

CAS accents

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CAS CELEBRATES 49TH ANNIVERSARY

The College of Arts and Sciences celebrated its 49th founding anniversary last December 21. To mark this milestone, an online recognition and testimonial program honored CAS retirees and outstanding personnel and students.

In her message, Dean Maribel Dionisio-Sese expressed that, "it is the people who man the pillars and portals, and those who pass through them who make academic institutions such as our college, the College of Arts and Sciences, truly great."

49th
Foundation Anniversary
Recognition and Testimonial Ceremonies



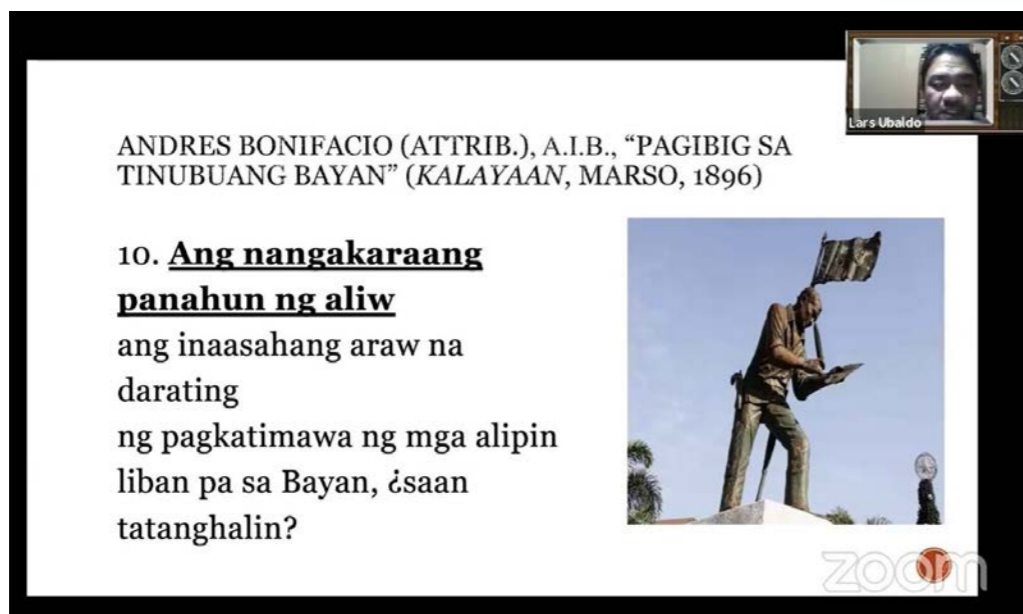
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- » UP Scientific Productivity System (SPS) 2020-2022 and UP Artist Productivity System (APS) 2019-2021 Awardees

ADHIKA history association organizes Webinar sa Kasaysayang Pilipino with UPLB Department of Social Sciences and Iligan Medical Center College

The Webinar sa Kasaysayang Pilipino was held last August 28, 2021 to mark the *Pambansang Buwan ng Kasaysayang Pilipino*. This year's theme for the history month is "Celebrating #Victory and Humanity."

The webinar was organized by *Asosasyon ng mga Dalubhasa, May-Hilig at Interes sa Kasaysayan* (ADHIKA ng Pilipinas Inc.) in cooperation with University of the Philippines (UP) Los Baños and Iligan Medical Center College. It was streamed via the UPLB Department



Dr. Lars Ubaldo dissects the various aspects of the Tagalog concept of aliw. Screenshot taken by Asst. Prof. Ruben Jeffrey Asuncion from the Webinar ng Kasaysayang Pilipino.

Ubaldo and Villan were former faculty members of the DSS. The speakers focused on topics/ approaches coming from the Philippines' main island groups (Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao).

Asst. Prof. Jeffrey James C. Ligerio, of the UPLB DSS and Director for Luzon of ADHIKA, introduced the first speaker, Dr. Ubaldo.

Dr. Ubaldo dissected the concept of "aliw" and its

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A Second Term for Dr. Marivic S. Lacsamana as IC Director



The Institute of Chemistry (IC) fondly welcomed Dr. Marivic S. Lacsamana for her second term as its Director effective September 27, 2021 until September 26,

2024. The Search Committee for the New Director of the IC-CAS was chaired by Dr. Jezie A. Acorda, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM).

Ma'am Lacs or Ma'am Avic, as addressed by her colleagues and students, earned her BS Chemistry (1986) and MS Agricultural Chemistry (1993) degrees in UP Los Baños. She obtained her Ph.D. in Biochemistry (1998) at Macquarie University, New South Wales, Australia. She started as an Instructor 1 in the Institute and has recently been promoted to the faculty rank of Professor 11.

Prior to her first term as IC Director, Ma'am Lacs served the Institute as its Deputy Director from 2009 to 2012, Head of the Biochemistry and Agricultural Chemistry Division (BACD) from 2012 to 2015, and Coordinator for Instruction from 1999 to 2007. She also rendered service as Chair of the CAS Curriculum Committee from 2002 to 2005.

Dr. Lacsamana served her first term as IC Director from September 27, 2018 to September 26, 2021. With the support and cooperation of the IC faculty, students, REPS, administrative staff, and alumni, she was able

to steer IC's instruction, research, and extension programs on a steady course to meet its mandate even amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic.

For her second term, Dr. Lacsamana envisions IC as being actively involved in future proofing UPLB through improvements in the delivery of its courses, strengthening existing partnerships, and forging new ones in the areas of research and public service. In addition, IC will continue to exert efforts that will promote the well-being of its students, faculty, and staff.

■ **RP Parakikay**

Good Nutrition and Restoring Human Communities Discussed in UPLB Alumni Webinar on Health and Healing



Proper nutrition and insights from the science of healing on restoring communities were discussed at the

Conversations with the UPLB Alumni webinar hosted on October 11, 2021.

The webinar's theme, "Beyond the Microcellular Landscape of Healing: What the Human Body Tells Us About Healing Wounds, Repairing Relationships and Restoring Communities", features nutrition and fitness consultant Ms. Mabelle Aban and molecular geneticist Dr. Cymbeline Tancongco-Culiat as invited speakers.

Ms. Aban, who is the co-founder and head of nutrition and fitness section of SHAPE Medical and Nutrition Clinic, presented a talk called, "Supporting healing, optimal health and wellness through proper nutrition and lifestyle." She described the challenges of the pandemic and the toll it takes on human well-being. She stressed the importance of being mindful of nutrition and lifestyle improvement for better health.

Among the important points she emphasized was making healthier food choices and eating a variety of nutrient sources such as phytonutrients, or plant-based compounds with health benefits. She

also advised on dealing with cravings, practicing portion controls, and staying hydrated. Finally, she also shared tips to improve sleep and maintain physical activity.

"I hope this can help jumpstart living a better life, inspire you to love yourself more by taking good care of your one and only body as we live through this pandemic and other life challenges and moving forward", Ms. Abad concluded.

Dr. Culiat, founder, president, and chief science officer of NellOne Therapeutics, Inc. then presented her talk called, "Designed to heal: What the science and medicine of tissue healing teach us about restoring broken relationships and divided communities", which was based on her book "Designed to Heal".

She described her work on NELL1, a protein which is needed in the formation and healing of various tissues

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Sitwasyon ng Katutubo at Pambansang Wika, itinalakay sa Oktubre Serye ng Webinar: DHUM-Dibisyon ng Wika

"Walang maliit na tinig kapag nagkakaisa at nagsasalugpungan ang bawat isa." -Teacher Rose Hayahay, Save Our Schools Network

Dalawang serye ng webinar pangwika ang idinaos ng Dibisyon ng Wika, Departamento ng Humanidades para sa Oktubre: Pambansang

Buwan ng mga Katutubo.

Pinasinayaan ang unang webinar noong Oktubre 11 na tumuon sa mga katutubong sitwasyon sa bansa, sa pagpapadaloy ni Prop. Jason Pozon ng UP Rural High School. Nagpanimula rito si Mr. Louward Zubiri, punong-mananaliksik sa Mangyan Heritage Center, na

nagtalakay hinggil sa Surat Mangyan at ang mga sistema ng pagsusulat sa bansa.

Pinunto niya ang pagpapatampok ng husay ng Kamangyanan base sa pangangailangang itaguyod at palutangan ang kanilang Ambahan (pasalita o patula nitong tradisyon) at Surat Hanunuo at Surid Buhid

(pasulat na tradisyon).

Mga danas naman sa pagtuturo sa Lumad Bakwit School ang pinaangat sa talakay ni Teacher Rose Hayahay ng Save our Schools Network.

"Our school is for learning not a war zone," panawagan

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GE Conversation discusses regional filmmaking during pandemic



The Literary and Cultural Studies (LACS) Division of the Department of Humanities, in partnership with UPLB pelikuLAB and UPLB Com Arts Society, presented a HUM 3 GE Conversation that tackled regional filmmaking during the time of pandemic.

With the title “Loob, Labas, Lawak, at Lalim: Isang Pagtaya ukol sa Paglikha ng Pelikula mula sa Rehiyon sa Panahon ng Pandemya”

(Inside, Outside, Extent, and Depth: A Review of Filmmaking from the Region during the Pandemic), the GE Con is part of the lecture series of Pelikultura: The Calabarzon Film Festival 2021. Filmmakers were featured to discuss their experiences in filmmaking before and during the pandemic.

Hubert Tibi, a producer,

editor, cinematographer, writer, and director, led the discussion by sharing behind-the-scenes and movie clips from his works. He talked about the process of creating his short film “Pabasa kan pasyon” which won the Best Screenplay in Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival 2020.

He also shared his experiences in producing an independent film during

the pandemic. He reiterated that a filmmaker must be resourceful and brave for the sake of the quality of the film.

Gale Osorio, a film producer, talked about the struggles she and her team faced while producing a film amid the challenges of the pandemic. These challenges include costly health protocols, switching from live

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Ruralite parents attend webinar on strengthening relationships at home

“Our family provides us with the comfort of having people by our side during tough times.”

Addressing a group of parents and guardians, Dr. Gregorio Y. Ardales, Jr., principal of UP Rural High School (UPRHS), summed up the rationale of the webinar “Strengthening Relationships at Home during the Pandemic” held on October 16, 2021 via Zoom. The event was hosted by UPRHS Student Welfare Committee (SWC) and the

Parent-Teacher Association.

Prof. Maria Lourdes Betic-Belas, chair of the SWC, said that their choice of topic was the result of a needs assessment the committee conducted prior to the event.

“Parents were given tips and ideas on how to improve their relationship with their children and how to approach them at home,” she said, also emphasizing the possible impact of generational gap in parent-child relationship.

The SWC has organized similar events for Ruralite parents even before the remote school year. Prof. Betic-Belas said that the committee has decided to continue the program because it recognizes the significance of these forums in helping parents and students cope with the pandemic.

Keeping the emotional cups filled

Invited as resource speaker was Dr. Carmela Sanchez-

Arreola, a registered guidance counselor, mental health consultant, and certified child play therapist. Dr. Sanchez-Arreola shared both science-based theories and anecdotes from her personal and professional experience. The first part of her talk focused on the well-being of parents.

“Why do I emphasize taking care of ourselves as parents?” Dr. Sanchez-Arreola began with a

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ADHIKA history... from Page 2

related ideas as expressed in the political works of the *Katipunan*. The term “aliw” which has various connotations in *komiks*, television news reports, and in the classical Tagalog awit Florante at Laura, can mean entertainment, comfort, or the absence of pain. *Aliw* can affect various aspects of a person’s psyche and personality, such as *loob*, *dibdib*, *puso*, *budhi*, and *damdám*. From a historical view, *aliw* is related to *tuwa*, *ligaya*, and *ginhawa* to pertain to the state of life of the Tagalogs before it was overcome by Spanish colonialism.

Dr. Villan sought to answer the question of playing *sungka* as a cultural expression and social production manifested to reflect the continuity in a tradition or way of life. He used theoretical concepts on ontology and epistemology and emphasized the interdisciplinary intersection of the social sciences and humanities in dissecting the place of *sungka* in Philippine culture. Relating to Dr. Ubaldo’s discussion on *aliw*, Dr. Villan said the playing of *sungka* helps alleviate the sense of loss of a bereaved person and to restore that person’s happiness that was

disrupted by a loved one’s death.

Finally, Dr. Abaya-Ulindang discussed the works written about Mindanao history and weighed in on the prospects of history as a discipline. She added that Mindanao academic research centers tend to give space to studies about peace matters; this is an indication that funders and donors are very interested in financing researches on peace affairs. Dr. Abaya-Ulindang also mentioned the lack of perspective as an “area of dilemma” in writing Mindanao history. In trying to

integrate into the Philippine national history the history of the Muslims, one must consider that for the latter, Islam is not only a religion but also a way of life. To write a history of Mindanao’s tri-peoples (Moros, settlers, Lumads), it is also important to consult the Moros’ traditional written texts and native oral narratives and also to recognize the contributions of the settlers.

■ **RJ Asuncion**

DOST-UPLB in the fight to save Tawilis from extinction



UPLB has found an ally in the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in the bid to save the Tawilis from extinction.

Tawilis, the world’s only freshwater sardine that is endemic to Taal Lake, was declared endangered in 2019.

With its population dwindling due to overfishing, livelihood and food security are threatened, and the lake ecosystem further damaged.

In February 2021, however, efforts to preserve the species turned a corner when the team of Dr. Ma.

Vivian Camacho, station manager of the UPLB Limnological Station and a faculty member at the Animal Biology Division of the Institute of Biological Sciences successfully collected and reared tawilis at the UPLB Limnological Station.

The project, which ultimately aims to develop protocols for captive breeding of tawilis, was confronted by challenges such as increasing its survival rate and determining its specific environmental requirements.

The eruption of Taal Volcano in 2020 further raised fears

about the continued survival of the species, making the Limnological Station’s research even more imperative.

The looming crisis prompted the DOST to fund Dr. Camacho’s research with great urgency.

With this, Dr. Camacho is hoping that her team will be able to develop the protocols for the captive breeding of

population through captive breeding,” says Camacho, “so we can help the local community and fisherfolk in Taal Lake establish backyard fish farming as a source of livelihood.”

DOST also supported the project by featuring it in *Siyensikat*, a magazine reality show that aims to popularize science and innovation to Filipinos. The show airs on CNN



tawilis to save this prized fish from extinction.

The UPLB Limnological Station is committed to conducting research to increase the tawilis

Philippines every Saturday and Sunday at 8 AM and 4 PM. Episodes are uploaded at CNN Philippines’ YouTube channel.

■ **MEB Aurellado**

Math Division Conducts 3rd Quarterly Webinar Series on Graph Theory

The Mathematics Division Research Committee of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP) conducted the third iteration of the 2021 Mathematics Division Webinar Series last October 18, 2021. Prof. Wielson M. Factolerin and Prof. Vernel M. Lawas, Assistant Professors from IMSP, presented topics under the field of graph theory.

Prof. Factolerin first discussed modules, prime graphs, and k-minimal prime graphs in his lecture "Some Families of Minimal Prime Graphs". Several results presented were

from the special problem of Joshua Larios, a graduate of BS Mathematics in 2020, proving that paths, helm graphs, tadpoles, and other graph families are minimal.

Afterwards, in his talk "Square Harmonious


Labeling of Banana Trees $B_{n,k}$ ", Prof. Lawas showed several existing graphs with harmonious and square harmonious labelings such as stars and bistars. Together with his student, John Patrick De Torres of BS Mathematics Class

of the webinar series about financial mathematics and actuarial science is scheduled before the year ends.

■ **WM Factolerin**

of 2021, Prof. Lawas proved that a square harmonious labeling of banana trees exists.


The webinar was spearheaded by Dr. Eduardo O. Jatulan. The earlier webinars in the series covered topics on COVID-19 modeling and numerics and approximation in March and May 2021, respectively. The final installment




INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES AND PHYSICS
College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños

2021 Mathematics Division Webinar Series:
Graph Theory and Combinatorics, 18 OCT 2021 9am - 11am

Speaker 1:
Asst. Prof. Wielson M. Factolerin
Some Families of Minimal prime Graphs



Speaker 2:
Asst. Prof. Vernel M. Lawas
Square Harmonious Labeling of Banana Trees $B_{n,k}$



This webinar will be streamed from UPLB.
For updated information, please visit the following sites:

[/mathdivision.imsp.uplb](https://www.facebook.com/mathdivision.imsp.uplb)

Mathematics Division UP Los Baños

imsp.cas.uplb.edu.ph

Register here: <http://bit.ly/UPLBWebGraph>

IBS Faculty and Students bag awards in INREM 2021

The Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS) faculty and students won awards in the 3rd International Conference on Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Management (INREM 2021) held online last November 17-19, 2021.

The conference, with the theme "Advancing Ecosystems Restoration, Resilience and Sustainable Development Through INREM," was hosted by the UPLB Interdisciplinary Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Management. Academics, researchers, and practitioners from Southeast Asia, Europe, and

America participated in the conference.

Plenary talks, workshops, parallel sessions, and poster presentations tackled knowledge and experiences on mainstreaming INREM in local governance and sustainable development.

Dr. Charina Gracia B. Banaay and Dr. Virginia C. Cuevas, Professor Emeritus, bagged the Best Paper Presentation for their paper titled "Promoting Sustainability, Resilience, and Environmental Rehabilitation in Copper-Contaminated Lowland Rice Fields in Mogpog, Marinduque Using

Trichoderma Technologies." Students who won awards include Dr. Damasa B. Magcale-Macandog's advisee, Fatima A. Natuel and Dr. Victor S. Ticzon's advisees, Jesus Gabriel C.

Fetil and Marion Michael A. Bacabac. Ms. Natuel won 2nd Best in the 3 Minute-Talk (3MT) Competition with the paper titled "Microplastics

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Dr. Charina Gracia B. Banaay



Dr. Virginia C. Cuevas

Sitwasyong Katutubo... from Page 3

sa ibinahagi niyang awit ng mga Lumad, na ayon kay Hayahay ay nahaharap sa 'imperialist plunder' bunsod ng mga itinatayong dayuhang minahan sa mga lupang ninuno at patuloy na pandarahas sa kanila ng administrasyong Duterte.

Danas at diskurso rin ang ibinahagi ni Prop. Jun Yang Badie mula sa Notre Dame of Marbel University ng Koronadal, Timog Cotabato. Tampok sa kanyang salaysay ang multikulturalismo na umiiral sa kanilang bayang Polomolok, na kinabibilangan ng grupong Blaang, Bangsamoro, Kristiyanong, at Tagakaalo.

Pinausbong din niya sa diskusyon ang 'Kulturang F' ng tribong Blaang na mayaman sa salitang may gamit ng titik F at ang paglalapat ng Filipinolohiya sa pag-aaral ng kanilang kultura't gawi.

Mayoryang usapin sa malayang talakayan ang pagpapauswag ng katutubong wika at ang

pambansang wikang Filipino na nakabase sa pagpapaunlad ng iba't ibang mga wika sa Pilipinas. "Kung tayo ay nakatutok sa katutubong wika, malaking tulong ito sa paglinang sa pagpapayaman ng Filipino," ani Prop. Badie.

Ayon din sa ibinahagi niyang karanasan, nahaharap pa rin ang Filipino sa hindi pagkakasundo ng ilang mga guro at paaralan dahil sa pagkakatatok nito sa Tagalog at ang pagpopolisiya sa Ingles bilang primaryang wika ng paaralan. Ngunit giit niya, may natatanging gamit ang Filipino sa kurikulum, pananaliksik, komunikasyon at pamamahala at isang wikang higit na nauunawaan ng nakararami.

Pinasubalian din ang ilang karanasang ugnay ng Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB MLE) at ang pangangailangang aralin pa ito para sa inklusyon ng iba pang mga wikang katutubo.

Pinaksa naman ng sumunod na webinar ang Translingualism at

Multilingualism sa Pilipinas at mga Kuwentong Pambata sa rehiyonal na wika noong Oktubre 25. Nagbahagi rito si Prop. Jeconiah Dreisbach ng Departamento ng Filipino-Pamantasang De La Salle hinggil sa una, at si Prop. Early Sol Gadong, katuwang na propesor sa UP Visayas para sa ikalawa. Naging tagapagpadaloy ng talakayan si Prop. Cheeno Marlo Sayuno ng Departamento ng Humanidades.

Sa konteksto ng Timog Mindanao tumutok ang pag-aaral ni Prop. Dreisbach, kung saan umiiral ang danas niya ng multilinggwalismo at translanguaging, isang penomenon kaugnay ng pagkakahaluhalo ng mga sinasalitang wika ng pook dulot ng migrasyon (taga-Luzon at taga-Visayas) bilang isang salik. Itinuhog din ni Dreisbach ang diskurso tungong pambansang wika, na nakabase mula Tagalog tungong varayti ng Filipino na pinausbong ng multilinggwalismo sa Mindanao.

Nakatutok naman mula sa Kanlurang Visayas o Bisayas Nakatundan ang mga pinagyayamang kuwentong pambata ni Prop. Gadong. Ibinahagi niya ang mga ambag ng panitikang pambatang nasa wikang Akeanon, Hiligaynon, Kiniray-a at Capiznon, at ang pagdakila kay Leoncio Deriada, na ama ng panitikan ng Kanlurang Visayas.

Giit ni Prop. Gadong, "mas madali ang pagkatuto ng bata kapag wikang kinalakhan ang ginagamit sa pag-aaral. Sana suportahan ng gobyerno ang mga manunulat, publishers, booksellers para mas marami ang makapagbasa ng mga akda sa iba't ibang rehiyon, hindi lang sa sentro."

Panawagan din niya sa mga magulang na "i-diversify" ang mga bookshelf at lagyan ng laman galing sa mga manunulat mula sa iba't ibang rehiyon sa Pilipinas.

■ **A Estacio**

Good Nutrition and Restoring .. from Page 3

such as bone and muscle. She also designed a version of the protein called NV1 that is currently being developed as a drug to treat lung tissue damage caused by viral infections like Covid-19 and the flu.

Dr. Culiati explained the process of tissue healing in wound injuries which usually involves clotting, inflammation, and scarring. Using proteins like NELL 1 or NV1 in regenerative medicine controls inflammation and helps in

the formation of new tissue instead of scar tissue. Also crucial to tissue repair is the extracellular matrix, an environment by which cells can communicate with each other.

She then merged science and faith by drawing parallels between tissue healing and repairing relationships in churches and other communities. She called these the healing principles. Just like the human body that depends on the coordination of cells

to promote tissue healing, a wounded community can apply these principles to heal broken relationships, especially during the global pandemic by resolving conflicts and being compassionate.

"Let us build safe and thriving communities, we have so much disruption already and so much stress", Dr. Culiati said.

The webinar was hosted by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

and Extension, together with UPLB COVID-19 Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory; Philippine Genome Center Program for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Forestry; the Institute of Biological Sciences; and the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food.

■ **MEB Aurellado**

UPLB COVID-19 Response Team awarded Gawad Edukampyon for Responsive Research and Development 2021

This year, the UPLB COVID-19 Response Team under the Mathematics Division, Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics was given one of the first-ever Gawad Edukampyon for Responsive Research and Development awards during the Gawad Edukampyon 2021 virtual awarding ceremony last 25 October 2021.

REX Education and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) launched Gawad Edukampyon on the 30th of January 2021. Together with Philippine Business and Social Progress (PBSP), this inaugural award aimed to recognize higher education institutions (HEIs) in the Philippines that showed the initiative and resilience



of the Philippine higher education system in the "new normal" during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Gawad Edukampyon 2021 has four categories. The Gawad Edukampyon for Excellence in Flexible and Responsive Management

was awarded to HEIs with outstanding management response to the continuity of education for its students amidst the pandemic while ensuring the health and safety of its stakeholders. The Gawad Edukampyon for Excellence in Flexible

Teaching and Learning Innovation was awarded to HEIs with exemplary innovative and adaptive learning approaches and solutions wherein students are still constantly motivated during these times. The Gawad Edukampyon for Responsive Research and Development was awarded to the HEIs with outstanding research and development that significantly contributed to mitigating the effects of COVID-19 or has led to a greater understanding of its causes and effects. Lastly, the Gawad Edukampyon for Public Service and Community Engagement was awarded to outstanding outreach projects alleviating COVID-19 challenges of the community.

At the start of the pandemic, UPLB COVID-19 Response Team initiated several

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IBS Faculty and Students .. from Page 6



Fatima A. Natuel



Jesus Gabriel C. Fetil



Marion Michael A. Bacabac

Characterization and Concentration in Surface Waters of Lakes Sampaloc and Yambo in San Pablo City, Laguna, Philippines" while Mr. Fetil won 3rd Best in the same competition with the paper titled

"Assisting Coral Recovery in a High Energy Offshore Environment. Mr. Bacabac won the Best Poster award with study titled "Finding Effective Management Strategies to Enhance Resilience of Apo Reef

Natural Park, Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro. After the awarding ceremony for winners in the poster, undergraduate student research, 3MT, paper, and LGU INREM Champions, the conference was capped by

a closing message from Dr. Nathaniel C. Bantayan, Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, UPLB. The next INREM conference will be held in 2023.

■ **JG Campang**

Ruralite parents... from Page 4

question. "[It's because] sometimes the kind of relationship we have with our children would also depend on how well we are," she said.

Dr. Sanchez-Arreola proceeded by explaining the socio-emotional pillars that she deems as important in maintaining a harmonious relationship at home. She shared some tips on how parents, amidst the stress of work and childrearing, can keep their emotional cups filled.

Language of acceptance

Further discussing situations that are relatable to parents who are raising "difficult" children at home during the pandemic, Dr. Sanchez-Arreola cited Nobel laureate Dr. Thomas Gordon's concept of the language of acceptance.

Young adults would often shy away from seeking help from their parents in fear of being judged. Dr. Sanchez-Arreola emphasized that the first step in extending help is showing genuine acceptance.

"Of all the effects of acceptance, the most important is the inner feeling of the child: That is love." She pointed out that parents must put more effort in making their children feel accepted and loved. She added, "Only when a person feels accepted by another that they are free to grow, to change, and to be capable of being."

But Dr. Sanchez-Arreola recognizes that there are times when the children need to know that their behavior is unacceptable, too. With that, she quoted Dr.

Gordon, "Children can only accept constructively their parents' unaccepting feelings when parents send clear and honest messages that match their true feelings."

Anticipating the complexity of dealing with young adults these days, she also shared strategies on identifying their emotional zones and knowing when to let their children fight their own battles. Dr. Sanchez-Arreola carefully noted that sometimes acceptance means not saying a word and just letting yourself be a sounding board.

Getting into their world

During the open forum, a parent asked how to deal with a teenager who is being secretive and defensive. Dr. Sanchez-Arreola acknowledged that teenagers are indeed very private, but she also said how much they will appreciate if their parents really try to know what's going on in their lives.

"You have to be creative in the way you ask questions... It's really getting into the world of your child... That's how they will trust you and will know that they are accepted."

In response to a parent who is asking for tips on convincing their child to change certain behaviors, Dr. Sanchez-Arreola found it helpful to involve them in the decision instead of imposing it on them. "It's really a matter of talking it out with the child."

For responding to some of the most difficult parenting questions, the participants in the webinar have been grateful, Prof.

Betic-Belas, said. Some keywords from the feedback include "informative," "interesting," "insightful," and "meaningful."

Indeed, the changes brought on by the pandemic on the basic education system have made tremendous impact not just on the well-being of students but also on

their families. Recognizing that the UPRHS faculty and staff must deal with changes in their work-home life too, the SWC will also conduct a webinar for them titled "Prioritizing Wellness in the Workplace" on January 10, 2022.

■ **JM Urrea**

Genetics Society holds Genetics Week

The Genetics Society braved all the odds to hold the annual Genetics Week last November 15-20, 2021 with the theme "Harvesting Genes: Using Modern Genetic Techniques to Improve Plant Cultivation". Centering on the importance of crop and agricultural development, the organization looks into using genetics as a tool to resolve global issues that serve as a threat to food security. People from different walks of life were invited to participate in the events via online platforms like Zoom and Artsteps and social networking sites such as Facebook. These methods provided means to establish networks in the spirit of friendly competition and collaboration.

With the aim to inform, educational materials were exhibited during the event which aimed to introduce the concepts in molecular techniques such as basic DNA cloning, marker assisted selection, and genetic engineering, among others. The attendees were also challenged to answer trivia questions that entail prizes to be claimed via raffle draw of the correct entries. These materials were also geared towards public correction of common misconceptions surrounding controversial and sensitive topics such as genome editing and the consumption and market-availability of GMOs. The

recent release of the 2021 edition for Genews was also a celebrated highlight during the event. The official publication held true to its intent to update not just the UPLB community regarding the recent advancements in the field of genetics alongside featuring national current events and issues.

Competitions were held to stimulate the intellect and creativity of the participants during the week-long event. An art contest was held where the best artworks reflecting the theme of the event were selected and awarded with cash prizes on top of the recognition and exhibition of the winning artworks. The event also catered to resident members to foster and stimulate the spirit of camaraderie through a treasure hunt which was enjoyed by both officers and members, alike.

The five-day event concluded successfully with the primary objectives to educate the public with the newest trends in agricultural development alongside the establishment of academic relationships and linkages among the attendees and the organizers alike. The organization looks forward to upholding the 35 - year tradition next year.

■ **ET Galang**



The epitome of a father, **Dr. Felino P. Lansigan**, has served the university for 43 years. Dr. Lansigan, or "Sir Ino" as he is fondly called by his students and colleagues, made significant contributions to the university. His works in numerous fields

of applications of Statistics truly made a mark in UPLB's history and long list of achievements. He truly became an embodiment of honor and excellence by being a very active member of various local and international organizations.

As an educator-researcher, Sir Ino is well-known for his various research on climate change, environmental statistics, and statistical hydrology. His remarkable contributions in the scientific community earned him numerous

local and international awards. One of which that he is truly proud of is his Outstanding Teacher Award that was given in 2016. Dozens of undergraduate and graduate students are indebted to his hard work and dedication as an educator and researcher.

His passion for lifelong learning translates to an unimaginable extent of his influence to his former students. Just like Sir Ino, they are now flourishing in their respective fields. Indeed, Dr. Lansigan is an epitome of an excellent mentor.

Prior to his retirement, Sir Ino served as Dean of the College of Arts

and Sciences for two consecutive terms. His excellence as the college dean made significant progress in the areas of instruction, research and extension, internationalization, infrastructure, faculty, staff, and student development.

For 43 years, Sir Ino has touched the lives of his students, colleagues, family, and friends. He has been a great inspiration to many. He is truly an embodiment of a great Father, Professor, and a Leader.

■ **RT Marcelino**



Legitimate concern for students and dedication and commitment to hard work - these two values defined the 43 years of service offered by **Dr. Merlyn S. Mendiola**. Her retirement last January 2021 marked the end of her professional journey which started in 1978 as a research assistant to a research project for seven years before

transitioning to the teaching profession. She retired as the director of IBS and a fully accomplished professor of genetics.

Stellar is an understatement to describe her career as the path she left behind was honorable to emulate yet difficult to rival. Among the many awards she has received throughout her journey, she holds close to her heart her most prized accomplishment as an educator being a two-time awardee of the Outstanding Teacher Award. She has received national recognition in the field of research as well

after being awarded the Outstanding Young Scientist award in the year 1995 and the first recipient of the Crisostomo B. and Cristina C. Garcia Annual Award for Excellence. She is currently conferred with the title UP Scientist I which span from 2020-2022. Ma'am Merlyn left behind her mark as part of the teaching force of IBS. Her legacy is close to being uncountable but she will forever be recognized for her involvement in writing the most widely used local genetics book: "Lectures in Genetics" alongside her mentors: Drs. Dolores Ramirez and Rita Laude.

Her time as director of IBS also bore fruits that changed the face of the institute. This includes the opening

of the AGA Wing which houses the 2nd floor of the MBB lab along with the bioinformatics lab and many conference rooms along with the refurbishment of classrooms, hallways, and lavatories.

Leaving the portals of GMBD, Ma'am Merlyn entrusts her expertise in the field of cytogenetics to the talented Prof. Joan Adajar-Deriquito. During her retirement, Ma'am Merlyn is still actively involved in advising PhD students while being a full time wife to her husband Louie, and mother to her daughters Katrina and Zsaris and grandmother to her grandson from Paolo, Alfonse.

■ **ET Galang**



Prof. Ivan Marcelo A. Duka's 65th birthday celebration last January 2021 signalled the conclusion of a very fruitful and outstanding career in the university, spanning more than four decades at the Institute of Biological Sciences.

He has taught undergraduate courses in genetics, evolutionary, cell and molecular biology. His main research interests were in the fields of Developmental and Molecular Genetics. He has won a number of teaching awards, including

twice for the UPLB Outstanding Teacher Award in the Biological Sciences. He has also garnered the NAST award for Outstanding Published Scientific Paper. Prof. Duka has mentored undergraduate

and graduate students majoring in Cell Biology or Genetics.

He is the longest serving College Secretary in the CAS (2012- 2020). He was an active member of the MST Program and for many years, has served as facilitator of the College Seminar on Teaching, guiding incoming faculty to hone their teaching skills. He was actively involved in curriculum development and has developed two G.E. courses, NASC 4 and SCI 11 plus an undergraduate course, BIO 125.

In the transition period for the K to 12 program, he was commissioned by CHED to lead a team

responsible for creating a course guide in General Biology 2, now currently used by senior high school teachers all over the Philippines. He has now passed the torch of zeal for teaching, public service, commitment to discipline, and love for country and the University to his former advisees who are now doctors, lawyers, scientists, and teachers.

He now enjoys his retirement by reading fast action novels and watching award-winning movies. He plans to continue travelling the continents after the pandemic.

■ **ET Galang**



Dr. Milagros M. Peralta retired this year as she celebrated her 65th birthday on April 22. For the past four decades, Dr. Peralta (pleasantly called as Ma'am MMP or Ma'am Mila by her students and colleagues) has fruitfully served the Institute of Chemistry and the whole UP Los Baños community in terms of academic, research, extension, and

administrative works.

Dr. Peralta finished BS Agricultural Chemistry in 1978 (cum laude) in UP Los Baños and MS Agricultural Chemistry in 1982 in the same university. In 1991, she obtained her Ph.D. in Chemistry in Texas A&M University, Texas, USA.

Throughout her professional career, she has published many articles in ISI publications and refereed journals about her expertise in the applications of Organometallics, Organic Synthesis, and Nanotechnology. She also contributed to writing policy paper

about the Applications of Nanotechnology in Food and Agriculture which was commissioned and adopted by Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

In 2016, she received the UPLB Centennial Professorial Chair Award. Some of her distinct awards include UP IDI Award for Iron-Modified Nanosilica Powder and Aerogel Beads For Arsenic Removal In Contaminated Water (2018), One-UP Centennial Prof Chair Award in Organic Chemistry for Teaching and Research (2016 - 2018), and KKP-ST Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching (2016) and in Research (2003).

Dr. Peralta was appointed as IC Director from 2009 to 2012.

During her time, she spearheaded the splitting of bottleneck courses into separate lecture and laboratory classes. As a senior faculty member, she developed CHEM 173 (Introduction to Polymer Chemistry) undergraduate course and proposed two graduate courses: CHEM 225 (Organometallic Chemistry), and CHEM 244 (Organic Synthesis). Aside from her contributions at IC, she served as the Project Leader of UPLB Nanotechnology Program (2009 – 2021), a member of Student Disciplinary Tribunal (SDT) (2012 – 2017), a member-at-large of UPLB Executive Committee (2015 – 2016), the Parent Juror of SDT (2001 – 2004), and the College Secretary of CAS (2001 – 2004).

■ **RP Parakikay**



Assoc. Prof. Emmanuel A. Florido served the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP) for almost four decades. He was one of the senior faculty of the Institute to remain in service from the establishment of the BS Applied Physics program. Having been trained in optoelectronics

in Macquarie University, Australia, Assoc. Prof. Florido helped establish linkages with the electronics industry in the Philippines and several laboratories in Thailand and Taiwan.

Fondly called Sir Emman by colleagues and students, he exemplifies many attributes that are fitting not just in the sciences but also in the arts. Sir Emman is one of the most artistic and musical faculty in IMSP. He is a constant performer in many

events in the University. On occasions, he would serenade his lecture classes singing his favorite song, 'I Will Be Here'. His colleagues make him a constant companion in Karaoke to unwind.

Assoc. Prof. Florido is very prolific in research with his expertise in materials science and instrumentation. He worked on sensors using nanomaterials

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Dr. Roberto C. Reyes or Sir Bobby retired in March 2021, capping a 38-year service in the University that began in 1983 as an Instructor for Zoology. Sir Bobby graduated magna cum laude in the University of the East, took his Masters in UP Diliman and

obtained his Doctorate of Natural Sciences from the University of Hamburg in Germany. His immense contribution to science includes his extensive research in Sericulture from 1995 to 2003 as well as his works on the biology, conservation, and culture of indigenous and ornamental fishes during his time as the Station Manager of Limnological Station from 1997-1999. He has developed a total of 13 lecture

guides/syllabi and three laboratory manuals and taught more than 16 different courses under the Animal Biology Division. He surely did touch the lives of his students and peers after his more than three decades of passionate service in the University. Dr. Reyes' dedication, excellent service, and wisdom will be missed and shall serve as inspiration for everyone.

■ **JM Castro**



Ms. Josephine C. Laviña of OCS, Tita Josie or Tita Jo for people close to her hearts, was among the CAS retirees honored during the 49th CAS Foundation Anniversary Celebration held on December 21, 2021. She received the CAS Service Medal for her 35 years of outstanding and

dedicated service as Administrative Assistant and Student Records Evaluator (SRE).

Tita Jo was the recipient of the 2020 CAS Outstanding Administrative Personnel Award (Office Personnel Category). Before she went for an optional retirement on March 15, 2021, she was in charge of more than a thousand students per academic year in two degree programs, namely the BS Biology

and BA Philosophy. Her tasks included updating students' mini-checklist in the previous SystemOne, encoding and safekeeping data in the UPLoad program, managing students' records in SAIS, issuing the required registration forms, processing application forms, and organizing the student record jackets under her assigned degree programs, just to name a few.

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Known by her colleagues as Tita Au, **Aurelia P. Magpantay** is a well-loved figure in the Plant Biology Division of the Institute of Biological Sciences.

Starting her stint in 1983, she had served as a laboratory

technician for 38 years until her retirement last October.

Her regular duties included assisting both the faculty members and REPS of her division in processing paperworks and preparing specimens in the Botany Preparation Room used for teaching.

Her friendly and cheerful demeanor, very notable

not only among the personnel in her division but also among the people in other divisions, had always been very uplifting. Furthermore, many students found her approachable. She will surely be missed.

■ **AL Rayos**



DHK's Queen of Chess and folk dance matriarch **Jovita S. Dela Cruz** has joined the ranks of esteemed CAS faculty retirees. Known affectionately as Mam Jovy to her colleagues,

students, athletes, and organization, she has truly maximized a wonderful and meaningful career at UPLB. Ma'am Jovy has been successful in the diverse facets of the department.

In Sports, Mam Jovy has successfully coached the UPLB Chess Varsity. Her team was a perennial podium finisher in regional tournaments and even boasts of National Champions in the

STRASUC tournaments. As an athlete herself, Ma'am Jovy is also credited with the multiple championship of the CAS Table Tennis Team.

In the field of Dance, she spearheaded the Sandayaw Organization. The group is known for performances that showcase Philippine folk dance and cultural reflections.

Ma'am Jovy also boasts of numerous national and international researches and paper presentations.

Alongside all these accolades, Ma'am Jovy has always served as a dedicated faculty of the

DHK and taught across the fields of Sports, Dance, and Leisure. Her expertise across these numerous fields coupled with her motherly nature has both educated and inspired the UPLB students to strive for a life geared towards optimal health and fitness.

DHK and the whole of the UPLB community are truly blessed with the tremendous career of our dear Ma'am Jovy Dela Cruz. The DHK family will always strive to follow her great example and will definitely have big shoes to fill.

■ **MA Salangsang**



For 44 years, **Mr. Gregorio P. Roselada**, which the faculty members refer to as Mang Greg, has been one of the reliable people in the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics or IMSP. He started working at the university last

May 23, 1977 and he retired as Administrative Aide III.

We often see Mang Greg very early at the Physical Sciences Building, specifically the Director's Office since he was in-charge with its maintenance. He handled his tasks with speed, but he did his job neatly and consistently. Students and faculty members also see him a

lot in the Physics lecture and laboratory rooms.

Aside from the maintenance tasks, Mang Greg was a consistent member of the Physical Arrangements Committee at the IMSP and College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) during foundation events.

■ **JC Duero**



Dr. Inocencio E. Buot, Jr. is hailed as the

PhD from the University

2021 CAS Outstanding Senior Researcher for his excellent work in the field of plant sciences.

Dr. Buot Jr. began his teaching and research career at the Institute of Biological Sciences in 1998 after obtaining his

of Chiba. He currently holds the highest faculty rank, Professor 12, and has been a UP Scientist since 2009.

He has led several research projects, and has published over 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals, as well as having co-authored 10 books and 13 book chapters.

He has also advised several undergraduate and graduate students conducting research

about plant ecology and systematics.

Hoya buotii, a species of Hoya described by an American taxonomist in 2002, was named in his honor.

■ **AL Rayos**



The College has recognized the **Microbiology Division-Institute of Biological Sciences (MCBD-IBS) Microbial Diversity and Biotechnology Research Team**, as this year's **Outstanding Research Team**, for the team's consistent, untiring, and committed efforts to promote and enhance the appreciation for microbiological research in the Philippines; for uncovering by way of research and highlighting for public awareness and conservation the richness, diversity, and complexity of

microbial life in various Philippine ecosystems and natural habitats; and for discovering the deeper basis of metabolic diversity by analysis of the genomes, and unraveling the biotechnological potentials of the members of the microbial realm with the ultimate goal of serving the national good.

This award is given annually to a CAS Research Team who has numerous significant contributions in their respective fields. The team aims to study the microorganisms in their

ecosystem and their respective roles and applications. Microbial diversity gives us insights into the microbial community (e.g. bacteria, archaea, protists, and fungi) present in an environment and the possible roles that they play, while biotechnology utilizes microorganisms (e.g. natural, laboratory-selected mutant, or genetically engineered strains), to obtain an economically valuable product or process that could eventually be developed at a large scale.

The research team is

actively seeking collaborations with local and international experts and stakeholders. The young researchers in the field are also being mentored in the programs and projects that the members are leading or involved in. The members of the team regularly participate in

conferences and organize local, national, and even international seminars, to promote scientific knowledge in the field of Microbiology and other related fields.

From 2018, the team has been involved in 17 research projects, published 60 articles in peer-reviewed journals (SCOPUS- and Web of Science-listed) and presented 40 papers in local and international conferences. Several recognition and grants were also awarded to the members.

■ **JD Ong**



This year's recipient of the **CAS Outstanding Extension/Public Service Team Award** is the **Aquatic Zoology Research Laboratory (AZRL)**

of the Animal Biology Division, Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS). Established in 2016 by Dr. Victor Ticzon, who is the head of the lab, the AZRL consists also of researchers such as fellow IBS faculty member Dr. Maria Eleanor Aurellado and research assistants Kent Elson Sorgon, Marion Michael Bacabac, Jesus Gabriel Fetil, and Estephan Fortela. AZRL was created to serve as a research and learning laboratory for both faculty and students interested in working on aquatic ecosystems. The lab conducts

various national and regional biophysical assessments of marine habitats, most especially coral reefs.

As part of the lab's capacity-building activities, AZRL has developed training manuals for coral reef assessment and regularly conducts short courses on reef fish ID training, which have supported stakeholders in marine resource management and national policy formulation.

The AZRL has collaborated with various partners such as Oceana Philippines, other academic institutions, various LGUs, and national government agencies such as DENR and DOST. As a direct service to the University,

the lab provides funding support for both graduate and undergraduate student research, including the presentation of results in national conferences.

The lab continuously conducts research that focuses on ecosystems monitoring, assisted rehabilitation, and capacity building, which would be important for crafting and implementing management strategies of aquatic resources. Among the significant scientific contributions of AZRL is their involvement in a national program by DENR that assessed the effectiveness of the NIPAS marine protected areas in enhancing fisheries resources, the findings of which was published in March 2021.

Currently, the AZRL is working on a project that aims to investigate methods that can assist coral rehabilitation in areas that have experienced physical damage from storms such as Apo Reef Natural Park. Dr. Ticzon plans to build a long-term database on key biophysical parameters on Philippine reefs and establish strong partnerships with stakeholders. He hopes that the data collected can translate to responsive management policies that can support and enhance the resilience of coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs.

■ **MEB Aurellado**



Mr. John Leonell A. Vargas, also known as Kuya Nel, is this year's recipient of the **CAS Outstanding Administrative Personnel Award (Technician/Craftsman Category)**. He started working in the university last 2018 as

a Laboratory Technician, becoming one of the most dependable administrative personnel in IMSP. The faculty instantly liked his work attitude and amicable personality. His main responsibility is to assist students and faculty on

computer and network related concerns. In addition, he serves the Math Division as personnel in charge of payments and reimbursements of the faculty.

In the first half of

2020, he was given an additional assignment by designation without additional compensation as Administrative Assistant I of the whole Institute. This is to continue the function vacated by a retired staff. Even though Mr. Vargas does not have any background in processing procurement documents, he wholeheartedly accepted and innovatively learned the nitty-gritty of the tasks along the way. Until now, he takes charge in the procurement of computer, laboratory, and infrastructure-related items.

Recently, in the renovation and repair of rooms and lecture

halls of the Institute, he processed the procurement papers related to them and supervised the area of work.

He says that the secret for his excellent performance is getting along with his workmates and bosses well. He believes that this results in a better harmony in a workplace which makes him more efficient in his job. Aside from that, his wife and two daughters motivate him to work hard and manage his tasks effectively to the satisfaction of the people around him.

■ **JE Casquete**



Ms. Rhona F. Anenias is awarded the 2021 **CAS Outstanding Administrative Personnel (Office Personnel Category)** for her notable performance and outstanding accomplishments as Student Records Evaluator (SRE) of more than 900 students per academic year in the

BS Computer Science and BA Sociology degree programs.

Tita Rhona, as she is fondly called by students and co-workers alike, has been in service to the university for 10 years. She joined the CAS-OCS in July 2011

and is currently holding the position of Administrative Officer II.

Her tasks include managing student records, filing confidential academic data, handling computer-related tasks such as the Student Academic Information System

(SAIS), facilitating pre and post-registration needs as well as the graduation requirements of students, and preparing data/reports requested by units under CAS. She also handles the processing of student application forms like overloading, underloading, dropping of subjects, waiver of prerequisite, plan of study, student assistantship, GE plan of study, removals/ completion permits, true copy of grades, various certifications, student loans, and scholarship requirements.

In addition, she provides assistance to the graduating students by preparing their checklists, updating their records, and processing their deficiencies. She is also responsible for

identifying possible candidates for graduation and finalizing the list of the candidates for graduation under her assigned degree programs.

What makes Tita Rhona stand out is that she has no backlogs despite the volume of her work and she never fails to render her services with courtesy and respect. She responds promptly to students' requests and submits requested documents on time. She uses po and ho when communicating in her native tongue and makes use of appropriate language and conventions in emails. She is also approachable to everyone and always willing to help.

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Ms. Louise Gabrielle L. Talip, this year's **CAS Outstanding Student in the Sciences**, is a senior

BS Computer Science student active in academics and extracurricular activities. Her research interests in computer science are Big Data, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, and Social Engineering. She is also proficient in different

programming languages and web development tools.

She participated in different local, national, and international programming and debate competitions where she bagged several awards, including being a two-time consecutive grand finalist for the Algolympics event organized by the Association for Computing Machinery - UP Diliman Student Chapter, Inc. in 2020 and 2021. Her paper entitled "Examining SONA 2020 - Related Tweets Through Sentiment Analysis" was presented at the Linguistic Society of the

Philippines International Conference (LSPIC 2021).

Apart from academics, she is also a proud member of the Alliance of Computer Science Students UPLB, where she serves as the Head Developer for Logistics and Public Affairs for the academic year 2021-2022. She is also the Head of the Ministry of Education, Training, and Skills of The Parliament: UPLB Debate Society from 2019 up to the present.

■ **AC Guiam**



At a time of rapid, unprecedented change, the UPLB CAS Outstanding Student is all the more expected to strongly demonstrate honor and excellence in leadership, scholarship, and service. This year, these qualities are best exemplified by BA Communication Arts Senior, **Ms. Jamie Nicole S.B. Millan**, the recipient of the **CAS Outstanding Student in the Arts Award**.

Inspired by solid

academic backgrounds in primary and secondary school, Ms. Millan has been able to maintain exemplary scholastic standing in college as a BACA student. Enriching this record is her involvement in various

co-curricular and socio-civic activities aimed at fulfilling her advocacies in education, gender equality, and civic awareness.

Ms. Millan's deep commitment in learning speech communication theories and principles allowed her to cultivate skills and initiate efforts relevant to the larger practice of rhetoric and discursive participation. She is a resident member of The

Rhetoricians: The UPLB Speech Communication Organization, and has recently been recognized as Outstanding Rhetoman. Currently, she manages the Organization's Reconnect PH, a project that caters to select Filipino students in need of financial support to meet the demands of online learning.

In addition, Ms. Millan expands her experience in furthering civic awareness and social responsibility by holding leadership roles in the UPLB Pre-Law Society. Apart from this, she also does volunteer work for various local, regional, and national groups and activities such as the Republic Scholars and Alumni Association (2019-present), DEPED Division of Antipolo and Diocese of Antipolo Commission on Migrants and Itinerant People's

Turo Mo, Kaalaman Ko (2020 to present), Laraw Sa Isla's Project E-SkwelaJUAN (2020), and ASEAN Youth Cares (2020).

Among her other notable achievements are being awarded Outstanding Municipal College Scholar by the Municipality of Teresa, Rizal in September (2021), and being a paper presenter during the Speech Communication Organization of the Philippines' 31st National Research Conference in 2019.

Ms. Millan's consistent competence and dedication amid challenges and changes confronting the University and society reflects the UPLB CAS Outstanding Student's undeterred spirit.

■ **KA Salvador**

UPLB Scientist appointed member of WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens



Associate Professor Phillip A. Alviola of the Animal Biology Division, Institute of Biological Sciences has been appointed as one of the members of the World Health Organization (WHO) Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens (SAGO) in November 2021. Established

by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom, the SAGO's main function is to provide advice on the global framework to the study of emerging novel pathogens, such as the SARS-Cov-2 virus that caused the Covid-19 pandemic. Assoc. Prof.

Alviola is the only Filipino scientist among the 27 SAGO members who were selected to represent a broad range of disciplines relevant to pathogens.

Assoc. Prof. Alviola's expertise is on bats, which

are known to be carriers of viruses that are zoonotic or can be transmitted from animals to humans. Since 2007, Assoc. Prof. Alviola has conducted fieldwork in various parts of the Philippines. He and his team not only identify the various bat species found in each locality, but also collect swabs and fecal samples. These samples are then sent out to Japan for sequencing to detect viruses. So far, Assoc. Prof. Alviola's team has found 12 species of Philippine bats that are positive for zoonotic viruses, such as bat coronaviruses which are related to the SARS-Cov-2. Bat coronaviruses were, in fact, detected in some bats in Los Baños, Laguna as reported in one of his papers published in 2010.

Because of his extensive research on bats and viruses, Assoc. Prof. Alviola is also part of the UPLB Program for Zoonotic Diseases, which acts as the primary research center for the detection, prevention, and control of zoonotic diseases in the Philippines. Assoc. Prof. Alviola hopes to conduct more field surveys in unexplored areas and pathogen screening of livestock and heavily-traded wildlife. By tracing the possible pathways by which bat viruses can infect humans in the Philippine context, Assoc. Prof. Alviola's research can help inform WHO on how we can prevent another pandemic. Assoc. Prof. Alviola's appointment with SAGO is for two years.

■ **MEB Aurellado**

LITE Program holds second enLITen webinar

On the 26th of November, the UPLB Language Instruction Towards Excellence (LITE) Program held its second enLITen Webinar featuring guest speaker, Assistant Professor Rogelio Panuelos, Jr. from the UPLB College of Arts and Sciences via Zoom and Facebook Live.

enLITen aimed to discuss the ever-relevant topic of plagiarism and policing in academic writing through the lecture of Asst. Prof. Panuelos, which is full of insight and stories of his personal experience regarding plagiarism.

Dean Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese, Dean of the University of the Philippines Los

Baños College of Arts and Sciences and the UPLB LITE Program's manager, opened the program by expressing her gratitude to the members of the LITE program and the participants of the Webinar along with a brief retelling of the history and definition of plagiarism as well as advising caution of its effect on the value and integrity of research.

"Policing academic writing against plagiarism starts with us. We must be extra mindful of what we read and write," said Dean Dionisio-Sese in her opening remarks as she talked about plagiarism in the 21st century, where she added:

"Policing ourselves to help

cull plagiarism is a good start in protecting the worth of research in our society; however, we need to exert effort and look forward to the day that our institutions will have their respective office of research integrity that will safeguard the sanctity of scientific inquiry."

After that warm welcome, the lecture held by Asst. Prof. Panuelos subsequently started. His lecture, titled "Beyond Singko and Stories of Shame: An Academic Chikahan" on Plagiarism and Policing in Academic Writing, was an insightful discussion of the complexity of plagiarism which he divided into four segments.

He first presented in the

Webinar the different perspectives of plagiarism, from the traditional view to the more recent and critical viewpoint there is today. He used his stories about his time as a student in a writing class and of a fellow student who couldn't graduate due to plagiarism to provide examples of the traditional perspective of plagiarism, where plagiarism is likened to a crime.

"Students are positioned to be potential criminals who need to be policed by teachers in the classroom," said Asst. Prof. Panuelos.

He questioned at that time if that was really to be the

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UPLB COVID-19 Response Team... from Page 8

research projects that will aid in understanding COVID-19. One of these projects is entitled "Modeling/Simulation of the Effect of Different Interventions on the Spread of SARS-COV-2 Virus in Different Demographic Scales." The goal of this research study is to describe COVID-19 transmission dynamics and provide recommendations based on simulations. The study can be also utilized in helping the government in their policy-making and control measures during the pandemic. Three publications were produced from this project between March 2020 and March 2021: (i) A mathematical model of COVID-19 transmission between frontliners and the general

public, (ii) A COVID-19 infection risk model for frontline health care workers, and (iii) Optimal Allocation of COVID-19 Test Kits Among Accredited Testing Centers in the Philippines. Moreover, two epidemic web-based decision tools and a repository of COVID-19 studies were also created from this project: (i) Initial COVID-19 Philippine Provincial Estimates and Projections and (ii) Job Risk Profiling Calculator, Workplace Outbreak Microsimulator & Event R Calculator. These publications and tools are regularly updated and can be accessed freely. These studies also became the basis of several policy notes implemented by the UP COVID-19 Pandemic

Response team that safeguard its stakeholders from the virus.

Other projects were also conceived by the team during the pandemic. The project entitled "Gender-specific Insights Based on COVID-19 Epidemiological and Socio-economic Data" provided an online interactive dashboard, showing gender-specific insights related to COVID-19 that can be used for academic or policy-making purposes. Forecasting COVID-19 cases in the Philippines using various mathematical models is another project that aimed to forecast the COVID-19 infection cases using various mathematical models and compare the forecasts from

the models using several error metrics. The UNFPA Project – Mathematical Modelling Study on COVID-19 determined the epidemic curve for each of the chosen areas that aid the local government in policy-making. The projects of the team were mostly funded by the UP system and other institutions like the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) and the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA).

The UPLB COVID-19 Response Team continues its effort through different research in helping against the fight with the COVID-19 pandemic.

■ **GB Gamilla**

DSS holds its Annual Corazon B. Lamug Lecture on Globalization, Internationalization of Education, and Social Capital

The Department of Social Sciences (DSS) held its Annual Corazon B. Lamug Lecture last November 25. The annual memorial lecture was dedicated to Dr. Corazon B. Lamug who served as a former Chair of the Department of Social Sciences, former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and former President of

the Philippine Sociological Society. For this year, the theme is "Globalization, Internationalization of Education, and Social Capital: Everyday practices of international students to acculturate in a new



Dr. Louie Benedict Ignacio explains how international students navigate the social environment of their host country.

environment" with Philippine Sociological Society President Dr. Louie Benedict R. Ignacio as the guest lecturer.

Asst. Prof. Athenee P. Mercado, DSS Chair, opened

the program by talking about how globalization has been a dominant trend defining economic relations for decades whose effects spilled over to different aspects of social life including the education

sector. She stated that the lecture seeks to inform the audience of the current Philippine education landscape as well as the implications of ideas such as market competitiveness in education.

In her message, Dr. Chryslene Margus N. Piñol, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, shared about the

university's experience two years into the global pandemic with constant recalibration of courses and exploration of teaching

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UPLB achieves 100% passing rate in Chemist and Chemical Technician Licensure Exam

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) attains 100% passing rate in the October 2021 Chemist Licensure Examination and Chemical Technician Licensure Examination. The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) announced that UPLB took the first spot as top performing school as 8 out of 8 passed the Chemist Licensure examination and 43 out of 43 passed the Chemical Technician Licensure Examination.

In addition, several UPLB



students topped the list. For Chemist Licensure exam, Cherrylene Bolante earned third place (85.85%); Jasper Jory Eugenio took seventh place (84.80%); and following him at eight place is Jerwin

Quirante (84.25%).

For Chemical Technician Licensure exam, the following students belonged to the top ten: Patrick Aaron Gonzaga and Chester Dayao – Top

6 (89.00%), Danica Mara Gayares – Top 7 (88.50%), Mark Julius Casal, Angela Mae Concepcion, Jaren Tulipan, and Keith Danielle Dela Cruz – Top 8 (88.00%), Arvee Jae Dimaculangan, Joshua Ryan Guadines, and Kathleen Lou Tapang – Top 9 (87.50%), and Nicole Leal – Top 10 (87.00%).

This year's licensure examination for chemists has the lowest passing rate (36.31%) in the last ten years, with only 134 passers out of 369 takers.

■ **RP Parakikay**

LITE Program holds... from Page 18

case, where students were expected to know what they are supposed to do from the get-go. Stating that this perspective does not recognize accidental or unintentional plagiarism.

The second perspective, that he shared, turned the viewpoint from the student to the academic institutions where plagiarism is not a crime but a technical breach of established rules. He shared his experience in using honor codes in one of his classes. He added that it seemed that the teacher was constantly reminding him of the rules and the consequences of breaking them.

The third perspective revolves around citation and the threat of detection, saying that "a whole gotcha industry" (cited from Howard) came about. Discussing the various online applications that popped up in recent years whose services are about checking for plagiarism, he jokingly expressed that that would have been helpful in his time.

"We need to open up spaces

for the discussions of plagiarism as a writing issue, not a moral issue, that can be addressed by learning and teaching writing and not by extreme punishments," he added before moving to the final perspective.

The final perspective that he shared is the most recent and radical viewpoint of plagiarism. It was about encouraging us to be meaning makers in academic writing and join the conversation, expressing the need to shift our attention from punishment to teaching and learning.

After sharing the different perspectives, he talked about academic writing as social practice. Citing the Burkean Parlor, he attempted to appropriate the term and contextualize it in the Filipino culture by comparing it to a "Simpleng Handaan" before discussing the social model of academic writing. He stated that there are many different factors and aspects in academic writing than just the student and teacher.

The last segment of his

talk involved him sharing some personal tips with the audience. He listed four strategies that he hoped would help: 1.) find the sources you need, 2.) converse with source authors, 3.) integrate sources to make new meaning, and lastly, 4.) allow sources to change your life.

He ended his lecture hoping that future talks would take place and add to the still ongoing discussions regarding plagiarism.

"How can we open more parlors and prepare simpleng handaans?" shared Asst. Prof. Panuelos at the end of his talk.

A short break was then conducted along with a catchy intermission number by the host speaker, allowing the viewers to stretch and relieve themselves for a few minutes. What came next was a lengthy Question and Answer portion facilitated by Asst. Prof. Jerard Eusebio in which Asst. Prof. Panuelos answered various questions submitted through the Zoom and Facebook live comments as well as giving additional tips and strategies

that might help - all of which can be viewed at the UPLB LITE's Facebook page.

After the fruitful Q&A session with Asst. Prof. Panuelos, the event came to a close with the Coordinator of the UPLB LITE Program, Asst. Prof. Kristine Adalla, giving thanks and imparting her closing message.

"We hoped that this Webinar sheds some light on how we should look at plagiarism, and how we can teach our students the basic ways on how to avoid it; and as educators, how we should approach this issue to our students and even among ourselves as we are writers too," said Asst. Prof. Adalla. "And we also hope that this Webinar helped you gain more confidence in writing, and as writers, let's not take too long in the parlor and instead let's move forward to what's essential to our study," she finished, marking the end of the second enLITEN Webinar.

■ **EJ Azares**

DSS holds its... from Page 19

strategies, among other efforts made, as adjustments for more effective learning. She also mentioned the importance of collaboration in achieving the university's goals while ensuring that no one will be left behind.

Dr. Ignacio at the beginning of his lecture mentioned that the content was the product of his observations during the university accreditation process he facilitated as a former university administrator. His lecture was set in the context of globalization and the internationalization of higher education where the realities of the two coincide with the global demand for higher educational institutions to subscribe to a set of standards on education initiated by regional organizations such as the ASEAN through the ASEAN University Network. These efforts include the harmonization of curricula and overall unification of educational systems which in turn facilitates

intercultural exchanges among universities and addresses challenges such as global citizenship and internationalization.

He mentioned acculturation and social capital as products of educational internationalization. Acculturation, he explained, entails the condition which allows the students' social and psychological readiness to properly integrate themselves into the society and culture of the host country. Social capital, on the other hand, provides opportunities for both foreign and national students to learn from the interaction and networks they are able to develop.

Dr. Ignacio then presented the experiences of international students as part of the internationalization efforts of higher education institutions in the Philippines. He described how international students used both human and social capital to successfully

acquire higher education in a foreign land along with the comparative struggles of international students and identify everyday practices to overcome identified difficulties.

He discussed how the availability of information on quality assurance rankings increased the knowledge and expectations foreign students have about the university and the country they will go to. The respondents in his study also enumerated possible problems they expect to encounter such as adjusting to the new environment, finding a new set of friends, and experiencing differences in language, culture, and food, and even homesickness.

He then explained how the appropriate use of social and economic capital solves the enumerated problems especially in terms of adjustments of established relationships, economic resources or support from

families, and the image of foreigners. He also emphasized in his lecture the significance of empowering experiences feeding into further engagements and adaptation of foreign students. These may come in the form of participation in activities inside and outside the campus, religious activities, and support from peers.

Asst. Prof. Rowena P. De Guzman, Head of the DSS SAP Division, delivered the closing remarks. She highlighted the importance of public access to higher education in order to advance knowledge in line with economic and cultural considerations and to mold individuals to think critically. Finally, as we are facing similar challenges to in the current remote learning setup, Asst. Prof. de Guzman said it is up to us to empower our experiences and utilize the capitals that we have to engage in and adapt to our situation.

■ **LG Reyes**

IBS holds UPLB sa Halalan 2022 Webinar

The Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS) held an online event titled "Voter's Conversation: Political Participation and Implications on Academic Institutions" as part of the UPLB sa Halalan 2022 webinar series last November 29, 2021 via Zoom and Facebook Live. The event was hosted by the IBS Student-Faculty Relations and Welfare (SFRW) Committee, IBS Public Service Committee, and IBS



student organizations, with Assistant Professor Faith S. Maranan as the lead organizer.

Among the invited speakers were Assistant Professor Lara Gianina Reyes of the

Department of Social Sciences of UPLB and Dr. Rommel "Pipoy" Linatoc, a UPLB alumnus and an associate professor of Development Studies in UP Manila. Assistant Professor Reyes discussed the issues and challenges in the Philippine elections as well as the framework on how voters should choose their future

Cont'd on page 22

IBS holds.. from Page 21

leaders in the incoming elections. Dr. Linatoc tackled the implications of the Philippine elections on the academic sector and emphasized the significance of academic freedom and holistic learning in relation to choosing the next country's leaders.

Dr. Virginia C. Cuevas, Professor Emeritus, served as the reactor of the lectures by the speakers. She expressed her agreement with both speakers and presented the issues on economy, education, environment, and science, technology, and innovation which she highlighted as national government concerns.

"The event was organized to provide a platform to talk about the importance of political participation in the 2022 Philippine Elections and its implications on science, literature, and arts. Furthermore, we want to serve our freshmen students, who are also first-time voters, by explaining to them their role and what important factors they can consider in picking a candidate to vote for," Assistant Professor Maranan said.

■ **JG Campang**

GE Conversation... from Page 4

action to animation, delayed production, and even rehearsals during quarantine.

Jean Claire Dy, a filmmaker, writer, media artist, and educator, shared her personal background to the participants, highlighting the power of storytelling. She emphasized the role of filmmakers in preventing historical revisionism and encouraged them to show different narratives that reflect a community, despite the mainstream media's representation of them.

He also discussed the emerging contents of online films that consist of class and gender issues in the country. He said that regional cinemas are more minoritized than ever during the pandemic.

A synthesis by Dr. Dexter Cayanes, a faculty member at the Department of Humanities (DHum), ended the GE Con. He highlighted the passion and courage of the filmmakers, especially the four speakers, which he said led to the production of more quality films even during the time of pandemic.

■ **KR Dalangin**

Dr. Ronald Tolentino, Professor at the University of the Philippines Film Institute, tackled regional filmmaking in the context of the pandemic. He started with the effects of the lockdown to the film industry, its effects on over 300,000 industry workers, and online platforms as a source of film revenue.

CAS student arnisador participates in STRASUC 2021 Olympics

The College of Arts and Sciences' Angela Rozen B. Aguirre demonstrated her arnis skills at the Southern Tagalog Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (STRASUC) Olympics last December 7, 2021. A member of the UPLB arnis varsity team, Aguirre was part of the seven-person contingent from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) that took part in the said event.

coordinator Marie Tonie A. Salangsang headed the UPLB contingent.

STRASUC is among the regional sporting events that have been held since the 1970s for student athletes in the Southern Tagalog region, the first one being the Southern Tagalog University and College Athletic Association (STUCAA). Considering the limitations brought on by the still ongoing pandemic,



Angela Rozen Aguirre demonstrating arnis skills for the women's non-traditional single weapon category. Screenshot taken from Glenda Dimaano's Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/100041623056219/videos/295594142483691/streamed> at Southern Tagalog Sports Directors of State Universities and Colleges official Facebook group

Aguirre competed in the women's non-traditional single weapon category, garnering 8.00 points (Judge 1), 8.28 (Judge 2), 7.00 (Judge 3), 8.26 (Judge 4), 8.44 (Judge 5).

The regional multi-event Olympiad was held with the theme "Still Thriving Amidst The Pandemic." Twelve universities and colleges from Region IV-A and Region IV-B had participated in the annual sports fest, which ran from December 6 -10, 2021. The chair of the CAS Department of Human Kinetics, Rowena D. Cardenas, and varsity

STRASUC's events were limited to arnis, karatedo, taekwondo and, for the first time in the regional Olympics' history, Mobile Legends: Bang-Bang multiplayer game.

Batangas State University, Laguna State Polytechnic University, Southern Luzon State University, and University of Rizal led the medal tally at the end of the five-day regional Olympiad. The University of Rizal System won as overall champion in the arnis.

■ **RJ Asuncion**

CAS holds 14th SFRC

The College of Arts and Sciences held the 14th Student-Faculty Research Conference (SFRC) last November 29 and December 6. This year's conference, which was held virtually, had the theme "Onwards to CAS@50 and Beyond: For a More Resilient Research Future in the Arts and Sciences."

The two-day event featured a keynote speech from Dr. Richard Burgos of the Department of Science and Technology. Plenary talks were delivered by Dr. Jhalique Jane Fojas of the Harvard Medical School, Dr. Mary Racelis of the Ateneo de Manila University, Dr. Lourdes Cardenas of the Institute of Biological

Sciences, UPLB, and Dr. Kate De Jesus of the Department of Humanities, UPLB.

Paper presentations were featured into clusters namely Biological and Environmental Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences (2 sessions), Physical Sciences, and Biomedical

Applications, as well as a virtual gallery of poster presentations. Best paper awardees were awarded during the second day.

This year's conference was headed by the event's ad hoc committee chair, Dr. Rina Oplencia.

2021 CAS SFRC Awardees

Best Oral Paper in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

First Place: "Understanding the Rhetoric of #Lugawisessential: An Analysis of Visual-Verbal Posts on Facebook" by Mary Diane A. Duran, and Mark Oliver S. Llangco

Second Place: "Mothers Know Best: Effect of Filipino Women's Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Media Exposure to the Vaccination of Children" by Nancy M. Landicho

Third Place: "Demystifying National Security in Animé: Exploring the Construction of State Terror and Propaganda in Code Geass, Psycho-Pass, and Attack on Titan" by Reya Mari S. Veloso

Best Oral Paper in Biological, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences (Undergraduate Category)

"Pneumonia detection from chest x-ray images using support vector machine" by Melrose S. Tia, Lei Rigi Baltazar, Ranzivelle Marianne Roxas-Villanueva, Beatrice Tiangco, Ethel Dominique Viray, and Jason Albia

Best Oral Paper in Biological, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences (Junior Staff Category)

First Place: "In vitro antimicrobial potential of isopropanol extracts of novel actinomycete *Streptomyces* sp. strain A1-08 in some medically important pathogens" by Kristel Mae P. Oliveros, Albert Remus R. Rosana, Rina B. Oplencia, and Asuncion K. Raymundo

Second Place: "Taxonomic and functional metagenomic profiling of the soil microbial community in a forest-over-limestone ecosystem using shotgun metagenomics" by K. K. M. P. Gonzales, N. B. Lantican, E. B. Geronimo, J. D. P. Ong, and M. P. Balolong

Third Place: "Preparation, characterization, and antimicrobial activity of ZnO-embedded filter paper prepared via microwave-assisted two-pot in situ assembly method" by Genne Patt O. Samar, Alvin Karlo G. Tapia, Chryslene Margus N. Piñol, Ma. Lourdes F. del Mundo, Nacita B. Lantican, Ronniel D. Manalo, and Marvin U. Herrera

Best Poster Paper

First Place: "Deep transfer learning approach for liver disease detection using ultrasound images" by Desiree Anne Villanueva, Lei Rigi Baltazar, Ranzivelle Marianne Roxas-Villanueva, Beatrice Tiangco, Ethel Dominique Viray, and Jason Albia

Second Place: "Crushed Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*) Shells as Filler to Sand in Mortar for Reduced Compressive Strength and Better Water Retention" by Carl Audric G. Guia, Frances Ashley D. Celerio, Dala Malaya R. Sosa, and Paul Christian D. Mundin

Third Place: "Makahiya (*Mimosa pudica*) Extract as an Alternative Agent Against Mosquito Eggs" by Alexa Danielle Dr. Dimaranan, Vivien Angel M. Gonzales, Aliya Jeal B. Isidoro, Erin Lois M. Punzalan, and Patricia Yohannes G. Utanes

■ **LMS Castillo**

UPRHS students won in the GLEC Vietnam 2021

Joachim Joseph Ramirez, Maxine Angelica Dela Cruz, and Francheska Wyette Gaerlan, students from UP Rural High School won in the recently concluded virtual Global Leadership English Challenge Vietnam 2021 held last November 6, 2021 which qualifies them to participate in the Global GLEC Conference, an international academic conference on the UN Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

For winning the Outstanding Award in the GLEC Essay Writing Category, Ramirez will also receive a full scholarship grant for the Yale Model United Nations training program. Meanwhile, Dela Cruz and Gaerlan won the Distinguished Award in the same category which grants them 50% financial support for the World Federation of United Nations

Associations (WFUNA) Model United Nations training program which will happen in August 2022.

GLEC is an international English public speech and essay writing contest for students on the subject of the UN and international issues, calling on participation of the youth by selecting the theme of the competition as an annual UN agenda or desirable targets for everyone. The objectives of GLEC essay writing contest is to deepen the understanding of the students about the UN agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); contextualize the UN Agenda and the SDGs in the Philippine setting and in the unique experiences of the Filipino youth; and develop the advocacy writing skills of the students.

The program has three parts: preliminary essay writing, journal writing on SDGs, and the mock final round. The said students of UPRHS skipped the preliminary round because they were nominated by the school but they underwent a series of workshops, leading to the final round. Twelve students from Grades 9 to 12 were nominated but only 11 of them responded and actively participated in coaching and workshops thru Google Classroom as a drop box of their outputs.

The final round was an on-the-spot writing contest done virtually. Contestants from various countries joined via Zoom conferencing and were given access to an internet-based testing platform (similar to the one used in IELTS). They were given 50 minutes to write a 500-word essay on a topic that was

given on the spot.

Ms. Julianne M. Urrea, instructor from English and Literature Department who served as their coach, said, "All the while, *akala namin about climate crisis kasi kasabay n'ya halos yung COP 26 kaya yun ang binigay ko na topic for the mock final round. Kaya I was pleasantly surprised din na nakapasok yung tatlo kasi di namin masyado na-cover yung refugee crisis.*"

Despite limited time and heavy academic load, these Ruralites managed to train and comply with the requirements of the GLEC. Indeed, it was a great privilege to represent the Philippines and a worthwhile learning experience for the students.

■ **JF Pozon**

Mathematics Division, IMSP Conducts Fourth Quarter Webinar Series on Probability Models and Applications

The Mathematics Division of the IMSP conducted the last installment of this year's quarterly webinar series that showcases research works from the division. Held last December 13, researches on probability models and applications were discussed.

The first speaker, Asst. Prof. Angelo Marasigan talked about the gamma inverse paralogistic distribution model he proposed. He discussed the properties of the said distribution model and showed its application to a real data set.

Asst. Prof. Kemuel Quindala III then shared about his research with Asst.

INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES AND PHYSICS
College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños

2021 Mathematics Division Webinar Series:
Financial Mathematics and Actuarial Science, 13 DEC 2021 9am-11am

Speaker 1: Asst. Prof. Angelo E. Marasigan
A New Extension of the Inverse Paralogistic Distribution using Gamma Generator with Some Applications

Speaker 2: Asst. Prof. Kemuel M. Quindala III
Modeling the Historical Temperature in the Province of Laguna Using Ornstein-Uhlenbeck Process

Speaker 3: Dr. Rolando D. Navarro
Implied Volatility Surface - Models and Its Challenges

<http://bit.ly/UPLBWebFMAS>

This webinar will be streamed from UPLB. For updated information, please visit the following sites:
/mathdivision.imsp.uplb
Mathematics Division UP Los Baños
imsp.cas.uplb.edu.ph

Prof. Jonathan Mamplata and Asst. Prof. Diane Carmeliza Cuaresma which is about modelling historical temperature using the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process. He discussed the

importance of determining the behavior of temperature in aiding policymakers to create measures in adapting to climate change. They specifically used the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process

to model daily maximum and minimum temperatures.

The last speaker, Dr. Rolando Navarro Jr., discussed different approaches to characterize volatility surfaces of stocks. He started with the classical Black-Scholes-Merton model and explained the need to try different models. He also shared his insights and experiences as a quant.

The series of webinars is spearheaded by Dr. Eduardo Jatulan, chair of the Research Committee of the Division.

■ **AMB Kabiri**

5th Free Consulting Services conducted by the Institute of Statistics

In celebration of the 32nd National Statistics Month, the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) warmly joined the Philippine Statistical System through its public service event, the 5th Free Consulting Services (FCS). The two-day FCS was held last 18th and 25th of October 2021. The Statistical

Consulting Group of INSTAT together with the INSTAT Extension and Public Service Committee jointly organized this activity.

INSTAT accommodated faculty members, graduate, and undergraduate students from various higher education institutions across the country. Participating faculty members hailed from Mindoro State University, Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College, Northwest Sama State University, Polytechnic University of

the Philippines, University of the Philippines Manila. Moreover, graduate and undergraduate students came from Cavite State University, Central Luzon State University, Holy Angel University, Visayas State University, and University of the Philippines Los Baños. Some of the research areas that the participants are working on include nursing, education, rural development, chemistry, and development communication.

FCS has been employing a needs-based approach in targeting its beneficiaries. The activity was publicized through social media and the official INSTAT website. All interested participants were asked to fill-out a form and were requested to give an informed consent. After data collection, the organizers matched the specialization of INSTAT faculty members and the research area of the participants. The activity evaluation showed high satisfaction among the participants.

■ **MDP Talento & RT Marcelino**

Since its first launch last 2019, FCS has been a great venue for INSTAT to network among HEIs. FCS aims to promote the sound use of statistical theory in research in various disciplines. It also aims to promote the strength

of INSTAT in statistical consulting service in the areas of experimental designs, statistical modeling, statistical computing, and survey sampling. Since then, INSTAT decided to do this public service activity biannually, every INSTAT Anniversary and National Statistics Month.

UPLB MASS 33rd MATHEMATCH

The slate of judges for the MATHEMATCH included Dr. Neil Jerome A. Egarguin, Assistant Professor 7 in Mathematics; Dr. Eduardo O. Jatulan, Assistant Professor in the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics; and Professor Lynie Dimasuay, Associate Professor in Mathematics.

With the event's success, UPLB MASS aims to

continue widening the reach of MATHEMATCH to

more high school students nationwide, establishing it as a yearly tradition, going forward.

DIFFICULT 2 1:30

Given the points $(1,0)$, $(8,6)$, $(8,2)$, $(10,0)$, $(3,4)$, and $(2,6)$, what is the difference between the area of the largest and smallest polygon created by connecting all the given points without the sides crossing each other?

■ **GIB Olesco of Kingfisher School of Business and Finance & AS Alim of Legazpi National High School**

Ms. Josephine... from Page 12

Her effective data organization and attendance to numerous seminars and training guaranteed completeness and accuracy of data in the UPLoad program and SAIS. She would always make sure that

students' data/records are readily available and that she is within reach for inquiries and requests.

Tita Jo's numerous tasks would require three personnel, however, she was

able to deliver on a high level of performance in the office with minimum supervision. Despite the bulk of work, you would never hear Tita Jo complain. She is known for her calm demeanor and positive attitude towards

work. She is pleasant to be with and is deeply loved by many. She started as a clerk typist at the CAS-OCS in 1985 and rose through the ranks.

■ **GH Lozano**

Ms. Rhona... from Page 16

Tita Rhona's commitment to excellence and selfless concern for others goes beyond the four walls of the office. She attends seminars/ training and is also actively involved in community activities and volunteering. Her commitment to

improvement, selfless concern for the welfare of other people, and passion to bring positive change make her most eligible for the award.

■ **GH Lozano**

Assoc Prof. Emmanuel... from Page 12

to detect gases under DOST-funded projects. He also mentored many Applied Physics students.

He is known for being strict with students with much reflection from the students that it is essential training for the future. We

know that there will be more meaningful years for Sir Emman because he maintains being cheerful, well-rounded, and healthy. Padayon Sir Emman!

■ **AKG Tapia**

cas accents

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**UP Scientific Productivity System (SPS) 2020-2022 and
UP Artist Productivity System (APS) 2019-2021 Awardees**

