



# COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## CA to mark 107th year as Family Day

The College of Agriculture (CA) will celebrate its 107<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on March 6 with the theme, "CA Family, Transforming Philippine Agriculture Through Academic Excellence and Public Service".

Before the clock strikes at 6:00am, UPLB officials, unit heads, guests, staff and alumni will troop to the *Pook Pinagtatagan* or more popularly known as the Foundation Site for a simple ceremony. No less than Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr., Dean Enrico P. Supangco and Los Baños Mayor Caesar P. Perez will grace the affair; together with UPLB Alumni Association President Leo R. Ballestin, CA Alumni Association President Elpidio M. Agbisit, Jr. and MADECOR President Elpidio L. Rosario who will serve as the guest speaker.

After which, they will conduct a motorcade going to the Agronomy/Soils/Horticulture building for the CA Recognition Program and CA Family Day. During the awarding ceremony in the morning, outstanding faculty, staff and students will be honored. Meanwhile, faculty and staff will show their special talents during the Cluster Follies where several student organizations will provide intermission numbers.

This year's activities, held in conjunction with the UPLB Foundation Day celebration, also brings to mind the *Los Baños Spirit* that binds the college. (*Apolinario L. Lantican, with report from Lorina M. Castillo*)

## Nagoya University faculty, staff & students visit CA dean

Five faculty staff and four graduate students (1 Cambodian majoring in Bio-Agricultural Science; 2 Japanese specializing on International Development and Health Science, respectively; and 1 Chinese with field of specialization on International Development) of Nagoya University had a courtesy visit to Dean Enrico P. Supangco last February 22.

Having heard about CA as the Commission on Higher Education's Center of Excellence in Agricultural Education, the visitors headed by Dr. Akira Yamauchi (professor on Agricultural Science - Crop Science and Agronomy) were very eager to meet the dean. Dr. Yamauchi expressed his desire to know more about CA's tri-fold function with more emphasis on extension which, according to him, is not very strong in Nagoya University.

Dean Supangco oriented the visitors about CA, its curricular programs, products and services through a powerpoint presentation. He also informed them that CA, being the premier institution in agriculture, only admits 400 qualified UPCAT passers to maintain certain level of standards. Likewise, he said that CA has continuously maintained its standing as the top performing school in the country with a 99 percent passing rate in the licensure examination for agriculturists.

Dr. Yamauchi also expressed his gratitude to the dean for providing them with a technical staff from the visitors program of the CA Extension Unit to assist them even on a weekend in their visit to Costales Nature Farms in Majayjay, Laguna and during their interview with some farmers and a municipal agriculturist in one of the barangays in the said town.

Prior to meeting the dean, the group also had a courtesy call with Dr. Reynaldo Comia, director of the Institute of Agroforestry.

The visit to CA of the Nagoya University group is part of their collaborative undertakings with UPLB where a Nagoya University Satellite Campus is based. (*Imelda M. Gesmundo*)

## CA PIAs attend seminar on improving UPLB's visibility

The CA public information associates (PIAs) took part in a seminar on "Improving Institutional Visibility of UPLB", held last February 24 at the ICOPED Auditorium, UPLB campus.

The PIAs who attended the said activity were Apolinario L. Lantican of the CA Dean's Office-Publications Section, Dr. Nenita L. de Castro and Myrna S. Galang of the Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster, Ruby G. dela Cruz and Joedel A. de Guzman of the Crop Protection Cluster, Virma Rea G. Lee and Leonisa A. Artes of the Crop Science Cluster, and Sheba Mae M. Duque of the Food Science Cluster.

The speakers were led by UP Vice President for Public Affairs Prospero E. de Vera who talked on "Improving Institutional Visibility of UPLB and Communication in Crisis Management". Other resource persons were Frances Fatima M. Cabana, deputy director of the UP System Information Office, who talked on "Value of Branding for Higher Education Institutions" and Khalil Ismael Michael G. Quilinguing, media production specialist of the UP System Information Office, who discussed the "Use of Social and New Media to Improve Institutional Visibility of a Higher Education Institution."

Organized by the Office of Public Relations headed by Director Josephine M. Bo, the seminar coincided with the induction and oath taking ceremony for the PIAs of various colleges and units of UPLB. Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. led the oath taking, together with Vice-Chancellor for Community Affairs Serlie Barroga-Jamias and Director Bo. *(AL Lantican)*

## CSC-IPB conducts OJT for DMMSU aggie students

Twelve agriculture students from Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMSU), Rosario, La Union underwent an On-the-Job Training (OJT) at Crop Science Cluster-Institute of Plant Breeding (CSC-IPB) from January 5 to February 4.

Otherwise known as Occupational Internship Program in DMMSU, the OJT is one of the requirements for these students to get a degree. It is aimed to expose the student interns to actual field experience and develop proficiency in their fields of study.

The training course provided them with knowledge and skills in plant breeding, crop propagation, pest management, gene banking, edible landscaping, and seed production and processing. It used a combination of interactive lectures, laboratory sessions, field work and visit to farms in Bay, Laguna and Tagaytay City, Cavite. They also visited the International Rice Research Institute.

Several staff of CSC-IPB served as coordinators, lecturers, and laboratory/administrative support personnel. *(Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr.)*

## CPC- NCPC personnel garner 2016 awards

Four personnel of the Crop Protection Cluster are this year's recipients of various awards from the CA and UPLB.

In the senior faculty category, Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun has two awards: UPLB Outstanding Researcher and CA Outstanding Researcher in the Natural Sciences Discipline. Meanwhile, Marcela M. Navasero (Scientist 1) is the CA Outstanding Senior Researcher.

On the other hand, the Nelia T. Gonzales Award is given to Virginia V. De Mesa as CA's Outstanding Administrative Personnel in the office personnel category while Julian Antonio M. Eusebio is the Outstanding Administrative Personnel in the blue collar category.

The awardees will be formally recognized during the celebration of the UPLB and CA Foundation Day on March 6. *(RG dela Cruz)*

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Lanosia, Jr. and Apolinario L. Lantican

**Layout Artist:** Apolinario L. Lantican

## PMCP to celebrate 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary; CPC faculty/researchers expected to attend

The Pest Management Council of the Philippines (PMCP), Inc. will celebrate its 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Annual Scientific Conference with the theme, "Sustainable Pest Management of Today and Tomorrow" from March 8-11, 2016 at Villa Caceres, Naga City, Camarines Sur.

The PMCP, Inc. is composed of three scientific societies; Philippine Association of Entomologists, Philippine Phytopathological Society, Inc. and Weed Science Society of the Philippines, Inc. and three associations; CropLife Philippines, Inc., Crop Protection Association of the Philippines (CPAP), Inc. and Pest Control Association of the Philippines (PCAP), Inc. The three societies are engaged in research, training and extension on pest management. CropLife and CPAP are involved in discovery, development, importation, formulation and distribution of crop protection chemicals, while PCAP is engaged in urban pest management.

PMCP officials include Prof. Johnny Balidion, Dr. Gil L. Magsino and Cristina Bajet of National Crop Protection Cluster-CPC, among others. As a tradition, several faculty and researchers from the Crop Protection Cluster (CPC) are expected to participate in the said activity. (*Ruby G. dela Cruz*)

### FEEDBACK

For comments/suggestions, just e-mail:

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We also welcome articles/news briefs from any CA constituent. Thank you.

## FOREIGN TRAVELS\*

- ◆ **Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun**, professor, **Leila Mery Ayban** and **Catherine Arradaza**, graduate students, Crop Protection Cluster (CPC); presented a paper titled, "Organic disease management of *Botrytis cinerea*, the causal agent of gray mold disease of strawberry" at the International Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst-Alumni Seminar and BioFach 2016 in Goettingen and Nuremberg, Germany; February 1-13
- ◆ **Dr. Teresita U. Dalisay**, director and associate professor, CPC; attended a meeting with plant pathologist of Tamasek Life Science, National University of Singapore and presented CPC's ongoing researches to staff of Procter and Gamble, Inc. in Singapore; February 4-10
- ◆ **Dr. Artemio M. Salazar**, research professor, Crop Science Cluster (CSC); attended the meeting of the International Maize Genetic Resources Advisory Committee in Texcoco, Mexico; February 12-24
- ◆ **Dr. Enrico P. Supangco** and **Dr. Tonette P. Laude**, dean and associate dean, respectively, College of Agriculture; strengthened the partnership and collaboration between UPLB and Kobe University for student exchange program in Japan; February 7-10
- ◆ **Dr. Simplicio M. Medina**, associate professor and director, Agricultural Systems Cluster and Office of Institutional Linkages, respectively; attended the signing and renewal of Memorandum of Agreement between UPLB and Maejo University and met with UPLB alumni in Thailand; February 9-12
- ◆ **Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun**, professor, CPC; attended the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on "Plant, Pathogens and People" with Mission Challenges in Plant Pathology to Benefit Mankind at the National Agricultural Science Centre Complex in New Delhi, India; February 23-28
- ◆ **Dr. Pompe C. Sta. Cruz**, professor, CSC; participated in a study visit to Bt eggplant farm which aims to showcase the success of Bt eggplant adoption in Bangladesh; February 24-26

\*Prepared by *IM Gesmundo and Erlinda A. Balot*