



## UBU sends BSA exchange students to UPLB

**F**our Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BSA) students from Ubon Ratchathani University (UBU), Thailand underwent a short internship at the College of Agriculture and Food Science (CAFS), UPLB as a part of the student exchange program between the two universities.

Dean Enrico P. Supangco welcomed Wanwisa Baochai and Anchalee Kitiyawong, both major in Agronomy; and Panadda Ouiphet and Supulak Lekkla, both major in Horticulture during the midyear A.Y. 2016-2017.

The closing program was attended by the training coordinators, Office of the International Linkages (OIL); Dean's Office staff, Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun, representative of Institute of Weed Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology; Dr. Edna A. Aguilar, director of Institute of Crop Science and program development associate for research, CAFS; and Dr. Tonette P. Laude, associate dean for instruction, CAFS. The participants presented their accomplishments from their mini-researches.

The interns also participated in lectures, hands-on activities, English class and visit to the International Rice Research Institute, the Makiling Botanical Garden, and the Museum of Natural History. The program ran from July 13-23. (*Catherine E. Lee. Simultaneously published in <https://ca.uplb.edu.ph/>*)

## UPLB/USAID-STRIDE conducts Farmer's Field Day with SAMABACO

**T**he USAID STRIDE project, "*Philippine Local Forages as Sustainable Feed Alternative for Dairy Cattle*", which is based at the Dairy Training and Research Institute, conducted its Farmer's Field Day in Tanauan City, Batangas last July 8.

This R & D project, funded by the Research Triangle Institute, aims to promote the sustainable use of introduced but localized forages such as the improved grasses - Napier, Guinea, Signal and Jarra, and the forage legume - perennial Stylo, both in backyard and commercial dairy operations. The farmers' knowledge about these forages were initially assessed through a survey-questionnaire.

Eighteen farmer-members of the Samahan ng Magsagatas sa Batangas Cooperative (SAMABACO) participated in the field day that included a focus group discussion (FGD) at the City Coop Office and the silage making demo and planting of six select forages near SAMABACO office in Brgy. Tinurik, Tanauan City. The FGD, facilitated by Myrna S. Galang of DTRI, identified the major concerns of the participants on forage production and feeding management. After three months, the acceptability of the select forages will be evaluated in those farmers who planted the forages and by observing the feeding behavior of dairy animals given these forages.

The activity was conducted by the project team composed of Menandro M. Loresco and Joy B. Bano, project leaders; and Kaileen May D. Saballo, John Michael L. Roxas and Reynaldo Sequijor, Jr., project staff. Kristine Camille Tenorio and Anseline Jane Mitra of the STRIDE cattle project also assisted the team. (*Menandro M. Loresco/Myrna S. Galang*)

## DTRI holds 1<sup>st</sup> team building activity with new director

**T**he Dairy Training and Research Institute (DTRI) conducted its first team building activity under the leadership of Dr. Amado A. Angeles, the newly appointed director of the institute, last July 28-29 at the Celebration Spring Resort, Park Merced Village, Lalakay, Los Baños, Laguna.

The activity was aimed to promote better teamwork among DTRI personnel, other co-workers and officers by getting to know each other while having fun, finding out each other's strengths and weaknesses and knowing DTRI's role in the university and in dairy development.

The program started with a special message from Dr. Angeles who emphasized that DTRI should move forward and join together on how to attain its mandate as "the dairy training and research institute".





He also mentioned some of his plans for the institute and thanked Director Elpidio M. Agbisit, Jr. and other faculty and staff of the Institute of Animal Science for supporting DTRI by serving as affiliate researchers and being involved in its many major activities. Dean Enrico P. Supangco then gave his inspirational message, mentioning some of the major accomplishments of the college. He also emphasized the importance of the role of DTRI and requested everyone to help Dr. Angeles in attaining DTRI's success. Some DTRI staff performed a special dance number.

After the program, the young project staff of DTRI facilitated several games that brought the participants together as teams. A sumptuous dinner was savored and appreciated by the participants. After which, Videoke challenge and Bingo game followed; later in the night, more singing while drinking was truly enjoyed. Some also enjoyed swimming. The whole activity was a success based on the very positive reactions from participants, expressing their desire to have a regular activity such as this one. The activity would not be possible without the financial assistance from Dr. Angeles, Dean Supangco and some DTRI researchers as well as contributions in kind by some staff. (*Myrna S. Galang*)

## NCPC researchers win NAST awards

The National Crop Protection Center researchers were among the recipients of this year's prestigious awards from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST).

Scientist Cristina M. Bajet, Eric Jhon DG Cruz, Jasper A. Sarmiento and John Julius Manuben won the 2017 NAST Philippines Best Scientific Poster Award (Agricultural Sciences Category) for their poster entitled "Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues (RBPR) for the Detection of Residues in Vegetables and Fruits". The Pesticide Management team of Scientist Bajet is among the four divisions of NCPC under the revitalized center.

The NAST, on the other hand, is the highest recognition and scientific advisory body of the Philippines under the Department of Science and Technology. It was created through Presidential Decree 1003-A issued by President Ferdinand E. Marcos in 1976 to honor and recognize Filipino scientists who made worthy contributions in the advancement of science and technology in the country. It also recommends individuals to be conferred the Order of National Scientist upon approval of the President of the Philippines. (*Eric Jhon DG Cruz/Ruby G. dela Cruz, with info from NAST Wikipedia, Philippines*)

## IPB joins exhibit/techno fair at CLSU

The Institute of Plant Breeding (IPB) put up an exhibit in the Department of Science and Technology's (DOST) celebration of Region III Science & Technology (S&T) Week at the Central Luzon State University (CLSU), Muñoz, Nueva Ecija last July 25-27.

This three-day event highlighted the different technologies in agriculture, industry, information and communication, enterprise development education, health and disaster mitigation from the different provinces in the Central Luzon region, namely Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, and Zambales, as well as other government and private institutions involved in research and technology development.

Together with the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH) occupying UPLB booth, the IPB showcased its technological breakthroughs in agriculture and food such as seeds of vegetables and corn, asexually propagated fruit trees, SNAP hydroponics and corn grits. It also distributed some brochures and flyers to the general public. Anchored on the theme "Science for the People", this year's exhibit cum technology fair was celebrated to touch base with people from all walks of life, allow them to witness the latest developments in the S&T sector, and let them experience how science contributes in improving their daily lives and the economy. (*Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr.*)

## FOREIGN TRAVELS\*

- ◆ **Dr. Apolonio M. Ocampo**, university researcher, Institute of Plant Breeding (IPB); attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Task Force on Soil and Vegetable Monitoring of Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) in Niigata, Japan; July 4-7
- ◆ **Dr. Domingo E. Angeles**, professor, Institute of Crop Science (ICropS); visited the different universities in Australia to gain additional insights and establish collaborative researches; July 9-16
- ◆ **Dr. Edna A. Aguilar**, professor, ICropS; visited University of California Davis and met with The Philippine-California Advanced Research Institutes (PCARI) Project One Health Team in USA; July 9-11
- ◆ **Dr. Constancio C. de Guzman**, ICropS; visited experimental site of a PhD student in Hue City, Vietnam; July 16-21

\*Prepared by *Imelda M. Gesmundo and Erlinda A. Balot*





- ◆ **Dr. Maria Helen F. Dayo**, university researcher, Agricultural Systems Institute (ASI); conducted assessment meetings with counterpart universities in preparation for the ASEAN Integration working group conference in Bangkok, Thailand; July 16-22
- ◆ **Eric Jhon D. Cruz**, university researcher, National Crop Protection Cluster (NCPC); attended summer school in Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China; July 17-21
- ◆ **Dr. Perlita A. Nuevo**, research affiliate professor, Postharvest Horticulture Training and Research Center (PHTRC); served as principal investigator to Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative (AFACI) and presented a country paper titled "Publication of Improved Postharvest Handling Techniques of Banana Grown by Farmers in the Philippines (Phase II)" in Dhaka, Bangladesh; July 18-22
- ◆ **Dr. Teodoro C. Mendoza**, professor, ICropS; visited field experiment on lowland rice conservation agriculture production system as part of the project of the Center of Excellence on Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Nutrition (CESAIN) and visited a former MS student advisee in Cambodia; July 18-24
- ◆ **Dr. Katherine Ann C. Israel**, Diane L. Belan, Claire S. Zubia and Joel P. Rivadeneira, assistant professor, instructor and university researchers, respectively, Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST); presented poster researches and attended the International Food Research Conference in Singapore and University of Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia; July 21-29
- ◆ **Dr. Filma C. Calalo**, assistant professor, ASI; attended the XXVII European Society for Rural Sociology Congress in Krakow, Poland; July 22-28
- ◆ **Dr. Dennis Marvin O. Santiago**, Rona Camille M. Lizardo and Loraine C. Bainto, associate professor and assistant professors, respectively, IFST; presented poster researches and attended the International Food Research Conference at the University of Putra Malaysia Selangor in Malaysia; July 23-29
- ◆ **Dr. Rodel G. Maghirang**, scientist I, IPB; visited the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation in Myanmar; July 23-30
- ◆ **Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun**, professor, Institute of Weed Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology (IWEP); attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Humboldt Kolleg and presented a paper titled, "Promoting Urban Health Communities and Reducing Fungicide Use through the Use of Rainforest Fungal Endophytes for the Control of Fusarium Wilt of Banana Tropical Race 4 in the Philippines" in Jakarta, Indonesia; July 24-27
- ◆ **Dr. Perlita A. Nuevo and Emmanuel Q. Amatorio**, research assistant professor and engineer, respectively, PHTRC; attended the Training Course on Principles and Operation of Shimadzu Universal Testing Machine at Shimadzu Customer Support Center in Singapore; July 24-28
- ◆ **Visitacion C. Huelgas and Hidelisa D. De Chavez**, university researchers, IPB; attended the 2017 Genbank Operations and Advanced Learning Workshop in Serdang, Malaysia; July 30-August 5
- ◆ **Maria Lea H. Villavicencio**, university researcher, IPB; attended the Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative (AFACI) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; July 30-August 6
- ◆ **Dr. Simplicio M. Medina**, director and associate professor, Office of International Linkages (OIL) and ASI, respectively; attended the signing of the Memo of Agreement and Memo of Understanding between UPLB and Kyoto Prefectural University and Chiba Institute of Technology in Japan; July 26-30

### ANNOUNCEMENT

#### NCPC Seminar Series "Writing for CAFS Publications and Website"

- ◆ **Some Tips on News and Feature Writing**
- ◆ **Role of Social Media in Promoting CAFS Publications and Activities**

**September 5, 2017; 9AM-4PM**  
**NCPC Auditorium**

### FEEDBACK

For comments/suggestions, just e-mail:

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**We welcome articles from every CAFS constituent.**

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