Monograph by CDC faculty, staff receives CSSP Best Paper Award

The monograph authored by Dr. Cleofe S. Torres, aProf. Romel A. Daya, aProf. Ma. Teresita B. Osalla, and Ms. Juvy N. Gopela titled “Adoption and Uptake Pathways of Biotech Crops by Small-scale, Resource-poor Farmers in the Philippines” received the Best Paper Award under the socioeconomics category during the 44th Crop Science Society of the Philippines (CSSP) Scientific Conference on May 12-16 at the Cebu Parklane International Hotel, Cebu City.

The paper analyzes the adoption and uptake pathways of biotech corn among poor farmers considering the inadequate capital and lack of full government support to their new venture.

CSSP Best Paper Award. Dr. Ramon A. Oliveros (leftmost), CSSP president, presented the Best Paper Award plaque and cash prize to Dr. Torres (2nd from left), Ms. Gopela, aProfessors Osalla and Daya during the CSSP Scientific Conference on May 12-16 at the Cebu Parklane International Hotel, Cebu City. (Photo courtesy of Romel A. Daya)

UPLB Centennial Professorial Lecture

Dean Velasco delivers professorial chair lecture with Dean Dizon, Dr. Nelson

Dean Ma. Theresa H. Velasco of the College of Development Communication, together with Dean Josefin T. Dizon of the College of Public Affairs and Development and Dr. Gloria Luz M. Nelson of the Department of Social Sciences-College of Arts and Sciences, delivered a professorial chair lecture on “Social Science Agenda for UPLB in 2015 and Beyond” last April 30 at the CDC Lecture Hall.

Dean Velasco, Dean Dizon, and Dr. Nelson focused their lectures on the university’s instruction, research and development, and extension and public service, respectively.

Dean Velasco talked about the challenges that 21st century graduates face and the competencies that they should possess to successfully hurdle these challenges. She also shared CDC’s experiences in revising its BS, MS, and PhD programs towards an outcome-based program.

For her part, Dr. Nelson emphasized the importance
Custodio, Daya join UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod’s Affirmative Action Program

Dr. Pamela A. Custodio, assistant professor at the Department of Development Journalism, and aProf. Romel A. Daya, chair of the Department of Educational Communication, took part in the conduct of the Affirmative Action Program (AAP) of the UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod at the Agricultural Productivity Training Center 2 (APTC-2) in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental on May 20-30.

Their team, composed of 11 volunteers, provided: intensive tutorials in science, mathematics and language;; leadership training activities, including team building and sense of social responsibility development;; and orientation to college life and career options.

Thirty-eight incoming fourth year students from 11 high schools in San Carlos City completed the AAP.

The closing program on May 30 was attended by Dr. Mario A. Deriquito, Department of Education’s undersecretary for Partnerships and Linkages, Dr. Cynthia G. Demavivas, schools division superintendent of San Carlos City, and Hon. Gerardo P. Valmayor, mayor of San Carlos City.

During the closing program, Undersecretary Deriquito commended the AAP for making the participants “better equipped for higher education, especially in bigger universities like UP, La Salle, and Ateneo.” He also added that incorporating leadership training in the program and inculcating a sense of service and responsible citizenship among the participants were laudable, especially that the country needs Filipinos who passionately love the country and can contribute meaningfully to nation-building. Dr. Demavivas agreed that AAP was a good idea for preparing high school students for college. However, she suggested that there should also be a similar program that caters to those who lag in their academic performance.

On the other hand, Mayor Valmayor praised the organizers for their strong partnership in realizing the goals of AAP. He acknowledged the gains of the program, but emphasized the need for its comprehensive evaluation so it could be further improved.

According to aProf. Katrina Ross A. Tan, director of UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod, the participants this year attested that the program not only enhanced their academic competencies but also helped them recognize their brilliance, talents, and confidence.

The conduct of AAP in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental was implemented in partnership with and through the initiative of: the San Carlos City government; Julio and Florentina Ledesma Foundation, Inc. (JFLFI); Asian Rural-Urban Development and Peace Initiative, Inc. (ARDEP); and DepEd – Division of San Carlos City. It was first implemented in San Carlos City in 2012 as part of the Climate Smart Agriculture-based Food Security and Education Program through the initiative of: Dr. Billy Tusalem, director of JFLFI and vice chairman of San Carlos Development Board (SCDB); Prof. Louie Gonzaga, president of ARDEP; Dr. Jose R. Medina, former director of UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod; and Mayor Valmayor.

The AAP is a 10-day to two-week academic enhancement and leadership training project of the UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod for academically inclined but underserved high school students, preferably from public schools in towns, cities, or provinces “underrepresented” in UP. It is not (necessarily) a recruitment program, but an intensive college preparatory and leadership development program.

Meanwhile, aProf. Mark Lester M. Chico from the Department of Development Broadcasting and Telecommunication and director of the UPLB Learning Resource Center, also joined the group for the conduct of the UPLB Recruitment Program for the Best and the Brightest. He also went to Gubat, Sorsogon on May 26-27 to facilitate the same program. (RADaya and JMSMaloles)

AAP Closing Program. Students, volunteers, and partners gather together for a group photo during the closing program of the Affirmative Action Program of the UPLB Ugnayan ng Pahinungod. (Photo by Samuel Teodoro)
CDCC faculty, staff facilitate comm analysis workshop

The College of Development Communication (CDC) led by Dean Ma. Theresa H. Velasco facilitated a communication analysis workshop with the United Nations Children’s Fund (Unicef) for strengthening local nutrition and education programs in Northern Samar through communication for behavior change and community empowerment initiatives.

The workshop was held on May 6-8 at the Fishville Restaurant in the Municipality of Bobon. It is one of the initial activities to build the capacity of the Bobon local government unit (LGU) to introduce and improve the communication component of LGU-led nutrition and education programs in their priority communities.

Members of the LGU’s core group for this communication for development program who attended the workshop come from the following municipal offices: education, health, nutrition, planning and development, and social welfare. Several barangay captains also participated.

CDC team members who went to Masbate with Dr. Velasco for the workshop included aProf. Hermilea Marie C. Castillo, aProf. Rosa Pilipinas Francisco, aProf. Kabzeel Sheba Catapang, Ms. Lily Tallafer, and Romeo Estimado.

On the third week of June, the Bobon core group will attend a communication planning workshop to be held at CDC. LGU representatives from Aroroy and Milagros in Masbate will also attend the workshop. (KSGCatapang)

Montemayor serves as KM resource person

aProf. Garry Jay S. Montemayor, chair of the Department of Science Communication, served as resource speaker during the Awareness Seminar on Knowledge Management (KM) of the Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) on May 5 at the DOST Compound in Taguig City.

During the seminar, aProfessor Montemayor enumerated the usual administrative problems in an organization. He then explained the importance of KM in an organization and discussed its different phases from knowledge creation to knowledge application. He also provided practical suggestions on how research and development (R&D) institutions like ITDI can practice a simple and localized KM program.

“The Philippines has been trailing behind several Southeast Asian countries when it comes to application of KM in workplaces, especially in R&D institutions. This motivates me to bring KM to these institutions and help them set up their own KM programs,” shared aProfessor Montemayor.

Through the help of the seminar, aProfessor Montemayor hopes that ITDI will eventually have its own KM program.

The seminar was an initiative of ITDI’s Technological Services Division and was attended by about 40 ITDI staff. (JMSMaloles with reports from GJSMontemayor)
Lomboy, Moscoso serve as K to 12 trainor-facilitators

aProf. Olga C. Lomboy of the Department of Science Communication and aProf. Mildred O. Moscoso of the Department of Educational Communication served as trainor-facilitators in the Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao (EsP) learning area during the Regional Mass Training of Grade 9 Teachers of the K to 12 Basic Education Program for Region 4 held at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB).

A total of 139 Grade 9 EsP teachers from Rizal were trained from May 12-16 while 121 EsP teachers from Laguna were trained from May 26-30.

aProfessors Lomboy and Moscoso were first trained at the National Training of Trainors at the Teachers’ Camp in Baguio City from May 4-9 before conducting the EsP training.

According to aProfessor Moscoso, the trained teachers were eager to learn and were looking forward to apply what they have learned in their own classrooms.

The training was led by the Department of Education (DepEd) Region 4-CALABARZON headed by Dr. Diosdado M. San Antonio and the UPLB K to 12 Training Management Committee chaired by Dr. Jose V. Camacho, dean of the UPLB Graduate School.

(JMSMaloles with reports from MOMoscoso and AGCanubas)

Dean Velasco delivers... continued from p. 1

of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research and shared her experiences in doing interdisciplinary research. Further, she explained some of the risks and rewards of interdisciplinary research and discussed the need for an internal review board to check for ethical research practices, for the university to provide the right atmosphere for interdisciplinary research, and for the researcher to understand the strengths and limits of his/her discipline, among others.

Meanwhile, Dean Dizon explained how extension and public service in the university can become responsive to the needs of the community, a partnership rather than a provider-client relationship, educational, and empowering.

Prof. Dwight David A. Diestro, chair of DSS-CAS, served as the discussant. (RPFFrancisco)

Monograph by... continued from p. 1

More than 10 papers competed during this year’s conference themed “Harnessing Biodiversity and Biotechnology for Climate Change Adaptation.” About 200 CSSP members attended the conference.

The CSSP is a non-stock, non-profit corporation devoted to promoting basic and applied researches on crops and related sciences. (JNGopela)