

Reaching Out to the Wider Public

The Philippine Journal of Science participated in the National Science and Technology Week (NSTW) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) last July 17-21, 2018 at the World Trade Center, Pasay City. A booth was specifically allotted for the Journal along with the other publications and S&T information products and services of DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute, which houses the Journal's Editorial Office. DOST is the publisher of the Journal.

The booth displayed the June 2018 issue of the Journal along with a number of back issues. Certain copies of the Journal were freely distributed to visitors, especially those who showed interest to submit their research works. Meanwhile, a digital copy of very first issue of Journal was also made available via a computer tablet for public viewing.

A three-segment video was also shown to the public. This three-segment videos creatively tackled the historical landmarks of the Journal – like its first issuance last 1906 by the Bureau of Science, an agency formed by the American government during their occupation in the country in 1900s, along with its first editor-in-chief Dr. Paul C. Freer; how the World War II temporarily halted the publication of the Journal; the Journal's centennial anniversary in 2006; and the release of a special issue dedicated to the late Leonard A. Co, a renown Filipino botanist. The video also captured the discussion of the current PJS Editor-in-Chief Dr. Caesar A. Saloma on the function of the Journal to the Philippine scientific enterprise system, as well as the importance of the peer-review system as explained by the former PJS Editor-in-Chief and National Scientist Dr. Dolores A. Ramirez.

Carrying the theme, “Science for the People: Innovation for Collective Prosperity,” this year's NSTW simulated an ecosystem of how science, technology, and innovation work together for the progress of a community. This annual event can be traced back in the 1950's when the National Science Development Board, DOST's forerunner, led the Philippine National Science Week on the third week of November. Proclamation No. 2214 signed by President Ferdinand E. Marcos last 1982 institutionalized NSTW, in which its observance would be on second week of July every year. In 1993, Proclamation No. 169 of President Fidel V. Ramos moved the NSTW celebration to the third week of July. Since then, DOST and its attached agencies has been highlighting the pivotal role of S&T to national development.

Meanwhile, a number of reviewers and authors of the Journal were recognized in the 40th Annual Scientific Meeting of DOST-National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) last July 12, 2018. Among them are Victor B. Amoroso, PhD (Botany) of Central Mindanao University, and Mudjekeewis D. Santos, PhD (Applied Marine Biosciences) of National Fisheries Research and Development Institute who were elected as Academicians. Additionally, Dr. Wilfredo Roehl Y. Licuanan of De La Salle University received the 2018 NAST Environmental Science Award. Lastly, Mario A. Tan, PhD (Pharmaceutical Sciences) of University of Santo Tomas, Dr. Jey-R S. Ventura (Environmental Engineering and Biotechnology) of University of the Philippines Los Baños, and Angel B. Encarnacion, PhD (Marine Science) of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 2 were among the recipients of the Outstanding Young Scientist awards. They either submitted their work to the Journal or contributed as a reviewer.



A DOST-STII staff explaining to senior high school students regarding electronic access of Philippine Journal of Science via mobile phones. Shown on a monitor screen is Leonard Co's photo which was included in the PJS video presentation. (Photo by Henry A. de Leon, DOST-STII)

Three of the seven papers that were cited as 2018 NAST Outstanding Scientific Papers were previously published in the PJS. They are the following:

- Larvae Identification and Development of the Only Freshwater Sardinella, *Sardinella tawilis* Endemic to Taal Lake Philippines by Maria Theresa M. Mutia, Katreena P. Sarmiento, Myla C. Muyot, Michael John R. Mendiola, Benjie D. Tordecilla, and Mudjekeewis D. Santos (2017; Philipp J Sci 146(3):257-265);
- An Egg Yolk Immunoglobulin (RVP6-IgY) Specific for a Constructed Rotavirus VP6 Antigen (rVP6) Inhibited Rotavirus Replication *in vitro* by Marilen P. Balolong, Ju Kyoung Oh, Jung Woo Kim, Yong Tae Jung, Nina G. Gloriani and Dae-Kyung Kang (2016; Philipp J Sci 145(1):71-77); and
- Mathematical and Anthropological Analysis of Northern Luzon Funeral Textile by Ma. Louise Antonette N. De Las Peñas and Analyn V. Salvador-Amores (2016; Philipp J Sci 145(1):89-103).

Founded in 1976 via Presidential Decree 1003-A, DOST-NAST is mandated to recognize outstanding achievements in S&T and advise the President on S&T concerns.

The Journal currently aims to release its Status Report during the third quarter of its publication. For more information, log on to the Journal's website, www.philjournalsci.dost.gov.ph.

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