



CA's National Scientist is among top 100 Asian scientists

Dr. Ramon C. Barba, a National Scientist (NS) and alumnus from the Crop Science Cluster, College of Agriculture (CA) leads the Filipino scientists in the maiden "Asian Scientists 100" list released recently by The Asian Scientist magazine.

Ranked third on the list, Dr. Barba is a distinguished horticulturist known for devising a way for mango trees to produce flowers regardless of season, which contributed greatly to the development of the mango industry in the Philippines.

The three other Filipino scientists are: NS Angel Alcala (7th place), NS Edgardo Gomez (9th place), Project Noah Director Mahar Lagmay and NS Gavino C. Trono, Jr. (12th place). (*Apolinario L. Lantican, with info taken from INQUIRER.net, May 1, 2016*)

CA's AUN-QA team reports to ExeCom

The ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) team of the CA presented the Self Assessment Report (SAR) in a mock presentation last May 13 in Baguio City.

The 11 criteria report was presented based on the Guide to AUN-QA Assessment at Programme Level version 3.0. The criteria are: (1) expected learning outcomes, (2) programme specification, (3) programme structure and content, (4) teaching and learning approach, (5) student assessment, (6) academic staff quality, (7) support staff quality, (8) student quality and support, (9) facilities and infrastructures, (10) quality enhancement, and (11) output. The presentation was done to go over the criteria reports and see what needs to be refined.

The AUN-QA team, headed by Dr. Tonette P. Laude, convened with the members of the CA Executive Committee (ExeCom) and former members of the team, who exchanged insights among the group to further enhance the content of each report. Though it still needs refinement based on the comments and suggestions generated during the presentation, the team targeted to submit the full report on the 20th day of June 2016. (*Rachel B. Bautista*)

CA faculty & staff undergo orientation on eUP info systems

The faculty and staff of the College of Agriculture (CA) attended a general orientation on eUP Information Systems last May 10 at the ICOPED auditorium.

With no less than Dean Enrico P. Supangco and some cluster directors in attendance, the half day orientation focused on Human Resource Information System (HRIS); Student Academic Information System (SAIS); Financial Management Information System (FMIS); Supplies, Procurement and Campus Management Information Systems (SPCMIS) and Executive Information System (EIS).

Ruel P. Madriaga, Sarah Salvio, Rafaela Anne Rivera and Angelo Labuguen from UP Diliman served as facilitators/resource persons in the said activity. They discussed the aforementioned systems in line with the eUP Project initiated by President Pascual. (*AL Lantican*)

CPC entomologists named as UP Scientists

Former Chancellor Luis Rey I. Velasco and former Crop Protection Cluster (CPC) Director Cecilia dR. Medina were recently conferred the title Scientist 1 by the UP System. The titles of these faculty and entomologists from CPC took effect from 2015 to 2017. (*Ruby G. dela Cruz*)

IPB to turn 41

The Institute of Plant Breeding (IPB), Crop Science Cluster will celebrate its 41st anniversary on June 2-3 by conducting a forum, a family day, and an alumni and friends homecoming.

On the first day, a forum on “Inclusive Business Models to Move Agriculture Forward” will bring together scientists, entrepreneurs and other members of the academic and agribusiness community. The guest of honor will be George T. Barcelon, president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), while the panelists will include Ambassador Donald G. Dee, honorary chairman of PCCI; Roberto C. Amores, chief executive officer of Hi-Las Marketing Corporation; Alfredo M. Yao, founder of Zest-O Group of Companies; Hon. Nelia T. Gonzalez, former UP Regent; and Glenn N. Baticados, director of Center for Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship (CTTE), UPLB. This activity is sponsored by the Coalition for Agriculture Modernization in the Philippines, Department of Agribusiness Management and Entrepreneurship-UPLB College of Economics and Management, and CTTE.

The second day will be a Family Day which will underscore the messages by UPLB officials and IPB Council of Elders. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Manuel L. Logroño, former IPB deputy director and current president of IPB Alumni and Friends Association. There will be a service award recognition and induction of the new officers of the Junior Researchers Organization. A game “Wowowin” will follow, patterned after a popular afternoon TV game-variety show. At night, the homecoming of IPB alumni and friends will be held. (*Laureno B. Lanosia, Jr.*)

NCPC turns 40

The National Crop Protection Center (NCPC), a UPLB pest management research institution, celebrated its 40th anniversary last May 19.

The festive celebration was highlighted by a farmers’ field day sponsored by the Carrageenan project of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development-Department of Science and Technology (PCAARRD-DOST), under the leadership of Dr. Gil L. Magsino, Crop Protection Cluster (CPC)’s Information Management and Technical Services head and extension coordinator.

After the early field day, participated in by almost 200 farmers from Bay, Calauan and Victoria, Laguna, the visitors proceeded to the main NCPC building to view exhibits and attend the formal program. The UPLB officials started the program through a ribbon cutting ceremony. Present during the celebration were: Dr. Fernando F. Sanchez, Sr., founder and first director of NCPC (with wife, Dr. Priscilla C. Sanchez); Dr. Enrico P. Supangco, CA dean; Dr. Jocelyn E. Eusebio, director of Crops Research Division of PCAARRD (representing Dr. Reynaldo V. Eborra); Dr. Rex B. Demafelis and Dr. Susan May F. Calumpang, Vice Chancellor and Asst. Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension, respectively; Dr. Romulo G. Davide, CPC professor *emeritus* and Ramon Magsaysay awardee; Hon. Nelia T. Gonzales, former Board of Regents member, and Dr. Ponciano M. Halos, former NCPC team leader and researcher.

A brief backgrounder about the Carrageenan project was presented by Dr. Magsino while a farmer user gave a testimonial during the event; after which, the whole time was devoted to exhibit viewing at the NCPC lobby. The CPC exhibit consisted of technology breakthroughs, all products of years of research and hard work by NCPC researchers. Guest exhibitors were SYNOCHEM Co., PLANTERS and Carrageenan of PCAARRD-DOST.

In the afternoon, the NCPC staff had a good time bonding with some retired personnel. Service awards were given to staff who have served from 35 years and above while posthumous awards were also granted to personnel who passed away in line of service.

The NCPC was founded on May 19, 1976 through Pres. Decree 936 by then Pres. Ferdinand E. Marcos. The center is now a component of the CPC that merged with the Departments of Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science of Agronomy on June 5, 2005, as approved by the UP Board of Regents. (*Ruby G. Dela Cruz*)

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Advisers: Dean Enrico P. Supangco

Associate Dean Tonette P. Laude

Editor/Layout Artist: Apolinario L. Lantican

Contributors: Erlinda A. Balot, Jeddahlyn S. Baria, Rachel B. Bautista, Ruby G. dela Cruz, Imelda M. Gesmundo,

Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr., and Apolinario L. Lantican

Circulation Officer: Venecia B. Batain

Department of National Defense staff visit CA

A team of 20 military personnel and civilian employees [Philippine Airforce (PAF) and Philippine Army (PA)] of the Department of National Defense (DND) visited CA last May 20.

Headed by Capt. Rowena T. Petrillo (administrative officer, PAF), the team was able to get information that will further improve DND's Integrated Business Development Program wherein some military idle lands are being used more productively. Some of these projects put up by DND is a coffee plantation in Camp Kibaritan in Bukidnon and a bamboo plantation in Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija.

The visitors were toured at the BINHING PAMANA organic farm of the Crop Science Cluster (CSC) and oriented on the activities being done by PAMANA and its role in the CSC. One thing that caught their interest was, how the fermented fruit juice (FFJ) and fermented plant juice (FPJ) look like, how they are being prepared and what their uses are. Also, since one of them asked why zinnia, cosmos and marigold are abundant at PAMANA, it was explained that they do not only serve as ornamentals but also as botanicals that attract pollinators (zinnia and cosmos) and drive away pests (marigold).

A video about the edible landscaping project, its activities and accomplishment, was presented to the visitors. They also visited the tissue culture laboratory of the Ornamental Crops Division of CSC. At the landscape area, they were so impressed at how the vegetables, fruits and herbs were artistically combined.

The said visit was made through the initiative of Fernando I. Manalo, DND undersecretary for finance, ammunitions, installations and materials. *(Imelda M. Gesmundo)*

ANNOUNCEMENT*

ADSC Training Course:

- ◆ Dairy Products Manufacture at Home
June 27-July 1; P3,000 per person

For details, call: Tel.# (049) 536-3426/2547/3744/2205

**Information given by Jeddahlyn S. Baria*

FOREIGN TRAVEL*

- ◆ **Raol P. Pamiloza**, university researcher, Crop Science Cluster (CSC); attended the international course on: Bioinformatics and Biotechnology: Today's Tools for Tomorrow's Agriculture in a World of Global Environment Changes; Israel; May 7-June 10
- ◆ **Dr. Rommel C. Sulabo**, professor, Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster (ADSC); served as resource speaker during the Olmix 2nd International Seminar on Health and Nutrition; Indonesia; May 15-18
- ◆ **Dr. Nestor C. Altoveros** and **Teresita H. Borromeo**, associate professor and professor, respectively; CSC; attended the International Workshop on "Assessing resilience and ecosystem goods and services of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems in selected rice systems in China and the Philippines; Beijing, China; May 15-20
- ◆ **Dr. Simplicio M. Medina**, associate professor, Agricultural Systems Cluster; attended the Tokyo University of Agriculture's 125th anniversary; Japan; May 19-22
- ◆ **Annalisa L. Aquino**, university researcher, CSC; attended the Netherlands Fellowship Programmes Training on Integrated Seed Sector Development; Center for Development Innovation, Wageningen, The Netherlands; May 20-June 13
- ◆ **Carla Alilie A. Lontoc**, university researcher, ADSC; attended the 2016 International Conference on Asia Agriculture and Animal; Jeju Island, Republic of Korea; May 22-27
- ◆ **Dr. Rodel G. Maghirang**, scientist I, CSC; attended meetings of the Special Task Force for the ASEAN Standard for Organic Agriculture and Task Force on ASEAN Standards for Horticultural Produce and Other Crops; Laos Plaza Hotel, Vientiane Capital, Laos; May 22-28
- ◆ **Dr. Lotis E. Mopera**, assistant professor, Food Science Cluster; participated in the Multi-Country Observational Study Mission on Food Safety Management System; Tokyo, Japan; May 22-29
- ◆ **Dr. Edna A. Aguilar**, professor, CSC; joined the academic visit/focus (cooperate); Taiwan University, Taiwan; May 24-27
- ◆ **Ryan Rodrigo P. Tayobong** and **Maria Charito E. Baladares**, instructor and university researcher, respectively, CSC; participated as exhibitor and presented a paper titled, "Dissemination of Edible Landscaping Technology: Road to Self-Sufficiency" at Daego Flower Show and Samsung Coex; Seoul, South Korea; May 30-June 11

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