



UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT



APRIL 2022



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The pandemic has shown that the University of the Philippines not only produces the best and the brightest, but also those who tirelessly serve the people and embody compassion. Through its experts, the University has produced research breakthroughs in public health and disease prevention. UP also continues to assist various sectors cope with the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moving forward into the new normal, the University strives to sustain its momentum as a leading figure in public service by strengthening its ongoing efforts to serve the people. As the election day drew closer, various units spearheaded various voter education, civic engagement, and information dissemination initiatives. These initiatives not only aim to create a better informed electorate so they may choose their leaders well, but also emphasize the importance of information literacy in ensuring clean and fair elections. This issue also highlights the different knowledge management and sharing initiatives spearheaded by various constituent universities (CUs), ranging from workshops, capacity-building training programs, and to information education and communication (IEC) materials. With its mandate of serving the people, the University aims to create impact through its different research and innovations for the people. Through these initiatives, the often merely glossed over yet crucial role of research and innovations in improving the lives of the Filipino people takes center stage.

Bayanihan in the New Normal: Ongoing COVID-19 Related Initiatives

With more than two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, UP has remained consistent in its contribution to the development of research, innovations, and initiatives that seek to address the challenges posed by the pandemic. The special edition of the Stop COVID Deaths webinar entitled *Giting at Tapang sa Panahon ng Pandemya: Reflecting on COVID-19 Lessons*, focused on the different challenges experienced by frontliners. This discussion was also centered on the different best practices and innovations that helped lessen the burden of frontliners, and how these experiences and innovations helped espouse positive changes within existing systems.

STOP COVID DEATHS
2nd Year Anniversary

Webinar #96
GITING AT TAPANG SA PANAHON NG PANDEMYA:
Reflecting on COVID-19 Lessons

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER	CLOSING REMARKS
 Dr. Teodoro J. Herbosa Senior Advisor National Task Force Against COVID-19	 Dr. Albert Francis E. Domingo Consultant Director II ECM Communicator Office and Disease Prevention and Control Office	 Dr. Carmencita D. Padilla Chairwoman University of the Philippines Manila
REACTORS		
 Dr. Emaste O. Domingo Medical Scientist Professor Emeritus University of the Philippines	 Dr. Gezanila D. Legaspi Oncologist UP Philippine General Hospital	 Dr. Charlette M. Chiong Dean UP College of Medicine

REGISTER AT
bit.ly/StopCOVIDDeathsWebinar96

APRIL 22, 2022
12NN-2PM | FRIDAY

Several CUs continue to offer support in the implementation of the national government's COVID-19 vaccination program. The UP Manila University Student Council, in collaboration with the Philippine Red Cross - Manila Chapter and the UP Manila College of Dentistry, hosted a vaccination drive where they offered booster shots for the fully vaccinated and partially vaccinated with single-dose Janssen vaccine for those who are at least 18 years old. Following the green light for the second booster shot, the University Health Service released an advisory about the availability of COVID-19 vaccine for second dose and booster shot.

As the active COVID-19 cases continue to decrease, the University has been diligent in ensuring the safety of its constituents as its operations gradually return to normal. Through UP Diliman's *Pagbabalik Normal sa Konteksto ng COVID-19: Webinar para sa mga Post-ECQ Team*, the organizers aimed to discuss the extensive preparation for a safe "new normal" during the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the government and the UP Diliman (UPD) COVID-19 Task Force. Through the *Tabang sa Iskolar ng Bayan* program, UP launched its *Pook Aralan Learning Hub* in Butuan City last April 20 via Zoom. The hubs are meant to offer UP students online learning-related services and facilities for the second semester to address their remote learning needs.

Lakas Botante: Voter Education and Civic Engagement

As the country counted down to the national elections, the University showed how it has been firm in its commitment in ensuring clean and fair elections through its various voter education and fact checking initiatives. Through the webinar entitled *#PILIpiLUNAS2022: Governance Agenda: A Public Launch*, the University aimed to contribute to the discourse on elections and policy alternatives leading up to and beyond the May 9 national elections. Other than the launch of the aforementioned campaign, CUs have also begun launching various related initiatives such as *UP Cebu's Citizen Voter Education 2022*, a series of service-learning projects on voter education campaign targeting youth members of Brgy. Guba and Pulangbato in Cebu City.

IEC materials on the candidates became the focal point of the UP Diliman Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA) initiative entitled *candiDATA*. The materials featured the academic and career backgrounds of 2022 presidential and vice presidential aspirants. UP Diliman OVCSA also launched the *Lakas Botante Series* which featured short video clips about crucial election concerns. It aimed to help equip students with the necessary information so they

may engage in election-related discussions and activities safely. In a webinar entitled *Ang Balota at Ang Masa: May Pag-Asa Pa Ba?*, the UP Department of Political Science and UP sa Halalan offered a more interdisciplinary approach to contemporary issues pertaining to the national elections. Still on the topic of elections, UP Open University's (UPOU) Open Talk episode on *Sikolohiyang Pilipino sa Halalan at Pamumuno* highlighted the importance of using the lens of Sikolohiyang Pilipino in discussing current socio-political issues. Other than the webinar, UPOU also participated in the University's contribution to voter education through a series of activities that ranged from mock elections participated by UPOU students, faculty, and staff; election-related massive open online courses; and to voter education video contests. Focusing on tax and how it is utilized by the government, the UP Los Baños (UPLB) Department of Social Sciences organized a webinar as part of its contribution to the voter education campaign. Another election-related activity spearheaded by the same department was the *UPLB sa Halalan: Boto sa Senado 2022: UPLB Meets the Senatorial Candidates* which highlighted the senatorial candidates' background. DZUP, on the other hand, focused on the partylist and senatorial candidates in its initiative titled *Eleksyon Talakayan*. This was done through a series of interviews that aimed to help the electorate get to know the candidates better.



DARK MEMORIES:

REMEMBERING THE VICTIM-SURVIVORS OF MARTIAL LAW

Photos by Rick Rocamora
April 1 to 30, 2022
UP Diliman Academic Oval



LEADERS IN FOCUS: Embedding Sustainable Development in the Governance Agenda of Presidential Candidates

28 April 2022 | 12:00 NN

Participants: Sec. Ernesto Abella, Mr. Leody de Guzman, Mr. Norberto Gonzales, Mr. Faisal Mangondato, Dr. Jose Montemayor, Jr., Hon. Leni Robredo

Watch it here! [QR Code]

* Photos from eboto.ph, ABS-CBN News, and Facebook

OPEN talk

UNIVERSITY OF THE FUTURE

Ang Sikolohiyang Pilipino sa Halalan at Pamumuno

Mga Tagapagsalita:

- Prof. Jay A. Yacat, Kawakng Propesor, Departamento ng Sikolohiya, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, UP Diliman
- Dr. Diwa Malaya A. Quiñones, Katuwang na Propesor, Departamento ng Sikolohiya, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, UP Diliman
- Tagapagtalay: Dr. Danielle P. Ochoa, Katuwang na Propesor, Departamento ng Sikolohiya, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, UP Diliman

LIVE 6 Abril 2022, 10:00AM - 11:00AM
Mamood sa: networks.upou.edu.ph/opentalk/
<https://www.facebook.com/UPOpenUniversityNetworks>

Sa pakikipagtalunan ng Pambansang Samahan sa Sikolohiyang Pilipino

With a focus on religion, the UP Manila Department of Social Sciences held a webinar entitled *Elections and Religion: Understanding Political Behavior, Voting Preference in the Philippines* which aimed to shed light on different factors affecting voting behavior and preferences of Filipinos. In a public forum titled *Leaders in Focus: Embedding Sustainable Development in the Governance Agenda of Presidential Candidates*, six presidential candidates were given the opportunity to discuss and expound on their sustainable development goals (SDG) agenda and how they plan to promote and attain the targets of these goals should they win the presidency. Through the *Paaralang Panghalalan* initiative, the UP Office of the Student Regent and the UP Office for Student Development Services were able to undertake a series of capacity-building educational discussions for the upcoming national elections. The series highlighted the importance of the exchange of ideas in deepening the understanding of the electorate of the different issues pertaining to the upcoming elections.

With the rampant circulation of misinformation and disinformation, the University mobilized its experts to help curb the spread of malicious content and highlighted the importance of information literacy among voters. *Tsek.PH*, a project under the university's Office of the Vice President for Public Affairs and spearheaded by the Department of Journalism under the College of Mass Communication, sought to counter the proliferation of malicious content, and provide the public with verified information. The UP Institute of Human Rights and Democracy Watch organized the webinar *Curbing the Pandemic of Disinformation: What Really Happened During Martial Law* for the public. It featured personal experiences and accounts of key figures who were directly involved in the student movement during Martial Law. In commemoration of the rampant human rights violations during the said era, the UP Diliman Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts (UPD-OICA) spearheaded the *Virtual Tour of Dark Memories: Remembering the Victim-Survivors of Martial Law*, a walking tour around the UP Diliman Academic Oval. It features Rick Rocamora's photographs for the "Dark Memories: Remembering the Victim-Survivors of Martial Law" photo-documentary exhibit.

UP In the Know: Knowledge Management and Sharing

The University has been able to provide not only its constituents but also the general public a wide array of information deemed crucial for individual development and even for nation-building. These initiatives come in various forms, most notably via webinar format during the height of the

pandemic and IEC materials disseminated through social media. Sustaining the momentum gained during the pandemic, CUs have been continuously organizing various knowledge management and sharing initiatives that have helped people stay in the know of relevant issues today.



The UP Institute for Small-Scale Industries organized *Food Biz 101*, a webinar for budding entrepreneurs in starting a food business. It delved into issues related to food safety, available support services, as well as requirements to acquire the Food and Drug Administration license to operate. The Museo Kordilyera - UP Baguio Ethnographic Museum, through the *Museum Management Training for HEIs*, has guided its stakeholders through different know-hows of museum management. In the recent installment of the series, the speakers focused on practical tips on how to enhance an exhibition through the use of videos and how to prepare a museum's policy manual and collections management policy. The BIDANI Network Program conducted a training on food safety, sanitation, and hygiene regarding street food vending. It was held last April 8, 2022 at the Tahanan ng Ama Retreat and Formation Center. The participants were the Sisters Club Members. Ms. Belinda Lalap, a former fellow of the Public Service Writing Fellowship, trained the Sisters Club Members on street food vending using the KALINGA Mix in their recipes. The Institute of Fish Processing Technology launched a two-week bridging program for undergraduate and graduate students of the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. The said unit also conducted a capacity-building training-workshop for local fisherfolks from Carles, Iloilo on value addition and good manufacturing practices for scallops. UP School of Labor and Industrial Relations, together with the UP Diliman Human Resource Development Office, organized an online workshop on safety and health at work to strengthen the commitment of the University in providing

health, safety, and wellness in the workplace. This online workshop was done in celebration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2022.

Aside from webinars, CUs have also been using other means to share knowledge to a wider audience. The UP Human Resource Development Office relaunched LINK UP, an online directory where UP employees can search available external training programs that can help them fulfill their individual development plans. The UP Diliman Department of Geography organized a 3D mapping activity for disaster risk reduction management. The map is said to be a participatory three-dimensional mapping (P3DM) of Quezon City (QC) barangays for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.



Towards Creating Impacts: Research and Innovations for the People

By merging UP's mandate as a research university leading in the production and dissemination of knowledge, and that of providing public service to various sectors, the University has continuously been able to manifest its values of honor and excellence with *malasakit* (compassion). This has been done through the different research breakthroughs and innovations geared towards addressing issues and concerns of the different sectors. This was elaborated in the webinar entitled *What is Extension?: Reconstruction and Rethinking the Extension Function of HEIs*. In the said webinar, the UPLB Office for Institutional Development in Higher Education raised the important question of the perceived role and potential of HEIs in bringing forth societal development.

Several webinars focused on catering to the needs of budding researchers, offering guidelines on research ethics and research methods so they may contribute to the existing pool of knowledge with less difficulty. The UPOU Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (OVCAA)'s *Ethics and Privacy in Research* and the Teaching and Learning Resource Center - University of the Philippines Cebu's *Research Ethics for Teachers and Students* both focused on the importance of conducting ethical research that took into account not only the privacy of the research participants, but also the ethically sound processes and practices in research. With a focus on effective thesis writing and research presentation, the UPLB Learning Resource Center hosted the webinar *Research is Layfl!: How to Ace your Research Paper*. Through the webinar, the participants were able to learn some helpful tips in coming up with socially relevant, gender conscious, and ethical research outputs. The webinar also tackled how students may be able to maximize library resources, write effective literature reviews, and craft a comprehensive research design and methodology. On a similar note, the UP Baguio College of Science spearheaded a series of virtual lectures and workshops that focused on innovative teaching and research methods in the sciences and technology education.

Aside from honing the strengths of budding researchers, the University has also been steadfast in providing an opportunity for experienced researchers to share their expertise and experiences in research. The UP Diliman College of Science and Society



Program (SSP) recently organized the *Proposal for Research University Network for Philippine Development*, a webinar that aimed to provide a platform for meaningful discussions regarding issues on science, technology, and society. In *SERPUNGAN: Research Training and Partnership Program in Philippine Studies*, the UP Diliman College of Arts and Letters and College of Social Sciences and Philosophy held a writeshop about indigenous knowledge systems and practices

(IKSP) in Matalam, North Cotabato. Through the research conventions and master class event entitled *Radical Pluridisciplinarity for Sustainable Development*, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Faculty of Information Studies aimed to encourage research collaboration at all levels, and to preserve and capture the knowledge of thought leaders for future usage and reference, respectively. In the same event, the fellows of ColLaboratoire were given the chance to present their research projects that aimed to address six research challenges related to the UN Sustainable Goals. The presentations were products of the week-long research residency on Cognitive Innovation for Sustainable Development.



Several innovations were made by the UPLB National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), one of which was the Mykovan, a fertilizer designed to be an effective natural alternative to chemical fertilizers for both forest trees and agricultural crops. According to UPLB Horizon, a kilo of Mykovan is enough to fertilize 200-400 seedlings and even replace 60-85% of the plants' chemical fertilizer requirement. Given its cost-effective nature, farmers would be able to save expenses on fertilizer and earn more profit. Another innovation made by UPLB BIOTECH was the Monascus Red, a safe and natural alternative to non-permissible, dangerous, and non-food synthetic colors. The said product was discovered by UPLB researcher and microbiologist Fides Marciana Tambalo. Still under the UPLB BIOTECH, Phenofera, a natural antioxidant phenolics powder extracted from mango seeds, was developed by Arsenia Sapin. The said product can enable the cosmetics industry to use alternative and safe ingredients for the welfare of its customers. It would also help promote a sustainable future through the use of natural products. A research breakthrough on potential high-value growth food supplements was explored by Dr. Gladys Cherisse Completo from the UPLB Institute of Chemistry. This was done through whey by-products from *kesong puti* that can prevent stunting in Filipino children.

Forging and Sustaining Linkages: Multisectoral Engagements as Public Service



Aside from lending its expertise and offering direct services to various sectors, the University has also been forging and sustaining partnerships with other institutions. UP Mindanao recently held a technical working group (TWG) meeting with the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao - Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (BARMM-MBHTE). The TWG was tasked to draft the memorandum of agreement (MOA) or memorandum of understanding (MOU) that aimed to institutionalize the partnership between the two parties. In order to carry out the community baselining program titled *Building Sustainable Communities through Integrated Development Planning in Barangays Ilayang Polo and Ibabang Polo, Pagbilao, Quezon*, the UPLB BIDANI Network Program signed a MOA with Therma Luzon, Inc. With staff welfare and instruction in the new normal in mind, UPLB signed its MOA with the Los Baños Doctors Hospital and Medical Center (LBDHMC) and Global Care Medical Center of Bay (GCMCB) for the no cash-out policy in the implementation of the Enhanced Hospitalization Program (e-HOPE) for university personnel.