

## UPLB holds symposium on internationalization

In line with UPLB's goal towards becoming a world class university, the UPLB Graduate School (GS), College of Economics and Management (CEM), and the Office of Institutional Linkages jointly held a symposium entitled, "Internationalization of Higher Education (HE): A Symposium," on 23 January 2013 at the Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-Enterprise Development (ICOPED) Auditorium. The said activity was held in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The said symposium aimed to provide insights on internationalization of business education in the Philippines and of higher education in Singapore.

The symposium featured presentations of two faculty members from two distinguished universities - Prof. Jeanette Angeline

B. Madamba, assistant professor at the Department of Agribusiness Management and Entrepreneurship, CEM, UPLB and Dr. Teofilo C. Daquila, associate professor of Southeast Asian Economics and deputy head of the Department of Southeast Asian Studies, from NUS.

Prof. Madamba discussed her paper entitled "Internationalization of Business Education in the Philippines: Status, Challenges, and Directions." She presented current issues on internationalization of business education in higher education in the Philippines as well as key points to address these challenges.

Dr. Daquila, on the other hand, talked about the "Internationalization of Higher Education in Singapore." He shared how Singapore responds to changes in the global market and the NUS' strategies to internationalization.

Prior to the symposium, Dr. Daquila presented the Graduate Studies program in Singapore, to invite the UPLB constituents to study at the NUS. Currently, UPLB has

a Memorandum of Agreement with the NUS.

Last year, Dr. Jose V. Camacho, Jr., dean of UPLB GS was invited to present a plenary paper on the internationalization of higher education in the Philippines in the conference on "Internationalizing Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific." The conference was hosted by the NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. In that conference, three themes emerged. The first one was the responses of national governments on the internationalization of HE, which discussed among others the history of internationalization in the different countries. The second theme discussed the institutional responses to the internationalization of HE, which includes among others restructuring of universities, curriculum design and development, the integration of international and local students, and transnational education. The third theme revolved around the issue on globalization and education.

Source: UPLB News | 18 February 2013

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Photo courtesy of: UPLB Graduate School

(Front row) Dean Camacho, Dr. Shirlena Huang, Vice Dean of Graduate Studies, NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS); Prof. Amelia Bello, CEM college secretary; Dean Pabuayon, Prof. Ma. Angeles Catelo, chair, Dept. of Economics, CEM; Dr. Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, deputy head, Malay Studies, NUS-FASS; Dr. Jamie Davidson, Dept. of Political Science, NUS-FASS; Dr. Willie Abasolo, GS secretary; Dr. Hendrik Carl Meyer Ohle, chair, Japanese Studies, NUS-FASS; Dr. Salvador Catelo, CEM professor of Ag.econ; (Back row) Dr. Phil Daquila, professor and deputy head of Southeast Asian Studies; Prof. Nanette Aquino CEM associate dean; Dr. Eric Thompson, Dept. of Sociology, NUS-FASS.

## SEARCA awards three Professorial Chair Grants for 2013

Three Southeast Asian academicians have been recently awarded the SEARCA Regional Professorial Chair Grants. Dr. Felino Lansigan from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), Dr. Annabella Tulin from the Visayas State University (VSU), Philippines and Dr. Nakorn Tippayawong from Chiang Mai University (CMU), Thailand have been recognized by SEARCA for their academic and research excellence in agriculture and rural development of Southeast Asia.

Dr. Lansigan is a statistics professor at the UPLB and president of the Philippine Academy of Young Scientists. He specializes in Statistical Hydrology and Water Resources, Environmental Statistics, and Climate Change Variability, among others, and has collaborated with various local and regional organizations. He has been with UPLB since 1977. Dr. Lansigan will deliver a public lecture on “Addressing the Statistical Challenges of Weather Index-based Insurance for Managing Risks in Agricultural Production.”

On the other hand, Dr. Tulin is a soil science and plant nutrition professor at VSU.



Dr. Lansigan



Dr. Tulin



Dr. Nakorn

As senior scientist, she has had significant involvement in plant nutrition research and extension projects with local and regional partners, specifically for vegetable and root crops. Dr. Tulin has been with VSU since 1980. Her public lecture “Micronutrient Biofortification of Soils from Marginal Uplands for Increased Yield and Improved Nutritional Quality of Vegetables and Rootcrops” will be delivered within the AY 2013-2014.

Dr. Nakorn Tippayawong is an associate professor in mechanical engineering at CMU with strong research background in

biomass energy utilization, energy efficiency improvement, and particulate emission control. Dr. Nakorn started his academic career with CMU in 2001. His public lecture is entitled “Bioenergy utilization technology for local agricultural industry and rural development.”

Meanwhile, SEARCA has announced its second call for applications to the SEARCA Regional Professorial Chair Grant, which will be awarded before the end of June 2013. Details can be found at the SEARCA website at [www.searca.org](http://www.searca.org).

## Deans from Southeast Asia Train in Higher Learning Management

Thirty five deans of higher learning institutions in Southeast Asia converged at the Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) for the International Deans' Course (IDC) South East Asia. Facilitated by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in cooperation with the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) and the Centre for Development of Higher Education (CHE), participating countries include Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines. The said event is the last stage of the IDC, which kicked off through a workshop at the University of Applied Sciences Osnabrueck, Germany on 18-28 June 2012.

Dr. Irene Jansen, Director of DAAD Jakarta said that the training was expected to offer knowledge and understanding on organizational management amidst changes surrounding universities. “We support regional higher learning organizations in improving and

implementing quality assurance, institutional management, and faculty management,” she explained.

According to UGM Rector, Prof. Dr. Pratikno, as a national university UGM ensures applications relevant developments in higher learning and human resources, and continuously develop innovations for the benefit of a

wider public and the state in general. In order to reach these goals, UGM fosters collaborations with various organizations, such as DAAD. “The collaboration is expected to share knowledge and expertise, and to develop more innovations that will benefit all,” he added.

Source: UGM News Report | 26 February 2013



Photo courtesy of [www.international-deans-course.org](http://www.international-deans-course.org)



## UGM ranks first in Indonesia and 53rd in Asia

Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) has been ranked 53rd in the 100 top Asian universities by the 4International College and Universities at [www.4ICU.org](http://www.4ICU.org) as of January 2013.

Within Indonesia, UGM ranked first, with Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Universitas Indonesia (UI), Universitas Brawijaya (UB), and Universitas Gunadarma (UG) as second, third, fourth, and fifth, respectively. Meanwhile, Institut Pertanian Bogor was ranked sixth among the Indonesian universities by the same online international university directory.

The 4ICU has been assessing a list of more than 11,160 universities from 200 countries including 351 Indonesian universities. Popularity ranking on the Internet is done using different algorithms from five web metrics in three independent and separate search engines, Google Page Rank, Alexa Traffic Rank, Majestic Seo Referring Domains, Majestic Seo Citation Flow, and Majestic Seo Trust Flow.

Responding to the result, UGM's Public Relations Office Head, Ms. Wijayanti, said that the UGM ranking shows how the university is now drawing the attention of the international academic community. She expounded that UGM under the leadership of Rector Prof. Dr. Pratikno continues to improve quality of education, research, and community service. The result of the implementation of the university's tri-darma mission is disseminated through the website.

The UGM official website also makes it easier for the public to get information from UGM, for solutions to problems in specific areas as well as exploring opportunities for cooperation. UGM plans to present a better website in terms of appearance, access, and more information features in the coming months. "UGM is also making use of social networks that are very much liked by people," Ms. Wijayanti concluded.

Source: UGM News Report | 5 February 2013

## Malaysia's Higher Education Ministry appoints new UPM Vice Chancellor



as his previous post as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni) of UPM."

"His appointment as the new VC will hopefully bring UPM to greater heights both domestically and in the international arena," he furthered.

With the new Vice Chancellor, the ministry likewise hopes that UPM can set its focus on the issue of food security both in the country and in the global context.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Fauzi Ramlan was born on 15 October 1960 in Johor. He completed his Diploma in Agriculture from UPM, Bachelor of Science (Agronomy) from Iowa State University, Master of Science from Louisiana State University and PhD. (Biology) from University of York.

Dr. Fauzi is an agriculture Professor at UPM since 29 April 1986 prior to his appointment as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni) in the same university. At some point in his career, he was the Director of the Higher Education Department, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia; and in charge of Student Management and Development Department. He was likewise conferred the Darjah Kebesaran Johan Setia Mahkota (J.S.M) in 2009, Darjah and Pingat Kebesaran Negeri Melaka - Darjah Mulia Seri Melaka (D.M.S.M) in 2011, which carries with it the title, Datuk.

Condensed from:  
UPM News | 3 January 2013

Malaysia's Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) announced the appointment of Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Fauzi Hj. Ramlan, 52, as Universiti Putra Malaysia's (UPM) new Vice Chancellor for a three-year term from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2015.

Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Fauzi Hj Ramlan, succeeds Prof. Dato' Ir. Dr. Radin Umar Radin Sohadi, who has served as Vice Chancellor and UPM's Chief Executive Officer to the University Consortium since January 2011.

According to the Minister of Higher Education, H.E. Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, "the selection of Prof. Datuk Dr. Fauzi Hj Ramlan as UPM's vice chancellor took into account his experience in the academe, research, extension, as well

**CALL FOR ENTRIES**  
Last day of submission: 15 Sep 2013



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## UPM Partners with Coca-Cola in Project Recycle to Cycle



Photo courtesy of [www.upm.edu.my](http://www.upm.edu.my)

The Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) received a 2-year project grant from Coca-Cola Malaysia to implement the project Recycle to Cycle, which encourages students to ride bicycles, help reduce carbon emission, and foster a more active lifestyle.

Aside from providing the bikes, the project will also set-up a material recycling facility on the campus.

The Recycle to Cycle Project, initiated by Prof. Ahmad Ismail of the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science also aims to make the campus a cycling zone.

Gill McLaren, Coca-Cola's Regional General Manager for Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei, said it was the first project of its kind in Malaysia and in line with Coca-Cola's goal to build sustainable communities through conservation and care of the environment.

The students can participate in the project by recycling bottles and aluminum cans to earn points which can then be used to rent a bike.

Bottles and cans will be sold to the recycling center while the money generated

will help sustain the program.

UPM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Fauzi Ramlan said that at present, only the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering have started walking and cycling to school.

"With this project, we are targeting 3,500 students to walk and bike ride around campus by September," he said.

Source: UPM News | 20 February 2013

## UPLB Graduate School co-organizes International Conference on Interdisciplinary R&D in ASEAN Universities

The UPLB Graduate School, with Dr. Jose Camacho Jr. Dean of UPLB GS, as member of the academic committee, is co-organizing an international conference on interdisciplinary research and development in ASEAN universities.

Mainly organized and hosted by Maejo University Graduate School and the Interdisciplinary Network of the Royal Institute of Thailand (INRIT) under the royal patronage of Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, the conference will be held on 8-10 August 2013 at Le Meridien Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand and will revolve around the theme "Interdisciplinary Studies for Global Education - Building Bridge Through ASEAN."

Other co-organizers of the conference include the Texas-US based University of Interdisciplinary Studies (UIDS), the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), Chiang Mai University, Mahidol University, North Chiang Mai University, the University of California Riverside and the University of California Davis.

Second call for abstracts are until 30 April 2013. For more details about paper abstract submission, deadlines, travel advisories and other updates about the conference, please log-on to [www.icird.mju.ac.th](http://www.icird.mju.ac.th)

Source: UPLB Graduate School website

## SEARCA Graduate Scholarship for Southeast Asians

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

for SY 2014/2015

visit

[www.scholarship.searca.org](http://www.scholarship.searca.org)



# UGM helps revive Biking Movement in Yogyakarta

The Indonesian Minister of Youth and Sport, His Excellency Roy Suryo, with Governor of Yogyakarta Special Region, Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X, and UGM Rector, Prof. Dr. Pratikno, M.Soc., Sc., launched cycling movement in the Pagelaran, Kraton Yogyakarta, on 16 February 2013. The event started off at the streets of Yogyakarta, with Minister Roy Suryo, Dr. Pratikno and a community of bike enthusiasts biking towards the Pagelaran Hall of Yogyakarta Keraton where the signing of a stone tablet of commitment declaring 'Jogja Biking Republic' was made.

The said event aims to encourage more and more people to use bicycle as the primary

means of transportation in Yogyakarta. The movement is also in support of UGM's initiative to make the campus a "bike zone" and promote the sego segawe movement (bike to school and work) in Yogyakarta.

The biking movement, according to Minister Suryo will show ones love not only for the environment, but also for a healthy lifestyle. On the other hand, Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X said that cycling was actually quite popular with the citizens of Yogyakarta in the past. However, the use of motor vehicle became convenient for more people. Meanwhile, the UGM Rector

expressed his appreciation of the Minister and the Governor's support in helping realize the dream of having Yogyakarta a Biking Republic. He further hopes that the movement can also inspire other regions to follow suit.

As a start, UGM has already opened a bike route and provided bike parking lots all over the campus.

The biking event, which was joined by various bike communities in Yogyakarta, started from Faculty of Social and Political Science UGM to Kraton, Yogyakarta, with none other than the Rector and the Minister leading the biking group at Kraton, Yogyakarta.

In the past, Yogyakarta has been known to be a biking city and efforts to raise biking awareness have been made, including community establishment and infrastructure support. With the worsening traffic situation and air pollution, the promotion of healthy living is strongly being promoted in Yogyakarta.

Source: UGM News | 28 February 2013



The British Heart Foundation has discovered that cycling at least 20 miles a week reduces your risk of heart disease by 50%.

Want to look ten years younger? Cycle regularly. If you cycle on a daily basis, you'll be as fit as a person ten years your junior.

When riding a bicycle, you consume only half of the amount of oxygen a motor vehicle requires during a trip of the same distance. Not only that, but you don't expel any pollutants, either!

If you take the amount of energy and resources it takes to produce one medium-sized car, you can build 100 bicycles!

source: <http://bicikla.net>

## Facts about cycling...



# Bee products promote health, natural ingredients

Bee products provide natural ingredients to help cure many bodily ills with their antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral properties. “When you get cut, apply honey on it. You get burned in the kitchen, apply honey on it. Honey is a natural cough remedy, even if it’s honey alone. Your hair is dry, apply honey on it; you have black heads, put honey on them.

The propolis is a cure for psoriasis in the scalp. It can eliminate flakes and itchiness,” said Edilee Omoyon, co-owner of Milea Bath and Body Wellness Essentials.

This project of the University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB) and Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) also sees the role of beekeeping in food security and employment.

“Bee products are a high-end product. Local producers are presently not able to meet local demand,” said Dr. Cleofas Cervancia, UPLB project leader for the BAR-funded apiculture program.

Bees have the natural role in pollination of flowers for plant propagation.

This is the reason why in other countries that have developed farm systems like in the United States, some farmers employ beekeeping in order to enhance productivity.

“Honeybee pollination increases crop yield by up to 40 percent,” said Apiservices.com, a webportal on Bee keeping. “This is one reason why these countries produce surplus crops for export.”

Bees love the nectar of coconuts which is why some honeybees build homes in coconut plantations. As there are 3 million hectares of fruit-bearing coconut plantations in the country, farmers can enjoy additional earnings from beekeeping in coconut areas.

Apiservices reported that a beekeeper from Tagum del Norte believed a colony of a certain specie of honeybees collected 8 to 10 kilos of coconut nectar a day.

A coconut farmer can earn an additional P100,000 yearly by keeping bees under coconut trees. That does not reduce his income from coconut since coconuts are said to have thousands of flowerets in inflorescence, but only really grow into fruits.

The products are honey, which can sell at a high of P350 per kilo; bees wax, P500; royal jelly, P150 per 10



grams; pollen P2000 per kilo; and nucleus hive of Apis Mellifera, P4,000.

Together with sugarcane in a 1-hectare farm, a farmer can produce 2,600 to 4,000 kilos of honey. This translates to a gross income of P266,700 to P400,000 per hectare yearly at a honey price of P100 per kilo.

“Local beekeepers who raise native or imported bees have no problem in marketing their produce. The demand for honey is still very high,” said Apiservices.

Honey is an ingredient in health-food and pharmaceutical manufacturing.

“Pharmaceutical companies utilize it as a base for cough syrups and energy drinks. Pollen and royal jelly are components of energy pills and capsules,” said Apiservices.

Originally published at [www.businessmirror.com.ph](http://www.businessmirror.com.ph)

## HONEY BEE FACTS

- There are over 25,000 species of bees worldwide.
- An adult worker bee's lifespan is about 45 days during summer months.
- A typical Bee colony consists of 30,000 to 60,000 bees.
- A queen bee can sting multiple times without dying.
- 99% of the bee colony is made up of female bees known as worker bees.
- Bees have an excellent sense of smell which allows them to find their hive.
- Honey is the ONLY food source produced by an insect that humans eat.
- Worker honey bees transform the floral nectar the gather into honey by adding enzymes to the nectar and reducing the moisture.

# The University Consortium

The Southeast Asian University Consortium for Graduate Education in Agriculture and Natural Resources is a network of higher education institutions launched on 19 September 1989 by SEARCA.

The idea of having such a network was formed in August 1988 when SEARCA convened a meeting of deans of five leading agricultural graduate schools in the region. The deans noted a rising demand for graduate education across all agricultural disciplines and related fields, strong agricultural and demographic pressures, and tremendous growth in education, and agreed to the idea of establishing a University Consortium.

The objectives of the Consortium are:

1. To provide highly trained personnel in agriculture and natural resources for national development of Southeast Asian countries.
2. To promote mutually beneficial cooperation among agricultural universities in the region.
3. To utilize more fully and efficiently the scarce resources and expertise available in each country in the region for top-quality graduate education and research.
4. To stimulate freer sharing and exchange of information, facilities, and expertise among agricultural universities in the region.

SEARCA has served as the Consortium's Secretariat since 1989. Its founding members are Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) and Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), both in Indonesia; Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in Malaysia; University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in the Philippines; and Kasetsart University (KU) in Thailand. Four associate members joined the network, namely: University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada, University of Queensland (UQ) in Australia, Georg-August University of Göttingen (GAUG) in Germany, and Tokyo University of Agriculture (TUA) in Japan.

The vision of the University Consortium is to be a leader in implementing collaborative strategies for excellent graduate education and cutting-edge research in agriculture, environment, and natural resources for the benefit of Southeast Asia.

The Consortium has five components, namely: student exchanges, faculty visits, research fellowships, professorial chairs, and thesis grants.

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# Good Agricultural Practices (GAP): How does the Philippines fare?



Mr. Nick Dempo (fourth from left), Chair of Cardava Integrated Inland Farming (CIIF), holds a PhilGAP certificate for the communal banana farm, the first cooperative farm in the Philippines to get a GAP certification. With him are other members of the cooperative

The Philippines trails its Southeast Asian neighbors with respect to GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) adoption. While Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam have granted GAP certification to thousands of farms, a SEARCA study showed that the Philippines has only four GAP-certified farms, namely: Del Monte Philippines (pineapple), Basic Necessity, Inc. (lettuce and herbs), Cardava Integrated Inland Farming (cardava banana) and Leonie Agri-Corporation (various vegetables).

A study on GAP in the Philippines in 2011, funded by SEARCA through its Seed Fund for Research and Training (SFRT) program focused on Cavendish banana and Carabao or Super Manila mango, two of the country's top fruit exports.

Findings of the study indicated a high level of GAP adoption in the Davao banana industry primarily because of the predominance of corporate farms in the area that cater to the export markets. The study showed that despite the Philippine government's efforts and the Philippine National Standard (PNS) - Code of GAP for Mango in force since 2009, there is still no GAP-certified mango farm in the country.

"The low level of adoption can be

attributed to the lack of awareness and understanding of GAP on the part of both producers and consumers, costs associated with adoption and certification, the tedious and lengthy certification process, and the lack of local demand and price premium for GAP-certified produce," said the study leader Dr. Agnes T. Banzon, Associate Professor at the University of the Philippines (UPLB) College of Economics and Management.

The study recommends a two-track approach to increase GAP adoption. One is a "push strategy" to intensify awareness campaigns for the GAP implementers, including farmers and organizations. The other is a "pull strategy" to step up efforts to create awareness among the end consumers.

"Demand for certified products would grow if the end consumers are aware of GAP and appreciate its benefits," Dr. Banzon explained.

She added that to make GAP adoption more affordable, collective farms can be established by farmers whose farms are adjacent to each other so they can share the associated costs, responsibilities, and risks.

Since SEARCA launched the SFRT program in 2005, 23 Filipinos and 43 other

Southeast Asians have been awarded research funds. The SFRT is a competitive grant of up to \$15,000 provided by SEARCA to assist selected promising but fund-limited research projects of Southeast Asian nationals.

Details on the SFRT Grant can be found at [www.searca.org](http://www.searca.org)

*“SEARCA Study shows that there are only four GAP-certified farms in the Philippines, namely: Del Monte Philippines, Basic Necessity, Inc., Cardava Integrated Inland Farming, and Leonie Agri-Corporation*