



Brothers of the Christian Schools Superior General Br. Robert “Bob” Schieler FSC (5th from right) was welcomed by officials and representatives from both DLSU-D and DLSHSI (De La Salle Health Science Institute) on July 18 for the Dasmariñas leg of his Pastoral Visit to LEAD (Lasallian East Asia District). In photo with him are (l-r) Br. Felipe Belleza FSC (Residencia De La Salle Brothers Community Director), DLSHSI mascot “Br. Jonjon,” Br. Ricardo Angel “Ricky” Laguda FSC (General Councilor, De La Salle Brothers Pacific-Asia Regional Conference (PARC), Br. Edmundo “Dodo” Fernandez FSC (Brother Visitor, De La Salle Brothers LEAD), Dr. Romeo Ariniego (Cardiologist, DLSUMC), and Br. Gus Boquer FSC (President, DLSU-D and DLSHSI). (Photo by Jojo Romerosa)

College of Educ retains CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

IT, Biology, Electronics Engineering: Centers of Dev’t

FOLLOWING the issuance of CMO (CHED Memorandum Order) Nos. 38 (Series 2015) and 15 (Series 2016), DLSU-D’s College of Education retains its status as COE (“Center of Excellence”) while its Information Technology program (under CSCS or College of Science and Computer Studies) continues to be COD (“Center of Development”) in Region IV-A. The same CMOs have also added two more DLSU-D programs in CHed’s (Commission on Higher Education) roster of CODs in the region: Biology (also under CSCS) and Electronics Engineering (under College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology or CEAT).

COEs and CODs are identified based on the following general criteria: (1) Institutional quality (excellence in human resource, instruction and facilities), 45 percent; (2) research and publication,

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30 percent; (3) extension and linkages, 20 percent; and (4) institutional qualification (“a clear and achievable institutional vision for excellence and quality”), 5 percent.

Identifying COEs and CODs for various disciplines is a way to “strengthen and further improve the quality of the COE/ CODs to the level of our ASEAN neighbors and also for [them] to become a resource to strengthen other schools in their localities.”

Among the perks and privileges of COEs and CODs is that they may avail of funding for project proposals, which includes “instructional and research capability building, research projects and networking, extension and linkage activities.” This is so, provided that these projects are “geared towards the development or improvement of the programs, particularly cutting-edge technology...” and of course, “should conform to the policies stipulated in the respective CMOs.”



... DLSU-D’s Vice Chancellor for Academics and Research Dr. Olivia Legaspi and University Registrar Marialita Esberto (4th and 5th from right respectively) accept the certification of DLSU-D’s Autonomous Status from CHed (Commission on Higher Education) officials, May 16. CHed has granted the renewal of DLSU-D’s Autonomous Status, which runs from April 1 this year to May 31, 2019.



PHIL-ITALIAN ASSOCIATION VISITS DLSU-D

Philippine-Italian Association’s Vice President for Culture Silvana Diaz and General Manager Alessandro Milani (4th and 5th from right respectively) visited DLSU-D, July 25, for exploratory talks with DLSU-D officials (l-r) Raymund Juanillo (operations officer, Museo De La Salle), Dr. Vangie Montillano (coordinator, University Linkages Office), Wilson Jacinto (director, University Linkages Office), Wiziel Napod (chair, Hotel and Restaurant Management Department), Dr. Airill Mercurio (chair, Biological Sciences Department) and Paul Anthony Notorio (chair, Tourism Management Department). The association, founded in 1962, is interested in partnering with DLSU-D on the possibility of offering, among others, Italian language as additional foreign language course; Italian culture as alternative learning class; lectures on specific topics that could be of interest to students. (Photo by Harries Riego)

13 new documents to boost DLSU-D's internal quality systems

Thirteen new documents—survey and evaluation tools, criteria and protocols, policies and guidelines—have been approved for implementation starting School Year 2016-2017 for DLSU-D's standard use to boost the University's IQA (internal quality assurance) systems.

The documents were produced by the IQA task groups that were formed by DLSU-D's Academic Council in March last year to handle IQA in five key areas: (1) academic supervision; (2) facilities management; (3) alumni and industry feedback management; (4) student support; and (5) program design approval and evaluation.

The TGs (task groups) were created in line with QAO Director Lucile Rivera-Calairo's Project Action Plan, which was a result of her year-long training with ASEAN-QA. Each of the task groups had a chair and members, working from July 2015 to February this year, and their job was to review and formulate an IQA process for their respective areas.

For example, the Facilities Management group produced, among other documents, one "mother document" about guidelines for preventive maintenance of the

University's facilities—which is, according to Calairo, "something we didn't have for a long time."

Meanwhile, the Program Design, Review and Approval task group—which Calairo herself chaired—produced, among others, a set of criteria for evaluating proposed programs and a template for program proposal.

"We no longer just propose programs and offer them as we see fit," she said. "The template [for program proposal] has fields for the requirements needed, including feasibility, forecasts, etc."

The task groups and their outputs were presented to the community during QAO's culmination activity on April 21 at DLSU-D's Centennial Hall. The new documents were reviewed and approved by DLSU-D's Operations Council (for the Facilities Management documents) and Academic Council. The 13 new documents are:

- Student satisfaction survey tool
- IQA process for the student satisfaction survey

(Produced by TG on Student Support chaired by Don Malaban with members

Dr. Ann Martin, Dr. Marites Burgos, Glessie Cantada, Malu Ongcol, Elma Mallorca and Julius Rafael Estrada).

- Guidelines for Preventive Maintenance of Physical Facilities (mother document)
- Around 13 specific maintenance guidelines and work flows
- Preventive maintenance schedule checklist

(Produced by TG on Facilities Management chaired by Marlon Pareja with members Engr. Jose Rizaldy De Armas, Antonio Mercado, Edwin Bunag, Joseph Dinglasan, Dennis Pontanilla and Leonor Amacio).

- Survey tool for alumni
- Sample survey tool for industry partners
- IQA process for gathering alumni feedback
- IQA process for gathering industry feedback

(Produced by TG on Managing Alumni and Industry Feedback chaired by Dr. Willington Onuh with members Dr. Cristina Salibay, Arlynne Awayan, Rowell Paras and Leo Manansala).

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ACCORD WITH ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES. De La Salle University-Dasmariñas and Adventist University of the Philippines in Silang, Cavite signed on July 15 a memorandum of cooperation with prospects of faculty and student exchanges, joint research and publication endeavors, exchanges of information and academic materials and publications, and joint conferences and symposia, among other points of collaboration. Prior to this, a delegation of 49 Adventist University faculty members led by their College of Education Dean Dr. Gracel Ann Saban (*center foreground, in white blazer*) visited DLSU-D on June 15. They had a dialogue with Dr. Manuel Camarse, dean of DLSU-D's COE (College of Education) and Dr. Pat Alcartado, director of COE's Graduate School, before going on a tour of the campus accompanied by the Lasallian Student Ambassadors. Part of the Seventh-Day Adventist education system (the world's second largest Christian school system), Adventist University of the Philippines is a private coeducational Christian university affiliated with the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. It holds an autonomous status recognized by Commission on Higher Education. (Photo by Harries Riego)

DLSU-D, 4th Best Performing Architecture School in Philippines

A list of the country's best performing architecture schools compiled by ABS-CBN News and Public Affairs has ranked DLSU-D in 4th place, trailing after Metro Manila universities Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, Technological University of the Philippines-Manila and University of the Philippines-Diliman in 3rd, 2nd and 1st places respectively.

Said to have been based on the January 2016 results of the Architecture board, the list was actually based on the June 2016 results of the Architecture board and included only schools that had

20 or more examinees with at least 70 percent passing rate. DLSU-D's rating was 80.95 percent, accounting 17 out of 21 examinees. The list was made public at the website news.abs-cbn.com on June 30.

Architecture is a program under DLSU-D's College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology.

Meanwhile, the June 2016 results of the board lists Architecture Department's latest passers. They are: Clarence Buenaventura, Jeremy Cresencio, John Paulo Causaren,

Renato de Leon Jr., Anna Kathleen Dequito, Patrick Dimaculangan, Anne Maurielle Gagno, Jobey Leen Garcia, Ma. Melissa Gomez, Jeanne Chrystel Dellosa, Mikaela Ilano, Gilbert Javier, Jerome Karikitan, Marie Ju Legaspi, Alexander Parcon, Mikee Reyes, and Camille Samantha Rivera.

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55 FIRM UP THEIR FAITH.

Fifty-five faithful received the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 8 (day after the feast day of St. La Salle) by personally saying “yes” to the responsibilities of the faith they received as infants upon their Christening (Sacrament of Baptism). The rite of confirmation for the participants (53 students—prepared for the sacrament in their REED 142 classes—and two nonteaching staff) was presided over by Bishop Reynaldo Evangelista (Bishop of the Diocese of Imus) at DLSU-D's University Chapel. It was sponsored by the Chaplain's Office, Campus Ministry Office and Religious Education Department under DLSU-D's College of Education. **(Dr. Jose Arvin Gacelo)**

Sarita, Top 2, leads

DLSU-D's new criminologists



Harold Sarita, a batch 2015 graduate of DLSU-D's College of Criminal Justice Education, landed Top 2 in the April 2016 Criminologists Licensure Examination. Sarita, together with DLSU-D's other first-time takers of the examination, posted a passing rate of 76.92 percent for DLSU-D. Overall, the University posted a 52.17 percent passing rate *vis-à-vis* the national passing rate of 23.90 percent.

Sarita leads other DLSU-D passers
Dhamara Jean Alduñar, Sergio Bula

Jr., Dominador Dasalla Jr., Mark Allen Eusebio, Benedict Angelo Gloriani, Dennis Pedrera, Albert Reyes, Jhomar Serandon, Marl Louisse Taol, John Marlo Umali and Jofeth Kym Yap.

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April-May licensure exams yield new CEAT professionals

The April-May 2016 professional licensure examinations have yielded new engineers and electronic technicians from DLSU-D's College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology graduates.

Leading the pack are Jonah Laroscain and Mae Charlemaine Lleno who posted a 100 percent passing rate for DLSU-D *vis-à-vis* the national passing rate of 82.36 percent in the April 2016 Electronics Technicians Licensure.

Passers of the Electronics Engineering Licensure examination include Robert Neil Ambion, Karl Erin Carta,

Christine Joy Mendoza, Janel Taopo, Vann Joseph Tined and John Nico Vidad who posted for DLSU-D a passing rate of 60 percent *vis-à-vis* the national passing rate of 36.95 percent.

Our new registered electrical engineers, meanwhile, posted a passing rate of 80 percent, *vis-à-vis* the national passing rate of 41.29 percent. They are Francis Felix Encarnacion, Ronnie Gliane, Marc Rich Mahusay and Elvin John Sabar. Our new registered master electricians, on the other hand, posted a 100 percent passing rate compared with the national passing rate of 56 percent.

Those who passed the mechanical engineers licensure examination include Russel Jonas Bermudez, Kimberly Isidro and Christopher Lawrence Santos, who posted a 75 percent passing rate for DLSU-D. The national passing rate here was 55.32 percent.

For the May 2016 Civil Engineering board examination, DLSU-D passers include Lea Yvette Aguilar, Novi Jamaica Angeles, Danah Dainielle Baltazar, Erika Mae Ferre and Francis Michael Osis.

Newsette editor, grad student win Palanca Awards

Newsette writer and editor Orlando Oliveros won 1st Prize in the Filipino Short Story category, while graduate student Joemar Furigay won 3rd Prize in the English Short Story for Children category of the 2016 Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature Contest.

Oliveros' entry was entitled "Ang Daga" while that of Furigay was "Saranggola."

The Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature is an annual literary contest considered the Philippine equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize in the United States of America in terms of prestige.

Oliveros is an AB Communication alumnus (batch 1996) under DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Technology and was also editor in chief of DLSU-D's official student publication *Heraldo Filipino*. Furigay, on the other hand, is currently taking up Master of Arts in English as Second Language with DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Education Graduate Studies (**Jacquelyn Torres**).



MARTINEZ IN CANADA, TAIWAN

Prof. Felipe Martinez, a faculty with Physical Sciences Department under DLSU-D's College of Science and Computer Studies, presented two researches at science conferences in Canada and Taiwan in June. Martinez was awarded a grant by IAGLR (International Association for Great Lakes Research) to present his paper "Monitoring and Evaluation of Water Quality of Taal Lake, Taal, aBatangas, Philippines" at IAGLR Conference 2016 held at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, June 6-10. And then, on June 13-17, Martinez was in Taiwan on sponsorship by Pacific Science Association in partnership with Taiwan Government to present his paper "Seasonal Variation of Physico-Chemical Characteristics of Palicpican River in Mts. Palaypalay/Mataas na Gulod, Luzon Island, Philippines" at the 23rd Pacific Science Congress. This was held at Academia Sinica, in Taipei, Taiwan.

DLSU-D profs present FTA in math teaching at int'l congress

Professors Carmela Reyes, chair of MSD (Mathematics and Statistics Department), Dr. Maxima Acelejado, part-time faculty with College of Science and Computer Studies Graduate School, and Anita Parungao, former MSD part-time faculty, facilitated a workshop about FTA (flipped teaching approach) in teaching math, and its merits, at ICME 13 (13th International Congress on Mathematical Education), held at University of Hamburg, Germany, July 24-31.

While there, they also presented their research (coauthored with Dr. Edna Mercado and Rhea Mateo, both faculty with MSD also) entitled “FLIPPED Teaching Approach vs. TRADITIONAL Teaching Approach.” The study was made to address the need for a much improved achievement in mathematics and also aimed to describe the profile of the respondents in terms of achievement, attitude towards mathematics, anxiety,

and confidence before and after their exposure to both flipped-teaching and traditional approaches.

ICME 13 was attended by approximately 3,500 mathematics educators and researchers from 106 countries, with a total of 1952 papers and 530 posters reviewed and accepted, thus forming, among others, several plenary panels and speakers, national presentation displays, invited lectures, workshops and discussion groups.

ICME 13 was hosted by The Society of Didactics of Mathematics (Gesellschaft für Didaktik der Mathematik-



GDM), University of Hamburg and ICMI (International Commission on Mathematical Instruction) and was supported by, among others, BWFG (Federal Ministry of Science, Research, and Equality), DMV (German Mathematical Society), DFG (German Research Society), Springer International Publishing, Hamburg Convention Bureau.

Math faculty read paper in Indonesia

DLSU-D's College of Science and Computer Studies-Mathematics and Statistics Department faculty Engr. Ma. Theresa Christine Valdez and Lea Maderal presented the University Research Office funded research coauthored with Edwin Bunag, head of DLSU-D's General Services Office, at the Asian Mathematical Conference held at Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center, Bali, Indonesia, July 25-29.

Their research entitled “Teaching Mathematics to K-12 Students Using Artifacts from Museo De La Salle” was among the 600 research presentations done in one of the most esteemed assembly of academicians, researchers and mathematicians across in Asia. The papers highlighted museums as potential means for teaching and learning Mathematics through classification, measurement and as concrete prototype for factual situational problems among Grade 7 to Grade 10

students, in addition to promoting awareness and appreciation of the arts and culture.

Valdez and Maderal were also among those who were given travel grants awarded to participants by the convention sponsors which include the Korean Mathematical Society, Mathematical Society of Japan, and Centre International de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées, among others.

The event was co-hosted by the Southeast Asian Mathematical Society and the Indonesian Mathematical Society.



Sarile at 10th IALU leadership program

Rosanni Recreo-Sarile, director of DLSU-D's Marketing Communications Office, joined 49 participants from 27 De La Salle schools from all over the world at the 10th IALU (International Association of Lasallian Universities) Leadership Program

The program—aimed for participants to strive to (1) be effective Lasallian leaders/administrators of the 21st century; (2) form collaborations with other De La Salle schools; and (3) understand Lasallian charism and spirituality—was held at Casa La Salle in Rome, Italy, June 5-18.

Aside from discussions that deepened the participants' understanding of St. John Baptist de La Salle and Lasallian organization, history and mission, also included were topics that had participants internalizing Lasallian spirituality, charism, pedagogy, and tradition in light of today's world and challenges.

Among the topics were "Lasallian Tradition vs. Liberal Arts" (facilitated by Br. Diego Muñoz FSC); "The Role of Women in Our Lasallian Heritage" (by Dr. Roxanne Eubank); and "Our Lasallian World of Higher Education: Lasallian University for the



Sarile (4th from right) together with other 10th IALU delegates from Pacific-Asia Regional Conference.

21st Century" (Br. Louis de Thomasis FSC) in which it was emphasized that while a De La Salle University is "not the (institutional) Church," the (institutional) Church is "not the Lasallian university." In the program were group dynamics sessions on Lasallian research and collaborations on mission. For two weeks, the participants worked with one another to develop a project, program or strategy they could implement upon their return home. They were asked to connect with last

year's IALU delegates from home to ensure that their projects complement or build on projects previously done.

Besides the academics' retreat; a cultural night; and tours of Firenze, Pisa and Perugia, delegates also presented an eight-minute audio-video clip of their home institutions. On the program's last day, each delegate was sent off with a medal of St. Peter/St. Paul in a commissioning ceremony.

PSD chemical safety training in 8 venues

With the aim to engage scientists, technicians, engineers and academicians in propagating international best practices for safe and secure chemicals management, faculty with the PSD (Physical Sciences Department) under DLSU-D's College of Science and Computer Studies simultaneously conducted a Chemical Security and Safety Training on April 10-12.

The training was personally conducted in eight venues in the country by the

following faculty members: Engr. Maria Beata Mijares, Engr. Czerny Veloso, Abigail Bueno and Niño Naldozain Legazpi City, Albay; Engr. Wilfredo Aguinaldo and Felipe Martinez in Camiguin; Engr. Imelda Galera, Engr. Ma. Jeannette Obias and Engr. Sulpicio Reyes in Sta. Ana, Cagayan; Gideon Legaspi and Richie Causaren in Bacolod; Maria Lourdes Cervania and Dr. Lolibeth Figueroa in Bohol; Engr. Lani Antonio, Dr. Joseph Samonte, Engr. Marina de Salit and Jovencito Yañez in Gen. Santos

City; Susan Sta. Ana, Engr. Lucy Magleo and Julian Guardamano in Iloilo; and Geraldine Zamora in Palawan.

The training was awarded a budget of US\$47,000 sponsored by the United States Department of State, Sandia National Laboratories, under the Chemical Security Engagement Program through CRDF Global, an independent nonprofit organization based in Virginia, USA. **(Reported by Felipe Martinez and Maria Beata Mijares)**

Ellema completes SIEL research

Dr. Gil Ellema, faculty member with REED (Religious Education Department) under DLSU-D's College of Education, had just recently completed and presented his research "Rethinking Religious Education in View of Citizenship Education: A Proposal for DLSU-D"—his output project from his participation in the 6th SIEL (Sesión Internacional de Estudios Lasalianos), in Rome, Italy.

The 6th SIEL, whose first phase lasted from October 12 to November 6 last year, was aimed "to accompany a group of Brothers and lay persons in developing basic competence in Lasallian research" in order that they become a community of Lasallian researchers whose two main tasks are: (1) to complete Lasallian researches with a common scientific criteria, and (2) to publish them either in a Lasallian journal or in any international journal.

The second phase of the SIEL program, which is the writing of the research, lasted November last year until June this year. Thereafter, the researchers are expected to present the completed research in their local community and submit it to the La Salle Generalate House in Rome, Italy for consideration in the Lasallian Digital Revue publication.

Ellema presented his work to the Religious Education Department on August 1.

Says Ellema, his research aims for DLSU-D's Religious Education program to be "anchored on issues of the times." With the incorporation of the paradigm of citizenship education, the starting point of the program would be the experience of the learners themselves, with the doctrines



Ellema (left) with Superior General Br. Robert Schieler FSC

reinforcing the learning process. When asked why he chose this topic for his research, Ellema said the research alludes to the call for Lasallian education "to form disciples, citizens, prophets and professionals" for the transformation of society (Lasallian Guiding Principles, 2008).

Ellema was among the 35 delegates (a mix of Brothers and lay partners) from De La Salle institutions all over the world. Representing De La Salle Philippines, Ellema was joined by delegates from DLSU-Manila, DLS College of St. Benilde and the Central House.

The 6th SIEL was spearheaded by the Lasallian Research and Resources Service of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools headed by Br. Diego Muñoz FSC.

To come up with researches with solid Lasallian roots, Br. Diego organized the session into six topics: "The Spiritual Context of the 17th Century France"; "Lasallian Research Dialogues"; "The Critical Study of John Baptiste Blain (De La Salle's official biographer in the 18th Century)"; "The French Scholarly

Context of the 17th Century"; "The Person of the Lasallian Researcher"; and "Education as Viewed by International Organizations." These were discussed by Brothers Pedro Gil FSC, Henri Bédel FSC, Alain Houry FSC, Paulo Dullius FSC, Léon Lauraire FSC and Nicolas Capelle FSC—all prominent authors and lecturers in the field of Lasallian studies.

For the delegates' outputs, Superior General Br. Robert Schieler FSC challenged the participants to take into heart the importance of Lasallian research as Lasallian education confronts the challenges of the 21st century: postmodernity, multicultural contexts, pluri-religious world and the issues brought up by Pope Francis in his latest encyclical, *Laudatosi'*. He emphasized especially the following research areas that need attention: Lasallian association in the local community *vis-à-vis* Lasallian identity; sustainable environment (toward an ethic of human development); and some of the advocacies enumerated in the 45th General Chapter, such as; promotion of citizenship and child rights in the school community and society, and addressing poverty.

QAO director attends quality assurance events in China, Vietnam

Director Lucille Rivera-Calairo of DLSU-D's QAO (Quality Assurance Office) recently attended two international events on IQA (internal quality assurance). The first one, "Policy Forum on Higher Education Quality and Employability: How IQA Can Contribute," was at Xiamen University, China on June 9-11.

Organized by the International Institute for Educational Planning of UNESCO, the forum featured world-renown QA gurus as speakers, including Lee Harvey, quality advisor to institutions around the world; John Brennan, professor emeritus of Higher Education Research at the UK Open University; and David Dill, professor emeritus of public policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Attended by participants, mostly education managers and university

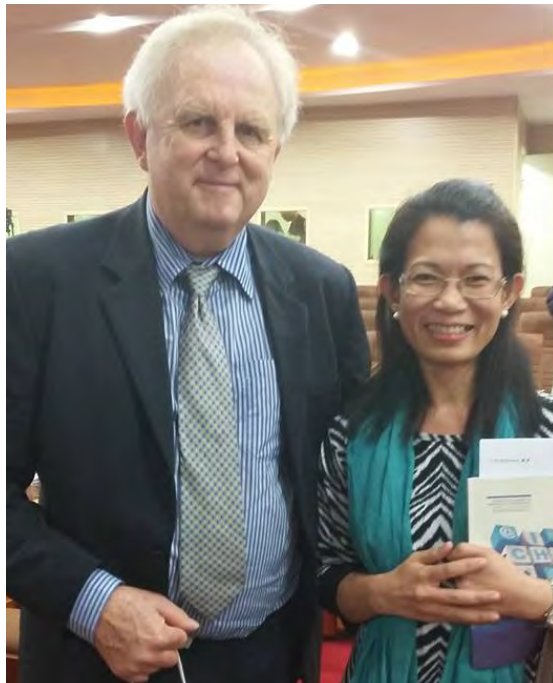
quality assurance officers, from more than 20 countries, the forum focused on four themes: "Internal Quality Assurance: Setting the Scene Internationally"; "Designing Effective and Innovative Structures for IQA"; "Designing Effective IQA Tools and Processes in Support of Quality and Employability"; and "IQA in Support of Quality Culture."

"We looked at international trends and learned from the best practices of several universities from different parts of the world," reported Calairo. "It is also important to note that there has to be a link between IQA and governance in establishing a quality culture... strengthening of the IQA

systems of a university should impact on/support its quality culture and eventually assure employability of its graduates."

Calairo was joined by Dr. Julita Robles, DLSU-Manila QA director, to make up the Philippine delegation. Their travel and participation were funded by the German Academic Exchange Service.

Calairo's Vietnam event the following month was a workshop organized by the German Academic Exchange Service and the University of Potsdam (Germany) with support from the ASEAN University Network, German Rectors' Conference and the ASEAN Quality Assurance Network.



Calairo (right) with world-renown QA guru Lee Harvey

"ASEAN-QA SQUARED Workshop," held July 27-29 at the University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City, featured a team-up of European and ASEAN quality assurance experts as trainers, and was attended by 24 participants from nine ASEAN countries. "The workshop was a training of trainers," said Calairo. "All participants qualified by submitting a training proposal that they will roll out in their respective institutions/countries."

Calairo's proposal is called "ProjectIQA: Strengthening Capacity of the CALABARZON Region," which involves planning a workshop for the QA officers of NOCEI (Network of CALABARZON Educational Institutions) higher education institutions in October. DLSU-D is a member institution of NOCEI.

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Gelicame attends China workshop on culture



Cecille Torrevillas-Gelicame, Museo De La Salle director, attended the 10th 10+3 Workshop on Cooperation for Cultural Human Resource Development sponsored by the China Ministry of Culture, Central Academy of Cultural Administration, and ASEAN- China Center held in Beijing and Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China, July 17-27.

Participated in by 20 curators and officers from ministries of cultures from ASEAN countries such as Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and East Asian country Japan, the 10-day event served as an avenue for ASEAN countries to forge understanding and discourse with Chinese curators through museum site visits to listen, discuss, and exchange ideas for mutual learning.



Among the museums visited were the 798 Art Zone, Ullens Center for Contemporary Arts, China Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing Fine Art Academy, National Museum of China, Palace Museum (Forbidden City), Great Wall-Cultural Heritage of China, Ancient Historic Town of Cicheng, Hemudu Site Museum, Cultural Center of Ningbo, and the Ningbo Art Museum.

In one discussion, Gelicame proposed cooperation on youth engagement for sustainable heritage development as a possible topic in future 10+3 Workshops. Gelicame was joined in the workshop by Maria Rosario Estrada of the Cultural Center of the Philippines and Arlene Flores of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts to complete the Philippine delegation.

The event was also organized by the ASEAN-COCI (Committee on Culture and Information) to explore and foster future cooperation in the aspect of museum curatorship and education for the promotion and preservation of cultures in Southeast and East Asia.

ENGLISH VARIANTS, LINGUISTIC LANDSCAPE. Language experts (*l-r*) Dr. Rodney Jubilado (University of Hawaii) and Dr. Francisco Dumanig (Buraimi University College, Oman) enlightened DLSU-D faculty members via a seminar on English variants and linguistic landscape, July 12 at DLSU-D's Julian Felipe Hall. Jubilado, who holds a doctorate in Theoretical Linguistics and has served as guest speaker in various international conferences in ASEAN as well as Australia and the United States, presented "On the Varieties of the English Language: Features and Vitality of Philippine English in Hawaii," which also included quick descriptions of variants of the English language in Southeast Asia. On the other hand, Dumanig—whose research interests include language teaching, cross-cultural communication, world Englishes, and discourse analysis—presented "Linguistic Landscape as Pedagogical Resource for Teaching and Learning English," which centered on "the language of public road signs, advertising billboards, street names, place names, commercial shop signs, and public signs"—the linguistic landscape of a place—and how it contributes as "additional language learning tools" for language learners. The seminar was attended by faculty with the Departments of Languages, Filipino, and Communication and Journalism under DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Communication, which sponsored the event as its initial offering of its Faculty Development Program for the year. (Photo by Jojo Romerosa)

Dev't Studies student cited in Korea youth summit

Represents RP in Model UN in Malaysia

Incoming third-year student Hannah Joy Alcomendas was one of three Filipino delegates who attended the 5th APYPPW (Asia-Pacific Youth Parliament for Water) by KWF (Korea Water Forum) held in Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology, Daegu City, South Korea, July 4-7.

Alcomendas, who is taking up AB Development Studies major in International Development under DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Communication, was cited for her presentation of a report on current water-related problems in the Philippines. She was given the President of K-Water Award, while fellow Filipino delegate Debby Sy, a UP-Los Baños student, took home the President of Korea Environment Corporation and Outstanding Youth Award. Completing the delegation was Camille Joy Buron from Ateneo de Manila University. The three were chosen out of 2000 applicants in the country.

After a series of intensive lectures and discussions, the 5th APYPPW successfully concluded with the adoption of a declaration that outlines a one-year youth-oriented solution to address the water issues raised by the delegates.

On to Malaysia

A few days later, Alcomendas left the country again, this time for the six-day 22nd AMUNC (Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 11-16.

AMUNC is one of the largest simulation conferences of the United Nations in the Asia-Pacific region, attracting almost 600 delegates yearly from various Asia-Pacific universities.

Alcomendas, who recently spearheaded

the 4th Dasmariñas Model United Nations at DLSU-D, was one of nine Filipino delegates sponsored by Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau, an AMUNC major partner. She "represented" Malaysia in the conference's UN Security Council, at which, she engaged with other committee members in the discussion of the topics "Response to the Threat of Global Terrorism" and "Post-Statehood Violence in South Sudan." The 22nd AMUNC concluded with the adoption of resolutions from all 19 committees.

Alcomendas, together with the other Filipino delegates, also paid a courtesy visit to the Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, upon the invitation of Embassy Minister and Consul General Maria Antonina Mendoza Oblena.



Alcomendas (*left*) upon receiving the President of K-Water Award from K-Water Executive Director Kyung Jin Min. (Photo by Lee June)



THE THRILL OF THE QUILL

Communication students Izael Gomez and Nica Nimeno (*1st and 2nd from left respectively*) under DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Communication, pose for a photo with their adviser Prof. Marco Polo at the awards night of the Philippine Student Quill Awards 2015 at the Marriott Grand Ballroom, Newport, Pasay City, May 17 this year. The students received the Quill Award of Merit for their entry "Ligtas Sakuna: A PR Proposal Presented to NDRRMC," in the Student Quill-Category 1: Communication Management. Completing their team lineup were fellow AB Communication students Mark Randolph Aguilar, Mary Joy Alegre, Amec Juliam Asor, Niel John Clemente, Jan Christian Felasol, Aaron Joeфри Saguin, and Erika Uy.

Grad student poster wins 2nd in int'l confab

Out of around 150 poster entries in the poster competition of the 2016 ISCES (International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability), Jayson Villagomez' "Green Your Choice! Green Your Lifestyle!" entry won 2nd Place, overtaking entries by other delegates from United States, United Kingdom, China, Italy, Lebanon, etc.

Villagomez, a Master of Arts in English as Second Language student in DLSU-D's College of Liberal Arts and Communication, said the poster was based on his belief that "the choices we make every day and our lifestyle are important factors in lessening the impact we contribute on the environment." He furthered that "being a Lasallian helped me win because DLSU-D has...instilled [in me] the values of sustainable...production practices since I entered the academe in 2008."

Meanwhile, his study entitled "Solid Waste Generation and Management of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas" got accepted in the ISCES. He also joined the Global University Partnership on Environment for Sustainability Lifestyle Challenges competition, where he competed in the Aqua Republica game, the aim of which was to engage students with natural resource management interests and to enhance their critical thinking, multi-stakeholders problem solving, and decision-making skills.

The conference, held in Shanghai, China on June 3-8, was co-hosted by Tonji University and UNEP (United Nations Environment Program), which also organized the event together with Tonji Institute of Environment for Sustainability.

The six-day conference was also in celebration of World Environment Day, held every June 5, and also featured tours of Tonji University and Shanghai, a forum and workshop, and several opportunities to meet with famous environmentalists and experts, especially from UNEP. Last year, Vin Bandilla, a DLSU-D Broadcast Journalism graduate, won the 2015 ISCES Best Presentation in the group Sustainable Education.



'COMPANY OF THE YEAR.' DLSU-D's "Ezure Corporation" (composed of 3rd year BS Entrepreneurship JAPI—or Junior Achievement Philippines—members under the Allied Business Department of DLSU-D's College of Business Administration and Accountancy) swept major awards at the 47th Grand JA Philippines Awards Night at Philippine Trade Training Center, April 11. Besides being adjudged "Company of the Year 2015-2016" and "People's Choice of the Year," the corporation also won Chief Executive Officer of the Year (Ray Christian Rosell); Chief PR Officer of the Year (Bernalyn Mae Vasquez); Chief Marketing Officer of the Year (Frances Faye Manuel); Chief Production Officer of the Year (Kevin de Ramos); Chief HR Officer of the Year (Ma. Sophia Karen Tan); 2nd Runner up Chief Finance Officer of the Year (Alyssa Joyce Maningding) and Company Members of the Year (Maria Lorraine Manuel, Bianca Joanne Basilio, Jacqueline Fe Dacanay, and Janel Lumbre). The corporation manufactured BSOUND, an acoustic audio amplifier made of half a coconut shell. They were mentored by JAPI adviser Prof. Michael del Rosario. The grand awards night recognized participating students who excelled in the execution of their business plans, which they presented earlier during JA Entrep Summit 2015, held December last year. The winners were determined by experts and industry practitioners.



AGORA HURRAH. Marketing students and Junior Marketing Association members Janick Gimeno, Emmeline Castillo, Kathrene Mendoza, Cris Albert de Mesa, Danica Anne Tamayo, Ara Gabriella Reyes and Ezekiel Joseph Magbuhos under DLSU-D's College of Business Administration and Accountancy were this year's 2nd Runner up at Agora Youth Awards held April 2 at Bayanihan Center, Kapitolyo, Pasig City. They were joined in the photo by Prof. Michael del Rosario (*4th from left*) who served as their adviser.

Agora Youth Awards is a nationwide search for outstanding Business and Marketing students and institutions annually conducted by Philippine Marketing Association, an organization whose aim is "to develop and promote marketing as a science and a profession guided principally by the universal principles of ethics, corporate citizenship and corporate social responsibility and to serve as a policy-making and recommendatory arm of the government on marketing-related issues."

CTHM sweeps medals at MAFBEX 2016

DLSU-D's CTHM (College of Tourism and Hospitality Management) once again swept medals at MAFBEX (Manila Food and Beverage Expo) 2016, a premiere food event showcasing foods and beverages as well as budding talents in the food industry.

Our winning delegates included Chellica Mae Apostol (champion, Classical Cocktail Mixing Competition; coached by Prof. Pierre Rap Pineda); Alyssa Cassandra, Siojo Marille, Kaye Lorenzo Allyson, Lunaria Justyn Rain Bautista, Maria Sandra Lagunzad (champion, Cupcake Challenge; coached by Profs. Maya Quita Tirel and Ailene Rolle); and Rich Arldela Cruz, Ricky Nebres, Patrick Louis Lontok, Fransil Esguerra, and Alyana Molina (champion, Napkin Folding; 2nd Place, Table Setting; coached by Prof. Mae Rana Safia Casiles).

Dela Cruz and Esguerra, coached by Prof. Rowell Paras, also won 2nd Place in Buffet Centerpiece. Also winning 2nd were May Hazel de Llave, Vince

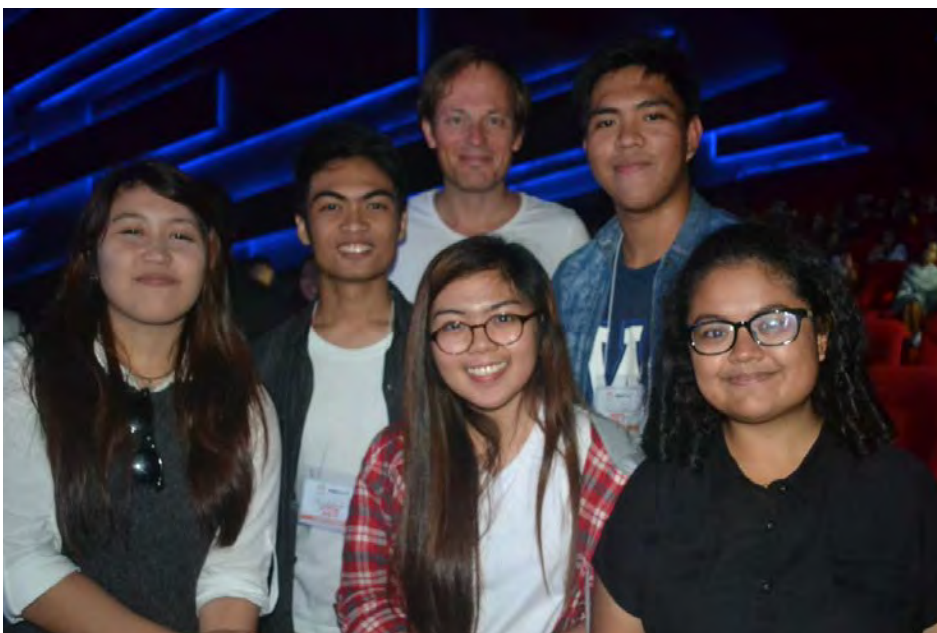


Andrew Gumban and Jacklyn Kate Valin in Pasta Live Cooking. They were coached by Prof. Irma Gatdula.

At 3rd Place were Avery Remulla, also coached by Tirel, in the Cooking Demo event, joined by the teams of Bianca SasiQuennie Cortez, Glaiza Guerta and Allyson Lunarr (Cake Decorating), coached by Profs. Michaela Nicole Manicdao, Casiles, and Props Madrilejos; Allana Loiz Baldomaro, Jan Kenneth Alunan, and

Alvin Rolda (Meat Cookery), coached by Chef Jorge Adeodatus Bautista; Mark Joshua Manarang, Hanna Rose Reyes and Roselle Marie Abella (Mocktail Punch) coached by Prof. Pineda; and Ron Dale del Mundo, Ron Drake del Mundo and Kurt Luis Loyola (Clash of Kitchen), coached by Prof. Rolle.

MAFBEX 2016 was held at World Trade Center, June 8-12.



DISRUPTED. Members of DLSU-D's Lasallian Student Ambassadors pose for a picture with Yuri Van Geest (*back row, center*), coauthor of "Exponential Organizations" and keynote speaker at "#ThinkPH Back to Disruptive Basics," a symposium on technology and society held at Newport Performing Arts Theater, Resorts World Manila, July 21. The talk featured topics "New Paradigm for a New World"; "Technology and Trends"; and "The Future Ahead." The event was presented by Rappler, an internet-based social media news network.

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Faculty Recognition 2016

This year's Faculty Recognition Rites feted recent graduate degree finishers and long-service awardees led by Dr. Edwin Aspra and Maria Nena Caspe who are also recipients of the Juan Medrano Award.

Graduate Degree Holders:

Master's Degree:

Engrs. Roberlene Abitona and Anthony Lopos (Engineering); Jaime Zeus Agustin (University Research Office); Wilnelia Balington, Myra Michelle Mojica, Maria Dolores Elisa Muhi and Hilda Rivera (High School); Rachele Ballesteros (Languages and Literature); Joebert de Paz (Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo-IRC); Mario Luis Jamoralin (Hotel and Restaurant Management); and Eric Vargas (National Services Training Program Office).

Doctorate Degree:

Dr. Ma. Virginia Aguilar (Social Sciences); Dr. Mary Ann Escoto (Filipino at Panitikan); Dr. Jose Arvin Gacelo and Dr. Rowel San Sebastian (Religious Education).

Past Administrators:

Cherry Cuevas (Biological Sciences); Dr. Gil Ellema (Religious Education); Paulino Gatpandan (Computer Studies); Eduardo Malvar (Business Management); Grace Cella Mejia (Tourism Management); Edna Mercado (Mathematics and Statistics); Danilo Reyes Jr. (Engineering); and Mario Torres (Biological Sciences).

Past President of Faculty Association: Bernard Esternon (Social Sciences).

Publications in ISI Journals: Engr. Maryjoie Lituañas (Engineering); Drs. Cristina Salibay and Maria Melanie Medecilo (Biological Sciences Department); and Dr. Jose Aims Rocina (Social Sciences).

Departments with Most Number of Completed URO-funded Research: Biological Sciences (Large Department Category) and Psychology (Small Department Category).

Departments with Most Number of Faculty Involved in Research: Biological Sciences (Large category) and Environment Resources Management Center (Small category).

Long Service Awards:

25 Years and Juan Medrano Award:

Dr. Edwin Aspra (Social Sciences); and Maria Nena Caspe (Lasallian Community Development Center).

20 Years:

Relyn Antenor-Cruz (Professional Education); Dr. Maria Lita Arquion (Student Wellness Center); Lucila Rivera-Calairo and Severino Perez (Lanugages and Literature); Dr. Gemma Gosgolan, Dr. Susan Mostajo (Psychology); Myra Lagat, Reny Obra (Biological Sciences); Dr. Madison Valera (Religious Education); and Neil Villanueva (National Services Training Program).



15 Years:

Engr. Wilfredo Aguinaldo (Physical Sciences); Leonor Amacio and Jerome Buhay (Mathematics and Statistics); Joebert de Paz (Aklatang Emilio Aguinaldo-IRC); Jorge Estafia (Graphics Design and Multimedia); Paulino Gatpandan (Computer Studies); Cecille Gelicame and Raymund Anthony Juanillo (Museo De La Salle); Rowena Heradura (Psychology); Carolyn Jardiniano (Center for Student Admissions); Marvin Lepardo and Dr. Antonio Tamonan (Religious Education); Janet Macawile and Marlon Pareja (Biological Sciences); Emelyn Mayuga (Computer Studies); Dr. Jacqueline Morta (Business Management); Dr. Willington Okechukwu Onuh (Allied Business); Rosario Pareja (Lasallian Community Development Center).



10 Years:

Fernando Cabalsa, Roemer delos Santos and Diana Jean Roque (Campus Ministry Office); Loreto Camiloza (Social Sciences); Angelito Cani (Physical Education); Dr. Christian George Francisco (Filipino at Panitikan); Emmylou Gamueda (Center for Innovative Learning Programs); Gerson Garcia (University Lasallian Family Office); Anna Michelle Garingo (Student Wellness Center); Jocelyn Luyon (Environment Resources Management Center); Engrs. Conrado Monzon and Wilfredo Vidal (Engineering); Antoinette Montoya and Maedelyn Obispo (Information and Communications Technology Center); Jonnacar San Sebastian (Biological Sciences); and Neriza Villanueva (Cavite Studies Center).



5 Years:

Jaime Zeus Agustin (University Research Office); Engr. Giovanni Ariola (Engineering); Mary Daffodil Cordero (Hotel and Restaurant Management); Alice Descallar (Business Management); Jermerson Dominguez (Psychology); Grace Cella Mejia and Paul Anthony Notorio (Tourism Management); Nelda Nacion (Mathematics and Statistics); Lovely Navarro (Information and Communications Technology Center); Cristina Padilla (Professional Education); Pierre Potenciana Pineda (Hotel and Restaurant Management); and Mian Rayray (Marketing).



With Jose Ritche Bongcaron and Enrico Soto as masters of ceremony, Faculty Recognition 2016 was held at Ugnayang La Salle, February 19, coinciding with this year's Lasallian Festival.



Luntiung Parangal 2016

Padilla, Espinosa feted for their leadership

Rhina Padilla, a CBAA (College of Business Administration and Accountancy) student and president of CSO (Council of Student Organizations), took home this year's St. John Baptist De La Salle Award for Excellence in Leadership, while Minerva Espinosa, also a CBAA student and CSO secretary, won the Leader of the Year award at this year's Luntiung Parangal, April 6.

The two led this year's individual awardees, namely, Tamarra Arielle Verdan (Cultural Arts Group Leader of the Year); Kristine Anne Margarete de Torres (Most Outstanding Student in Community Service); Anri Ichimura (Writer of the Year); Lynoelle Kyle Arayata (Visual Artist of the Year); Mikee Abigail Villaluna (Co-curricular Organization Student Officer of the Year); Bryan Christian Baybay (Interest Organization Officer of the

Year); Minerva Espinosa (Council of Student Organizations Officer of the Year); Christine Lei Cabatay (University Student Council Officer of the Year); Aaron Bryan Lopez (Student Commission on Election Officer of the Year); Parissa Mazuooth (CBAA Student Council Officer of the Year); Angelo Fajardo (COEd Student Council Officer of the Year); Jonathan Mojares (CCJE Student Council Officer of the Year).



College of Business Administration and Accountancy, Padilla's home college, automatically clinched the Home of the St. John Baptist De La Salle Award for Excellence in Leadership, leading group honorees: De La Salle University-Dasmariñas Chorale (Performing Arts Group of the Year); College of Business Administration and Accountancy Student Council (College Student Council of the Year); Industrial Engineering Program Council (Program Council of the Year); Junior Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (Co-curricular Organization of the Year); DLSU-D Communication and Media Society (Interest Organization of the Year); College of Science and Computer Studies Student Council (Most Outstanding Organization in Community Service); "1st DLSU-D JFINEX Students' Summit" (Best Student Fund Raising Project); "CSCS: Living the Lasallian Way" (Best Outreach Project); and "Turong Pagtatanghal" (Best Outreach Project).



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S.Y. 2016-2017

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Marco M. Polo • Director, University Linkages Office
Gerson R. Garcia • Director, University Lasallian Family Office
Wilson R. Jacinto • Director, Alumni Relations and Placement Office

STAFF RECOGNITION 2016

Bruza, Bautista ‘outstanding’

Venetia Bruza, a staff with Kagawaran ng Wikang Filipino, and Remedios Bautista, head of Human Resource Management Office Faculty Services, took home this year’s “Outstanding Staff of the Year” and “ASP of the Year” awards respectively at this year’s Staff Recognition Rites at Ugnayang La Salle, May 4.

The awards rites, themed Formal Bohemian, also recognized employees in the following categories:

Good Attendance: Maria Heide Abella, Maria Luisa Abiador, Ricardo Aclag, Michelle Agulto, Dionisia Alberto, Bibiana Alcantara, Gerry Alcaraz, Maximo Algara, Rex Anilao, Glean Aniversario, Mary Ann Anquilo, Erwin Arciaga, Sheryl Ascaño, Christine Joy Avena, Ma. Ailene Azarcon, Aireen Balallo, Ryan Barlao, Luisito Batuto, Dennis Ian Bautista, Nolasco Bayalan, Mario Beltran, Kathyrine Bengil, Merle Besa, Gregorio Bilugan, Joel Blasurca, Evelyn Bonilla, Armando Borromeo, Ronaldo Bucal, Dario Cadavedo, Aida Caluscusao, Joel Caluscusao, Rizaldy Campaner, Tomas Capili, Jaselee Carandang, Jerieca Catibog, Dennis Cavalida, Marlyn Ciudad, Ronnie Constante, Alinede Aro, Analiza dela Cuesta, Mylene Delatado, Antonia Derain, Jesse Desingano, Ernesto Martin Joseph Diaz, Dante Doctama, Ervin Ronnie Doroteo, Perlincio Dultra Jr., Jayson Duque, Edison Espineli, Eberliza Espinosa, Eden Fabella, Marilen Fonollera, Rodolfo Frani, Jodel Xavier Gemanil, Elmer Hondo, Joseph Jardiniano, Edwin Javier, Janeth Jonson, Adornado Jordan, Edith Jordan, Susan Joya, Eduardo Lara, Augusto Laudato, Hazel Ann Legaspi, Adelina Leyba, Joselito Lobrio, Alfredo Macam Jr., Marilyn Macario, Ariel Magsino, Katherine Malonzo, Olimpio Manreza, Amie Mejica, Cedina Melendres, Domiciano Mendoza, Elizabeth Mendoza, Robert Mendoza, Gerald Mojica, Kenneth Dane Mojica, Benjamin Montallana, Julio Monte, Heidi Ingrid Morallo, Homer Morallo, Dionisio Natanawan, Michael Nicart, Adrian Robert Palomar, Jocelyn Panopio, Freddie Parcerero, Lorna Parcerero, Mary Joy Pasco,



Bautista



Bruza

Jaime Patani Jr., Reynario Peñalba, Ann Perocho, Gilbert Poblete, Eraño Portera, Joel Purca, John Paul Repato, Edelberto Reyes, Jayson Reyes, Lorelie Reyes, Maria Lourdes Reyes, Melvin Reyes, William Rivero, Jr., Placido Robles Jr., Novelita Rodriguez, Joseph Neil Romerosa, Rizza Sabater, Romulo Sarno, Felix Sarreal Jr., Dante Saul, Lyn Saul, Wilma Sayas, Richard Allan Saylor, Lodivico Sinigayan, Almira So, Annabelle Solis, Melody Tadena, Nestor Tercero, Marilou Teves, Marinesa Toledo, Mark Jayson Torres, Rosalie Valera, Maribeth Valerio, Marites Velado, Marissa Villatura, Joilo Villena, Jose Vinoya, Charlotte Visperas, Joel Ybera and Eva Zaldivar.

Good Attendance (for seven consecutive years):

Henry Autor, Venetia Bruza, Arlene Hayag, Roel Malubag, Lydia Mercado, Cynthia Naca, Felicitas Poblete, Page Mary Jane Signo, Marineth Soberano, Eleanor Tugbo.

KABALIKAT ng DLSU-Dasmariñas Officers SY 2014-2015:

Mylene Joson, president; Edelberto Reyes, vice president ; Maricar Bullecer, secretary; Sheryl Ann Bruza, treasurer; Imelda Adaon, auditor; George Muñoz, Joey Ybera, Romeo Pardeño, Marinesa Toledo, Lydia Mercado, board of directors.

Master's Degree holder: Nida Cruzada (Master of Science in Criminal Justice with Specialization in Criminology).

Long Service Awardees: 5Years: Jhun Mickier Dasas, Arni Llaneta, Joselito Lobrio, Leny Maasin, Robert Mendoza, Jocelyn Panopio, Joel Purca, Jayson Reyes, Annabelle Solis, Lourdes Tolentino; **10 Years:** Edison Espineli, Leslieann Gatdula, Alfredo Macam Jr., Ivy Muñoz, John Paul Repato, Marife Reyes, William Rivero Jr., Joel Ybera; **15 Years:** Maria Luisa Abiador, Michelle Agulto, Frederick Agustin, Leilani Alaman, Glean Aniversario, Mary Ann Anquilo, Kathyrine Bengil, Florence Cagas, Sylvia Diesta, Rodelio Figueroa, Ariel Magsino, Cherry Manzano, Malvin Martinez, Joselito Masangkay, Mary Jane Palad, Romeo Pardeño, Gilbert Poblete, Lyn Saul, Raquel Tined, Marinesa Toledo, Marichu Tolentino.

20 Years: Amelita Allego, Jurry Daniel, Rodolfo Frani, Maria Lourdes Reyes, Melinda Roasa, Wilma Sayas, Eva Zaldivar; **25 Years/Juan Medrano Service Award:** Deodoro Abiog II, Mario Beltran, Joel Caluscusao, Marlyn Ciudad, Pacita Hapin, Eriberto Joson, Mylene Joson, Eugenia Lontoc, Freddie Parcerero, Lorna Parcerero, Romulo Sarno; **35 Years:** Dario Cadavedo.



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De La Salle University-Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) is offering a unique opportunity for Quality Assurance Officers of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the region to delve deeper into QA principles, concepts and frameworks to improve and strengthen internal quality assurance in their respective institutions.

The University will host from October 20-21, 2016 an intensive workshop entitled “ProjectIQA: Enhancing Capacity of CALABARZON HEIs” at the Centennial Hall of Hotel Rafael. Aside from providing an avenue to discuss best practices in internal quality assurance, the workshop also seeks to jumpstart initiatives for collaboration and resource-sharing in the region as well as establish a knowledge-sharing platform among HEIs.

The workshop also aims to assist participants in determining the IQA processes they need to establish in their own institutions and determine the links between internal and external quality assurance.

Only limited slots are available so interested participants are encouraged to register online (http://www.dlsud.edu.ph/Campuslife/News/2016/_register.htm?) and get in touch with the Quality Assurance Office through
Cavite +63 (46) 481.1900
Manila +63 (2) 779.5180 for inquiries and clarifications.

38th Commencement Exercises 1,838 graduates march on



A total of 1,838 graduates, composed of 1,776 with undergraduate degrees and 62 with graduate degrees, march on with DLSU-D's 38th Commencement Exercises. The three-day rites, held May 11, 12 and 13 at DLSU-D's Ugnayang La Salle, featured DLSU-Manila Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Carmelita Quebengco AFSC, DLSU-D Board of Trustee Atty. Sabino Padilla IV, and Department of Education Secretary Br. Armin Luistro FSC, EdD as commencement speakers (see excerpts of their speeches in the next pages).

Leading this year's honorees was Rhina Padilla, a BS Business Administration (major in Business and Operations Management) finisher, who earned a *Cum Laude* distinction while also taking home the St. John Baptist De La Salle Award for Excellence in Leadership.

Joining her were fellow graduates feted with the following distinctions:

Photos by Jojo Romerosa



With High Distinction: Dexter Ian Abrazado and Ma. Oliva T. de Perio (Executive MBA); Edmar Alday (MBA with specialization in Supply Management).

CREAM (Collegiate Recognition for Exemplary Academic Merit): Jarrel Maverick Remulla (BS IT); Royce Calingal (Bachelor of Secondary Education); Sarah Mhae Diaz (AB Psychology).

Cultural Award: Carlo Rementilla (BS BA); Tamarra Arielle Verdan (AB Political Science). Athletes of the Year: Iumi Yongco (AB Communication); Alvin Valdenarro (BS Criminology). Loyalty Award: Ria Bianca Angeles, Jan Aerylle Dionco (BS BA); Christine Lei Cabatay, Marc Renzo Mandocdoc, Fredric Antonin Martija (BS Biology); Camille Chavez (BS Civil Engineering); Sheena Mae Lagajino (BS IT); Nomelyn Ann Vallejo (BS HRM).



Golden Scroll Award: John Michael delos Reyes (BS Accountancy); Golden Gear Award: Glen Andrew Tadeo (BS Computer Engineering).

SGV Academic Excellence Award: Adrian Ronald Saraza (BS Accountancy); SGV Leadership Award: Jessica AljanneEscoto (BS Accountancy)

Outstanding Dissertation: Daisy Alberto (Ph.D. major in Counseling Psychology with concentration in Community Counseling: “Effectiveness of Kalabit-kalabit, Irap, and Sanggang-dikit (KIS) on the Sexual Scripts, Motivation and Behavior of Couples with Difficulty in Sexual Abstinence”); Mario Torres (Ph.D. in Biology: “Towards developing a viable community-based biodiversity conservation model: the case of Mts. Palay-Palay/Mataas-nagulod Protected Landscape, Luzon Island, Philippines”).



38th Commencement Exercises

‘I pray you will plant seeds of change...’

(Excerpt from Dr. Carmelita Quebengco’s commencement speech before graduates of the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Communication and of Science and Computer Studies, May 11. Dr. Quebengco is DLSU Chancellor Emeritus and is currently member of the Executive Committee of DLSU-D’s Board of Trustees.)

Many studies show that millennials tend to be digital natives, social media savvy, confident, independent minded, loyal to friends and learn much from them, and focused on self-development. Yet they are more socially aware and more active than previous generations in volunteerism. A Deloitte survey of millennials in 2015 reveal their perception that 37 percent of knowledge and skills they use at work were developed while in the University and the rest gained while already working. The same survey projects that 64 percent of millennials will move to another work organization or another line of work within five years. These indicate that a good portion of a millennial’s initial career is a journey of self-discovery and self-development. Within this milieu, what can I best share with you? Do I anticipate your questions and answer them? The problem is I do not know all the answers. So, let me pose strategic questions instead, your answers to which may enable you to look inward and reflect, then hopefully stumble on the appropriate answers. After all I am at heart a teacher to whom asking the right questions is more important than giving answers.

You have been educated in one of the best educational institutions of the country. You have been prepared to join a forward-

looking workforce with new knowledge, relevant skills, capability to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, be self- and socially aware, cooperate in a team, and lead when needed. With all these plus a commitment to excellence and Lasallian values, there is no reason why you cannot lead an honorable, happy and fulfilling life.

Bear in mind, however, that this will not be handed to you on a silver platter. You will have to do your part. You will have to persevere and be humble to learn from yours and the mistakes of others because the work of educating oneself is a lifelong process. Most likely, you will begin work at the lower ranks in an organization and may resent this, thinking that a La Salle graduate deserves better and should be promoted fast to a managerial position. In reality, it is through hard work, determination, patience and commitment to excellence rather than sheer vision and ambition that one moves up the professional ladder.

There will be failures, which I hope you will not allow to paralyze you with discouragement because no one has lived life without failure. Instead, remember that even failure has an upside in lessons learned, strengths gained, wisdom acquired, and learning to learn throughout life, which will serve as your means to attain success. You will work with those of lesser capabilities and I hope you will not look down on them, instead, encourage and assist them because they will need your help and guidance. There will also be those who will prove more capable and competent than you and I pray you will not resent, reject nor fear them; instead, learn from them so you can grow faster.

To make the best choices for oneself, one

must first know one’s true self. To find this out, one has to look inward and reflect on who one truly is... In this regard, these are my first set of questions for you: What do you value? What gives you meaning? What makes you happy? What are your talents and gifts? In what aspects do you still need development? What kind of contribution do you want to make in the life of others, eventually to our nation?

In her 2012 book “Quiet,” Susan Cain said, “Pay attention to what you envy. Jealousy is an ugly emotion but it tells the truth. You mostly envy those who have what you desire.” So I ask: What do you envy in another and why? Your answers to these questions will shed light on who you truly are and enable you to discern the more appropriate options that will help lead to a future that you desire.

Research from a field called “person environment fit” shows that “people flourish when they are engaged in occupational roles or settings that are concordant with their personalities,” and for every option you decide to take, I have another question for you: many, many years from now, will this choice lead to a life you will be happy with and proud of?

You may be wondering why I have not mentioned anything ordinarily associated with worldly success and greatness such as becoming wealthy, receiving honors and awards, occupying powerful positions and the life. The observations and part of the lessons I learned as a senior professional is the paradox in all these: the more one focuses on and pursues them, the more elusive they seem to be. The less one thinks of them [and] instead, focus on hard work with integrity towards excellence, the more likely they will be realized.

What vocation do you think fits your personality, talents, and gifts? How would you turn your job into a vocation?



When asked the secret of their success, almost all highly respected and admired professionals say that: they worked hard to gain both a comprehensive knowledge and in-depth understanding of their work; endeavored to be kind to others; exhibited genuine courage in standing for their principles; and committed to excellence in all they did. Very often, such professionals are so focused on what they do, they just wake up one day surprised to find they have become rock stars in their respective fields of endeavor without consciously ambitioning for it.

This brings me to another question for you: What do you think is your role in life and how can you perform this to the best of your abilities? After all, once the wealth is made, after the honors and awards have been received, after one has occupied a position of power—which are all transitory and shall pass—what next? Are these the ends of the means to some other desires states such as happiness, meaning in life, contributing positively to a better life for others?

Multi-awarded actress Meryl Streep said: “I assure you that awards have very little bearing on my personal happiness, my own sense of well-being and purpose in the world. It comes from staying alert and alive and involved in the lives of people

that I love and the people in the wider world who need my help.”

Author J.K. Rowling: “Personal happiness lies in knowing that life is not a checklist of achievements and acquisitions.” Bill Gates believes that “humanity’s greatest advances are not in its discoveries but in how these discoveries are used to reduce inequality, which is the highest human achievement.”

In her speech to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, DawAung San Su Kyi declared that she had never thought of winning any prize. “The prize we were working for was a free, secure, and just society...the honor lay in our endeavor.” “The soul comes first and possessions are mere tools,” claimed Martha Nussbaum.

Right after my own graduation from a university, I immediately landed in one of the most visible, glamorous and high-paying job a fresh graduate can dream of. I was the envy of many. After a year, a close friend who was a teacher became ill and requested me to substitute for her. Since my job then was on flexi time, I agreed to help. In the process, I realized that I was happier as a teacher. I resigned from my first job to become a full time teacher at La Salle Green Hills High School. It was not as glamorous and the salary was much

lower than what I used to be paid, but I was certainly happier and felt that what I was doing was more meaningful because it mattered to the students I taught and grown to love. To this day, though I did not become rich, I am most definitely enriched. Though I did not become a rock star, many of my former students have become shining stars in their respective professions. The theory of Abraham Maslow which has been confirmed by many studies, tells us that beyond a certain level, additional material possessions no longer make us happy...that good friendships, the nature of the activities in which we choose to get involved, and our sense of accomplishment are better predictors of happiness and fulfillment in the long term.

There are those who likewise believe that transforming a job into a vocation (defined by Erick Greitens as “that place where your great joy meets the world’s greatest need”) is one of the wisest decisions anyone can make. Though this transformation will not be a walk in the park as it will require genuinely caring for and serving others, its potential for creating meaning and fulfillment in one’s life is far more than just doing a job, even if the job is done exceedingly well.

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38th Commencement Exercises

‘You are Lasallians, inheritors of a glorious and noble tradition...’

(Excerpt from Atty. Sabino Padilla’ IV’s commencement speech before graduates of the Colleges of Business Administration and Accountancy and of Criminal Justice Education, May 12. Atty. Padilla is a partner of the Padilla Law Office and currently sits as member of DLSU-D’s Board of Trustees.)

Transitions are part of life. They are unavoidable from womb to tomb. A fetus becomes an unborn child and then is clothed with more rights upon birth. We transition when we graduate from elementary, high school and college and when we pass that dreaded licensure exam. We transition when we get married and raise a family and, of course, we transition when we die and finally meet our Maker.

This point in your life, when you have completed college and are now close to being licensed accountants and criminologists, is perhaps the most exciting time of your life. The challenges you face are enormous but the prospects exciting. As a professional who entered the workforce some 30 years back, let me give you some practical advice on how to start out and, perhaps, live your life as responsible professionals. I too am a work in progress, so please take my suggestions as one coming from a person ahead of you in years but not necessarily wiser.

My first exhortation is for you to never lose focus. Your goal now, at least for most of you, is to pass that licensure test. When you have passed that test and are now starting work for an accounting firm or some agency as a criminologist, your goal should be to

get the job done and to do a thorough job. Your clients and superiors should be able to differentiate shoddy work from professional work and you should make sure you are considered by your superiors as one who does professional work, i.e., work above standard.

Focus does not only mean a desire to good work, it also means having a clear idea of what you want to do at least in the medium term. It means having goals that you intend to meet. And when you move to achieve those goals, give yourself milestones that will guide you as you navigate your way into achieving those goals. If you are working for an accounting firm, for instance, try to tell yourself that I will do my best to give quality work to my employer so that in five years I will be eligible to be promoted to manager. If I am a criminologist at the NBI, I will try to improve my civil service grade by the end of year X as a milestone. Focusing on an ambitious but realistic goal should motivate you in giving quality work to your employer. To be sure, you will have to work long hours, but that is what we all have to go through.

Second, remember to be disciplined. You do not have to be brilliant but if one is disciplined, he or she should be able to achieve something for himself or herself. Let me tell you a story that happened to me as a young lawyer. After passing the bar examination in 1986 and as I prepared to go to the United States to pursue higher education, I had the privilege of meeting a brilliant Regional Trial Court judge in Quezon City. I visited

that judge in her chambers and I asked her advice on my career path. Apart from giving me advice on possible topics for my masteral paper, she advised me just to be disciplined in what I did. And being disciplined is something that should be self-evident. You may not be perfect but if you give your client 100 percent effort and that client sees and appreciates the effort and professionalism, then you are bound to succeed somehow. That distinguished judge who impressed upon me the value of discipline was working on cases in her chambers despite the fact that there was an ongoing judges’ convention then. She did not have to be in her chambers but she told me that she owed it to the litigants that she dispensed justice expeditiously, and that is why she chose not to socialize and, instead, get work done. That judge was Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

The third advice I want to give you is to please be honest. In the world you will face as accountants and criminologists, you will be tempted to “doctor the books,” as they say, or tamper with evidence to favor certain individuals for a consideration, of course. You will note, however, that even petty acts of corruption may lead to a slippery slope where the magnitude of the consideration becomes higher but the risks become bigger as well. Once you get engulfed in a culture of corruption, it will be hard to get out of it. You owe it to your country and your family to lead honest lives.

When I was a newly minted Bar passer in 1986, I had the honor of being

*You owe it to your
country and your
family to lead
honest lives.*



chosen to serve as the assistant, or right-hand man, of the oldest member of the Constitutional Commission. He was retired Chief Justice Robert Concepcion.

Chief Justice Concepcion was the chief justice of the Philippines when martial law was declared, and he was one of those who dissented in the landmark case of *Javellana v. Executive Secretary*. In that case, he rendered the opinion that the 1973 Constitution was not validly ratified by the people in the plebiscite that year. He was one of four dissenting voices. Shortly after the *Javellana* row was decided, Chief Justice Concepcion opted for early retirement rather than serve in what he believed was a court that was to rubber stamp all acts of the martial law government.

As my boss at the Constitutional Commission of 1986, Chief Justice Concepcion would tell me every now and then (and you know, the older one gets the more one repeats himself or herself) that as a practical exercise, you should look at yourself in the mirror every day before going to work and ask yourself the questions: Am I an

honest worker? Am I an honest public servant? Have I been an honest public servant?

Indeed, our country can only progress if we have a multitude of people professing to give people what is due them through honest work. Corruption takes a toll on the most vulnerable people of our society, the marginalized who are deprived of economic benefits that should go their way if not for corruption.

On this point, I hope many of you join the government at some point in your life. As Socrates once said, the State nurtured you and so you owe the State some degree of loyalty. I am not advocating that you kill yourself for the States, as Socrates did when he drank hemlock as punishment for an unjust conviction. What I am saying is that at some point in our lives, we should make an effort to pay back by serving in government in a disciplined and honest way.

Finally, always remember that you are Lasallians, inheritors of a glorious and noble tradition started by our founder St. John Baptist de La Salle. Our

founder gave up material wealth to live a life in the service of the poor. He was positioned to be in the higher echelons of the Catholic Church in France and yet chose to teach poor and displaced children. Later, he chose to teach the teachers of these marginalized people of society, much to the disdain of the aristocracy to which he belonged.

What is remarkable, however, is that after founding this great Order of Brothers, he never sought to head it and, in fact, allowed himself to be a subordinate to others for many years of his life. He did not seek attention for the work he did, nor did he demand recognition. Like many of the great saints of the Roman Catholic Church, his humility was remarkable.

Like St. John Baptist de La Salle, let us work with all great dedication but with humility: a humility borned by the conviction that we are children of God, transients in an imperfect world, waiting for the final transition where we are allowed to close our life's books of accounts and proclaim to our Maker that we did our best to honor the Lord by doing good to our fellowmen.

38th Commencement Exercises

'In this dog-eat-dog world, remember what you carry within you...'

(Excerpt from Br. Armin Luistro FSC's commencement speech before graduates of the Colleges of Education, of Tourism and Hospitality Management, and of Engineering, Architecture and Technology, May 13. Br. Armin was president of De La Salle Philippines and secretary of Department of Education at the time of this speech.)

Dearest graduates, I want you to remember two words today. *Triskaidekaphobia*. That's the fear of the number 13. And the second word is *Paraskevidekatriaphobia*. That's the fear of Friday the 13th. I start with that because a lot of Filipinos are afraid of the unlucky numbers or unlucky days. It just so happened that your graduation falls on Friday the 13th. Be joyful, aside from this one day, great day for your graduation.

There is a lot good news ahead of you. Do you know that as you graduate, you will actually belong to that group of Filipinos, special group, that will join the peak of the democratic window? That means during the time that will be working, the biggest part of the population, 100 million in the Philippines, will be those that will be within the working age. The economy, even if we do not do much, will be very very productive. There will be fewer older people and fewer younger people to be supported by this bulk of the working class.

A columnist has pointed out that the next two to three decades will show that the Philippines will be increasing its productivity and the economy will be doing very very well. There will be acceleration in our economic growth.

Good news: you will be part of that workforce, but you will be also part of the job competition as you join this workforce. Outside, it will not be as nice, as pretty, as secure as a sanctuary as De La Salle University-Dasmariñas—the greenest university in the Philippines, where you found your second home. Outside, to tell you the truth, it will be a dog-eat-dog world, and you have to compete with everyone else. You are graduates of some of the best degrees here in the country. And as we join this dog-eat-dog world, remember what you carry within you.

Do you know that in our workforce today, out of every six who are working, five will be working in a private corporation, and only one will be working in government? In fact, as the number of the workforce increases, more and more graduated will be joining corporations, private, high-paying, and less and less would be joining the government workforce. I should know. After La Salle kicked me out six years ago, I joined government service and I realized how low-paying, how thankless that job is. That is why,

There's a special sense of fulfillment in knowing that all your efforts are for your fellowmen and your country.

today, I am counting 48 days to go, I will be back to La Salle for things will be greener, better and happier.

But not everything is a waste. During these five and a half years in government service, I've met the best and the brightest who have worked in government—one of out of civil service—who have ideals of working not for themselves or for their families, but for a higher purpose. While five out of six will choose Fortune 500 companies or start their own business or think of working abroad, earning their first salary so they can travel, maybe buy their first car, earn their first million, buy their first condominium, and allow themselves to be independent, one out of six will choose a slightly different path. I'm not asking you to do exactly the same. But I think it is important to listen to the stories of a few who did:

I met Jess three months ago, when I interviewed him. For seven years, he used to work and earn a lot in the private sector. In 2014, he decided to switch to government, work in the anti-poverty commission for two years, and after I met him, he decided to work in the Department of Education. He was just with us for maybe less than a month. I asked him, "Jess, why do you work in government?"

His answer: "It's different when you know what you are doing isn't profit-oriented. There's a special sense of fulfillment in knowing that all your efforts are for your fellowmen and your country. And that makes each day at work worth looking forward to."

The challenge is to make and transform an unlucky opportunity into one that will create many opportunities to transform the lives of many people.



I met Sab three years ago. Those who will be teachers may wish to look her up on Youtube and search for TedTalks. You'll find Sab. Graduated with a degree in Biology from the blue school, gave up her dreams to become a doctor, took a post-graduate diploma in education in the National Institute of Education in Singapore, and then pursued a master's degree in education at the University of Melbourne in Australia. And then she came back. She could have been in one of the top-ranked private schools. She's working now in Culiat Elementary School as a public school teacher. On Youtube, she says she would rather use up all her idealism on one thing that she values and finds worthwhile, and respond to the needs of the nation with all her heart than pursue something else.

Finally, I met Francis, a Lasallian. Graduate of Economics and Finance, one of the top-ranked students in De La Salle University-Manila. First worked in Citibank as an investment specialist. High-paying job. But that was just 18 months, and then moved to a startup company where he earned twice, three times what he was earning in Citibank. In the middle of that

career, he stopped and told himself, "I'll join government." He joined the Public-Private Partnership Center, a center that does one of these PPP projects for government. Around 20,000 public school classrooms were built because of this PPP project. I asked Francis, a Lasallian, "Why did you leave the private sector?" He says despite the many negative perceptions that people have about government and its employees, what keeps this drive is knowing how relevant his work is to millions of Filipinos across generations.

I end with three stories of young people of your own age—of that demographic sweet spot who first has many opportunities to earn for themselves and their families but then chooses tightly a different path to serve others. In my last 48 days in government service, I will never ever forget the heroes I have met in the Department of Education and in many government offices. In the 600 schools that I have visited, surprised visits, I have met the most heroic teachers: who buy ceiling fans from their salaries so that their students wouldn't feel hot during noon-day

heat; teachers who walk 5-6 kilometers so that they can serve their students early in the morning; teachers who serve in the elections even if they are harassed by politicians; and teachers who give up themselves totally for the Philippines so that our young people can do so much better.

Dear Lasallian graduates. It is my hope that as you leave the portals of the university, you too will carry the challenge that Br. Gus, the president and chancellor, has left with you today: "Dream for yourselves, true. But don't forget to dream even bigger...for the country, and for people who are nameless and faceless."

I started by asking you two words. *Triskaidekaphobia* and *Paraskevidekatriaphobia*. It is my firm conviction that your generation on Friday the 13th is the day for a graduation. You will never forget that the challenge is to make and transform an unlucky opportunity into one that will create many opportunities to transform the lives of many people.

Keep to your dream; keep the faith,
Animo La Salle!

When children rape and kill other children

By Ricardo A. Clores, MS



*(This **thought paper** was read by the author in a seminar titled “Children in Conflict with the law: Comparative Experiences between the Philippines and Indonesia.” The seminar, spearheaded by Soegijapranata Catholic University, was attended by local public officials, parents, faculty members, students of graduate and Law schools of Psychology and Law, and was held in Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia on May 18, 2016).*

Let me begin with a caveat. If you come here expecting age-old wisdom on the hows, whys, and whatsof solving the menacing conundrum of children committing theft, robbery, murder, rape, and so on, you might be in for a disappointment. In some countries these children are called juvenile delinquents. In the Philippines, we prefer the term “children in conflict with the law” or CICL.

Off hand, let me note that while I was crystallizing the thoughts, ideas, concepts,

paradigms that would constitute this thought paper, I realized I have more questions than I have answers. Given the reflective and criticalthinking trainings afforded by my discipline, I am perplexed by the growing issues and concerns on and about CICL. Indeed, I really wish there are easy and convenient solutions at hand.

My second caveat: I am not a lawyer by profession. My degrees are in psychology and sociology, and I will look at juvenile delinquency or CICLthrough the lens of these social sciences. Unlike lawyers, my practice is far from litigation or any legal battles. But like lawyers, I have to reckon with the stories of these children and their families and their kampongs or community, compelled to reflect on what constitutes “justice” to both victims and perpetrators.

So, I reiterate: I come this morning bearing more questions than solutions.

I teach at De La Salle University-

Dasmariñas, Cavite Philippines. Inside my university, we actually have a rehabilitation or restitution center for CICL. The place is aptly called Bahay-Pag-asa or House of Hope. About 200 meters from the gate of the university where I teach, there are also several public rehabilitation centers for at-risk youth including sexually abused children, street children and, yes, CICL. Dasmariñas City, where my school is located, currently holds the notorious status of having the most number of CICL in the entire province of Cavite. And as a member of the academic community, we want to know the whys behind the lives of these children.

In a way, these rehabilitation centers for at-risk youth are recipients of our school’s services. I am among those who involve themselves in these centers despite our notoriously busy schedules.

Let me now share with you one of many stories of CICL I have encountered. The

title of this story, if you may, is “Buryong” or loosely translated in English: Desperate.

Robert (not his real name), 15 years old, literally died in the hands of another child. There was nothing particularly unusual about that Sunday morning when the tragic incident happened, except, of course the fact that, unlike the other children in that DSWD-run rehabilitation center, both Robert and Michael (16 years old; not his real name) had no visitors. Their family members, as often is the case, could not afford the transportation fare to go to the center. Michael’s and Robert’s parents are that poor they could not afford the fare ride to visit them.

The feeling of not being loved, abandoned and left alone is, to some extent, universal. The feeling is not unique, or even true only to Robert and Michael. We all know this feeling. And it was what Robert and Michael experienced one Sunday morning. The children in the rehabilitation center have a term to capture this nauseating feeling, this tragic experience. It is called in Filipino language—*buryong*—or a state of desperation, of feeling unloved, of being alone in this very cruel world.

Like most children exposed to brutality, they have no recourse but to handle the feeling by brutal means. Left alone in their rooms while the other children attend to their family visitors, Robert and Michael “agreed on a game” of fistfight. They wrapped their fists with their shirts, in Manny Pacquiao fashion.

At the end of the fistfight, Michael sustained two blackeyes and a swollen right eardrum. Robert, on the other hand, hit in the mid-section of his chest, was grasping for breath. He fell on the pavement and, in seconds, lost consciousness. He was rushed to a nearby hospital, revived by attending doctors, but ended up in a coma.

The feeling of not being loved, abandoned and left alone is, to some extent, universal.



Last I heard, Robert’s family negotiated to bring his comatose body to their province. But, after two weeks, Robert died anyway. When I asked Michael how he felt about the incident, he gave me a nonchalant bereft-of-any-remorse-whatsoever answer: “*Kuya, kung ako ‘yung tinamaan, ako ‘yung plakda.*” In English: “Brother, had I been the one hit, I would have been the one dead!”

A simple answer. Yet it sent thunderbolts to the heart. Michael had no remorse. It was, as he plainly explained, simply a game to both of them.

After trying to make sense of Robert’s death, or of Michael’s remorseless attitude towards it, I was reduced to understand the context of both their lives. Robert wanted to work in a nearby market before he was arrested for theft. The rice store (or *Indomaret* as you call it here) where he wanted to work required an ID picture with his one-page resumé. Robert’s parents couldn’t provide him with the money for the photo. His friends were equally money-strapped. He tried asking for help from relatives, but to no avail. In desperation, he tried stealing the steel bars from his neighbor’s fence, hoping he could sell them to a nearby junkshop.

That was not the first time Robert stole for survival, as quite often is the case for many materially poor children who have very limited options left to them. But though it was not the first, it was, in Robert’s young mind, the first time intended for a positive change in his life. He wanted to earn by doing decent work. He wanted

a clean life. But, as the story goes, the opportunity eluded him.

Michael’s story is no better. He came from an equally dysfunctional family, abandoned by his father. His mother had several relationships before she succumbed to tuberculosis and eventually died. Michael was left to fend for himself when his four siblings were distributed to relatives. He swears that his youngest sister was being molested by his third stepfather. He promised that he would get all his siblings under one roof someday.

Filipino clinical psychologist Honey Carandang, in her book “Filipino Children Under Stress,” wrote that to fully understand an individual, for that matter a child, one has to look at the child’s family. However, Carandang also pointed out that in order to understand the dynamics within the family, we all have to look at the societal context in which these families live.

What Carandang is saying is that when we look at the lives of our children, in this case, Robert’s and Michael’s, what do they tell us of their families? What do they tell us of their communities? Or, better still, what do they tell us of Filipino society?

The more children are not given the chance to go to school, the more Roberts and Michaels we will have. The more we keep ourselves blinded to the dysfunctionality of these families... the more we become callous in allowing children to fend for themselves, we will not have an end to Robert and Michael’s story.

But make no mistake. their story does not happen only in the Philippines. Three weeks ago when I arrived here in Indonesia, I was confronted with news that caught the attention of Jakarta Post.

It was about the rape and eventual killing of a 14-year-old Bengkulu child. Apparently, five of the seven perpetrators are 17 years of age, while the other two are 16-year-olds. The mayhem and brutality caught national attention, including that of the president. Looking at the national discourse, some people were advocating for life imprisonment; others for the death penalty; still, others were claiming that, maybe, the country should have the perpetrators castrated. But then again, others are asking for good sexuality education.

Age as a defining point

The perpetrators of the Bengkulu murder were 16- and 17-year-olds. Similarly,

Does age really matter? Can serious psychological assessment provide us with an accurate measurement to pin down exactly if these boys are still children, or if their ages are deceiving us?

Michael, the alleged murderer—showing no signs of remorse in my story was also a 16-year-old. If the Bengkulu rape and killing happened in my country, this barbaric incident would have produced more and more agitated people asking for the revision, if not the total scrapping, of one of the more controversial laws ever passed in my country: Republic Act 9344, otherwise known as the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006.

This law defines children as “17 year olds and below.” You may ask: so what is wrong with that? I gather from my discussions with fellow social scientists and in a way my observations, that here in Indonesia when a minor commits a crime, the next level or layer of discussion is focused on the “degrees or types of murder” before a perpetrator can be put either in a rehabilitation center, or in jail to be sentenced with life imprisonment or possibly even death.

Equally, I gather that this condition divides the house for good or bad. Budi Wahyuni, for example, of the National Commission on Human Rights (known here as Komnas HAM), said that, “executing people, no matter how cruel the crime committed, is barbaric.” Komnas HAM chairman M Imdadum Rahmat, noted: “Death penalty is a human rights violation, regardless of the government’s good intention.”

On the other hand, no less than President Jok “Jokowi” Widodo said: “Sexual abuse is an extraordinary crime. Therefore, extraordinary measures also need to be taken.” A similar tone was registered by Law and Human Rights Minister Yasonna Laoly by saying: “If the victim is dead, then the punishment would be death penalty.”

To date, I was not able to follow the case as intently as I should, as there might already be a decision from the court, and the discussion in question might be moot and academic.

However, let me run a series of what ifs and let us take off from there. What if Michael and the Bengkulu gangs were not 16 or 17 year olds? What if, say, they were

12, or 11 or 10, or 9—would our verdict be the same? And if the scale of our verdict changes, what does it tell us?

In my own field of work, I actually encountered a skinny 9-year-old boy who inserted his finger into the vaginas of not one or two, but five to six younger girls in his place. Upon further investigation, this boy did not only come from a dysfunctional family, but from a dysfunctional community as well. Because most of the mothers in that impoverished place were working, this 9-year-old was being tasked by this poor community to act as surrogate parent. Further digging into the boy’s life revealed that, because his family is equally impoverished, in the absence of control or supervision, he developed that perverse habit through exposure to sex video games at a nearby computer rental station in his place.

Does age really matter? Can serious psychological assessment provide us with an accurate measurement to pin down exactly if these boys are still children, or if their ages are deceiving us? That, considering the crime committed, they might not be boys anymore but are actually adults in our midst?

When Michael killed Robert, whose fault was that really? Because Robert could not afford a photo to put on his resumé for a chance at decent work—and thus was forced to commit a crime—whose fault, indeed, was that? Looking at the stories, at the families, at the community of this juvenile gang that committed this barbaric act in Bengkulu, what do these stories tell us?

Should our attention, therefore, be also focused on restitution, rehabilitation, and seriously, on the prevention of these dastardly acts directed not only at these children but also at their dysfunctional and mostly impoverished families, or even better, at their dysfunctional communities?

Revisiting the concept of prison

I have encountered studies questioning the very concept of prison. In Germany,

for example, restitution or rehabilitation centers are developed in lieu of the usual paradigms, i.e. prison. These restitution centers are not for children but for adults. In these centers, you will find leisure areas for physical development, a quiet library to read, even a room where one can practice yoga or conduct silent reflections. Prisoners are also asked to write journals to monitor not their devolution but evolution and development.

CBS News had reported a huge success rate in the actual rehabilitation of adult inmates in Germany. The success rate can be largely attributed to the main objective of German prisons which is rehabilitation, not retribution. Germany spends less money on prisons, but gets better results. Reports from German prisons also showed that the recidivism (“relapse into criminal behavior”) rate is about half the rate in the United States.

According to Psychologist Joerg Jesse, who is also the director of prisons in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (a state in north Germany along the Baltic): “If you treat them (prisoners) as if they are your enemy, they will react as enemies. They will react as dangerous.”

Can we tolerate, even allow, a similar paradigm, if not for adults, at least for children? Can we all agree, given the data, given the stories of these children, that if a child is violent, if a child commits a crime, indeed, his/her place is not in prison but in a restitution area, notwithstanding whether they look/ behave like real adults or the severity and heinousness of their crimes?

Can we seriously consider restitution/ rehabilitation instead of punishment for all kinds of crimes committed by all kinds of children? What makes us uncomfortable with restitution in lieu of demanding prison or even the death penalty for these children?



Prof. Ricardo Clores, a fulltime faculty with DLSU-D’s Psychology Department, was an exchange faculty to SCU (Soegijapranata Catholic University), Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia on May 1-23. While there, he conducted lectures/workshops on LGBT psychology, psychosocial concerns of children in conflict with the law, multi-cultural psychology with emphasis on Sikolohiyang Pilipino, and writing research in Psychology for graduate and undergraduate students of SCU.

“If you treat them (prisoners) as if they are your enemy, they will react as enemies. They will react as dangerous.”

Stolen childhood

I hope I did not confuse you, or worse, discourage you with the thousand questions I brought to this gathering. I hope I did not only encourage you to a reflective journey, but indeed, I hope you will find time to connect with these marginalized and at-risk children we call juvenile delinquents or children in conflict with the law.

I hope that when you hear for yourselves the stories of these children in conflict with the law, you will really find and witness for yourselves a stolen childhood that requires restitution. Because in my experience of encountering these children, I see victims, not perpetrators. Seriously, hearing these, I hear cries of abuse and abandonment, not stories of thieves, murderers, rapists, or the evil incarnate. I hear—no matter how small the cries are—voices desirous of hope to become better persons that they can be.

Terimakasih and a pleasant afternoon to you all!

13 new documents... from page 3

- Protocol for approval of new programs
- Program Proposal Form
- Evaluation Criteria
- Proposal to create Center for Program Development

(Produced by TG on Program Design, Review and Approval chaired by Lucille Rivera-Calairo with members Dr. Johnny Ching, Dr. George Francisco, Dr. Twinkle Amparo, Malyn Pantino and Edwin Lineses.

- Policies and guidelines for administrators’ mentoring program
- Shared management framework for academic supervision
- Succession development framework for DLSU-D administrators

(Produced by TG on Academic Supervision chaired by Dr. Olive Legaspi with members Dr. Marco Saez, Sarie Reyes, Dr. Pat Alcartado and Leonor Amacio).

The use of these new documents have the following expected implications: (1) institutionalized standards and processes for existing practices; (2) efficient integration of several fragmented efforts into one task (in the case of student support); (3) satisfaction of processes that ensure all regulatory requirements; (4) more adequately informed decisions with regard to our improvement and innovation efforts; and (5) embedding of quality mechanisms in our operation, which is vital to sustainability. Of course, it is also expected that modifications, revisions and improvements will naturally arise once the mechanisms were implemented.

Incidentally, while the TGs were created as an offshoot of Calairo’s PAP (Project Action Plan), four of the TGs, however, will continue to exist beyond PAP’s implementation.

“They will continue as advisory bodies,” said Calairo. “For example, the Facilities Management TG: the Operations Council has already approved that it will continue as an advisory and policy-formulating body for the University’s facilities.”

Success Stories Series

Delia's Journey

Delia McGlew—educator, entrepreneur, philanthropist—is on a mission: to educate 1 million poor Filipinos. So far, she has already started with 40, and so, she says, she still has a long way to go.

“I’m not rich,” she told Education students who were her audience on March 22 at DLSU-D’s Luis Aguado Viewing Room for her edition of DLSU-D’s Success Stories Series, “but I know I can do it... I couldn’t care any less what is between me and my dreams.”

And who could doubt her bold words? Thirty years as educator with two Bachelor degrees and a Master’s degree, Delia Pascua McGlew has definitely come a long way. Long before this, Delia’s mother was a *labandera* (washerwoman) for UST students in Manila, back when life was riddled with trying to make ends meet and not knowing from where the family’s next meal was coming. Despite this, her mother had big dreams for her daughter: she

‘As an educator, you have to teach kids to embrace the diversity of life. In Australia, it’s very very important to emphasize that everyone is unique....’

thought Delia should be a lawyer someday “because [she was] very talkative.”

Young Delia, however, was obsessed with something else. She always knew she would be a teacher.

“All the games that I did when I was younger [involved] rounding up my cousins and having them sit down in front of me, and I got to teach them. And I got satisfaction from that.”

This play she did, complete with visual aids (her lessons written on the backs of old calendars sourced from neighbors) and report cards (made from manila paper, which she even asked her aunts and uncles to sign). Growing up, time and again, she got told: there’s no money in teaching; you will never get rich with teaching.

Well, she proved them wrong.

At present, besides overseeing her Pascua-McGlew and McGlew Realty Inc., she also runs her school OzPhil College of Cavite, which she opened just a couple of years ago in Salitran IV, Dasmariñas City. She is also manager with Academics and Innovation of C.Y. O’Connor Institute, West Australia (the only Asian who holds this distinction in West Australia). And the citations she had received thus far speak well of her passion for the profession: Premier’s Teacher Excellence Awardee and Innovation Awardee (at C.Y. O’Connor), both in West Australia in 2000 and 2009 respectively; and Gawad Tanglaw Awardee at National Teachers College (her alma mater) in 2013.

Improvements

But there’s no slowing her down yet. With the establishment of her OzPhil College of Cavite, Delia hopes to advance reforms in the way students are taught in schools in the country. Based on what she has been seeing in Australia and what she has been experiencing here, she deduces “there is

something wrong....”

“In the Philippines...kids are trained to be highly academic. There’s nothing wrong with that. But there are significant studies that show how educational institutions that focus on [academics] distort children’s holistic development.”

Yet, she furthers, “there is room for improvement.” And at her own school, such “improvements” have been put in place, chief among them is that a child doesn’t have to take—and pass—an entrance exam to be enrolled at her school.

“I do believe that every child has the right to be educated in the institution of their choice. If you say to a kid, ‘Sorry you did not meet our standards; go find another school,’ imagine its impact to the child’s self-esteem.”

Class sections are not numbered either. Instead, “each door has a color. Section Red, Section Yellow... The challenge now is with the teacher to engage the multilevel, multi-personality class... My teachers are trained to adapt to that...to engage them and still have that diversity in successfully completing the course.”

In her school, Delia says students come in many shapes and sizes. “I have hyper students...slow learners...kids labeled as ‘special kids’...” In Australia, special kids are preferred to be called “children that require additional support/services.”

“We do not segregate them. We integrate them with the regular kids. They need to be able to adjust to one another. Because in the real world, you don’t work with only those who are brainy, or those who are rich, or beautiful... As an educator, you have to teach kids to embrace the diversity of life. In Australia, it’s very very important to emphasize that everyone is unique....”

'I've seen a lot of brilliant people that have medals, but their lives are so empty because they have not been able to use their knowledge to change the lives of others.'



In context

Delia says that she began to grasp these realities as a teacher in Australia, which gave her “enormous wealth of knowledge to engage those kids that are perceived as slow learners.”

“Some of the kids that I’ve dealt with were juvenile delinquents. They call it ‘love offers.’ I love that. I love it when they give me those kids... I turn their lives around because I get into their hearts.”

The unruly kids, she says, are not necessarily bad kids. “It’s because they’re frustrated; they cannot relate to the topic that teachers over the years have fed to them.”

For these kids, Delia keeps studying, researching strategies to help them, “because I do not want these kids to have a cycle in life—to be in and out of jail; it’s not good.” She devises activities that she feels are “meaningful” to them. Also: “I give them ownership of their learning journey.”

It’s almost the same thing that she does in her own school. In teaching the four mathematical operations, for example,

she transforms the entire classroom into one commercial environment. “So I have a little corner that has a bank...and the students learn to debit-credit... And there’s a *sari-sari* store...and then you have some marketing people.... The students are running their own businesses....”

Another simulation was the business of travelling. “All my students had to produce their passports. They learned how to ride, request for documents; experienced how the passport is stamped; and it was great fun.”

For learning about the different indigenous peoples around the world, they had a tepee inside the classroom to learn about Canadian Indians. For Igorots, hay was brought in for students to build Igorot houses. “Students [readily] engage in that kind of learning environment...they learn better when it is within that context.”

Kindheartedness

However, when it comes to using technology and the internet in teaching, Delia has her reservations. “Technology is good; it can be a tool if effectively used. But to hinge your teaching on technology is not good at all.”

She frowns upon the “cut-and-paste” method many students today tend to abuse. “We need to teach our students to be analytical, to question information, to be able to make sense of the information that they get from the computer.”

“In education,” she tells her teachers, “inasmuch as technology is good, the critical person in the whole scheme of things is the teacher. You need to engage your students. Talk to them. Challenge them. It’s in the art of questioning, the artistic way of putting together your lessons in a meaningful way.” Between a computer and a human being, it’s the teacher that has heart, she adds. “You need to instill that in your students—the values: integrity, kindheartedness....”

She says these values, particularly having a kind heart, are more of a guarantee for a person to be successful in life. “I’ve seen a lot of brilliant people that have medals, but their lives are so empty because they have not been able to use their knowledge to change the lives of others.”

Delia maintains that what enabled her to buy the land for her school was these

to page 40

very same values—values that her friends appreciated. “It was all my friends who put together the money for me.” Considering her high position in Australia, it did not matter that, besides her colleagues, even the janitor pitched in money for her cause. “I do believe in your conviction,” the janitor told her.

This kindness she received, she passes on to others by way of her mission. She is principal sponsor with Passion Foundation Scholarship, which to date, has eight scholars at National Teachers College, her alma mater. And at her own school, she has 11 scholars, all provided with food, uniforms, school supplies and a laptop.

Right now, her school is only one-story high. “God knows when I would get money for the second floor. But next week, I will be meeting with the engineers, but I always say I will get there.”

As if the task isn’t daunting enough, her mind tackles yet another branch of her mission: “Once I’m stable here with my school, my next venture is to go out to those places where [young people are] perceived with no hope. I’d like to go out and engage them....”

“Education is changing people’s lives. You need to understand that. You have a role in this world to change the lives of your students. If you do not have that intention in life, it’s not too late: get yourself resigned from your enrollment. If you got into education just to earn money and just get a job, I think you are in the wrong industry.”

Not for ‘leftovers’

OzPhil College of Cavite uses the Western Australian Curriculum. As such, one

Friday, a representative from the Australian Department of Education visited Delia’s school for inspection and did interviews with the students, all of whom said they wanted to help the poor.

“Why do they want to help the poor?” the representative asked Delia. She explained: “Our values in the school and all the activities are hinged on being able to empathize with people who are less fortunate.”

She tells the same thing to parents when they ask her about her school’s focus: “I want very happy and grounded individuals to graduate from my school. Not everyone can be a doctor; not everyone can be a lawyer; not everyone can be an accountant. But everyone can choose to make a difference in other peoples’ lives, no matter what profession or work they have.”

In deference to the teaching profession, Delia reiterates the obvious to rally Education students: “We make a big difference in people’s lives. We make doctors, architects, scientists, and so on. Be proud to be a teacher. You will make a big difference to this nation and to the whole world. It’s you that needs this perception: show to them that you are worthy to be called an educator.”

But of course, to be really worthy entails hard work, perseverance and some sacrifices. “You have to put some sort of investment of your time and efforts [while] having insight into where you are going: get to know the industry; get to know the job; get to know the environment.”

She scoffs at the idea that education is only for “leftovers”—those who did not qualify

or those who did not have enough money to pursue the other courses.

It’s a misconception, she says. “The Department of Education should rethink whether ‘leftover kids’ need to go to Education. In Switzerland as well as in Scandinavian countries...they are encouraging the most intelligent people to go into education.”

But having said that, she adds: “Not all intelligent people make effective teachers.” In the end, “it’s always your passion that will drive you to become an effective teacher.”

‘I pray you...’ from page 29

But how do you transform a job into a vocation? Stephen Colbert answers: “You are not the most important person in any scene; everyone is; and if you believe this, you will pay attention to them and serve them.” My last question to you relate to this idea: What vocation do you think fits your personality, talents, and gifts? How would you turn your job into a vocation?

As the torch is passed on to you, I pray you will plant seeds of change that will help generate sustainable development, social justice, peace in our country, and a better world. Finally, wherever you may be and whoever you may have become, keep in touch with your mother and father because they really, genuinely, truly love you so much more than you can ever imagine.



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