



CA kicks off 107th year celebration; Foundation Site to be renovated

The College of Agriculture (CA) started its celebration of the 107th Foundation Day on March 6 at Foundation Site in Brgy. Timugan, Los Baños, Laguna.

The early morning ceremony was led by Chancellor Fernando C. Sanchez, Jr. and Dean Enrico P. Supangco, who gave inspirational messages during the occasion, along with For. Leo R. Ballesfin, president of UPLB Alumni Association (AA), who pledged continued support to the College; Dr. Elpidio M. Agbisit, Jr., present president of CA-AA, and Los Baños Vice Mayor Procopio Alipon (representing Mayor Caesar P. Perez), who expressed gratitude for the existence of UPLB which makes Los Baños progressive and popular.

Meanwhile, Dr. Elpidio L. Rosario (MADECOR president and guest speaker) emphasized the need to transform the CA Foundation Site into a more visible and interactive place to visit. Dr. Rosario was keen in making a park-like site that will be opened to everybody not only during Foundation Day, but every day, so that young people will appreciate the historical sense of CA. He openly requested budget from Chancellor Sanchez who immediately responded positively by instructing UPLB officials concerned to act immediately on the matter.

Other officials who attended the breakfast gathering were former UP Regent Nelia T. Gonzales; Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension Rex B. Demafelis and Dr. Susan May F. Calumpang, his assistant; and the CA Executive Committee members and deputy directors. Old and new alumni also graced the event until the end of the day's activities. (Ruby G. dela Cruz)

CA Cluster Follies spice up Foundation Day celebration

The CA added more color and significance in this year's Foundation Day Celebration through the Cluster Follies held at the Agronomy-Soils-Horticulture (ASH) lobby last March 6.

During the follies, the faculty and staff of the five clusters presented comedy skits depicting the theme, "CA Family Transforming Philippine Agriculture Through Academic Excellence and Public Service".

The Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster (ADSC) won the top prize of PhP5,000.00 with the musicale titled "ADSC Family Afternoon Show". The Food Science Cluster (FSC) got the second prize of PhP2,500.00 with the AIDub-inspired song and dance show. Consolation prizes of PhP1,000.00 each were given to the Agricultural Systems Cluster, Crop Protection Cluster and Crop Science Cluster. The best actor and actress awards went to Dr. Elpidio M. Agbisit, Jr. of ADSC and Prof. Rona Camille M. Lizardo of FSC, respectively.

Different student organizations from CA were also present to provide intermission numbers after every presentation. (Apolinario L. Lantican, with information from Imelda M. Gesmundo)

OUTSTANDING PERSONNEL*

- ◆ Dr. Joseph Christian R. Cumagun, CPC, Senior Faculty Researcher
- ◆ Dr. Artemio M. Salazar, CSC, Senior Faculty Researcher
- ◆ Marcela M. Navasero, CPC, Senior REPS Researcher
- ◆ Dr. Antonio G. Lalusin, CSC, Teacher
- ◆ Virma Rea G. Lee, CSC, Extension Personnel
- ◆ Virginia V. de Mesa, CPC, Office Personnel
- ◆ Julian Antonio M. Eusebio, CPC, Blue Collar Personnel
- ◆ Araceli L. Alcachupas, CSC, Technician

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH TEAM*

- ◆ Plant Cell and Tissue Culture Laboratory, CSC

*Awarded during the Recognition Program, March 6, ASH lobby

Green Hunters places 2nd in Palarong UPLB

The Green Hunters, composed of the College of Agriculture and all units under the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Planning and Development, ended as 1st runner-up behind the Royal White (College of Engineering and Agro-industrial Technology and all units under the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Research and Extension), the overall champion, in the UPLB Sportsfest held last March 15-18.

The Blue Champs [College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and all units under the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs] wound up as 2nd runner-up; followed by the Yellow Raptors (Colleges of Forestry and Natural Resources, Human Ecology, and Veterinary Medicine as well as all units under the Office of the Chancellor), 3rd runner-up; and Red Griffins (Colleges of Economics and Management, Development Communication, and Public Affairs; School of Environmental Science and Management; Graduate School; and Offices of the Vice-Chancellor for Administration and Community Affairs), 4th runner-up.

Hosted by the CAS, this year's sportsfest (aimed at building camaraderie among all colleges and units) was participated in by the faculty, staff and students who competed in 18 sports events. (AL Lantican)

CSC-PHTRC researchers win best paper & poster awards at UP REPSS confab

Several researchers from the Crop Science Cluster-Postharvest Horticulture Training and Research Center (CSC-PHTRC) bagged the best paper and poster awards during the 3rd Annual Scientific Conference and 7th General Assembly Meeting of the UP Society of Research, Extension and Professional Staff (REPSS), Inc. held last March 29-30 at Estrellas de Mendoza, Playa Resort, Brgy. Laiya Ibabao, San Juan, Batangas.

Authored by Dr. Perlita A. Nuevo, Dr. Matilde V. Maunahan and Gloria D. Masilungan, the winning paper is entitled "Browning Control in Minimally Processed Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L)". Meanwhile, the poster is entitled "Postharvest Quality and Safety of Ampalaya (*Momordica charantia* L.) in Liliw, Laguna and

Local & foreign visitors get a glimpse of CA

The College of Agriculture has been home to international visitors from the academe as well as non-government organization and farmers group for the month of March. For this month of March, the most frequently visited units of the college were the edible landscaping garden, the tissue culture facility and the national plant genetic research laboratory of the Crop Science Cluster. The visitors were as follows:

- ◆ 16 faculty members from Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan – March 9
- ◆ 3 faculty members from Mendel University, Brno, Czech Republic – March 11
- ◆ 2 staff from Negros Island Sustainable Agriculture for Rural Development – March 16
- ◆ 22 members of Samahan ng Dingin Lambac, Anibong Coconut Farmer's Organization – Brgy. Lambac, Pagsanjan, Laguna – March 28

The aforementioned visitors had the chance for a courtesy call with Dean Enrico P. Supangco. (Imelda M. Gesmundo)

Transported to Tanauan City, Batangas" and authored by Dr. Nuevo, Regin Ruis B. Oliveros, Dr. Maunahan and Jennelyn M. Resorez.

The Best Paper awardees received a cash prize of PhP4,000.00 while Best Poster winners got PhP2,000.00. Certificates were also given.

The UP REPSS is a professional society composed of researchers, extension personnel and professional staff from UPLB's academic units and research centers. Headed by Dr. Nenita L. de Castro of the Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster, the society aims to organize the aforementioned personnel in the pursuit of common scientific, economic, social and political interest and to develop and promote science, technology and arts for the people through sustainable activities. (AL Lantican, with information from MV Maunahan)

CSC-IPB holds 3 exhibits

For this month of March, the Crop Science Cluster-Institute of Plant Breeding (CSC-IPB) exhibited its products and technologies in three occasions, namely: 1) SIPAG FIESTA of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) on March 2 to 4; 2) Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA)-UPLB Registration Agreement Signing Ceremony at the Center for Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship, UPLB on March 4; and 3) CALABARZON Regional Development Council (RDC) Full Meeting at IPB, UPLB on March 10.

SIPAG FIESTA featured exhibits, techno forum/demo, and other activities that showcased the best agri-aqua research and development outputs PCAARRD and its partners generated from 2010 to 2016. It also served as a venue for market matching and commercialization of S&T-based products and technologies. SIPAG stands for Strategic Industry S&T Program for Agri-Aqua Growth, while FIESTA means Farms and Industry Encounters through the Science and Technology Agenda.

UPLB and PEZA have signed a Registration Agreement for the UPLB Agro-Industrial and Information Technology Parks. The agreement declared the two industrial parks as special economic zones by virtue of Philippine Presidential Proclamation Nos. 1164 and 1165. This zone will act as a venue for UPLB and the Los Baños community to showcase their commercial research products to the public. Such agreement entitles fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to any business that will be located in the economic zone.

UPLB hosted the CALABARZON RDC Full Meeting and IPB was chosen as the venue. Organized by the National Economic and Development Authority – CALABARZON, the RDC is the coordinating and direction-setting body for development efforts in the region. The council members are local government units, regional line agencies, state universities and colleges, and private sector representatives. (*Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr.*)

CPC researcher is PMCP's outstanding entomologist

Dr. Bonifacio F. Cayabyab, one of Crop Protection Cluster (CPC)'s most recognized researchers, is this year's recipient of the LB Uichanco Memorial Award for Outstanding Entomologist, given during the 47th Annual Convention of the Pest Management Council of the Philippines (PMCP) held in Naga City last March 11.

The award was given by the Philippine Association of Entomologists Inc. in recognition of his significant research accomplishments in pest surveillance, giving much attention to invasive species for national biosecurity concerns, e.g., bioecology of locusts in breeding areas which generated new insights on outbreaks in Central Luzon; providing technical assistance on quarantine where he trains quarantine officers on diagnostics, surveillance and risk assessments and management; and being a member of Department of Agriculture core team on Insect Resistance Management Strategy for Bt corn.

Further, he gained recognition for his involvement in numerous activities meant to help cooperatives/groups of farmers in the countryside through trainings about Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Southern Tagalog region, Central Luzon, Ilocos region and Mountain Province. He was also awarded for his expertise on butterfly diversity and captive breeding for which he is usually sought to help establish butterfly gardens for livelihood or exhibits for various clientele all over the Philippines. (*RG dela Cruz, with report from BF Cayabyab*)

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any CA constituent. Thank you.