



Tumbleweeds



The official publication of the Tumbleweeds Viber Groups of the UP Los Baños Beta Sigma Fraternity and Sigma Beta Sorority, College, Laguna, Philippines



UP Sigma Beta Sorority Los Baños Chapter celebrates Mother's Day with 100 Moms by SKS Eleika Audrey Ortiz



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BROTHERS AND SISTERS... LET US WELCOME OUR NEW EDITOR IN CHIEF BROD THAD LAWAS REPLACING BROD TONY FRIO WHO ASKED FOR HIS TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT BECAUSE OF HEALTH ISSUES

The UP Sigma Beta Sorority Los Baños Chapter held its first face-to-face event for the academic year 2022-23, sponsoring *Sister's Hand: Special MOMents*. It was a celebration of Mother's Day, commemorating women and mothers who have tirelessly given their respective homes light, warmth and peace. It was held on May 7, 2022 at the Barangay Batong Malake Covered Court where 100 mothers from the barangay were invited to celebrate Mother's Day and enjoy the day.

The resident sisters had prepared a program of fun and prepared lots of prizes for the games and raffle draws. The registration at the venue started as early as 8:00 AM where by 9:30 AM, 100 mothers were ushered and seated. Sis Misty Halago and Sis Divine Pajo officially opened the program as they greeted the attendees with warm introductions, to which the

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mothers responded with much glee and enthusiasm.

Most Idyllic Sister Princess B. Reyes, delivered her opening remarks, followed by a special message by Sis Alicia R. Quicoy, President of the UPLB Sigma Beta Alumnae Association.

The mothers eagerly joined the *Hep-Hep-Hooray* and *The Boat is Sinking* games. All the mothers were also eligible to participate in the raffle draws. The third prize pack-

age included a basin, a dipper, fabric conditioner, detergent powder, detergent bar and bleach; 25 kilograms of rice for the second prize; and a brand new electric fan for the first prize.

The event was concluded with a closing remark from the event head, Sis Cheska Marcial, while gift packs prepared and arranged by the UP Sigma Beta Sorority Los Baños Chapter's resident sisters were distributed among the beneficiaries with the help of alumnae sisters who came to the venue of the event.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief: Thad Lawas

Managing Editor and Lay-out: Leo Balagot

Contributing Writers/Editors: Eleika Audrey Ortiz, Chesca Marcial, Alice Quicoy, Nestor Baguion, Ed Quisumbing, Freddy Fajardo, Zek de Venecia

Resident Reps: Mico Acosta, UPLB Beta Sigma Fraternity, Princess Reyes, UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority

Alumni Association Reps: Plato Tirol, UPLB Beta Sigma Fraternity Alumni Association, Inc. Alice Quicoy, UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority Alumnae Association

Online Circulation: Keith Tidon

EDITORIAL BOARD OF ADVISERS

Dong Rasco, Vic Tupaz, Norms Fajardo
Maan Botengan, Thad Lawas (ex-officio)



UPPER LEFT PHOTO (L-R): Residents- Divine Grace Pajo, Krishane Ano-os, Misty Blue Halago, Princess Kim Reyes, Cheska Mae Marcial, Aynna Jae Carado and Glen-ize Santos; Alumnae- Ma. Paula Tornea, Aliana Bianca Baraquio and Geonna Marice Santos



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Each mother-beneficiary received an essentials kit containing sanitary napkins, bar soap, toothpaste, shampoo, NIVEA Crème and a chocolate bar. In addition, condiments in sachets consisting of soy sauce, vinegar, pepper, seasoning granules, oyster sauce, cheese spread and sinigang mix were arranged into bouquets for the mother-beneficiaries. And to complete the celebration, Jollibee meals were distributed.

The Resident Sisters extend their gratitude to the alumnae sisters and alumni brothers for their support, and to the following sponsors: SM Foundation Inc., Watsons, NIVEA, Goodwill Supermarket, and Gem See's Cakeshop.

Technical Tip



For cellphone users...
Rotate your phone to landscape position for a better view of the contents of this Newsletter.



REPRINTED from V1: THE TUMBLEWEEDS NEWSLETTER: POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

by Editorial Board of Advisers

Editor's Note:

In February 19, 2021, Brod Leo Balagot called for some identified brods and sisters to participate as volunteers in reviving this Newsletter. These brods and sisters have shown some experience in writing and producing the Betan Newsletters during their residency days.

They then organized themselves into an *interim* Editorial Team. This Team is composed of an editorial staff and an editorial board of advisers.

In subsequent Zoom meetings, the Team felt the need to formulate certain policies and guidelines for this Newsletter. It was felt that the Editorial Board of Advisers should take the lead in formulating these guidelines. The Newsletter staff will adopt these policies to guide them in the production of this online medium.

The following are the policies and guidelines. From time to time, the Editorial Team and the general readership will review these policies to suit current conditions and needs.

1. Name, Readership, Frequency of Publication

“Tumbleweeds” is the official name of the publication to be circulated online thru the Email-groups and Chat groups of the UPLB Fraternity and Sorority. Expected readers are the alumni and residents of the UPLB Beta Sigma Fraternity and Sigma Beta Sorority. Upon receiving their personal copy of the newsletter from the editorial team, they may share it to other Brods and Sisters belonging to other local and international Betan organizations (either UP or non-UP betans)...

This newsletter will be published every two months.

2. Composition of the Editorial Team, Responsibilities and Terms of Service

The Tumbleweeds Newsletter Editorial Team is composed of two bodies: the Editorial Staff and the Editorial Board of Advisers.

The Editorial Staff is composed of:

- a. An editor-in-chief and a managing editor who will have a fixed two-year term each.

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- b. Several contributing editors and writers who, at the moment, have no fixed tenure. They can, at their convenience, voluntarily stop being contributing editors and writers at any time. The editorial team shall appoint their replacements from the Newsletter reader membership.
- c. A graphic designer/artist who will be responsible for the layout, design and related aspects of the Newsletter.
- d. The UPLB Beta Sigma Grand Princep (GP) and UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority Most Idyllic Sister (MIS) will represent their respective resident members. Their term of office is co-terminus with their term as officers of the fraternity and sorority.
- e. The Presidents of the alumni associations of the UPLB Beta Sigma Fraternity and UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority will also represent their respective members in the Newsletter editorial team. Their term of tenure will be co-terminus with their term of office in their respective alumni associations.
- f. The Editorial Staff shall produce and manage the newsletter and implement all policies formulated and recommended by the editorial board of advisers.

The Editorial Board of Advisers is composed of five members, 2 each from the UPLB Beta Sigma Fraternity and UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority with a service term of 2 years. The editor-in-chief is ex-officio member. This Board is primarily tasked to formulate and provide recommendations on all editorial policy decisions and advice on sensitive issues that affect the publication of the newsletter.

3. Election and Appointment of Editorial Team Members

- a. The *interim* Tumbleweeds Newsletter Editorial Team will hold office until a new team is formed, but not later than one year from the date of the first issue of the Newsletter.
- b. The general readership of the Newsletter shall elect its new editor-in-chief and members of the Editorial Board of Advisers in an election to be held a month prior to the end of the terms of service of the current

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Editorial Team.

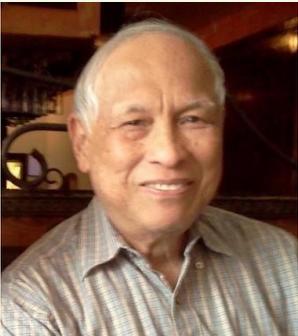
- c. The Editorial Board of Advisers shall create a Commission on Elections. This body shall formulate the rules of the election, venue, date, canvassing and proclamation of winning candidates.
- d. The newly elected editor-in-chief shall appoint the new managing editor and graphic design/artist.

4. Guidelines for Contributors of Articles (this is an evolving document and subject to revisions with prior notice by the Editorial Board of Advisers.)

- a. Article contributors to this Newsletter are the UPLB Beta Sigma and Sigma Beta chapter alumni and residents. Contributed articles may be written in English, Pilipino, Tagalog and Taglish.
- b. Reprints of relevant articles from other sources like past souvenir programs, old issues of newsletters, etc. are allowed and these should be properly acknowledged by citing the sources/authors.
- c. The publication of an article should not risk the credibility of the publication.
- d. The article should not put in bad light the image of the fraternity or sorority or any of their members.
- e. The article should not cast aspersion on any individual or organization, particularly those who are not members of the fraternity or sorority.
- f. The Newsletter will not publish anonymous articles.
- g. Articles that deal on controversial issues such as those relating to politics, religion, and very exclusive internal matters to the UPLB Beta Sigma and Sigma Beta should be avoided.
- h. The Editorial Board of Advisers will resolve complaints regarding the content of the Newsletter with finality. No appeal will be entertained.
- i. Decisions of the Editorial Board of Advisers will be based on a majority vote. The Chair will break a tie.



Members of the U.P Beta Sigma Fraternity have served with distinction not only in the Philippines but also as staff or consultants with international development organizations in many countries of the world. I would like to highlight some of our brothers' contributions to international agricultural development.



Marcelo A. Aspiras, UPLB batch 1954 obtained his BSA and Advanced ROTC training in 1957. He was the ROTC Corps commander with sis Rec Banzon as Corps sponsor. He has an MSc and MA from UPLB and UP School of Economics under a scholarship from IRRI

and the UP-University of Wisconsin Program on development Economics. His professional career spanned 39 years, 13 in the Philippines as Irrigation Supervisor, Dept. of Public Works for 5 years; Research Scholar, IRRI for 2 years; Chief Agricultural Economist, Presidential Economic Staff for 5 years; and Senior Analyst, Board of Investments for 1 year. In January 1970 he was appointed economist at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations based in Rome, Italy where he served for the next 26 years. His responsibilities at the FAO ranged from providing advice and technical assistance to developing countries on agriculture and food production policy analysis and plan formulation to rendering technical assistance on the efficient use, procurement, supply management and pricing policies of farm inputs. He traveled extensively to many developing countries to advise and help organize and conduct national and regional seminars, training programs and conferences on strategies to increase food and agricultural production. He and his wife are presently retired and resides in Virginia Beach, Virginia in the United States. They have a son and two daughters.



Roberto "Bert" Bautista, UPLB batch 1954, graduated with a BSA and MSc in Agricultural Engineering from the UPCA in 1956, and Cornell University-UPLB in 1979, and a *Diplome Agronomie Tropicale* (Doctorate in Tropical Agronomy) from the Universite de Montpellier.

France in 1984. He served for 19 years as an instructor then assistant professor at the UPLB but took

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leaves of absences three times to join the *Kolej Pertanian* Malaysia, which became the *Universiti Pertanian* Malaysia as a lecturer for 9 years, establishing the Agricultural Engineering Section which became the nucleus of the College of Engineering.

When he returned to UPLB in 1977, he established the Agricultural Mechanization Testing and Evaluation Center and became its first director.

He served as a technical consultant for System Development Specialist Inc., a private Swiss-Philippine company that undertook a project in Gabon, Africa, on another leave of absence from UPLB. He retired as an assistant professor from UPLB in 1984. After retirement, he then joined the UN-FAO for 10 years (1984 to 1997), first as a agricultural engineering consultant in Sri Lanka, then as a Technical Officer in Zanzibar, Tanzania, and as Chief Technical Adviser in Mali then Sierra Leone. The FAO-funded project based in Bamako, Mali covered five countries: Mali, Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry, and Senegal. After retirement from FAO, he became a part-time lecturer in French in UPLB for two years then at Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Calamba for six years. Bert was 82 years old when he passed away in 2017. He is survived by his wife Prof. Ofelia K, Bautista (PhD), 2 sons and 3 daughters.



Delfin Ganapin Jr., UPLB Batch 72b, served as a *Grand Princep* during college. Brod Ganapin obtained his BSF, *magna cum laude* from the UPLB College of Forestry in 1977, received a Ph.D. in Environmental Planning and Policy from the State University of New York and Syracuse University in 1987, was a TOYM awardee for Forest Conservation in 1989, and served as Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary for Environment from 1995-97. In 2003, he joined the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) as Global Manager of the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) Small Grants Program (SGP). Based at UNDP in New York, he manages more than \$50 million in annual budget for global grant making to support environmental efforts of NGOs and communities. He presently supervises 95 SGP country program in Africa, Arab States, Asia-Pacific, Europe and Latin

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America/Caribbean. He travels extensively to provide guidance to and oversee implementation of country programs and start up new countries, negotiate support from governments and develop co-financing with international development agencies. He represents the program in Conferences of the Parties of environmental conventions as well as other global meetings for sustainable development. His wife Janet Tucay, daughter and two sons reside in Jersey City, New Jersey, in the United States.



Arnulfo "Arnold" Garcia, UPLB batch 1968A, obtained his BSA and MSc degrees at the UP College of Agriculture in 1972 and 1978. He was awarded a Department of Agriculture scholarship to pursue a PhD degree in 1980 at the Iowa State University and completed his PhD in 1983. He returned to UPLB as an assistant professor in the Agronomy Department. Arnold holds the distinction of being the only scholar of the DA who completed his PhD, one year ahead of schedule!

In 1989, Arnold joined IRRI as a post-doctoral fellow at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Agro-Ecology Department for two years. In 1993, he was appointed as IRRI Representative in Myanmar and as Farming Systems Agronomist based in Yangon, Myanmar. Arnold facilitated collaborative research with the Ministry of Agriculture and IRRI scientists and for organizing IRRI conferences, training courses and workshops in Myanmar. He introduced and promoted IRRI's rice-based farming systems research activities in the country. After 8-years in Myanmar, Arnold joined the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) in 2001 as the Head of the Research and Development Department. He worked with SEARCA for 11 years until he retired in 2012. Arnold was responsible for strengthening SEARCA's assistance to strengthen and build capacity of member countries in research and human resource development. Arnold is married to Yolanda "Lee" Garcia, a professor in the Economics Department of UPLB. They have two daughters.

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Francisco D. Gorrez, Jr., UPLB batch 1952, obtained his BSA in 1955, MSc (1985) from the Araneta University-De La Salle University and PhD (1989) from Pacific Western University. Brod Gorrez' professional career spans a period of 41 years. He was an agricultural extension and training specialist with the IRRI where

he helped develop the production techniques and the training programs for agricultural extension agents which were instrumental in the successful implementation of the national rice production program, Masagana 99. He has been involved in the implementation of national and international agricultural development projects in South and Southeast Asia, and Central and North America. His expertise focused on designing, planning and management of diverse programs, whose beneficiaries are farmers, cooperative organizations, agricultural extension agents, and non-government organizations. Brod Gorrez served extensively as consultant of the U.S. Agency for international development, FAO and UNDP. He is married to Eppie Rodriguez with whom he has a son and three daughters. He is now retired and presently resides in Quezon City, Metro Manila, but he continues to provide technical assistance to increase productivity of Muslim communities in Mindanao.

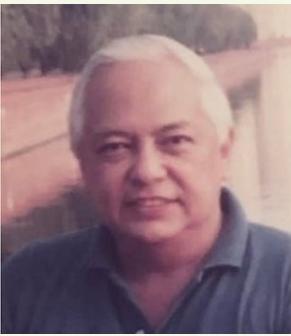


Cezar Mamaril, UPLB batch 1953, obtained his BSA from UPLB in 1955 and MSc in in soil physics, in 1958 from the University of Wisconsin, and PhD in soil fertility and soil chemistry from Kansas State University in 1964, Brod Cezar retired as a professor at UPLB after 17 years, rising to chairman of the Soil Science Department then joined the International Rice Research Institute in 1972. As an IRRI scientist, he was stationed in Maros, South Sulawesi and served as the agronomist and team leader of the research station until the end of 1980. His IRRI team helped establish and develop the Maros Crop Research Institute whose major crop focus was rice. He came back to IRRI headquarters in 1981 where he served as coordinator of the International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Efficiency in Rice (INSFFER) and later the International Network on Sustainable Rice Farming (INSURF) which involved 22 rice growing countries in the network until 1989. In mid-1989, he

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moved to Bogor, Indonesia and assumed the position of IRRI Liaison Scientist and Agronomist for Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam until the end of 1995. He retired from IRRI in 1996. He occasionally serves as a senior consultant in soils and agronomy at the Philippine Rice research Institute. He is also an active grower of fancy rice, namely, brown, red, black, aromatic, and glutinous; as well as a horticulturist growing rambutan, durian, dragon fruit, lanzones, lemons, mango, cacao, pomelo, calamansi, papaya and many varieties of bananas. He is married to Dr. Juanita Castillo with whom he had two sons. He resides in College, Laguna, Philippines.



Joseph C. Madamba, UPLB batch (1952), obtained his BSA (1955), MSc (1960) from Cornell University and PhD (1965) from the University of Illinois. Brod Joe was a TOYM awardee and a recipient of the Presidential Golden Plow for Public Service. He was the founding director-

general of the Philippine Council for Agricultural Research (PCAR), now known as PCARRD. He was also involved in the establishment of various institutions such as the Philippine Coconut Research and Development Foundation, Forest Research Institute (FORI), Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia, Institute of Aquaculture of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture. At one time or another, he served as head of these institutions.

He has served as member of the board of trustees of the International Center for Research in Agro-forestry (ICRAF); secretary-general of International Federation of Agricultural Research Systems for Development (IFARD); and president of the IFARD Asia Regional Council Technical Advisory Committee member of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) based in Rome, Italy; technical advisory committee member of the Asia-Pacific Food and Fertilizer Technology Center (FFTC) based in Taipei, Taiwan; Over a period of 35 years, he has served as consultant in 12 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the United States for the ADB, World Bank, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, US Agency for International Development, International Agricultural Development Service, Ford Foundation, and the

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International Union of Forestry Research Organizations. He is survived by wife Linda Banzon, two sons and three daughters.



Edgardo C. Quisumbing, UPLB batch 1956, obtained his BSA, major in agricultural chemistry at UPLB in 1959, and his PhD in horticultural science and plant physiology from the University of Minnesota in 1970. He took the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School in 1980. Brod Quisumbing served the government for 26

years, with the UPLB as full professor, National Food and Agriculture Council as deputy executive director, and the Department of Agriculture as assistant secretary where he managed implementation of all agricultural development projects financed by the WB, ADB, EU and bilateral organizations. He represented the Philippines in the consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) and was the chairman of the Food Handling Bureau of the Committee on Food and Agriculture of the ASEAN. He was a TOYM awardee for agriculture in 1977.

He joined the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank) in 1988 and retired as a senior agriculturist in 2002. He designed and supervised projects to develop agricultural research and extension institutions in Eastern and Southern Africa. He played a key role in establishing the Uganda National Agricultural Research Organization, the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute. He was also involved in the supervision of World Bank projects in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan, Zambia, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe. After retirement, he continued working for the Bank as a consultant in Indonesia. He is married to Dr. Araceli Talag+, has a son and daughter, and presently resides in Vienna, Virginia in the United States.



Basilio N. de los Reyes. UPLB Batch 1950, was one of the Charter Members of the Beta Sigma Fraternity, UP Los Baños Chapter. He received his BSA degree from UP-CA in 1953 with major in agricultural engineering. He obtained a MSc degree from

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Cornell University and PhD from North Carolina State College. He joined the UPCA as an assistant instructor and rose through the ranks to become full professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics. Brod de los Reyes became the first Director of the Office Extension Education of the UPCA. He served as consultant of the Program Implementation Agency (PIA) with brods Orlando Sacay and Marcelo Aspiras of the Office of the President from 1962-64 and as Director of the Nueva Ecija Land Reform Integrated Development Program from 1970-72.

In 1973, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) hired him as part of a team of specialists to conduct the Asian Survey on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific. Brod Ilio served as the team's Farm Management Officer. The FAO team conducted surveys and workshops in several countries in the region including Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand, Philippines, and South Korea. The team developed the guidelines and initially helped these countries implement their Small Farmers Development Programs. Afterwards, he was hired by FAO, Rome to serve as Farm Management Economist of FAO's Asia and Pacific regional office in Bangkok, Thailand with the primary responsibility of developing and strengthening farm management programs of the Asia and Pacific Region. As Regional Farm Management Economist, he continued monitoring and promoting the Small Farmer Development Program until his retirement in 1991 - almost 20 years of service to U.P. and 17 years to FAO. He is married to Lydia Lantin, has one son and lives in retirement at College, Laguna.



Orlando J. Sacay, UPLB batch 1951, obtained his BSA *magna cum laude* in 1954 and MSc (1956) and PhD (1961) from Cornell University, major in agricultural economics.

Brod Orly served the government for 32 years in various capacities. He started his career as an Associate Professor in UP Los Banos. He was one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) of the Philippines in 1964. He served in the national government as Director of Agriculture of the Program Implementation Agency (PIA) of the Office of the President, Deputy Minister of the

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Ministry of Local Government and Community Development and Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture. He joined the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank) as a Senior Rural Finance Specialist and retired after 8 years in 1996. After retirement, he was invited back by the government to serve as Secretary General of the National Anti-Poverty Commission and Chairman of the Peoples Credit and Finance Corporation from 1998 to 2001. He served various international organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, CARE International and the Asian Development Bank.

He is currently the owner/president of a beach resort in the famous island of Boracay, Aklan in the Philippines. He relocated this resort to Calaguas Island in Camarines Norte. He is married to Jasmine Gallardo with whom he has two daughters and two sons, and two other daughters from a previous marriage.



Dioscoro L. Umali, UPLB *honorary member*, served as dean of the U.P College of Agriculture and the first chancellor of the U.P. at Los Banos. Brod Diosing was undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture, and assistant director general of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) regional office for Asia and the Pacific. He obtained his BSA degree from UPLB and PhD from Cornell University, USA. He is considered as the "father of plant breeding" in the Philippines.

A visionary, Dr. Umali (DLU) worked for integrated rural development, with emphasis on small farmers. He played a pivotal role in the development and expansion of the University of the Philippines Los Baños; in the establishment of SEARCA and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI); in the program thrusts of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization; and in Philippine agriculture and rural development as a whole. He did these in the context of the various positions of leaderships he held in these institutions as well as the various National Commissions in the Philippines and international assignments, particularly those relating to agriculture and rural development,

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where he is tapped to serve.

Under DLU's leadership, UP College of Agriculture began to be acknowledged as the leader among agricultural institutions of higher learning in Southeast Asia. In FAO, DLU was famous for his advocacy for FAO-Asia's Small Farmers Development Program. He consistently promoted a "positive discrimination" for small farmers-- that is "a policy of providing unequal opportunity in favor of the weak." He was a National Scientist of the Philippines and a recipient of numerous prestigious awards for his professional achievements and received several honorary doctorate degrees from various universities.

Others:

(Brods and Sis, I need information about the brods below so they can be included in the article or update of the article in the future.. Please send me what you have or contact brods or relatives who might have the info,)

Andy Goseco (FAO) He served with FAO-Rome as a senior economist.

Lito Calo (FAO) in Africa.

Valentin Cedillo + (UNESCO) in Ethiopia and many other countries

Francisco Collanta + (Operation Brotherhood)

Dalmacio Cruz +

Ruben Dayrit (FAO in the South Pacific)

Emmanuel Genio (FAO) served as FAO project to establish extension and farmers' training centers in Mozambique and as consultant of the World Bank to develop training manuals and syllabi for agricultural extension workers in Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Lino Yaptenco (International Fertilizer Development Council) in the United States.



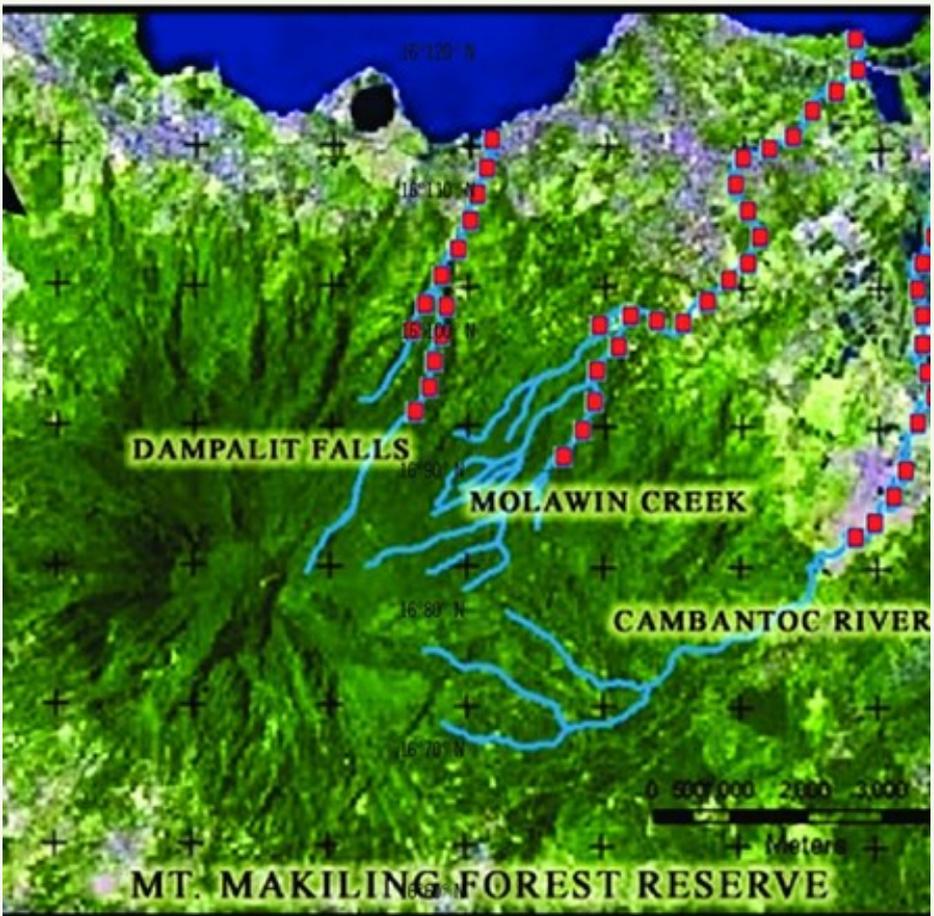
MOLAWIN CREEK PROJECT

by Nestor T. Baguion Batch 71 "Silver Batch"

Editor's Note:

This project was conceptualized by Brod Nestor Baguion '71 as part of UP Beta Sigma Fraternity's commitment to help UPLB campus to protect Mt. Makiling and its tributaries. As we all know, Molawin Creek is just beside our tambayan in Coop. We will push through with this project once we get a go signal from the Office of the Chancellor.

This concept I wrote as requested by the UP Beta Sigma Fraternity UPLB Chapter alumni brods selects Molawin Creek as the project site.



MAP 1

There are many low volume flowing rocky streams along the slopes of Mt. Makiling Forest Reserve (MFR). Map 1 above shows the MFR northeastern slopes featuring three streams, Dampalit Falls, Molawin Creek and Cambantoc River. Molawin Creek is the stream that passes through the University of the Philippines Los Baños campus before flowing out to Laguna Lake (Map 2, next page). It cuts through Barangay Maahas crossing the national road before merging with another creek near Laguna Lake.

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MOLAWIN CREEK



MAP 2

In similar manner in 2015, Brod Ramon Paje commissioned me to write two books, Atlas of Native Trees of the Philippines and Exotic Trees in the Philippines. He said, “I learned you re-tired 2015 as UP Professor, now you have the time to write these two books”. In the case of this book writing, taxonomic literature review reveals the gaps to be updated and therefore revisions follow. In Molawin creek project, I intend to capture what is on-going at present time, like a medical doctor examining his patient first to understand health status (e.g. deviation from desired normal). Ecologists also diagnose selected ecosystem patients as basis of understanding on-going deviation from desired status. After diagnosis, follows the prescription. Ecologist can also use the term ecosystem diagnosis to prescribe solution to cure the impact of human encroachment against natural ecosystems. Benchmark is used to denote the result of ecosystem diagnosis and through science the problem surfaces revealing what are the ecosystem’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (i.e. SWOT analysis). In the case of the Molawin Creek project, gaps have to be uncovered from the ground, a method known to Andrew Vayda as “Progressive Contextualization” and therefore requires, first “aerial survey using the aid of drone to capture top view scenery” and next “ground truthing survey” follows uncovering scientific realities enabling SWOT analysis in the realization of a

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MOLAWIN CREEK

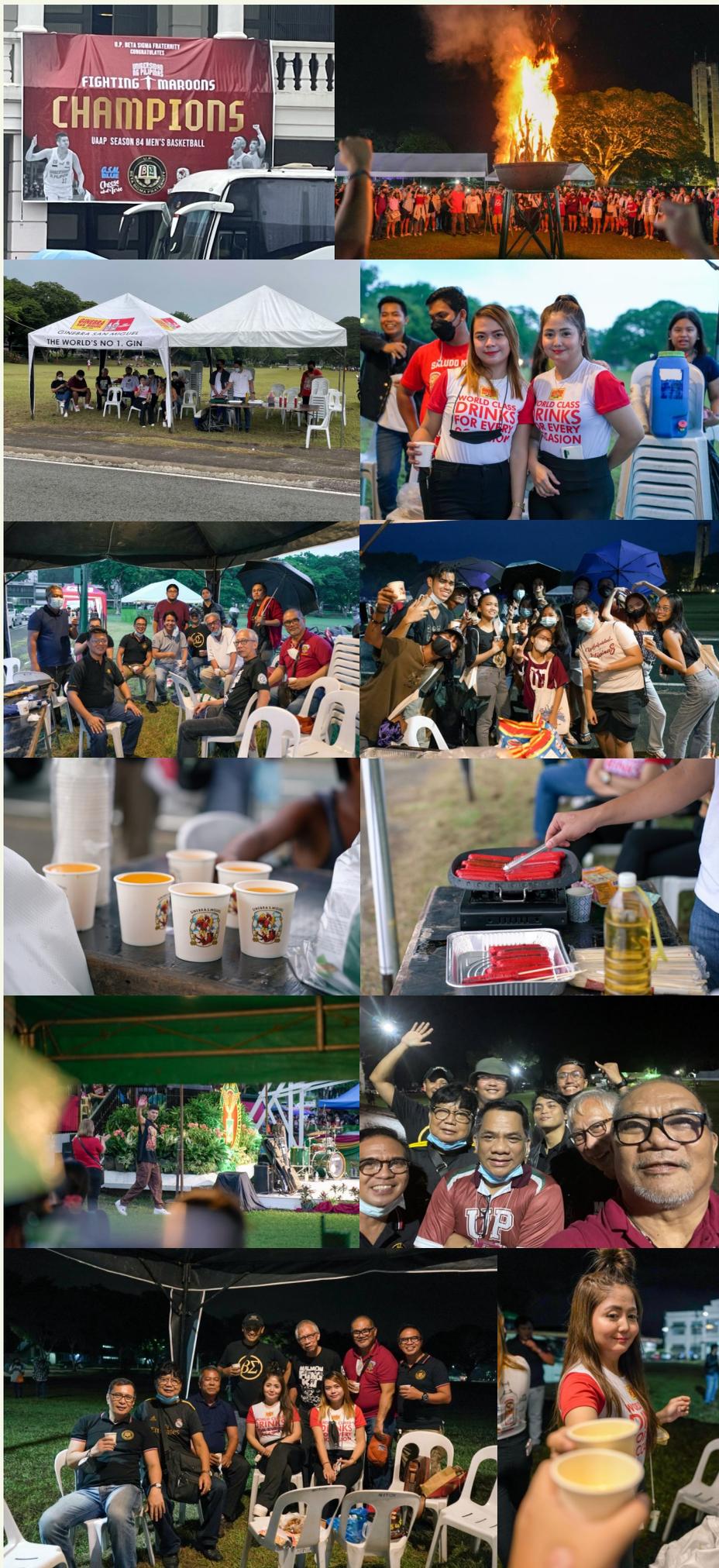
trans-generational “common good”. This “common good” could unfold through the attainment of UN’s sustainable development goals (SDG) using the new international paradigm called “transformative change”. Legal basis of Philippine ecological premise that all 20 meter easement of creeks and rivers in the Philippine archipelago should remain public land through Presidential Decree 705. Deviation from naturally forested riverbanks (due to bioinvasion and deforestation) caused by human encroachment is illegal. Actions to reconcile the alienation of humans and nature along riverbanks would bring back the desired norm. What correct actions to cure the problem currently impacting Molawin Creek would depend on the result of SWOT analysis following benchmarking. Project leading to ecosystem cure next follows. The cure will unfold as scientific truth, perhaps reliably through the help of third eye supervision in time and in space (e.g. trusted agent/agencies looking from outside the box). Success of Project would serve as model, it can up-scale at national to international levels and the slogan “adaptation/mitigation to climate change” will become “walk the talk” through the upscaling of UN’s transformative change.

The Beta Sigma Project for Molawin Creek will undergo three steps, namely **Step 1 Benchmarking Molawin Creek** (in 3 clusters, Cluster 1 outside UPLB, i.e. Pili road to Laguna Lake, Cluster 2 UPLB CA campus (up to CFNR gate) and Cluster 3 UPLB CFNR (from CFNR gate to upstream); **Step 2 Science-based Response to SWOT Analyses** leading to 3 different Cluster solutions (project leads benchmark to new normal); and, **Step 3 Monitoring and Evaluation on Project Progress** (spatial and temporal). The Project proposal will include project costs, funding institution(s) and links with LGU (local government unit) plus other multi-stakeholders and possible collaborators in a future “Cooperative”.



UP MAROONS 2022 UAAP Basketball Champions celebrating their achievement with the traditional bonfire held at UP Los Baños last May 20

The fraternity joined the celebration by setting up our own tent at the UPLB grounds where the celebration was held. Free food and drinks were served as shown in pictures below:



5-minute Management-Course

Lessons 1 thru 6

Lesson 1:

A man is getting into the shower just as his wife is finishing up her shower, when the doorbell rings.

The wife quickly wraps herself in a towel and runs downstairs.

When she opens the door, there stands Bob, the next-door neighbour.

Before she says a word, Bob says, 'I'll give you \$800 to drop that towel.'

After thinking for a moment, the woman drops her towel and stands naked in front of Bob, after a few seconds, Bob hands her \$800 and leaves.

The woman wraps back up in the towel and goes back upstairs.

When she gets to the bathroom, her husband asks, 'Who was that?'

'It was Bob the next door neighbour,' she replies.

'Great,' the husband says, 'did he say anything about the \$800 he owes me?'

Moral of the story:

If you share critical information pertaining to credit and risk with your shareholders in time, you may be in a position to prevent avoidable exposure.

Lesson 2:

A priest offered a Nun a lift.

She got in and crossed her legs, forcing her gown to reveal a leg.

The priest nearly had an accident.

After controlling the car, he stealthily slid his hand up her leg.

The nun said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?'

The priest removed his hand. But, changing gears, he let his hand slide up her leg again. The nun once again said, 'Father, remember Psalm 129?'

The priest apologized 'Sorry sister but the flesh is weak.'

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JOKES

Arriving at the convent, the nun sighed heavily and went on her way.

On his arrival at the church, the priest rushed to look up Psalm 129. It said, 'Go forth and seek, further up, you will find glory.'

Moral of the story:

If you are not well informed in your job, you might miss a great opportunity.

Lesson 3:

A sales rep, an administration clerk, and the manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp.

They rub it and a Genie comes out. The Genie says, 'I'll give each of you just one wish.' 'Me first! Me first!' says the admin clerk. 'I want to be in the Bahamas , driving a speedboat, without a care in the world.' Puff! She's gone.

'Me next! Me next!' says the sales rep. 'I want to be in Hawaii , relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of *pi? a coladas* and the love of my life.'Puff! He's gone.

'OK, you're up,' the Genie says to the manager.

The manager says, 'I want those two back in the office after lunch.'

Moral of the story:

Always let your boss have the first say..

Lesson 4

An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing.

A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him,
'Can I also sit like you and do nothing?'

The eagle answered: 'Sure, why not.'

So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.

Moral of the story:

To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

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JOKES

Lesson 5

A turkey was chatting with a bull.

'I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree' sighed the turkey, 'but I haven't got the energy.'

'Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?' replied the bull. 'They're packed with nutrients.'

The turkey pecked at a lump of dung, and found it actually gave him enough strength to reach the lowest branch of the tree.

The next day, after eating some more dung, he reached the second branch.

Finally after a fourth night, the turkey was proudly perched at the top of the tree.

He was promptly spotted by a farmer, who shot him out of the tree.

Moral of the story:

Bull Shit might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there..

Lesson 6

A little bird was flying south for the winter. It was so cold the bird froze and fell to the ground into a large field.

While he was lying there, a cow came by and dropped some dung on him.

As the frozen bird lay there in the pile of cow dung, he began to realize how warm he was.

The dung was actually thawing him out!

He lay there all warm and happy, and soon began to sing for joy. A passing cat heard the bird singing and came to investigate. Following the sound, the cat discovered the bird under the pile of cow dung, and promptly dug him out and ate him.

Moral of the story:

(1) *Not everyone who shits on you is your enemy.*

(2) *Not everyone who gets you out of shit is your friend.*

(3) *And when you're in deep shit, it's best to keep your mouth shut!*