



## 2nd day plenary speakers invite for partnerships

With three plenary speakers coming from different backgrounds, NCEC participants were given a broader understanding on the role of coffee-related initiatives to the community.

Award-winning broadcast journalist Rodrigo "Jiggy" Manicad, Jr. focused on the significance of informing the community on the new techniques and technology on agriculture. As the host of *Agripreneur*, he emphasized that the goal of the program is to share information on the researches conducted especially on coffee. He then encouraged everyone to contact them as media partners to feature the research outputs for better understanding and for further utilization of the community.

Meanwhile, Ms. Universe 2010 4th runner up Ma. Maria Venus Raj used her own coffee stories to narrate how much she values coffee from the time she was roasting rice as a coffee drink during her childhood up until the time she invited young women in the church to start her own mentoring group.

"When you share a table, you gain a friend. Do you want to have coffee with me?" Raj said while elaborating on her stories.

She also shared some of her latte art being a frustrated barista while relating the bitter-sweet taste of coffee to the story of how the Lord filled the void in her heart.



**COFFEE PARTNERS.** Manicad, Raj and Martinez inspire the participants with their coffee-related initiatives as plenary speakers for the second day of the congress.

"I will not appreciate the sweetness of life if Jesus did not go through that bitter experience," Raj added.

On the other hand, Dr. Helen F. Martinez, supervising science research specialist of the DA-Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech), discussed how the organization promotes developed postharvest technologies for sustainable community-based coffee processing enterprise. Dr. Martinez explained that the idea of this farmer-led enterprise is an offshoot of analyzing the Philippine coffee situation including the issues and

challenges faced by the industry. She also shared with the participants testimonies of some cooperatives who have increased profit after being assisted through the trainings conducted. One of the cooperatives mentioned is Casile-Gunting Upland Marketing Cooperative whose chairperson will also be a plenary speaker on the third day of the congress. She ended her talk with an invitation to collaborate with DA-PhilMech.

"The more partnerships, the better, because the work becomes lighter," Dr. Martinez explained. ☕

### Disseminating info on RDE initiatives

## Oral paper presentation conducted

A total of 17 research and extension papers were presented at the CvSU International Convention Center yesterday.

Social Science papers cover cooperative membership, production efficiency, and factors in viability of coffee production. Meanwhile, Natural Sciences and Engineering papers include development of coffee products,

characterization of cultivated coffee, seedling performance,

Three evaluators commented on the presenters' papers which served as valuable inputs for further studies. Evaluators are: Dr. Analinda C. Manila-Fajardo, Professor at the Environmental Biology Division, College of Arts and Sciences,

University of the Philippines – Los Baños; Dr. Adrian M. Tulod, Associate Professor at the College of Forestry and Environmental Science of Central Mindanao University; and Dr. Reynaldo M. Lantin, a former UPLB Professor and currently a member of the Board of Trustee and Chairman of the Coffee and Cacao Committee of Batangas Forum. ☕

## NEWS BEANS

The second day paved way for more partnerships among the government, administrators, researchers, students and other industry representatives.



**SANA ALL.** Using the millennial phrase, *Sana All*, Dr. Ruel Mojica reminds the participants that the congress promotes inclusive growth making sure that all coffee stakeholders benefit from it.



**SHAKE HANDS.** CvSU President shakes hands with the third plenary speaker, Mr. Jiggy Manicad, who promised to partner with academe as his television program showcases RDE efforts that benefit the community.



**NCEC Experience.** Students posed with Mr. Manicad who also inspired them to be a professional with a purpose.

## CvSU Main, GenTri campus win back to back in Barista Competition

Cavite State University (CvSU) Main Campus team emerged victorious as they showed off their barista skills during the 1<sup>st</sup> Barista Competition held at SM Rolle Hall, this university, 04 December.

Mikka R. Pendon, Jenilyn I. Medina, and Kzeth Jerish B. Hermoso, Hotel and Restaurant Management (HRM) students won first place, back to back with the team from General Trias City campus landing second place, and the team from Lyceum of the Philippines University (LPU) Cavite took the third spot. Winners received certificate of recognition and cash prizes of P10,000.00, P7,000.00, and P5,000 for the first, second, and third placers, respectively. Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU) also received a consolation prize of P3,000.00. Meanwhile, the first placer will avail of a free training at Institute for Coffee Excellence (ICE).

During the competition, each team was given 25 minutes to actually demonstrate the preparation and serving of three

Espresso, three Cappuccino and three “Signature Coffee”, judged based on cleanliness, teamwork, creativity, flavor, technical skill, and overall presentation.

Experienced baristas like Mrs. Dave Dource, Ernie Mesina, Raoul De Peralta, Argenel Vegas, Lyndon Realubit, Michael Harris Conlin, founder and president of Henry & Sons Trading and Manufacturing Company, Inc. and Ms. Maria Lyca Que as head facilitator composed the panel of judges.

The competition was part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Coffee Education Congress (NCEC) spearheaded by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE) thru the National Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center (NCRDEC). Engr. Gerry M. Castillo, director of NCRDEC expressed his utmost appreciation for the success of Barista Competition. “Because of the positive outcome, the Center plans to invite more tertiary universities and colleges around the region to participate and take part in this event,” Castillo concludes. ☕



**IT'S SHOWTIME.** Students from CvSU-Main campus show off their barista skills in front of the judges and spectators making them winners of the competition.

## Coffee start-ups discussed in a forum

Mr. John Paul Buhain, a food and beverage consultant of Nature's Land Camp Resort, delivered his lecture on café business starter kit as he was handling eight café business establishments. Being profitable and easy-to-establish, he encouraged participants to start their own café. He further explained that for it to prosper, they should be able to identify the vision, concept, target market, location, business plan, and products and services offered. He ended by reminding them to not lose passion for coffee as one of the important factors to consider. ☕