



14th Pillar of Lasallian Education Excellence Awards honor mentors, Lasallian legacy

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY HELD THE 14TH ANNUAL PILLAR OF LASALLIAN EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS, honoring Lasallian teachers and highlighting the DLSU educational philosophy of Teaching Minds, Touching Hearts, and Transforming Lives.

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Held last January 30 at the Teresa Yuchengco Auditorium, the event was opened by welcome remarks from DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC, who announced the renaming of the main awards—which added the word “Signum” to highlight the efforts of the faculty that reflect values geared towards sustainability, inclusivity, equity, and the intellectualization of the Filipino languages.

The St. Benilde Romançon Signum Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented to Dr. Rhoderick Nuncio of the College of Liberal Arts for his dedication to the Lasallian mission and vision, embodied in his advocacy for Filipinization, integrated in his work as an educator and researcher.

Meanwhile, the St. Jaime Hilario Signum Award for Excellence in Social Engagement was received by Dr. Michael Angelo Promentilla for his dedication to the Lasallian mission and vision, embodied in his work on environmental sustainability, critically needed for the preservation of our planet.

Students’ Search for Outstanding Teachers and Faculty Advisers

The Council of Student Organizations (CSO) also presented the winners of the Students’ Search for Outstanding Teachers (SSOT). The winners were Paul Angelo Arcega from the College of Liberal Arts, John Paul Tanyag from the Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business, and Tomas Tiu, also from RVRCOB.

For the Outstanding Faculty Adviser (OFA) Award, the recipients were Justin Eloriaga from the Carlos L. Tiu School of Economics

A segment of the program recognized the Pillar Achievers, referring to faculty members who were recently promoted to higher ranks. They were the following: Full Professors Dr. Angelo Earvin Choi and Dr. John Frederick Tapia; Associate Professors Dr. Danny Cheng, Dr. Richard Li, and Dr. Ronaldo Polancos; and Academic Service Faculty III Elaine Marie Aranda, Joel Navarez, and Dr. Glenn Oyong.

For its part, the Integrated School also renamed its awards in honor of the late Br. Andrew Gonzalez FSC. IS Quality Assurance Director Maria Richelle Astronomo explained that the renaming is rooted to the Lasallian heritage, celebrating achievements while helping personalize the enduring legacy of a Lasallian education.

The Br. Andrew Gonzalez Excellence in Education of the Young Award 2026 went to Edelmar Servo (Sports Development Unit - Student Activities Office), faculty member of the Integrated School, and Windie Odoño (ABM and SPT Departments), faculty member of the Senior High School.

(CLTSOE), adviser of the Economics Organization (ECONORG); Albert Lamberte, also an ECONORG adviser from the CLTSOE; Ma. Ella Oplas from the CLTSOE, adviser of Archers for UNICEF; and Ruth Angelie Cruz from RVRCOB, adviser of the Business Management Society.

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DLSU OUTSTANDING FILIPINO ARTICLES AND BOOK IN ENGLISH AY 2024-2025

OUTSTANDING PUBLISHED SCHOLARLY ARTICLES IN FILIPINO AY 2024-2025

(1)
“Adyenda ng Paggawa (Labor Agenda) sa Pagtatatag ng Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN): Kontekstwalisasyon ng Ilang Pahina ng “Kapaki-pakinabang na Kasaysayan” Tungo sa Mga Adbokasing Maka-Manggagawa sa Siglo 21”

Inilathala ng Bisig (Labor Studies Journal ng PUP Manila)
by Dr. David Michael San Juan
Departamento ng Filipino

(2)
“Nasa Balat Ang Amerika”
Published in Likhaan: The Journal of Contemporary Philippine Literature
Vol. 18, No. 1, 2024
by Dr. Genevieve Asenjo
Department of Literature

(3)
“Pagduyan sa Bayan: Tungo sa Pagluluwal ng Tradisyon ng Oyayi”
Published in Akda: The Asian Journal of Literature, Culture, Performance
Vol. 4, No. 1, 2024
by Dr. Vijae Alquisola
Department of Literature

OUTSTANDING BOOK/MONOGRAPH IN ENGLISH AY 2024-2025

Weaving Basey: A Poet’s History of Home
Published by Katig Writers’ Network, 2024
by Dr. Dinah Roma
Department of Literature



GCOE PROGRAMS ATTAIN HIGHEST ACCREDITATION STATUS FROM FAAP

THE DLSU GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING has been awarded Level IV status by the Federation of Accrediting Agencies of the Philippines (FAAP)—the highest recognition bestowed by the federation— particularly for its programs on Chemical, Civil, Industrial, and Electronics Engineering.

In his message to the Lasallian community, University President Br. Bernard Oca FSC congratulated the GCOE and the Quality

Assurance Office for the recognition, which will remain valid until May 2027.

“This prestigious recognition is a testament to the diligence, expertise, and commitment demonstrated by our faculty, staff, and administrators. Their steadfast adherence to the highest standards of academic excellence and rigorous quality assurance protocols has played a pivotal role in meeting the stringent accreditation criteria set forth by FAAP,” he said.

Br. Bernie further said, “the successful attainment of Level IV status not only highlights the quality and relevance of our GCOE programs, but also reflects the efforts and dedication of every individual involved in the accreditation process. This achievement highlights our institution’s dedication to promoting an environment of continuous improvement and innovation in engineering education.”

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DLSU hosts international conference on mission studies and decoloniality

THE DLSU DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DTRE) hosted the first International Association for Mission Studies (IAMS) Conference on Mission Studies and Decoloniality, focused on Asia, Africa, and Latin America, last January 21- 23 at the Verdure, Henry Sy, Sr. Hall.

Titled “Unsettling the Center: Reimagining Mission Studies and Decoloniality in the Global South,” the event was hosted in cooperation with the Religious Educators’ Association of the Philippines (REAP).

Dr. Fides del Castillo, DTRE full professor, IAMS Regional Representative Asia, and lead organizer, said that the driving question for the conference was: “Why do we so often speak about the Global South, but rarely speak from the Global South, together?”

More than 70 international delegates from Brazil, South Africa, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, the Philippines, USA, and Canada gathered together for a critical conversation on reimagining what mission means in world Christianity in the 21st century.

Three keynote addresses and 13 panel discussions delved into the decolonial challenges, the multi-ethnic and cultural richness, the retrieval of indigenous wisdom and spirituality, artificial intelligence and technological advances, and the threat of environmental crises in the global south, using varied methods of contextual theologizing.

One of the highlights of the conference was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the IAMS, represented by IAMS President Dr. Bokyoung Park, and DLSU College of Liberal Arts Dean Dr. Ador Torneo, represented by Associate Dean Dr. Darren Dumaop, in the presence of DLSU President Br. Bernard Oca FSC, the IAMS leadership, and the DTRE Conference Organizing Committee. The two institutions will collaborate on research projects, conferences, lectures, symposia, and other areas of academic cooperation for two years, with the possibility of extension.

The hybrid conference was joined by more than 100 online participants from the Philippines and abroad. As IAMS General Secretary Dr. Bright Myeong Seok Lee said, “Holding this conference in Manila matters. It reminds us that ‘mission studies’ do not flow in one direction. It emerges from many places, many histories, many voices.”

It ended with a communal circle dance led by Prof. Dr. Joachim Andrade, SVD, symbolizing the interrelationship of rootedness in Mother Earth, a focus on God, attentiveness to one’s neighbor, and mutual fulfillment.

On the last day, international guests were treated to an educational tour of the Intramuros led by DLSU historian Dr. Xiao Chua. This conference underscores DLSU’s commitment to SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals.

— Dr. Ma. Marilou S. Ibita, contributor

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DLSP ISSUES STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR EDCOM 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

DE LA SALLE PHILIPPINES (DLSP) RECENTLY RELEASED A STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF SECOND CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON EDUCATION (EDCOM 2) and the resulting National Education and Workforce Development Plan (2025-2035).

In its statement, DLSP commended EDCOM 2 “for this strategic alignment of goals, which will allow the education sector to address the need for accountability and genuine progress amid the growing call for national renewal.”

It further said: “The EDCOM 2 recommendations deeply resonate with the priorities of DLSP schools, such as the holistic development of learners, the promotion of accessible quality education, advocating for evidence-based policies that modernize the sector, and serving as a leading resource for national development.”

In support of the recommendations of EDCOM 2, DLSP expressed its commitment to the following: actionable research; enhancement of accessibility; strengthening of networks: continuous collaboration with universities in the provinces to facilitate research, training, and capacity-building; SDG localization; leveraging technology; teacher training and professional development; and engagement in active consultation with different stakeholders.

“Together with the rest of the education sector, De La Salle Philippines rallies behind the EDCOM 2 roadmap towards creating a lasting legacy of excellence for the Filipino learners,” DLSP said.

For the full DLSP statement, visit: <https://www.dlsu.edu.ph/dlsp-statement-of-support-to-edcom-2/>



EDCOM 2
The Second Congressional Commission on Education

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GCOE faculty among Asian Scientist 100 in 2025



Choi

GOKONGWEI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING PROFESSOR DR. ANGELO EARVIN SY CHOI of the Department of Chemical Engineering is included in the prestigious Asian Scientist 100 (2025 edition) by Asian Scientist Magazine.

The Asian Scientist 100 is an annual list published by Asian Scientist Magazine that highlights 100 of Asia’s most outstanding researchers and scientific leaders who have made significant contributions through groundbreaking research, innovation, and leadership in their

fields. Inclusion in this list is a testament to excellence and impact across diverse scientific disciplines in the region.

Choi’s inclusion in the 2025 list reflects his distinguished contributions to Chemical Engineering, particularly his research achievements recognized at national and international levels. His work exemplifies academic excellence, innovation, and the global influence of Filipino scientists.

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LA SALLE FACULTY, ALUMNUS WIN TOFIL, TOYM AWARDS



Aruta



Baguilat



Mallari

TWO MEMBERS OF THE DLSU FACULTY AND AN ALUMNUS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION were honored at the annual recognition program hosted by the Junior Chamber International Philippines last January 22 at Malacañan Palace.

Dr. John Jamir Benzon Aruta, associate professor of the Department of Psychology, won The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) 2025 Award in the field of Environmental and Climate Psychology.

Alumnus Atty. Raymond Marvic Baguilat, AB Psychology '06, was given The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) 2025 Award in the field of Law, Human Rights, and Indigenous Peoples.

Meanwhile, Dr. Neil Aldrin Mallari, associate professorial lecturer of the Department of Biology, received The Outstanding Filipino Award (TOFIL) 2025 in the Non-Government Organization and Civil Society category.

The TOYM is an annual recognition program honoring Filipinos aged 18 to 40 who have made significant contributions and rendered meaningful service in their communities. The TOFIL Award is given to Filipinos, 41 years of age and over, whose exemplary achievements are worthy of emulation.

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AB-PAI Board tackles Philosophy and AI

THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY CONVENED THE BOARD OF ADVISERS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM AB PHILOSOPHY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AB-PAI) of the De La Salle University (DLSU) College of Liberal Arts (CLA) last January 23.

The meeting was attended by members of the Board of Advisers which are composed of industry leaders including Klima 1.5 Corp President and Ayala Corporation Executive Director Gabino Ramon Mejia; Data and AI Ethics PH Executive Director and Chief AI Ethicist Carl Javier; Analytics and AI Association of the Philippines President and Z-Lift Solutions President Michelle Alarcon, and Chief Data Scientist under the Data

Science & Analytics of RCBC and AAP Trustee Pamela Cabudoy.

From DLSU, faculty members from the Department of Philosophy, the Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business, and the College of Computer Studies (CCS) also participated in designing the AB-PAI program.

Dr. Jeane Peracullo, the Assistant Dean for External Affairs and Lasallian Mission of the CLA, organized the event. The opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Ethel Ong, CCS Dean. Dr. Mark Anthony Dacela, the Chair of the Department of Philosophy, presented the AB-PAI curriculum, and the discussion was facilitated by Dr. Leni Garcia, the Associate Provost.

The meeting examined the program's learning outcomes and curriculum, explored ways to further align the AB-PAI program with industry demands and its role in supporting national growth, and fostered avenues for collaboration to promote AI education, awareness, and responsible adoption nationwide.

The event supports and aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4, 9, and 11, ensuring quality education and lifelong learning; promoting innovative infrastructure through ethical AI governance; and assisting in the development of sustainable cities and communities.

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Program designers from the Department of Philosophy, the College of Computer Studies, and the Ramon V del Rosario College of Business, with BOA members Carl Javier and Gabby Mejia

“Fulfil your ministry with all the affection of your heart.”

De La Salle

(MTR 9.1 [Med 201.1])

14th Annual Pillar of Lasallian Education Excellence Awards **MOST PRODUCTIVE DEPARTMENTS IN RESEARCH**

Business And Social Sciences Cluster

Small Department Category

Department of Decision Sciences and Innovation

Big Department Category

Department of Sociology and Behavioral Sciences

Humanities And Education Cluster

Small Department Category

Department of Communication

Big Department Category

Department of Theology and Religious Education

Science And Technology Cluster

Small Department Category

Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

Big Department Category

**Department of Electronics, Computer, and
Electrical Engineering**

Interdisciplinary Cluster

Department of Innovation and Sustainability

Source: Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation



2401 (twen'te fôr'o, wun) is a landmark number along Taft Avenue. It is the location ID of De La Salle University, home to outstanding faculty and students, and birthplace of luminaries in business, public service, education, the arts, and science. And 2401 is the name of the official newsletter of DLSU, featuring developments and stories of interest about the University.

2401 is published bi-weekly by the Strategic Communications Office (AH-21F, intercom 144). Editorial deadline is 3 p.m. Tuesdays. Contributions should include the name, office and signature of the sender. Materials may be edited for clarity or space.

2401 may be accessed online through the URL: <http://www.dlsu.edu.ph>.