



## UPLB marks 99th Loyalty Day & Alumni Homecoming

# Loyalty Day: Why celebrate?

Every October 10, UPLB celebrates the Loyalty Day and Alumni Homecoming. How and why exactly is UPLB celebrating it? It all goes back to the year 1918 when World War I was on its fifth year in Europe and world conditions were increasingly becoming unstable. The Allies, which included the US, needed more manpower against the Central Powers. Thus, when the Government called for volunteers, the UP College of Agriculture (UPCA) readily took the opportunity.

On October 10, 1918, 193 (60 percent) of the total student body and 27 faculty members enlisted to serve in the Philippine National Guard to fight in one of the world's most historic clashes. Senate President Manuel L. Quezon recognized the heroic spirit of these young men and women.



Soon after, the National Guard members began their training in Camp Claudio, Parañaque. However, in November 11, 1918, the World War officially ended with the signing of an armistice between Germany and the Allies. The National Guard was disbanded and the UPCA volunteers went back to their normal lives in Los Baños.

In the 1920s, the student body passed a resolution requesting the Board of Regents to set aside October 10 as Loyalty Day in UPCA, to celebrate the anniversary of the mass enlistment

in the National Guard. With the BOR approval of the resolution, the first Loyalty Day was celebrated on October 10, 1921.

Today, the spirit of volunteerism has taken on a new meaning for UPLB as it confronts modern day challenges such as climate change, food insecurity, biodiversity loss, declining water resources. It is in these areas that UPLB aims to contribute through knowledge discovery, innovation and creativity, and public service that impact on people's lives. *(Jessa Jael S. Arana)*



SANCHEZ, JR.



DIVINAGRACIA



AZANZA

## The search for the next UPLB chancellor is on

Three are vying to become the next chancellor of UPLB: Dr. Patrick Alain T. Azanza, Dr. Louie A. Divinagracia, and Dr. Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr.

One of them will be elected by the UP Board of Regents at its meeting on Oct. 26 to serve a three-year term effective Nov. 1, 2017.

The three nominees presented their vision, plans, and programs on Sept. 5 at the DL Umali Hall. Dr. Azanza delivered his presentation "UPLB as a Global Research University: Towards a Vision of a Silicon Valley for Agriculture and Related Industries" through distance mode using the online application Viber. Meanwhile, Dr. Divinagracia's presentation is entitled "A Vision for Sustainable Value Delivery. Dr. Sanchez's presentation, on the other hand, is entitled "Continuing the Legacy of Working Together for Excellence."

The complete profiles and vision papers of the nominees may be accessed at the UPLB website, [www.uplb.edu.ph](http://www.uplb.edu.ph).

From Sept. 7 to 12, a series of consultations among faculty members, staff, students, alumni, and past officials was held at REDREC Auditorium. The Search Committee for the Chancellor of UPLB interviewed the nominees on Sept. 15, and submitted its report to the UP President on Sept. 28.

Leading the Search Committee is Dr. Salcedo Eduardo, professor emeritus at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Its members are Atty. Roberto Lara, secretary of the University and of the Board of Regents; Dr. Maritess Yee and Asst. Prof. Roniel Manalo, faculty members at the College of Human Ecology and College of Forestry and Natural Resources, respectively; Eileen Lorena Mamino, researcher at the College of Public Affairs and Development; Antonio Salcedo, administrative staff at the Continuing Education Center; and Ronald Gem Celestial, student at the College of Engineering and Agro-industrial Technology. *(Mark Jayson E. Gloria)*



UP PRES. CONCEPCION

Photo by CV Labe/OPR

## PDLC reiterates need for compassion at his investiture

"The road to change is treacherous to say the least. But to guide us in every step of the way, compassion is what shall set our bearings."

UP President Danilo L. Concepcion made this call for compassion during his investiture address as the 21st President of UP System on Sept. 20 at the University Theater in UP Diliman.

President Concepcion emphasized the need to have compassion, along with honor and excellence, in achieving UP's solidarity and lasting camaraderie. He also said that his administration will be guided by the overarching vision of UP to be a leading regional and global university in an environment that sustains 21st century learning, knowledge creation, and public service for society and humanity.

He also spoke about his administration's future plans and initiatives such as the protection of students' right to freedom of expression, the option for return service for UP graduates, improving working conditions of faculty and staff, and rehabilitation of University facilities.

Present during the ceremony was Dr. Patricia B. Licuanan, chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education and of the UP Board of Regents (BOR), who presided over the investiture. Also present were Vice President Maria Leonor "Leni" Robredo, who is also a UP alumna, other government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, National Artists, National Scientists, heads of state universities and colleges and private higher education institutions, former UP Presidents, and current officials of the UP System. *(Jessa Jael S. Arana)*

## UPLB alumni get UPAA awards



OCAMPO

MAMON

ABILAY

Photo courtesy of UPS MPRO

Three from UPLB were recognized as distinguished alumni by the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) at the UP Grand Alumni Homecoming on Aug. 19 at the Ang Bahay ng Alumni, UP Diliman, Quezon City.

Dr. Mimoso Cortez-Ocampo (BS Home Technology '67 and MS Community Development '76) received the UPAA Distinguished Alumni Award for Women Empowerment through Rural Development. UPAA acknowledged her initiatives in empowering women through education and leadership training and gender mainstreaming in project planning and sustainable development, microenterprises, and credit cooperatives. She is a retired professor at the College of Public Affairs and Development and former director of the Office of Alumni Relations.

Meanwhile, Cesar Mario O. Mamon, (BS Agricultural Business '76) was given the UPAA Distinguished Alumni Award

in Entrepreneurship and Employment Creation. He is the founder and president of the theme park Enchanted Kingdom. His leadership has created jobs in the tourism industry in Laguna. He is the first Filipino to be elected chairman of the International Association of Amusement Parks and the founder of the Philippine Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions.

Dr. Juanito P. Abilay (BS Agriculture '58), on the other hand, received the UPAA Distinguished Service Award for an Alumnus. He was awarded for his leadership and contributions to two UP alumni associations in Northern California: the UPLB Alumni Group in America, where he served as founding vice president; and the UP Alumni Association of Central California, where he eventually served as its president.

(Jessa Jael S. Arana, with information from the 2017 UPAA Yearbook: *Itanghal ang Dangal*).

## UPLB, NAST, CCC call for climate change policies

Milenyo. Ondoy. Yolanda.

The UPLB Climate and Disaster Risks Studies Center (CDRSC), in partnership with the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) and the Philippine Climate Change Commission (CCC), co-organized the 2nd International Conference on Climate Change Research and Development and the 6th National Climate Research Conference on Sept. 27-28 at the CAS Auditorium.

With the theme "Linking science and policies to climate and disaster risks management," the conference served as a platform for stakeholders from academe, private institutions, and local government units (LGUs) to discuss climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management, and relevant climate policies.

In his keynote speech entitled "Convergence towards resilience," Climate Change Commission Secretary Emmanuel M. de Guzman talked about the importance of climate change adaptation and mitigation programs and policies. He emphasized their value for the Philippines, a country known to be highly vulnerable and at risk to climate change events. Sec. de Guzman also underscored the critical role of academe, particularly in providing science-based solutions to the phenomenon.

Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., in his welcome remarks, stated that climate change was "a challenge that can never be taken lightly." He expressed high hopes for the Conference's results and enjoined all attendees to participate actively.

Dr. William Padolina, president and Academician of NAST, discussed the negative impacts of climate change and called for a need to "repair the planet"; while Dr. Renato Solidum Jr., undersecretary for disaster risk reduction and climate change of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), stressed the importance of proper preparation in the face of worsening climate disasters.

The Conference had sub-themes for its two-day run. On the first day, the plenary and parallel sessions focused on "Managing climate and disaster

risks for resilient communities." The second day centered on "Assessing the science, policies and realities of climate change: Philippine context," which featured four commissioned papers and an open forum in a town hall format.

The Conference concluded with the formulation of a set of resolutions, for possible actionable policies. Dr. Rafael Guerrero III, Academician of NAST, officially closed the event, and encouraged everyone to "meet the challenge of climate change head on."

The event was sponsored by the School of Environmental Science and Management, DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development, Philippine Rice Research Institute, SEAMEO-SEARCA, and Oscar M. Lopez Center. (*Albert Geoffred B. Peralta*)

## UPLB holds summit for natural museums

UPLB brought biodiversity education and conservation advocacy to a higher level as it held the first ever summit for natural museums and collectors in the Philippines. The learning event, called Culture+Learning, Art+Design, Environment+Science Summit (CLADES), brought in over 150 participants from natural history institutions in the country on Sept 27-28 to SEARCA, the summit venue.

At the opening program on Sept. 27, Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. emphasized in his welcome remarks the importance of recording natural history in museums to make them more accessible to Filipinos.

Dr. Rex B. Demafelis, vice chancellor for research and extension, expressed his

hopes for the participants to network while Dr. Gil C. Saguiguit, Jr., director of SEARCA, said that the summit is an opportunity to gain better understanding of museums as multi-faceted facilities and tools for education and development.

The keynote speaker, Marivene M. Santos, head of the Zoology Division at the National Museum of the Philippines, presented plans to create the National Museum of Natural History.

The summit's plenary speakers were Amado R. Alvarez, head of the National Committee on Museums at the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, on a national program for natural history collections development in the Philippines; Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim, director of the DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau, on relevant laws and regulations; Dr. George Argent from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, United Kingdom, on herbarium management."

Other speakers were: Dr. Filiberto A. Pollisco, Jr, program specialist for

conservation policy and research at the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, on ASEAN efforts in building biodiversity information and collections; Dr. Arvin C. Deismos, Scientist III at the National Museum, on the role of natural history collections in science and the environment; Dr. Lawrence Liao, associate professor at Hiroshima University, on Philippine natural history players and stakeholders; and Dr. Juan Carlos Gonzalez, director of the UPLB Museum of Natural History (MNH), on making natural history collections relevant to the public.

The summit's technical parallel sessions featured 17 papers while the poster presentation gathered 20 entries. Three parallel workshops were also held and facilitated by MNH curators, namely: Prof. Pastor L. Malabrigo, Jr.; Dr. Ma. Vivian DC. Camacho; and Dr. Sheryl A. Yap. The UPLB Museum of Natural History organized the summit. (*Jessa Jael S. Arana*)



### DEVCOM GRAD TOPS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER EXAM

Atty. Vida Soraya S. Verzosa, BS Development Communication, class of 2006, ranked first among the 26 passers out of 527 examinees who took the 2016 Foreign Service Officer Examinations.

Atty. Verzosa studied law at the Ateneo de Manila University and completed the Dispute Settlement Course in International Economic Law and Policy at the Universitat de Barcelona. She serves as special counsel for intervention and national communications and media manager at the International Justice Mission. (*Catherine Bucu, www.devcom.edu.ph*)



**BIODIVERSITY EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION ADVOCATES.** Participants and speakers at the Culture + Learning, Art + Design, Entertainment + Science Summit pose for a souvenir photo. (Photo by VR Maningas/OPR)



**ADVOCATES FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.** (Fr left-right) CEM Dean Isabelita Pabayon, UP Regent Francis Laurel, Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri, and Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. at the inauguration of the REDREC building. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)

## CEM inaugurates REDREC bldg

The structure at the corner of Harold Cuzner “Royal Palm” Avenue and Jose Capinpin St. has stirred curiosity because it looks different from other buildings in UPLB and took time to be occupied.

Called the Rural Economic Development-Renewable Energy Center (REDREC), the building was finally inaugurated on June 14 amid festivities to celebrate the 39th founding anniversary of the College of Economics and Management (CEM), REDREC’s mother unit.

REDREC houses the CEM library and auditorium. It is designed as a green building with its large windows allowing in natural light and a wide roof to hold solar panels. REDREC was inaugurated in the presence of Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, a UPLB alumnus, who made possible for government funds to be allocated to build the first phase of the structure.

In his message during the inauguration program, Sen. Zubiri, BS Agribusiness Management ‘90, expressed his belief that more support should be given to research and development, particularly to UPLB, and to agriculture and rural development. He also emphasized the importance of infrastructure and human resources development to further boost the University’s international ranking.

Meanwhile, Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., who delivered the opening message during the program, expressed his hopes that REDREC will provide an enabling environment for research on renewable energy and rural economic development that will emphasize the importance of environment protection to agriculture and food security.

REDREC was completed in three phases, Phases II and III of which were funded by the UP System. A total of Php 35 million had been allotted to complete the building. (Jessa Jael S. Arana)



### LEADING PLANT PATHOLOGIST IN SCIENCE JOURNAL

Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun, Professor 12 and UP Scientist III at the College of Agriculture and Food Science, had his co-authored article published in *Science*, one of the world’s most prestigious scientific journals. Dr. Cumagun’s article with 14 other international scientists is entitled “Evolution of the wheat blast fungus through functional losses in a host specificity determinant.” It appeared in the 6,346th issue of the journal on July 7, 2017.

## UPLB launches nanotech facility

Officials of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) came in full force to grace the inauguration of UPLB’s Nanoscience and Technology Facility on July 31 at the Physical Sciences building.

If this did not constitute a vote of confidence for nanotech research in UPLB, the pronouncements of Hon. Fortunato T. de la Peña, Secretary of Science and Technology, leaves little doubt that the science agency believes in UPLB as the knowledge hub in the field in the country.

Secretary de la Peña said that the event “fits very well with our (DOST) nanotechnology roadmap.” “Nanotechnology is one of the emerging technologies that will play and will be playing a significant role in the sectors which we are trying to help develop. Whether we are talking of agriculture, food, health, or industry,

nanotechnology can find many applications,” he said.

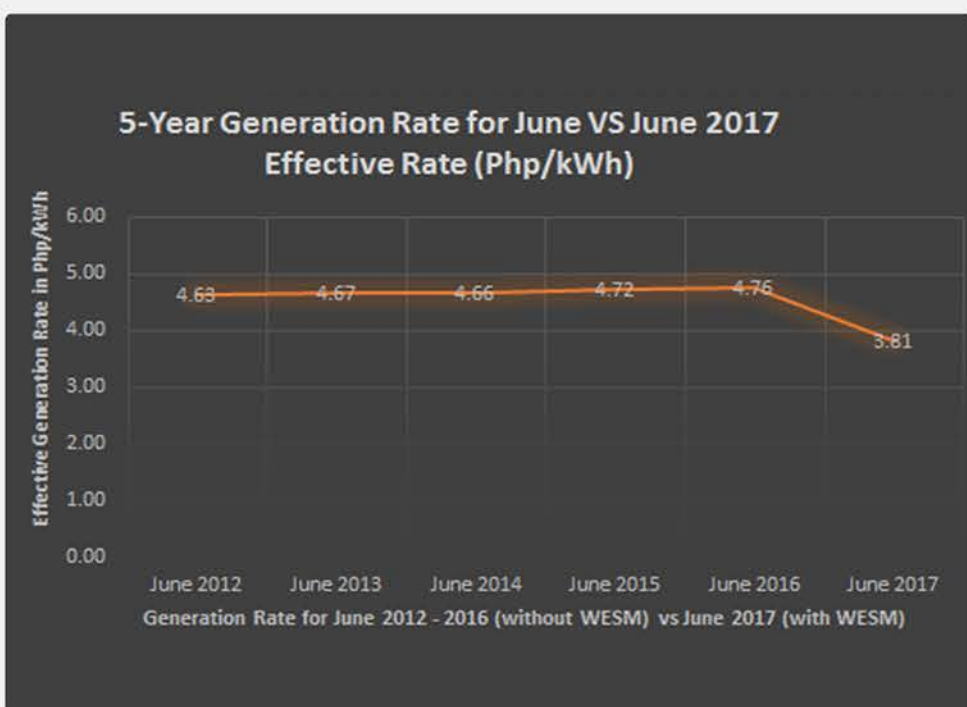
Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., in his message, expressed his gratitude to DOST for supporting the UPLB Nanotechnology Program and his pride in what the University has accomplished in the field. “We believe that nanotechnology creates a powerful yet harmonious combination of cutting edge technology with UPLB’s traditional fields of expertise in agriculture and forestry,” he said.

Dr. Milagros Peralta, program head, gave updates about the soon-to-rise building of the Program that will be constructed adjacent to the Physical Sciences Building. The Nanoscience and Technology Facility and the nanotechnology building are funded by UPLB and DOST-PCIEERD. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria)



**A FORCE FOR NANO SCIENCE R&D.** Nanotech R&D Head Milagros Peralta, Science and Technology Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña, PCIEERD Executive Director Carlos Primo David, DOST USec Rowena Cristina L. Guevara, UP Executive Vice President Teodoro Herbosa, Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., and Fr. Loreto Estomo, Jr. (Photo by VR Maningas/OPR)

## As WESM member UPLB saves PhP 1.0 M on 1st month



One million pesos in one month.

This is what UPLB has saved in electricity cost on its first month of direct membership in the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM).

Data from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development (OVCPD) shows that the June 2017 electric bill is PhP 1.6 million lower than that of June 2016. Likewise, compared to the bill incurred in May 2017 of PhP 6.605 million for a total energy consumption of 1,571.2662 MWh, the June 2017 electric bill is lower by PhP 1.5 million. The June 2017 electric bill is PhP 5.07 million for a total energy consumption of 1,329.255 MWh.

“Being a direct member of the WESM gives UPLB the power to choose where to get its electricity,” said Engr. John Davis Mangubat, electrical engineer at OVCPD. “UPLB can buy from its supplier when the prices in the market are high at certain intervals, but when the prices in the market are lower than 4.00 PhP/kWh, which is the fixed rate of electricity from its supplier, UPLB may decide not to buy from its supplier.” UPLB’s current supplier is Aboitiz Power Renewables, Inc.

Engr. Mangubat said that for June 2017, UPLB availed itself of a lower effective generation rate of 3.81 PhP/kWh through its WESM membership. The decrease in the effective generation rate continued in July 2017 with UPLB paying 3.72 PhP/kWh for electricity.

Engr. Mangubat is a member of a team of electrical engineers from UPLB and UP Diliman that studies the dynamics of the electricity market.

“The study is being done not only to find the best supply setup for the University that would ensure continuous savings and lower electricity cost, but to propagate knowledge in the field of electrical engineering,” Engr. Mangubat added.

The study is headed by Prof. Rowaldo Del Mundo and Prof. Ivan Benedict Nilo Cruz of the UP Diliman Electrical and Electronics Engineering Institute. Its other members are Engr. Athena Lavega, Asst. Prof. Elvin Dulce, Engr. Kim Jay Rosano, and Engr. Jenny Rose Repollo, all of the UPLB Department of Electrical Engineering. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria)



# 2017 ALUMNI AWARDEES



**UPLBAA  
PRESIDENT  
AWARD**

**FRANCIS C. LAUREL**  
BSA '70

## THE OUTSTANDING UPLB ALUMNI AWARD



**DR. RANDY A. HAUTEA**  
BSA '77, MS '80  
(Institutional Organization  
and Development)



**NICOMEDES P. ELEAZAR**  
BSA '81  
(Government Service and  
Research Management)



**DR. SATURNINA  
DC. HALOS**  
BSA '67  
(Forensic Technology)



**DR. VO TONG XUAN**  
BSA '67  
(Rice Technology)



**WINDELL L. RIVERA**  
BS Bio '89  
(Microbiology)



**CESAR VILLANOY**  
BS Zoo '89  
(Physical Oceanography)



**IMELDA F. GA**  
BSDC '8  
(Intercultu  
Communica



**LIDUVINO S. GERON**  
BSAE '85  
(Financial Governance  
for Countryside Development)



**JOSYLINE C. JAVELOSA**  
BS AgriBus '87  
(International  
Agribusiness)



**MANUEL BONITA**  
BSF '67  
(International Forestry)



**ROBERTO V. OLIVA**  
BSF '78  
(Environmental Laws  
and Policies)



**COL. THOMAS SEDANO**  
BSF '85  
(Poverty Alleviation  
and Human Development)



**MAR-LEN ABIGAIL  
S. BINAY**  
BSHE '97  
(Local Governance  
and Public Service)



**DR. MARIA CO  
T. LOPE**  
PhD '0  
(Educational L  
and Social Dev

## COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

### COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCE



**DIGNA L. SANDOVAL**  
BSA '80, MS '04  
(Institutional Development  
for Agricultural Research)



**FRANCISCO S. DIZON III**  
BSA '72  
(Agricultural  
Entrepreneurship)



**DR. BONIFACIO  
F. CAYABYAB**  
BSA '78, MS '86, PhD '92  
(Research and Extension;  
Entomology)



**ERLENE C. MANOHAR**  
BSA '79, MS '90  
(Public Service  
and Extension)



**LOLITA M. DOLORES**  
BSA '77, MS '95  
(Science and Technology;  
Plant Virology)



**DR. KASEM SOYTONG**  
PhD '85  
(Science and Technology)



**ROSEMARIE  
DE MESA**  
BSF '8  
(Public S

### COLLEGE OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT



**CAROLYN OLFINDO**  
BS AgriBus '87  
(Corporate Governance)



**APOLLO SANGALANG**  
BSE '90  
(Labor Law and Economics)



**DR. ZENAIDA SUMALDE**  
BSA '78, MS '83,  
PhD AgEcon '87  
(Environmental  
Economics)



**SHEILA MARIE ENCABO**  
BSAgEcon '91  
(Agricultural Finance  
and Public Service)



**ROEL CASTRO**  
BS AgriBus '88  
(Corporate Planning  
and Governance)



**HENDEL CABRAL**  
BSE '93  
(Agricultural Marketing)



**ROEHLAN**  
BS  
(Economi  
Public

### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY



**MICHAEL ANGELO B. PROMENTILLA**  
BS CHEM ENG '96  
(Socio-environmental Engineering)



**DR. MARIA CORAZON T. LOPEZ**  
PhD CD '06  
(Educational Leadership and  
Social Development)



**DR. RUEL V. MANINGAS**  
MMDM '95, PhD '03  
(Education and Extension  
Education)



**SOLOMON N. BENIGNO, JR.**  
DVM, 1986  
(Development Work  
on Animal Health)

### COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT

### COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

## OUTSTANDING GOLDEN JUBILARIAN



**DR. ROMULO G. DAVIDE**  
BSA '57

### NTG SERVICE AWARD



**DR. VO TONG XUAN**  
BSA '67



**DR. MIMOSA C. OCAMPO**  
BSHT '67 MS '76



**DR. SATURNINA DC. HALOS**  
BSA '67

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



**EDUARDO R. PILAPIL, JR.**  
AB Comm Arts '93  
(Agribusiness)



**PEALE JON BONDOC**  
BS Applied Math '85  
(Military Service  
and Leadership)



**SHERILL QUINTANA**  
BA Socio, '97  
(Entrepreneurship)



**DR. CECILIA S. GASCON**  
BSF, '86, MS '93, PhD '98  
(Institutional Service)



**DR. FELICIANO  
G. CALORA, JR.**  
BSF, '81, MS '85, PhD '92  
(Institutional Service)



**GUILLERMO A. MENDOZA**  
BSF, '73, MS '76  
(Public Service)

## COLLEGE OF FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## COLLEGE OF HUMAN ECOLOGY



**ELIZABETH C. BANDOJO**  
BSHE, '95  
(Human Settlements  
Planning)



**ABIGAIL G. BILLONES**  
BSHE, '93  
(Community Building  
and Rehabilitation Efforts)



**CARLA EDITH G. JIMENA**  
BSHE, '98, MS '09  
(Promoting Social Development  
in Instruction, Research and Public Service)



**LELITA G. NAVAREZ**  
BS Nutrition '89  
(Leadership in Community  
Nutrition)

## COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION



**ARLINE B. ADEVA**  
BSDC '95  
(Social Marketing)



**EDGARD A. AREVALO**  
BSDC '98  
(Communication  
for Peace)



**DOMINGO DC. CARO III**  
BSDC '97  
(Risk Communication  
and Advocacy)



**IMELDA F. GASMIEN**  
BSDC '84  
(Intercultural  
Communication)



**DR. MA. STELLA C. TIROL**  
BSDC '81, MS '87, PhD '14  
(Development Communication  
Education)

## SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT



**BRIAN BELEN**  
BS AgriBus Mgt '91  
(Agricultural  
Entrepreneurship)



**DR. DIGNA ORDUNA MANZANILLA**  
PhD Envi Sci '01  
(Research and Development)



**MS. INDIRA DAYANG  
LACERNA-WIDMANN**  
MS Envi Sci '97  
(Wildlife Conservation and Community Empowerment)



**DR. RUSTY G. ABANTO**  
PhD Envi Sci '10  
(Institutional Service)

## MULTI-GENERATION UPLB ALUMNI FAMILY RECOGNITION

### BAUTISTA FAMILY

Roberto C. Bautista (Deceased) | BSA 1956  
Ofelia Karganilla-Bautista | BSA 1960, MS Agro 1964  
Kerry Phil Bautista | BS Zoology 1998  
Keila Gwennyth Bautista | BS Bio 2017

### LANTICAN FAMILY

Ricardo M. Lantican | BSA 1954  
Emmanuel S. Lantican | BS Bio 1985  
Marc Joshua B. Lantican | BS Bio 2016

### HABITO FAMILY

Celestino P. Habito | BSA 1944  
Cielito F. Habito | BSA 1975 scl  
Pilar Relova-Habito | BACA 1978, MPAF 2006

Teresa Habito-Stuart | BSHT 1970 cl, MSDC 1979, PDDC 1985  
Raymundo Celestino F. Habito Jr. | BSZ 1981  
Consuelo De Luna-Habito | BSZ 1982, MSZ 1988  
Maria Celeste Habito-Cadiz | BSDC 1978 cl. MSDC 1985  
Vicente A. Cadiz | BSA 1974  
Cicero Matthew R. Habito | BSZ 1997  
Claire Marie Reyes-Habito | BS Bio mcl 2000  
Andrea Paola H. Stuart | BSAB 1994  
Anna Cristine H. Stuart | BSAE 1995  
Maria Corina DL Habito | BSCS 2004  
Christine Marie DL Habito | BSAM 2006  
Rowena Celine DL Habito-Salazar | BSHE 2007  
Jon Don DL Habito | BS Bio 2010 cl  
Vicente Leon H. Cadiz | BSA 2001

Antonio Jose H. Cadiz | BSDC 2004  
Julio Ynigo H. Cadiz | BSDC 2008  
Alyssa Bianca DG. Stuart | BSDC 2017

### BARROGA-JAMIAS FAMILY

Dr. Salud Fontanilla-Barroga | BSA 1959 hc, MS Entom 1974, PhD Entom 1981  
Serlie Barroga-Jamias | BSDC 1983 cl, MSDC 1987  
Charlene Barroga | BSAC 1984 cl  
Roger Barroga | BSDC 1986 (honor roll), MSDC 1991  
Edward Barroga | DVM 1990 (honor roll)  
Glafera Janet Barroga-Matanguihan | BSA 1991 cl  
Grace Barroga-Floyd | BSA 1991 mcl, MS Entom 1997  
Ser Jon Garnet Barroga Jamias | BSA 2009  
Augustus Franco Barroga Jamias | MSDC 2015

## Photo News



**UPLB AT THE BAÑAMOS FESTIVAL.** The 100-strong UPLB delegation to the Bañamos civic parade on Sept. 15, courtesy of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs (OVCCA), was led by Dr. Roberto G. Visco, assistant vice chancellor for community affairs. (Photo by MVT Durian)



**PROMOTING CARE FOR THE ELDERLY.** BS Nutrition students assist participants in the 6th Senior Citizens Summit on Sept. 23 at Baker Hall. The summit, whose central theme was neurobics or brain exercises, is an activity of the Elderly Development Program of the College of Human Ecology. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)



**EDIBLE LANDSCAPING (EL) MUSIC VIDEO LAUNCH.** Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., EL project leader, speaks about the food production approach at the launching of its music video "Tara! Mag-Edible Landscaping na!" at the Sequoia Hotel in Diliman, Quezon City on Aug. 26. The music video song was performed by pop singer Kyle Echarri and composed by Jasche Emmanuel A. Dadap and Von Jilmar P. Herbosa, both BS Agricultural Biotechnology students, and Maria Charito E. Balladares, EL co-project leader and university researcher. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)



**UPLB PAYS TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL SCIENTIST GELIA T. CASTILLO.** Nina Castillo Carandang, the daughter of Dr. Gelia T. Castillo, thanks the members of the UPLB community who took part in the necrological service it held on Aug. 9 at the Diocesan shrine of St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish. Dr. Castillo taught rural sociology in UPLB and was remembered best for contributions to sociological studies in rice in the life of Filipinos. (Photo by VR Maningas/OPR)



**ORIENTATION PROGRAM ON STUDENT CONDUCT AND LEADERSHIP.** Francis "Kiko" Faulve, ABS-CBN news reporter and UPLB alumnus discusses practical leadership to representatives of over 100 student organizations that attended "Student Organization Ultimate Leap (SOUL)," an orientation program conducted by the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) on September 4. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)



**INFO BLITZ ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.** Dr. Nina M. Cadiz, Director of OSA (5th from left) and members of the OSA staff pose for a souvenir photo with teachers and students of the Lumban Senior High School (LSHS) on September 7 after conducting the active SFAD System Informing SHS of Technical Service (OSA ASSISTS), an information campaign that seeks to help students realize that financial constraints should not hinder one from getting a UP education. OSA ASSISTS has already been conducted in 12 SHS in Laguna. (Photo courtesy of OSA)



**TWO FRATERNITIES, ONE GOAL.** Members of the Upsilon Sigma Phi and Beta Sigma Fraternity pose with Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs Serlie Barroga-Jamias and head of the University Housing Office Zoilo Belano in a break during the fogging operations that the two fraternities conducted in the student dormitories on Aug. 5. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)



**BRINGING SCIENCE TO NATIONAL DISCOURSE.** Dr. Jose "Butch" Dalisay, Jr., UP vice president for public affairs, encourages the members of the media to bring science to national discourse during the Media Brunch on Agri-innovation for Sustainable Food Security on Sept. 25 at SEARCA, UPLB. The activity is part of the CoST-UP, an EIDR-funded program of the UP College of Mass Communication. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)

## UPLB tops in PhilGEPS compliance

UPLB has the highest percentage of complied notices posted on the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) among the country's state universities and colleges (SUCs).

PhilGEPS is the "single, centralized electronic portal that serves as the primary and definitive source of information on government procurement." In this portal, prospective suppliers register to bid for the procurement of government offices' goods and services, infrastructure, and consulting worth more than PhP 1 million.

From November 2016 to June 2017, UPLB topped the compliance percentage among SUCs with more than 30 posted bid notices. Of the University's 102 notices posted during the said period, 50.98% have complied with all the four documents for public bidding. These are the Bids and Awards Committee Resolution, Notice of Award, Purchase Order or Contract Agreement, and Notice to Proceed.

According to Maria Cielo M. Lampa, chief of the Supply and Property Management Office, this is the first time that PhilGEPS released such ranking. UPLB's compliance to PhilGEPS, Lampa said, is a testament to the University's

transparency in its procurement process. PhilGEPS was created to promote transparency and efficiency, according to the 2016 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Government Procurement Reform Act.

Lampa attributed prompt and constant monitoring, strategic posting and uploading, and UP System-wide teamwork as among the factors that led to UPLB's top PhilGEPS ranking. Lampa is a member of a UP System task force dedicated to PhilGEPS-related activities. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria, with information from <http://data/philgeps.gov.ph>)



Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS)



University of the Philippines Los Baños

## UPLB upgrades its power infra

UPLB has been modernizing infrastructure and facilities to provide an enabling environment for innovation and creativity for its constituents.

To support these upgrades and ensure that these new facilities can be used to their full potential, the University Planning and Maintenance Office (UPMO) has also been working to upgrade the campus electrical system.

"Failing to do so would put to waste the efforts to upgrade and modernize buildings and research facilities." This is according to Engr. Elmer L. Centeno, chief of UPMO's Electrical Section. Engr. Centeno said that UPLB's recent projects have been taking a toll on UPLB's electrical capacity, with the current components becoming insufficient for the University's power requirements. He said that if these components are not replaced, the whole campus electrical system is bound to fail.

UPLB is currently rehabilitating and upgrading its electricity overhead distribution lines with a new wiring system that will enable it to handle

higher electrical capacity. The distribution lines are thickly insulated, thus more durable and safer to use. The old distribution lines are bare and easily susceptible to damage from stray branches, and inadequate for the increasing facilities of the University.

Phase 1 of the rehabilitation project at the upper campus began during the term of Dr. Rex Victor Cruz, former UPLB chancellor. Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. has continued the project into its Phase 2 to cover the Agronomy area up to the UPCO Housing site.

So that the project does not get in the way of operations, UPMO has been doing the upgrade work on weekends, hence the scheduled blackouts in the recent months. The project budget is PhP 11 million.

Phase 3 of the project aims to upgrade the electrical distribution lines at the Animal Science Complex and Pili Drive, and Phase 4, at the Institute of Plant Breeding and BIOTECH in 2018. (Jessa Jael S. Arana)



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**WIRELESS INTERNET CONNECTION.** Students enjoy the improved amenities at one of the WiFi hotspots in the campus. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)

## WiFi reaches more areas in UPLB

With UPLB's Internet connection going from 'mega' to 'giga' fast, WiFi has caught up and also expanded its scope. It is now accessible in 18 more areas and buildings in the University.

At the lower campus, UPLB WiFi is now accessible at the Agricultural Economics Building, CHE Building, University Police Force, Villegas Hall of the Institute of

Animal Science, CVM Admin Building, and Institute of Food Science, up to the Engineering Complex: the Engineering Science Building, EE Building, AMTEC, and IE Building.

The Agricultural and Life Sciences Complex of the University now also has WiFi. This includes the BIOTECH Compound, CTTE (APEC Building), IPB Admin Building, and

IPB Module B & C Buildings. UPLB WiFi has also reached the upper campus, at Office of Alumni Relations, University Health Service, CFNR Library, and FBS Building.

These 18 areas and buildings are included in the 65 major buildings in the campus, mostly classrooms and laboratories, which the Information Technology Center (ITC) aims to equip with WiFi access. The WiFi

project addresses the Internet connectivity needs of the students right inside the campus. UPLB WiFi also provides access to online journal collections of the University Library.

At present, UPLB has 213 access points that are up and running, serving an average of 2,000 users daily. (Kristine E. Araguas)



## Journal of Environmental Science and Management gets CHED recognition

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has recognized the Journal of Environmental Science and Management (JESAM) as a Higher Education Institution (HEI) journal under its Journal Incentive Program (JIP) effective Aug 8, 2017. CHED announced this through Memorandum Order No. 66, Series of 2017.

As an international peer-reviewed scientific and scholarly journal indexed in Web of Science (WoS) Thomson Reuters and Sciverse-Scopus, JESAM was conferred the Journal Challenge (JC) grant and will be awarded PhP500,000 every year for three years (2017-2019). JESAM will also be provided

with technical support for online article submission, refereeing, and manuscript tracking including endorsement to library subscriptions, among others.

Based on the Journal Citation Reports® 2016, JESAM's Impact Factor has increased to 0.323 in 2016 from 0.146 in 2015; 0.250 in 2014; 0.103 in 2013; and 0.179 in 2012 resulting in a five-year Impact Factor of 0.400 - the highest that it has achieved during the period. Impact Factor is a quantitative tool of Thomson Reuters to evaluate peer-reviewed journals by "measuring the frequency by which the average article in a journal has been cited in a particular period." A journal's annual

impact factor is computed using the "ratio between citations and recent citable items published."

JESAM is a publication of the UPLB School of Environmental Science and Management. More information about JESAM may be accessed on <http://jesam-uplb.org/> and <https://journals.uplb.edu.ph/index.php/JESAM>.

JESAM is the second UPLB journal to be accepted in CHED-JIP. In May 2017, the Philippine Journal of Veterinary Medicine made it to the first batch of JC grantees. (Cherry Sy Padilla, [sesam.uplb.edu.ph](mailto:sesam.uplb.edu.ph))

## UPLB students are innovation olympics finalists



**AGRI INNOVATION.** UPLB's i-Agri Ventures and Team Oppa, and Asian Institute of Management's Agriviz, explain their winning agri-technologies during the East-West Seed (EWS) Innovation Olympics on Sept. 29 at REDREC Auditorium. Listening to them is Maaik Groot, EWS Company Representative for Europe (2nd to the L), who served as an overview presenter during the event. (Photo by CV Labe/OPR)

Two UPLB teams emerged as finalists during the East-West Seed (EWS) Innovation Olympics with the theme "New technologies to improve the productivity of our vegetable farmers." The event was conducted by EWS, a producer and marketer of hybrid tropical vegetables, on Sept. 26-29 at the REDREC Auditorium in UPLB.

UPLB's winning teams were i-Agri Ventures and Team Oppa. The former, composed of Jayson O. Fumera, Mark Twain A. Limbo, and Job Jonas C. Ruzgal, developed KAMATIS or "Kagamitang Makabago, Teknolohiyang at Impormasyong

Sigurado," a device that monitors soil moisture content to avoid excessive water in tomato production. The latter whose members were Arvin John B. Garcia and Sean Vince Ruel D. Maningas created a contraption that uses sensors and data to inform farmers on the condition of their vegetable farms through text messaging.

Agriviz, composed of students from the Asian Institute of Management,

was also named as finalist. The team, composed of Aaron Franz L. David, Jose Gabriel V. Dimalanta, and Reaiah Joy R. Sarmiento, designed an agricultural e-commerce platform that aims to save on cost and maximize the yield and profit of farmers.

The three teams won P150,000 to adopt a farming community where they could implement their projects.

Dr. Mary Ann P. Sayoc, public affairs lead of EWS, said that this is their way to challenge the next generation of agriculture, business, and technology leaders to develop innovative solutions to real-life challenges of vegetable farmers and to attract young people to

venture into agriculture during the opening ceremony on Sept. 26.

Agricultural practitioners and entrepreneurs also shared tips and best practices to the participants. The eight competing teams from UPLB and AIM then underwent a boot camp to review, develop, and enhance their proposed technologies.

On January 2018, the EWS Innovation Olympics Grand Champion will be declared from among the three teams. The winning team will get P250,000 to roll out their project. The event was coordinated by the UPLB Center for Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship. (John Glen Sarol)

## A first in Asia: International human ecology conference to happen in UPLB

The first-ever international human ecology conference to happen in Asia is going to be held in UPLB on Nov. 28-Dec. 1, 2017.

The XXII International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE) will be hosted by the College of Human Ecology (CHE) in partnership with the SHE and the International Organization for Human Ecology.

The conference will showcase global practices, initiatives, and possibilities that contribute to shaping a more sustainable world.

His Excellency Vongthep Arthakaivalvakatee, deputy secretary-general of ASEAN Socio-cultural Community, will serve as the Conference's keynote speaker. Plenary speakers will cover the Conference's four themes, namely:

1. Ranell Martin Dedicatoria, regional program manager of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Southeast Asia and an outstanding UPLB alumnus, on Sustainable Cities and Landscapes;

2. Dr. Stacy Jupiter, director of the Wildlife Conservation Society, on Sustainable Food and Water Systems;

3. Gina Lopez, environmental advocate and former environment secretary of the Philippines, on Communities in Transition; and

4. Dr. Tony Capon, inaugural professor of planetary health at the University of Sydney, on Health and Aging.

The Conference will be held at the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) in UPLB.

Inquiries on conference registration, travel accommodations, and other concerns may be addressed to:

Email: sheconference2017@up.edu.ph  
Mobile: +63 917 8858441; or +63 949 104 3275  
Telefax: +63 49 536 2682  
Website: www.societyforhumanecology.org



## UPLB keeps top marks in five board exams

UPLB scored high in five licensure examinations administered by the Professional Regulation Commission in August and September 2017.

It has preserved the 100% passing rates in the Registered Nutritionist-Dietitian (RND) and the Registered Electrical Engineer (REE) Licensure Examinations that it has kept for the past 10 and 7 years, respectively. In these exams, UPLB added 124 and 30 to its RNDs and REEs, respectively.

UPLB was also close to clinching perfect scores in two other board exams: a 99.27% passing rate in the Forester exam (136 passers out of 137 takers) and a 98.33% passing rate in the Agricultural Engineer exam (59 passers from 60 examinees).

The University also registered a 93.75% passing rate in the Veterinarian Licensure Exam with 45 passers out of 48 takers.

"Our graduates are making us proud for giving UPLB straight 10 years of 100% passing rate in the RND exam," said Dr. Normahitta Gordoncillo, director of the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food (IHNF), the home of BS Nutrition in UPLB. "I must admit that the pressure was on for the last three years, especially with a much increased number of examinees, and yet we still made it!"

Dr. Gordoncillo considers the admission process, well-grounded and updated curriculum, top quality faculty members, and the leadership

of previous IHNF directors as among the factors that have contributed to UPLB's good track record in the RND exam.

Engr. John Davis Mangubat, a staff at the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development (OVCPD) who passed the REE exam in April 2017, related how the Department of Electrical Engineering (DEE), where he was once a student, upholds UP's culture of honor and excellence among its future electrical engineers.

"In DEE, pwede na is not enough. You cannot pass a subject by mere luck," Engr. Manabat said. "You only pass a subject when you have the mastery of it. You earn every unit with 'blood and sweat.'" Engr. Mangubat is a member of the OVCPD-DEE team that worked for UPLB to become a direct member of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market from which the University is now benefitting in terms of lower electricity cost.

UPLB was also declared as a top-performing school in the RND, Forester, and Agricultural Engineer exams for obtaining at least 80% passing percentage out of 50 or more examinees. Eleven of its graduates also entered the list of topnotchers in the five examinations. (Mark Jayson E. Gloria, with reports from www.prc.gov.ph)



## QUEZON ART EXHIBIT

The Quezon Art 2 Exhibit installed at the Sining Makiling Gallery, DL Umali Hall from Sept. 5-29 featured the painting, pen sketches, and sculptural pieces of members of the Quezon Artists Guild, which show the different sights, culture, and traditions of Quezon province. Among these are (clockwise): "Hula Hoop" by Tristan Bamba; "Paper Series" by Rigor Esguerra; "Mother and Child @ 03" by Frank Caña; "Patda" by Rhanz Ramiro; "First Sinner I" by Jan David Obciana; "Daguok ng Panginurin" by Neil Resuma Follosa; "Ulam" by Oliver Rabino; (another part of) "Paper Series" by R. Esguerra; "Butterfly Lady" by R. Ramiro; and "Lako" by Noel P. Bueza. (with reports from John Albert Pagunsan)