



CA graduates receive 2016 Distinguished Alumni Awards

The UPLB College of Agriculture (CA) Alumni Association conferred the 2016 Outstanding Alumni Awards to seven graduates during the Loyalty Day Alumni Fellowship and Awards Night last October 9. This year's awardees are the following:

- ◆ **Emma K. Sales**, BSA 1977, MS 1984, PhD 2001 (Research and Development in Molecular Genetics), for leading in the development of molecular diagnostic tools for the identification of varieties of rubber, durian and mango
- ◆ **Arnel N. Del Barrio**, BSA 1983, MS 1988, PhD 1993 (Animal Nutrition and Production), for his achievements in the said field, specifically on ruminant feed management and demographics
- ◆ **Emmanuel M. Serrano**, BSA 1974, MS 1981 (Corn Breeding and Research Management), for his achievements in the said field while working in the private sector; mainly responsible in the production of 40 commercial corn hybrids, two of which became popular in the Asia-Pacific Region
- ◆ **Antonio C. Laurena**, BSST 1979, MS 1983, PhD 1993 (Biotechnology), for using modern technology for crop improvement which hastened the progress of the delayed ripening papaya developed by IPB-UPLB; for contributing significantly in the institution of CA's Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Biotechnology curriculum
- ◆ **Jaime C. Montesur**, BSA 1984, MS 1990 (Peace and Development), for his passionate dedication as an agricultural development specialist of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Philippines) which often brought him to difficult and dangerous disaster and post-conflict areas
- ◆ **Rommel C. Sulabo**, BSA 1997, MS 2003, PhD 2009 (Animal Science), for his outstanding research works on applied monogastric nutrition and production research in the said field

- ◆ **Elda B. Esguerra**, BSA 1977, MS 1982, PhD 1993 (Research and Development in Post-harvest), for developing postharvest technologies for mango, papaya, banana, tomato and onion; instrumental in the establishment of the irradiation dose for mangoes, which is an alternative quarantine treatment for high-value food commodity in the Philippine export industry

The award is given yearly by the CA Alumni Association (*Imelda M. Gesmundo, with information from Virma Rea G. Lee*)

CA graduates rule licensure exam anew

The College of Agriculture (CA) once again topped the licensure examination for agriculturists held last October 19-21, given by the Board of Agriculture in the cities of Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Legazpi, Lucena, Tacloban, Pagadian and Zamboanga.

Roselle E. Madayag, a graduate from the Agricultural Systems Cluster (ASC) with a rating of 85.83, topped this year's examination.

Also included in the top 10 are Lyza M. Qui-long Quilong (Crop Science Cluster) – 85.33 (2nd), Nerissa V. Paduit (ASC) – 85.00 (4th), Cyd Clarisse C. Palado (Crop Protection Cluster (CPC) – 84.83 (5th), Diana S.J. Tabudlong (CPC) – 84.83 (5th), Diane Louise I. Lim (Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster) – 84.17 (8th), Sofia Joy G. Quillope (ASC) – 84.17 (8th), Pee-Jay A. Rejuso (CPC) – 84.17 (8th) and Dyanah Joy H. Amorio (CPC) – 84.00 (9th).

CA-UPLB was ranked as the only top performing school in the said examination this year with a passing rate of 96.83% compared to the national passing rate of 30.88% (1,790 passers out of 5,795 takers). A school is considered as top performing school if it has 50 or more examinees and at least 80% passing percentage. CA has dominated the annual examination since 2003 when it was first instituted. (*IM Gesmundo*)

CA is back to back winner in Best Float Contest

For the second consecutive year, the CA grabbed the Best Float 2016 award during the float and foot parade in celebration of the 98th UPLB Loyalty Day and Alumni Homecoming last October 10.

Adhering to the theme, "Reminiscing the past as a guide for nourishing the greatness of our nation", CA's float was creatively crafted with some of the technologies and products of research of the five clusters placed in the float. Another attraction that caught the attention of the judges, alumni and guests were the turning carabao heads, a replica of the carabao statue (CA's landmark) at the Carabao Park. In the parade proper, CA's contingent was arranged in such a manner that the dean, with the members of the Executive Committee, came in first; followed by the float containing technologies that CA offers. Just behind the float were the CA constituents from the Office of the Dean, Secretary's Office and the five clusters, proudly waving small flags and balloons in green and gold.

The float's design was conceptualized and adorned through the collaborative efforts and artistic minds of the staff from the clusters.

The Best Float award, with certificate and cash equivalence, was given to the college during the luncheon (salusalo) at the Baker Hall. (*IM Gesmundo*)

CSC joins DOST's CALABARZON Forum

The Crop Science Cluster (CSC) participated in the 1st CALABARZON Technology Dissemination Transfer Day and Investment Forum in Batangas State University, Batangas City last October 7.

Sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Region IV-A, the said activity was aimed at showcasing the promising technologies generated by researchers/inventors from the academe, research institutions and inventor associations in the region for the last 10 years.

Four technologies of CSC were presented by way of exhibit booth and oral delivery in investment forum. These technologies and presenters were the following:

- 1) Corn grits from quality protein maize by Maria Alma B. Sanchez;
- 2) Lakatan resistant to Banana Bunchy Top Virus by Olivia P. Damasco;
- 3) SNAP hydroponics by Primitivo Jose A. Santos; and
- 4) IPB seeds by Agripina O. Rasco.

These presenters shared the potential of the technologies including business model, financial requirement and return of investment. After the presentation, interested technology adoptors/users, investors and financing institutions had the chance to meet with the researchers/inventors for possible technology utilization. (*Laureano B. Lanosia, Jr.*)

FOREIGN TRAVELS*

- ◆ **Dr. Filma A. Calalo**, assistant professor, Agricultural Systems Cluster (ASC); participated in the Asian Association of Agricultural Colleges and Universities (AAACU) study tour and attended the AAACU Biennial Conference and General Assembly in Tokyo, Japan; October 1-15
- ◆ **Wella L. Absulio**, university researcher, Crop Science Cluster (CSC); joined the workshop of the University Consortium Research Project on Postharvest Systems Improvement-Best Practices in Fresh and Dried Chili in Southeast Asia: Quality and Safety Aspect in Bangkok, Thailand; October 3-4
- ◆ **Dr. Amado A. Angeles**, assistant professor, Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster (ADSC); participated in the 5th European Association for Animal Production (EAAP) International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition in Krakow, Poland; October 9-18
- ◆ **Drs. Jose Arceo N. Bautista** and **Agapita J. Salces**, associate professors, ADSC; provided technical assistance in the selection of dairy animals in Victoria, Australia; October 17-30 and October 17 to November 2, respectively
- ◆ **Arlan James D. Rodeo**, assistant professor, (CSC); attended the International Training Workshop on Cultivation Techniques of Fruit Trees in Naschang, Jiangxi, China; October 10-24

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- ◆ **Dr. Enrico P. Supangco**, dean and professor, College of Agriculture (CA) and ADSC, respectively; attended the Asian Association of Agricultural Colleges and Universities (AAACU) General Assembly Meeting and Biennial Conference in Tokyo, Japan; October 11-15
- ◆ **Dr. Lavernee S. Gueco**, university researcher, CSC; participated in the MusaNet meeting and planning of activities related to the Global Strategy for Conservation and Use of Musa Genetic Resources at Montpellier, France; October 12-20
- ◆ **Dr. Enrico P. Supangco**, dean and professor, CA and ADSC, respectively; attended the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA) Annual Meeting in Cape town, South Africa; October 16-20
- ◆ **Dr. Gina V. Pangga**, associate professor, ASC; attended and presented a paper titled "A shifting paradigm towards advance materials and energy/environment research" in the 3rd Asia-Pacific Biochar Conference in Kangwon National University, South Korea; October 19-23
- ◆ **Leah E. Endonela**, university researcher, CSC; presented a paper titled, "Declining regeneration potential of *Rhizophora stylosa* Griff. in mangrove plantations: An impact of beetle (*Coccotrypes rhizophorae*, Hopkins) Infestations" during the International Conference on Marine Biodiversity in Bali, Indonesia; October 29 to November 3.
- ◆ **Dr. Edna A. Aguilar**, professor, CSC; presented a paper titled "Enhancing Entrepreneurship of Coconut-based Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Organizations (ARBO) through Improvements in Traditional Copra Trading and Intercropping Practices" at the International Society of Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences (ISSAAS) 2016 Congress at Vietnam National University of Agriculture in Hanoi, Vietnam; November 2-9
- ◆ **Catherine Hazel M. Aguilar** and **Marco Rafael M. Espino**, university researchers, CSC; attended the ISSAAS 2016 Congress; November 3-8
- ◆ **Dr. Fe M. Dela Cueva**, university researcher, CSC; presented a poster paper titled "Multigene phylogenetic relationships among Philippine isolates *Peronosclerospora* based on sequence analysis of multiple mitochondrial loci" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress; November 3-9
- ◆ **Dr. Evalour T. Aspuria**, associate professor CSC; presented a poster paper titled "Gradual reduction in 2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid (2, 4-D) in Cell Suspension Medium and Addition of Silver Nitrate (AgNO₃) in the Germination Medium Improve Pro-Embryonic Masses (PEMs) Formation in Abaca (*Musa textilis* Nee)" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Teresita L. Rosario** and **Mylene C. Nieves**, professor emeritus and assistant professor, respectively, CSC; attended the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Lolita M. Dolores**, scientist, CSC; presented a poster paper titled "Incidence and genetic distribution of *Squash leaf curl virus* (SLCV) in the Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Cecilia B. Pascual**, scientist, CSC; presented a paper titled "Morphological and molecular identification of an emerging destructive canker disease of dragon fruit in the Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Marita S. Pinili**, university researcher, CSC; presented a paper titled "Novel prime design for specific and quick detection identification of *Peronosclerospora philippinensis* (W. Weston) C. G. Shaw and *P. miscanthi* (T. Miyake) C. G. Shaw, causal organisms of corn and sugarcane downy mildews" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Maria Luz J. Sison**, university researcher, CSC; presented a paper titled "The invasive coconut scale insect, *Aspidiotus rigodus* Reyne: Life cycle and host resistance in coconut" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Maricel C. Gonzales**, university researcher, CSC; presented a poster paper titled "Incidence and distribution of *Banana bract mosaic virus* (BBrMV) in some banana growing areas in the Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Loraine B. Bainto**, instructor, Food Science Cluster (FSC); presented a paper titled "Effect of Heat Treatments of Hydroxycitric Acid Content of "Batuan"(*Garcinia binucao* (Blanco) Choisy) Fruits" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Ara Fatima C. Algar**, assistant professor, FSC; presented a paper and a poster titled "Characterization of Philippine Grown Canna (*Canna indica* L.) Flour and Starch" and "Lagikway, an underutilized Indigenous Vegetable in the Philippines", respectively, at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Sheba Mae M. Duque**, assistant professor, FSC; presented a poster titled "Sago (*Metroxylon Sago* Rottb) Starch Utilization in the Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Rona Camille M. Lizardo**, assistant professor, FSC; presented a paper and a poster titled "Development and Utilization of Dietary Fiber Enhancer from Banana Inflorescence" and "Development of Chocolate Rice Using Pigmented Rice", respectively, at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Joel P. Rivadeneira**, university researcher, FSC; presented a poster titled "Anthocyanins Content of Philippine Wild Raspberry Extracted Using Different Solvent Systems" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Simplicio M. Medina**, associate professor, ASC and **Carla Alilie A. Lontoc**, university researcher, ADSC; attended the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Susan Mae F. Calumpang**, scientist and assistant to the vice-chancellor for research and extension, Crop Protection Cluster (CPC); attended the ISSAAS 2016 Congress

- ◆ **Dr. Amparo M. Wagan**, university extension specialist, ASC; presented a paper titled "Framework for Sustainable Management of Indigenous Plants in the Philippines: The Case of *Dillenia philippinensis*" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Maria Charito M. Balladares, Ryan Rodrigo P. Tayobong and Norma G. Medina**, university researcher and assistant professors, respectively, CSC; presented poster papers titled "Technology Transfer of Community-Based Edible Landscape Gardens in the Philippines", "Lagikway (*Abelmoschus manihot* L.): An Underutilized Indigenous Vegetable in the Philippines", and "Collection, Propagation and Promotion of Selected Indigenous Plants from Southern Tagalog Region of the Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress
- ◆ **Dr. Dormita R. Del Carmen and Ryan Anthony O. Lualhati**, university researchers, CSC; presented a research paper titled, "Shelf Life Extension of Selected Tropical Produce and Temperature Prediction in Single-Crate Evaporative Cooler" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress; November 5-7
- ◆ **Ana Mithuzela D. Espigol**, university research associate, CSC; presented a full research paper titled, "Microbial Quality of Selected Organic Fruits and Vegetables in Luzon, Philippines" at the ISSAAS 2016 Congress; November 5-7
- ◆ **Dr. Filomena C. Sta. Cruz**, associate professor, CPC; presented papers titled, "Virus isolates causing tomato leaf curl in three geographical locations in the Philippines are variants of two virus species, infectious and associated with DNA Betasatellite" and "Identification and characterization of *Begomovirus* species infecting squash (*Cucurbita moschata*) in the Philippines" in the 8th International Geminivirus Symposium in New Delhi, India; November 6-11
- ◆ **Dr. Rommel C. Sulabo**, professor, ADSC; attended the 3rd International Phytate Summit in Miami, Florida; November 6-11
- ◆ **Dr. Christian Joseph R. Cumagun**, professor, CPC; attended the Crawford Fund Master Class in Agricultural Research Leadership and Management at the World Fish Centre in Penang, Malaysia; November 6-12
- ◆ **Dr. Katherine Ann C. Israel**, assistant professor, FSC; participated in a study mission to a non-member country on innovations in agriculture to increase productivity and profitability in Adelaide, Australia; November 6-13
- ◆ **Visitacion C. Huelgas**, university researcher, CSC; participated in the Genebank Operations Advance Learning Master Class at PUSA Campus of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in New Delhi, India; November 10-16
- ◆ **Hidelisa D. De Chavez**, university researcher, CSC; attended the 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress and Genebank Operations and Advanced Learning Workshop in New Delhi, India; November 6-9 and November 11-15, respectively
- ◆ **Dr. Erlinda I. Dizon**, adjunct professor, FSC; attended the workshop on "Promotion of Neglected and Underutilized Indigenous Crop Species in Southern Asia in Prague, Czech Republic; November 12-16
- ◆ **Dr. Pablito M. Magdalita**, professor, CSC; attended the Second Regional Workshop on Research and Development of Neglected and Underutilized Crop Species in Southeast Asia for Food Security and Nutrition in Southeast Asia and the European Union at Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic; November 12-17
- ◆ **Dr. Elda B. Esguerra**, professor, CSC; provided expert services during the "Training Workshop on Horticultural Chain Management in South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Countries" as part of the Food and Agriculture Organization Technical Cooperation Project, "Reduction of Post-harvest Losses in Horticultural Chains in Southeast Asia" in Thailand, November 13-19
- ◆ **Dr. Edna Luisa A. Matienzo**, university researcher, ASC; participated in the International Centre for Development Oriented Research in Agriculture Course on Linking Research to Inclusive Development for Food Security-Facing Challenges in Wageningen, Netherlands; November 14-December 2
- ◆ **Dr. Fe M. Dela Cueva**, university researcher, CSC; attended the International Symposium on Tropical and Temperate Horticulture at Griffith University in Cairns, Australia; November 18-28
- ◆ **Jim Leandro P. Cano**, teaching associate, ASC; presented a paper titled "Agronomy for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, Environment, Energy and Livelihood Security to Achieve Zero Hunger Challenge" in the 4th International Agronomy Congress at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi, India; November 20-28
- ◆ **Dr. Lavernee S. Gueco and Maricel C. Gonzales** university researchers, CSC; participated in the first project meeting for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Project entitled "Banana Bunchy Top Virus mitigation: Community Management in Nigeria, and Screening Wild Banana Progenitors for Resistance" at the University of Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, Indonesia; November 21-25
- ◆ **Dr. Teodoro C. Mendoza**, professor, CSC; presented a paper titled, "Reducing the High Energy and Carbon Footprint for an Energy and Climate Change-Compliant Sugarcane Production" at the 5th International Conference on Integration of Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in Southern Shan State, Myanmar; November 24-28
- ◆ **Roselyn F. Paelmo**, assistant professor, CSC; participated in the 2nd International Agroforestry Congress in Tay Nguyen University, Buonmathuot City, Daklak, Vietnam; November 26 to December 1

*Prepared by:

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