



UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT



JANUARY 2021



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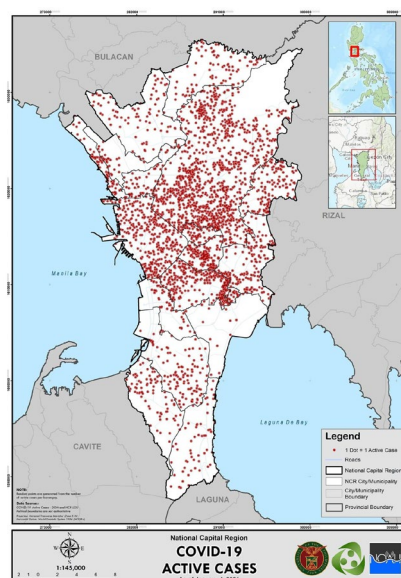
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UP Padayon Public Service Office*

The University of the Philippines, being dedicated and committed to its mandate, opened the year 2021 by providing different types of services to the various publics. The University's level of engagement continuously increases, and its enthusiasm in helping the public, especially during times of crisis, never ceases. The University is incessantly invested in its public service mandate, and this commitment is evinced by the numerous initiatives implemented and innovations introduced.

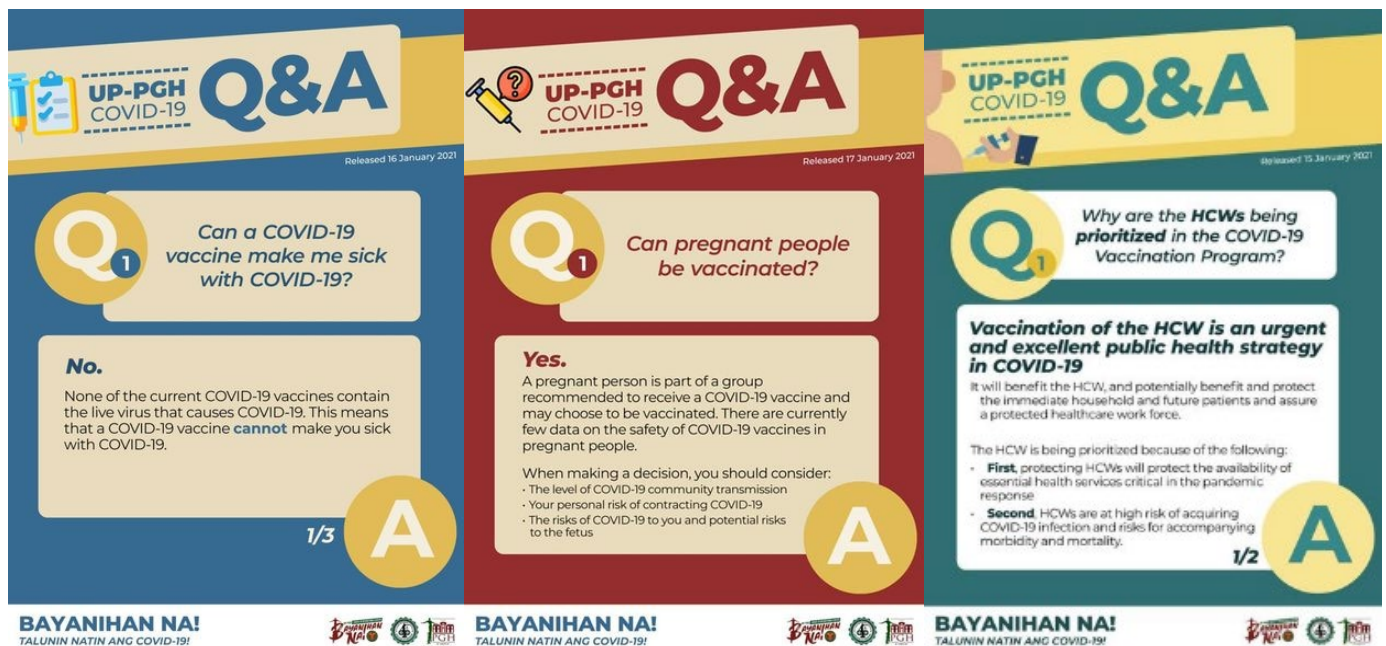
Addressing the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The University of the Philippines released its publication, entitled "A Report on Southeast Asian Community Responses in COVID-19 Times", which, as explained by the UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies (CIDS), documents on-ground experiences of marginalized groups vis-a-vis the challenges of the pandemic.

The UP COVID-19 Pandemic Response Team and the UP Resilience Institute produced COVID-19 Active Cases Dot Map from available data from Local Government Units (LGUs) as of January 4, 2021.



The Philippine Genome Center is continuously doing its sequencing and biosurveillance of positive cases and exerting efforts in detecting the United Kingdom variant in the Philippines.



Webinars showcasing the importance of vaccination are being conducted in UP Manila. The “Balik Tiwala, Ibalik sa Bakuna” was a webinar specifically about vaccination and pharmacy-based immunization. The UP PGH also published its COVID-19 Q&A on Vaccination Program and Fact Checks on COVID-19 Vaccines.

The University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (PGH) is currently doing its study on the efficacy of the saliva test in detecting the novel coronavirus. This kind of test will lower the cost of accurate COVID-19 tests and will be more accessible to the public. UP PGH also released its Out-Patient Swabbing Center -- PCR Testing current rates.

In UP Los Baños, the UPLB COVID-19 Prevention and Mitigation Team (COVID PMT), through Dr. Myla Lourdes R. Avena, held a soft launching of the university's Online Health Monitoring System (OHMS) on 22 January 2021 at the AG Samonte Hall. The said building will be used as a venue for the health monitoring system's pre-testing. An orientation and demonstration on how to use the system were conducted. The OHMS is a web browser-based application which aims to complement the existing LAB ID QR-code system being implemented by the Municipal Government of Los Baños. It is set to track not just the headcount of UPLB constituents going in and out of offices, but also the health status of the individuals.

In UP Diliman, mass testing was done for the whole month of January. All its employees were set to undergo the swab test at the Silungang Molave. The Offices scheduled their temporary closure for the implementation of the mass testing initiative and the onsite work shall only continue until the employees have received the results of their swab tests. On top of the mass testing initiative, health liaison officers and post-ECQ Teams were set to conduct a new round of health and safety orientations for the faculty and staff.

The Memorandum on the temporary closure of Academic Oval and CS Amphitheater in UP Diliman was also issued as a safeguard for the community and as part of the stricter COVID-19 policies.

Developing the Community's Capacities and Capabilities

The University of the Philippines Office of the Vice President for Development - Information Technology Development Center (OVPD-ITDC) is currently providing a new set of free webinars for UP employees. These webinars aim to strengthen the Work-From-Home capabilities of the University's employees. The UP Center for Women's and Gender Studies (CWGS) held the 3rd Batch of the Angat Bayi Women's Political Empowerment Fellowship. In this Fellowship, 30 elected women leaders are set to undergo an intensive, exclusive and customized series of online courses.

In UP Manila, a leadership development course for public health nurses was offered, and a seminar on "Ethics in Applied Research in Health Professions Education" was held.



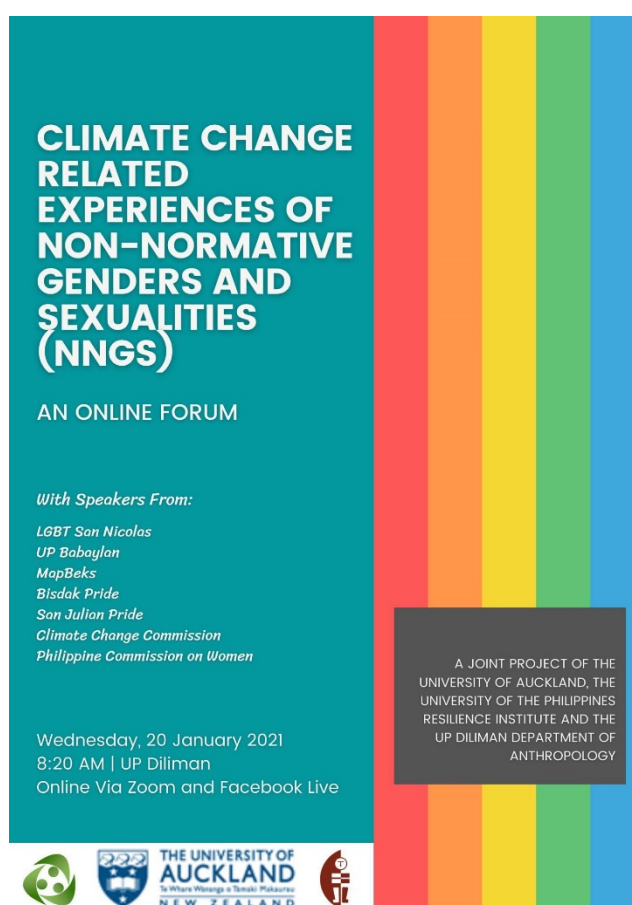
Dr. Romulo Davide trains the participants of the National Corn-based Farmer-Scientists RDE Training Program (FSTP) of UP Los Baños

As shown above, the National Corn-based Farmer-Scientists RDE Training Program (FSTP) of UP Los Baños conducted their Phases I, II and III training for their farmer participants. As illustrated by FSTP, “Phase I involves teaching of spiritual and moral values, research methods, and technical empowerment. Phase II is focused on the replication of the experiments conducted in Phase I in their own farms. In Phase III, the farmer-scientists, this time taking on the role of trainers, teach their fellow farmers the technologies that they (farmer-scientists) had already adopted.”

An online lecture showcasing Dr. Jose "JP" P. Peralta's 42 years of administrative, academic and research journey in the University of the Philippines Visayas was presented. This lecture was entitled, “A Walk Through an Institutional Development.”

A Virtual Round Table Discussion Series on the University of the Future: Morphing of the Educational Landscape of the Future was conducted by UP Open University. The UP Open University also featured the following webinars: *Keeping the Learners Engaged and Motivated*, *Unravelling the COVID-19 Pandemic using Advances in Molecular Epidemiology*, *Designing and Implementing Training Programs Using Open Educational Resources*, *Revisiting QA (Quality Assurance) Frameworks in Teaching and Learning Under the New Normal*. These webinars seek to capacitate teachers in using available technologies and applications for teaching and learning. They also held an online discussion on the “birthing” of research ideas and thesis topics entitled “EDUKussion: Research Journeys”.

Delivering Service to the Public through Engagement with Various Sectors of the Society



The University partnered with the University of Auckland in organizing the Climate Change Related Experiences of Non-Normative Genders and Sexualities (NNGS) project.

University of the Philippines Tacloban, in partnership with the Women in Transportation Leadership (WiTL) network, presented the webinar entitled, "Women on the go! Tipping the hidden gender data gap in (active and public) transport." Here, the WiTL members, who are experts in urban planning and mobility research and innovation, presented the findings of a "region-wide comparative research on the hidden gender data gap in active and public transport in select Southeast Asian cities." They also featured the "gender-disaggregated information on the impact of COVID on travel and transport behaviour as well as its implications to planning and policy in a post-COVID world."

In Mindanao, Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief General Debold Sinas, Police Regional Office (PRO) -XI Director Brigadier General Filmore Escobal, UP Mindanao Chancellor Larry N. Digal, and Philippine Genome Center (PGC) Mindanao Director Lyre Anni Murao attended the blessing of

the Police Regional Office (PRO)-XI COVID-19 Testing Laboratory in Davao City. According to UP Mindanao, the said laboratory will also become part of the network for infectious diseases research and development that is being built by UP Mindanao and PGC-Mindanao.



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Meanwhile, in Los Baños, the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Animal Industry (DA-BAI) and UP Los Baños established a partnership to prevent the further spread of African Swine Fever (ASF) in the country. The DA-BAI and UPLB Officials held a dialogue with faculty members and researchers of the university to strategize the efforts that shall be exerted to control and manage ASF and to “reinvigorate the hog industry in the country.” A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) were also signed by UPLB with Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSUA) to implement UPLB’s off-campus programs in PhD Development Studies and MS Veterinary Medicine at the Pili, Camarines Sur-based public university. As per UPLB, the MOU represents the collaboration between CBSUA and the UPLB College of Public Affairs and Development (CPAf) in research, knowledge sharing, faculty, staff, and materials exchanges, among others. The Institute of Agroforestry of UP Los Baños, Southeast Asian Network for Agroforestry Education (SEANAFE), World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF-SEA) and SEARCA worked together to organize the Webinar-Workshop on Strengthening Agroforestry Education in Southeast Asia.

Promoting Research and Knowledge Building

The UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies (CIDS) published the volume on “Toward an Enhanced Strategic Policy in the Philippines”, which showcased cutting-edge research on strategic policy, security studies, and Philippine foreign policy that was discussed on the 4th Katipunan Conference held in August 2019.

In UP Baguio, a research article featuring Igorot representation, issues of commodification and cultural appropriation was released. Professor Analyn V. Salvador-Amores explained in said article that “representations of Igorot culture were highly contestable and undergoing change: these representations provide a venue for critical examination that permits a deeper awareness of Igorot culture.” Another research article entitled, “Vernacular self-representation in Filipino gender identities: the Bontoc minamagkit” showcasing the lived experience of the “minamagkit,” – a vernacular term coined in the 1980s for people of same sex attractions and identities in the Bontoc Mountain Province region of the Philippine Cordilleras.

University of the Philippines Mindanao experts led a research on “Linking Socio-demographics of Meat Vendor-processors to Residual Nitrite in Skinless Native Sausage Sold in a Typical Public Market in the Philippines.”

As part of the Futures Research Series playlist of the UP Open University, researches on “Exploring the Oceans with Citizen Science,” and “Unravelling the COVID-19 Pandemic using Advances in Molecular Epidemiology” were disseminated.

In UP Visayas, one of the speakers of the Biology Teachers Association Western Visayas Chapter Virtual Conference was Dr. Resurrection B. Sadaba who presented the study, “Boracay Island Wetlands: Ecology and Plant Biodiversity.”

Ongoing calls for donations

In UP Visayas, in-kind donations for Negrosanons affected by the severe flooding in Northern Negros Occidental are still being accepted.



As part of the UP Student Learning Assistance System (SLAS), UP Visayas Tacloban College (UPVTC) received 23 8th generation iPad tablets, 53 Globe prepaid wifi routers, two Cherry mobile tablets from Robinsons Bank Abucay Branch, and desktop computers from Tingog Party List.

The UP Alumni Association (UPAA) donated PhP100,000 to UP Los Baños intended for the remote teaching and learning needs of the Department of Social Sciences (DSS).

In UP Manila, the *Paper Crane Project*, which is an art for a cause fundraising activity, was launched. The proceeds of the project will be distributed to the victims of Typhoon Ulysses in Gattaran, Cagayan and Sta. Maria, Isabela.

Provision for IEC

In UP Baguio, the *Let's Weave Storybooks* for children and learning toolkit are now available at the Museo Kordilyera museum shop.



As part of the Flexible Teaching and Learning in the New Normal playlist, the UP Open University Multimedia Center produced the following resources: *Teaching/Online presence in Flexible Learning*, *Ensuring the Integrity of the Assessment Process in Flexible Learning*, *Teacher's*

Roles in Flexible Learning/Learner Support, Technology for Teaching and Learning, Building Learning Communities in Flexible Learning, Developing, Using and Sharing Open Educational Resources, Cyber Security and Data Privacy, Internationalization at the Course and Program Level, Designing and Implementing Training Programs Using Open Educational Resources.

University of the Philippines Diliman announced that copies of the book “Crime and Punishment in the Philippines: Beyond Politics and Spectacle” is now available.

University of the Philippines Los Baños released an infographic entitled, “12 postharvest tips para sa inaning saging. ”

Provision for Student and Academic Affairs

The University of the Philippines published a report illustrating “how the University dealt with the unprecedented challenges posed by COVID-19 on teaching and learning in the first semester; and how it will move on to the second semester armed with lessons learned and insights gained. ”

