



FORUM

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
SHAPING MINDS THAT SHAPE THE NATION

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Public Service in Higher Education

Geography in the Field: A Course-Based Extension Program | 2

Geography focuses on the study of the earth as the home of humans. A holistic discipline, it examines human-environment interactions, spatial processes, and the development of places and localities. It studies the physical and human processes of the earth and investigates how these produce different landscapes. It uses geographic techniques such as spatial analysis, cartography, geographic information science (GIScience), remote sensing, and statistical methods to explore and comprehend the complexities of natural and cultural systems and how they relate to each other. These can lead to better understanding of

The UP Manila Community Health and Development Program (UP CHDP) | 3

The UP CHDP is the UP Manila unit mandated by the University to enter into partnerships with Philippine municipalities to set up and maintain community-based health programs (CBHPs) that will benefit both parties. It provides the site for UP faculty, staff and students' curricular (academic) immersion and service activities.

In 2007, the UP CHDP was revived by then UP Manila Chancellor Ramon L. Arcadio. The UP CHDP Conceptual Framework considers the community as a

BIDANI: A Strategy for Promoting Local Development and Nutrition Improvement | 4

Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem and cannot be solved only by health and nutrition practitioners. It needs multidisciplinary and multisectoral but integrative approaches in order to minimize if not solve this problem. The causes of malnutrition, being multiple and complex, are better addressed with the collaborative efforts of several disciplines.

One concrete example is the malnutrition problem due to poverty in an upland area. The people are poor despite planting cash crops under the forest trees. Their productivity is low because the cash crops they

GEOGRAPHY IN THE FIELD...
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Daniel L. Mabazza and Kevin Nicole S. Vega

the factors that lead to the transformation of everyday spaces on the local, regional, and global levels.

The UP Department of Geography aims to bring geography to where it should be—at the center of decision-making in our country. The department takes an active role in propagating geography as a discipline in order to raise awareness on how our daily lives are influenced by human-environment interactions, and to empower localities in facing the challenges of an increasingly globalizing world.

Origins of Geography Field School

The Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160) provides geography as a discipline the opportunity to showcase its relevance to society. In 1995, the department initiated partnerships with various local government units, non-government and peoples' organizations, and other institutions. These partnerships involve the engagement of students of the department with partner communities. It has resulted in successful outputs such as planning documents and maps, which are vital for development planning especially in the remote areas of the country. It also serves as a venue for students to learn the skills of geographic inquiry, data collection, and analysis while serving the participating communities.

The Department's Physical and Socio-Economic Profile (PSEP), now referred to as the Ecological Profile (EP), is a document in which the department often collaborates with local government units. This document is essential in formulating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) mandated by the Local Government Code; CLUP will be enacted through zoning ordinances.

The first of these collaborations took place in 1995 with the local government of Jordan, Guimaras, which was then a sub-province of Iloilo. The field class came up with the PSEP and accompanying maps used by the LGU as inputs to their CLUP. After this successful engagement, the department continued to reach out to other LGUs, expanding its services by assisting them with their development goals.

Geography Field School

Geography 192/202, Field Methods in Geography (or Field Geography at the graduate level), is a course-based extension program offered by the Department of Geography every mid-year/summer term. The course allows the faculty and undergraduate students of the department to support the development planning processes at the provincial, municipality and community levels. It also fulfills the goals of service learning in enhancing academic learning among students and faculty while extending assistance to communities in a professional manner.

Since its inception, the program has assisted 48 barangays, municipalities and cities all over the Philippines. The department has collaborated with different local government units (LGUs), peoples organizations (POs), academic

and research institutions, non-government organizations (NGOs), and community members towards the enhancement of their capacities to make informed decisions through research, technical assistance, and utilization of geographic information resources and tools such as geographic information systems.

In recent years, the course objectives have broadened and diversified to accommodate the changing nature of development projects initiated or supported by the LGUs or local organizations. The following are the extension activities that are being carried out under the program.

Ecological Profiling/
Physical and Socio-economic Profiling

The ecological profile (EP), formerly known as the physical and socio-economic profile (PSEP) is a comprehensive database composed of systematic description and analysis of the different sectors of an area or municipality, namely: social, physical, economic, institutional and environmental sectors.

The ecological profile is also the more comprehensive



replacement of the socio-economic profile as it gives equal coverage to the physical, biological, socio-economic, cultural and built environments (DILG).

The Local Planning and Development Coordinator (LPDC) of the LGU is responsible for the preparation of this document. However, due to lack of personnel, data and technology, some LGUs reach out to other institutions for assistance in the formulation of the EP.

As of 2016, 28 municipalities have been given assistance with their PSEP/EP by the department.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a planning document prepared by the LGUs to rationalize the allocation and proper use of land uses. It also projects public and private land uses in accordance with future spatial organization of economic and social activities.

It is mandated in Article 41 of the

Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160) that LGUs shall prepare their CLUP which will be enacted through zoning ordinances. Similar with the lack of capacities to prepare such documents, some LGUs engage with other institutions for assistance in the formulation of their CLUP.

The department assisted the formulation of CLUP of Lucban, Quezon in 2001.

Minimum Basic Needs Profile

The Minimum Basic Needs Profiling provides a strategy of prioritizing primary requirements for survival, security and enabling needs of the community. It is also a way of using basic needs as basis for situation analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The department conducted the preparation of the Minimum Basic Needs Profile of Barangay Iniwaran, San Pascual, Masbate in 2005.

Photos provided by Dr. Daniel Mabazza of the UP Diliman Department of Geography.



Community Resource Management Framework Plan

The Community Resource Management Framework Plan is a strategic plan of the community on how to manage and benefit from the forest resources on a sustainable basis. It describes the community's long-term vision, aspirations, commitments and strategies for the protection, rehabilitation, development and utilization of forest resources. It also provides detailed activities for the first five (5) years which shall serve as a five-year work plan of the people's organizations(POs).

The department assisted in the formulation of the CRMF of Barangay Calawis, Antipolo City, Rizal in 2009.

Participatory 3D Mapping

Participatory 3D mapping is a community-based mapping method which integrates local spatial knowledge with data on elevation of the land and depth of the sea to produce stand-alone, scaled and geo-referenced relief models.

In 2015, the UP Department of Geography, in partnership with UNICEF, facilitated the participatory 3D mapping in the municipalities of Paracale and Basud, Camarines Norte.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Orientation/Workshop

Geographic Information System or GIS, is a computer system for capturing, storing, checking and displaying data related to positions on the earth's surface. GIS can show many different kinds of data on one map, such as

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Top Photo: Participatory 3D Mapping project of Geog 192 students led by Mr. Emmanuel Garcia with the local participants of Paracale, Camarines Norte in partnership with UNICEF. Middle and Bottom Photos: Participatory 3D Mapping project of Geog 192 students led by Dr. Jake Cadag with the local children of Basud, Camarines Norte in partnership with UNICEF. Bottom Photo: Geog 192 class consulting with the Mayor of San Jose, Nueva Ecija.

THE UP MANILA COMMUNITY HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM... continued from page 1

Anthony G.H. Cordero, MD

partner in health and development towards a healthier and more empowered community.

The objectives of the UP CHDP are to assist communities in attaining enhanced capacities in their own health care and development through the Primary Health Care Approach while providing learning opportunities for the faculty and students of UP in the principles and practice of community health and development which they can also use in their extension and volunteer work.

The community partner of the UP CHDP from 2007-2013 was the Municipality of San Juan, Batangas (San Juan started working with UP Manila through the UP College of Medicine in 2006) while the partner from 2013 to the present is the Province of Cavite through the A.M.I.G.A. Inter-L.G.U. Health Collaboration Council.

The municipality of San Juan and the UP CHDP successfully worked together from 2006 to 2013 “to decrease by 50 percent the morbidity of children 0-12 years old.” In addition to the municipal-wide program on children’s health, there was also a municipal-wide program on dengue prevention. The dengue program involved the formation of a Barangay Dengue Task Force in all the barangays. These groups created the mechanism whereby community members were able to participate actively in the program. School-Based Dengue Task Force groups were also formed in every public and private school in the municipality. Several public elementary schools were able to form teams of “Bulilit Health Scouts” which assisted in the implementation of school-based projects, including the school-based dengue prevention efforts.

There were also several barangay-wide initiatives such as solid-waste management programs and livelihood programs, as well as school-based programs anchored on the “Fit for School” initiative of the Department of Education.

There were also regular primary care clinical services in barangay health stations. The Rural Health Unit staff and the UP students worked together to provide primary care services with the assistance of the local government unit (LGU) and the health workers in the barangay.

The Municipality of San Juan was led by two mayors during the partnership years from 2006 to 2013, the Hon. Rodolfo Manalo (2006-2007 & 2010-2013) and the Hon. Danilo Mindanao (2007-2010). Dr Nestor Alidio served as the overall leader of the health team.

A disengagement and appreciation ceremony was held in March 2013 where both the municipality of San Juan and UP showed their gratitude for the collaboration. As early as 2012, the UP CHDP started discussions with the province of Cavite on a potential partnership program. Through the support and guidance of the Cavite Provincial Governor, the Hon. Juanito Victor Remulla Jr. and the Cavite Provincial Health Officer, Dr George Repique, the UP CHDP was introduced to the Amiga Inter-LGU Health Collaboration Council. The Council is made up of the municipalities of Alfonso, Mendez, Indang, General Emilio Aguinaldo and Amadeo.

A Memorandum of Agreement between the province of Cavite and UP Manila was formalized in March 2013. Governor Remulla represented Cavite while UP Manila was represented by then Chancellor Manuel Agulto.

Orientation activities were held from March to April 2013. Situational analysis was done by both parties through several participatory activities from May to July 2013: AMIGA decided to prioritize the issue of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) especially hypertension and diabetes in terms of the partnership with the UP CHDP. The objective that was collectively decided by both parties was “To increase by 25 percent the number of controlled hypertensives and diabetics within Amiga in five years (2013 to 2018).”

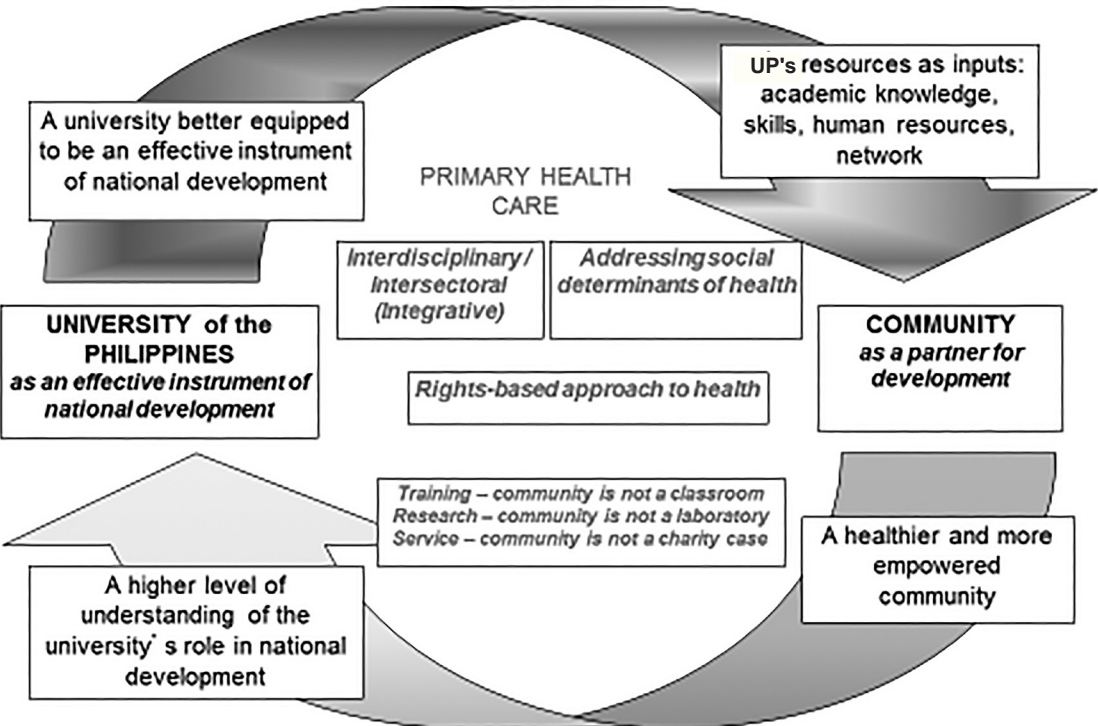
The problem was further analyzed from July to October 2013 using the “problem tree analysis” approach. The strategies and interventions that are collectively being formulated, implemented and monitored by Amiga and UP are partly based on the factors that were determined through the problem tree analysis. Amiga and UP also decided in April 2014 to anchor all the activities on hypertension and diabetes on the Department of Health’s PhilPEN (Philippine Package of Essential Services for Non-Communicable Diseases) Strategy.

Most of the collective efforts by Amiga and UP have since then been geared towards achieving the main objective. These efforts included the following: (1) engagement of organized groups and interested individuals so they can be partners in the program; (2) regular community readiness assessment; (3) preparatory activities for the screening of all adults 25 years old and above in the barangays; (4) risk assessment using the DOH PhilPEN Risk Assessment Form and data management; (5) development, implementation and monitoring of barangay action plans based on the risk assessment data and on the factors that came out during the problem analysis in 2013.

There were also several initiatives specific to particular municipalities and barangays. These were developed, implemented and evaluated by the concerned municipality or barangay with one or several UP units. Some of these initiatives

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UP CHDP CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK:



A workshop group during a Barangay Assembly in San Juan in 2006. This was one of several groups that were discussing “My Vision Of A Healthy Community.”

*BIDANI: A STRATEGY...
continued from page 1*

**Lorna O. Garcia, Pamela A. Gonzales, Charina P. Maneja, Ana B. Castañeda,
Belinda A. Lalap, Marcelina C. Miranda and Arnold T. Abuyog**

plant are not suitable and the soil had become infertile because of inappropriate planting methods. Nutritionist Dietitians (NDs) can advice them about nutrition, but foresters must also advise them about upland crops and methods so they will have a better source of livelihood.

Research and extension professionals of the Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (Bidani) recognize the common goal: Assuring human existence in a sustainable environment. This requires an integrated disciplinary approach to get to the root causes of problems and identify appropriate, lasting solutions.

The study of man alone necessitates the use of both the natural and social sciences.

Since its inception as a Nutrition Improvement Model, an action-research project of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization in 1978, until it became a full blown network program of state universities and colleges (SUCs), Bidani's niche has always been human ecology: the study of man and his interaction with the environment. Beginning with the physical matter of health and nutrition, we realize it is better viewed from a socio-economic standpoint. Health and nutrition are

the best indicators of socio-economic progress. Only healthy and well-nourished individuals can participate in and contribute to socio-economic development.

Although we began with the goal of nutrition improvement (NI), it did not become the sole focus of Bidani. As we aspire to be holistic, NI led us to look for improvement in other inter-related areas of concern, including physical infrastructure such as farm to market roads, peace and order, livelihood, potable water, among others.

During the earlier times of the College of Human Ecology (CHE), the three departments and one institute collaborated for the practicum of both the Bachelor of Science in Human Ecology (BSHE) and Bachelor of Science in Nutrition (BSN) programs. The objective was to produce graduates with holistic perspectives who can articulate each of the departments' objectives. The BSHE curriculum includes nutrition. At the same time, the BSN curriculum includes an introduction to human ecology because knowledge of the concept will enable students to understand the deep-rooted problems of man and his relationship with the physical, social, biological and economic environments which affect human nutrition.

Under the Department of Human and Family Development Studies

(HFDS), the locus of operation is the family. BIDANI aims to help sustain healthy and well-nourished families to enable them to participate in socio-economic development. This is the same target set by the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food (IHNF). The Department of Social Development Services (DSDS) targets communities to receive or avail of social services through different technologies and to take care of the environment, which is the domain of the Department of Community and Environmental Resource Planning (DCERP). Each domain interacts with one another. Synergy is the essence of human ecology, and Bidani is utilized by the entire college for teaching, research, and extension.

At present, UPLB-Bidani has established linkages with colleges in UPLB—e.g., the College of Public Affairs and Development in the conduct of researches and studies on good governance, food security, nutrition program management and gender and development.

Bidani hopes to collaborate with other UP units through continuous upgrading of Bidani innovative components dealing with the community's ability to manage information, refinement of the integrative development approach, and promotion of community participation in their own nutrition.

Photos provided by Ms. Lorna Garcia.



Evolution from model to integrated development approach

Bidani is a community-based, multidisciplinary, holistic, development-oriented approach aimed at improving governance and strengthening the food and nutrition security of Philippine villages. Evolving from the Nutrition Improvement Model (NIM), in 1982, the project changed its acronym to Bidani to live up to its approach. With funding assistance from the Netherlands for 10 years (1990-2000), the project expanded to a program of seven SUCs: Isabela State University (Region II), Central Luzon State University (Region III), Bicol State University (Region V), UP Visayas (Region VI), Visayas State University (formerly Visayas State College of Agriculture) (Region VIII), Central Mindanao State University (Region X), with UPLB as national overall coordinator.

These academic institutions, through their extension programs, partner with local government units



Photos provided by Dr. Anthony G.H. Cortero, Director of the UP Manila Community Health and Development Program.

Clockwise, from top left - Picture 1: A school-based program showcasing the collaboration among the Municipal LGU, MHO, Department of Education, School Officials and Teachers and a University. Picture 2: During a community health education activity with diagnosed hypertensives and diabetics in Cavite. Picture 3: Community leaders and health workers with UP faculty and international partners after a DILG-mandated barangay assembly which drew more than 70 participants. Among the issues discussed was their community plans for the Bottom-up Budgeting. Picture 4: Barangay-based Solid Waste Management Program in San Juan.



Clockwise, from top left:
Picture 1: SUCs concerted efforts for the promotion of healthy and well-nourished community, i.e. conferences and consultations meetings.
Picture 2: Capacity building and Technical Backstopping for the preparation of BIDP. Picture 3: PNEA as Bidani's direct nutrition interventions for family and community development. Picture 4: BMIS as a tool for nutrition-in-development, i.e. capacity development for BMIS electronic system and spotmapping.



to promote nutrition-in-development through community and other key stakeholders' participation in an integrated management system. As such, Bidani considers nutrition as an objective, a component, an indicator, and outcome of development.

Being non-secular, non-partisan, scientific, and highly committed to their academic and social goals, the SUCs of Bidani have earned the trust of the communities that sustain the program.

Bidani as a program is now in its 38th year, lodged at the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food, College of Human Ecology (IHN-F-CHE), UPLB as the national overall coordinator. It has become the academe's unique and continuing contribution to national development despite changes in the political leadership. It has become a flagship program of UPLB and has received multiple awards and recognitions.

In four decades, Bidani was strengthened through the implementation of innovative components or strategies:

- 1) Barangay Integrated Development Approach (BIDA) the development strategy for LGUs through a systematic, holistic and bottom-up approach in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects and activities as embodied in a Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP);
- 2) Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA) through strengthening health and nutrition interventions in the prevention of malnutrition and rehabilitation of malnourished children.
- 3) Barangay Management Information System (BMIS), which focuses on the needs of the barangay through an efficient and effective data collection prior to program planning, and manage-

ment and implementation of various projects and activities at the barangay.

Bidanized equals better LGUs

One of the aims of Barangay Integrated Development Approach (BIDA) is to create awareness and to empower people in the local communities to participate actively in the development process. The BIDA as an innovative strategy is a package of capability building activities aimed at developing the capacity of the barangays in developing and managing nutrition-oriented programs. Technical trainings are conducted for project development or formulation of the barangay integrated development plan (BIDP) and implementation.

Trained barangay local government units (BLGUs) ensure that project planning is participatory, multi-sectoral, and uses the bottoms-up approach involving all the local officials and community stakeholders in problems and needs identification, and

in identification of possible solutions.

Bidani has made a difference in empowering local government units and other stakeholders in community nutrition development planning. This was attained through relative coordination and complementation of projects, programs and activities among the development functionaries and the intended clientele and enhanced linkages of grassroots, stakeholders and other institutions such as government organization (GOs), non-government organization (NGOs), private agencies, and people's organizations (POs).

With the adoption and operationalization of the Bidani strategy,

- (1) A system in planning has been established in the barangays. Through the system the local officials and community members are able to identify sectoral problems and needs of the community from ocular inspection and surveys. With the availability of updated information, the

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THE UP MANILA COMMUNITY HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM... continued from page 3

included the following: (1) Universal PhilHealth Coverage project initiated by the municipality of General Aguinaldo; (2) School-based Handwashing and Toothbrushing program by the municipality of Mendez and the Department of Education; (3) Oral Health Workers Training with several towns; (4) Inter-Professional Practice in the five towns; and (5) numerous other barangay-specific projects within the municipalities of Indang, Amadeo, Alfonso and Mendez.

There were also activities that were mainly patient-based curative services. These were the out-patient clinics in the rural health units and barangay health stations were the LGUs. The municipal health offices and the rural health units worked together with the

UP CHDP in providing primary care services. There were also regular oral health clinics and dental missions. From 2013 to 2015, regular dermatology clinics were conducted by the UP-PGH Dermatology Section.

As of June 2016, the Colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Social Work and Community Development (in UP Dili-man) have worked with the program. Two departments and one section from UP-PGH (Dermatology, Family and Community Medicine and Pediatrics) have also sent their consultants and residents to the program. Cavite and UP have provided full-time community organizers to help in the organizing, advocacy, management and mobilization work within the program.

The official staff house of the program is in Barangay Bancod, Indang, Cavite. The staff house is maintained through the generous support of the Cavite State University (Indang campus) and the provincial government of Cavite.

UP Manila Chancellor Dr. Carmencita D. Padilla continues the tradition of providing invaluable guidance, support and assistance to the UP CHDP.

The UP CHDP has advocated the following guiding principles in the partnership program with San Juan and Cavite: (1) Primary Health Care Approach which recognizes health as a right and the importance of people's participation, (2) Social Determinants Approach, (3) Community Development Theories and Community Organizing Principles and (4) Inter-Professional Education/ Practice in which the UP CHDP is in a unique position of having the mechanism to achieve these purposes because

of its multidisciplinary nature.

Dr. Cordero is a graduate of the UP College of Medicine. He is the director of the UP Manila Community Health & Development Program and chair of the UP College of Medicine Return Service Obligation Program. He serves as faculty adviser for community partnership programs with several student organizations in UP Manila. He was the 2013 UP Manila Gawad Chancellor Awardee for Outstanding Faculty in Extension Service and the 2015 Gawad Chancellor Awardee for Outstanding Faculty in Teaching. He is engaged in numerous extension and volunteer service work in the field of community health and development and gender and development. He is an active volunteer of the UP Manila Pahinungod, a 2015 DOH Bayani ng Kalusugan Awardee. Email him at ahcordero@up.edu.ph.

THE UP FORUM ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

PUBLIC SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Raul G. Bradecina, Ph.D.
SUC President III
Partido State University
Camarines Sur



The University of the Philippines is succeeding in making public service an essential part of the higher education program. For Partido State University, the public service arm of UP has enabled a budding and growing University to access UP’s expertise to capacitate its faculty members as well as help enhance PSU students’ competency in highly technical courses where faculty members having advanced degrees are lacking or inadequate. For instance, UP has been consistently sending its experts from the National Institute of Geological Sciences (UP-NIGS) to conduct lectures for our geology students.

UP has assisted PSU in forging research collaborative ties with research institutions here and abroad. True to its mission of shaping the minds that shape the nation, its faculty members, in their personal capacity, have shared opportunities for collaborative research engagements with budding researchers of PSU. The efforts of scientists and professors of UP Visayas and UP Los Baños to motivate, mentor and link PSU faculty researchers to their networks of research institutions and organizations not only boost our faculty members’ confidence but also improve our institutional capacity for research and development.

UP helps small and growing higher education institutions (HEIs) and state universities and colleges (SUCs) like PSU to accelerate their development as an institution of higher learning. It sends its curriculum and disciplinary experts to help PSU redesign its curriculums to achieve outcomes-based education (OBE) and develop demonstrable student competencies.

HEIs and SUCs like PSU gain many opportunities from UP public service. First, it informs SUCs of UP services and resources that can be accessed. Second, it provides assistance to its clientele in accessing services and resources to the fullest. Third, it provides advice on how clientele SUCs could maximize the benefits in terms of capacitating and developing them for opportunities accessed. HEIs or SUCs can gain both opportunities in research, extension and instruction capacity development and related resources to support and sustain their growth. The networks and linkages that UP has developed and nurtured over the years are being offered to SUCs and HEIs so that they too, like PSU, could be mainstreamed to the global networks of academic institutions, gain insight from the experience and grow.

Collaborating with UP through its public service program helps PSU financially through partnering and sharing of resources in implementing academic-related activities. Because it has its own budget for public service, UP shoulders its own expenses in joint engagements, thus greatly reducing the expenditure of partner SUCs in implementing such activities mutually agreed by UP and PSU. We suggest that UP should scale up its public service program in assisting HEIs and SUCs in the provinces. Also, there is a need for increased budget for its public service program for UP to fully implement activities that will further help strengthen higher education programs in the country.

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THE UP FORUM ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

PUBLIC SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION



Dr. Amihan April M. Alcazar
National President
Philippine Association of Extension Program Implementers, Inc. (PAEPI)
University President, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Pasig

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The Philippine Association of Extension Program Implementers, Inc. (PAEPI) is a non-stock, non-profit organization whose aim is to make extension on the same level of professional practice as teaching and research in the country's colleges and universities.

Its vision is to elevate the level of the discipline to make it an effective means of social and individual transformation. To that end, PAEPI organizes capability training conventions, where paper presentations are made and is in the process of compiling those inputs into a professional journal.

The country is still in the process of making public service an essential part of higher education. With the impact of K-12, professors can now be involved in extension and public service activities during the transition period from 2016-2018.

The constraints are institutional in nature, as every higher educational institution has different policies governing the conduct of extension and public service programs. The suggestion made to the Commission on Higher Education during the Extension Conference in 2015, was to institutionalize the framework for the policies governing extension programs.

Opportunities are now available because of the Commission on Higher Education K-12 Transition Program which includes funds for innovation. These funds should be applied for and accessed by higher educational institutions so that extension and public service programs can be conducted during the transition period.

Pagmamalasakit: Adhikain ng UP

Pagtanggap sa Paglilipat ng Tungkulin
ni UP President Danilo Concepcion
09 February 2017; Quezon Hall, UP Diliman Campus

Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat!
Una sa lahat, hayaan ninyong ipakilala ko ang aking butihing maybahay, si Atty. Gaby Concepcion.
Pangalawa, hayaan po ninyong ipakilala ko sa inyo ang mga bubuo sa aking gabinete:

- Executive Vice President - Dr. Teodoro Herbosa
- VP for Academic Affairs - Dr. Maria Cynthia Rose Bautista
- VP for Planning & Finance - Dr. Joselito Florendo
- VP for Development - Dr. Elvira Zamora
- VP for Administration - Prof. Nestor Yunque
- VP for Public Affairs - Dr. Jose Dalisay, Jr.
- VP for Legal Affairs - Atty. Hector Danny Uy
- Secretary of the University - Atty. Roberto Lara

Sa yugto pong ito, nais kong pasalamatang nang taos-puso at lubos ang Lupon ng mga Rehente sa tiwalang ipinagkaloob nila sa akin na pamunuan ang Unibersidad sa loob ng anim na taon. Sisikapin ko po sa sukdulan ng aking kakayahan na kayo at ang lahat ng tumaya at umasa sa aking salita ay hindi mabigo. Ito po ay itinuturing kong isang sagradong pangako.

Pagpupugay naman at paghanga ang aking ibinibigay kay Presidente Alfredo Pascual na aking hahalinhinan sa kanyang pagbaba sa katungkulan. Napakataas po ng pamantayan na iiwanan ni Presidente Pascual.

Tunay, mahirap itong abutin ng sino mang susunod sa kanyang mga yapak. Kung ito po ay ihahambing natin sa larong luksong-tinik, mahirap pong lundagin ang taas ng tinik na kanyang nilundag.

Sa aking pagtanggap sa katungkulan bilang Presidente, tinanggap ko rin po nang kusang-loob ang lahat ng hamon sa kanya: gaya ng hamon ng malalang problema sa umiiral na practice o sistema ng ating procurement, ang pagpapataas sa kalidad ng ating mga academic programs, ang internationalization ng ating Unibersidad, ang pagpapalakas ng ating mga faculty development programs, ang suliranin ng contractualization at health care, ang modernization ng ating mga opisina, kagamitan, at laboratoryo, ang suliranin ng admission at libreng matrikula, ang pagpapataas sa sweldo ng ating mga kaguruan at kawani, ang pagpapataas sa stipend ng ating mga scholars, o dili kaya ang inyong napuna pagpasok ninyo kanina sa ating campus, ang lumulubhang kalagayan ng ating mga gusali at kapaligiran. At marami pang iba. Napakahaba po ng listahan ng mga suliranin at mga hamon na bubunuin ng inyong abang lingkod sa susunod na anim na taon.

Mahaba man at marami, ako po ay tunay na nananalig na walang problemang hindi malulutas kung tayong lahat ay magkakaisa ng layon at magsasama-sama sa pagkilos. Subali’t magkakabuklod-buklod lamang ang ating mga kilos at galaw kung tayong lahat ay mabibigkis ng pagmamalasakit. Pagmamalasakit ang siyang dapat maging adhikain ng bawat isa sa atin. Pagmamalasakit sa isa’t isa, pagmamalasakit sa ating propesyon; pagmamalasakit sa ating Unibersidad, at pagmamalasakit sa bayan at lipunan.

Hindi magiging ganap ang isang pamantasan kung wala ang mga mag-aaral, kawani, at kaguruan nito. Sila ang mga sangkap o sector na nagbibigay-buhay sa ating pamantasan. Subalit ang tatlong sangkap o sector na ito ay hindi mabubuo bilang isang unibersidad kung walang dakilang adhikain ang sa kanila ay magbibigkis.

Ang adhikaing makapaglingkod sa bayan ay isang pagmamalasakit. Subalit ang pagmamalasakit na ito ay walang saysay at kabuluhan kung ang tatlong sangkap naman ay walang malasakit sa kapakanan ng ating pamantasan.

Pagmamalasakit sa lipunan ang luminang at humubog ng mga mag-aaral. Subalit malasakit na walang kabuluhan at saysay din kung ang mga mag-aaral na ating hinubog at tinuruan ay walang malasakit sa bayan.

Dito sa UP, palagian nating ipinagyayabang, bilang isang akademikong institusyon, na tayo ay sentro ng “Dangal at Husay.” Ito po ang diwang ikinikintal natin sa isipan ng ating mga mag-aaral. Ito rin ang adhikain na nais nating maging mukha ng UP sa pambansang kamalayan. Ngunit marapat siguro nating isaalang-alang na mas titingkad ang taglay nitong bisa kung ang “Dangal at Husay” ay kakambal ng pagmamalasakit. Kinakailangan natin itong isa-puso at isa-diwa sapagkat ito ang magiging pangunahin nating takaran upang matagumpay nating mai-ukit ang dibuho ng ating hinaharap.

Sa susunod na anim na taon na ating pagsasamahan, malasakit ang magbibigkis at magbibigay-buhay sa lahat ng ating layunin, kilos, at galaw.

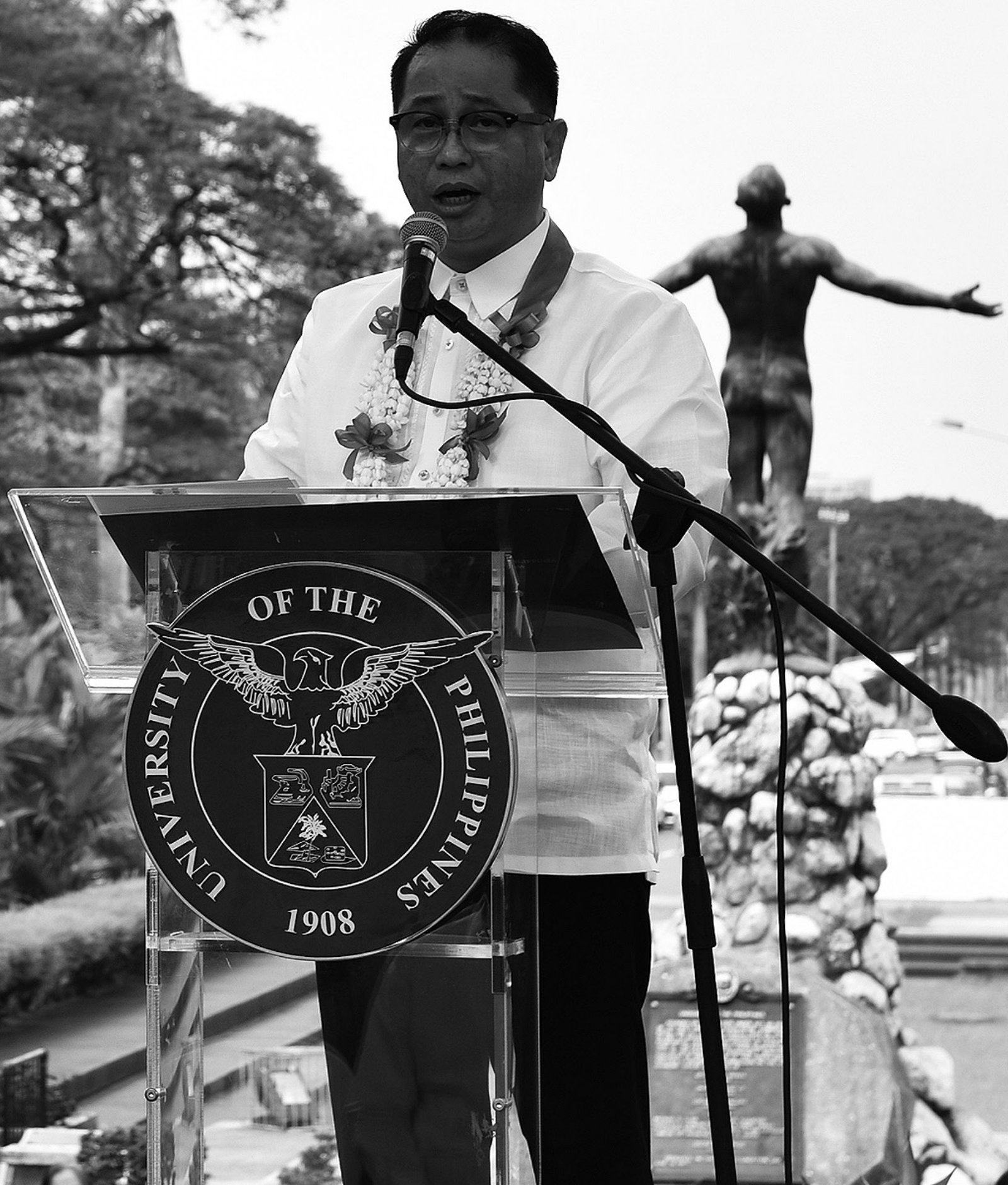
Bago po ako tuluyang magtapos, nais ko pong handugan si Presidente Alfredo Pascual ng isang likhang sining ni Manolo Sicat ng College of Fine Arts, bilang isang munting alaala at pasasalamat.

Mr. President, ang munting alaala po ay aking pinamagatan na “Malasakit ng Tao sa Sandaigdigan”.



**"Pagmamalasakit ang siyang dapat
maging adhikain ng bawat isa sa atin.**

**Pagmamalasakit sa isa't isa;
pagmamalasakit sa ating propesyon;
pagmamalasakit sa ating Unibersidad,
at pagmamalasakit sa bayan at lipunan."**





The DNA Analysis Kit

Helping Sex Crime Victims Find

Andre Encarnacion

Rape is one of the most prevalent forms of violence against women (VAW) in the country, ranking third among reported offenses at 13.1 percent from 1999 to 2009. But the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) and other concerned organizations are aware that the reality is far more troubling than the figures indicate. The social and cultural stigmatization associated with rape has silenced many victims about their ordeals. Those who do report rape incidents to authorities face another set of difficulties—from an over-reliance on victim testimony to the psycho-sociological and economic costs of a lengthy trial. The obstacles inherent in seeking justice in a rape case make the experience a particularly harrowing one for the parties involved.

An additional, yet equally pertinent difficulty in these cases is ensuring that evidence is effectively collected, transported, and analyzed.

In the case of DNA evidence in particular, the fact that the laboratories capable of analyzing it in sexual assault cases are all located in Metro Manila makes it unlikely that the 72-hour window within which DNA in collected samples is likely to be available can be met. The difficulty and cost involved in collecting, transporting and analyzing biological samples from a victim are a likely factor in an enormous number of cases where the presence of the evidence could have made a difference.

These challenges inspired the UP Diliman Natural Science Research Institute DNA Analysis Laboratory (UPD-NSRI DAL) led by Dr. Maria Corazon A. De Ungria to develop a prototype version of the Sexual Assault Investigation Kit (SAIK).

The idea of incorporating DNA evidence in the resolution of sexual assault cases in the country first gained recognition through the SAIK's successful application at the World Bank-sponsored Panibagong Paraan 2004, or the 1st Philippine Development Innovation Marketplace. Designed by the lab with key inputs from its key researchers such as Frederick Delfin, the SAIK is one of a number of important extension services offered by the UPD-NSRI DAL to make DNA science serve the needs of Philippine society.

The premise behind the SAIK was as simple as it was timely. It aimed to use DNA's ability as the most powerful current tool in human identification to produce objective evidence in identifying the perpetrators of sex crimes. It moves the burden away from victim testimony, while also being capable of being used in support of that same testimony. Moreover, it addressed the aforementioned problems of collecting and storing samples for DNA testing, the limited access to DNA laboratories, and, perhaps most importantly, the limited resources of victims and/or suspects.

Since its initial development by Dr. De Ungria and Mr. Delfin, several members of the UPD-NSRI DAL such as research-

ers Nelvie Soliven, Miriam Ruth Dalet, Minerva Sagum, Gayvelline Calacal and Jazelyn Salvador have contributed to the present version of the SAIK. According to Soliven, who currently leads the team doing improvements on the SAIK, the kit itself contains the collection materials—collection tubes, sterile swabs (oral, anal and vaginal), and envelopes which are color-coded based on sample type, together with the instructions and forms needed to document the collection and transport of the samples. These instructions contain all the elements prescribed by the Rule on DNA Evidence promulgated by the Philippine Supreme Court in 2007.

The typical evidence management process involves the collection of samples by trained medical personnel from the Child Protection Unit (CPU-Net) or other organizations around the country using the SAIK. The kit is then transported via courier to the DNA laboratories in Metro Manila for analysis. The evidence management process is vital in ensuring that the samples remain intact and accounted for from the collecting unit of origin to the DNA laboratory. Combined with the economical dimensions of the SAIK, it greatly reduces the costs and difficulties inherent in transferring and storing samples.

The SAIK, when properly used, aids law enforcement personnel in identifying the real perpetrators of crimes. This reduces the burden on the victim to provide a detailed and prolonged testimony and protects those who have been erroneously accused of the crime. The SAIK also helps doctors during the medical examination of an individual after an abuse by providing sterile material with the appropriate labels, thereby simplifying the overall process of evidence collection.

According to Dalet, work on the SAIK took many years because the UPD-NSRI DAL opted to study the entire system, from sample collec-



Justice

tion, transport, handling and laboratory analysis before a prototype version was made available to NGOs and GAS. Funding was obtained from the Department of Science and Technology Philippine Council of Advanced Science and Technology Research Development (DOST PCASTRD), the European Union (EU), the World Bank and the UP Diliman Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development (OVCRD). Two papers that were published in the International Journal of Legal Medicine (IJLM) in 2005 and 2011 reported the use of this kit in the examination of over 100 child-victims that were conducted by the CPU-Net. The prototype SAIK used in these studies is now available on a per-order basis from the UPD-NSRI DAL.

To improve the packaging of the prototype kit, the UPD-NSRI DAL is now working with the UP College of Fine Arts and the UP Diliman Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office (UPD IPTTO). UPD-NSRI DAL is actively seeking out funding sources, as well as interested companies who can help its members make this all-important innovation available on a national scale in order to maximize the utility of this kit in finding justice for all sexual abuse victims and in strengthening the Philippine criminal justice.

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Top photo: Dr. De Ungria working in a laboratory in UP Diliman. Bottom photo: The DNA Analysis laboratory staff, in a photo featured in the UP Diliman Natural Sciences Research Institute website.

BIDANI: A STRATEGY...
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local officials are able to come up with programs, projects and activities (PPAs) in the Barangay Integrated Development Plans (BIDPs) that are appropriate to the needs of their constituents. LGUs which are “Bidanized” are able to effectively and efficiently evaluate and manage their own resources and needs, and access national and higher level programs of government and non-government organizations providing much needed assistance relevant to their situation.

(2) The expanded Barangay Development Councils/Program Planning and Implementing Committees (BDCs/PPICs) has become more organized, active and functional and are able to implement projects and deliver services to their constituents. Moreover, through the strategy, people’s participation in barangay activities has increased.

(3) They are able to monitor the children with malnutrition problems and are able to implement programs responsive to their needs like feeding programs, the establishment of food production areas, and livelihood training. They are able to link with concerned municipal agencies and members of the PPIC to work on projects.

(4) Bidani catchment barangays have been recognized as model barangays. They have received awards and have become favorite training grounds, locally,



BIDANI's direct nutrition interventions for family and community development.

nationally and internationally.

(5) The barangay officials have become computer literate. Having learned how to make powerpoint presentations and other computer applications such as Excel, Word, and Internet (Google search) and enhanced their communication skills.

Pegging success on nutrition

If it is to become the indicator of the program's success, the nutrition component of Bidani must be highlighted. In its early years of implementation, the nutrition component was weak since Bidani did not offer any direct interventions. Thus, in 1994, the Participative Domiciliary Nutrition Rehabilitation (PDNR) was launched as an individualized and family-focused approach to rehabilitate and/or prevent malnutrition among children

0-36 months of age and to promote improved nutrition.

PDNR reinforced the partnership and joint responsibility of the parents, the community, government line agencies and GOs with technical support from the SUCs. The PDNR also reinforced the nutrition-related activities of the government such as the Comprehensive Health and Nutrition Program of the Department of Health (DOH), the Supplemental Feeding Program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and Department of Education (DepEd).

Through this strategy, malnutrition has been reduced in Bidani covered barangays with 17 percent of the 1,387 children (0-36 months) rehabilitated to normal status after six months. Based on data covered by the seven member SUCs from 1996-2000 like CMU, UPV, BU, ISU, CLSU, VSU

and UPLB as the National Coordinator, reduction of malnutrition prevalence from the covered villages such that 82 percent or 8 out of 10 children were rehabilitated and/or improved to a higher nutritional classification after 12 months. There was also a significant increase of families involved in food production, mainly backyard gardening and animal husbandry.

Then in 2009, PNEA was conceptualized and implemented for a more comprehensive and participative approach in the delivery of nutrition and health services. It aims to rehabilitate and prevent the occurrence of malnutrition among 0-24 month old children through life cycle approach. Nutrition is crucial in human development and in reaching one’s potential. A compromised nutritional status even at the age of conception has a bearing on an individual’s nutritional status later in life.

PNEA offers an integrated nutrition enhancement package to ensure that LGUs and other partners would be able to deliver nutrition services effectively to achieve a healthy and well-nourished community. The approach provides technical assistance in facilitating the implementation of the national nutrition program at the local level and strengthening the skills of health providers (MHO, MNAO, BNS, BHW, midwives, peers, etc.) on health and nutrition development activities. PNEA also encourages participation of local stakeholders in health and nutrition activities.

The promotion and utilization of Kalinga mix (adopted from the Food and Nutrition Research Institute as Insumix) as the main food-based supplement

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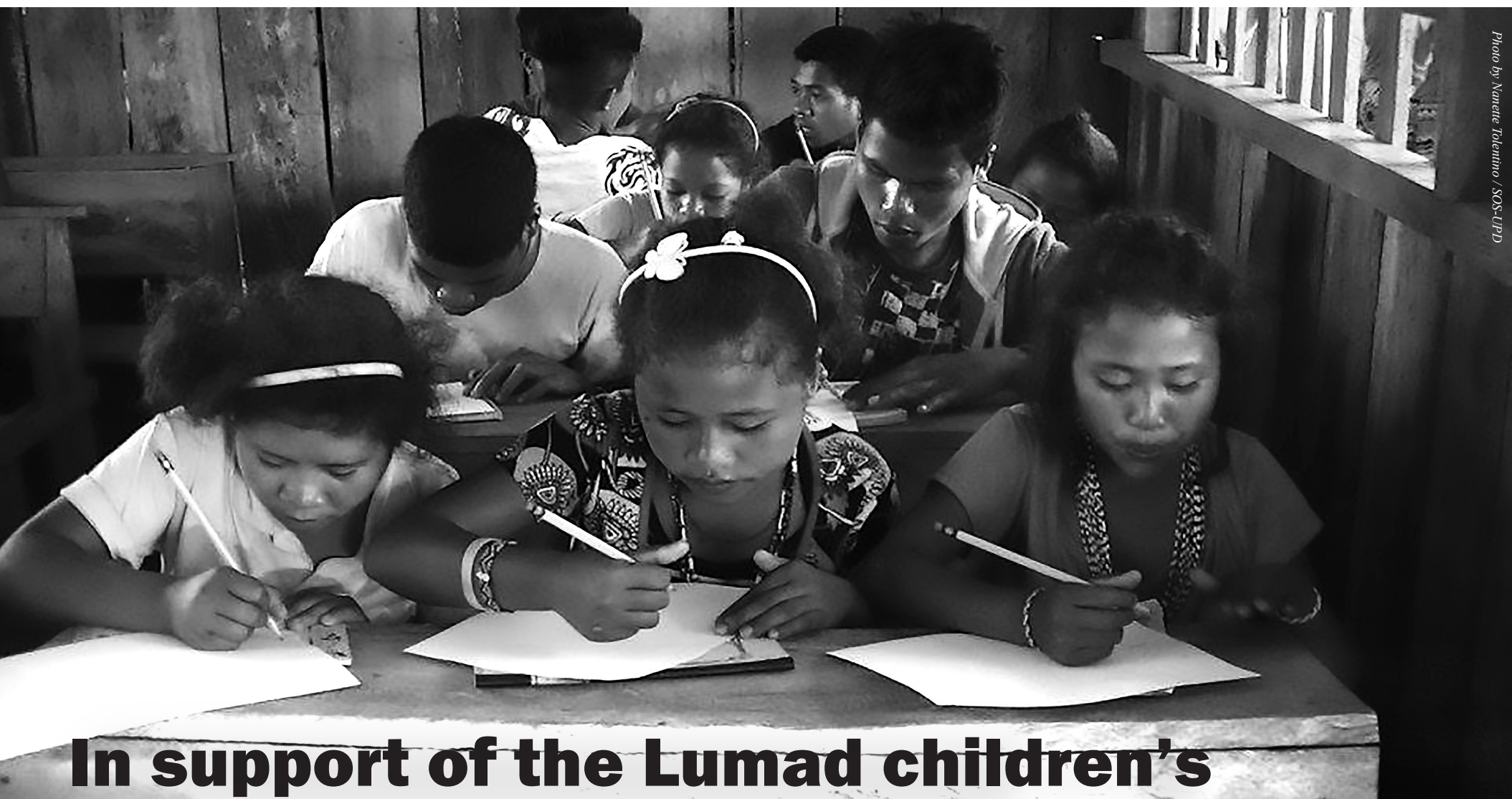


Photo by Nanette Tolentino / SOS-UPD

In support of the Lumad children's right to education

Photo by Nanette Tolentino / SOS-UPD

Fred Dabu

Members of the UP Diliman Chapter of the Save our Schools (SOS) Network (SOS-UPD) recently visited the Matigsalog Lumad community in Sitio Malungon, San Fernando, Bukidnon in Mindanao through the Ila-ila Lumad (getting-to-know the Lumad) interfaith program of the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines-Northern Mindanao Sub-Region (RMP-NMR).

The group, composed of UPD faculty, workers, students and researchers, joined other participants from the religious and non-government sectors to learn more about the culture, issues and needs of the Lumad. They observed the Manobo literacy and numeracy schools, or alternative schools in remote areas, and participated in the daily activities of the indigenous families there.

The group held art workshops and story-telling activities for the children, and sharing of insights and solidarity activities with the elders, as part of the learning experience and continuing dialogue with the community.

Another aim of the exposure program is to provide research support for the Lumad. UPD professor Sarah Raymundo and researcher Edge Uyangguren served as the delegation's coordinators who will facilitate information exchanges through reports, forums and other activities in the near future.

In a Facebook post (<https://www.facebook.com/sarah.raymundo1/posts/10208891348693960>), Raymundo recounts trekking for 16 hours around mountains, crossing rivers and hills, and sharing wonderful insights with the exposurists and the Lumad. "The Lumad community schools are built by the community members themselves in cooperation with organizations and institutions that have come together to fight for and realize free education especially for poor families in rural areas.

These are the same schools that have experienced militarization, harassment, vilification, massacre, and all sorts of technical difficulties from the Department of Education... And now that we understand better and know more about the Lumad, we can only make SOS Diliman work for the interest of free education and peace based on social justice," Raymundo said.

The UPD Office of the Chancellor supports the program. UPD Chancellor

"Balik komunidad, balik eskwela"

In a press conference held at the UPD Quezon Hall in June last year, the SOS network, together with UPD officials, called on the new administration under President Rodrigo Duterte to help bring the Lumad safely back to their communities so that their children can return to school.

According to SOS, "despite threats of

or near communities. As a result, over 1,000 students will be conducting their classes in makeshift classrooms at the Haran compound in Davao and Tandag Sports Complex in Surigao del Sur. They form part of over 4,000 individuals who have been residing in these evacuation centers since last year."

UPD Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs Nestor Castro said "education is a right of every Filipino citizen," and that government should do its part by supporting alternative learning systems suited for the Lumad.

UPD professor Gerry Lanuza, like Tan, also called for the safe return of Lumad to their schools and communities and expressed optimism that Pres. Duterte, who is the first Mindanaoan president and who has close ties with both the Left and the Lumad, will help address their calls by ordering the pull-out of military troops and stopping mining operations in indigenous communities.

SOS is a network of child rights advocates and organizations, such as: Salinlahi, Children's Rehabilitation Center (CRC), Gabriela, ACT Teachers, Kalipunan ng mga Katutubong Mamamayan ng Pilipinas (Katribu), Karapatan, Rural Missionaries of the Philippines (RMP), and Student Christian Movement of the Philippines (SCMP). The network was formed in support of the indigenous peoples' rights to education and self-determination as their schools were militarized or used as outposts by government soldiers in violation of Philippine and international laws. According to SOS, nine out of 10 Lumad children have no access to education. The network also documented 233 cases of children's rights violations from 2010 to 2015.

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Photo by Sarah Raymundo / SOS-UPD

Michael L. Tan chairs the SOS-UPD. In March 2016, Tan visited the Manobo youth and saw for himself the children's determination to learn even though they were facing enormous challenges, such as the lack of books and school supplies, or the need to flee from military or paramilitary operations in their communities.

In 2015, the UPD community hosted the participants in the Manilakbayan protest caravan during which hundreds of Lumad marched from Mindanao to Manila to highlight their struggles and to hold the government accountable for their plight.

military harassment, about 5,100 Lumad learners and their 372 teachers (were) set to start school year 2016-2017 with high hopes and strong determination." The network reported that about 175 teachers "were sent off to 67 indigenous peoples' schools of the Salugpongan Community Learning Center and Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation, Inc. (MISFI) in Southern Mindanao and other neighboring regions. A number of newly-established schools are also set to start operating all over Mindanao."

But, continued SOS, "some schools will not be able to resume their operations due to military presence within

GEOGRAPHY IN THE FIELD...
continued from page 2

streets, buildings, and vegetation. This enables people to easily see, analyze, and understand patterns and relationships which can be vital for the development of an area.

Other planning documents prepared by the department include the following:

- Risk and Hazard Assessment
- Ethno-geography
- Community Resource Inventory
- Evaluation of Ecotourism
- Social Impact Assessment
- Community-based Monitoring System
- Asset-based Livelihood Profiles
- Social Vulnerability Assessment

Coastal Resources and Fisheries Profile
Historical Geography

Impacts

Both the local communities and the department benefit from the Geography Field School.

Students undertake rigorous procedure for data collection, consolidation, validation, and data abstraction to ensure the most effective delivery of important information thus, developing their research skills. They also develop their communication and writing skills as well as their leadership, teamwork

and decision-making skills, which is essential when they start their professional careers.

Students also develop critical thinking towards social, economic, political and environment issues that concern the communities that they work with.

It is not only the communities and the LGUs that benefit from the program. The faculty and the students are enriched by the opportunity to contribute to the communities through the process of building knowledge of place using the skills and the tools provided by the curriculum of the UP Department of Geography.

As of 2016, 48 municipalities/areas have been given assistance by the

department. In May 2016, the Geography Field School was awarded as the best extension program in UP Diliman, in the degree granting unit category, besting two other extension programs, namely: Project Kapnayan of the Institute of Chemistry and Buklod Bohol of the Asian Institute of Tourism.

Dr. Daniel L. Mabazza is Associate Professor and Chair of the UP Diliman Department of Geography. Kevin Nicole S. Vega is University Research Associate in the same department. Email them at dlmabazza@up.edu.ph and ksvega@upd.edu.ph.

Photos provided by Dr. Daniel Mabazza of the UP Diliman Department of Geography.



From Left to Right: Photo 1 - Geog 197 students finalizing the Ecological Profile of the Municipality of Bokod, Benguet at the end of their fieldwork during term Summer 2014. Photo 2 - Dr. Mabazza providing technical assistance to the Municipality of Bokod, Benguet through its Mayor Mauricio T. Macay during

consultation activity with local officials. Photo 3 - Geog 192 class consulting with the Mayor of San Jose, Nueva Ecija. Photo 3 - Dr. Darlene Gutierrez of UP Department of Geography receiving the 2016 Parangal sa Gawaing Ekstensyon with UPD officials.

Top UP public service programs hailed

Jo. Florendo B. Lontoc



Photos by Jun Madrid, UPSPIO



Honors from the UP president were conferred on outstanding public service programs of the University at the first Gawad Pangulo for Excellence in Public Service awarding ceremony on January 30, 2017 at the UP Executive House in UP Diliman, Quezon City.

Six programs from six constituent campuses each received the Gawad and P100,000. In addition, nine programs were recognized as finalists.

The award, administered by the Office of the Vice President for Public Affairs and its Padayon Public Service Office, aims to recognize UP's achievement in terms of the mandate to "lead as public service university by providing various forms of community, public, and volunteer service, as well as scholarly and technical assistance to the government, the private sector, and civil society while maintaining its standard of excellence."

The winners were the College of Agriculture of UP Los Baños for "The Corn-based Farmer-Scientist Research, Extension, and Development Training Program"; the Center for West Visayan Studies of the UP Visayas College of Arts and Sciences for the "RISE (Bangon) Gigantes Project: Rehabilitation for Island Sustainability and Empowerment"; the Land Reservation Management Office of UP Mindanao for "Economic Upliftment of the Indigenous Peoples' Community through Agricultural Projects"; the National Institutes of Health of UP Manila for

the "Real-time Community Health Information Tracking System (rCHITS)"; the Office of Legal Aid of the UP Diliman College of Law for the "Clinical Legal Education Program"; and, UP Cebu for the "Business Incubator for IT".

The finalists were the Center for Integrative and Development Studies of the UP System for the "UP Program for Environmental Governance"; the Department of Geography of the UP Diliman College of Social Sciences and Philosophy for "Geography Field School"; the Institute of Human Nutrition and Food of the UP Los Baños College of Human Ecology for the "Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Network Program"; the National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development of UP Diliman for the "KaSaMa Teachers Online Community"; the Sentro ng Wikang Filipino of UP Diliman for "Programang Aklatang Bayan"; the Ugayan ng Pahinungod of UP Manila for the "Emergency Room Volunteers Program", the "Oral Health Project", and the "Tutorial Program for Street Children"; and, UP Manila for the "Community Health Program".

The criteria for the awards included: impact, approach or method, service orientation, and enhancement of teaching or research. Nominations required documentation of the initiative; a list of academic and official citations of the project; certification from project beneficiaries; and, certification of proper liquidation of funds.

Read the full article on the UP System website, www.up.edu.ph, originally posted on February 24, 2017. Email the author at upforum@up.edu.ph.

President Alfredo Pascual, Vice President for Public Affairs Edna Estifania Co, and Selection Committee members Manuel Bonifacio, Jocelyn Caragay, and Jaime Veneracion stand with the winners and finalists of the Gawad Pangulo for Excellence in Public Service--**[top photo]** with the team from the UP Mindanao Office of the Chancellor's Land Reservation Management Office behind the program Economic Upliftment of the Indigenous Peoples' Community Through Agricultural Projects, winner of the award, and UP Mindanao Chancellor Sylvia Concepcion; **[middle photo]** with the team from UP Manila behind its Community Health Development Program, a finalist for the award, with UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla; **[bottom photo]** with the team from the UP Los Baños College of Agriculture behind The Corn-based Farmer-Scientist RDE Training Program, winner of the awards, headed by National Scientist Romulo Davide, and UP Los Baños Chancellor Fernando Sanchez.

BIDANI: A STRATEGY...
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mentary feeding is one of the main nutrition interventions of this strategy. Kalinga is a low cost, flour-like mixture of rice, mungbean and sesame seed. It is high in energy, protein and carbohydrates needed for optimum body growth and constant supply of energy for children to sustain their daily activities.

The information premium and Bidani's niche

Literature on the subject report that

of 0-24 month old children. Causes of mortality and morbidity, family planning practices, access to sanitary toilet, potable water, garbage disposal practices, engagement in food production activities are indicated. The BMIS/MMIS electronic systems can also generate a list of families or members needing assistance, such as those out of school. A unique feature of the BMIS is the integration and prioritization of nutrition data in the system. It relates nutritional status to the social, economic and environmental problem of a specific child.

one of the enabling mechanisms to promote nutritional status of the Filipinos. MTPPAN is the country's blueprint of action for achieving nutritional adequacy for all Filipinos and the government's response to global commitment to eradicate hunger and malnutrition.

At the national level, Bidani as a strategy is recognized by the National Nutrition Council, the highest policy making and coordinating body in nutrition, as an enabling mechanism in integrating nutrition into the local development plan.

It has also received an endorsement from the Commission on Higher Education as a regular extension project of participating SUCs all over the country.

The need for institutionalization

As a program, Bidani will continue as long as it plays an important role in local and national development. However, it needs the continuous training and technical backstopping of SUCs and partner LGUs. At the national

at municipal and village levels, strengthening operations research, training of trainers, documentation, publications of research and training manuals. Through the continued support from the national government, by way of regular provision of budget for its operationalization, key member SUCS in the network, Bidani remains to be a laudable nutrition-in-development program of academic institutions.

Bidani at the national and public service university

UP is mandated to lead as a public service university by providing various forms of community, public and volunteer service, as well as scholarly and technical assistance to the government, the private sector, and civil society while maintaining its standards of excellence." Since Bidani's inception in 1978, it has lived up to its name of an integrated development approach to address malnutrition problem in the country through capacity building of local government units, establishing and strengthening community-based organizations, and participatory development planning at the community-level for nutrition improvement and rural development. Bidani has fulfilled UP's mandate to lead other



Photos provided by Ms. Lorna Garcia

different agencies have initiated and established local information systems. The Bidani Barangay Management Information System (BMIS) sets itself apart by helping the community establish its own sustainable databanking system to generate updated and reliable information for evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation of development activities at the barangay and municipal levels.

The BMIS and Municipal Management Information System (MMIS), which is the consolidation of all the BMIS of the municipality, are electronic systems which help synergize barangay and municipal development goals and activities.

Through the BMIS and MMIS electronic systems, the LGUs can also generate information for: the administrative reports requested by different agencies such as the local governance performance management system (LGPMs); situational analysis in the preparation of municipal/city development plans (CDPs) such as comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs); providing basis for the barangay development plan or financial plan; facilitating delivery of services to target beneficiaries; and monitoring and evaluation of projects.

The BMIS survey form is a two-page questionnaire which can generate about 100 tables and reports on the socio-demographic, economic, agriculture, health and nutrition information of the family and its members. Some of the statistical reports generated are population, working age groups, income and poverty levels, school enrolment rates, civil statuses, religious membership, sources of income, overseas Filipino workers population, and PWD population. Data also include nutritional statuses of 0-6-year olds, and statuses of immunization, deworming, vitamin and micronutrient supplementation, and breastfeeding

The BMIS builds the capacity of the barangay to conduct a proper survey. Each step is designed to be sustainable, participatory, and specific for barangay council members so that they will have a sense of ownership of the activity. It is characterized by simple, user-friendly design flexible enough to accommodate any necessary modification.

Of the more than 1,024 barangays trained on BMIS, about 70 percent are continuing their BMIS.

On the road toward greater reach and relevance

To date, the Bidani Network Program is continuing as a member of the Inter-agency Technical Committee of the National Nutrition Council. The achievements of Bidani are contributory to the attainment of the goals of the Philippine Development Plan and the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition.

Other major notable achievements in nutrition of the Bidani Network Program from 1978 to 2007 are the following:

- Bidani has been integrated into the Accelerated Nutrition Act which seeks to strengthen the implementation of the National Nutrition Program of which Bidani is one of the enabling mechanisms to promote a healthy and productive citizenry.
- Bidani was integrated in the Medium Term Philippine Food and Nutrition Program/Philippine Plan of Action (MTPPAN) from 1993-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010 where Bidani strategy was incorporated as



level it needs a legal mandate for the SUCs to be able to regularly allocate a portion of the research and extension budget for the Bidani program to support its key staff/personnel and maintenance, operating and other expenses.

While many LGUs were very receptive and had expressed willingness to promote Bidani as a strategy despite budgetary constraints, Bidani needs a regular budget allocation for extension and research for its expansion, replication and institutionalization. Faculty members who are involved in Bidani are given equivalent credit unit loads. However, because the degree of operationalization and continuity at the SUC level will greatly depend on the policy commitment of each SUCs central administration, without full time staff and personnel to conduct the training and technical backstopping at the local level, the sustainability of the program is not assured.

Bidani continues to pursue activities towards institutionalization

higher educational institutions in the areas of teaching, research, and, at its core, public service.

Public service is not an easy task. Bidani as a research-driven public service carried out by higher educational institutions needs to meet the challenges it is facing now and in the future for it to continue. It is steadfast in its commitment to take the frontline in the continuing fight to minimize if not totally eliminate hunger and malnutrition.

The UPLB-Bidani or the Bidani Network Program has Ms. Lorna O. Garcia as program leader. Email her at lorns.garcia@gmail.com.

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"UP UNDER THE SUN"...

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age of poverty and hunger and is based on the assumption that farming is business. The farmers will not only grow corn but also staple crops like sweet potato, cassava, vegetables, fruit crops and other crops of commercial value and integrate them with backyard animal production.

"Farmers are Scientists through FSTP. The Corn-based Farmer-scientists Research, Development and Extension (RDE) Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development (FSTP) is based on the premise that farmers are smart individuals who by themselves can become scientists who implement and design experiments to arrive at useful conclusions with the guidance of scientists."

The Cebuano scientist was also awarded the 1994 Gawad Saka Outstanding Agricultural Scientist Award from the Department of Agriculture that included a PHP 500,000 research grant along with the Jose Rizal Pro Patria Gold Medal from then Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos. He said that he was "greatly challenged to help poor farmers so that they can live in peace and prosperity."

"They have no right to remain poor and so the FSTP program was implemented initially with the PHP 500,000 research grant in cooperation with the local and regional government agencies like the DA-RFU 7, DOST 7, Dep Ed 7, Argao LGUs and NGOs," he added.

As the FSTP project leader

He further explains, "Under the FSTP program, farmers have to undertake three phases, namely: Phase I: farmers do research with the scientists in the field and also learn the value of love of God, country and people. They design and conduct experiments that include land preparation, varietal and fertilizer trials, intercropping, among others, which is the initial and technical part of FSTP for the farmers to become farmer-scientists."

Meanwhile, Phase II means "farmers adopt the scientific methods and technologies learned in Phase I into their own farms, such as the use of new high-yielding varieties of corn, sweet potato and vegetables, correct use and application of fertilizer, correct preparation and care of soil."

In Phase III, "farmers teach untrained fellow farmers in their barangay by serving as volunteer technicians and extension workers. Thus Phases I and II cover the R&D aspect of the program while Phase III takes care of the extension portion," he pointed out.

Today, FSTP has expanded to several towns south and west of Argao, and other towns north and west of Cebu City. It has covered a total of 37 towns in Cebu and trained more than 30,000 farmers throughout the Philippines. Also, FSTP is now being implemented as a national program under Executive Order No. 710 since

2008.

"We are glad with this nationwide coverage since we can now reach out to our poorest farmers, regardless of religion, creed or tribal affinity. Thus we have now Mangyan farmer-scientists in the mountains of Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro and the Blaan indigenous people in the mountains of Alabel, Sarangani Province in Mindanao," said Davide.

Other areas where FSTP is being implemented include Zamboanga del Norte, Masbate, Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur which belong to the top ten provinces with the highest poverty incidence.

Among the impacts of the FSTP program are the technical empowerment of poor farmers, especially in upland communities for socio-economic progress; improvement of corn, vegetable and livestock production through the introduction of high-yielding corn varieties and improved livestock; reduction in farmers' cost of production by more than 50 percent through the introduction of newly developed microbial and organic fertilizers like BIO-N, chicken manure, and vermi-compost; as well as improvement in the farmers' annual income especially in corn production from zero before the training to PHP 125,000 or more after the training.

UP under the sun, restoring dignity to farmers

Dr. Davide concludes, "It is basically bringing UP under the sun, in the farm fields and importantly in the minds of the farmers." He recalls the joy of farmers after every training, when a simple "graduation ceremony" happens. "Every farmer feels that he, too, is an *Iskolar ng Bayan*."

He gives much importance to farmers as they are the real heroes who cultivate our land and feed us. Thus, it is only right to bring dignity to their laborious work by empowering them through "direct contact with agricultural scientists and experts to improve their living conditions beyond the poverty level."

At 82 years old, Dr. Davide has a mind that is as sharp as a tack, and the stamina that keeps him as busy as ever and moving all over the Philippines, in furtherance of his commitment to bringing farmer-scientist training to the countryside.

Email the author at upforum@up.edu.ph.

ENDNOTES:

- 1 Personal interview with Professor Emeritus Romulo G. Davide, 22 June 2016 at his faculty room, Plant Pathology Department, UP Los Baños.
- 2 Davide, Romulo G. (2012). *From the laboratory to the land: Teaching and making small farmers more productive farmer-scientists*. Presented at the 2012 Magsaysay Awardees' Lecture Series, Magsaysay Center, Manila, 30 August.
- 3 Cebu farmer-scientist Davide wins Magsaysay award. (2012, September 1). *Cebu Daily News – Philippine Daily Inquirer*. Retrieved from <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/262112/cebu-farmer-scientist-davide-wins-magsaysay-award>



FSTP Phase II Operation in Barangays Lahug and Luz, Cebu City: Dr. Romulo G. Davide, FSTP program leader, made an inspection visit on March 6, 2015. Top left picture: Farmer-Scientist Ernemel Soco (left) shows Dr. Davide his ampalaya fruits and plants grown at the back of DOST-7 building. Bottom left picture: DOST Region 7 Director Edilberto L. Paradela (front) and Dr. Davide inspect fruits and plants of ampalaya grown by Farmer Scientists Ernemel and Lorena Soco at the back of the DOST-7 building. Top right picture: Engr. Tristan Abando, Director of Science and Technology, Cebu, delivers a lecture on vegetables packaging. Bottom right picture: Farmer-Participants Mr. Ernele Soco (left), Ms. Garlen Abarquez (front) and Ms. Susana Servise (right) show their harvested eggplants.

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“UP Under the Sun”

Farmer-Scientist Davide Restoring Dignity of Farmers

Stephanie S. Cabigao

At 82 years old, a person such as Romulo Davide already has a lot of feathers in his cap. He is a University of the Philippines Los Baños Professor Emeritus, and a recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2012 for his Farmer-Scientists Training Program (FSTP) to which more than anything else, he is the enduring light to many farmers all over the country. In an interview with UP Forum, Davide shares how his award-winning project known as the Farmer-Scientists Training Program (FSTP) speaks of his life in a continuum.

Just a kid from Argao

His roomful of documents piled up on his desk and floor, jars containing various plant specimens, and of course, the pictures hanging on his office walls on the different times of his life tell of his very productive, yet humble life.

He points to a picture in black and white hanging on a wall close to the door of his office. He tells about how a young Davide in white polo shirt and trousers, bare foot along with his school mates at the public school grounds in Baran-gay Colawin, Argao, Cebu, dreamed of not just finishing school, but also going back armed with the knowledge of improving farming in his hometown.

It takes a young Davide who was early on exposed to the hardship of tilling the land as his family makes a living through farming to have such a dream to further improve agriculture by means of science and technology through what he calls “the secret weapon” that is education.

Taking it from the words of his father who was a teacher at his hometown’s public school, “there is no barren land, only barren minds,” Davide continued and pursued his studies to become the farmer-scientist that he is today.

As a scientist

Dr. Davide had to cope with the pressure of school and work, but managed to obtain his BS Agriculture degree in 1957 from the College of Agriculture in UP Los Baños. Shortly after, he pursued a M.Sc. in Plant Pathology at Oklahoma State University which was followed by a PhD in Nematology-Plant Pathology from the North Carolina State University.

“Being a scientist and professor of Plant Pathology and Nematology at the Plant Pathology Department, College of Agriculture, UPLB, I started teaching and research work in the laboratory. I did research, mainly to identify plant diseases caused by nematodes, those microscopic pests that attack the root system of fruits, vegetables, root crops and other plants,” he said.

“We spent several years doing studies on the biological control of plant parasitic nematodes until we discovered a soil fungus, *Paecilomyces lilacinus* that feeds on the eggs, larvae, and adult nematode body and eventually kills the nematode,” he continued.

After working on this study with the help of his students and research assistants, Dr. Davide was able to develop the Biocon technology for the biological control of nematodes that attack the roots of many crops like rice, corn, banana, citrus, vegetables and others. According to Davide, Biocon is now registered and patented as Bioact. Its most significant contribution is that “it is harmless to man and animals compared to highly toxic and costly imported chemical nematicides,” he emphasized. Bioact is now manufactured in Germany with markets in Europe, South America, USA and other countries worldwide.

As an Agriculture Extension Worker

The “Father of Plant Nematology” shared how he led in developing FSTP, which was part of the lecture series of the Ramon Magsasay Award Foundation. This award is the Asian equivalent of the Nobel peace prize.

“Lacking in scientific farming technology, the farmers only produce low yields and therefore insufficient for their families. Thus, they remain poor and hungry and peace and order is a perennial problem. This was basically the situation in Cebu where we started our extension work in 1994,” Davide said.

“In response to this scenario and to address the poverty and hunger problem of our poor farmers, especially those in the upland mountainous communities, I conceived a program that was specifically designed to liberate the poor farmers from the bond-

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In Yolanda Village, Bogo City, Cebu. Top picture: Ms. Rosela Sinadjan (right) and Mrs. Divina Ganar, farmer-participants, show their harvested kangkong plants. Bottom picture: Farmer-Scientist Teacher Susana Servise (right) delivers a lecture on spiritual and moral values to her class.

