Now!: Accountability, Credibility and Transparency.”

Castro was president of the PICPA Cavite Chapter from July 1, 2013 to June 30 this year. Last year, PICPA elevated the Cavite Chapter to the “Hall of Fame”

due to the chapter’s continuous excellent performance as exhibited by its presidents in previous years.

PICPA (Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants) is the accredited national professional organization for certified public accountants in the country. It will have its national convention in November this year, during which, the local chapters will be given recognition distinct from that given to the chapter presidents.



Sancho Castro (2nd from left) with PICPA Southern Tagalog Director Rolando Leybe, PICPA National President Violy Josef and incoming Cavite Chapter President Tita Caluya.

Thai, Taiwan academics visit DLSU-D



WHAT'S COOKING? Home Economics Technology faculty (1st and 2nd from left) from Thailand's Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi observe Hotel and Restaurant Management students Ramon Galicia (2nd from right) and Lenard Guinto while touring DLSU-D's College of Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Academics from universities in Thailand and Taiwan visited DLSU-D on June 25 and June 27 respectively.

Twelve delegates from Thailand's RMUTT (Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi), headed by its Home Economics Technology Dean Girawat Reanaree, visited DLSU-D's College of Tourism and Hospitality Management for a possible collaboration in food sciences.

After exchanging best practices with their counterparts, the visitors were treated to a campus tour, which culminated in a luncheon hosted by Dr. Myrna Ramos, DLSU-D's vice chancellor for mission, external affairs, and advancement. DLSU-D and RMUTT have been partners for the last two years, as governed by a memorandum of agreement between the two institutions.

Meanwhile, possibilities of a faculty and student-exchange program were explored when seven faculty members and researchers from Taiwan's Fu Jen Catholic University visited DLSU-D's College of Education.

Dr. Manuel Camarse, dean of the college, welcomed the visitors headed by Dr. Mei-Chin Lin, director of Fu Jen Catholic University's Graduate Institute of Educational Leadership and Development.

In discussing the exchange program, the use of internet platforms such as Skype was also explored as a possible means of sharing academic resources. A supplementary memorandum of agreement is being studied for this tie-up.

The visit of the representatives from the two universities was facilitated by the DLSU-D's University Linkages Office headed by its director Nathaniel Golla.

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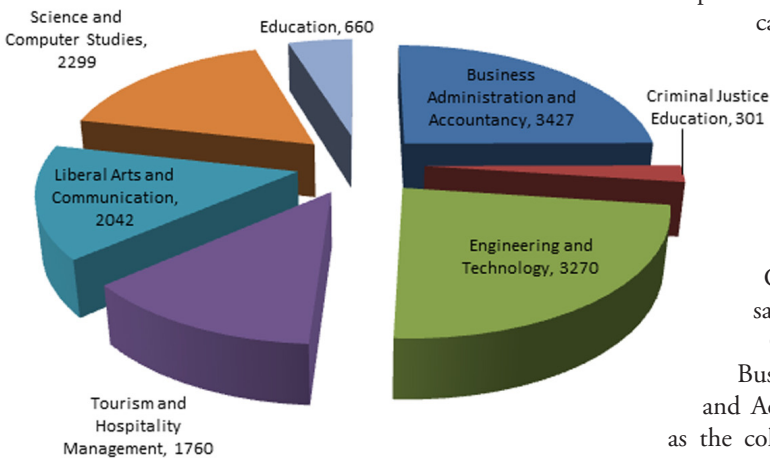


...AND THEY HAVE LANDED. Lasallian delegates from Lycee Aux Lazaristes in Lyons, France gamely pose for a photo upon "landing" at Museo De La Salle's *caida* (from the Spanish *caer* which means "to drop" or "to let fall"—pertaining to the practice of 19th-century Filipino women "letting fall again" their long skirts upon reaching the top step of a stone house's second floor). The delegates toured the Museo on the first of their two-day stay at DLSU-D, July 21-22. They were here to immerse themselves in DLSU-D's outreach programs through the Lasallian Community Development Center.

Enrolment up by 4.17% this sem

Enrolment statistics (as of July 7) for this semester reveals a 4.17-percent increase from last academic year's enrolment for the same semester. This means that there are now 15,035 students currently enrolled on campus, which is 551 students more compared with last year's 13,208.

The breakdown of the enrolment per DLSU-D program category is as follows:



Undergraduate Programs (13,759; increase); Graduate Programs (1,081; increase); DLSU-D Night Class Program (192; increase); and Cross-Enrolees (3; same).

CBAA (College of Business Administration and Accountancy) still leads as the college with the biggest

number of enrolees at 3,427 among the undergraduate programs, followed by CEAT (College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology) at 3,270 and CSCS (College of Science and Computer Studies) at 2,299. For the graduate programs, COEd (College of Education) leads with 409 enrolled students, trailed by CBAA with 277, CSCS with 158, College of Liberal Arts and Communication with 156, College of Criminal Justice Education with 66, and CEAT with 15.

The biggest percentage increase, however, is in the Night Class Program, one of DLSU-D's scholarship programs, at 20.75 percent. The program, which offers Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Office Administration, requires its students to pay the miscellaneous fees only. Faculty teaching under this program are volunteer teachers from DLSU-D's faculty and staff.

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Bloomberg Professional service now offered at DLSU-D

DLSU-D students and faculty can now access the Bloomberg Professional service, which has more than 320,000 leading business and financial subscribers worldwide.

The Bloomberg Professional service, Bloomberg LP's core offering, is a software platform that provides trusted real-time and historical data, market moving news and analytics to help business and financial professionals make better informed investment decisions. The service also features execution platforms for every asset class, research

and a global network to communicate securely and reliably.

DLSU-D's subscriptions to the Bloomberg Professional service will serve as a resource for both students and professors. It will enable students to become familiar with tools used in financial services, thereby reinforcing classroom theory, while professors can use it to further their own research.

At DLSU-D, 12 Bloomberg Professional service terminals—10 at Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo and two at the CBAA (College of Business

Administration and Accountancy)—have been installed mainly for use by CBAA students. However, non-CBAA students and even DLSU-D visitors could also avail of the Bloomberg Professional service for a minimal fee. For more details on how to avail of the Bloomberg Professional service at DLSU-D, please call locals 3023 or 3185.

K IS FOR KIDS. Usually well-behaved students from Jeonju University, South Korea—encamped at DLSU-D for almost a month (June 30-July 25) to learn English—are caught in a playful mood during a photo shoot at the DLSU-D Retreat and Conference Center. DLSU-D hosted their English Camp, implemented by faculty from DLSU-D's Languages and Literature Department with the help of members of the Lasallian Student Ambassadors. The English Camp, facilitated by DLSU-D's Academy of Continuing Education, was commissioned by South Korea's Staffs4 Academy.



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DLSU-D joins world's... from page 3

Principle 2: To ensure long-term sustainable campus development, campus-wide master planning and target-setting should include environmental and social goals.

Principle 3: To align the organization's core mission with sustainable development, facilities, research, and education should be linked to create a "living laboratory" for sustainability.

Against these principles, DLSU-D is now "compelled" to measure its sustainability targets and efforts, and then compile these "goals, initiatives and performance" in a report that it would send to ISCN on a yearly basis. These reports are then shared on the ISCN website for other ISCN members to read and learn from.

Given this protocol, DLSU-D in turn would also be able to learn from other ISCN members and "further improve its programs using other universities as benchmarks," says Pareja. "It's sustainable in a lot of ways."

Other benefits of being an ISCN member include:

- Recognition as a leader in campus sustainability through listing as an ISCN Member on [the ISCN] website;
- Being featured internationally in annual GULF reports on Charter progress made available at the World Economic Forum;
- Participation in cutting-edge campus sustainability research through working groups;
- Opportunities to plan and orchestrate sessions of ISCN conferences and symposia;
- Discounts on conference and symposia registration fees.

Gementiza, Golla

attend IALU leadership program

Administrators Dr. Sonia Gementiza, director of Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo, and Nathaniel Golla, director of University Linkages Office, were DLSU-D's delegates to the 8th Leadership Program of IALU (International Association of Lasallian Universities) at Casa La Salle in Rome, June 9-22.

The two shared DLSU-D's concern for the underprivileged through its scholarship programs and community outreach initiatives, especially the Bahay Pagasa Youth Center, during the program's university presentations.

This annual leadership program aims to develop among the participants a sense

of community through immersion in literature, history, modern innovations and culture of the Lasallian family. Among the topics discussed and deliberated were "Understanding John Baptist de La Salle and the Institute"; "The Catholic Intellectual Tradition"; "Lasallian Pedagogy"; "Envisioning the Future of Lasallian Higher Education"; "Catholic Social Teaching: Major Documents & Major Themes"; "Lasallian Spirituality"; and "Lasallian Association." Lectures were in English and Spanish.

Gementiza and Golla were among the 49 participants from 27 Lasallian institutions coming from nine countries.

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Camarse, Jacinto

deliver Taiwan lectures

Dr. Manuel Camarse, COE (College of Education) dean, and Wilson Jacinto, University Linkages Office director, were among the lecturers on "Asian Community and Education" as part of the One Asia Foundation Serial Lectures, March 30-April 2, held at NCNU (National Chi Nan University).

Camarse's talk was "Center of Excellence in Higher Education Institutions in the Philippines," while Jacinto delivered "Internationalization: The DLSU-D Experience." The serial lectures aim to build a shared vision among the Asian community through cross-border cultural and educational activities in the region.

Besides the lectures, the two academics also met with their counterparts at NCNU and FJCU (Fu Jen Catholic University)

to explore possibilities of cooperation on internship through COE with the former and of student exchange programs with the latter.

Also at FJCU, Camarse and Jacinto submitted a copy of DLSU-D's application for membership with ACUCA (Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia). As of this writing, ACUCA has acknowledged the Philippine representative to the association for DLSU-D's application.



Dr. Manuel Camarse and Wilson Jacinto (2nd and 3rd from left) flanked by FJCU's Dr. Chich-hsien Yang (left) and Dr. Gregory Ching.

Archbishop Cardinal Tagle to DLSU-D:

Why we need the Holy Spirit



Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle

Leading the DLSU-D community in celebrating the traditional Mass of the Holy Spirit at the start of this academic year, Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle reiterated in his homily the University's prayer to be "a community that shares and lives its experience of God...of Jesus...going beyond being simply a learning and academic community, [and becoming] truly a Christian community where we tell each other—and also live—our experience of God."

"Now...do we need the Holy Spirit for that? Yes."

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Success is paved by character

Looking back on his life, Estelito Casal, management wizard, entrepreneur and former president of Equicom Savings Bank, Inc., has come to believe that one's road to success is paved largely by "what kind of a person you are."

"That, to me, is the key to all...trying to be a good person all the time could bring success and fulfillment in one's life...to be guided by what is right all the time in everything that we do."

As featured speaker in DLSU-D's Success Stories Series in June, Casal, rather than talk about modern management techniques, chose instead to "affect his audience" by giving them a glimpse into the kind of person that he is: "my beginnings, my struggles, how I

managed to move forward in my life and be able to get out of extreme poverty."

From farm boy to firm CEO

Growing up a son of a poor tenant farmer among 11 other siblings in Balayan, Batangas, Casal was imbibed with the importance of education early on. At the tender age of six, his father took him to the better-off household of the Ramoses who took him in and sent him to school.

"The eldest of the Ramos children was my [godfather]... It was in the Ramos household where I grew up until I finished high school. They treated me as a member of the family...they really are very kind... My father instructed me that while with

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A gift

Known for his lucid and populist approach to delivering his sermons, the charismatic cardinal enunciated before the congregation (mostly DLSU-D students) the phenomenon of the Holy Spirit.

“We do not produce the Holy Spirit,” said Cardinal Tagle. The Holy Spirit is “a gift of the Risen Lord...the first fruit... [the] apex...culmination” of Christ’s ministry, death and resurrection.... Following after Christ, the Holy Spirit is, thus, “the Spirit that will renew the face of the Earth.”

“If we want to renew our persons,” Cardinal Tagle furthered, “if we want to renew our community, we cannot do it alone relying simply on our human talents and human capacities.” And so, “we want to tell Jesus over and over again, ‘Send forth Your Spirit, and renew our community. Only Your Spirit will make us a truly Christian community.’”

Alluding to St. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians (second reading of the Mass), Cardinal Tagle said that the Church that professes its faith in Jesus is “not just any community.” It has become, rather, “the body of Christ...a community of faith generated by the presence of the Holy Spirit.”

As to how an academic community becomes “the body of Christ,” Cardinal Tagle enumerated how the Holy Spirit can help.

A new form of speech

First, we can pray that the Holy Spirit “come to us...as a new form of tongue, a new form of speech that will make us courageous proclaimers of God’s goodness to us, the way Mary, our blessed Mother, filled with the Holy Spirit, sang the Magnificat: ‘My soul proclaims the goodness of the Lord...’”

He enjoined the community to pray that “our tongues be loosened—be loose—so that we can now talk about

the good things we have experienced of God,” instead of resorting to gossip-mongering that “can set a whole community on fire and...bring down a whole family.”

“When the Holy Spirit fills us, our tongue is renewed, and it becomes a vessel—not of harm, but of the goodness of the Lord. And we build a community by weaving our stories of God, our experiences of God.”

Living the faith

Second, we can pray that the Holy Spirit come to us “to make us a community that will live our experience of Jesus... a community of missionaries, and if needed, a community of people who are so committed to [our] faith, [we] are willing—and will be willing—even to die for Jesus, living the faith, not just professing it with the lips, but making it the norm of our lives.”

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the Ramoses, I should help, even if not asked, in doing household work like polishing the floors and running errands, which I did. That was an easy task for me as I was then already doing farm work in the barrio.”

After high school, his father again made him study. This time, it’s typing and stenography—to “help me find a job so that I could pursue college....”

With the Ramoses’ help yet again, he lived in Manila where he became a waiter in a café, and then later on, a security guard. Around this time, he got enrolled in night school at the Far Eastern University, taking up BS Commerce, major in Accounting.

He was a scholar; his grades were consistently high. One of his professors took notice and gave him a part-time job as an accounts payable clerk in a marketing firm. In this, those typing lessons he took earlier came in handy. Thus supported, he finished college, albeit nine years after his

high school graduation. He then took the CPA board exam and passed it.

“The story of my working life can be summed up as hard work and hard work and hard work,” he related. This “hard work” also figured in his drive to make himself better by training himself to speak English fluently.

“I did this by reading lots of pocketbooks...and orally when I am all alone by myself. I listened always to radio veritas not for the news content of the broadcast but for the very eloquent way the news was being broadcast. I also read philosophy and other inspiration books in my spare time....”

Casal did these things because back then, he felt insecure coming from a “humble background”—an “inadequacy” that he felt threatened his job security: “I was just trying to make sure that the company would not have any reason to terminate my employment...it would be difficult for me to find a new job if I ever got laid off.”

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Estelito Casal

Success is paved... from page 9

While the extra effort helped him keep his job, additionally, his new-found skills brought him rapid advancements—promotion after promotion came his way. Twenty years later, he became president and CEO of a financing company, and then that of a savings bank.

Lessons in the workplace

Having worked his way to the top for years, Casal has learned many lessons in the workplace. The first of these has

*“The story of
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can be summed
up as hard
work and hard
work and hard
work....”*

something to do with his dedication to his work and improving his skills. He related there were people around who noticed this about him—and they were not happy. He said, they “saw me as *sipsip, mayabang, suplado, hindi marunong makisama. Pa-english-english pa raw ako....*”

Feeling devastated, he almost resigned from the company. Fortunately, his own boss and the personnel manager saw things differently. There was nothing wrong with what you were doing, they told him. Your officemates were probably just envious or insecure, they added. They persuaded him to stay.

So, he stayed....and advanced himself up the company ladder that he left many of his detractors far behind him. “Now I hear stories that some of them are even proudly telling their friends or relatives that we were once officemates,” he said.

Thus, Casal’s lesson 1: Do not be overly concerned about how other people look at you, provided your conscience is clear of any wrongdoing; you could ruin your own future if you try to please others all the time.

His lesson 2 is about honesty. Never cheat, he says. Never lie to cover up your mistakes or to exaggerate your performance. “Being honest is one sure way of gaining the confidence of whomever you work with... Dishonesty, apart from being bad per se, inevitably becomes unmasked.”

“Look at what happened to the PDAF scammers. *Nakakahiya, lalo na sa sarili mong pamilya.* It does not pay. It will destroy your future.”

Casal also touched upon labor unions and how he sees them as “some kind of protection racket”: employees, no matter how mediocre, could not be fired from their jobs simply because they are protected by a bargaining agreement between the labor union and the company.

“I think I have too much self-respect for that,” Casal said. “The reason I always worked very hard was to ensure that whoever my employer was would want to keep me...I would not like to be kept in my employment because

of the protection of a labor union.”

Character

Such views, of course, have something to do with Casal’s nonconformist trait. He said that somehow, he thinks differently compared with most people. And in the past, he said it had served him well to express his differing views.

For instance, thinking differently (“they now call this as thinking outside of the box”) was what brought him his first appointment as company president, he said. And thinking differently is how companies evolve, through technological innovations and labor-saving devices. Casal believes that the schools should evolve, too, in such a way that would benefit its graduates more in light of industry changes.

“...Maybe our schools should start adding more vocational, trade or business subjects in their curriculum to also train our students in entrepreneurship. In this way they would have greater adaptability to existing economic conditions characterized by limited employment opportunities.”

What with countries in the ASEAN region presently discussing opening their doors to one another to create a unified and larger economic region, “surely there would be greater competition among businesses in the region as well as among employment seekers.” Given this, Casal stressed the importance of our graduates’ “readiness...in facing the many new challenges that are likely to emerge from this latest development.”

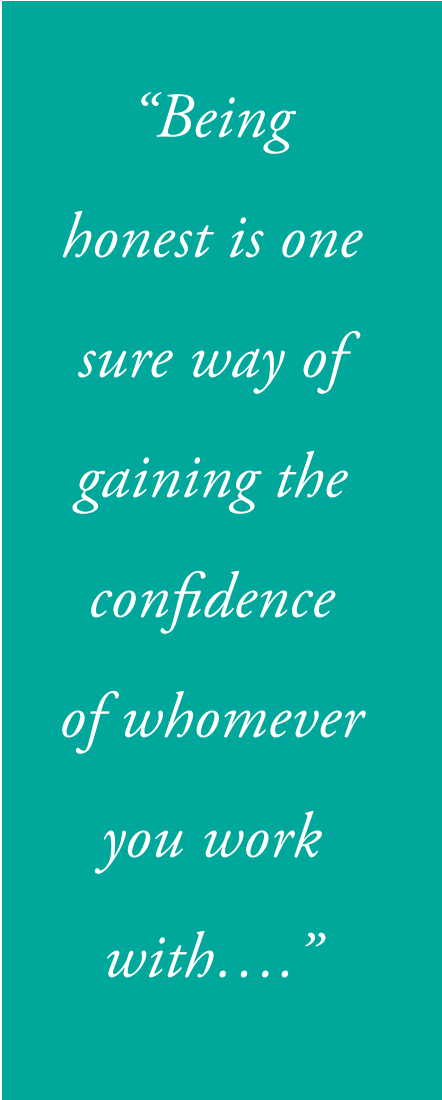
“Very surely, the better prepared would have an advantage.”

Besides this issue, however, there are, still, the everyday problems that the nation suffers and which need to be addressed: corruption in government, poverty, pollution, mendicant mentality among the poor, the many “simple things that we take for granted, [that] when multiplied many millions of times, become national calamities.”

“My friends, a lot depends on you,” he told his audience who were mostly Business Operations Management students. “Start with yourselves.”

“You can start laying the foundation for a bright future for you by simply being an upright person with all the attributes of a good and law-abiding citizen...[with] of course, love of country...and devotion to God.”

Casal rounded up his lecture by reiterating his main message: “By having all these traits you will find that the road ahead is littered with good rewards and opportunities to do good. But then do not let your success get to your head... Instead, seize every opportunity to be able to share your blessings with others... Spread the good word to everybody.”



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Why we need... from page 9

“As we have heard in the first reading, the coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the apostles—and what a transformation! We know Peter, especially Peter: a coward protecting himself, denying that he knew Jesus; someone who was a lot of talk, but slow in living his friendship with Jesus. But with the coming of the Holy Spirit, we have a different Peter. He who used to deny Jesus now proclaimed Jesus, and more than that, he lived his faith in Jesus. He became a missionary. He went around and even died for Jesus.”

Cardinal Tagle, however, clarified: “You don’t have to get out of the

campus. This campus is vast enough to live out your mission as inspired by the Holy Spirit.”

He made an example of students who cheat in their exams. Rather than commit more cheating this school year, students should instead say, “I am a follower of Christ. And to follow Christ means I will not cheat, I will be honest. It is better for me to fail with honor than pass through cheating.”

Concluding his homily, Cardinal Tagle enjoined the community to pray: “Come, Holy Spirit, recreate us. Come, Holy Spirit, renew our community.”

The Mass was held on July 8 at Ugnayang La Salle.



ORIGINS

by miguel MILLÓ

September 10 to October 31, 2014
Fe Sarmiento-Panlilio &
Kalaw-Katigbak Galleries
Museo De La Salle
De La Salle University-Dasmariñas
Cavite



LIST OF DLSU-D ADMINISTRATORS FIRST SEMESTER, SCHOOL YEAR 2014-2015

Office of the President

Br. Gus L. Boquer FSC, Edd • President

Jose Ritche C. Bongcaron • *Director, Presidential Management Office*

Lucia R. Calairo • *Director, Quality Assurance Office*

Cecille T. Gelicame • *Director, Museo De La Salle*

Atty. Rafael Vicente P. Umali • *Legal Counsel*

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academics & Research

Olivia M. Legaspi, Edd • *Vice Chancellor*

College of Business Administration & Accountancy

Epifania D. Anfone, PhD • *Dean*

Elma L. Mallorca, CPA • *Associate Dean*

Eden C. Cabrera, CPA • *Chair, Accountancy Department*

Rosario T. Reyes • *Chair, Allied Business Department*

Alice D. Descalla • *Chair, Business Management Department*

Mian D. Rayray • *Chair, Marketing Department*

Zeny J. Lontoc, PhD • *Director, Graduate Studies*

College of Criminal Justice Education

Airien F. Dausan, PhD • *Dean / Director, Bahay Pag-asa*

College of Science & Computer Studies

Johnny A. Ching, PhD • *Dean*

Perla S. Dela Cruz • *Associate Dean*

Cherry Z. Cuevas • *Chair, Biological Sciences Department*

Marvic R. Mitschek • *Chair, Computer Studies Department*

Ma. Theresa Christine C. Valdez • *Chair, Mathematics Department*

Geraldine C. Zamora • *Chair, Physical Sciences Department*

Edna T. Mercado, PhD • *Director, Graduate Studies*

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Paulino H. Gatpandan • *Dean*

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Eduardo L. Malvar • *Director, Student Development & Activities Office*

Ma. Luisa A. Ongcol • *Director, Student Publications Office*

John T. Casidsid • *Director, Student Welfare and Formation Office*

Glessie A. Cantada • *Director, Student Wellness Center*

Marialita L. Esberto • *University Registrar*

Willington Okechukwu Onuh, PhD • *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research*

Teresita P. Unabia • *Director, Cavite Studies Center*

Melanie P. Medecilo, PhD • *Director, University Research Office*

Marco S. Saez, PhD • *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Services*

Sonia M. Gementiza, PhD • *Director, Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo*

Susan R. Mercalida • *Director, Language Learning Center*

College of Education

Points to Pondering

for DLSU-D administrators
AY 2014-2015

4. All our course offerings should orient our students to internalize the meaning of being catalysts for social transformation through the core Lasallian values.

5. One of our best features as a university in a global perspective is our world recognition among the top universities in the world in our sustainable environment management program. We should take the lead in taking care of our environment in light of climate change. Our campus should be clean, green and healthy.

6. We must continue aiming for full accreditation of all our course offerings—and maintain the highest level of accreditation as an autonomous university.

7. Let us challenge ourselves to increase our external sourcing of scholarships, and external resource generation through fund-generating projects like a major infrastructure development of our dormitory facilities, among others.

8. We must continue addressing the development of our campus master plan as an authentic theme park university.

9. Let us create possibilities with a great

6. In confronting problems, face them as challenges to be turned into opportunities.

7. Remember your awesome responsibility in going about doing God's work. God is always ahead of you in your journey. Trust Him, as nothing is impossible with God.

8. Always dream, believe and hope.

Also given to the assembly were the following general directions that DLSU-D administrators should keep in mind this school year:

Prior to the opening of classes this year, DLSU-D President Br. Gus Boquer FSC shared with University administrators and sector leaders the following eight reflective points as guide for the "Lasallian Educator as a Leader":

1. Share your leadership of service by recognizing and training future leaders, and giving them opportunities to lead.

2. Think out of the box as you initiate creating possibilities, and make them happen.



3. Lead by example, especially in developing the culture of change.

4. Be gracious yet firm in making decisions done with proper consultation and discernment, and think always of the best and worst scenario of such decisions.

5. Never in your leadership make life difficult for others. Instead, be a source of animation and affirmation.

1. Congratulations for all our achievements. Let us share these tidings of great joy worldwide.

2. Strengthen our President's 14-Point Agenda in our quest for academic excellence with an education that is relevant to the signs of the times.

3. Give premium support towards building towards being a research-oriented university. Let us support our Cavite Development Research Program.

multiplier effect in our international linkages program.

10. Our proficiency in the English language program should become one of our best features, in fact be a flagship.

Br. Gus afterward enjoined everyone once again: "In all these reflective points, let this campus be a place where the experience of God is lived and shared, and be strengthened by this statement: 'I am not afraid of tomorrow, because God is already there.'"

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September 8 to 30, 2014

September 8, Monday
MASS
12:00nn; University Chapel

September 10, Wednesday
WELLTHY HOUR: SOCIAL LAB
by Ms. Emmylou B. Gamueda
2:30-4:00pm; CIH209
PHYSICAL FITNESS
4:00-6:00pm; Severino De Las Alas Hall

September 11, Thursday
LIYAB SESSION: THE ART OF STUDYING
by Lasallian Peer Facilitators and Advisers
1:00-3:00pm; POLCA Multi Purpose Hall

September 12, Friday
WELLTHY HOUR: THE POWER OF
SELF-BELIEF by Ms. Arlene Bernardo, RGC
2:30-4:00pm; GMH117

September 15 to 20 (M-S)
Wellness Fair
8:00am to 5:00pm

September 16 (T)
WellThy Hour: Stress Management
by Ms. Emmylou B. Gamueda
10:00am to 12:00nn

Movie Date
10:00am to 12:00nn; 1:30 to 3:30pm

September 17 (W)
Physical Fitness
4:00 to 6:00pm

September 18 (H)
Showcase of Talents
1:00 to 6:00pm

September 19 (F)
Stand Up For Your Life: Hope And Resiliency
In Suicide Prevention by the Counseling and
Psychotherapy Services
9:00am to 12:00nn

September 23 (T)
Basic Painting Workshop
2:30-5:00pm

September 24 (W)
Physical Fitness
4:00 to 6:00pm

September 26 (F)
Movie Date
10:00am to 12:00nn; 1:30 to 3:30pm

WellThy Hour: College Success
and Time Management
by Dr. Jenneth De Guia
1:00 to 2:00pm

September 27 (S)
Parent-Teen Encounter: A Family Affair
9:00am to 5:00pm

September 29 (M)
Movie Date
10:00am to 12:00nn; 1:30 to 3:30pm

Healthy Bites
1:30-4:30pm

WellThy Hour: MANAGING SELF
by Mr. Emerico Rasing, RGC
TBA

September 30 (T)
WellThy Hour: Stress Management
by Ms. Emmylou B. Gamueda
10:00am to 12:00nn

WellThy Aftie
12:00nn to 6:00pm

*For inquiries, confirmation of attendance,
or reservation of slots, please contact*

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All images for this article are from the book "Botong Francisco: A Nation Imagined" | Ayala Foundation, Inc. 2012

If you're Filipino and you see the paintings, it's likely you'd feel an affinity. Perhaps, it's because we've had a glimpse of the paintings before, here and there in our memory...



"Filipino Struggles Through History"
by Carlos "Botong" Francisco.

Contemplating Botong

By Orlando A. Oliveros

p e r s p e c t i v e

The travelling art exhibit "Carlos 'Botong' Francisco: A Nation Imagined" came to DLSU-D and was on display at Museo De La Salle from July 1 to August 2. I had not made it to the opening, but on succeeding days when the crowds had gone, that's when I chose to go see it. I mean, the title has "a nation imagined" in it, right? I just thought it would be more fitting if I went there and the mood was more contemplative.

There is a familiarity that awakens within me whenever I see Botong's works, even if at times, it was my first time seeing some of them. I mean, if you're Filipino and you see the paintings, it's likely you'd feel an affinity. Perhaps, it's because we've had a glimpse of the paintings before, here and there in our memory—in our history books back in high school...or on a calendar....

In my case, one particular experience was seeing this television

commercial years and years ago. It showed details of a Botong painting—"The Katipunan," if I'm not mistaken. The experience of seeing it was made more vivid because there was the sound of a flute and a guitar accompanying it. And then a man's singing voice came on:

"Ang lumikhang isang mapayapang landas / tungo sa lipunang malaya sa dahas / ay karapatang pantao. / Ang mag-isip at magpahayag ng mungkahi't pananaw / ay karapatang pantao...."

I've seen that Botong painting many times on the internet. I miss it—from time to time. As for the song, I've been looking for it for years, longing to hear it again. And not having found it yet, seeing that Botong painting from time to time is like seeing a benign specter that has been haunting me for so long.

And so, standing there in the Fe Sarmiento-Panlilio Gallery of Museo De La Salle, surrounded by a

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"Katipunan" by Carlos Botong Francisco.

Contemplating Botong...

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number of Botong reproductions all around, I got “haunted” again. The strumming guitar, the musing flute, the clear strong yet gentle tenor voice sounding in my mind again.

No, I was not disappointed that the “paintings” were reproductions. I would have liked to see the originals, but then I think Ayala Museum did a good job in photographing the images and printing them on canvas. Somehow, one can still see texture—here and there the Master’s brushstrokes, here and there the patchiness of thick paint, and even the weave of the original canvas.

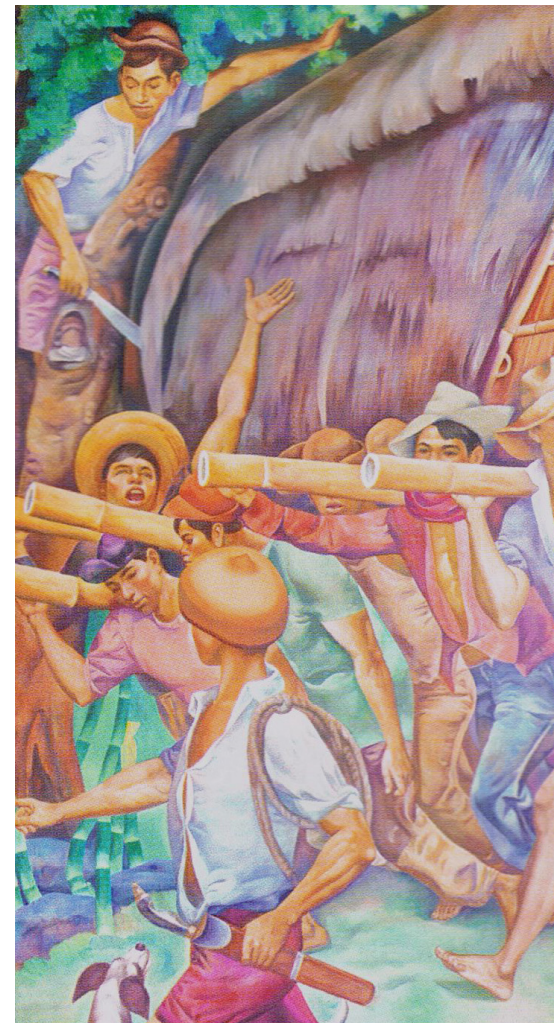
The Katipunan painting was not part of the exhibit. Nonetheless, the trademark Botong lines, earthy coloring, the subtle gestures and expression of the figures, the balanced almost-Baroque “clutter” of the composition were there. With these elements, he painted some of the most iconic images in Philippine

culture and historiography (“Bayanihan,” for example, or “Filipino Struggles Through History”). The images have been etched in our consciousness that it’s like seeing a childhood friend again.

And so, I was back in high school again.

Just so you know, my taste in art is rather conservative. I’m not into much of modern art—if by “modern,” one means those highly subjective ego-assertive works that defy understanding—or at least, immediate understanding—on the part of their viewers. Yes, it is the artist’s world he (or she) is showing us. But then if it does not really matter to the modern artist if his world is understood or not, should it matter to the viewer?

My take on this is that each person has his own set of memories and experiences—memories of color, sound, taste, etc.; experiences



of joy, fear, sadness, etc. In turn, these memories and experiences are associated with one another, and the association differs per individual. For example, the color red could mean blood or violence for one, while for another, it could mean a happy memory of a red balloon.

Having said these things, I now say this: Let those who understand an art work—or at least feel strongly about it—uphold it. While I am a painter myself (or at least, while I am still studying more of the craft), I will not claim to understand all, or like all. Sure enough, I will have doubts about a work. But I will not dismiss it. Doubting is not all that bad. Dismissive-ness is.

Going back to Botong, this is what I have processed so far:

I do not find Botong “modern.” This is despite his association with the “modernist” movement in Philippine art history. Perhaps

Botong looked modern then because of, first, his linear style (which was a break from Fernando Amorsolo’s prevalent “painterly” school then); and second, because he “collapsed space” between the objects/figures in his paintings. He distorted the distance between his pictures’ foreground, middle ground and background, rendering his paintings “flat”—something that Amorsolo, Fabian dela Rosa and Juan Luna never did, as far as I know.

But nowadays, from theme to execution, Botong looks “conservative” enough for my taste. I guess it’s because enough years have gone by between their time and our time, during which Botong’s iconic images have become well incorporated in our history and culture as a people, that it has become easy to categorize Botong with his more conservative contemporary Amorsolo (along

with other traditional Filipino staples, e.g. the *baro’t saya*, the *bahay kubo*, the *tinikling*, etc.).

Never mind if he reminded people of modernists Henri Rousseau and the Fauvists, or Mexican muralist Diego Rivera. Flat or not, unlike these modernists, Botong was a technically adept draftsman—something that he was not able to “unlearn” (like Picasso, so he claimed) in painting his “modernist” works. This, I think, was a good thing, because I personally find it unflattering to his abilities that he should be categorized with the Fauvists.

In Botong’s works, one finds a wonderful intermingling of contrasts: the rough and the smooth; the real and the fabled; the eternal and the fleeting.

Wistful and mysterious Maria Makiling sighing at length in her solitude becomes a comely señorita fanning herself while in repose among brown-skinned men carrying her hammock in precarious and back-breaking labor on a pilgrimage to Antipolo.

While his colors are vibrant, he did not just use them for sheer effects. Mainly, he used them to aid his composition, especially in the murals, where they ingeniously serve manifold purpose: (1) they give his backgrounds an exuberant surreal definition; (2) they collapse the space between his main figures; (3) they aid in balancing the overall composition; (4) they dreamily frame his subjects in a microcosm that emphasizes the composition’s overall monumentality.

But unlike the monumentality of most masters’, Botong’s is graceful and ethereal. Dynamic and energetic, yet tempered

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“Bayanihan” by Carlos “Botong” Francisco.



"Nagmamandala" by Carlos "Botong" Francisco.

Contemplating Botong... from page 21

with a softness that renders his monumental figures seem like they are "at play" among colorful clouds—clouds that happened to take on the shape of trees or waters or mountains or other people.

His lighting is yet another thing. If Amorsolo had ingenuously captured the intensity of Philippine sunlight, Botong had starkly yet admirably brushed it on his figures' skin—the rough reds, yellows and browns pulsing and glistening with sweat. This is evident on the outdoor scene "Nagmamandala" and, to a lesser degree, even in the interior scene "Give Us This Day."

You do not see the sun, but you feel its heat on the people's skin.

This intensity, he sometimes depicted along with intended exaggerations on his figure's anatomy. This way, Botong empathized. The strain of laborers carrying a heavy load. The hunger and poverty of emaciated barefoot diggers digging for their next meal.

Thus, the title "poet of Angono" is justified. That is Botong's main strength, I suppose: his heart was with his people—through thick and thin.

I guess I'm not alone in this. You look at a Botong painting—especially his murals—you get transported to this world, to this intimacy that at times fantasizes but

always poetizes one's Filipino-ness.

I don't know exactly what being Filipino is all about. But if feeling it is knowing it, then I guess looking at Botongs helps. You can rationalize and rationalize about these things, but then, it's probable that in the course of your rationalizations, you'd realize so many Americans would fail at being Americans. Ditto Australians. Even Koreans, Indians and Chinese, notwithstanding their millennia of history and culture. In this day and age, the rational mind is easily distracted and confused. Only with our hearts do we feel certain.

And I feel the certainty, when I look at Botongs. And Amorsolos. And the *bahay kubo*. And the *bukid*

You look at a Botong painting—especially his murals—you get transported to this world, to this intimacy that at times fantasizes but always poetizes one's Filipino-ness.

and the *kalabaw*. And the Mayon Volcano. And the Banaue Rice Terraces. *Etcetera, etcetera.*

Being part of our history, they are preserved there in the recesses of our consciousness as a people—unchanging, ever waiting for us to look back on them from time to time. Whether we like it or not, they have become our pride and our standards—ideals of who and what we are, ideals we hark back to whenever there's a need to mine and represent some of the best that this nation has to offer the rest of the world. I count Botong's works as among them. To me, they are the monumentalities of the Filipino soul. **n**



"Give Us This Day" by Carlos "Botong" Francisco.





Farewell Beloved Tree

By Orlando A. Oliveros

f e a t u r e

Malevolent like the Furies of Greek mythology, Typhoon Glenda touched ground on Southern Luzon the night of July 15, its reckless winds of around 185 km/h howling and lashing and tearing its way over the vulnerable land mass. In its wake the next morning, it left behind a trail of collapsed trees and utility poles, ruined crops, fisheries and infrastructures, and over 100 deaths in the country.

At DLSU-D, among other damages, it destroyed a tree. But not just any tree. It was a Batibot tree—one of the oldest in the University. In broad daylight, the tree’s mangled body lay split open and sprawled over its tower’s circumference, as if it had died singing—screaming—its swan song in the stormy night. Those who have been with the University long enough felt their hearts pinched at the sight.

“For more than three decades, I had been seeing that tree going to and from work,” says Remedios “Medy” Bautista, who heads DLSU-D’s Human Resource Management Office Faculty Services and has been with the University for 37 years. It was “inviting” to look at, she says. “Now, it’s no longer there—it’s just sad.”

The loss of the tree, says Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research Dr. Olive Legaspi, is “the loss of an important piece in our school’s history.” She says perhaps no DLSU-D graduate ever left the school without stepping in its shade at least.

“Of course, we cannot revive the tree anymore,” says Marlon Pareja, head of DLSU-D’s ERMaC (Environmental Resource Management Center), which counts among its many responsibilities managing DLSU-D’s trees. From the way things

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look, because of the massive split at the trunk, Pareja says there is just no way the tree could be rehabilitated back to its original state.

“Just imagine,” says Olympio Manreza, who has been with the University for 27 years, “[the tree] had withstood so many strong typhoons in the past, and now this happens.” He says that no matter how sad, “we have to accept what happened since nothing really lasts forever in this world.”

Three trees

Among the more sentimental—and understandably so—was Dhar Cadavedo, nature lover to the core and DLSU-D employee for the last 33 years. A high school fresh graduate back in 1981, Cadavedo started work at DLSU-D as groundskeeper. The Batibot trees were already tall and proud then, overlooking the campus like gargantuan sentries from atop their riprap towers.

“If you look at it closely,” Cadavedo explains, “the [original] level of the ground was really at that height. [The ground around it] was dug up and scraped by a bulldozer in order to...reach the more compact layer of the soil for laying the roads...and constructing buildings.”

He says he used to keep the Batibot clean by trimming the wild vines and other overgrowth on the towers’ stonewalls. He relates that even then, students already liked going up the towers and hanging out in the trees’ shade.

There were actually three Batibot trees, says Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Services Mae Eulogio. One was a Talisay tree, which stood just outside one end of the oval track near the CBAA Building. Demolished years ago, this Batibot tree had long since been replaced with more trees as the area had been transformed into a car park.

The second is the still-sturdy, still-standing Mango tree across the Administration Building (Gregoria Montoya Hall). This one is still “healthy,” says Pareja; there is no perceived risk of it being damaged or succumbing to disease.

The third was another Mango tree, located just beside the Canteen Square overlooking Lake Park. This was probably the oldest Batibot tree—if not the oldest tree on campus. Over a hundred years old, says Cadavedo based on his father’s reckoning that the tree was already tall and sturdy, even when Cadavedo’s father was still a young man—around World War II, if Cadavedo was not mistaken. The tree was the more prominent of the two Batibot trees because it

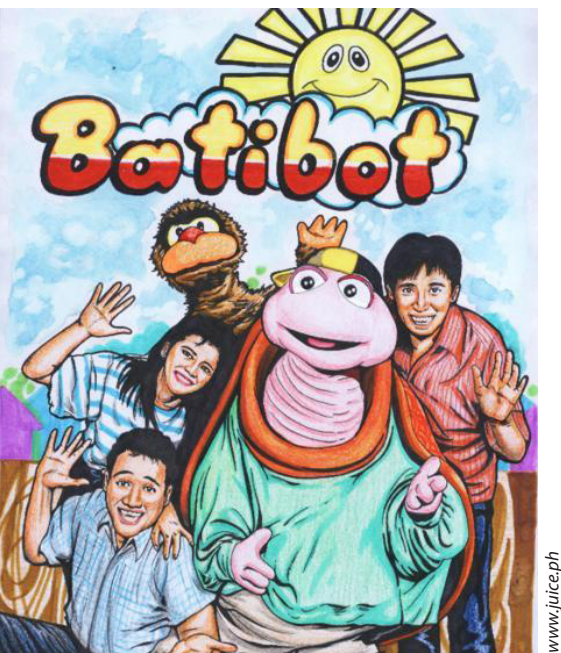


stood imposingly in the midst of a high-traffic convergence between the East and West campus. It was this Batibot tree that was among Typhoon Glenda’s casualties.

‘Batibot’

The term “Batibot” was inspired by a local children’s television show of the same name, which was the Filipino counterpart of the American “Sesame Street.” In the said show, there was this idyllic urban neighborhood peopled by humans and puppets. At the center of this neighborhood stood a big shady tree fenced in at its base by a low concrete enclosure that people could sit on on many a sunny day.

Perhaps recognizing the resemblance between the tree in the children’s show and the three DLSU-D trees with seats circled under their shade, generations of





Jojo Remorosa

DLSU-D students have fondly called the trees “Batibot.” They have become their hangout places—for *barkadas* to relax and while away time in between class breaks; for the more studious ones to study in the calm of nature; for sweethearts to hold their trysts.

Not surprisingly, “Batibot” slipped into common usage so much so that even faculty, staff and administrators themselves resorted to using the name for lack of an official reference to the landmarks.

Finally, in 2012, recognizing the Batibot trees’ preeminence in altitude (the tree base is about 16 feet above campus level) and age (at least 70-80 years old, the trees would be 40-50 years older than the University) and in deference to prevailing local culture, DLSU-D installed a historical marker for the Batibot trees. The marker officially

refers to the trees as “Batibot,” designating them as a reminder of the University’s “humble beginnings” and the extent of which this campus was built on land tamed and carved with brilliant vision and passionate determination.

Another realm

Of course, DLSU-D being in Cavite—the land of Nardong Putik, strange amulets, and many old folk beliefs—there are those with superstitious leanings who attach supernatural significance to everyday things and occurrences. Perhaps due to their age, the Batibot trees were not spared these fantastical claims.

A source (who refused to be identified here) told this writer that she has heard of talks about supernatural entities tending the trees—especially the Batibot tree

destroyed by Glenda.

It is said that the tree used to be protected and cared for, says my source, but then the “caretaker” had abandoned it and gone away. And so, when the typhoon came, it was easily destroyed. It was said that on its trunk, there was a gaping hole that served as some kind of “doorway” to another realm.

True enough, there was indeed a big hole on the trunk of the said tree when it was still standing. But the facts do not rest on whether or not it served as doorway to another realm but, rather, on what kind of realm it led to. Insofar as objectivity goes, the tree had been hollow for some time, and this hollow was another realm all right—a realm for some tree disease.

“It’s because of its old age,” Pareja supposes. “Perhaps, in the course

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of its life, it got ‘wounded,’ fungus crept in, termite mounds formed and ate the tree up from within....”

The tree had undergone rehabilitation two years ago. “We had [the hollow in] the trunk stuffed with fillings—a special type of foam—just to make it sturdy,” says Pareja. “We observed that whenever the wind blew, the tree would sway [precariously], and could just as easily fall toward the canteen area or Lake Park....”

“My theory is that, with its trunk stabilized, when the winds were beating at it [during the storm], it might have twisted itself and broken up in a split.”

Good thing the University had rehabilitated the tree earlier, furthers Pareja. “If we had not stabilized its trunk, most of the tree would have fallen toward the canteen area or any other direction, and the damage would have been bigger.”

DLSU-D’s trees are maintained and cared for by a contractor who visits DLSU-D once a month. Technically, a tree has to be at least 15 feet tall to be considered a “tree.”

Before Glenda, the University had 1,398 trees. After Glenda, 24 trees were lost. But Pareja says most of the trees that were lost were vulnerable and at risk of damage to begin with. And so when Glenda felled those trees, it was all just a matter of bowing to the inevitable.

In memoriam

The memory of the Batibot tree, however, has to live on, many believe. And rightly so, since “it’s a symbol of the school,” says Legaspi. Not a few (Legaspi among them) suggested that part of the tree has to be preserved—transformed into a table or chair perhaps, or as an *object d’art* kept under a glass box and put on display at Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo (DLSU-D library).

As to whether another tree will be planted at the site to replace the lost tree, Eulogio says it is just one option—but an option that just might not see the light of day since it seems impractical to wait another 50 years for the replacement tree to be fully grown.

Nonetheless, as informal talks go at the moment, the more probable alternative is to convert the site into a cafeteria that would be an extension of the canteen square. The new structure, however, has to be a “green building”—one that is built according to the University’s sustainability principles. Also, the name “Batibot” has to be retained.

For this reason, the replacement structure would probably be an “event-center type,” one that would have pictures and other memorabilia of the Batibot tree on permanent exhibit. This is so that visitors and customers would know the history

of the place and the significance of the name.

In addition, it could also host events like light concerts on Friday afternoons, for example—“just to retain whatever culture [Batibot] had afforded students before,” says Pareja.

But as of this writing, nothing is definite yet. University workers have just sawed up the remains of the tree into manageable pieces. There would still be the cleaning up to do, and a lot of discussions and planning to go before Batibot reemerges from this “misfortune”—if that is how it should be called.

But misfortune or not, Pareja prefers to see it with a broad perspective: “Nature simply took its course.”

We agree.

But to this, we add: That, as Batibot served as witness to DLSU-D’s “humble beginnings,” perhaps the demise of the tree is yet another sign: one that tells us we should be more optimistic, more forward-looking; that there are good days ahead, better things ahead....

That an ancient sentry who so faithfully kept watch all these years has finally found his rest. That an old friend died to make way for the new....

Fare thee well, beloved tree, farewell. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you. n

Rosanni Recreo-Sarile, *Director*
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