



QUALITY ASSURANCE. Programs that are quality assured contribute to student mobility and global competitiveness. (Photo by CVLabe/OPR)

BOR approves UPLB's QA unit

UPLB began 2018 getting itself ready for quality assurance (QA) by the European Union Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (EU-SHARE).

It ended the year cementing its commitment to QA with the approval of the creation of the Academic Assessment and Development Unit (AADU) by the UP Board of Regents (BOR) on Dec. 3.

AADU will look after UPLB's QA, internal assessment, and the accompanying information process development, database management, and documentation.

It will be dedicated to strengthening and institutionalizing QA at UPLB, an endeavor that it has actually made milestones on.

It will be recalled that on Feb. 5-6, 2018, UPLB underwent institutional assessment by the EU-SHARE, the only public university in the Philippines to do so.

The EU-SHARE panel ascertained UPLB's internal QA to be globally aligned with the ASEAN Quality Assurance Framework principles.

Five UPLB degree programs have been certified by the ASEAN University Network Quality Assurance, namely: BS Biology in

2014; BS Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering and BS Development Communication in 2015; and BS Agriculture and BS Forestry in 2017.

UPLB's National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), on the other hand, is certified for quality management under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015, and its Central Analytical Services Laboratory and Philippine National Collection of Microorganisms, earned ISO 17025:2005 certificates in 2014 and 2015, respectively.

The BOR approved the creation of the AADU at its 1340th meeting, simultaneous with the approval of the UP Academic Assessment and Development System.

AADU will be placed under the Office of the Chancellor and will be headed by a director. The office will be working closely with the Academic Assessment and Development Advisory Committee, which shall recommend UPLB's QA measures.

QA coordinators from different colleges will also help the AADU in its duties and responsibilities. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria)

DTRI leads program to boost Ph milk output

Only one out of four glasses of milk that Filipinos drink come from local sources. But this ratio should change in favor of the 129 million-peso research program that the Dairy Training and Research Institute (DTRI) will lead in the next five years.

The program aims to produce 3,200 head of dairy calves, with each projected to add two liters of milk per day to the

country's supply, according to Dr. Amado Angeles, program leader and DTRI director.

"Hopefully we will be able to add maybe around 15-20% milk productivity," Dr. Angeles said during the program's inception meeting on Dec. 12 at DTRI Auditorium.

The Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology (PCAARRD-DOST) funds the program.

Entitled "Assisted reproduction, nutrition, and health interventions for enhanced dairy cattle productivity and milk safety," the program is composed of five projects that will look into the different aspects of animal and dairy production.

Each of the five projects has its own focus: use of embryo transfer and artificial

insemination technologies; genetic quality assessment and production performance evaluation of dairy cattle; farm-specific precision feeding system and forage production protocols; reduction of sub-clinical mastitis; and milk quality and safety assurance systems.

Other program implementers are animal and dairy science experts from Cagayan State University, Central Luzon State University, Bohol Island State University, Central Mindanao University, and University of Southeastern Philippines.

These universities are based in the regions where the targeted number of dairy cattle could be best raised.

On the second day of the meeting, UPLB, the state universities, PCAARRD-DOST, and the National

The program aims to produce 3,200 head of dairy calves, with each projected to add two liters of milk per day to the country's supply.

“ - Dr. Amado Angeles
Program Leader and DTRI Director

Dairy Authority formed and launched the Philippine Dairy Research Consortium.

According to Dr. Angeles, the consortium addresses the need for collaborative research and the development and promotion of technologies for a sustainable dairy industry. He said that more universities and colleges will be invited to the consortium. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria)



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an "Isko para
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Feature



“Inevitably, people ask him: “Why leave when you are still winning?” His answer reflects his love for challenge. “Leave while you are still winning then go to the next challenge.”

TRULY, AN ACADEMICIAN. The Institute of Crop Science has a new full professor - Dr. Glenn B. Gregorio, NAST Academician and an accomplished rice breeder. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)

An Academician, an “Isko para sa Bayan”

Dr. Glenn B. Gregorio has one piece of advice to students – “do things differently” – and he means it.

Dr. Gregorio, an accomplished rice scientist who served the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) for close to three decades, has joined the faculty of the university armed with the prestigious title as Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST).

To enter academe, Dr. Gregorio truly took a different route. He first immersed himself in research, became known as a scientist, and later as a crop breeding manager, before coming full circle when he decided to teach in UPLB, his alma mater.

Dr. Gregorio believes that receiving the Academician title is a sign for him to work full-time in the University. “I think *hudyat na rin* to go to the academe,” he said in retrospect. He is now a professor at the Institute of Crop Science of the College of Agriculture and Food Science.

While this is his first time to teach full-time, mentoring is not new to him as an adjunct professor of UPLB since 1999 and of Central Mindanao University

since 2010. Dr. Gregorio has guided 20 PhD students, 27 MS students, and countless undergraduate students in their theses and dissertation.

“My passion really, is to teach the next generation of scientists,” he said, as he expressed his desire to inspire “millennials” to pursue careers in agriculture.

His career path is in itself a source of inspiration. He is the main man behind more than 15 rice varieties, most of which were bred for salt-tolerance, and have greatly helped farmers in Nigeria, India, Bangladesh, and Philippines.

Rising sea levels that cause saltwater intrusion in farms drove him to develop these varieties even before climate change became a buzz word in the country.

Even this was a different route because rice breeding for salinity tolerance was not his personal choice of expertise. It just so happened to be his first assignment when he became an IRRI researcher after earning BS Agriculture in 1986.

“I learned to love it. And I decided to be the expert, and to be topnotch in this field,” he said, revealing an attitude that likely earned for him many awards, among them

The Outstanding Young Men and the Outstanding Young Scientist Awards in 2004, and Vietnam’s Ho Chi Minh Medal Award in 2012.

Dr. Gregorio rose from the ranks in IRRI while juggling work and graduate studies at UPLB where he earned his MS Plant Breeding in 1991 and PhD Genetics in 1997. He was stationed at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria from 2004 to 2009 as IRRI’s rice breeder for Africa.

Upon returning to the Philippines, he became a senior scientist, International Network for Genetic Evaluation for Rice (INGER) Global Coordinator, and deputy division head of IRRI’s Plant Breeding, Genetics, and Biotechnology Division until 2015.

Through the years, he expanded his rice breeding expertise and led efforts to develop rice varieties with enhanced micronutrients such as iron and zinc to help combat anemia and malnutrition in the country and in Indonesia, Vietnam, and Bangladesh. He also looked into breeding rice varieties that are tolerant to abiotic stresses such as salinity, nutrient deficiency, and mineral toxicity.

Dr. Gregorio’s journal articles in Google Scholar have gained increasing citation impact. He has published almost 90 publications in reputable journals and a number of book chapters.

After 29 years at IRRI, he moved to East-West Seed Company, Inc. and became its global breeding manager for corn, covering South and Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Sub-Saharan Africa until he decided to work in UPLB in 2018.

Choosing to work in the university meant giving up the perks of his previous posts but he vows that this will not dampen his enthusiasm to mold the next batch of scientists, realize his research vision, and promote the use of efficient and healthy rice varieties.

Inevitably, people ask him: “Why leave when you are still winning?” His answer reflects his love for challenge. “Leave while you are still winning then go to the next challenge.”

It is what he uttered next, however, which revealed who it is that he wanted to win with his decision: “Para sa bayan,” he said. This Academician is truly an *Iskolar para sa Bayan*. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria)



PARTNERSHIP VISIT. The UPLB delegation headed by Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. with officials of Agreenium, the French Agricultural, Veterinary, and Forestry Institute during the former’s visit to hold partnerships talks with officials of the said university. (Photo courtesy of OVCRE)

UPLB networks with European universities

Three European universities were recently added to UPLB’s growing list of international partner universities. These are the University of Twente in the Netherlands, Agreenium in Paris, France and Technische Universität in Berlin, Germany.

UPLB Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez Jr., Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Portia G. Lapitan, Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension Rex B. Demafelis, and University Extension Specialist Maria Rowena Beatriz Q. Inzon, discussed research and academic collaborations with representatives of these universities.

Dr. Tom Loran, director of international initiative, and Dr. Dinand Alkema, professor at the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth

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2018 4th Quarter Board Exam Results



CIVIL ENGINEER

98.63
PASSING RATE (%)



TOP PERFORMER

73
NO. OF EXAMINEES

72
NO. OF PASSERS

» PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION



CHEMICAL ENGINEER

92.06
PASSING RATE (%)



TOP PERFORMER

63
NO. OF EXAMINEES

58
NO. OF PASSERS

» PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION

UPLB continues to build admin staff capacity



ADDED KNOWLEDGE FOR ADMIN STAFF. One of the two batches of training courses on the Strategic Performance Management System held in UPLB. The session also included a review of the rewards and recognitions system in the university. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)

More administrative personnel took part in capacity building activities in 2018 to upgrade administrative services in UPLB.

According to Dir. Nelson Jose Vincent Querijero of the Human Resources and Development Office (HRDO), 143 staff participated in 11 training programs and seminars on human resources management and good governance.

Prof. Querijero noted that reskilling the administrative personnel is a

response to the changing needs of the university.

On May 8-10, eight personnel attended the Capacity Building Program for Human Resource (HR) Personnel in SUCs (Training Workshop on the Development of Competency-Based Framework for SUCs) conducted by the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) at the Technological University of the Philippines in Manila.

The participants, who were oriented about competency-based HR, are members of the Technical Working Group that will develop a competency database for the administrative staff following the Civil Service Commission (CSC) guidelines.

On July 3-5, two from the Human Resources Development Office (HRDO) participated in the Policies and Procedures on Leave Administration Seminar at the CSC Office IV in Quezon City.

UPLB also hosted an in-house training at ICOPED Auditorium on the Strategic Performance Management System in cooperation with the Civil Service Institute of the CSC.

UPLB personnel were trained in two batches, on Nov. 13-15; and on Nov. 20-22. Some 89 human resources and administrative staff will review the performance management system and rewards and recognition in UPLB, and will formulate a strategic approach to performance management.

Meanwhile, 40 administrative personnel were sent to eight seminar workshops under the program “Kartilya Session” or “Public Sector Productivity Seminar Series” of the Center for Governance of the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) in Pasig City from March to October.

These DAP seminars covered various topics, namely: good governance and regulatory management; knowledge productivity and innovations in the public sector; citizen-engaged governance; lean management in the public sector; fair competition and its role in increasing productivity; phronetic leadership; productivity and quality tools in the public sector, 5S; and productivity and quality tools in the public sector: quality circle. (Kristine E. Araguas)

More library users recorded in 2018

More library users and new materials are the main highlights of the University Library’s operations in 2018.

These accomplishments speak of the library’s relevance even in the digital age.

University Librarian Concepcion DL. Saul reported that library users increased by 13.30% compared to the 2017 data. The users, which included students and personnel, accessed both print and electronic materials.



TRADITIONAL AND DIGITAL. Increasing library users continue to access both print and electronic materials. (Photo by CVLabe/OPR)

Saul also noted that the library acquired more than 4,000 new print materials in 2018, such as books and journals.

In 2019, the library aims to create more impact in the academic community.

The library will continue to inform the users about effective and efficient information accessing through its Library Instructional Service. It will also hold more research training activities for university personnel.

It is also considering to adopt an emerging worldwide movement in learning, dialogue, and social change called the Human Library. (Meichelle Ann Jenine S. Rivas)

TREES conducts trainings for Indian gov’t

The Training Center for Tropical Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability or TREES conducted a training course on biodiversity and forest management for government officials of India.

The first batch was held on Dec. 10-20 with 16 high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC). Lectures and discussion topics included the following: global and Philippine biodiversity status, Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System (BAMS), watershed management, and geographic information system in BAMS.

Institutional and field project visits were held at the Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and

Natural Resources (DENR), ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), National Museum of Natural History, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development and Palawan Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office, Puerto Princesa City Mangrove Reforestation Project, Palawan Wildlife Rescue Center, and La Mesa EcoPark.

TREES Dir. Roberto Cereno, Pastor Malabrigo, Jr., Dr. Cristino Tiburan, Jr., and Keshia Tingson served as the training course coordinators and resource persons.

TREES received positive feedback from the participants who said that they will apply the knowledge and practices acquired when they go back to their workplace in India.



TREES TRAINEES. Sixteen top-ranking officials from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India at a courtesy visit to the Office of the Chancellor with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Portia G. Lapitan (8th from left) receiving them. They were accompanied by TREES Director Roberto P. Cereno (leftmost). (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)

A second training course will be conducted on Jan. 10-16, 2019 for 21 officers of the Indian Forest Service, MoEFCC. The seven-day training course will cover lectures, discussions, and case studies on forest development strategies and programs in the Philippines.

As part of its mandate, TREES continues to provide capacity building for sustainable ecosystems and forestry development for individuals engaged in forestry-related work at professional and sub-professional levels. (Ann Jilian U. Ortega)



CHEMIST

88.57
PASSING RATE (%)

35
NO. OF EXAMINEES

31
NO. OF PASSERS

» PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION



INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

100
PASSING RATE (%)

16
NO. OF EXAMINEES

16
NO. OF PASSERS

» INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING CERTIFICATION BOARD

UPLB 2018 YEARENDER

The year 2018 was a productive one for UPLB with accomplishments made, especially in quality assurance and in implementing collaborative programs with local and international partners to address common goals towards ensuring food security, ecological sustainability, public health, and poverty alleviation.

We hope to accelerate our progress in these key areas as we acknowledge that with the 4th Industrial Revolution upon us, there is a compelling and urgent need to push on and accomplish what we had aimed to do through a strategic focus on our key goals and programs.

Here are highlights of some of our accomplishments in 2018. In the next few months, we shall continue to strive to accomplish more in order to make UPLB truly a globally competitive graduate and research university contributing to national development.



SUSTAIN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE

QA and outcomes-based education

The year 2018 began and ended with UPLB making quality assurance milestones: the institutional quality assessment of UPLB under the European Union Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (EU SHARE) in February and the approval by the UP Board of Regents of the creation of the Academic Assessment and Development Unit (AADU) in December, respectively.

In July, we received the results of the EU SHARE assessment, which highlighted that UPLB's quality assurance (QA) standards are globally well aligned with the ASEAN QA Framework.

QA, being necessary for global competitiveness, was a focal point for many other activities in UPLB. We aligned our GE courses and 28 undergraduate degree programs to the K-12 Basic Education Program, the learner-centered outcomes-based education (OBE), and our commitment to quality assurance.

Aside from training 667 faculty members in OBE, we trained faculty members from various colleges in QA to promote the accomplishment of our goals in this area.

We also trained new faculty members in two editions of the Seminar on Teaching, and on teaching millennials in the second edition of

the Honing Innovative Teaching-Learning Skills Seminar.

Internationalization

Internationalization was at the core of countless inbound and outbound linking activities such as the holding of exploratory talks and signing of MOAs/MOUs. This was highlighted by the visit to the United Kingdom to implement the Dual PhD by Research with the University of Reading and to other universities to explore collaborative programs.

We are also currently developing the MS in Food Security and Climate Change Joint Degree with universities in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. The initial implementation of this program was as a Dual/Double degree that makes use of existing courses in the five participating universities of the SEARCA University Consortium.

The five participating universities are University Putra Malaysia, Institut Pertanian Bogor, Gadjadara University, Kasetsart University and UPLB. The curriculum for the Joint Degree has been finalized and is for approval and adoption by the University Councils of the five universities. Universities in France and Germany have also opened their doors to students in this program as well.



PROMOTE THE USE OF KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGIES TO ATTAIN INCLUSIVE GROWTH

We awarded grants to 40 senior-junior research teams to promote mentoring, enhance research productivity, and ensure the continuity of the research culture in the university.

Under the Publications Grant, we supported the production of three special scientific journal issues and 12 individual journals as part of our campaign to increase our publications output.

Along this line, we conducted journal and proposal writing workshops and came up with a more efficient project development and monitoring process by establishing the Research Information Management System and the Project Monitoring System.

Following through on our commitment to help find solutions to complex issues concerning the environment, food safety and security, and ecological sustainability, we created virtual interdisciplinary studies centers to tap expertise in the various units.

These are on water, biosensor for one health, life cycle assessment, and organic agriculture development and extension.

We are also undertaking a parallel network building in research as in instruction. In 2018, we established research linkages with Agreenium in France, University of Twente in The Netherlands, Technische University in Germany, University of Toronto and University of Guelph in Canada, Queensland University of Technology and Charles Darwin University in Australia; and the US Department of Agriculture in Maryland in the United States. These are in addition to our existing network with eight universities in the US and Australia.

Providing technical advisory services was another highlight of our activities in 2018. We worked in various areas in the country to respond and find solutions to challenges in agriculture, namely: rice grain bug and rat infestation in Negros Occidental; rice grain bug infestation in Cotabato; armyworms in onions in Pangasinan; and various pests and diseases in abaca, coconut, and rice in Samar. We provided technical assistance to Bohol and Albay in their food security program.



CREATE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

In 2018, we completed Phases 1 and 2 of our fiber optic project, while the others phases are still in progress. Meanwhile our WiFi projects at the lower campus and in the forestry area have been completed, enabling up to 11,000 of our constituents to connect to 251 WiFi hotspots every day.

Our other infrastructure projects have progressed well with a total of 164 small classrooms and 138 rest rooms renovated as of 2018.

Behind the infrastructure projects that have gone up from the ground and the renovation projects is a team of architects and engineers that relentlessly work on designs that work and last.

In 2018, they came up with the detailed architectural and engineering designs of the Nanotech building, National Plant Genetics and Research Laboratory, Agricultural and Bio-Processing Division, PL480 (renovation of the College of Veterinary Medicine laboratories),

Economics Management Studies Center of the College of Economics and Management bldg., Agronomy, Soil Science and Horticulture Extension, and the dormitory for graduate students.

The team continues to work on the Food Science Research Center, the Library and Knowledge Center, Dairy Production, and the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Our power supply transactions have all contributed to more efficient and reliable power supply in the campus. For one, UPLB is now a direct member of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM), generating savings based on historical average of generation cost.

As WESM member, UPLB benefited from continuous electricity supply even before a power supply agreement was finalized with a new electrical power supplier. UPLB also benefited from lower cost during non-peak generation hours.



CREATE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY

We filled up 404 vacated plantilla (PSIPOP) positions and converted Individual Contract of Service to contractual positions.

We have improved considerably in our public bidding compliance. In 2018, we awarded Php573 million, of which 79% was awarded through public bidding. Out of 370 public biddings that we completed, only 29% failed, an improvement compared to the failure rate of 46% in 2017.

To ensure efficient use of our 2019 budget, as early as 2018 we

subjected 742 out of 1,042 purchase requests in our Annual Procurement Plan to early procurement.

We have established systems that ensure efficiency and effective social insurance remittance and tax payments that help protect the integrity of UPLB and its personnel from the grave consequences of non-compliance.

An important accomplishment that we made that somehow lightened the load of the Cashier's Office is the use of the LBP Electronic Payment Portal through which students pay their housing dues.



CREATE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT
WELFARE ENHANCEMENT

We strived to provide a home to students by implementing repair and renovation of dormitories, and by automating dorm payments.

We organized student dormitory associations that took the lead in activities to promote camaraderie among dormers such as the inter-dorm sports fest featuring indigenous games and maintaining edible gardens.

Our staff housing facilities will soon get a boost with the reacquisition of 19 private houses, 15 of which we were able to acquire without any cost. Meanwhile, we continued to take care of our housing facilities, repairing 17 of them in 2018. We expect to be able to repair more units as we have already secured the approval of the UP Board of Regents to adjust the use of a housing trust fund for repairs.

Needy dormers do not have to go hungry through a feeding program that we implemented in 2018. We also continued to make available late night transport for our dormers.

Security and safety in the campus is promoted in partnership with the local government units where UPLB is located. We signed a MOA on security with the LGU of Los Baños, and barangays Putho-Tuntungin and Batong Malake.

We had most of the UPF personnel and other staff trained in forensics, databasing, first responders, emergency rescue, disaster management, crises management, disaster risk reduction, fire, and earthquake preparedness. With the BFP, Red Cross and MMDA, we have trained more than a thousand frontliners in campus in times of disasters and 800 in responding to fire and earthquakes.

We were able to generate Php13.35 million from our facilities for accommodation, leases, as well as permits given to non-recurring businesses.

The Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) is a stamp of approval of our environmental practices. We received our ECC in 2016, and today, with the School of Environmental Science and Management, we continue to promote practices that will enable UPLB to continue to comply with environmental standards. To do this, we will propose the creation of the UPLB Environmental Unit.

We have also conducted a Roundtable Discussion on the proposed Network of Care for Students' Mental Resiliency that can provide UPLB with a unified and integrative framework for addressing mental health resiliency through a 'detection-preventive-management-curative' process.

Photo News



HUMAN 100 FOR LOYALTY. UPLB constituents led by Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. form the human 100 to mark the Centennial Loyalty Day celebration on Oct. 10, 2018. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)



GOLDEN JUBILARIANS. UP College of Agriculture Class of 1968 came in full force to celebrate Loyalty Day in UPLB. Class 1968 is the largest golden jubilarian class to ever converge in UPLB for the Loyalty Day celebration. (Photo by VRManingas)



1918 TRAIN 'RESURRECTED'. The winning Loyalty Day float of the College of Arts and Sciences is a replica of a train that brought UPCA volunteers to their training camp in Parañaque. (Photo by CVLabe)



A SYMPHONIC PERFORMANCE. "Pamantasang Hiram" is interpreted by the Harmonya String Ensemble of UPLB with singers Franz Oliva, Odraude Alub, Pearl Stephanie Orendain and Bianca Meer on the competition's performance night on August 30, 2018. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)

"Pamantasang Hiram" composers share inspiration behind winning LD song

*Sa ati'y itinanim nitong Pamantasang Hiram
Ipinunla'y karunungan, nagbukas ng kamalayan
S'yang nagpayabong ng damdaming makabayan
Lahat ito'y handog sa bayan ng Pamantasang Hiram!*

Lyrics speaking of gratitude and new hope ushered in the festivities of the 100th Loyalty Day in October.

These lyrics in "Pamantasang Hiram," the official theme song of the celebration, was the winning piece of the Centennial Loyalty Day Music Competition held on Aug. 30, 2018 as part of the festivities.

The song, which further enlivened the Centennial Loyalty Day, was written to elicit nostalgia among UPLB alumni and to allow them to relive the feeling of marching for their graduation and homecoming to UPLB, according to its composers Kim Rasel Gutierrez, Ivan Ulgado, and Kian Beltran.

Embedded in the lyrics are symbolisms known to anyone who has spent a considerable time at the campus, such as the fertility tree in "puno ng pangarap," Forestry in "paakyat," and jeepney directions in "pakanan o pakaliwa."

Agriculture was also featured heavily in the lyrics, with the composers using key words in Filipino, such as "tanim," "ani," "yabong," and "punla," the main metaphor in the song.

The group also looked into Jose Rizal's "Mi Ultimo Adios," the

inspiration for the Oblation statue, and the "UP Naming Mahal," with some of its elements worked into the song.

Moreover, the group said that alumni who have dedicated their lives to serving the people also influenced some of the song's words. They particularly attributed the second verse to the valedictory speech of 2018 top graduate, Paul Marquez, BSA, *summa cum laude*, and a colleague at Harmonya, who enjoined his fellow graduates to help the Filipino farmers. (Jessa Jael S. Arana)

Photo News



TRAINING ON TEACHING MILLENNIALS. Generation X faculty members learn how to teach millennials at the Honing Innovative Teaching-Learning Skills Seminar (HITSS2) on Nov. 5-6 at the Development Academy of the Philippines, Tagaytay City. Among the speakers were (11th-13th from L) Prof. Richard Philip A. Gonzalo, UP assistant vice president for student affairs; Dr. Trixie Marie J. Sison, dean of the College of Education, Miriam College; and Dr. Grace Shangkuan Koo, professor at the UP College of Education. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)



UPLB INVENTORS. UPLB researchers are among those whose inventions garnered the UP Invention Disclosure Incentive (IDI). The awarding program was held on Dec. 12 at the Philippine Genome Center in UP Diliman. Of a total of 22 IDIs that were awarded, 11 went to UPLB for the following inventions: nanobiosensor, probiotic guava tea, animal probiotics, coolant, meat detection kit, recombinant thermo-acidstable endoglucanase, fertigroee nanofertilizer, hormogroee, monascus red colorant, nanosilica beads, and nutrio. (Photo courtesy of TTBD0)



HUB FOR STARTUPS. UPLB officials and staff of the Technology Transfer and Business Development Office and representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry pose for a photo during the soft launch of the Startup Innovation and Business Opportunity Linkages (SIBOL) Labs on Dec. 18. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE. The Water Forum Series 2, held on Nov. 15, is the second knowledge sharing event of the UPLB Interdisciplinary Studies Center for Water. The forum brought together representatives from academe, government, civil society, and the private sector to talk about water access, sanitation, and governance. (Photo by VRManingas/OPR)



'JOHE' RELAUNCHED. Garrett Cheamson Boongaling, editor-in-chief and research coordinator of the College of Human Ecology, at the relaunching of the Journal of Human Ecology (JOHE) on Nov. 28. Journals are vehicles for research dissemination and promote a research culture in the university. (Photo by JIRBamba/OPR)

European universities ... from page 2

Observation, University of Twente, discussed the MS in Applied Remote Sensing for Earth Sciences, Geo-informatics, Land Administration, Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction, Natural Resources Management, Urban Planning and Management, and Water Resources and Environmental Management.

UPLB is interested in the use of geospatial solutions to develop the university's research in agriculture,

specifically those which address issues and threats to food security.

Dr. Geert Dewulf, dean of the Faculty of Engineering Technology, and Dr. Arjen Y. Hoekstra, chair and professor in water management, discussed the processes by which the two universities could enhance UPLB MS and PhD students' mobility and research collaboration potential in water footprint analysis and mechanical and biomedical engineering.

The UPLB team discussed research collaborations on life cycle-based

solutions for sustainability of products and technologies with Technische Universität Berlin representatives, Dr. Markus Berger of the Department of Environmental Engineering and Helen Merenda of the International Scientific Cooperation.

Moreover, UPLB and Agreenium (French Agricultural, Veterinary and Forestry Institute) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the Agreenium office in Paris.

Prof. Etienne Saur, Agreenium's head of international relations, introduced Agreenium and its network of 15 schools and four research agencies. Officials from four Agreenium institutes also presented their various academic and research programs.

UPLB also had the opportunity to meet with AgroParisTech, Montpellier SupAgro, Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) and the National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (IRSTEA). (Maria Rowena Beatriz Q. Inzon)





ART FOR BIODIVERSITY. (Top photo) Paintings from selected artists line the walls of the Sining Makiling Gallery, inviting guests to contemplate on the meanings etched upon each canvass.

(Left photo) "Art in Biodiversity" featured a variety of visual art forms, including wooden sculptures such as Otep Bañez's Violeta.

(Bottom photo) Jerry Yapo (rightmost), director of the Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts (OICA) and Dr. Portia G. Lapitan (5th from the right) pose with artist exhibitors and Dr. Teodoro J. Herbosa, UP executive vice president and Gemma Cruz Araneta, former tourism secretary (4th and 5th from the left, respectively). (VRManingas/OPR)



OICA stages "Art in Biodiversity" exhibit

Festive and critical is UPLB's yearender exhibit "Art in Biodiversity."

The show featured the works of select painters, sculptors, and mixed-media artists in fitting tribute to UPLB on its 100th Loyalty Day celebration.

Most hinged on conservation as the *raison d'être* of biodiversity. Highlighted were flora and fauna that

are peculiar in the country and the Southeast Asian region. Endemicity, one of the hallmarks of biodiversity, was a rallying point in the exhibit.

A few artists trekked another equally important aspect of biodiversity: endangerment. Its urgency is evident in our quest for survival in the midst of finite resources available. This is biodiversity's critical turn.

The artists' pieces are a tapestry of visual communication, and viewers decode their meanings in more ways one could possibly imagine.

"Art in Biodiversity" opened on October 8 at the Sining Makiling Gallery, DL Umali Hall, UPLB and ran until December 2018. (Jerry R. Yapo)

"Highlighted were flora and fauna that are peculiar in the country and the Southeast Asian region. Endemicity, one of the hallmarks of biodiversity, was a rallying point in the exhibit."

New Appointments



DR. MA. STELLA C. TIROL

Dean of the College of Development Communication (CDC) effective Dec. 3, 2018-Dec. 2, 2021. Dr. Tirol was former chair of CDC's Department of Development Broadcasting and Telecommunication. She also served as director of the Office of Public Relations from Nov. 1, 2008 to Jul. 1, 2012.



DR. ADELIZA A. DORADO

Associate Dean for Instruction of the College of Agriculture and Food Science effective Sept. 30, 2018-Sept. 30, 2021. Dr. Dorado, a former university registrar (June 1, 2001 - May 31, 2007), earned her PhD Agricultural Engineering as UPLB's top PhD graduate in 2016.



JENNIFER MARIE S. AMPARO

Associate Dean of the College of Human Ecology effective Jan. 1, 2019 until May 27, 2021. Amparo is an assistant professor at the Department of Social Development Services and is completing her PhD Human Ecology at the Australian National University.



DR. BARBARA L. CAOILI

Associate Dean for Research and Extension of the College of Agriculture and Food Science effective Sept. 30, 2018-Sept. 30, 2021. Dr. Caoili is a full Professor and UP Scientist I who holds a Doctor of Agricultural Science from Nagoya University.



DR. EILEEN LORENA M. MAMINO

Assistant to the Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Development effective Aug. 1, 2018-July 31, 2021. Dr. Mamino is a University Extension Specialist at the Center for Strategic Planning and Policy Studies.



AVRIL ADRIANNE DG. MADRID

Assistant to the Dean of the College of Development Communication effective Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2019. Madrid is an assistant professor at the Department of Science Communication.