



Communiqué

Series 15 of 2018

Christmas Message 2018

After coming from the long weekend break, I am sure that many of us were pleasantly surprised to see our university transformed with Christmas adornments. Many of our hallways and corridors are now decorated with lanterns and lights, and most of our offices are decked with wreathes and other ornaments that unmistakably evoke a festive and cheery atmosphere. Truly, all of these preparations seem to joyously proclaim “Paskong-Pasko na sa Araneta!”

Perhaps no other season is better than the Holiday season to look back at the colorful and meaningful year that 2018 was for De La Salle Araneta University. Early this year, we received the wonderful news of our Level II PAASCU reaccreditation for our Basic Education Department. Before the year draws to a close, we have high hopes that we will receive a similar positive result for the PACUCOA accreditation of the BS Business Administration and BS Education programs in our Tertiary Education Department. These two developments could not have happened at a more opportune time: this year, we welcomed a new batch of freshmen students, two years since the full implementation of the K-12 Program. Several community members have also brought pride to our institution this year. We had two board top-notchers in agriculture and veterinary medicine, our two flagship programs.



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A good handful of our students have also brought us recognition in the fields of robotics, campus journalism, sports, and the culture and performing arts—areas which we hope to develop and further strengthen, together with academics. And yet, all of these positive news are also tempered by the loss of individuals who have played significant roles in our history—Br. Eugenio “Gene” Tianco FSC and Dr. Iluminado Valencia who we both lost this year. Their unparalleled wisdom, able guidance, and pioneering vision have undoubtedly left a legacy and shaped the kind of institution that we are today.

As we look to 2019, our commitment to take additional steps to ensure that all of our decisions, actions, and initiatives are grounded and guided by our mission to “teach minds, touch hearts, and transform lives” is stronger than ever. In particular, we will be launching nine strategic directions during our Foundation Anniversary Week in January. These strategic directions, without a doubt, will guide the development and improvement of our operations, systems, and physical facilities in the next five years and will propel us further toward the realization of our dreams of becoming the great university of Northern Manila within the near future.

Every year, many of us look forward to the long holiday vacation so that we could spend more time with our loved ones and recharge for the coming new year. I sincerely hope that when work and classes resume in a few weeks, all of us will be energized to pursue greatness for ourselves and for our university. I also hope that this coming year provide us with many opportunities to continue to live lives that guide, serve, and inspire others.

A very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bjorn S. Santos".

Dr. Bjorn S. Santos

President