



ZRC HIGHLIGHTS



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Official Newsletter of the CHED-UPLB Zonal Research Center for Regions IV and V

Sept - Dec 2005

UPLB bags 2005 REPUBLICA Award CHED ZRC (Regions XI, XII, ARMM) wins Social Science Category

The paper, “Genetic Homogeneity of the Banana-Infecting Strains of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. in the Philippines” by Asuncion K. Raymundo, Yolanda A. Ilagan, Marina P. Natural, and Walter A. Laviña, CHED-UPLB ZRC Zonal Winner from UP Los Baños (UPLB), won the 2005 CHED REPUBLICA Awards (Natural Science Category) during the awarding ceremony on October 7 at UP NISMED Auditorium, UP Diliman, Quezon City.

The CHED REPUBLICA Awards recognize and reward outstanding research outputs that contribute to the discovery and adoption of new knowledge or technology, which, in turn, leads to sustainable development or generation of concepts to enhance CHED-identified priority disciplines.

Dr. Raymundo (author) received a trophy and cash prize worth Php150,000 which is convertible to any or a combination of the following: in-country lecture tour, presentation in a national conference, presentation in an international conference or conduct of a research (see paper’s abstract on p.3).

During the first quarter of 2005, then ZRC Program Director Dr. Augusto C. Sumalde chaired a Zonal Awards Board (ZAB) with Dr. Cecilia N. Gascon (Southern Luzon Polytechnic College) and Dr. Salcedo L. Eduardo (UPLB). The ZAB studied the submitted papers and journals based on CHED’s Revised Implementing Guidelines and came up with a zonal winner from three qualified entries in the natural science category. The other two entries were “Impact of Eco-Scouting and Community Theater Programs on Mountain Ecosystem Management in Bicol, Philippines” (Ateneo de Naga University) and “Karyomorphology of the Philippine Rock Goby, *Glossogobius guiris* (Gobiidae) from Lake Taal and some Rivers of Cavite, Luzon” (De La Salle University- Dasmariñas). No paper qualified in the social science category.

Meanwhile, the CHED ZRC for Regions XI, XII and ARMM Zonal Winner for Social Sciences garnered the 2005 REPUBLICA Award (Social Science Category) for the paper, “Quality Grading in the Supply Chain: The Case of Vegetables in Southern Philippines” by Dr. Larry A. Digal.

DR. ENRICO PLATA SUPANGCO

is the new Vice-Chancellor for Research and Extension of UPLB and concurrently Director of the CHED-UPLB ZRC effective November 2005.

Dr. Supangco is an Associate Professor at the Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster in UPLB and the National Team Leader of the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Agricultural Resources (DA-BAR) National Livestock and Poultry Research and Development Network (RDE).

He earned his PhD in Range Science at the Texas A&M University and his MS and BS degrees in Animal Science (Beef and Cattle Production) at UPLB. He has served UPLB for about 28 years and has worked as chair and member of various departments, colleges, committees of the university and national levels.

Among his various awards include the 2003 Merit (Philippines) Inc. Outstanding Teacher in Animal Science from the Philippine Society of Animal Science and the 2001 Most Outstanding Research Manager from the Philippine Association of Research Managers (PHILARM). ■



SUPANGCO IS NEW CHED ZRC DIRECTOR

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First CHED-UPLB ZRC Research Forum held

As part of the research dissemination and utilization component of the Zonal Research Program (ZRP), the CHED-UPLB ZRC held its first Research Forum last December 7 at the Continuing Education Center (CEC) Bldg. of UPLB. The forum focused on the five ongoing CHED Grants-in-Aid (GIA) research projects.

The forum aimed (1) to present to CHED and member-HEIs the progress of the five GIA projects funded by the CHED; (2) to serve as an avenue for research dissemination among HEIs in Regions IV and V thus enhancing appreciation for research; (3) to serve as catalyst for research collaboration; and (4) to enrich research-based knowledge and technologies in various disciplines.

Seventeen participants—mostly research directors and deans—from member-HEIs in the provinces of Albay, Batangas, Camarines Norte, Cavite, Laguna, Marinduque, Palawan, Quezon, and Rizal, observed the presentations, each followed by an open forum. Dr. Lily Gar-

cia, Chief of the Research Division of the Office of Policy, Planning, Research and Information (OPPRI)-CHED, and two other officials witnessed the occasion.

During the morning session, two studies on socio-economics under the umbrella project, “Assessing the Quality of Life in Rurban Communities in Regions IV and V” were presented, namely: “Assessing the Quality of Life of Communities along Riverbanks of Regions IV and V” by Dr. Florencio V. Reyes (University of Batangas) and “Interplay of Determinants of Poverty Incidence in Selected Rurban Communities in Regions IV and V” by Dr. Samuel T. Mancebo and Dr. Marilyn B. Perlas (UPLB). This was followed by the sole research on education, “Development of an Open Adaptive e-Learning System Based on Intelligent Software Agents” by Dr. Concepcion L. Khan (UPLB).

In the afternoon, two researches on environment were presented, namely: “Landscape and Seascape Assessment of Selected Catchments in the Western Side of Mount Mantalingahan Range, Southern Palawan” by Dr. Michael Pido and Dr.



ZRC Director Dr. Enrico P. Supangco briefs participants and presentors on mechanics of the research forum.



Dr. Florencio V. Reyes (UB) and co-leader Dr. Eddie S. See (BU) answer queries of participants from other member-HEIs.

Patrick Regoniel (Palawan State University) and “Isolation, Preservation and (continued on page 3)

Center concludes “Training on Research Methodologies, M&E” series

The fifth and sixth rounds of training on research methodologies, monitoring

and evaluation were held on December 1-2 and December 8-9 at the DA-BAR RDE Network Building of UP Los Baños to develop the capacities of researchers from member-HEIs in packaging, conducting, and evaluating effective and efficient researches.

Twenty-one and 29 participants, respectively, attended the two training-workshops. Most of the trainees came from Region IV and state universities/colleges. The training consisted of research topics, which were tackled by experts from UP Los Baños, namely: Introduction to Research (Prof. Consuelo Amor S. Estrella, Animal and Dairy Sciences Cluster-College of

Agriculture), Research and Development (R&D) Management (Dr. Jaine C. Reyes, OVCRE), Monitoring and Evaluation of Research & Development Projects (Dr. JC Reyes), Research Methodologies for Social Sciences (Dr. Daylinda B. Cabanilla, Department of Social Forestry and Forest Governance-College of Forestry and Natural Resources), Research Methodologies for Biological Sciences (Dr. Evelyn Mae Mendoza, Institute of Plant Breeding-College of Agriculture), Statistical Methods for Research (Dr. Consorcia E. Reaño, Institute of Statistics-College of Arts and Sciences), and Writing Publishable Research Reports (Dr. Teresita L. Rosario, Department of (continued on page 3)

(Center concludes... from page 2)



Participants in the trainings (top-Dec. 1-2; bottom-Dec. 8-9) with ZRC Director Supangco (extreme left) and staff.

Abstract of 2005 CHED REPUBLICA Awardee for Natural Science Category

Genetic Homogeneity of the Banana-infecting Strains of Ralstonia solanacearum (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. in the Philippines

Asuncion K. Raymundo, Yolanda A. Ilagan, Marina P. Natural and Walter A. Laviña

A population of 97 banana-infecting strains of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. from Southern Philippines was analyzed using restriction fragment length polymorphism (RELP) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Probes used in the RELP analysis consisted of plasmids harboring the genes for extracellular polysaccharides IE36, G7, Q501, endoglucanase (pHE3), tryptophan biosynthesis (pI161), a random clone from ginger strain (ZO4) library (pZ1217) and a cloned repetitive element pM104 from a bugtok strain. No polymorphism was detected in any of the strains in the RELP analysis except with pM104 wherein seven had one extra band in different positions. PCR studies were also done using repetitive extragenic palindromis (REP), enterobacterial repetitive intergeneric consensus (ERIC), and BOZ primers. Again, no polymorphism was detected except for two strains that differed in their fingerprint by just the addition of one band with REP primers. A more recent set of 80 strains was analyzed in 1998 using REP primers and only seven strains differed in their fingerprint by one band. With BOX primers, 93 out of 97 strains tested showed no polymorphism while the remaining four showed two different fingerprint patterns. The strains differing in their haplotype were not excessive to either mako or bugtok strains. The general genetic homogeneity of bacteria with strains infecting banana is, therefore, established.

Publication: The Philippine Agricultural Scientist, BG 141, 394-402, 2003

The Authors: Dr. Asuncion K. Raymundo is a Professor and currently the Director of the Institute of the Biological Sciences at UPLB. She received her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She took post-doctoral studies in microbial/molecular genetics at IRRI and had research stints at Monash University, Osaka University, and Kansas State University.

Dr. Yolanda A. Ilagan is a Professor at Cavite State University. She finished her MS and Ph.D. degrees at UPLB.

Dr. Marina P. Natural and Mr. Walter A. Laviña are Professor and Assistant Professor, respectively, at the Institute of Biological Sciences, UPLB.

(Center concludes... from page 2)

Horticulture-College of Agriculture).

The CHED-UPLB ZRC subsidized the registration fee and food while the participants shouldered their travel and accommodation.

The center has carried out trainings on the same topics in December 2004 (20 trainees), in February (16 trainees) and in June 2005 (42 and 52 trainees in two training sets). It will conduct a training needs assessment in early 2006 year to come up with new themes for the research capability building component of the ZRP. ■

(First CHED-UPLB... from page 2)

Identification of Microorganisms in a Mangrove Ecosystem in Mindoro with Degradative and Antimicrobial Potential by Dr. Rosario Monsalud (UPLB), which was presented in by one of her study leaders, Dr. Irene Papa.

In August 2003, the CHED-UPLB ZRC came up with its ZRP. One of the program's priorities is the conduct of researches under the GIA project of CHED. Of the 54 research proposals submitted by member-HEIs in Regions IV and V, only five {socio-economics (2), education (1), environment (2)} were approved for funding in the amounts of Php2, 196,432.54.

All five researches are expected to be completed by 2006 ■

GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTORS/ AUTHORS

ZRC Highlights welcomes articles/announcements from member-HEIs that may be of interest or have immediate use, particularly on the research highlights of their institutions to the general readers.

Articles should be typed on one side of white bond paper (8.5"x11") and double-spaced throughout. A diskette/CD copy will facilitate publication.

CHED hones new ZRC staff's database skills

To enhance the manpower of the 13 CHED-ZRC in the country, the Office of Policy, Planning, Research and Information (OPPRI-CHED) sponsored a training on database establishment and maintenance for new ZRC staff last September 23 at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Pasig City.

Three new staff from UPLB (ZRC for

Regions IV and V), De La Salle University (ZRC for NCR Cluster I), and Mariano Marcos State University (ZRC for Regions I and II) attended the training on the basics of MS Access and the use of the Research Management Information System (RMIS) database which was developed by the Management Information Unit (MIS) of CHED-OPPRI.

At the end of the training, CHED-OPPRI gave each participant a copy of the revised Five-Year RMIS Database forms in MS Access format for redistribution to member-HEIs. This was in compliance to CHED Memorandum Order No. 24, Series of 2004.

To date, 30 out of 81 member-HEIs have already responded to the RMIS survey.

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The Philippine Association of Research Managers, Inc. (PHILARM) is holding its 16th National Research and Development (R&D) Convention with the theme "Quality Management System for Enhanced RDE Productivity and Accountability" on April 18-21, 2006 at the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) in Batac, Ilocos Norte.

In line with the annual activity, the PHILARM is calling for technical papers on research/experiences on R&D management that are related to the theme of the convention. The paper should be an original and unpublished research result or a documentation of the R&D management experiences of the author (s). It should contain information about the current experiences and research results that led to improved R&D/E programs/projects of the agency, unit or organization. Before submitting a full-length paper, the abstract should be prepared with these specifications:

- Title of the paper should all be in capital letters. In case the title exceeds one (1) line, it should be in an inverted pyramid form.
- The underlined full name (s) of the author (s) starts from the first/given name.
- An asterisk (*) must be placed after the name of the author who will present the paper.
- In case where the paper has many authors presenting one or different institutions, superscript numbers should be used to indicate the author's corresponding position, institution if applicable, and address.
- The use of abbreviation is not accepted. The text should start on the next line with each paragraph indented five columns or spaces.
- The text should be camera-ready.
- The length should not exceed one and one-half pages.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Abstracts should be submitted on or before 28 February 2006 to the:

Philippine Association of Research Managers, Inc.

c/o Bureau of Agricultural Research,
22/F RDMIC Bldg., Elliptical Rd. Corner Visayas Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City

or **PHILARM Secretariat**
c/o PCARRD
Los Baños, Laguna

Phone: (02) 928-8624 or 928-8505 local 1519

Fax: (049) 536-0016 or (02) 920-0219

email: amagcawas@bar.gov.ph or almira_magcawas@yahoo.com

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All abstracts submitted will be screened and evaluated for the award and presentation during the convention. Official communication will be sent to the author (s) of the abstracts that have been considered for competition for the submission of the full-length paper.

Criteria for evaluation:

1. *Relevance/significance*

- Implications/relevance to R&D management (planning, implementation, evaluation)
- Potential contribution to countryside development whether social, economic, ecological, etc.

2. *Organization of paper (content)*

- Comprehensiveness
- Overall quality of paper (validity/reliability and dependability of results/content) ■



Commission on Higher Education - University of the Philippines Los Baños (CHED-UPLB)
Zonal Research Center (ZRC) for Regions IV and V
DA-BAR RDE Network Bldg., UP Los Baños, College, Laguna 4031

CHED-UPLB ZRC for Regions IV and V is one of the nine ZRCs in the country that assists the Commission on Higher Education on its mandate to enhance the research capabilities of higher education institutions (HEIs) in the Philippines. For further information, call (049)536-5326, fax 536-3341, e-mail uplb_chedzrc@yahoo.com or visit www.geocities.com/uplbchedzrc.

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