



# ACUCA NEWS



ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN ASIA  
"Committed to the mission of Christian higher education of uniting all people  
in the community of service and fellowship."

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Soochow University, Taiwan

## Soaring Young Spirits: 4000 Celebrate Soochow University's 115th Founding Anniversary

Soochow University's 115th anniversary celebrations kicked off with the completion of a 14-day island-wide bicycle tour by 115 staff and students. March 14, 2015, the final day of the 14-day ride covering 1,115 kilometers, marked the beginning of a series of celebratory events. Everyone was charged with youthful spirits and moved by the passionate singing of the school anthem. A total of 4,000 faculty, staff, students, and alumni, coming as far as Japan, participated in the various celebration events. After the lighting of the torch, different sports events were commenced. Soochow President Pan Wei-Ta thanked the alumni association and the participating alumni for their continuous support and hope that with the continuing efforts from all the staff, faculty and students, Soochow University will excel in the next 115 years.

### *Bubble Football Game* excited all the participants

The anniversary celebrations started at 8:30 in the morning and continued until 3:30 in the afternoon. In addition to the sports events and fun games for the students and faculty, there were word puzzles, dance competitions, and exciting fair events. The students' association introduced the "bubble football game" popularized in Japan and Europe, which attracted lots of participants. Liao Jun-Wei, head of the students' association, said that this was the very first time that this game was introduced; registration was closed within seconds after the start of the game launching. The game is played with five players on each team, and whichever team scores the most points in 30 minutes wins a nice present.

Wu Wei-Kuo from the graduating class of business administration's batch year 72 ran 55 seconds in the men's 400 meter race, and this record has stayed for the last 35 years. He was present and cheered for the contestants of the 400 meter event, where a NTD10,000 prize would be offered to whoever could break his record. History freshman Yao Jun-Han clocked fastest at 55.59 seconds, which unfortunately didn't break the record. Among other events, the health center provided surveys and conducted an "empathy experience event", which interested many into testing their enthusiasm and compassion.

### *Remembering Mr. Wang Chung-Hui—Superlative excellence*

The School of foreign languages and cultures held a conference under the theme of language, literature and culture to encourage academic exchange among faculty members. A special exhibition was held at the archive room to commemorate the extraordinary achievements of Mr. Wang Chung-Hui, a renowned legal scholar, diplomat, politician, and educator.

### *Soochow University's 115th founding anniversary ended with success*

The two campuses of Soochow University are well accessed with the downtown campus located at the heart of the city center and the Waihsuangshih campus close to many tourist spots such as the National Palace Museum. Soochow University was first founded by a group of missionaries in Soochow, China in 1900 and was rebuilt in Taiwan in 1951, making it the first private university established in Taiwan. Since the last century, Soochow University has tried to adhere to its motto—cultivating one's inner uprightness through the emulation of the ancient and modern saints. The red and black colors on the school flag further attest to our passion and perseverance for education and pursuit for excellence. There have been several outstanding talents in many fields, who have graduated from Soochow University, among whom the alumni in the fields of law, politics, business, and foreign languages take the lead. The university has secured funding from Teaching Excellence Project from the Ministry of Education for the past 11 years, obtaining more than NTS 900 million for various projects. In 2015, we founded the Big Data School of Management—the first in Taiwan to train and produce talents in management and vast data processing. All of these achievements attest to our teaching principles. We thank all who have participated in the 115th founding anniversary celebrations for their efforts and enthusiasm.



## Duta Wacana Christian University New Rector Announcement

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Henry Feriadi, who has served as the Vice Rector for Institutional Development and Partnership in 2010-2014, has been inaugurated as the new President of Duta Wacana Christian University for 2014-2018 on December 1, 2014. Dr. Feriadi's widespread professional experience in higher education, international exchange and philanthropy reflects our core areas work and will greatly enrich our programs and partnerships in the near future.

Dr. Feriadi received his Doctoral Degree of Architecture in the National University of Singapore. He has devoted his career to develop Duta Wacana. From his first assignment as a teaching fellow to more recent leadership positions, he has exemplified the value of academic exchange and cooperation.



Left to right: Joko Purwadi, S.Kom., M.Kom., Dr. Charis Amarantini, M.Si, Dr. Henry Feriadi, Dra. Ety Istrianji, MM., Rev. Robert Setio, Ph.D

We also proudly announce the Vice Presidents, they are:

1. Dr. Charis Amarantini, M.Si has been appointed as the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Research, and Innovation for 2014-2018. In this role, she would be responsible for the overall design, organization, delivery, supervision, evaluation, research, and innovation of academic support services and programs of the university.

2. Dra. Ety Istrianji, MM, as the Vice President for Finance and Asset Development. In this role, she would be responsible for the financial affairs and policies for asset development. By placing these responsibilities in her hands, we underscore the importance of our stakeholders and endorse her qualifications to lead our advancement efforts.

3. Joko Purwadi, S.Kom., M.Kom. as the Vice President for Student Affairs, Alumni, and Information. He would be primarily responsible for managing the student activities and organizations and facilitates students' learning by providing high quality programs, services, developmental opportunities, information, and will also be engaged for the admission and alumni affairs.

4. Rev. Robert Setio, Ph.D. as the Vice President for Human Resources Capacity Building, and Partnership. In this role, he would be responsible in strengthening and expanding our partnership, through communication with our stakeholder overseas, stewardship of donors, and media outreach. We know he would be in touch with you directly as he begins to build relationships with our partners to explore ways to address our shared interests in higher education.

Please join us to welcome our President and Vice Presidents to their new role at Duta Wacana Christian University. We are indeed privileged that the next chapter of our work will be shaped by their vision, intellectuality, and dedication.

Filamer Christian University, Taiwan

## Filamer Christian University Now a Historical Landmark

Recognizing the rich heritage of the educational institution, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) officially declared Filamer Christian University (FCU) as a historical landmark last October 8, 2014. No less than the chairperson of the Commission herself, Dr. Maria Serena I. Diokno, turned over the historical marker to the University. In her speech, Dr. Diokno challenged the FCU community to live up to what the founders of the institution had started and continue to be a beacon for the youth's development and nation building. Rev. Dr. Domingo J. Diel, Jr., the University President, expressed gratitude to the Commission in recognizing FCU for her multicolored centenarian history and vital contribution to the educational training of the youth.

Filamer Christian University had her humble beginnings being founded as an orphanage by American missionaries led by Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Robbins in August 1904. The situation of neglected, homeless children touched their hearts which led to the establishment of Baptist Home School. During World War II, the school was temporarily closed and was used as garrison of the Japanese army. In 1948, the school reopened and was named Filamer Christian Institute. The name "Filamer" signifies the joint venture of Filipinos and Americans in establishing and running the institution. In 1968, the school offered tertiary education, in 1985 it became Filamer Christian College, and in 2010, Filamer Christian University.

///(FCU Mass Media Office)



## ABAC Youth Camp at Saraburi

On 3-6 April 2015, 70 students from Assumption University (or better known as ABAC) together with 40 invited high school students from ten local Thai schools experienced firsthand a 3-day camp at a natural study and ecotourism center—local name 'Jedkok-Pongkonsao'-- in Saraburi, 130 km north of Bangkok.

The students enjoyed powerful experiential learning through camping, trekking, and examining the role of water in maintaining biodiversity of lives in the forest.

As a result, AU students as well as high schoolers deepen their understanding the meaning of 'water is life' and realize the critical need to save water.

This activity is one of many community service activities ABAC students have throughout the year.



Soegijapranata Catholic University, Indonesia

## 2nd Asian Student Encounter Camp (ASEC) 2015: A Gate to the Global Challenge

On March 3rd – 6th, 2015, five (5) delegates from Soegijapranata Catholic University were honored to join the 2nd Asian Student Encounter Camp (ASEC). ASEC is an annual program, which concerns with the development of society and environment that was initiated by three universities: Soegijapranata



Catholic University (SCU), Indonesia, Miriam College, Philippines, and De La Salle University - Dasmariñas (DLSUD). If the 1st ASEC was organized by SCU in 2013 – the 2nd ASEC was organized by DLSUD, Philippines. The theme of this year's ASEC is "Cultivating Volunteerism in a Globalized Society towards ASEAN Integration 2015."

A total of 26 students from 4 universities participated in the program; they were De La Salle University - Dasmariñas (6 delegates) and Miriam College (5 delegates) from the Philippines; then from Indonesia were Widya Mandala Catholic University (10 delegates) and Soegijapranata Catholic University (5 delegates). The representatives from SCU were Ong, Cindy Corazon (Food Technology 2013), Yohanes Kristo SU (Food Technology 2013), Agatha Putri Algustie (Food Technology 2013), Amelia Feida Antani (Architecture 2013), and Yohanes Herry (Architecture 2013).

The first day of the Camp was commenced with an opening ceremony, which was followed by a tour in the DLSUD's 27 acre campus, which was filled with a number of glorious buildings and beautiful landscapes. After the tour, the participants were briefed about ASEAN integration and the impact it may have for young adults. The first day was then closed with a night gathering to create togetherness and bind relations among all of the Philippine and Indonesian delegates.

The second day was started with the introduction of the 2nd ASEC's theme: "Integrity as the Main Key to be a Good Leader and How to Cultivate Volunteerism Spirit". In application of this theme, the participants were driven to an area to do some community service activity that deals with creating a "solar bottle bulb" to solve the problem of electricity in marginal areas of the Philippines.

The next day, all of the participants were taken to have a day-tour around Manila City. Participants were given a chance to visit the national museum, Intramuros, and Mall of Asia. In Mall of Asia, participants visited Kultura shop to buy souvenirs. The day was then continued with visiting Tagaytay, which is placed in the highlands, thus help show off the beautiful scenery of the Philippines.

On the last day of the Camp, participants were obliged to present the result of their group discussions on: (1) What is the meaning of ASEAN integration for Philippine and Indonesian students, (2) How to cultivate volunteerism among ASEAN youth, and (3) How to face ASEAN integration. As the highlight of the last day, all of the participants were gathered to carry out some cultural performances, before they finally deserve their 2nd ASEC certificates as acknowledgment of their

participation. To end the event, everyone took the opportunity to frame all of their joyful moments of togetherness with their cameras.

Yohanes Kristo had captured his unforgettable experience as follows: "The benefit of joining this event is we can create some kind of network. Since we are going to be united as ASEAN, we need to have a network on an international level to prepare the challenges that will come up. Through ASEC, we got a valuable experience by meeting new people, visiting new areas, and opening up our minds to the issues related to our country. We passed through many activities in ASEC 2015. We collaborated with each other in the preparation stage, had a lot of chat- chat until we had to sleep late, took a tour together, got into a panic together, and so many other things that make the experience unforgettable. ASEC has opened our gate to think more globally about ASEAN Integration issues. We are stimulated to extend our vision and mind so that we know how to face ASEAN Integration 2015. The integration of all Southeast Asia Nations becomes a challenge for everyone but also an opportunity to be creative in making smart movements. Not only goods will be distributed with no tax, but also all services. Thus, if ASEAN Integration is realized, there will be better chances for Indonesians to work outside the country. The most interesting part of this event is when there were a lot of fun games on the first night to quickly help everyone get along together as one family. Most of us were sad when the event had to end as it means we had to be separated from our new friends. Yet, as with most participants, I felt that I had a really worthwhile experience. This kind of event is scarce, so I encourage others to chase opportunities such as joining this event. I believe that there will be no second chances and there will be no disadvantages. I am of the opinion that there will only be valuable experiences in ASEC. I can guarantee that!"



## Soegijapranata Catholic University Retreat 2015

On February 25 – 27, 2015, Soegijapranata Catholic University held a reflective retreat for all faculty members and the administrative staff in Aston Imperium Hotel Purwokerto. This annual retreat aims to strengthen and bolster the spirit of work and sense of togetherness among the administrative staff and the faculty member. The Rector of Soegijapranata Catholic University, Prof. Dr. Yohanes Budi Widanarko stated that this retreat was very useful to raise awareness of the university's visions and missions, to establish stronger collegial relationships, and to reflect on the accomplishments.

This year's retreat all employees went by train to Purwokerto, a nice small town on the southwest of Semarang. Purwokerto is five-hour drive from Semarang and is accessible by bus and train. In order to enhance the sense of empathy for those who are less fortunate, Soegijapranata Catholic University decided to take the train to travel to Purwokerto. To get to Purwokerto, everyone had to ride the economy class. The train ride was viewed as a precious experience, especially to those who have never had the experience of using inexpensive public mode of transportation. This time they had to bear with the heat, the narrow legrooms, and stiff seats.

This annual reflective retreat has indeed become one of the hallmarks of Soegijapranata Catholic University to inculcate the Christian values in its activities. In the Merapi eruption aftermath, for instance, Soegijapranata Catholic University conducted a live-in program in the disaster area and organized disaster relief programs. "Every employee wants their work to be smooth, but not all can find the true meaning of their work. This year, we would like everyone to feel happy at work. Therefore, the theme of this year's retreat was Happy at Work", said the Rector.

The chairperson of the event, Dr. Kristiana Haryanti added that working should not be viewed as a burden, but as a delightful and rewarding action. In addition, every worker should be loyal to one another. "Loyalty is a keyword in any workplace because it encourages others to be

happy at work and to encourage other people to do the same. In this retreat, the activities were designed in such a way that every employee could reflect on the Christian values and philosophy of work," said Kristina.

One of the speakers in this event was Father Bambang Triatmoko, SJ who delivered an enlightening on the nature and the meaning of work. Father Carolus from Cilacap, an environmentalist who won Maarif Award in 2012, talked about his work to protect the environment. Father Carolus shared his insights on the importance of having empowering work and career. As an effort to bring people closer, all attendees participated in games and group discussions to build robust and effective teamwork.



Providence University, Taiwan

## Providence Receives the Highest Amount of Scholarship This Academic Year 2015-16

We are all thrilled to share this good news to our ACUCA members!

Providence University has been granted the highest amount of scholarship among all the universities in Taiwan by the Ministry of Education (MOE) in this coming academic year 2015-16. A total of 407 million in support of the Study Abroad Program has been granted by the MOE to PU students qualified to study abroad. There are two types of MOE scholarships in this regard, namely: a) scholarship for students with consistent excellent academic performance and b) scholarship for students with low-income and excellent academic performance. With this amount, our 40 deserving students can study in Japan, the Netherlands, the USA, Spain, and other countries for one or two semesters while 5 other deserving students from the low-income family approved by the MOE can enjoy studying abroad with full scholarship support.

In September 2015, PU is sending 7 students to study for double degree (DD) programs currently offered by partner schools in the US, Germany and France. Under this DD program, PU students will be granted degrees from both PU and the university where they study after completing all the requirements within the regular study period. Moreover, PU is also sending abroad more than 170 students for exchange programs in 2015-16 academic year and 220 more students will be sent abroad as part of the summer program hosted by our partner universities.

To make sure students are well aware of their obligations during studying abroad, the Office of International Affairs hosted a workshop entitled, "From PU to Global—Create Your Study Abroad Experience," on June 11, 2015. At the event, certificates were awarded to those who finished the study abroad programs last semester. They were also invited to share their study abroad experiences to those outbound for this Fall Semester 2015. All students bound for Spain, USA, Asia, and Europe attended the event from which they have learned the essential pre-departure information they need before embarking on their journey to a foreign land.

Thanks to MOE, our students will be able to support their stay for one or two semesters abroad and cover partially their expenses such as, housing, insurance, meals, and other miscellaneous. We are truly grateful for this financial support from the MOE and we are looking forward to sending these outstanding students abroad who we believe will bring back great learning outcome back to Taiwan. There will be ups and downs along the way which will not only become their unforgettable and unique experiences, but also will make them better persons in the face of challenges in the future.

Congratulations to all the recipients for winning this awesome scholarship! We wish them the best in all their endeavors.



## Satya Wacana Christian University Celebrated Cultural Diversity

Satya Wacana Christian University, Salatiga, Indonesia, which is well known as the campus of 'Indonesia in Miniature' because of the diversity of the students who come from many different ethnic groups all over Indonesia, conducts a culture festival each year. This year in 2015, to mark the beginning of the ASEAN Community, the festival was also attended by four students from Chang Jung Christian University. It was held at SWCU on 18th-24th April. Series of events were showed from many cultural ethnics throughout Indonesian region. This event was named the Indonesian International Culture Festival (IICF) 2015.

The event was opened with a culture parade which was participated by hundreds of Satya Wacana Christian University (SWCU) Salatiga students from various ethnic groups. Salatiga residents crowded the streets that were traversed by the parade. The Salatiga community, starting from kids until adults, enjoyed watching the ethnic performances. Here all of the ethnic groups were given time to perform in front of the community. The Toraja students grabbed the spectators' attention with dozens of students who carried a regional traditional house replica. At the front of this ethnic group was a male and female pair of students who looked very attractive wearing Toraja traditional clothing with colorful beads. It was different with the students from the Moluccas Student Association ethnic group. Wearing red cloth wrapped around their bodies with black marks on their faces and bodies, they performed a War Dance. Not to be outdone, Papua ethnic group students performed with their special movements and yells. Minahasa students also entertained the community with their red clothing and performed Minahasa ethnic group special movements.

Having the theme 'Differences for Unity', this year there were 19 ethnic groups partaking in the 2015 IICF Culture Parade. The ethnic groups include Batak Simalungun, Batak Toba, the Moluccas Student Association, Timor Student Association, Papua, Toraja, Minahasa, Poso Student Association, Lampung, Bali, Batak Karo, Sumba Student Association in Salatiga, Nias, Javanese, Central Kalimantan Student Association, Palembang and students from Timor Leste.

### Peace Pledge

The 2015 IICF participants also made a Peace Pledge in the opening event. A Peace Pledge was read by the representatives of all IICF ethnic groups. They swore to uphold their ties of solidarity and peace, as well as to respect all the differences and uniqueness of every region and convey their love of cultures.

### Traverse Archipelago at 2015 IICF

There was a different viewpoint when looking at the Satya Wacana Christian University (SWCU) basketball court during the 2015 Indonesian International Culture Festival (IICF). There were stands decorated with various ethnic ornaments and other ethnic specialty items. For three days (4/22 -4/24), the basketball court was transformed to become a Culture Village displaying various ethnic cultures at SWCU, the Mini Indonesia campus. Since the morning, university students crowded the basketball court to see various traditional dances and certainly taste ethnic specialty food free of charge. In this culinary festival, which was part of the Cultural Exhibition, of the 2015 Indonesian International Culture Festival (IICF), visitors could taste the food that was provided by the respective ethnic groups. It seemed like taking a tour of the archipelago if the visitors went around the ethnic stands. For example, at the Balinese ethnic stand, they served Balinese traditional snacks like pisang raja and rujak kuah pindang. Pisang rai, which is processed from peeled boiled bananas, is best served with fruit cut up along with a salty, sour, and spicy sauce. Besides that, the Moluccas ethnic stand served gundangan complete with papaya condiment. Different with gundangan that is in Java, Moluccas ethnic gundangan consists of boiled cassava leaves that are mixed with grated coconut and eaten with papaya condiment that is made mostly with papaya mixed with a soy sauce. Everything was eaten up by the visitors within approximately an hour.

Besides being joined by various archipelago ethnic groups, students from Timor Leste also participated in this activity. They offered a heavy meal that is part of the Timor Leste diet called Beefy. From its appearance, Beefy looks like steak only the spices are different. "We use tomatoes as a condiment, so that it tastes rather sour," explained Olivia, a Timor Leste student. During this culinary festival all ethnic groups can present their respective ethnic specialty foods. The purpose was to promote culinary diversity in Indonesia to show the visitors that Indonesia is rich in various aspects, one of which is food.

### Cooking

Still at the same location, on the second day of the festival at 6:00 PM, nineteen ethnic groups showed their specialty ethnic food cooking abilities of their respective ethnic groups. The nineteen ethnic groups included Batak Simalungun, Batak Toba, Moluccas University Student and School Student Association, Timor Student Association, Papua, Toraja, Minahasa, Poso Student Association, Lampung, Bali, Batak Karo, Timor Leste, Sumba Student Association in Salatiga, Nias, Javanese, Central Kalimantan Student Association, and Palembang. This activity was enlivened by four foreign students from Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan, as well as several foreign school students from the International School in Salatiga.

### Adapted from:

<http://www.uksw.edu/id.php/info/detail/type/fokus/stamp/1430389100/title/keliling-nusantara-di-icf-2015>

<http://www.uksw.edu/id.php/info/detail/type/fokus/stamp/1430389024/title/meniah-pawai-budaya-pembuka-icf-uksw>



Minahasa students wrapped with red outfits and black marks on their faces and bodies performing a 'War Dance' a traditional dance from their hometown, Minahasa



Students from Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan, performed a Taiwanese traditional dance in the IICF 2015



Visitor of SWCU as he stopped at The Timor Leste's stall to taste a special menu called 'beefy'

## Creating possibilities in Developing Professionally-competent Stewards of God' s Creations



Education is an essential tool for achieving a sustainable future. In fact, during the past decades, UN conference declarations have repeatedly called for education, public awareness, and training that promotes environmental sustainability. With the Philippines being one of the most vulnerable countries to impacts of climate change, there is a need for Philippine educational institutions to create a paradigm shift on education that promotes sustainable development.

De La Salle University – Dasmariñas, one of the premiere universities of the Philippines and has a vision of developing professionally-competent stewards of God' s creation, created innovative possibilities in integrating sustainability in its instruction, research and infrastructures.

### *Instruction: DLSU-D Centennial Botanic Garden*

As a campus-based alternative classroom of the future, the De La Salle University – Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) Centennial Botanic Garden is an exemplar of an innovative venue of teaching and serving as a research center and repository of endemic, threatened and native plant species of the Philippines. The Garden also provides a free area where students and student organizations can rest, study, hold meetings and conduct activities.

#### **Purpose:**

1. **Scientific Research.** The Botanic Garden serves as a center where plants are collected and grown for botanical research, breeding studies, plant exchange and experimentation of economically or ornamentally important plants. It also serves as a repository of plant specimens (living or otherwise), which will be constantly maintained and expanded where scholarly student research be conducted.

2. **Educational Function.** The Botanic Garden is aimed to stimulate public curiosity and interest about plant life and their importance to human being. Laboratory works are done within the Garden. Animals and insects are observed and studied in the Garden. Lectures, demonstrations, seminars, special exhibition and guided tours are made available in the Garden.

3. **Aesthetic and Recreational Function.** The Botanical Garden is promoted as a place where visitor can enjoy the beauty of God' s creation.

4. **Conservation Function.** The Botanical Garden functions as repository for representative specimens of Philippine endemic and endangered species.

5. **Student Service.** The Garden is available to students as a meeting place, study area and activity and recreational area.

### *Research: Cavite Development Research Project*

The Province of Cavite, where De La Salle University – Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) is located, has shown tremendous growths in terms of population, industrialization, and land conversions during the last decade. These developments, if not properly managed, may lead to ecological destruction and depletion of resources. In coordination with the provincial government of Cavite together with its city and municipal governments, DLSU-D has embarked on a 50-year Cavite Development Research Program (CDRP) which focuses on environmental issues, corporate and social entrepreneurship, and the socio-anthropological dimensions of Cavite, with the aim of improving governance and promoting innovative education toward a sustainable province.

Purpose: The CDRP seeks to propose sustainable solutions on the areas of water, food security, waste disposal, land use management, traffic, housing needs and adequate infrastructure which will promote sustainable development that is crucial to the province and its people.

### *Mission Statement*

CDRP proposes to organize quality research into four inter-related

mission areas to benefit the province of Cavite' s quest for sustainable economic, social and environmental development.

**Agriculture, land use and environmental impacts:** This focuses on land use, agricultural and industrial activities on the environment including emissions and carbon neutral strategies;

**Urban systems and applied technology:** Examines land use and transportation issues including earthquake sources, and lack of research and development for innovations;

**Eco-tourism and enterprise development:** Evaluates entrepreneurial product innovations, environmental friendly tourism measures and corporate social responsibility; and

**Good governance and cultural heritage analysis:** Looks at ways to improve governance structure and provide better understanding of historical perspectives of Cavite province.

**Approach:** DLSU-D pursues a learner-centered, collaborative, cross-disciplinary and stakeholder-driven approach in the conduct of its CDRP researches. This method of engagement creates a culture of participation and empowerment among its stakeholders.

### *Infrastructure: The DLSU-D Ecology Center*

The national average of solid waste recovery is only thirteen-percent (13%). But DLSU-D, through the establishment of its own solid waste recovery facility, is able to recover sixty-four percent of its (64%) of its waste. This is done through proper implementation of its waste policies and zealous participation of the community.

The operation of an effective and efficient solid waste management program enabled DLSU-D to reduce its carbon footprint and at the same time generate income to fund its environmental programs which includes tree plantings. To date, DLSU-D has already planted more than 240,000 trees all over the country and participated mostly by students, alumni, employees and parents.

### *Awards and Recognition*

Due to these initiatives, DLSU-D was awarded

1. National winner in the National Search for Most Sustainable and Eco-friendly School in the Philippines in 2011;
2. The First Dark Green School accredited by the Philippine Network of Educators on Environment;
3. The First Philippine University to be included in the International Association of Universities – Higher Education for Sustainable Development (IAU-HESD) initiative by UNESCO;
4. Awarded as having the most outstanding waste management program by the ECOSWITCH ASIA – European Union grant;
5. The First Philippine University accepted as member of the International Sustainable Campus Network;
6. Top 70th country in the world and 1st in the Philippines by the Greenmetric World Rankings of Universities.

(website: [www.dlsu.edu.ph/Sustain](http://www.dlsu.edu.ph/Sustain))



## On Cavite's Looming Water Crisis: De La Salle University-Dasmariñas Strengthens Environmental List

WITH THE LOOMING water crisis threatening the province of Cavite, Philippines come 2020 and beyond, De La Salle University-Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) has joined forces with government agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other representatives from the private sector in forming a regional water and sanitation (WATSAN) hub that will enable local government units "to plan, implement, manage and operate their water supply projects in a sustainable manner."

### Huge Water Deficit

A study presented by the provincial government in July 2012 projected that Cavite's population would increase to 9 million by 2040 (Cavite's population, as of 2014, was 3.1 million). At the time of the study, the entire province's water usage was at 821.06 MLD (million liters per day). The bulk of the demand came from households (at 524.57 MLD), followed by agriculture (162.50 MLD), industry (121.98 MLD), and recreation (12.02 MLD).

Supposedly, based on the province's computed water reserves, its ideal ration of ground water was only 572.43 MLD. This means that, as of 2012, Cavite already has a water deficit of 248.63 MLD. Says Marlon Pareja, director of DLSU-D's Environmental Resource Management Center (ERMaC): "This is not sustainable. Here in Dasmariñas, [we have a deficit of] 9 MLD. At this rate, time will come our water resources will be depleted."

### DLSU-D's Role

The regional WATSAN hubs will have two major components: infrastructure and management. For infrastructure, the Department of Public Works and Highways will construct water districts that are "rights-based"—managed by the local government units, particularly the barangay units, as per their right to access clean water. For management, training facilities will be tapped to empower people to operate and manage the water districts. For Region IV-A (where Cavite province is), this is where DLSU-D comes in.

In the memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed on June 30 by DLSU-D as "partner implementer" in the regional WATSAN hub, DLSU-D,

along with other learning institutions, is tasked (among other responsibilities) to

- provide information, knowledge and expertise on WATSAN governance;
- create a pool of trainers and resource persons that can be tapped for training, mentoring and coaching participating municipalities;
- submit evaluation and training reports on the project's implementation; and
- develop Capacity Development Programs and Business Plan for sustainability of the Regional WATSAN hub.

Pareja adds that, in terms of research, DLSU-D's Cavite Development Research Program (CDRP) will also play a significant role in helping Cavite towns/cities map their land use: which lands are agricultural, which ones are industrial, which ones should be protected as natural watersheds, and so on.

CDRP could also come up with studies that would identify measures and interventions to minimize, if not totally avoid, the water crisis' impact on the province.



Tungshai University, Taiwan

## Bringing Harmony and Gratitude: Joint Worship Service by PU and THU

Since 1997, Providence University (PU) and Tungshai University (THU) have established a shared tradition of alternately holding joint worship services during the Easter season, to pray for faculty members and students, the educational duties the universities bear, and the future of our country. This year, the joint worship service was held at THU. In the morning of April 16th, THU President Ming-ger Tang and PU President Chuan-yi Tang led a group of teachers and students to the Luce Memorial Chapel to pray and worship wholeheartedly for the grace bestowed upon both institutions.

'THU and PU Joint Worship Service' is a religious tradition held annually to celebrate the oneness and love of Christianity. THU Student Fellowship Worship Band performed gospel songs in the opening of the joint worship service. Following that, THU President Ming-ger Tang and PU President Chuan-yi Tang led the Bible reading. Then, THU Chaplain Samuel Li and PU Vice President Chiun-chuan Wang prayed for the success and prosperity of the two universities. The service was wrapped up with THU Gospel Choir presenting more gospel songs and hymns with their angelic voices. From the smooth progression of the service, God's love and mercy was again witnessed.

According to THU President Ming-ger Tang, when he was inaugurated two years ago, he felt greatly honored to participate in the joint worship service. After the service, he exchanged opinions in various perspectives with PU President Tang and they sang their favorite song "Amazing Grace" together. Last year, THU experienced several ups and downs. THU Chaplain, Samuel Li also used this service to pray for the success of THU academic affairs.



Year 2015, the 60th anniversary of THU also celebrated Getty Foundation's nomination of Luce Memorial Chapel as one of the most worth-preserving modern architectures in the 21st century. A renovation project was officially and fully unveiled in the beginning of the year. Holding the joint worship service at the Chapel bore much significance to THU. PU President Chuan-yi Tang expressed that it was very touching to attend the joint worship service in this sacred and spiritual Chapel. It is our anticipation to know how to seek strength through praying to Saint Maria. At this moment, THU Art Center is displaying a special religious exhibition, "Saint Maria—the Mother of Mankind." In the service, Chaplain Li also prayed for the successful renovation of the Luce Memorial Chapel.

After the worship service, the Presidents of PU and THU stated that they hoped the academic collaboration between the two universities can be strengthened, and the fellowship can be further bonded. THU and PU, both located on Taiwan Boulevard in Taichung City, shares the beautiful night views of Metropolitan Taichung. In the joint worship service, with gratitude and love from God, PU and THU will continue striving forward, hand in hand, for higher education in Taiwan.

Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan

## A Brand New "Global Friendship Hall" at Chung Yuan Christian University

Chung Yuan Christian University completed its construction of the Global Friendship Hall on March 20, 2015. The Hall boasts six thematic areas: interactive computer equipment area, digital computer area, conference area, laptop and study hall, and cultural friendship zone. The Global Friendship Hall serves as a hub for students to read, study, conduct discussions and presentations, collect data; as well as a place to drink coffee, and watch movies. The Hall also aims to allow local and foreign students to interact and learn together, and to promote and cultivate new and upcoming talents.

In his opening ceremony speech, president Samuel K.C. Chang (張光正) expressed the hope that local and foreign students will make the best use of the vast amounts of resources provided by the school; and to grasp all opportunities of cultural contact and exchange, without discrimination. Vice president Ying-Ming Lee (李英明) in a speech said, "The Global Friendship Hall will not only enhance the internationalization of Chung Yuan Christian University, but also promote the embodiment of an all-round education and international cooperation. It will be a beacon for a teaching program of excellence."

In the future, in addition to international activities related to this field, students of language corner will also attend classes at the Global Friendship Hall. The Global Friendship Hall is not simply a place for student exchanges; it is an environment for learning and experience.



Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan

## 2015 APRCSL Successfully Held in Taiwan

The 5th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service-Learning (APRCSL) was successfully held at Fu Jen Catholic University from May 27 to 29, 2015. The conference on the theme, "Love Journey: Community Engagement through Service-Learning," attracted more than 350 participants from 18 different countries, including scholars, experts, institution representatives, students and volunteers around the world to attend.

Professor Joseph A. Erickson from the U.S. and Dr. Peter A. Zervakis from Germany gave keynote speeches on "Educating in the Digital Age: Why Service-Learning Is More Important Now Than Ever" and "Service-Learning at German and European Higher Education Institutions: Some Observations of New Phenomenon." In addition, the conference included a president's forum on "How Can Universities Respond to Needs of the Society?—From Service-Learning to Community Engagement in the Global Village," thematic presentations, group panels, interactive workshops, and poster presentations with a total of 140 papers presented. Participants were given plenty of opportunities to reflect on the value and efficacy of service-learning and share fruits of their work.

The Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service-Learning (APRCSL) was a biennial event initiated by Lingnan University in 2007. The Conference at Fu Jen was the first time for this professional gathering to take place outside of Hong Kong. The next APRCSL Conference will be held at Petra Christian University, Indonesia in 2017.



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- Parahyangan Catholic University serves as the ACUCA Secretariat for 2015 to 2016. For contacts, you can address your e-mails to [acuca@unpar.ac.id](mailto:acuca@unpar.ac.id)
- Four issues of the newsletter "ACUCA News" are published each year. For the next issue, please send articles together with print quality photos by e-mail to the ACUCA Secretariat ([acuca@unpar.ac.id](mailto:acuca@unpar.ac.id)) no later than **September 30, 2015**.