

7 March 2014 • 133



PARC 37 - La Salle College, Middle Swan. “Gracious”, “stylish”, “classy” ... are all epithets which could rightly be used to describe the hospitality shown by Mr Wayne Bull (Principal) and the staff and students of La Salle College Middle Swan to the 14 Brothers who participated in PARC 37 held last week at the College. More importantly, La Salle proved itself to be a true, welcoming Lasallian community built on an explicit identification with and commitment to the Lasallian charism, which has been fostered by successive lay Principals and key staff members for a period of over forty years since the Brothers ceased to have a residential presence in Perth. PARC 37 delegates were “overwhelmed” by the many practical expressions of hospitality, the quality of the prayers and liturgies, the detailed attention to all the small details needed to ensure the smooth running of the conference - and the friendliness and warmth of all staff and students. Demonstrably Lasallian in so many ways. On behalf of the District, thank you to Wayne and all at La Salle for “doing us proud” with the Brothers Visitor, Auxiliary Visitors and our special presenters at PARC 37.

“The agenda of PARC 37 included discussion of the Report of the PARC Office (led by Br David Hawke, General Councillor for PARC), a presentation by Br Craig Franz (SECOLI, Solidarity) on “Children and Youth at Risk: A Global Perspective”, Lasallian Services Committee Report (Br John Pill), Report of the Secretary for Formation (Br Felix Joseph), and the PARC Novitiate Report (prepared by Br Vincent Keating, with the incoming Director Br Christie Croos in attendance). For the final day of the conference delegates were joined by PARC delegates to the General Chapter for discussion especially of Chapter matters relevant for PARC and to receive information about the themes and structures of the Chapter provided by Br Ambrose Payne (Chair, Preparatory Committee).

“On the final night of PARC 37 delegates were invited to be special guests at the opening of two new facilities at La Salle, the Staff Centre named in honour of long-serving staff member Peter Elloy, and extensions to the Performing Arts Centre named in honour of Brother Eric Pigott (Principal 1962-1964). The facilities were blessed by Bishop Donald Sproston, Auxiliary Bishop of Perth, and officially opened by Br David Hawke. The inescapable symbolism of the dual names of Brother and Lay-Partner was noted in Br David’s inspirational address, in which he highlighted “association” in action as evidenced by the exemplary fidelity of La Salle College to its Lasallian heritage. The opening was enhanced by magnificent performances by the College choir and band, and by a large group of dance students whose choreography, in honour of the 60th anniversary of the College, was based on James Bond “Diamonds are Forever”. A memorable way to conclude a successful PARC 37. *(Now You Know | ANZPPNG District News | 3 March 2014)*

Global Recognition for De La Salle University - Dasmariñas. Congratulations to Br. Gus Boquer and the academic community of DLSU - Dasmariñas for the following international recognitions:

International Association of Universities – Higher Education for Sustainable Development (IAU-HESD)

The International Association of Universities (IAU) is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)-based worldwide association of higher education institutions. It is a common platform of universities from 120 countries for "reflection and action on common concerns and collaborates with various international, regional and national bodies active in higher education". IAU is based in Paris and is located at the headquarters of UNESCO.

Due to the pivotal function played by the United Nations in creating a sustainable future for humanity, IAU recognized the key role higher education plays in the overall process of achieving sustainable development. Thus the IAU-HESD portal program was created (www.iau-hesd.net). It serves as a conduit for Universities around the world in sharing their respective sustainable actions.

DLSU-Dasmarinas is the FIRST Philippine University to join this initiative.

UI Greenmetric Ranking of World Universities 2013

Greenmetric Ranking of World Universities 2013 is an initiative initiated by Universitas Indonesia in 2010 with the help of experts from top universities. The aim is to compare each participating university in its promotion on sustainability issues, especially in the face of challenges in society and economy that can be addressed with the sustainable use of resources.





For 2013, 301 universities participated from 61 countries. DLSU-Dasmariñas was ranked:

- a. 78th in the world;
- b. 22nd in Asia;
- c. 1st in the Philippines
- d. In the top 30% surpassing even premier universities in Asia, Europe, and America.

2014 Global Green Award

The Global Green Award is an initiative of the Paris-based Otherways Management Association Club (OMAC). The Award provides recognition to organizations that are innovators and trailblazers in sustainable development. De La Salle University - Dasmariñas has been invited to receive the award in Berlin, Germany.

St. Joseph's Novitiate, Penang. An article, "Old Gem in a New Mall" by Josephine Jalleh, from the Malaysia Star Online features the former St. Joseph's Novitiate in Penang. According to the author: "Not many people realise that smack in the heart of Penang's spanking new mall in Gurney Drive is an old gem with a rich history – the former St Joseph's Novitiate building. Now the go-to spot for both locals and tourists, the Gurney Paragon lifestyle mall which opened in July this year has incorporated the 88-year-old chapel building as its centrepiece. The building, now a venue for special events and functions, was used by the novitiate in the early days. Started in 1918 by the De La Salle Brothers, the novitiate trained young men to enter the religious order."

Read the full article at <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Nation/2013/12/08/Old-gem-in-new-mall/>

History from Br. Felix Donohue FSC can be found at http://www.hunzagroup.com/ongoing_gurney_heritage.htm





Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers. The Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers held their Annual General Meeting last 22 February at La Salle College. Br. Thomas Lavin (Auxiliary Visitor), Br. Patrick Tierney (Hong Kong Sector Leader) and Br. Jeffrey Chan (Vocations Coordinator) graced the event with their presence and participation in the program. Among the highlights of the event was the report of their 2013 - 2014 activities which included a Formation Trip to Manila, Spirituality Day, Form One Bridging Programmes, Facilitators' Camp, Christian Brothers' Schools Leadership Camp, and Adventure - Based Training. The First Executive Committee was also introduced:

President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Secretary
Head of Formation Department
Head of Games Department
Head of Service Programme Department

Mr. Peter Leung
Mr. Richard Chu
Mr. Alex Yu
Ms Katrina Tang
Ms Nikki Chan
Mr. Anson Wong
Ms Sukie So

In his speech, HKLV President Peter Leung recalled significant experiences in the previous year and his involvement in the recently held 3rd Symposium of Young Lasallians in Rome, Italy. He also shared their plans for the coming year: "As our organization is growing in size, it is an appropriate time that we move another step forward from holding formation programmes locally. This year, we are planning to offer our time and service to the La Salle Study Centre in Meizhou. Hopefully, it is time for us to reflect the true meaning of service – is it to give, to offer or to sacrifice." Congratulations to Mr. Peter Leung and the Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers!



An Ordinary Day at La Salle Home in Sendai, Japan.

“On a regular school day we start at 6:45 AM. Of course, like in every family, there are always those who don’t want to get up. High School students leave for school around seven o’clock. Once everyone



is happy because of breakfast, everyone goes back to their room to do some cleaning and get ready for school. When everything goes smoothly, the staff do the laundry, clean the room especially those places where it is difficult for the children to do the cleaning. Sometimes we take to the hospital those kids who don’t feel very well or to the school those who had mischief the previous day.



“After school, around 3:30 in the afternoon, those who go to the primary school start coming back and it is when the busy part of the day begins. There is free time until 5:00 PM where they can play, read comics or those who don’t like studying, start doing their homework (it can be said that this is a not voluntary activity). Around 5:30, we prepare for dinner and those who are in Junior High School start coming back from after school activities.



“We have study time every day, except for Saturdays or National Holidays, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Of course, it is the least popular time at La Salle Home. Not many of our kids are very keen to do their homework. Some of the primary school teachers give a lot of homework and this is when the staff has to come up with a lot of creativity in order to help those kids finish their homework on time to eat merienda (snacks) and watch TV before going to bed.

“At this time of the year, end of February, there is less than a month until the end of the school year. Those who finish high school will start working on April and are in a rush to finish the courses and practices required to get their driving license. Extensive communication with the family and Social Welfare authorities is part of the process for those who have the possibility of returning to their families.

“An ordinary day at La Salle Home is almost inexistent. Anyway, to do something different, we plan activities for the whole year such as summer camps, skiing, going to the Shinto Temple in New Year, weekly prayer sessions, and pro-sports viewing. We also receive invitations to watch live concert, BBQ parties, soccer and ski school. The kids and the staff appreciate and enjoy very much those activities different from an ordinary day. They help everyone get to know each other more and it renews their energies in doing their daily chores. Personally, I enjoy going to the professional baseball games and sometimes I forget that I am at work.” (Br. Antonio Cubillas FSC)

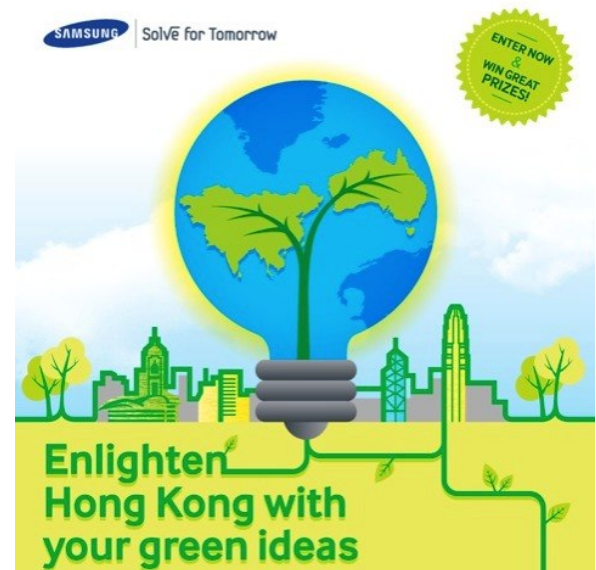


Samsung Solve for Tomorrow: La Salle College 'Tree of Tomorrow'

Two boys from La Salle College, CHOW Chun Hin and WONG Gabriel Chun Hei (F.4G/Yr10), have entered a competition which involved making a video on an innovation. They have been shortlisted to the final 20 and now need public support to get to the finals. La Salle College will get HK\$ 250,000.00 worth of computer equipment if the boys win – this is a significant prize for the school. Under the Secondary School Category, the boys' proposal is 'Tree of Tomorrow' which is an economical, self-supportive air purifying system with a tree-shaped design, seeking to enhance the townscape in addition to improving the air quality of Hong Kong.

We ask all friends and Lasallians to help CHOW Chun Hin and WONG Gabriel Chun Hei win this competition by voting online: <http://support-hk.samsung.com/solvefortomorrow/en/gallery.html>

By voting, you will also automatically enter a lucky draw and have a chance to win a Samsung GALAXY Note 8.0 LTE. Attached to this LEAD Story is step-by-step guide in voting.



Welcome to LEAD. Two La Salle Sisters from Vietnam, Sr. Mary Pham LS.S (left) and Sr. Martha Nguyen LS.S (right) are both taking English courses at De La Salle University, Manila. Sr. Mary plans to complete a degree in Theology at the Institute for Religious Studies (IFRS) while Sr. Martha aims to complete a masters degree in Formative Counseling and Spiritual Direction at DLSU.



Br. Jason Blaikie. Br. Jason has joined the Kensington Community in Australia to take up Masters in Education at the University of New South Wales. We wish Br. Jason success in his studies!

Prayers Requested. Mr. Paul Gaw Lu Htang, father of Novice Br. Thomas, died peacefully at his home on Sunday evening March 2, Paul, a farmer, had been in poor health for some time. He is survived by his wife Rosa, five sons (including Br Thomas) and three daughters.

Mrs. Tess Magbanua, mother of Br. Dennis Magbanua FSC, is currently undergoing therapy for breast cancer. She is slowly regaining her strength and is responding positively to the treatment.

Faternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Philippines

Visitor's Calendar

March

5 – 12	Visit to LFC and Interview of Young Brothers Philippines
16 – 23	Canonical Visits Japan