

CAS accents

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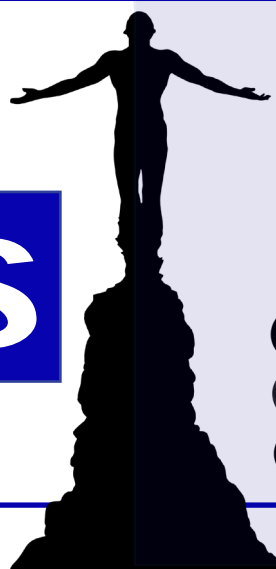
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- » UPLB Comm 10 GE Conversation tackles mis- and disinformation
- » IBS awards personnel, highlights leadership at 39th anniversary
- » UPLB-Institute of Chemistry's Month-long 39th Anniversary Celebration as NCOE
- » IMSP holds research webinar with FilSciHub
- » IMSP launches its 1st Virtual Job Fair
- » Third enLITen Webinar spotlights play-based, experiential, and gamified learning

#CASAYSAYAN: CAS SA IKA-50 TAON, PINASINAYAAN

"Patuloy ang pagpapatibay ng Koneksyon at Solidaridad ng Kolehiyo tungo sa pagsasabuhay ng dangal at husay."

at telematic performance para kay Dr. Edelwina Cu Legaspi, ang unang dekana ng kolehiyo.

Pagpapanimula ito sa walong buwang pagdiriwang ng kolehiyo tungo sa araw ng anibersaryo nito sa

Disyembre 21. Magugunitang taong 1972 ipinatupad ng Lupon ng mga Rehente o Board of Regents (BOR) ang pagkakatatag ng kolehiyo sa bisa ng Presidential Decree # 58.

Nabanggit ito bilang sentral na mensahe ng "CASaysayan: Balik-Tanaw sa Nakaraan ng CAS," ang tema para sa ika-50 taong anibersaryo ng Kolehiyo ng Agham at Sining o College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) sa pagpapanimula ng pagdiriwang nito noong Abril 18.

Idinaos sa araw na iyon ang unang serye ng programa sa Facebook page ng UPLB CAS @50 sa serye ng tatlong tampok na programa: panayam-dokumentaryo sa kasaysayan ng CAS, mensahe ni Tsanselor Dr. Jose V. Camacho, Jr., at isang video tribute



Naunang ipinalabas sa araw ng pagpapasinaya ang "CASaysayan: Panimula at Pag-unlad ng Kolehiyo ng Agham at Sining," isang panayam-dokumentaryo kung saan nagsalaysay sa kasaysayan ng kolehiyo sina Propesor Emeritus Enrique P. Pacardo at mga Pambansang Alagad ng Agham na sina Dr. Dolores A. Ramirez at Dr. Emil Q. Javier.

"The establishment of CAS was a strategic move in the development of UPLB."

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UPLB Taxonomy Experts Commemorate Dr. Jose Rizal as Naturalist

The Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Agriculture and Aquatic Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD) conducted a virtual scientific conference featuring the life and works of our National Hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, as a naturalist on January 31, 2022 to commemorate his 125th death anniversary.

DOST Secretary Fortunato T. Dela Peña, DOST Undersecretary for Research and Development (R&D) Rowena Cristina L. Guevara,

and UPLB Museum of Natural History (MNH) Director Marian P. De Leon underlined their support for the virtual event by giving inspiring messages. DOST-PCAARRD Executive Director Reynaldo V. Eborá also showed his support in the virtual event.

There were two topics presented by renowned experts of their fields: “Foundations of Jose Rizal as a Naturalist” and “Dapitan Exile: Rizal a Naturalist in Practice Part I (vertebrates)” by Dr. Juan Carlos T. Gonzalez, curator of birds at UPLB-MNH and “Dapitan

natural environment, from his early childhood years spent in Calamba, Laguna mesmerized by the beauty of Laguna de Bay and Mount Makiling, to his days

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Exile: Rizal a Naturalist in Practice Part II (invertebrates)” and “Inspired by Rizal: Species Named in His Honor” by Dr. Ireneo L. Lit, Jr., curator of mealybugs and scale insects also at UPLB-MNH.

Both resource speakers talked about how Dr. Rizal was exposed to and curious about his local

ICS, ITC holds Cybersecurity Webinar Series

The Institute of Computer Science (ICS), together with the Information Technology Center (ITC) of UPLB, conducted a webinar series that aimed to tackle cybersecurity among different types of users.

The opening webinar was held on January 31, 2022. Prof. Jaderick Pabico, the Director of ICS, gave the opening remarks. It was then followed by a message by Chancellor

Jose V. Camacho, Jr. Asst. Prof. Danilo J. Mercado, an ICS faculty member and the current Director of ITC, was the resource speaker

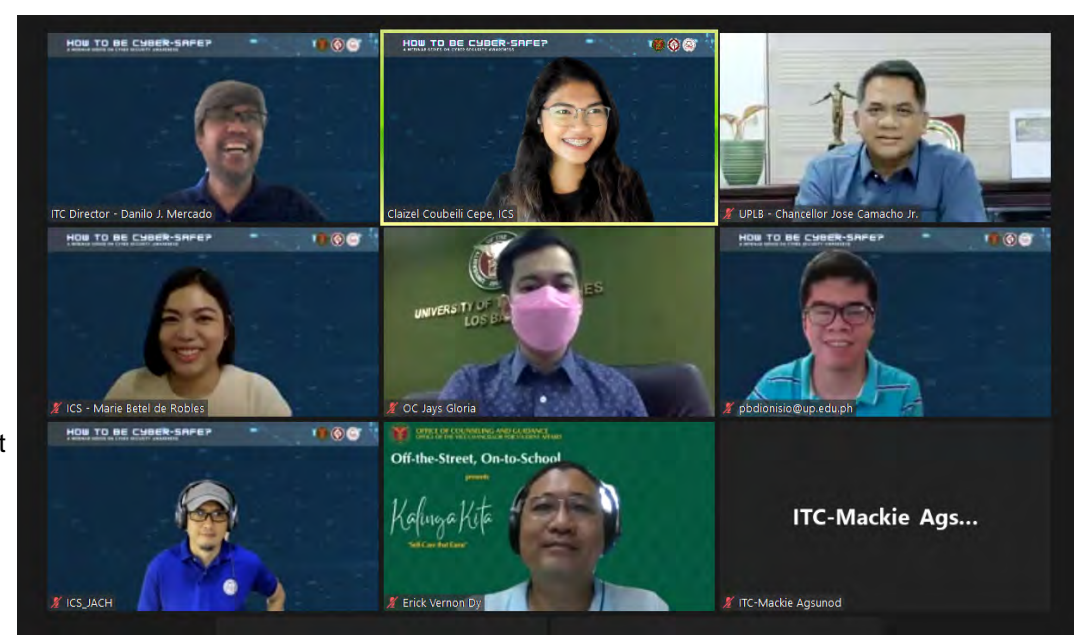
of the first installment. He talked about the general aspects of cybersecurity and some ways that users can do to protect their online

The second webinar was held last March 14, 2022.

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identities. After his discussion, a question and answer session was held. Asst. Prof. Mercado was joined by several panelists, namely: Dr. Erick Vernon Dy, Asst. Prof. Marie Betel de Robles, and Asst. Prof. Joseph Anthony Hermocilla.

The second webinar was held last March 14, 2022.



2021 Chemistry Licensure Examination (CLE) Passers celebrate milestone with IC and UPLB Chemistry Alumni Association, Inc.

The UPLB Chemistry Alumni Association, Inc. (UPLB CHEM AA, Inc.) and the UPLB Institute of Chemistry (IC) joined hands in giving a testimonial program for the passers and topnotchers of the 2021 Chemistry Licensure Examination (CLE) last February 1, 2022 via Zoom.

The participants, including several members of the UPLB CHEM AA, Inc., some students, and faculty of the Institute of Chemistry, were welcomed by Mr. Miko Lorenzo J. Belgado, President of the UPLB CHEM AA, Inc. An inspirational talk was then given by Dr. Laureano L. Bondoc, Jr., one of the Board of Directors of UPLB CHEM AA, Inc. Dr. Bondoc reminded the newly-licensed chemists that obtaining a license was just

to catch up with baseline chemistry knowledge. The real challenge is how they will solve relevant problems among the many problems in our world today, and how

they will provide solutions of value, with excitement and passion. CAS Dean, Dr. Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese, also congratulated the board passers and topnotchers through a

recorded message. She affirmed the competence of our graduates, the strength of IC's BS Chemistry and BS Agricultural Chemistry degree programs, and its

preeminence as a National Center of Excellence in the Basic Sciences. She added that the passers ought to recognize the support of family and the Filipino people and make it their mandate

to nurture a science-based Philippine society, with honor and excellence. Miss Cherrylene M. Bolante, 3rd Placer of the 2021 Chemist Licensure Examination spoke on behalf of the board passers. Also, each one of them shared helpful tips with those who plan to take the licensure exam in the future and expressed gratitude to the members of the IC faculty. The program ended with the closing remarks from the IC Director, Dr. Marivic S. Lacsamana, who congratulated the passers and topnotchers for accomplishing this feat despite the challenges posed by the pandemic and thanked them for the pride that they gave IC.

■ **BFY Rezaga**

Six students represent UPRHS in 16th Kapnayan

Six students from the University of the Philippines Rural High School (UPRHS) competed in Kapnayan 2022 last February 7–12, 2022.

The participants included Trisha Marielle Biscocho, Carl Audric Guia, Gabrielle Faith Lapuz, Anthony Franklin Paunlagui, Ronald Alain Tavita, and Andrei Nikolai Tiongson.

According to Dr. Aphrodite Macale, one of the coaches, “we believe that this event is a good venue for our students to interact and connect with fellow students

inside and outside of UPRHS. For quite a time, we have limited participation in this kind of event.”

“Though there are challenges like internet connection and other technical issues, our students did enjoy the activities. We are proud of our team's participation and performance in Kapnayan!” she added.

With the aid of their coach Prof. Ruby Lynn Ventura, Guia, Lapuz, and Biscocho represented the school in the Top of the Flask: A Kapnayan

Ideathon, a competition wherein students are challenged to generate ideas regarding a given theme or problem. Participants were given one and a half hours to complete a pitch deck and a maximum of five minutes to present their pitches to a panel of judges.

Tavita competed in the Science Writing and Infographic Making contests of the event, with Asst. Prof. Ronadane Liwanag as his coach. The Science Writing contest was a timed competition wherein participants wrote feature

articles based on a given fact sheet within two hours. Outputs for the Infographic Making contest, on the other hand, must debunk common misconceptions in chemistry by consolidating media arts and chemical literacy.

With their coach Dr. Macale, Tiongson and Paunlagui joined The Last Element Standing: A Virtual Escape Room, an interactive competition wherein participants must use their wits to look for clues and solve problems involving

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Dr. Cuevas and Dr. Banaay recognized in 2021 Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award

Dr. Virginia C. Cuevas and Dr. Charina Gracia B. Banaay of the Environmental Biology Division, Institute of Biologicals Sciences (EBD, IBS) received the Encouragement Award from the 2021 Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award last January 2022 for their research work on “Trichoderma Technology (TT) for Sustainable Agriculture” and its implementation in the society with the aim of contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Their research collaborator includes Dr. Alfredo M. Sinohin of UPLB Institute of Weed Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology. The Hitachi Global Foundation

Asia Innovation Award was launched in 2020 to promote science, technology, and innovation that contribute to solving issues and realizing a sustainable society in the ASEAN region.

The TT aims to address the problem in crop failure for the Filipino farmers due to climate change manifested by El Niño and La Niña events and strong typhoons in the Philippines. The technology can improve

crop yield with minimal cost to the farmers and without negative impacts to the environment. TT serves as biofertilizer, biofungicide, growth promoter of crops, and bioremediating agent of the soil environment by converting crop residues into compost, which enriches the soil biota and improves soil physical and chemical properties. Keeping the soil healthy will result to healthy crops that can feed more people, increased farmers' income, and improved quality of life.

“Trichoderma technology supports SDG#2: Zero Hunger – End hunger,

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Dr. Virginia C. Cuevas



Dr. Charina Gracia B. Banaay

UPLB students win in PR Congress contest

Three Bachelor of Arts in Communication Arts students emerged first runner-up in the Students' Grand Prix Hack Sprint at the Students' PR Congress. They are Jamie Nicole Millan, Lydel Louiegee Nocom, and Maria Andrea Melosantos.

The contest winners went through a three-phase selection process.

Phase 1 was the nationwide selection, where the teams composed of three students each were selected and required to submit a position paper about “The Great Resignation,” a topic provided by Jobstreet Philippines, the platinum sponsor for the students' grand prix.

The top 20 finalists moved on to Phase 2, the hack



sprint phase, where they were given 24 hours and a maximum of 10 slides to develop and present their public relations plans.

Nocom and Melosantos had to proceed without Millan in Phase 2 because of a medical emergency.

The top five teams proceeded to Phase 3 or the pitch proper, which was the final round of the competition.

The teams presented their plans to a selected jury from the Students' PR Congress platinum sponsor, members of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), and professionals from PR-related industries.

Faculty members from the Department of Humanities at the College of Arts and Sciences served as the team's coaches, with Anna Balmonte-Dolores as head and Elizabeth Segura-

Krueger, Cheeno Marlo Sayuno, and Michelle Sto. Tomas as members.

The Students' Grand Prix Hack Sprint was organized by the PRSP, the country's premier organization for public relations professionals. Their members are composed of practitioners who represent business and industry, government, non-profit organizations, hospitals, schools, hotels and professional services, among others.

PRSP is a non-stock, non-profit organization established on Feb. 19, 1957 by leading PR practitioners in the country.

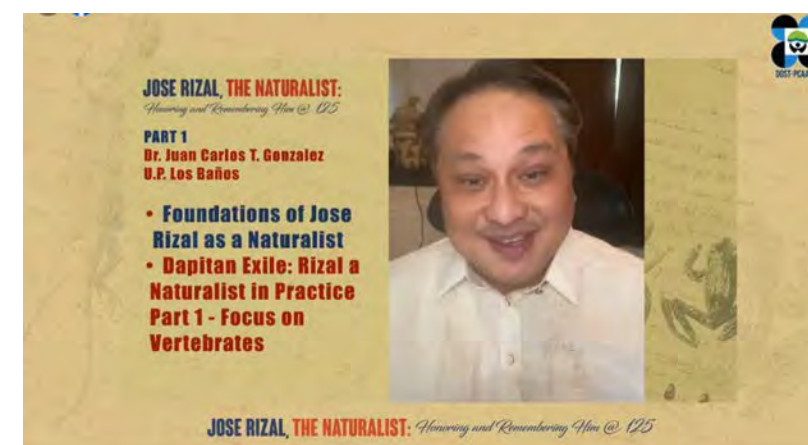
■ **JPA Aquino**

UPLB Taxonomy Experts... from Page 2

spent in Dapitan, Zamboanga as a political exile.

Several unique and fascinating species have been named after our National Hero. *Rachophorous rizali* is an orange-brown amphibian with blue, white, and yellow spots. *Draco rizali* is a species of flying dragon with extended wing-like ribs making them able to glide up to nine meters. Entomologists have also honored Dr. Rizal by naming some insects him, namely: *Apogonia rizali*, a rare small beetle, and *Spathomeles rizali*, another beetle species known as fungus beetle. Dr. Lit also discussed *Cardiodactylus rizali*, a cricket named in honor of Dr. Rizal. Another is the *Pachyrrhynchus rizali*, a type of weevil.

“Just like Jose Rizal, you can be a naturalist. Maganda kung mag-



Dr. Juan Carlos T. Gonzalez and Dr. Ireneo L. Lit, Jr. discuss their respective topics during the virtual scientific conference

aaral kayo ng biology, zoology, entomology and be a taxonomist kasi kailangang-kailangan natin 'yan,” Dr. Gonzalez urged the young members of the audience. While Dr. Lit emphasized that we should learn from our heroes who fought hard to make our society better for all especially the poorest and most vulnerable.

Dr. Jose Rizal have indeed made significant contributions in the field of biodiversity, not only by discovering and studying unique organisms in his time, but also by serving as an inspiration for our youth who can take on the challenge of exploring and showcasing to the world our remaining undescribed living treasures and preserving them to be appreciated by our future generations.

■ **JMC Castro**

17 Ruralites participate in the 24th PMO

Seventeen students from the University of the Philippines Rural High School (UPRHS) participated in the Qualifying Stage of the 24th Philippine Mathematical Olympiad (PMO) this February 19, 2022.

With their coaches Mr. Carbine Colt Santos and Assistant Prof. Jerryco Jaurigue, the participants were:

- Luis Armando Caguimbal, Jermee Jae Salazar, Pol Marxquzj Laset, Tonee Allison Isles, Carl Anzell Bautista, and Rhai Herricx San Pedro from Grade 7;
- Eliana Sophia Parcia and Jesfinn Francesca Ramos from Grade 8;
- Justine Reimon

- Villanueva from Grade 9;
- Mary Jasmine Villa and Jan Gabrielle Yap from Grade 10;
- Carl Audric Guia, Philip Andrew Atienza, Jr., and Cholo Morfe from Grade 11; and
- Dylan Ross Espino, Arabella Grace Perez, and Enrique Magnaye from Grade 12.

There were two stages in the competition, both held online. These were the Qualifying Stage, which was held on February 19, and the National Stage, which was held from March 18 to 19.

While the participants were not able to advance to the next stage, Mr. Santos testified to the students' resolve to represent the school in the competition

“We saw the passion of these students in trying to learn concepts beyond their years so that they can represent UPRHS and themselves well in the competition,” he said. “The student participants are also determined to continue on trying PMO with the hopes that in the succeeding editions, they will see their names as one of the finalists of the said competition.”

According to Mr. Santos, the school also aims to strengthen preparation for the competition in the next academic year.

“Being dubbed as the most difficult and most challenging math competition in the country, we aim to have a representative from UPRHS on the national and

international stage... We intend to have longer and more intensive training that will begin even before the next PMO is announced.”

As a cradle for the future representatives of the country in the International Mathematical Olympiad, PMO is the most prominent mathematical competition in the Philippines. It is a project founded by the Mathematical Society of the Philippines and the Department of Science and Technology – Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI), in partnership with Mathizen, Itemhound, and Sharp Calculators.

■ **AKM Santos**

Edited by PE Gutierrez and RA Tavita

UPLB DSS holds webinar on Philippine post-EDSA politics and 2022 polls

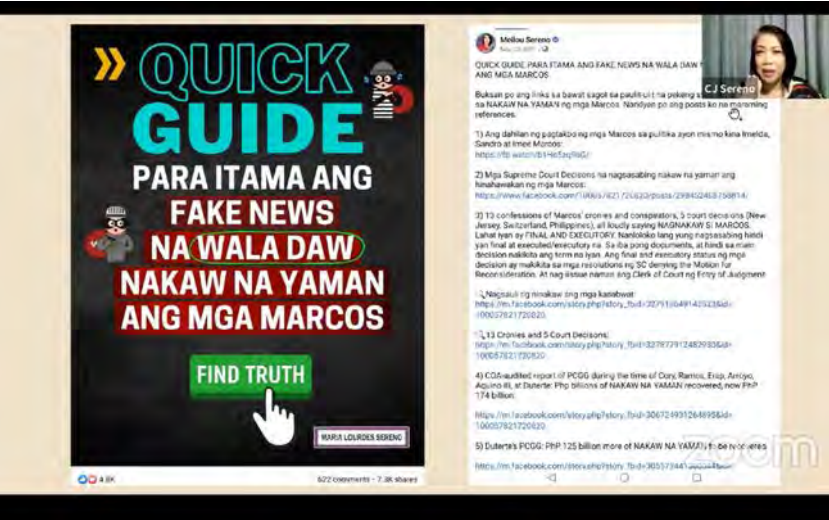
Three esteemed figures in the academe, the judiciary, and media graced the webinar titled “EDSA 1 and the 2022 Elections: Reflections on the post-EDSA Philippine Politics and Electoral Prospects.” This was organized by the UPLB Department of Social Sciences, in conjunction with UPLB sa Halalan 2022, and streamed last February 24, 2022.

Speaking during the webinar were Dr. Carmel V. Abao, Hon. Maria Lourdes P.A. Sereno, and Mr. Manuel Luis Quezon III.

Dr. Abao, an assistant professor in political science from the Ateneo de Manila University, reflected on the shifts in public attitudes towards the Marcoses

the options we have in the 2022 national and local elections that could affect the future kind of Philippine democracy.

Meanwhile, Hon. Sereno shared some personal memories of her youthful years during the Martial Law years and EDSA. She reminded the audience that various rights were stifled when Proclamation 1081 was in effect. Hon. Sereno also added that 11 of the 20 years during which Ferdinand Marcos ruled as president were during the martial law period. At the same time, citing her



Hon. Maria Lourdes Sereno shares suggestions in combatting “fake news” on the “unexplained wealth” of the Marcoses during the “EDSA 1 and the 2022 Elections” webinar



Screenshot of Dr. Carmel Abao's lecture last February 24, 2022

and EDSA People Power Revolution in February 1986. She reiterated that the four days at EDSA was about the “reopening of democratic space” (after years of being constricted due to Martial Law), providing justice for the victims of the abuses during the period, and the encouragement of truth-telling. However, she recognized that some promises of EDSA were not fully achieved. Furthermore, changes in and limitations to our educational system have also hampered truth-telling about the Martial Law period. Dr. Abao then weighed in on

experience of “having been threatened with impeachment” as chief justice, Hon. Sereno decried that most Filipinos still do not understand the concept of checks-and-balances in our government. She also underscored that Filipinos can only move forward if they can better understand their identity. Strongly condemning historical distortions about EDSA, Hon. Sereno also suggested some references as quick guides in more factually understanding the Martial Law period.

Finally, presidential historian Manuel Luis “Manolo” Quezon

III traced the “fracture and breaking-apart” of the Fifth Republic, the current republic we have. At the same time, he also revealed the “three old” and “three new” characteristics of Philippine democracy since it became an electoral republic in 1935: it is bandwagon in nature, it is plebiscitary, and it is “party-less.” As for the “new characteristics,” Mr. Quezon said Philippine democracy in more recent years is a country ruled by “electoral minorities;” it has an “unchangeable constitution” (meaning, difficult to amend) and that political families that replaced parties as major political bodies have faced “intolerable price for

reform.” Finally, the country had seen “six major fractures” in the last three decades that undermined the essence of the Fifth Republic, marginalized the left, and reduced room for discourses among Filipinos of various classes. With the fractures happening through three decades, the masses were alienated from the promise of the republic, while the Roman Catholic Church also reduced its previously active role in Philippine politics. Mr. Quezon also reminded the audience that people nowadays tend less to trust the “experts” and would rather rely on opinion from like-minded individuals.

■ **RJA Asuncion**



Historian Manolo Quezon dissected the shift from “negotiated revolution” in 1986 to “negotiated return (of the strongman)” in 2016

Six students represent.. from Page 3

chemistry to escape a virtual room. Participants with the fastest records were proclaimed the winners of the contest.

In the awarding ceremony on February 12, Guia, Lapuz, and Biscocho won first place in the Top of the Flask: A Kapnayan Ideathon competition. Tavita also bagged the first spot in the Infographic Making contest, as Paunlagui and Tiongson were one of the seven out of 35 pairs to complete The Last Element Standing: A Virtual Escape Room.

Organized by the UP Los



Top (L-R): Andrei Tiongson, Alain Tavita, Anthony Franklin Paunlagui
Bottom (L-R): Trisha Biscocho, Carl Audric Guia, Faith Lapuz

Baños Chemical Society, Kapnayan is a week-long

event celebrated once every three years to foster interest

in chemistry among the participants. Kapnayan 2022 serves as the 16th installment since the event's founding in 1976.

With the theme “Immunizing Minds through Chemical Literacy Against the Infodemic,” this year's Kapnayan, entitled “The Prescribed Dose,” aims to educate participants on the importance of chemical literacy in modern society, where misinformation has become prevalent.

■ **JR Villanueva**

LITE's English Plus Course Goes Online

On the 28th of February 2022, the UPLB-CAS Language Instruction Towards Excellence (LITE) Program launched the twelfth and thirteenth cycles of its English Plus Course for twenty-two eager learners from Kobe University, Japan. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Batch 12 and Batch 13 Kobe University students took the course remotely from February 28 to March 11, 2022.

Conducted via Zoom, the opening program began with a warm welcome from CAS Dean and LITE Program Manager, Dr. Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese. “I trust that the next three weeks will have a significant impact in enhancing your proficiency with the English language,” said Dean Sese

as an expression of her hope for the success of the English Plus Course.

She then shared that the secret in enhancing language capabilities is

Following the opening remarks by Dean Sese was a message from Dr. Kengo Kanamaru from Kobe University.

“...I am sure we can do it.

training course's setup.

Following an exchange of introductions by all participants (students, tutors, and facilitators), the program closed with a message from

Dr. Leonora M. Fajutagana, Chair of the Department of Humanities (DHUM), which is the home unit of the LITE tutors and administrative staff.

What is the English Plus Course?

The English Plus Course is a three to four-week course that covers two subcourses: “Pronunciation Improvement and Oral Presentation

Skills” and “Conversational Fluency and Vocabulary Enrichment.” The course aims to enhance the skills of

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Students of Kobe Batch 12 in Dr. Palma-de Jesus' Conversational Fluency and Vocabulary Enrichment class

through practice and more practice. This advice was supported by her mastery of both English and Nihongo as she delivered her speech using both languages.

Let's enjoy and make a fruitful two weeks together, by all means,” Dr. Kengo stated at the end of his message regarding the potential challenges of the

international students in the use of the English language. The two batches of students were mentored by Dr. Ana Katrina Palma-de Jesus and Asst. Prof. Katrina Anne Blanco for Kobe Batch 12; and, Asst. Prof. Precious Sarah Añoso and Asst. Prof. Elizabeth Krueger for Kobe Batch 13 for "Conversational Fluency and Vocabulary Enrichment" and "Pronunciation Improvement and Oral Presentation Skills," respectively. The classroom management of the language tutors created an interactive and lively learning atmosphere, despite the safety protocols that were in effect because of the ongoing pandemic.

Aside from English proficiency lessons offered in the English Plus Course,

it was also an avenue for cultural exchange between Filipino and Japanese cultures through the one-hour daily Guided Interaction with LITE Program's student facilitators - Joyce Hazel Cabanero, Nathan Felix, Maureen Mae Aquino, and Eduard John Azares. The topics in these sessions differ in range - from Filipino songs and Harana to Filipino street food such as kwek-kwek and fishballs.

New Heights and Opportunities

All stories have a beginning, a middle, and an end. And unfortunately, like the

proverb says, "All good things must come to an end."

On the morning of the 15th of March 2022, The LITE Program's English Plus Course held its closing ceremony via Zoom.

Similar to the launch, Dean Sese officially started the closing ceremony with her opening remarks filled with gratitude, praise, and hope.

with an invitation, an encouragement, to visit the Philippines and personally experience the Filipino culture.

"Mabuhay ang Pilipinas! Mabuhay ang Nihon, Nipon banzai."

What followed was a series of videos made by the students of Kobe Batch 12 & 13 - a culmination of

"I know all of you have the potential to be a 'Rising Sun'...", he added near the end of his message.

The valedictorians, Miyahara Moeri (Batch 12) and Nakamura Saki (Batch 13), of the English Plus Course, recited their speeches, filled with gratitude for and details of their experiences and growth after finishing the course.

To formally end the closing ceremony, LITE Coordinator Asst. Prof. Kristine K. Adalla delivered her closing remarks.

"Lastly, I feel accomplished because we were able to overcome the obstacles of remote-teaching for our dear students and

everything they have learned in the program.

A message from the staff of Kobe University, delivered by Dr. Kengo Kanamaru, followed shortly after.

"Please remember that English is very important to communicate with each other, but it is a tool... The most important thing is what you are...", expressed Dr. Kengo Kanamaru to the students, a reminder of things (culture, knowledge, experience, specializations, insights, and principles) that are of equal importance alongside learning the English language.

that all our efforts paid off," she expressed.

"Thank you for trusting the LITE Program and for making this project possible," she further added. "Your commitment to learn and improve is what made us achieve our goals," remarked Asst. Prof. Adalla, as she congratulated the students for a job well done. She ended her speech with an expression of hope—for the success and further growth of the Kobe University students Batch 12 and 13.

■ **EJ Azares**



Students of Kobe Batch 13 demonstrating their prowess in conversing using the English language in Asst. Prof. Añoso's Conversational Fluency and Vocabulary Enrichment class

INSTAT celebrates 24th Founding Anniversary

This year's INSTAT anniversary celebration highlighted the milestones of the past 24 years. With the theme "INSTAT@24: 2gether 4ward to Our Silver Year", a week-long online celebration was held from February 21 to March 4.



Alumni Kamustahan

The anniversary kicked-off with a video presentation showing how INSTAT gracefully responded to the challenges brought

Following the kick-off, a fun-filled weekend happened, as the institute's alumni reminisced their undergraduate years during

Consulting Activities (FCS), which was participated in by 21 faculty members and students from various HELs and senior high schools, and

indeed set the groundwork for the much-anticipated silver anniversary of INSTAT next year.



Free Statistical Consulting Services

by the pandemic. This was followed by the launching of the institute's official Instagram (uplb.instat) and Twitter Account (@uplb_instat).

the Alumni and Friends Kumustahan. The activity was attended by 40 INSTAT alumni. From February 28 to March 4, the institute held the Free Statistical

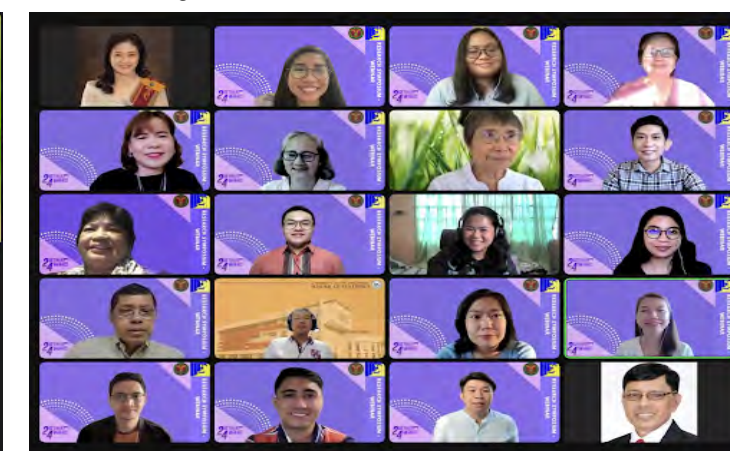
ICS, ITC holds... from Page 2

Mr. Jan Jacob Glenn Jansalin, the Security Compliance Officer of ITC, talked about the more technical aspects of having a secure work-from-home setup. The third and fourth sessions were held last March 28 and April 11, respectively. Both sessions were conducted by Asst. Prof. Marie Betel de Robles, assistant professor at ICS. For the third session, she

talked about Cybersecurity for UPLB Faculty. The fourth session was about Cybersecurity for UPLB Students. Like the first session, presentations were followed by a Q&A portion.

The webinar series was held via Zoom and streamed live on the ITC Facebook page.

■ **CC Cepe**



Research Symposium

Top BS Statistics Students Recognition, in which top BS Statistics students per batch were recognized thru publicity materials posted at INSTAT's social media accounts.

■ **ML Relente & RT Marcelino**

Dr. Cuevas and Dr. Banaay... from Page 4

achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture and SDG#3: Good Health and Well-being. The technology remediates heavy metal pollutants from the soil, reduces fertilizer and pesticide use and promotes soil health, thus ensuring healthy crops for human consumption. It also lowers cost of production

while maintaining good yield such that farmers achieve food security," Dr. Cuevas said.

■ **JG Campang**

The UPLB Chemical Society Elementa Project™ Webinar Series is Back!

The UPLB Chemical Society Elementa Project™ in cooperation with the UPLB Institute of Chemistry (IC) launched a webinar series held from January to March last year about the chemistry of COVID-19 and career pathways. This year, they conducted another series of informative webinars.

The 21st Century Chemistry Webinars (21CCW) 2022 Edition started on February 25, 2022 with a talk entitled "Applications of Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry in Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology Studies" by Dr. Diana S. Aga, a Henry M. Woodburn Professor of

Chemistry and the Director of RENEW Institute at the University of Buffalo, The State University of New York (USA). This was followed by another webinar "NMR Spectroscopy: Beyond Structure" courtesy of Dr. Andrew A. Tangonan, Director of the Ohio University NMR Facility and Instructional Faculty at the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Ohio University (USA). On April 29, 2022, the third in the webinar series, "The Promise of Gene Therapy", was delivered by Dr. Charlene Barroga, President and CEO of Tessellux Consulting for Regulatory and Nonclinical Drug Development in

California, USA. All three speakers are alumni of the UPLB Institute of Chemistry and of the UPLB Chemical Society.

In these webinars, analytical techniques and instruments in chemistry were discussed with the goal of showcasing their innovative applications for research in the Philippines. The webinar series were attended by chemists, educators, and students.

Aside from sponsoring webinars related to chemistry, the Elementa Project of the UPLB Chemical Society Alumni Association, Inc., has also

donated to the IC small laboratory equipment and molecular model kits as well as supported IC Chemistry students financially through thesis grants. The Elementa Project is also responsible for the installation of the lighted Periodic Table of the Elements located in the lobby of the Physical Sciences Building. Its mission is to support the development of globally-competitive innovative Chemistry graduates who will engage in relevant projects towards national economic growth.

■ **JZ Paddayuman**

Dr. Inocencio E. Buot, Jr. recognized as UPLB Outstanding Researcher in the Natural Sciences (Senior Category)



The 2022 Outstanding Researcher in the Natural Sciences (Senior Category) is no other than Dr. Inocencio E. Buot, Jr., a Professor of Botany at the Institute of Biological Sciences, College of Arts

and Sciences. He is recognized for his exemplary work in botany and environmental sciences. Dr. Buot has written more than 200 papers, 65 of which were just published in the last three years, from his nine projects on ecology, taxonomy and conservation biology, addressing SDGs on clean water, climate action and partnership, among others. He

is lead investigator in four of five ongoing projects, all anchored on the hypothesis that vegetation dispersion is influenced by a complex interaction of environmental variables. His current works

led to the development of localized biodiversity conservation strategy (Localized Conservation Priority Index or LCPI), recognized by the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD) as a strategy in prioritizing conservation of threatened species in forests over limestone in Samar.

Their studies in Samar, discovered new species, *Hoya kaiganganiana* (wax plant), *Decaisnina tomentosa* (mistletoe), *Corybas kaiganganianus* (helmet orchid) and *Begonia normaaguilariae* (begonia). Samar Island Natural Park, is now nominated for UNESCO's

World Natural Heritage. Publications of Dr. Buot and colleagues were among the documents supporting the nomination. Incidentally, the genus *Hoya* is faced with identification issues, and Dr. Buot led the examination of leaf architecture or venation patterns as taxonomic marker to address the problem with the hypothesis that leaf architecture pattern is genetically fixed. A number of confusing species were investigated in IBS Plant Systematics Laboratory resulting in 12 publications on leaf architecture for the last three years. Dr. Buot's projects and his leadership enhanced the laboratory's capacity for instruction, research, and extension. A database with

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Dr. Macandog is 2021 NRCP Achievement Awardee in Biological Sciences



Dr. Damasa "Demi" M. Macandog, Professor in the Environmental Biology Division (EBD)

of the Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS) was conferred as the 2021 National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) Achievement Awardee in Biological Sciences last March 15, 2022 for her significant contribution in the field of sustainable management of ecosystem. The conferment of the award was one of the highlights

of the NRCP Annual Scientific Conference and 89th General Membership

Assembly with the theme, Digital Transformation in Research: Powers and Perils.

Dr. Macandog has multidisciplinary research work that addresses global and timely environmental issues on sustainable management and ecosystem development. In her several years of service in IBS, she has already received various local and international awards for her dedication and excellence in teaching and active involvement in research and public service. She is a recipient of the 2021 UPLB Alumni Association Achievement Award, University of New England's 2015

Distinguished Alumni Award, NAST- Hugh Greenwood Environmental Science Award in 2014, NAST Outstanding Young Scientist Award in Botany in 1997, 2008 Philippine Soil Science Society and Technology, Inc. Achievement Award, UPLB 2007 Most Outstanding Researcher Award and numerous UP awards including UP Scientific Productivity System since 2009, a string of UP Professorial awards including the OneUP Professorial Chair in Plant Ecology, and several International Publication Awards.

■ **JG Campang**

Omilia Series focuses on breaking stereotypes and women empowerment

As part of its International Women's Month celebration, The Philosophical Society of UPLB organized an educational and philosophical discussion titled "Breaking Stereotypes and Women Empowerment" last 14 March via Zoom. This event is part of their ongoing Omilia series that stimulates philosophizing through discourse on various intellectual and social pursuits.

Its first speaker, Asst. Prof. Eula Junina Blanco, emphasized women stereotypes and how to challenge them. The discussion invited insights about gender inequalities, specifically on how women are subsumed to certain standards and limitations.

"Gender stereotypes perpetuate inequality and discrimination. [Patriarchy] is worsened by these stereotypes as they shape one's thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors," Blanco clarified.

She also mentioned the importance of viewing women's experiences as intersectional and how such are weaved with other sources of inequality such as racial, economic, cultural, and social biases. Blanco ended her talk by providing two crucial steps in overcoming gender stereotypes.

"The first is to criticize. This means questioning the status quo, challenging existing perceptions, and reevaluating our culture and

practices. The second is to correct. Develop our values through desocialization and resocialization," she asserted.

Meanwhile, Asst. Prof. Krissah Marga Taganas, the episode's second speaker, underscored the difference between misogyny and sexism as the forefronts of patriarchy. She then stressed the gravity of their effects on women and how current disciplinary systems contribute to the worsening of gender inequalities.

"Women are constantly subject to systems of control and dominance, perpetuated by patriarchy... [W]e also must subject our beliefs and feminism itself in scrutiny," Taganas posited.

The second part of her discussion shed light on what steps feminists could take to attain empowerment and women emancipation. She introduced concepts in feminist philosophy as a response to the masculinist and androcentric way of philosophizing.

Taganas added, "[F]or us to accommodate our concerns as feminists, we have to develop new methods of analysis and critique, define new lines of inquiry, and reinvigorate some of the central areas of philosophy."

Since Omilia centers on the productive exchange of ideas, the organizers then opened the virtual floor to questions and ideas

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IMSP Forum on Fostering Academe-Industry Partnership attracts over 150 participants

The second Student Alumni Faculty Forum (SAFF 2022) was conducted last March 21, 2022 as part of the 39th anniversary celebration of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP) as a National Center of Excellence (NCOE) in the Basic Sciences. The director of IMSP, Dr. Editha C. Jose, welcomed the participants, guests, and speakers, who were distinguished alumni of the Institute.

Asst. Prof. Azra May Kabiri and Asst. Prof. Marisol Martinez, the masters of ceremonies, introduced the first speaker, Mr. Allan Kim Gayahan. He gave a background on data science and shared how his applied mathematics degree provided him with the basic knowledge he needed to pursue the said field. The second speaker, Ms. Rose Emergo-Rippee, started her talk by discussing the nature of her work as an engineer in Kyocera and how her degree in applied physics and multiple training helped her grow professionally.



The afternoon session was formally opened by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Maribel Dionisio-Sese. She congratulated the Institute and hoped that the event would be an excellent venue for students, faculty, and alumni for partnership and collaboration.

Ms. Marie Paz Quilnat, the first speaker for the afternoon session, talked about anti-fraud and how her training in mathematical modeling, data analysis, statistics, programming and management became her backbone in building her skills to identify and

examine frauds. The last speaker, Engr. Mark Lester Altoveros from the James Dyson Foundation (Dyson), presented a brief history of Dyson as a manufacturer of vacuums and then explained how the company grew through innovation. He concluded his talk by introducing the James Dyson Award.

As a closing remark, the co-chair of the event, Asst. Prof. Wielson M. Factolerin, emphasized that a network is an important component of success, and one should continue building one's knowledge.

Four participants, among over 150, won GCash credits for the Slido quizzes after each presentation. As of press time, the live recordings on the IMSP Facebook page gained more than 1,600 aggregated views.

■ **A Marasigan & W Factolerin**

UPLB Comm 10 GE Conversation tackles mis- and disinformation

Timely and highly relevant - this was how participants described the recently concluded UPLB Comm 10 General Education (GE) Conversation, with the theme "Harnessing intercultural competence in the time of mis- and disinformation." Organized by the Comm 10 Committee, along with the Communication Division of the Department of Humanities, the GE

Conversation was held virtually on March 28, 2022, 9AM to 12NN, and attended by more than 300 students and teachers.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Ma. Stella C. Tirol, Dean of the College of Development Communication emphasized the role of the UP GE in instilling a sense of cultural and historical identity. Assoc. Prof. Jerry Yap, Member-at-large of Arts and

Humanities and COMM10 Course Proponent, said that this webinar is very timely because the challenge this election is to discern candidates worthy enough to be measured in two metrics: track record and integrity.

Significant communication discourses were shared with the public, starting off with the talk by Asst. Professor Charles Erize P. Ladia from the Department of

Speech Communication and Theater Art in UP Diliman. The driving questions in his talk were "How do we use rhetoric and intercultural communication in political engagements on social media?" and "How do we maximize our acts of citizenships in reclaiming online spaces for public discourse?" Asst. Prof. Ladia delved on the affordances

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IBS awards personnel, highlights leadership at 39th anniversary

The Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS) celebrated its 39th anniversary on March 23 and 28 with the theme, "Forging Leaders in Biological Education, Research, and Public Service."

The two-day celebration kicked off with a ceremony recognizing IBS' retiring and

Chancellor Jose V. Camacho, Jr. and College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Dean Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese, with the institute's executive committee members, were present at the on-site ceremony.

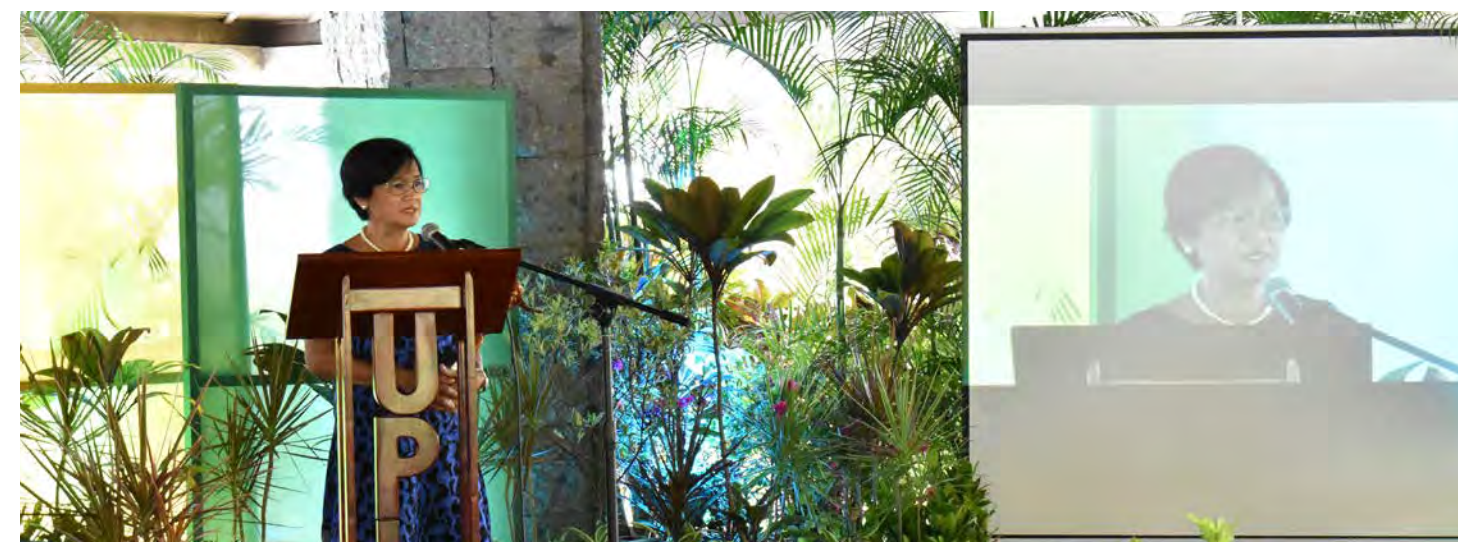
IBS Director Vachel Gay V. Paller welcomed the attendees and reiterated the

IBS has gained distinction as the National Center of Excellence for the Biological Sciences and said that she will work for it to be recognized as the National Institute of Biological Sciences.

She also introduced the BRIGHTEN program of CAS, which seeks to collaborate

of tens of millions of our youth with the knowledge, skills, and values that will help ensure a productive, dignified, and fulfilling life for them. Let us brighten their future," Dean Sese said, as she enjoined the IBS faculty members to take part in the said program.

In his keynote address,



Former IBS Director, Prof. Merlyn S. Mendiola, giving her retirement speech

outstanding personnel held at the UPLB Social Hall on March 23.

IBS also honored 22 faculty and staff who had served the University for at least 20 years and paid tribute to some colleagues posthumously.

significant role of IBS in the advancement of knowledge despite present challenges. "I would like to encourage everyone to continue to tread the path of success no matter how difficult it is," she said.

In her inspirational message, Dean Sese reiterated that

with the Department of Education in enhancing the capabilities of basic education teachers by tapping the institute's people and resources.

"BRIGHTEN is the monumental challenge that must inspire us. [It is] truly uplifting the basic education

Chancellor Jose V. Camacho, Jr. commended the IBS faculty who have served in key administrative positions at UPLB and made significant contributions to research and national development.

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Omilia Series focuses on... from Page 11

from participants. Asst. Profs. Blanco and Taganas responded to several inquiries about women stereotypes and gender equality.

"The first thing I always think about to enlighten people who are in denial is to hold dialogues with them. Also, at the macro level, we have to reform education

so that systems will also be changed," Blanco explained to a participant who raised a question on some people's ignorance about the plights of women.

Taganas also delved into sexual harassment as one participant alluded to its nature and effects on victims. She asserted the importance of speaking up and shifting

the accountability from the individuals to social institutions to genuinely accrue changes within the system.

This episode of the Omilia series convened hundreds of participants from Zoom and YouTube Live who hail from different parts of the Philippines. In Philosoc UPLB's commitment

to bringing philosophy closer to the masses, the organization seeks to hold other events which share the same goal of spreading enlightenment, excellence, and solidarity to people within and outside the University.

■ **AC Baluyot**

UPLB-Institute of Chemistry's Month-long 39th Anniversary Celebration as NCOE

The UPLB-Institute of Chemistry (IC) celebrated its 39th anniversary as a National Center of Excellence (NCOE) in the Basic Sciences with the theme, "Retrosynthesis: Recognizing Valuable Contributions and Reconnecting Reliable Interactions." It was a month-long celebration that consisted of three events: 1) the webinar entitled "Career Path Talk" by the research group of Dr. Mae

Joanne Aguila last March 31, 2022; 2) IC Alumni Talks and Honoring of IC Retirees followed by the Recognition of IC Outstanding Students last April 11, 2022; and 3) the webinar "HPLC: Principles & Application in Food Analysis" organized by the Analytical and Environmental Chemistry Division (AECD-IC) in cooperation with Shimadzu Philippines last April 18, 2022.

In these three separate

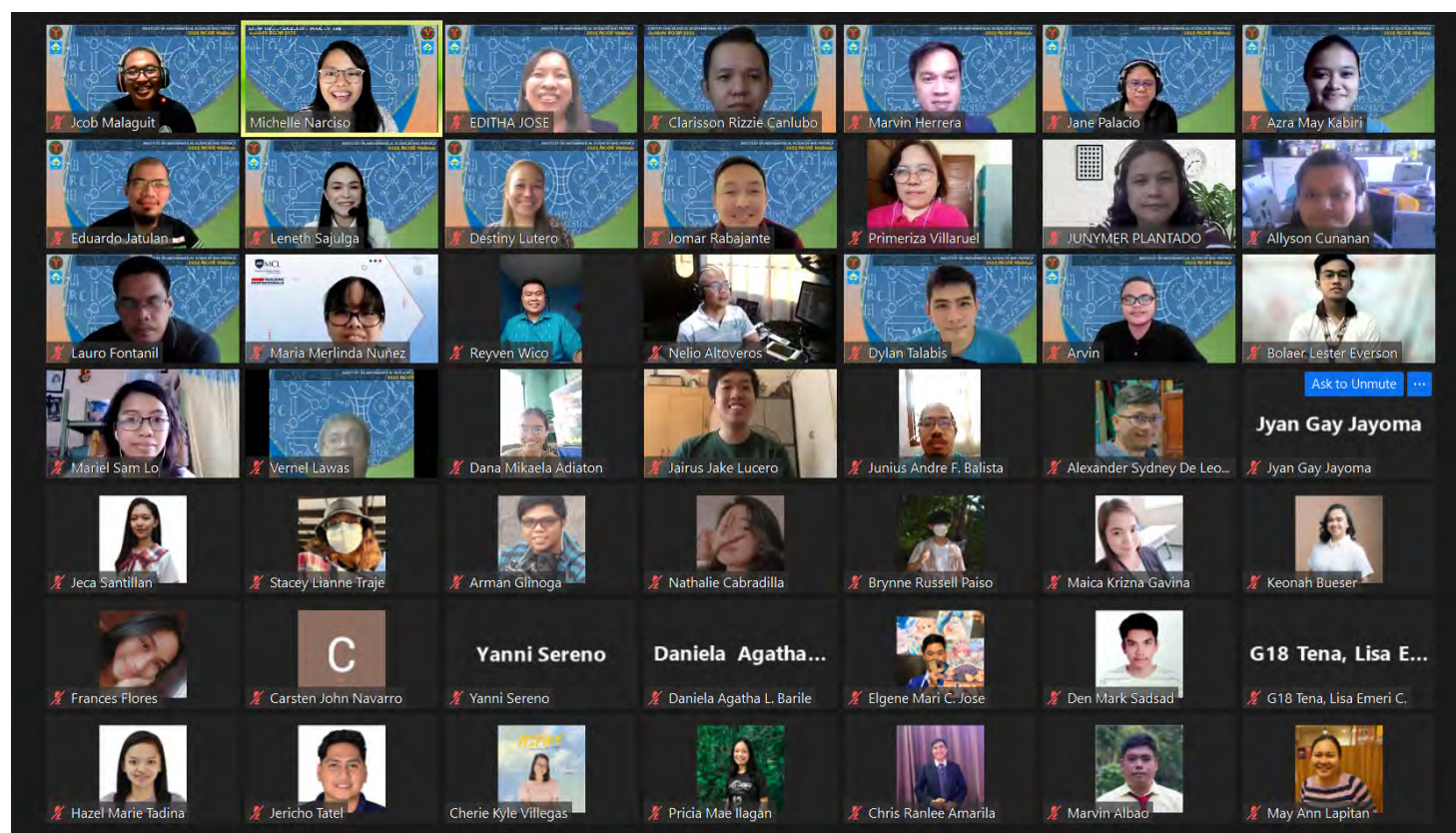
events held through Zoom, the Institute of Chemistry aimed to highlight its efforts and success in producing high-quality and globally competitive graduates in their chosen field of expertise. The NCOE celebration was meant to inspire and pique students' interest in pursuing the different and related fields of chemistry.

The IC invited chemists as speakers, who except for Dr. Kevin Anthony

Sison, are its alumni. Each one of them shared their professional, academic, and personal accomplishments in chemistry and related fields with emphasis on how IC contributed to their being where they are now. The speakers were: Ms. Michelle Bincolado, Director of Quantum Review Center; Ms. Pauline Angelic Roxas, Environmental Program Manager at Landbank of the

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IMSP holds research webinar with FilSciHub



NCOE Research Webinar Morning Session

The Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP), in partnership with the Filipino Science Hub (FilSciHub), held a research webinar last March 28, 2022, which was one of IMSP's three main virtual events as the institute celebrates

its 39th National Center of Excellence (NCOE) Founding Anniversary in March-April 2022. The year's theme was "Fostering Academic-Industry Partnership Towards Innovation and Competitiveness."

The research webinar's morning event was hosted by the Mathematics Division, while the webinar's afternoon session was organized by the Physics Division. The main participants of the webinar were high school students and educators from

different high schools all over the Philippines. The purpose of the whole-day research webinar was to promote and showcase the institute's degree programs, research clusters, and other

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IBS awards personnel... from Page 13

"Through the years, IBS has been known to produce the most number of outstanding teachers in biological sciences here in the university, and innovative scientists and researchers who have brought life to amazing science products," he said.

"As we brave the new normal and work together to find better, sound, and sustainable ways to future-proof our university and our country, I trust that everyone in IBS will heed the call to continue using their expertise to further create relevant and beneficial initiatives," Chancellor Camacho added.

He also acknowledged the important role IBS will play in pursuing the "Accelerating Growth through One Research and Extension Action" or AGORA agenda of UPLB. "The IBS is crucial in our future-proofing goal to sustain academic excellence and leadership," Chancellor Camacho concluded.

Among the retirees who were honored were former CAS College Secretary Ivan Marcelo A. Duka, former IBS Director Merlyn S. Mendiolo, Dr. Lourdes B. Cardenas, Dr. Roberto C. Reyes, Ms.

Aurelia P. Magpantay, and Ms. Martina A. Nepomuceno.

The Seven Lakes Assessment and Monitoring Project Team received the

alumni, namely: Dr. Arvin C. Marbibi, Dr. Elmer Jose A. Mecedo, Dr. Vera Marjorie E. Velasco, Dr. Leodevico Ilag, and Mr. Angel Barnes Jr.

They answered questions regarding their career choices, scientific innovation, service to the country, leadership, and mentoring. They also gave suggestions to improve the quality of the BS Biology curriculum.

Mr. Barnes, in his parting message, advised the students, "your grades do not define you. There are still a lot of opportunities in store for you. It's really about discovering your interests, working hard on them, and making sure that you do not give up easily when challenges come."

He also added, "It's really important for you to stay humble... It's really about being able to contribute to society the best way you can. I'm really grateful to IBS for allowing me to be able to do that."



Guests and participants of the 39th IBS Anniversary with Dr. Vachel Gay V. Paller, IBS Director (first row, 5th from the left), and Dr. Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese, CAS Dean (first row, 6th from the left)

The following individuals were given awards: Diego Leandro L. Contreras, outstanding student; John

Outstanding Research Team Award, while the Zoonotic Transmission of Parasites (ZOOTrip) Project Team



Guests and participants of the IBS Fireside Chat

Vincent R. Plato, outstanding researcher-junior category, Jickerson P. Lado, outstanding researcher-senior category; and Renard M. Jamora, outstanding extension and public service personnel.

received the Outstanding Extension and Public Service Team Award.

IBS then hosted its first fireside chat on March 28 via virtual conferencing with esteemed and distinguished

A recording of the alumni fireside chat is available at <https://fb.watch/c17BZsKZNC/>.

■ **MEB Aurellado**

UPLB Comm 10... from Page 12

and constraints of the five media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok) seen to have a big impact on our May 2022 national election.

For the second talk, the crucial role of intercultural competence as a rhetorical act was highlighted by Dr. Nimrod L. Delante, a Senior Lecturer from James Cook University Singapore. He asserted that intercultural competence is a rhetorical power that can help us engage people in meaningful discussions, so voters can make informed decisions in this election. Since fake news can also take a rhetorical form, Dr. Delante emphasized the need for education.

Dr. Jason Vincent A. Cabanes, Professor of Communication and Research Fellow from De La Salle University Manila, shared a very interesting talk on the topic “Racially tinged COVID-19 digital disinformation and inter-Asian racism in a postcolonial city.” He described the presence of an imaginative dimension in digital information characterized by the use of “deep stories” and emotional

backstory to support false claims; and the presence of peddlers of disinformation study and its use against

The question and answer part of the webinar became quite illuminating because it revealed the shared dilemma

exposes users to previously consumed topics, thereby lessening venues for dialogue and reflection; whether or not to regulate social media considering the proliferation of fake news; improving the Philippine educational system so students may be equipped to fight mis- and disinformation, among others.

Dr. Mabini DG. Dizon, a COMM 10 faculty member, gave an insightful synthesis of the points raised and discussed during the webinar. She went on to emphasize the need for teachers to encourage students to take critical action, not only for political engagement but for all aspects of their lives.

In her closing remarks, Dr. Leonora Fajutagana, Chair of the Department of Humanities, strongly asserted that showing up in conversations like this is a proof of our commitment to the values of GE and of democracy. She emphasized that this election is arguably the most critical in

our nation’s history, and doing nothing at this critical juncture is not an option.

■ **AK de Jesus**

Dr. Inocencio E. Buot.. from Page 10

links at Conserve Kaigangan (<https://kaigangan.uplb.edu.ph/index.php>), is open to collaborative data mining. Short courses are available to anyone and an FB page, Plant Biology Herbarium 101, has been created for public awareness on the relevance of herbarium (<https://www.facebook.com/Plant-Biology-Herbarium-101-553858038453323>)

Impact of the research outputs of Dr. Buot on science and local communities earned him recognitions including the 2021 CAS Outstanding Senior Researcher, 2021 Achievement Award by the Philippine Society for the Study of Nature,

2021 Council of Fellows, Philippine Public Safety College, NRCP Research and Development Leader, ONE UP Professorial Chair Lecture in Botany, and UP Scientist, among others. Earlier, he was honored by a plant name, Hoya buotii Kloppenburg.

Dr. Buot began his teaching,

research, and extension career at the Institute of Biological Sciences in 1998 after obtaining his PhD from the University of Chiba. He currently holds the highest faculty rank, Professor 12, and has been a UP Scientist since 2009.

■ **AL Rayos**

IMSP holds research webinar... from Page 14

fascinating research in the fields of Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, and Applied Physics. The whole-day virtual event was also streamed live on the IMSP’s official Facebook page. Dr. Editha C. Jose, the director of IMSP, formally started the program by giving her warmest welcome to all the invited high school students, educators, special guests, and all the other participants who gave their time to participate in the research webinar. She emphasized that through research, instruction, and extension, the whole institute pursued its goal in advancing science and technology in the country, and strengthening and broadening the national capability to train scientific leaders and conduct research in the basic sciences. Dr. Jose also added, “Our institution’s initiatives in research, instruction, and extension are all geared towards our vision as a world-class academic and research center in mathematics and physics.”

The successive presentations of the eight research clusters from the Mathematics Division were given by the Analysis cluster, the Financial Mathematics and Actuarial Science (FMAS) cluster,

the Mathematics Education (MathEd) cluster, Coding Theory and Cryptography (CTC), Graph Theory and Combinatorics (GTC), Numerics & Approximations (NuMath), BioMathematics

programming model. The last popular talk was given by Dr. Jomar Rabajante, the current dean of the UPLB Graduate School. He gave his presentation on biomathematics

Research Group (6) Condensed Matter & Statistical Physics, and (7) Analytics, Complex, and Environmental Systems introduced their research works thru popular video presentations. During the open forum, speakers and resource persons answered queries from the audience composed mainly of undergraduate and high school students. The speakers also offered advice to the students on their studies and encourage them to pursue Physics and Math-Science Education degrees in the future.

With over 100 participants and 300 livestream viewers in the research webinar, the morning session was formally concluded by Dr. Eduardo O. Jatulan, the head of the organizing committee of the Mathematics Division. He expressed his deepest appreciation to all the participants, as well as all the research clusters, speakers, and panelists for their valuable contributions to the webinar. “If you want to enhance your skills in qualitative reasoning, logical arguments, analytical and critical thinking, and problem-solving, our [degree] programs, if not good, are the best fit for you”, he added.

■ **LA Sajulga & FIN De Vera**



NCOE Research Webinar Afternoon Session

(BioMath), and the Quantitative Management and Decision Science (QMDS) cluster. There were also three popular talks given by the three different resource speakers from the division. The first speaker was Dr. Clarisson Canlubo who presented his popular talk entitled, “What are symmetries?” His talk highlighted the important applications of symmetry and its particular meaning in both science and mathematics. Asst. Prof. Destiny S. Lutero also gave her popular talk on maximizing travel goals through mathematics. Her presentation was a product of the published journal article that she co-authored, which was entitled, “Optimal route planning for day tours in Marinduque, Philippines.” The talk focused on how to maximize the number of visited tourist spots (in Marinduque) given time and site-preference constraints using an integer

modeling and discussed the various models and initiatives regarding the use of analysis and modeling in epidemiology. An open forum was conducted after each set of research cluster presentations and popular talks.

The afternoon session of the NCOE Webinar features the Physics and Math-Science Teaching programs and research clusters. Popular talks were delivered by Dr. Allan Alinea entitled “History of the Universe”, Assoc. Prof. Nelio Altoveros on the SARAI and IoT research projects, and Dr. Anthony Allan Villanueva on “Wave Property of Matter. Research clusters: (1) Astrophysics, Particle Physics, and Nuclear Physics, (2) Materials Phys and Engineering, (3) Optics and Instrumentation, (4) Quantum Information & Foundations of Quantum Mechanics, (5) MST

IMSP launches its 1st Virtual Job Fair

In line with the theme “Fostering academe-industry partnership towards innovation and competitiveness”, the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP) held its first Virtual Job Fair last April 11, 2022. Attended by over 100 participants, this event was part of IMSP's month-long celebration of its 39th founding anniversary as one of the country's six National Centers of Excellence (NCOE) in the Basic Sciences.

services to various insurance companies in the country and emphasized the skills they needed from an applicant. Ms. Celine Isabel

employee at ChinaBank. Mr. Alfred de Lara, from Lattice Semiconductor, shared the company's well-known products as well as the

Ms. Eva Marie Suministrado, Ms. Trisha Mae Pascasio, and Ms. Janelle Rosales presented their company's culture, innovative products, and hiring process.

After each presentation, the speakers entertained questions from the audience. The job fair ended with a closing remark from Asst. Prof. Gilbert M. Oca, one of the co-chairs of the 2022 IMSP Job Fair Committee.

Through the virtual job fair, students gained insights

Facilitated by Asst. Profs. Renebeth B. Payod and Anna Pamela O. De Jesus, the virtual job fair started with opening remarks from the Institute Director, Dr. Editha C. Jose.

Rodriguez, the second speaker, is a Recruitment Specialist and she delivered an overarching presentation that could be applied by job seekers, not just in the field of Data Science, but to other areas as well. She also shared specific tools that are currently in demand in Data Science positions. It was then followed by Ms. Meliza Mejia from ChinaBank. She talked about their hiring process and emphasized the benefits of being an

opportunities for learning and growth in their company. The fifth speaker, Dr. Editha C. Jose, presented the teaching, research, and career opportunities in IMSP. The next talk was from Ms. Jeanette Tubil of Accenture Philippines. She emphasized the role of her company in the world of information technology and software development. The final batch of speakers were from Western Digital Storage Technologies Philippines;

about the opportunities that await them after graduation. More importantly, IMSP was able to achieve partnerships with the invited companies which would help with the growth of the institute and its students through collaboration and linkages.

■ **GM Oca**

UPLB-Institute of Chemistry's... from Page 14

Philippines; Dr. Rosalina M. Lapitan, former Head of the Research and Development Division, Philippine Carabao Center; Dr. Jeffrey C. Bunquin, Founder and President of the Filipino Science Hub; Dr. Monrey Isaiah C. Mancilla, Head of the DOH National Center for Disease Prevention and Control in Bicol; and Ms. Elaine P. De Velez, CEO and Co-founder of Frontlearners, Inc. The webinar on food analysis had an IC faculty

member, Dr. Sheryl Lozel B. Arreola, and Ms. Lyka V. Monserrat of Shimadzu Philippines, as speakers. IC also thanked and honored its retired faculty members, namely, Dr. Norma N. Fajardo, Dr. Hidelisa P. Hernandez, Dr. Milagros M. Peralta, Dr. Evelyn B. Rodriguez, Dr. Myrna S. Rodriguez, Assoc. Prof. Josefina L. Solivas, and Dr. Teofila DC. Villar as well as its retired administrative

personnel, namely, Mrs. Emma G. Amatorio, Mr. Tirso L. Olvida, Mr. Martin C. Sumague, and Mrs. Felicitas DR. Valencia. The achievements of its honor students for the period 2nd Semester, AY 2017-2018 up to the 1st Semester, AY 2021-2022 were also recognized.

Indeed, the celebration of the 39th anniversary of the Institute of Chemistry as a National Center of

Excellence in the Basic Sciences was able to showcase its 39 years of fruitful existence through the contributions of its faculty and staff, and the accomplishments of its alumni here and abroad.

The Institute posts updates on its website at ic.uplb.edu.ph, and on its Facebook page (IC-UPLB).

■ **RF Kangleon**

Third enLITen Webinar spotlights play-based, experiential, and gamified learning

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna, Philippines—For its third open-to-the-public webinar, the UPLB Language Instruction Towards Excellence (LITE) Program of the College

of Arts and Sciences, offered “Making Things LITE: Designing Play-based, Experiential, and Gamified Learning” on 18 April 2022 via Zoom and streamed simultaneously through Facebook Live. Dr. Ana Katrina de Jesus, LITE tutor and Department of Humanities Communication Division Head served as the resource speaker.

In her opening message, Dr. Maribel L. Dionisio-Sese, CAS Dean and LITE Program Manager, gave an overview of the webinar, the topic, and what the participants, composed mainly of public school teachers, were in for.

“Today's webinar is an initiative to reach out to you and share what we feel that could be helpful in the effective discharge of the best pedagogical practices you can apply as teachers,” said Dr. Sese.

Dean Sese also highlighted how play-based learning can further help in nurturing a learner's centered approach in building curriculum and instruction: “We share

Dr. de Jesus gave a full cycle discussion of the “Bahay-bahayan” design model where teachers become game designers, students become players, and

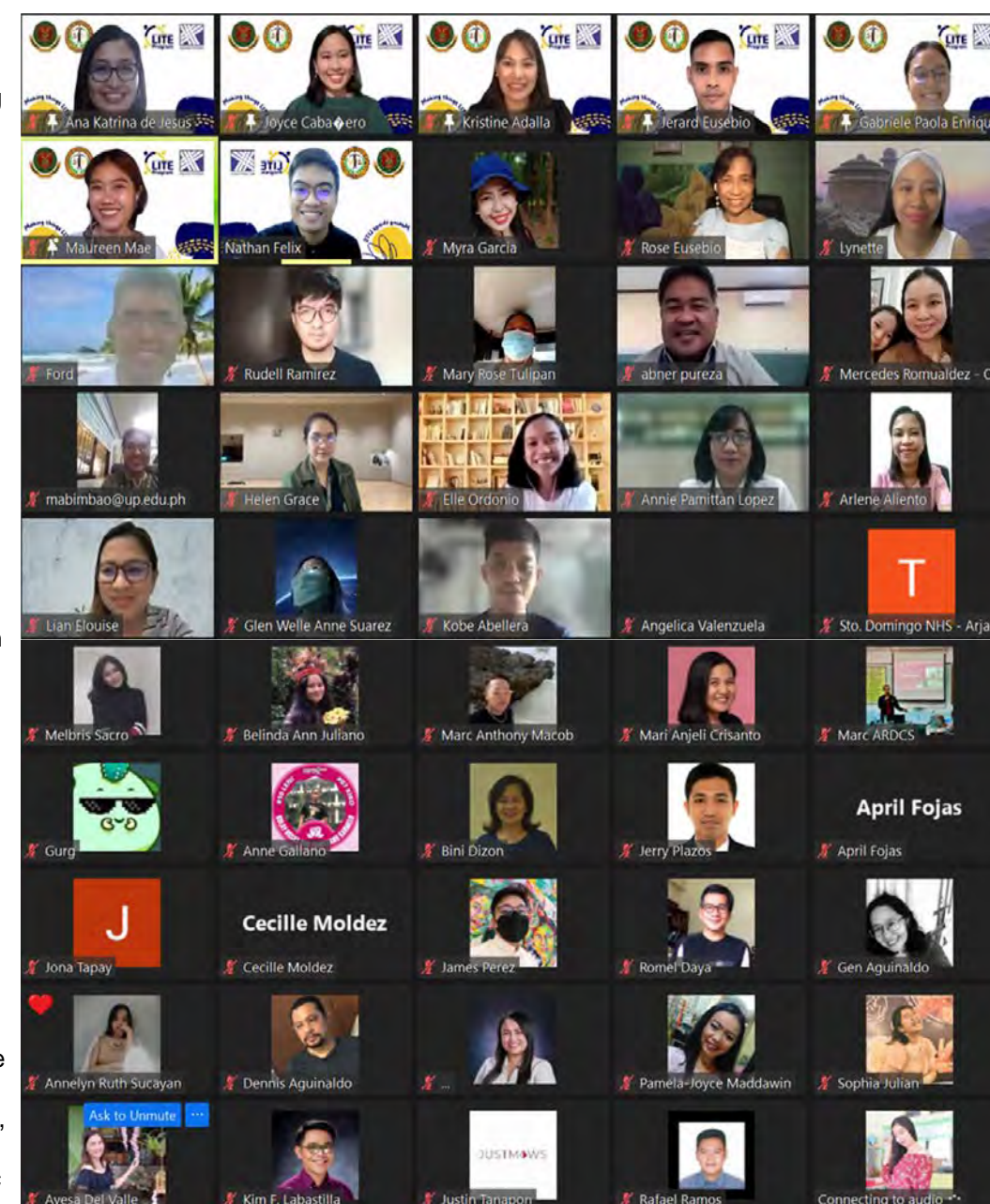
“Play-based, experiential and gamified learning means putting in place a process-oriented and self-directed learning by doing and reflecting using game elements,” said Dr. de Jesus.

Participants from the Zoom platform journeyed with her in filling out the Bahay-bahayan Experience Design Canvas 5.0, while keen on tips in “making things LITE.” LITE became a mnemonic device: L is for “let your design be verb-based”, I - “identify narratives and invite learners in story worlds”, T - “tie up learning outcomes with narratives to create gamified activities”, and E - “engage learners through play.”

“Applications of the said design model have revealed that play-based, experiential, and gamified learning

promotes collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and communication, which are necessary skills to navigate the 21st century,” said Dr. de Jesus.

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Participants and organizing committee of the third enLITen webinar

this mutual responsibility to educate our youth and ourselves to elicit more meaningful interactions in the basic education sector. I trust that you will find today's webinar truly interesting and helpful.”

classrooms become spaces of possibilities, activated by stories and what ifs. She also defined the basic concepts of this emerging teaching and learning approach.

#CASAYSAYAN... from Page 1

This opened up new horizons and unlimited opportunities for various disciplines to expand and increase their borders.

bilang panahon din kung kailan nagsimula ang kolehiyo sa ilalim din ng termino ni Salvador P. Lopez, ang

kahusayan sa agham at liberal na edukasyon, at lunduyan din ng sining at humanidades.

Kahusayan o National Center of Excellence in Basic Sciences o Batayang Agham (Haynayan o Biology, Kapnayan o Chemistry, at Matematika).

Sa kasalukuyan, ang CAS ay lunan ng siyam na campus units kasama ang limang surian o institute: Surian ng Haynayan o Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS), Surian ng Kapnayan o Institute of Chemistry (IC), Surian ng Agham Pangkompyuter o Institute of Computer Science (ICS), Surian ng Matematika at Pisika o Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (IMSP), at Surian ng Istatistika o Institute of Statistics (INSTAT).

Kasama rin ang tatlong mga departamento: Departamento ng Humanidades o Department of Humanities (DHUM), Departamento ng Agham Panlipunan o Department of Social Sciences (DSS), at ang Departamento ng Kinetikang Pantao o Department of Human Kinetics (DHK). Ika-siyam na unit ng kolehiyo ang Paaralang Rural ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas o UP Rural High School.

Dean's Legacy Series: The Human Heart Under the Agricultural Sun

Itatampok naman sa walong



True enough, succeeding years saw the rapid growth of UPLB," pagbabahagi ni Dr. Pacardo.

Sinalaysay din sa maikling dokumentaryo ang mga simulain ng kolehiyo mula sa pagiging Kolehiyo ng Agham at Humanidades o College of Sciences and Humanities noong 1972 tungong Kolehiyo ng Agham at Sining o College of Arts and Sciences noong 1977. Itinalaga ng BOR noong 1973 si Dr. Edelwina Cu Legaspi bilang tagapagtatag na dekana at si Dr. Dolores A. Ramirez bilang sekretarya ng kolehiyo.

"The goal of CAS is to be a premier college at UPLB as administrator of GE Program, as a hub of innovative programs in arts and sciences, center of excellence in instruction and research, producers of bright and ambitious graduates, - all of these were achieved during the time of Dr. Edelwina C. Legaspi as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences," dagdag pa ni Dr. Pacardo.

Higit ding ibinahagi nina Dr. Ramirez at Dr. Javier ang mga karanasan at pag-alala sa pagtataguyod ng kolehiyo mula sa pagsasarili ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas Los Baños, pag-alala sa panahon ng Batas Militar

presidente noon ng UP. Sa kanyang panahon iniluwal ang kolehiyo magmula sa reorganisasyon ng dating Kolehiyo ng Agrikultura o College of Agriculture. Naisalaysay pa ang mga



hamon at tagumpay ng pagpapanimula ng kolehiyo mula sa mga pangangailangan nito, pondo, hanggang sa katuparan ng mga bisyon at mithiin sa nagdaang mga administrasyon.

Sa pangkasalukuyan, nabanggit sa dokumentaryo ang bilang ng mga constituent na ngayoy bumubuo ng CAS: 460 bilang ng mga kaguruan, 14 na Research, Extension and Professional Staff o REPS, 93 mga Administratibong Personel, at nasa 3,000 bilang ng mga mag-aaral. Nananatiling pinakamalaking kolehiyo ang CAS sa UPLB sa bilang ng populasyon, sentro ng

Sa kasunod na programa, nakapagbahagi ng mensahe si Tsanselor Camacho: "the rich history of CAS and its dynamic transformation as the university's biggest college in terms of student population and undergraduate programs is our inspiration moving forward."

Malaki rin aniya ang naging bahagi ng CAS sa pagtugon sa pandemya, sa usapin ng bolunterismo, at pagbabalangkas sa mga administratibong plano.

"It is my hope that the CAS community takes time to reflect and take pride in all its

incredible accomplishments in the past five decades. Congratulations on 50 years of history-making!"

Makikilalang ang CAS



ay tahanan ng tatlong Pambansang Sentro ng

Cont'd on page 21

#CASAYSAYAN... from Page 20

buwang pagdiriwang ng anibersaryo ang pagpapalabas ng Dean's Legacy Symposium Series sa UPLB CAS@50 Facebook page bilang parangal sa mga nagdaang dekanat dekanong kolehiyo.

Sinimulan ito sa pagbibigay-parangal kay Dr. Legaspi, "The Human Heart under the Agricultural Sun," na kasunod ding ipinalabas bilang ikatlong bahagi ng programa noon ding hapong iyon.

Handog ito ng Departamento ng Humanidades (DHUM) sa pangunguna ng premyadong mandudula't alagad ng sining, Dr. Layeta P. Bucoy bilang kabuuang direktor at manunulat ng produksyon.

Ipinalabas ang isang video tribute ng mga testimonya ng mga alumni, iskolar, guro, administrador, at mga kilalang personalidad na nagdadakila kay Dr. Legaspi sa kung paano siya nagsilbing inspirasyon sa kanilang mga tagumpay at gayon din ng buong kolehiyo. Kabilang na rito sina Dr. Jose Wendell Capili, Dr. Enrique Pacardo, Dr. Macrina Tamayo-Zafaralla, Dr. Eliezer Albacea, at Prof. Rolando Panopio. Kasama rin sina Dr. Milagros Peralta, Dr. Paul Zafaralla, Ms. Lyn Tejada, Ms. Rosita David, at Ms. Marina Lansigan. Nagbigay-testimonya rin ang mga alumni na malapit kay Dean Legaspi, na kilala

ngayon sa kanilang mga larang: Dr. Gene Navera, Mr. Bum Tenorio, Jr, Dr. Jonalou Labor, Ms. Sue Prado, Fr. Ruel Lero, PhD, at ang presidente ng Centro Escolar University na si Dr. Maria Cristina Damasco-Padolina.

Nasa likod ng produksyon ang DHUM team na binubuo ng pinuno ng departamento na si Dr. Leonora Fajutagana, Dr. Jerry Yap, at Prop. Grace Bernadette Mendoza. Kasama rin dito sina G. Andrew Estacio bilang video

dokumentaryo, nakapagbigay ng introduksyon ang kasalukuyang dekanang si Dr. Maribel Dionisio-Sese para sa parangal na ito, "Our reminiscence of the life and times of Dr. Edelwina C. Legaspi, the first dean of the CAS, chronologically also its third, is our starting step in retracing the root that led us to where we are now."

"It is a supreme irony that the academic institution Dean Legaspi led, was created exactly three months after our country was placed under Martial Law, yet expected to serve as the fountain of liberal education and bedrock of basic sciences instruction for all students of UPLB," pagbabahagi pa ni Dr. Sese.

Tinapos ang parangal para sa unang dekanang sa serye ng mga mapaggunatang larawan at mga katagang galing sa kanya: "More important than our knowledge, our skills, or our education is simply our goodness--the quality of our hearts and souls. (2006)"

Mapapanood pa rin ang mga video sa Facebook page ng UPLB CAS@50.

A Estacio



Kaugnay pa nito ang isang nakakaaliw at nakakaantig na telematic performance na inakda ni Dr. Bucoy bilang pagdadramatisa ng mga

scripter at direktor, Prof. Rogelio Panuelos bilang kabuaang design artist, at Bb. Krisnah Tan bilang technical hand. Kabilang pa sa mga



Rand Jester Poquiz

Telematic performance by Rand Jester Poquiz

kwentong pagpapahalaga mula kay Dean Legaspi, o mas kinilalang "Ninang Edel." Tampok ang mga kinagiliwang performans nina Rand Jester Poquiz at Joys Dumailang, alumni ng BA Communication Arts.

Mapapanood at pinasalamatan ang pamilya Legaspi, kasama sina Benjamin Antonio Legaspi, Jesus Legaspi, Michael Alexis Legaspi, at Dr. John Eric Dennis Legaspi.

Sa huling bahagi ng naunang

Third enLITen webinar... from Page 19

The online learning event shared sample lessons from her GE class in Critical Perspectives in Communication (COMM 10)

Adalla, LITE Coordinator, expressed her gratitude to all the participants and to Dr. de Jesus for providing a bedrock for the participants

our responsibility to make learning fun for our students and we hope that the lessons and insights shared today helped you in this

especially in the time of COVID-19 and remote learning.

The LITE Program is an



Dr. Ana Katrina de Jesus discusses about gamified learning approach



The LITE Coordinator, Asst. Prof. Kristine K. Adalla, giving her closing message

to draw insights on how such creative approaches can be applied to different learning spaces.

The resource speaker concluded, "We are called to become instructional and experienced designers because play is the highest form of research." In her closing message, Asst. Prof. Kristine K.

in designing new learning tools that are pandemic-friendly.

"To our co-educators and future educators, thank you for sharing your time with us this afternoon. We hope that this webinar can help you design activities for your students that will be engaging for them. And as educators, it is

exciting journey," said Asst. Prof. Adalla.

The webinar is part of UPLB LITE's extension activities, which began in 2020, that aim to share insightful and enlightening knowledge to UPLB constituents and the public. The LITE webinars also hope to be venues wherein participants could harness their potentials,

extension arm of UPLB-CAS for delivering English language training to international students.

The recording of the webinar may be viewed at the UPLB CAS LITE Program Facebook page.

■ **NP Felix**

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