2401

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

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.

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IE MOBILE COMPUTING PROJECT TO ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING

After being awarded by Hewlett Packard with a Teaching Grant Initiative, the Industrial Engineering (IE) Department launched a project to better facilitate IE students' learning in System Dynamics.

The project, "Using Mobile Computing Technology for Enhancing Student Learning Effectiveness in System Dynamics Course through Group Model Building," is spearheaded by IE faculty members Dennis Beng Hui and Dr. Jose Edgardo Mutuc.

System Dynamics is one of the important courses in Industrial Engineering, according to the project proponents. Beng Hui pointed out that the course trains students to have a systems perspective of a problem.

The project also addresses the challenge of questionable accuracy and representation of the system of personal computers, as these are inflexible. With the HP grant, students are given tablet PCs to work on a more flexible environment.

The Tablet PCs will be used in three ways within the course program: Faculty-led Classroom Modeling, Student Case Study Group Modeling, and Student Actual Study Stakeholder Modeling.

There will be six phases for the whole project, which will run until April, 2009.

Valued at approximately US $75,000, the HP grant includes, among others, US $20,000 cash grant and 21 tablet PCs for the class professor and students.

CED NAMED AS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The Commission of Higher Education (CHED), in cooperation with the Technical Panel for Teacher Education, has identified the College of Education (CED) as a Center of Excellence (COE) in Teacher Education effective June 2, 2008 to June 2, 2011.

In his letter to De La Salle Univeristy President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC, CHED Chairman Romulo Neri wrote that "the Commission recognizes your commitment to provide excellent programs and services in Teacher Education and your capacity to serve as role model to other Teacher Education institutions."

CED was chosen based on its outstanding track record in the areas of teaching, research, and extension services in Teacher Education.

The COE citation is the premier distinction given by CHED to higher education institutions (HEIs), both private and public, which have demonstrated the highest degree or level of standards along the areas of instructional quality, research and publication, extension and linkages, and institutional qualifications.

As a COE, CED will receive funding assistance to be utilized for student scholarships, faculty development, library and laboratory upgrading, research and extension services, instructional materials development, and networking of existing COEs.

Recognized COEs also provide institutional leadership in all aspects of development in specific areas of discipline in the various regions by providing networking arrangements to help ensure the accelerated development of other HEIs in their respective service areas.

The College has five departments namely, Counseling and Educational Psychology, Educational Leadership and Management, English and Applied Linguistics, Physical Education, and Science Education. Aside from offering degree programs, the College also offers the Teacher Certificate Program to provide non-education degree holders the necessary skills in teaching children in the regular schools.

CED is regularly tapped by the Department of Education to provide training for public teachers, acknowledging the University as a "teacher training institution" because of its commitment and capability to train and assist DepEd's various programs.

DLSU WELCOMES STAR SCHOLARS BATCH 10

De La Salle University welcomed the 10th and newest batch of Star Scholars during the recognition rites organized by the Marketing Communication Office in the Marilen Gaerlan North Conservatory last July 18.

Eight students out of the top 64 examinees who took the DLSU College Entrance Test made it through the rigorous screening process this year. Three of the scholars are now in the College of Engineering, three in the College of Science, and one each in the College of Business and Economics and College of Computer Studies.

This year's Star Scholars are Katrina Angeles (MEM-BME), Miguel Antonio Buluran (HUM-BIO), Michael Reynoso Gutierrez (IE), Rafael Alfred Montalvo III (CS), Kurt Gerrard See (AE-BSC), Joseph Talampas (MEM-MR), Kristel Tanhui (HUM-BIO) and Kevin Temew (PHY-MAT).

During the recognition rites, Star Scholars who graduated the previous school year were also recognized. The honorees are Donelle Gan (MEM), summa cum laude; David Jan Chan (CHE); Christie Marie Mendoza (CAM-ACM), cum laude; Angeline Arcenas (HUM-BIO); Samson Clemente, Jr. (MFI), honorable mention; Mary Ann Ngo (CS), summa cum laude; and Katrina Festejo (HUM-BIO), honorable mention.

Also honored in the ceremony were the high schools that the Star Scholars attended. These were Philippine Science High School-Quezon City, St. Jude Catholic School, Davao Christian High School, De La Salle Santiago Zobel School, La Salle Green Hills, Makati Science High School and Xavier School.

President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC, Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Carmelita Quebengco, and Vice Chancellor for Lasallian Mission and External Relations Br. Bernard Oca, FSC presented the certificates of recognition to the new batch of Star Scholars. Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and University Registrar Edwin Santiago, Director of the Scholarship and Financial Assistance Nina Kikuchi, and Director of College Admissions Melisse del Rosario, meanwhile, presented the certificates of recognition to the representatives of the high schools.

Ang Publikong Intelektuwal, Akademya, at Lipunang Filipino

ni Dr. Rhod V. Nuncio

Sa mahabang panahong nakalipas at magpahanggang ngayon, problematiko pa rin ang anyo't pagkakakilanlan ng tunay na publikong intelektuwal sa bansa. Sa aking haypotesis, kailangang magkasabay kasi ang paglitaw ng intelektuwal na tradisyon at ng publikong intelektuwal. Hangga't hindi naipagpapatuloy o di kaya'y hangga't laging nauudlot ang makaFilipinong paglitaw ng tradisyon ng karunungan/pilosopiyang Filipino, lagi't laging nabubura at nawawala ang imahe't kaakuhan ng isang publikong intelektuwal.

Kalat-kalat at sanga-sangang matatagpuan sa iba't ibang textual at diskursibong representasyon ang isang intelektuwal sa ating kontexto, karanasan at kasaysayan. Unang-una na rito ang makasaysayang pigurang si Jose Rizal. Siya ang exemplar ng ibang ilustrado, sa ibang saray ng lipunan, ng ibang intelektuwal noon at ngayon. Subalit kahit na ba napakadakila niya, kailangan pa rin nating irekonstrak at ikontextualisa ang patuloy na kabuluhan/kalikhaan ng isang intelektuwal. Lagi't laging tanong ng iba: bakit laging si Rizal?

May social existence ba talaga ngayon ang isang publikong intelektuwal? Sino nga ba ang publikong intelektuwal sa panlipunang konstruksyon, sa panlipuang realidad natin na nakaugat sa nakalipas, makabuluhan sa kasalukuyan at hinaharap, at sa ating kontexto't tunguhin sa bayan?

Guro

Sa ganitong usapin, lahat ay nagsisimula sa pagiging guro. Ang potensyal ng pagiging publikong intelektuwal ay nagmumula sa bokasyon/profesyon ng pagiging guro.

Una dapat nating mahalin ang trabahong ito at taimtim na ilapit ang sarili natin sa pagmumulat ng isipan ng estudyante at ng madla. Sa digmaang pangkaisipan, gahum-kontra-gahum, ang mga gurong mulat ang kawal/tagapagsulong ng "dekolonisasyon ng isipan" at "transformatibong edukasyon". Ang klasrum ang laging sityo ng tunggalian – dito nangyayari ang pagbubuwag o pagdidistungka sa isipan ng mga bata/kabataan na dumadaaan sa "realidad ng lipunan".

Sa aking karanasan, ang mga disiplinang gabundok ang hamon at trabaho ay yaong nakatutok sa pagkakasarinlan ng pananaw-Filipino. Ito ang mga aralin/disiplinang Filipino, kasaysayan, panitikan at agham panlipunan (yaong naging bahagi ng indigenization movement sa akademya).

Ganito kasi ang sinaryo: napakahirap kumbinsihin ang mga kabataang nahirati sa Ingles at kanluraning diskurso na mahalaga ang rehiyonal at pambansang wika para sa kanilang pagkakakilanlan, pagkabansa at kamalayan. Sa umaatikabong pagtuturo ng wika at mga paksang makaFilipino, lagi't laging mas malaki ang panahong ginugugol sa pagkukumbinsi.

Sa ibang disiplina tulad ng mga eksaktong agham ng matematika't pisika, hindi kailangan ang puspusang pagkukumbinsing mahalaga't kailangan ito. Ang mga kabataang gustong magtagumpay sa kani-kanilang profesyon sa hinaharap ay lubos na nakalublob sa kanilang major courses: engineering, computer studies, business and economics, at marami pang iba. Walang mabigat na effort sa mga guro na mangumbinsi, liban na lamang talaga sa mga tamad na mag-aaral.

Kailangan sa yugto ng pagiging guro, lagi tayong nakatapak sa lupa, subalit nagtatangkang tumalon sa hinaharap, at sumasabay sa mga pagbabagong nagaganap. Kailangan ika nga, nakapagpapabago din ang edukasyon sa atin. Sabi nga, ang pinakamahirap kumbinsihin kung tayo'y nangungumbinsi ng ibang tao ay walang iba kundi ang ating sarili. Samakatuwid, dapat nating kumbinsihin at aminin sa ating mga sarili na tayo, sa una't unang pagkakataon, ay mga guro.

Kasunod nito, ang pananagutang maging guro sa kapwa guro. Sa madaling salita, paglingkuran natin ang ating profesyon at kapwa sa profesyon, at yaong magiging kasama pa sa profesyong ito. Hindi madaling gawin ito, para ngang sa yugtong ito, mahirap na nating isipin na magiging intelektuwal/paham/palaisip pa tayo. Ngunit sa tingin ko naman, mahirap nga ito kung mag-iisa ka. Ang pagiging guro, sa tingin ko, ay re/konstraksyon hindi ng lipunan, kundi ng sariling determinasyon sa tulong ng mga estudyante, magulang, administrador, at kapwa-guro.

Tagapanguna sa larangan/tagalikha ng kaalaman

Sa yugtong ito, iniisip na niya't inuurirat ang lokasyon ng kanyang sarili sa malawak na diskurso ng Kaalaman at bagong mga kaalaman. Nararapat na sipatin niya ito batay sa kanyang pagnanasang kumapit sa bayan, makaalpas at makalaya sa kumunoy ng kahirapan, kawalang pag-asa't katiyakan, at sa tila paikot-ikot na paglangoy sa ganitong kalalagayan.

Totoong dapat na maging magaling tayong manunulat, pilosopo, kritiko, sosyologo, antropologo, sayentist, mathematician, ekonomista, at marami pang iba. Magpakadalubahasa tayo. Mahabang panahon ang ginugugol dito para lumitaw ang kontribusyon ng isang intelektuwal sa akademya at paglao'y sa lipunang pinaglilingkuran niya. Nagagawa ito sa pamamagitan ng riserts at marubdob na pagsusulat, paglikha't paglilimbag.

Ngayon sa paninindigan natin, sa determinasyon natin bilang tagapanguna sa ating larangan, kailangang isiwalat natin ang ating danas/alaala/dunong na nagmumula sa loob, sa emikong sitwasyon ng ating lipunan at kultura, at sa kaloob-looban ng ating pag-unawa't pagkamulat para sa madla. Dito nagsisimula ang pag-iisip na humahapuhap ng wika para maibulalas ang nabubuong kaisipan, natutuklasang kaalaman, napag-uugnay na pananaw, at nakapagbabagong diwa. Hindi mangyayari ito kung walang mangungunang magsusulat, magririserts, at maglilimbag sa Filipino.

Kailangan nating lumikha muli ng ripple hanggang sa maging malalaking alon ng kaalaman/karunungan na pagdedebatihan sa akademya at magbubukas at magpapasigla muli sa mga akademiko, iskolar, at guro't publikong intelektuwal tungkol sa ating sarili/kaakuhan, sa penomenong sosyo-kultural, sa nangyayari sa labas ng akademya, sa pandaigdigang larangan, at sa marami pang bagay.

Kung ang pagiging guro ang paghuhunos ng pagkatao ng

isang publikong intelektuwal, ang pagiging palaisip, manunulat, risertser naman ang paghulagpos sa tindi ng pagkapipi, pagkabingi't pagkabulag sa maraming usapin at maraming bagay dala ng metadiskurso ng gahum na kaalaman.

Piliin natin ang ating larangan, ang ating interes – kinagisnan, kinalakhan, kinasiyahan, kinatitindigan – bilang mga pangunahing saklaw at galaw ng ating pagririserts, pagsusulat, at pagteteorya. Sa palagay ko, ito ang hindi maaagaw o mawawala sa atin, sa kung paanong paraan nakasipat, nakalubog, at nakalirip tayo sa tabas, lalim, at husay ng ating lokal na diwa't kaalaman.

Mangyayari lang ito kung mag-iisip tayo sa ating wika – sa Filipino, varayti ng Filipino, at/o mga wika sa bansa. Kaya nga't hayaan ninyong sabihin kong sa pagtuturo ng wika, dapat nating sabihin sa ating mga estudyate na hindi lamang apat ang makrokasanayang pangwika – pagbasa, pagsulat, pagbigkas, at pakikinig – kundi lima. Kasamang mahalaga dapat dito ang "mag-isip sa Filipino". Sa mga pag-aaral/sulatin ni Br. Andrew Gonzalez, nababanggit na niya ang "kognitibong dulog sa paggamit ng wika".

Tagapagsulong ng pagbabago sa lipunan

Kailangang kasangkapanin ang edukasyon bilang mapagpalaya, ang akademya bilang "ikalimang estado ng lipunan". Pagpopook ito sa kapangyarihan at impluwensiya ng akademya na makapagsulong ng pagbabago sa lipunan, sa kalagayang internal sa tao (isip, dama, danas) at kinalalagyan niya (estado, uri, gender). Kailangang maging maligalig at maingay ang daluyong ng diskurso at praktika ng mga akademiko para makapaghawan ng landas at makapag-ambag sa pagpaplanong panlipunan. Kailangang maisalin sa praktika ang teorya, maging publiko ang pribado, maging malakas ang puwersa ng mga akademiko at matimpla't mabalanse ang puwersa ng sarili't lipunan/kultura.

Tagapag-ugnay/tagapamagitan

Ang mga dakilang paham, guro/guru ay nakilala sa pagiging "the great synthesizer", "social equalizer", at "social catalyst". Kung nakapagsusulong siya ng pagbabago/adbokasiya nararapat na sumanib siya sa usapin at gawaing panlipunan. Nagagawa ito kapag nagalugad niya nang husto ang lupalop ng lipunan at iba't ibang sakop nito at kung maramihan na ang nakikisangkot. Bilang tagapag-ugnay sa lipunan dapat malay siya sa pagbabalik-tanaw at pag-aabot-tanaw: malay/batid ang

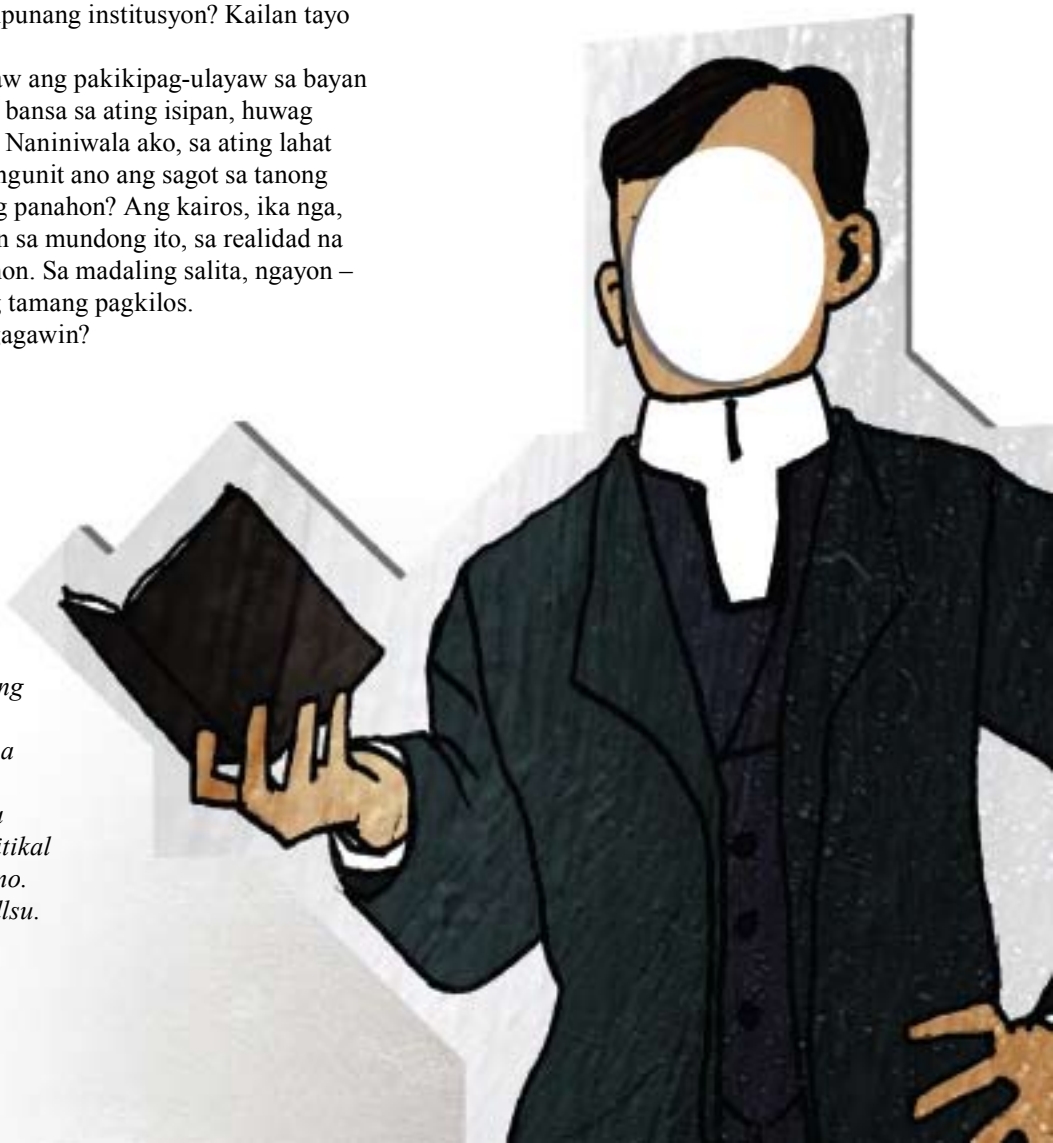
kasaysayan ng bansa at bisyon/tunguhin ng bansa at kung paano umaanib/tumatalab/umuukit sa katawan, at kamalayan ang iba't ibang puwersang panlipunan.

Hindi simpleng kontra-gahum ang nangyayari, kundi delubyo't daluyong na kontra-gahum. Sa kanyang malawak at malalim na pagkakadalubhasa, kailangang napag-uusap niya ang mga disiplina at nakakalikha ng mga bagong kaalaman o dagdag na kaalaman para sa sambayanan/bayan.

Mula rito, kailangan nating linawin muli't muli ano at sino ba tayo sa lipunang ito? Gaano ba kabigat ang personal nating tahakin na nagiging daluyan para mabaling tayo sa ating pribadong pagtatamasa? Gaano ba kalakas ang puwersa ng mga nag-uumpugang diskurso/metadiskurso, suliraning panlipunan/pambansa/global? Paano natin sisipatin ito at saan natin ilulugar ang ating sarili bilang intelektuwal? Sa loob ba o labas ng akademya? Sa ating sariling pangalan ba o sa pagpapangalan ng mga taong inaalisan natin ng pangalan, mukha, katawan, malay at ulirat dahil sa kahirapan, kurapsyon at kapalaluang nananahan sa ating mga panlipunang institusyon? Kailan tayo magsisimulang sagutin ang mga ito?

Sa ganang akin, gawin nating araw-araw ang pakikipag-ulayaw sa bayan at sambayanan. Gawin nating kongkreto ang bansa sa ating isipan, huwag laging maging haraya't pangarap lamang ito. Naniniwala ako, sa ating lahat ng misyon, adbokasiya't pananaw sa buhay, ngunit ano ang sagot sa tanong na kailan tayo magsisimula? Ano ang tamang panahon? Ang kairos, ika nga, kailan ito magaganap? Ang bawat araw natin sa mundong ito, sa realidad na ito, sa lipunang ito, ang laging tamang panahon. Sa madaling salita, ngayon – at sa mga ngangayunin pa – ang panahon ng tamang pagkilos.

Huling tanong na lang: ano ang ating gagawin?



Si Dr. Rhod V. Nuncio ang kasalukuyang tagapangulo ng Departamento ng Filipino, Kolehiyo ng Malalayang Sining. Ang papel na ito ay sipi mula sa mahabang papel na may parehong pamagat na binasa sa Sangandiwa 2007: Kauna-unahang Worksyap ng mga Kritikal na Gradwadong Pag-aaral sa Araling Filipino. Maaaring kontakin ang awtor sa nuncior@dlsu.edu.ph.

WOMEN MILESTONES IN LA SALLE

Founded by the Christian Brothers in 1911, De La Salle University was originally a school exclusively for young boys. But in the succeeding decades, La Salle first opened its doors to a woman teacher in the 1940s and eventually accepted female students in the 1970s, changing the culture of the student body. Numerous women also played vital roles in its development and in providing quality education to Lasallian students.

1946 – Magdalena Estrada became De La Salle College's first woman teacher.

1973 – DLSC opened its doors to the first 76 female students.

1975 – Ma. Pacita Habaluyas (BSC '75), Ma. Josefina Rotor (AB '75) and Ma. Clarissa Arguelles (AB '75) became the first female graduates of DLSU.

1978 – Josefina H. Alburo was appointed as the first lady Principal of the Grade School Taft.

1985 - Dr. Emerita Quito, former chairperson of the Philosophy Department and Vice President for Academics, won the first Metrobank Search for Outstanding Teachers and was also conferred the Academic Palms decoration by the French government in recognition of her academic achievements. Quito is the first Filipino to have been invited to teach academic courses at the tertiary level in France.

1992 – Dr. Azucena Puertollano became the first woman dean of the College of Engineering.

2002 – Dr. Josette Biyo won the "Intel Excellence in Teaching Award" in the United States, defeating 4,000 teachers from around the world. She is the first Asian to win the award.

2003 – Dr. Carmelita Quebengco was appointed Interim President, making her the first female and first lay president of DLSU.

Sources:

La Salle: 1911-1986 by Quirino, Carlos, 1986

A Gathering of Archers, Written and Compiled by Excareal-Velasco, Rosanna and Carunungan, Tomas III, 2004

Lasallians extend help to Calatagan farmers

As a sign of De La Salle University's support to the plight of the Calatagan farmers, the University recently sponsored the conference, "Calatagan farmers: *Buklod-bakod para sa Lupang Sakahan, hindi minahan."* It also served as the launching activity for a string of activities that aim to help these farmers protect their lands.

University President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC, former Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales, and Archbishop Ramon Arguelles of the Archdiocese of Lipa served as resource persons for the activity. It was attended by Lasallians as well as students from other schools and universities.

The Calatagan farmers—legitimate agrarian reform beneficiaries—sought help from various sectors in protest of the activities of a mining company, which tried numerous times to sneak in mining equipment to their land to begin their eviction.

BR. ARMIN ATTENDS AUN MEET ON REGIONAL PROGRESS

De La Salle University President and Chancellor Br. Armin Luistro FSC attended the 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN University Network Board of Trustees (AUN-BOT) last June 19 to 20 at the Vietnam National University in Hanoi, Vietnam.

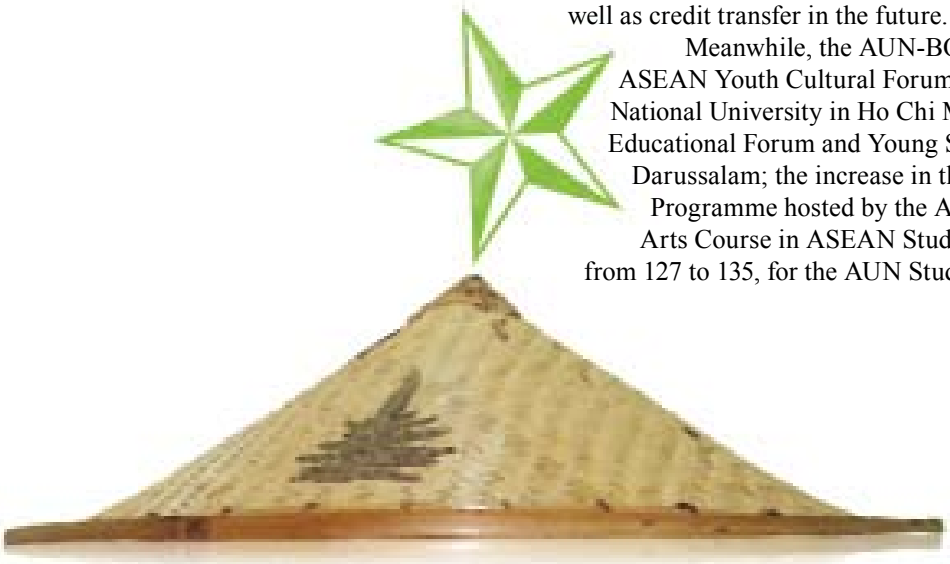
One of the highlights of the AUN-BOT Meeting was the discussion on the progress of different AUN activities currently being implemented, among which is the AUN Quality Assurance's (AUN-QA) scheduled activities that include the 2nd Actual Quality Assessment of DLSU on August 11 to 13.

In the course of the discussion, it was noted that the purpose of the Actual Quality Assessment is to rate rather than accredit programs audited by the Chief Quality Officers' Assessor Team.

The Actual Quality Assessment for volunteering member universities is done at the undergraduate program level, and is started with Engineering and Business programs in order to support AUN sub-networks of the AUN/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) and ASEAN Graduate Business and Economics Programme (AGBEP) Network.

The AUN members discussed the possibility of promoting student mobility as well as credit transfer in the future.

Meanwhile, the AUN-BOT also discussed the preparations for the 6th ASEAN Youth Cultural Forum scheduled on July 28 to August 2 at Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City. They also noted the success of the AUN Educational Forum and Young Speakers Contest last May 20 to 27 in Brunei Darussalam; the increase in the number of applications in the ASEAN Studies Programme hosted by the Asia-Europe Institute in Malaysia for the Master of Arts Course in ASEAN Studies; and the increase in the number of scholarships, from 127 to 135, for the AUN Student Exchange Programme for SY2008-2009.



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In explaining the details of the agreement, CCS Dean Dr. Rachel Edita Roxas said that in the one-year pilot period, the storage courses will first be offered as an elective for CCS students, particularly those majoring in Computer Systems Engineering and Network Engineering, and see from there how it can be integrated into the curriculum.

Furthermore, Roxas said they expect to start offering the elective classes by the third term of this school year, after the instructors finish their training with EMC. She added that they plan to start with five full time faculty members of the Computer Technology Department for the training on storage technologies.

The EMC Academic Alliance Program began in 2006 with the Pennsylvania University in the United States. Today, EMC has tied up with over 200 universities around the world, with more than 4,500 students who have gone through the course. DLSU is only the sixth university in Asia with the Academic Alliance Program.

LA SALLE HOLDS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONGRESS

De La Salle University held the 10th DLSU Science and Technology Congress with the theme, "ICT for All" last July 23 at the Yuchengco Building.

The conference this year focused on the importance of the role of ICT in various disciplines including business, medicine, science, engineering, and humanities. The whole day event featured lectures and paper presentations by participants from various institutions in the country.

In his keynote address, Hon. Joseph Emilio Abaya, Representative of the 1st District of Cavite and the Chair of the House of Representatives' Science and Technology Committee talked about the Technology Transfer Act that he is currently sponsoring in the House of Representatives.

Commissioners Angelo Timoteo Diaz de Rivera and Monchito Ibrahim of the Commission on ICT were plenary speakers in the conference. They discussed the Philippine Strategic Roadmap for the ICT Sector as well as management and engineering curricula for the services industry.

The six parallel sessions in the afternoon, meanwhile, served as a venue for invited lecturers to give their paper presentations. Over 55 paper presentations were given at the conference.

Aside from the whole day conference, a Biodiversity Symposium, which is a satellite activity of the conference, was held at the Yuchengco Building last July 26. The symposium featured conservation work on Philippine endangered species, particularly the Philippine Tarsier.

CCS LINKS WITH GLOBAL BRAND EMC COMPUTER SYSTEMS

The College of Computer Studies (CCS) recently entered into an Academic Alliance Agreement with global brand EMC Computer Systems to provide courses on storage technologies and information management. The partnership is the first of its kind in the country today.

Under the agreement, EMC's Academic Alliance Program will provide DLSU an open curriculum of up to three storage courses—Storage Technology Foundations, Networked Storage Design and Management, and Information Availability Design and Management. This means that the courses on storage technologies are not product specific.

Likewise, EMC will provide the necessary training of CCS faculty members on EMC's materials through its Instructor Preparedness Program. EMC will also provide a website to support this program, where instructors will find support items including documentation and contact information, among others.

In the official launch of the partnership last July 17 at the Manila Peninsula Hotel, EMC Philippines Country Manager Ronnie Latinazo explained that with knowledge and training on storage technologies, CCS students will be open for numerous job opportunities abroad because of the growing need for more professionals with storage expertise worldwide.

DLSU Vice Chancellor for Lasallian Mission and External Relations Br. Bernard Oca FSC expressed his appreciation for the partnership because it would mean that DLSU students will have the extra edge in the IT industry both locally and globally.

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From left: Ronnie Latinazo, Br. Bernard Oca, and Dr. Rachel Roxas.

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