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DALUB-AKLAT

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE

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SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION

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Back in July 29-30, 2019, the UP Libraries community came together for a milestone event, the very first UP Libraries Conference, held at the David M. Consunji Theater in the Institute of Civil Engineering, UP Diliman. With the theme *Setting the Knowledge Trail Ablaze: Reshaping the Future of UP Libraries*, the event gathered librarians and administrators from across the UP System to reflect on past achievements, assess current performance, and chart strategic directions moving forward. The two-day conference and planning workshop, graced by then-UP President Danilo L. Concepcion and other distinguished guests, served as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and policy harmonization, anchored in the goal of meeting the evolving information needs of the UP community.

Six years since the last conference, the university has experienced a turbulent period which ushered in a movement driven by solutions, evidence, and best practices. As the conference is set to return this year, the theme *Transformative Education Through Smart and Innovative Libraries*, underpins the critical role of libraries in designing impactful programs which transcends any perceived limit in support of higher education. *Dalub-Aklat: The 2025 UP Librarians Conference* continues to reaffirm and acknowledge that each UP librarian and staff is an expert in their own right, unquestionably worthy of upholding honor, excellence, and service.

Dalub-aklat, a term rooted on two Filipino words, *dalubhasa* and *aklat*, superficially describes a person equipped with the necessary competencies to efficiently manage libraries and its wide array of functions. Coined by renowned librarian, historian, and scholar, Dr. Isagani R. Medina, *Dalub-aklat* aptly encapsulates the resiliency and ingenuity of Filipino librarians in their pursuit of excellence through the timely delivery of information resources and programs for the community whom they serve.

This year's conference theme spotlights the role of UP Libraries in driving transformative education through the advancement of academic integrity, public service, equity, and accessibility, aligned with the core values of honor, excellence, and service.

The conference explores how smart and dynamic libraries champion critical thinking, professional development, and social responsibility. It calls on UP librarians to embrace this change by reimagining libraries as inclusive learning environments powered by innovation, collaboration, and expertise and grounded in meaningful learning experiences that inspire action, ignite purpose, and build empowered communities.

A photograph of Ma. Theresa T. Payongayong, AVP for Academic Affairs, speaking at a podium. She is wearing a light purple blazer and a blue patterned scarf. The background features a large blue and white graphic of a graduation cap and a portion of the UP City of Davao flag on the left.

The Heart of Learning — UP Libraries and the Evolving Landscape of Higher Education

Ma. Theresa T. Payongayong, AVP for Academic Affairs (Curriculum and Instruction)

INTRODUCTION

The evolving role of higher education has shifted from a teacher-centered model to a learner-centered paradigm. There is a need for inclusive, responsive, and future-ready academic environments, with libraries positioned as pivotal hubs in this transformation. Educators were challenged to reimagine responsibilities in shaping inclusive, responsive, and future-ready learning environments.

FROM TEACHER-CENTERED TO LEARNER-CENTERED PARADIGMS

The transition from a traditional, teacher-oriented approach to a progressive, student-centered model was traced. In the former, faculty were regarded as the primary source of knowledge, while students were passive recipients. Classrooms were structured around competition, with faculty exercising authority and control, sorting students by performance, and focusing on content mastery within rigid disciplinary boundaries. Relationships between students and faculty were often impersonal, and the assumption prevailed that any subject expert could teach effectively. Learning was largely passive, and instructional quality was equated with the prestige of academic offerings.

In contrast, the student-centered paradigm redefines education as a collaborative and dynamic process. Students are active participants—co-constructors of knowledge who engage in discovery, transformation, and self-directed learning. Critical and creative thinking, exploration of diverse perspectives, and intellectual risk-taking are encouraged, with faculty serving as facilitators rather than lecturers. This approach prioritizes personal connections and mental well-being, fostering meaningful relationships among students and between students and faculty. Collaborative learning, teamwork, and the integration of transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives are emphasized. Responsibility and authority in the learning process are shared, creating a more democratic and empowering educational experience. The paradigm promotes a flexible, growth-oriented mindset where learning is integrative, interactive, collaborative, experimental, agile, and enhanced by technology.

INSTITUTIONAL SELF-ASSESSMENT

To frame institutional self-assessment, several key questions were posed:

- Where does the University stand now?
- How does the University respond to the evolving roles of education?
- How far has progress been made in preparing for the future of higher education?
- Is priority given to improving the quality of learning over simply enhancing the quality of instruction?
- How should teaching and learning be structured—by covering content, or by achieving specific learning outcomes?
- What is the nature of faculty roles—designers of learning methods and environments, or primarily lecturers?

CURRENT CONTEXT

The present moment was described as a liminal one—a generative space between the familiar past and the possible future. Within the UP System, this transitional phase is marked by tension between established norms and the demands of learner-driven education. Institutional success, once defined by faculty prestige and academic offerings, must now be measured by the quality of student learning and engagement.

This shift affirms the mission to nurture graduates who are not only academically competent but also socially responsible, critically reflective, and community-oriented. The goal is to produce lifelong learners—adaptive, ethical individuals equipped to address real-world challenges. This vision aligns with UP's commitment to developing *Iskolars ng Bayan* who contribute meaningfully to national development.

REDEFINING FACULTY ROLES

The transformation calls for a redefinition of faculty roles. Educators must evolve from content experts to facilitators and designers of inclusive, engaging learning environments. The task is to guide inquiry, encourage reflection, and support collaboration. Academic freedom is reinforced not just as a right, but as a responsibility to innovate and engage in evidence-informed pedagogy.

THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES

Central to this transformation are the libraries—once quiet repositories of books, now reimagined as dynamic learning hubs. Their evolving role includes supporting lifelong and self-directed learning, bridging educational disparities, fostering community engagement, and serving as essential support for educators. The rhetorical question was posed: “Can a university exist without a library? Certainly not!”—an affirmation of the library's indispensable role in shaping the future of learning.

The moment was emphasized as liminal—between the known past and the possible future. This in-between phase is not merely transitional but generative, inviting reimagination of the entire educational enterprise. In this context, the University must lead in actualizing a learner-centered paradigm that empowers students, democratizes knowledge, and reaffirms education as a tool for liberation.

CONCLUSION

The academic community must boldly navigate this transformative moment. The future of higher education is not distant—it is unfolding now. Institutions must align philosophies and practices with the imperative to foster deep, inclusive, and meaningful learning. In doing so, UP honors its mandate as a public university: to develop critical, compassionate, and competent citizens capable of building a just and humane society.

A photograph of Peter Sy, UP Vice President for Digital Transformation, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a pink shirt and a blue patterned scarf, holding a microphone and a smartphone. The background features a red flag and a building illustration.

Understanding the Library's Evolving Role as a Facilitator of Transformative Learning Experiences

Peter Sy, UP Vice President for Digital Transformation

The ancient lighthouse of Alexandria served as a beacon for ships and vessels contributing to the growth of human knowledge. Books and important documents were deposited for archiving in the Library of Alexandria, symbolizing the library's role as a custodian of knowledge.

The digital transformation program is envisioned as a modern lighthouse guiding the practice of curation and archiving, and the Library is central to curating human knowledge, particularly records and research.

There is a persistent digital divide in terms of access, including the lack of computers for learning activities and poor internet connectivity. In the midst of the explosion in human knowledge, many resources remain inaccessible due to barriers. Without addressing this divide, libraries cannot deliver equitable and engaging learning experiences. Research by Lagas and Isip (2023) noted that digitization programs in Philippine libraries are often reactive and short-term, triggered by crises such as the pandemic. These efforts typically focus on scanning materials and distributing them via email or cloud storage, with little thought to sustainability. Institutional repositories are frequently neglected, risking the long-term value of digitization.

In comparison, Singapore's National Library Board launched mobile services and volunteer outreach to underserved communities, including a mobile library reaching orphanages and special education schools. LA County Library deployed bookmobiles and maker mobiles offering free educational services. Programs such as Worldreader Kids used mobile phones to support early learning in India and refugee communities. The Citizen Archivist project engaged the public in describing archival materials to enhance access and engagement. These examples demonstrated that impact does not require expensive infrastructure, and that libraries must prioritize strategic digital transformation and service delivery over physical expansion.

There is a need for library schools to go beyond basic ICT courses to prepare graduates in digitization preservation, technical standards, and systems. Studies by David and Alayon (2016)

echoed the call for more qualified library and information professionals. Librarians are increasingly expected to guide students through AI literacy, digital scholarship, and misinformation management, moving beyond traditional reference roles.

Despite this evolving role, Philippine libraries remain perceived as repositories of books and academic resources. They are usually understaffed and underfunded, with budgets just enough to cover utilities, basic IT maintenance, and subscriptions—barely sufficient to support staff upskilling or professional development. This lack of investment perpetuates a cycle where libraries are unable to innovate and transform, even when there is a clear need to support transformative learning. Institutional priorities compound the problem, with administrations favoring visible infrastructure such as academic buildings and sports facilities, while libraries receive minimal upgrades. Proposals for digital scholarship centers, librarian management systems, or AI-driven services are often dismissed as outside the library's scope. Faculty may continue to view librarians as custodians rather than collaborators in teaching information literacy or integrating digital tools, blocking progress even when librarians are ready to lead change.

Libraries also have a role in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. However, most librarians are only vaguely familiar with the SDGs, and institutions rarely allocate time or resources for professional development. With thin staffing and high workloads, growth becomes a luxury rather than a priority. Evidence shows that students who receive library instruction—learning to find, evaluate, and use information—perform better academically. There is a high correlation between achievement and library service, reinforcing the library's central role in education.

The e-Padaloy initiative by the University of the Philippines was cited as a resource sharing and allocation project aimed at providing access to online databases subscribed by the University Library. Through this initiative, access was extended beyond the UP community to the benefit of select state universities and colleges.

Without sustained and strategic financial investment, the library's capacity to acquire necessary technologies, develop innovative programs, attract and retain skilled personnel, and maintain cutting-edge resources will remain severely constrained. This directly impacts its ability to evolve into a true hub for transformative learning experiences. The conclusion urged institutions to invest in impact over infrastructure. Strategies such as embedded librarian programs, mobile outreach, digital integration, and staff development address the digital divide more effectively than building expansion. These approaches yield measurable improvements in learning and research, especially vital in resource-constrained settings like the Philippines. To realize full potential, Philippine libraries must shed outdated perceptions and chronic underfunding. They must be recognized not merely as storage spaces but as catalysts for transformative learning, ready to help students thrive in a digital, knowledge-driven world.



The Evolving Library Landscape and Emerging Roles of Library Professionals

Dr. Rhea Rowena U. Apolinario, Dean, UP School of Library and Information Studies

THE LIBRARY'S TRANSFORMATION

Libraries have undergone a metamorphosis, driven by technological advancements and shifting societal needs. Libraries used to be quiet sanctuaries created for the preservation and organization of printed materials. Today, libraries are now modern knowledge hubs initiated by technological advancements and changing community needs. For instance, the information seeking behavior of users has changed among Gen X, Y, and Z individuals which necessitated adaptability. Further, the role of librarians has evolved significantly over time. From being mere custodians of books, librarians have become catalysts of knowledge, assuming active roles as agents of change within their communities.

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION

Historically, ancient libraries, such as the Library of Ashurbanipal in Nineveh in the 7th century BCE which housed clay tablets including the famous Epic of Gilgamesh; the Great Library of Alexandria in Egypt in the 3rd century BCE; and the 10th-century libraries of Spain, were exclusively accessible to scholars and royalty. Their primary purpose was the preservation of knowledge for the intellectual elite which reflects how control of information has historically been intertwined with power structures. In contrast, modern libraries embody ideals of universal access.

Initially, the function of libraries centered on the storage of books, as reflected in the Latin roots *liber* (book) and *libraria*. However, with the rise of public and academic institutions, the purpose of libraries expanded beyond mere preservation. Monastic libraries played a crucial role in preserving ancient knowledge through the copying of manuscripts, while university libraries supported academic communities and facilitated the dissemination of ideas during the Renaissance. With the eventual democratization of knowledge in the 17th and 18th centuries, lending and subscriptions libraries pushed for steps toward broader access to information. The Carnegie Libraries in Indiana serves as a prime example.

Ultimately, the primary function of libraries has evolved from knowledge preservation and elite access to manuscript copying, to the democratization of access through lending, to universal public access and literacy promotion, and later to efficient information organiza-

tion and distribution, culminating today in digital access, collaborative learning, and knowledge creation.

EMERGING LIBRARY ROLES

In today's context, libraries function as vital community hubs and "third places," a concept articulated by Ray Oldenburg, where people converge, collaborate, study, create, and connect. Thus, rather than attempting to collect everything, the role of libraries is really more knowing the needs of individuals and communities. For instance, not everyone can afford access to adequate space for learning, creativity, or reflection. This should lead libraries to intentionally build inclusive spaces such as makerspaces, innovation hubs, collaborative environments, and research commons that support hands-on learning and knowledge creation.

Beyond academic and creative functions, modern libraries should also promote digital inclusion, health and wellness centers, and even social support services, as seen in institutions like the Quezon City Public Library. Through these initiatives, libraries actively bridge various societal divides by promoting equity, diversity, inclusivity, and access. Transformative learning programs supported by organizations and institutions such as the American Library Association, the San Diego Public Library, and library makerspaces in Chattanooga further demonstrate how libraries have evolved into crucial environments that empower individuals and strengthen communities.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS

The skills and competencies required of library professionals have also evolved over time. These are the following:

1. Digital skills and AI literacy. Library professionals should possess digital asset management and preservation skills, digital literacy and AI literacy, as necessitated by today's digital world.
2. Pedagogical/instructional skills. Library professionals should also function as educators by teaching information literacy and research skills, conducting workshops, and serving as guides through the complexities of the digital information environment.
3. Community engagement. Library professionals should also contribute to their communities through active facilitation and outreach, addressing community challenges.
4. Adaptability. Librarians should be able to adapt quickly to technological changes and evolving user needs.
5. Critical Thinking/Problem-Solving. Library professionals should apply analytical rigor to evaluate information needs and develop effective solutions.
6. Ethical Leadership. Library professionals should be guided by a strong ethical compass, upholding integrity, privacy, and equity.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills. Library professionals should communicate clearly, collaborate effectively, and engage diverse users.

Further, library professionals should be guided by the professional standards stated in the National Competency-Based Standards for Filipino Library and Information Science Professionals (NCBSFLISP), which emphasizes domain-based librarianship competencies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To continuously improve library services, it is recommended that libraries do the following:

1. Encourage library professionals to undergo continuous professional development to ensure lifelong learning, especially with the fast pace of change;
2. Invest in digital infrastructure to provide efficient and smart service;
3. Transform as an innovation ecosystem, not just a one-space;
4. Foster human-centered service; and,
5. Conduct relentless research and continuous assessment.

Vicki McDonald

State Librarian and CEO – State Library of Queensland

IFLA President 2023-2025

Encouraging Deeper Engagement and Learning for our Youngest Citizens
Vicki McDonald, President, IFLA

Vicki McDonald

Libraries are rich learning environments that provide opportunities for children and families to explore, imagine, and understand the world around them. The State Library of Queensland (SLQ) is the leading reference and research library in Queensland which extends services to children, families, young people, students, teachers, and the public. It is responsible for collecting and preserving a comprehensive collection of Queensland's cultural and documentary heritage, providing free access to information for all Queenslanders and for the advancement of public libraries across the State.

Its vision is to become a library of influence, inspiring and connecting people through knowledge, storytelling and creativity. Aligned with the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly with Goal 3 on ensuring good health and promoting wellbeing for all at all ages, and Goal 4 on ensuring equitable and quality education and promoting lifelong opportunities for all, the SLQ provides crucial support to Queensland children, families and public libraries, especially in promoting children's wellbeing and championing childhood. Further, it adopts a human rights approach to ensure no one is left behind, promoting digital inclusion as well as gender equality and women's empowerment.

In terms of its programs and partnerships involving children and families, the SLQ seeks to uphold the rights of children as grounded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, including but not limited to the right to play, create, learn and participate. We are committed to enriching experiences and spaces, particularly the provision of high-quality child-centred spaces. We have "The Corner", the SLQ's dedicated space for children and families. We also have programs that foster self-expression, exploration and learning, and that support the needs and interests of families, carers and educators. These are designed and delivered in collaboration with diverse partners to reflect the rich diversity of Queensland communities.

We also value collecting, caring for, listening to and amplifying children's voices. As stated by Dr. Barbara Piscitell AM, "Children's views are rarely considered during times of crisis, yet children often have deep insights into current events and the world around them." We

acknowledge children's contribution to our shared understanding and experience of the world and view their stories as central to Queensland's cultural and documentary memory

Critical to reaching Queensland families is our partnership with local governments to deliver First 5 Forever, a place-based family-centred program delivered in over 325 public libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres across the state. First 5 Forever supports each family on their child's journey through the first 5 years of life in safe, child-focused spaces, providing free playful experiences and rich resources. Library spaces, programs and partnerships allow families to embrace everyday moments to talk, read, sing, and play, building a strong foundation for their child's learning, growth, and wellbeing. As a library of influence, our onsite, online and regional programs and partnerships drive innovation and realise our ambition for Queensland families to live in child-friendly communities around the State.

We have also implemented the following projects and programs:

1. Curriculum Connect. This provides free, classroom-ready teaching resources linked to the curriculum and state library collections. Teachers can easily download, reuse, and adapt these resources in just a few clicks. Parents and caregivers can also access trusted, curriculum-aligned materials to support their child's learning and success. It also allows class visits to the State Library and gives students hands-on access to diverse collections, with materials tailored to specific year levels and subjects such as History, Social Sciences, Visual Arts, Design, Science, and English. Further, it provides professional development for teachers, specifically free sessions throughout the Queensland school term time.
2. Curriculum Connect Symposium 2025. The SLQ invited keynote speakers and expert presenters who discussed the complexities of the digital age and explored practical tools for fostering critical thinking and resilience in the face of misinformation and AI-generated content. Amidst the changing landscape of education, equipping students with critical thinking skills has never been more crucial, particularly in helping them discern credible sources, question information, and navigate challenges like
3. misinformation, fake news, and the influence of AI.

Now and for their Futures. The SLQ joined with the Queensland Brain Institute in hosting a national forum to explore the impact public libraries can have in supporting strong foundations in the early years. The forum brought together 80 sector leaders, researchers, practitioners and philanthropies from across Australia in their shared commitment to prioritising the early years. Interdisciplinary conversation, bold ambition and radical sharing across the two-day forum will help drive impact nationwide, so every child has the strongest foundation to thrive.



Integrating Transformative Knowledge and Skills in Real-Life Librarians–Libraries Situations: The UPLB Experience

Dr. Mary Ann M. Ingua, University Librarian, UP Los Baños

When I assumed the post of University Librarian of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in November 2021, I recognized that we were entering a moment of deep transition—not only in technology but also in mindset. Between November 2021 and June 2025, our library community embarked on what I call a transformative journey: a collective rethinking of how we integrate knowledge, values, and practical skills into the very fabric of our day-to-day library work.

Our story at the UPLB Library is not just about adopting new systems. It is, above all, about people—about librarians and staff developing transformational skills and cultivating the courage to see themselves as active partners in knowledge creation, digital inclusion, and lifelong learning.

RATIONALE AND BACKGROUND

For decades, libraries have been evolving from passive information providers into dynamic contributors to knowledge creation and lifelong learning. In UPLB, we confronted this shift both strategically and culturally. We did not only upgrade our platforms; we focused on transforming the mindset and leadership style of our librarians and staff. We wanted every librarian to be a change agent—someone who connects information with transformation.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Our direction was shaped by a set of theoretical and professional frameworks that grounded our work in both academic rigor and practical action. We drew on Knowles' Adult Learning Theory to understand how professionals learn best; the ACRL Information Literacy Framework to anchor our instruction in critical thinking; and the ADDIE Instructional Design Model to ensure our programs were well-planned and evaluated. We also integrated ideas from digital librarianship and participatory, transformational leadership, believing that sustainable change begins with shared purpose.

METHODOLOGY

To study and evaluate our experience, we relied mainly on our internal accomplishment reports from January 2022 to June 2025. Using a descriptive-evaluative case study approach

allowed us to capture the context, challenges, and complexity of our transformation. Through thematic analysis, we identified recurring themes—adult learning, ICT competencies, participatory leadership—and strengthened validity through triangulation.

In reviewing our core programs, such as InfoSkilled and InfoPower, we used Knowles' and ACRL's frameworks to align our learning outcomes with key concepts like Searching as Strategic Exploration and Information Has Value. We also revisited the literature on adult education, information literacy, digital librarianship, and leadership to keep our reflections grounded in scholarship.

KEY FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. InfoSkilled: Building Lifelong Learners

Our rebranded flagship information literacy program, InfoSkilled, was designed to empower students and researchers to become discerning users of information. Through this program, we trained more than 4,090 undergraduate and graduate students in skills such as evaluating sources, citing ethically, and navigating complex databases.

What makes InfoSkilled transformative is that it operationalizes the ACRL's framework into our local academic culture—helping our learners see information as contextual, authority as constructed, and searching as an act of critical inquiry.

2. InfoPower: Sharing Knowledge, Empowering Roles

InfoPower—formerly the Faculty, REPS, and Admin Staff Training Series—was our professional learning initiative aimed at building a culture of evidence-based decision-making and collaboration. We trained 1,609 participants, emphasizing inclusivity and cross-functional learning.

In InfoPower, librarians became not only instructors but knowledge partners of faculty, REPS, and administrative personnel. It symbolized our belief that libraries thrive when everyone in the institution shares responsibility for learning.

3. Digital Transformation: Systems that Empower

Our digital transformation centered on three systems that define UPLB's transition toward a smart, knowledge-driven academic library:

- *University Knowledge and Digital Repository (UKDR)*

This repository democratized access to research by hosting theses, dissertations, reports, and journals freely available to local and global users. Our access logs confirm that researchers from around the world now consult UPLB scholarship through UKDR—a milestone in open access.

- *Koha Open Source Integrated Library System*

Our home-built, open-source ILS, developed in close collaboration with our lone IT staff, offers full customization suited to UPLB's context—integrating circulation, cataloging, reporting, and future-ready features such as RFID and digital payment support.

- *OpenAthens*

Through Single-Sign-On access, OpenAthens has become our gateway to knowledge transformation, enabling on- and off-campus users to access databases, e-books, and journals seamlessly. From 2022 to June 2025, we recorded over 305,000 authentications—clear evidence of growing engagement with our e-resources.

4. Staff Transformation: Coaching, Mentoring, and the SMART People Framework

At the heart of our journey lies our people. We strengthened our in-house training, mentoring, and coaching mechanisms under a model we call the SMART People Framework—S for Strategic, M for Motivated, A for Agile, R for Resilient, and T for Transformative.

This framework, grounded in collaborative systems thinking and transformational learning theory, now informs our HR performance evaluations, mentoring initiatives, organizational planning, and inter-unit collaborations. It reminds us that the success of digital transformation ultimately depends on human transformation.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Transformational knowledge is not merely about new technologies or infrastructures—it is about *empowering people*.

Our experience at UPLB taught us that when librarians are inspired, trained, and trusted, transformation becomes inevitable.

To sustain this momentum, I recommend the following:

1. Institutionalize the SMART People Framework in HR training and planning.
2. Expand InfoPower to integrate digital wellness and AI fluency.
3. Sustain capacity-building in metadata, UX design, and AI readiness.
4. Share our model through publications, partnerships, and benchmarking activities.

In essence, transformation begins with the self. When librarians transform the way they think and lead, libraries naturally evolve into vibrant, learning-centered spaces that empower communities. This, I believe, is the enduring legacy of our journey at UPLB.

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A photograph of Sharon Maria S. Esposito-Betan, a woman with glasses and a blue patterned blouse, speaking into a microphone. She is gesturing with her right hand. In the background, a screen displays her name and affiliation: 'SHARON MARIA S. ESPOSITO-BETAN, University of the Philippines Diliman'.

Designing Library Spaces that Promote Collaboration, Creativity, and Learning: the UPCOE Library Experience

Sharon Maria S. Esposito-Betan, Head Librarian, College of Engineering Libraries

The libraries today are moving beyond traditional roles to become vibrant spaces for exploration, innovation, and meaningful engagement. The development of the College of Engineering's Learning Commons, a two-storey building constructed over nine years, embodies this transition, from its conceptual planning to its completion.

The library's active involvement in the design and planning of the Learning Commons is essential to its overall success and functionality. Specific features, such as high ceilings, all-glass panels, a long staircase, and an off-white palette accented with beechwood, were deliberately incorporated to address design aspects that were lacking in the College of Engineering Libraries 1 and 2.

DESIGN OF LEARNING COMMONS SPACES

Visitors entering the Learning Commons are welcomed by the aroma of coffee from the Al-Fresco Library Café, where the furniture is deliberately selected to create an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere. The entrance lounge is furnished with durable, waterproof outdoor furniture. Inside, a hotel-like ambiance greets visitors, enhanced by the welcoming design of the information desk. A designated events, exhibit, and atrium area is located near the entrance. Large pillars in this space were maximized by incorporating modular and circular seating.

A lounge area is situated opposite the Gallery, which displays portraits of the past and current college deans. Behind this display is another gallery featuring notable works of the faculty. The study area follows an open-space concept, with no partitions. The flexible area allows students to work freely in their preferred manner, while the reconfigurable learning space features leather sofas, movable tables, and soundproof partitions. The facility is also designed for inclusivity, featuring ramps, an elevator for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and a gender-neutral/PWD restroom. Small details such as movable signage, electrical outlets integrated into furniture, digital displays, and sticker boards for announcements significantly enhance the usability of the spaces. Collaborative workstations and charging stations are furnished with five hexagonal tables.

The Learning Commons features a MakerSpace/Creative Studio equipped with 3D printers. Dedicated spaces for faculty include a teleconferencing room fitted with smartboards for meetings, as well as three faculty co-working spaces that can be converted into small conference rooms. Additionally, there are six undergraduate discussion rooms and two graduate discussion rooms, all secured with RFID-controlled doors to ensure exclusive access for College of Engineering students. A standout feature of the Learning Commons is the Faculty and Staff Wellness Room, furnished with wellness chairs and a pantry with a coffee machine, microwave, and oven toaster. Students can also use designated wellness chairs, which are available for a fee based on usage time.

Adapting to Changing Learning Behaviors and Technology Advancement

Changing user learning behaviors and rapid technological advancements necessitate the evolution of library spaces. Libraries must adapt to the lifestyle of students. A library should serve as the students' "third place", a home away from home that offers a space for communication, discussion, and relaxation. It should encourage users to stay longer and return frequently by incorporating innovative, functional, aesthetically pleasing, and user-centered design elements that are honest and durable. Additionally, the integration of AI technologies into libraries is essential to meet modern demands.

CREATING AN INSPIRING LIBRARY SPACE

Here are the factors that contribute to creating an inspiring library space:

- Design objectives
- Key functional areas
- User-centered design
- Space planning and layout
- Technology integration
- Sustainability and green design
- Accessibility and inclusivity

Libraries must establish clear design objectives that prioritize user support for learning and research, flexibility, accessibility, inclusivity, and community engagement. Key functional areas should be identified and aligned with user needs. To ensure a user-centered design, a needs assessment, participatory design process, and observation of user behavior patterns are essential for optimizing layout and furniture placement. Space planning should carefully consider zoning, flow, furniture, lighting, and acoustics. Integration of technology, including connectivity, digital tools, self-service systems, and digital literacy labs, is critical for creating smart and innovative library environments. Furthermore, libraries can adopt sustainable and green design principles by evaluating energy efficiency, material choices, and natural elements. It is also recommended to consider sustainability certifications such as BERDE or LEED. Above all, libraries must be accessible and inclusive by complying with building codes and promoting inclusive design, equitable technology access, and cultural sensitivity.

The Learning Commons features a MakerSpace/Creative Studio equipped with 3D printers. Dedicated spaces for faculty include a teleconferencing room fitted with smartboards for meetings, as well as three faculty co-working spaces that can be converted into small conference rooms. Additionally, there are six undergraduate discussion rooms and two graduate discussion rooms, all secured with RFID-controlled doors to ensure exclusive access for College of Engineering students. A standout feature of the Learning Commons is the Faculty and Staff Wellness Room, furnished with wellness chairs and a pantry with a coffee machine, microwave, and oven toaster. Students can also use designated wellness chairs, which are available for a fee based on usage time.

Adapting to Changing Learning Behaviors and Technology Advancement

Changing user learning behaviors and rapid technological advancements necessitate the evolution of library spaces. Libraries must adapt to the lifestyle of students. A library should serve as the students' "third place", a home away from home that offers a space for communication, discussion, and relaxation. It should encourage users to stay longer and return frequently by incorporating innovative, functional, aesthetically pleasing, and user-centered design elements that are honest and durable. Additionally, the integration of AI technologies into libraries is essential to meet modern demands.

CREATING AN INSPIRING LIBRARY SPACE

Here are the factors that contribute to creating an inspiring library space:

- Design objectives
- Key functional areas
- User-centered design
- Space planning and layout
- Technology integration
- Sustainability and green design
- Accessibility and inclusivity

Libraries must establish clear design objectives that prioritize user support for learning and research, flexibility, accessibility, inclusivity, and community engagement. Key functional areas should be identified and aligned with user needs. To ensure a user-centered design, a needs assessment, participatory design process, and observation of user behavior patterns are essential for optimizing layout and furniture placement. Space planning should carefully consider zoning, flow, furniture, lighting, and acoustics. Integration of technology, including connectivity, digital tools, self-service systems, and digital literacy labs, is critical for creating smart and innovative library environments. Furthermore, libraries can adopt sustainable and green design principles by evaluating energy efficiency, material choices, and natural elements. It is also recommended to consider sustainability certifications such as BERDE or LEED. Above all, libraries must be accessible and inclusive by complying with building codes and promoting inclusive design, equitable technology access, and cultural sensitivity.

A photograph of Marc J. San Valentin, a man with long grey hair, wearing a light-colored blazer over a patterned shirt. He is smiling and speaking into a microphone. The background is a blue and white abstract graphic.

Institutional Branding

Marc J. San Valentin, UP College of Fine Arts

Branding is defined as a vision that drives the creation of products and services under a name, while identity is the key belief underpinning the core values of an institution. Branding is the process of creating a unique, or in many cases, a consistent name for a product.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF BRANDING

The origins of branding can be traced back to ancient practices associated with property and ownership. Evidence suggests that as early as 2000 BCE, farmers branded their livestock by marking them with fire or carvings for identification. In modern times, fire branding has largely been replaced by cold branding, which involves discoloring the animal's hide using liquid nitrogen. Unfortunately, during the period of the American slave trade, slaves were branded as they were treated as property. Beyond marking property, branding has also been used as a form of body modification.

By 221 BCE, seals bearing Chinese characters were employed to indicate the identity or provenance of documents, artworks, contracts, and similar items. In 13th-century Europe, merchants used distinctive marks to signify the origin and quality of their goods, which were typically applied to dry goods, paper, and metal objects. For precious metals such as gold and silver, hallmarks were used to certify purity and origin, as exemplified by photographic plates from the 19th century.

BRANDING AND ADVERTISING

Many people use the terms branding and advertising interchangeably. However, branding is a marketing strategy that imparts meaning to specific companies, products, or services. It influences consumers' perceptions and helps them identify a particular firm, product, or brand. In contrast, advertising is a marketing strategy that involves paid communication to promote a product. Simply put, branding is a considerate intent, a strategy to establish a positive contribution, and at the same time, it is a measure to protect the integrity of an institution.

Branding protects the name and core values of an institution. Without such protection, brands risk unauthorized use, which can dilute their meaning and reputation. To build a strong brand, an institution must consider its origins and values to establish a clear personality, ensuring that its products and services align with the brand. This coherence contributes to brand equity, a marketing concept that describes the added value derived from consumers' perceptions of the brand beyond the products themselves.

BRAND EQUITY

Brand equity can be evaluated through seven dimensions of consumer perception: awareness, familiarity, image and personality, associations, availability, preference, and loyalty. Effectively developed brand equity adds significant value, allowing institutions to extend their influence into new products or services under the same brand.

BRAND ANATOMY/ELEMENTS OF VISUAL IDENTITY

There are four key elements of visual identity: (1) the logo, representing the institution's core values; (2) typography or typeface, defining the style of lettering; (3) the color palette, distinguishing the institution; and (4) iconography. For UP, the seal is the official logo. The value of the seal is higher than the logo. The Oblation statue serves as the iconography, alongside institutional colors and typefaces.

UP VISUAL IDENTITY GUIDEBOOK

Developed in 2017, the UP Visual Identity Guidebook established branding guidelines focusing on the seal, the Oblation, institutional colors, and official typeface. This initiative began during my brief stint as Director of the UPD Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts (OICA).

Rather than redesigning, the team decided to clean up the seal since it did not satisfy the main criteria, which is the radical shift from existing institutional core values. Many organizations revise their logos to align with evolving identities. The logo is the representation of an institution and of an idea. UP seal stands for the logo, which is the meaning of the University. The team traced the seal's origins, finding design parallels with seals used by U.S. government departments such as the Air Force, Labor, and Commerce, though no actual documents confirmed these connections.

The Oblation, as described in the dissertation of the late Professor Reuben Cañete, is a cultural symbol of UP, instantly recognizable and signifying that one is in the University upon seeing it. The Oblation embodies the core values of the university. Although it is a three-dimensional sculpture, the team converted the Oblation into a silhouette for use in visual materials. To remove geographic specificity, they eliminated a small but distinctive detail, which is the protruding rock that specifically identifies UP Diliman. This modification anonymizes the location, allowing the silhouette to be used more broadly across all UP campuses.

As per Article 466 of the Revised Code of the University, UP's official colors are UP maroon and forest green. The 2017 guidebook specifies process color and RGB equivalents for consistent reproduction.

To further unify the University's visual identity, it was decided to design the University's own typeface named "Padayon". This was a passion project by Assistant Professor Joy Ilagan, a seasoned graphic designer and a type designer in Fine Arts. After creating the typeface, it was applied to the seal and to the other materials that were produced.

Sub-branding is creating another brand, enabling academic units or affiliated entities to create distinctive identities. An example is the fist logo of the UP Maroons.



SMART Libraries and Transformative Education: Emerging Technologies Shaping the Future of Academic Libraries

Dr. Reinald Adrian D. Pugoy, UP Open University

At the heart of discussion was the concept of SMART library, an integrated system that harmonizes technology and human-centered service design to deliver personalized, adaptive, and efficient library services. The foundation of SMART libraries rests upon three fundamental pillars: Technology-centric, People-centric, and Service-centric design.

The first two—technology and people—serve as the integral components to achieving the service-centric nature of SMART libraries. This highlights that SMART libraries are not solely about adopting advanced tools but also about reimagining the way we access, experience, and engage with knowledge.

To illustrate this transformation, three key emerging technologies were highlighted as the shaping forces in the future of libraries. Virtual Reality (VR) which is primarily concerned with technology that immerses users in a fully digital environment through specialized headsets, Augmented Reality (AR) that overlays digital content onto the real world, thereby enhancing real-world experiences of its users, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) that enables computers to perform tasks requiring human intelligence.

AI was described as the process of replicating human knowledge, made possible through AI models and computer programs programmed to learn from vast amounts of data. Within library contexts, these technologies open remarkable possibilities, such as immersive exploration that allows students to virtually travel through time and space, visit ancient libraries, and explore historical landmarks. These tools could also function as advanced book locators, providing detailed information about materials, or as language aids to support multilingual users. Such innovations can free library staff from routine inquiries, enabling them to focus on more complex tasks. For AI in particular, several practical uses are 24/7 chatbots integrated into library services, automated cataloging powered by natural language processing and machine learning, and book recommendation systems tailored to user needs.

Yet, alongside these opportunities come challenges. The adoption of such technologies often encounters budget constraints and accessibility issues, especially when reliant on strong internet connectivity and devices not widely owned, such as AR-capable smartphones. With

AI, additional concerns include hallucination, wherein the system generates plausible yet incorrect information, the potential for bias and discrimination, and significant data privacy risks.

To address these complexities, a set of strategic and human-centered roles was proposed to guide librarians in the age of AI and other emerging technologies. As an AI literacy advocate, librarians are entrusted with promoting the responsible use of AI tools, encourage critical thinking on AI-generated outputs, and ensuring thoughtful integration of AI into library services. On the other hand, AR/VR experience facilitators are entrusted to guide users with the responsible use of immersive technologies to ensure safe and inclusive access to AR/VR resources. Lastly, Ethical technology integrators possess the crucial role of selecting and overseeing the implementation of emerging technologies with careful attention to privacy, transparency, and user trust.

To operationalize these ideas, the 5E Framework to SMART Library Innovation was introduced. The framework is a set of five practical action verbs to guide cost-conscious, sustainable, and effective adoption of technology in libraries: Explore, Enhance, Engage, Experiment, and Equip. Explore emphasizes on trying free or low-risk tools to test ideas without heavy investment (e.g., Adobe Aero, AR.js, using 1–2 VR headsets for a virtual tour, launching a simple chatbot). Enhance suggests that libraries build on existing resources, such as turning posters into interactive guides or using current FAQs for chatbot training. Engage intends to involve internal talent in co-creation, collaborating with faculty, students, on-the-job trainees, and other UP System libraries. Experiment showcases the importance of piloting small-scale or low-stakes use cases to evaluate their impact and feasibility. Ultimately, Equip seeks to build internal capacity by training a small core team.

An example of these principles in action is the UPOU Immersive Open Pedagogies (IOP) Program, which was established to systematically enhance the impact of immersive technologies and open pedagogies through organized activities and partnerships. Another featured initiative was Openg Chatbot, UPOU's AI-powered chatbot developed to support MODEL user.

In summary, the lack of human alignment will doom technology adoption and that technology without a strategy is merely decoration. Tools, no matter how advanced, must be meaningfully integrated into library workflows, staff capacity, and user habits to prevent it being underutilized and ultimately ineffective.

During the open forum, Asst. Prof. Dorado asked if the University has any plans to provide the necessary computational resources to enable libraries to fully leverage AI technologies. The discussion acknowledged the difficulties of advancing with such technologies and offered three possible approaches: outsourcing AI computational requirements to external

servers, seeking assistance from UP Data Commons, which provides computational hardware and software, and exploring another platform that also offers server access (the specific name was unclear in the audio).

Through this exchange, the session concluded not only with insights but also with renewed sense of purpose: recognizing that the libraries of the future are not just about SMART technologies, but about SMART strategies, SMART people, and SMARTer service to the academic community.



Integrating AI and VR into UP Library Services

Asst. Prof. Dan Anthony A. Dorado, UP School of Library and Information Studies

CATALOGING AND METADATA

AI excels at classification and can automate metadata extraction for books, articles, and images, thereby reducing manual data entry. Drawing from the experiences of other constituent universities that have struggled with cataloging, he noted that AI could greatly assist in completing their databases. While AI will not be perfect, it can handle as much as 80% of the metadata work, such as dates, titles, and authors. This leaves catalogers to focus on reviewing and ensuring quality control. AI is an assistant cataloger, not a replacement, and that professional judgment remains essential. AI may suggest subject terms, but catalogers must verify their accuracy and relevance for local users.

DIGITAL PRESERVATION

AI can help identify and tag significant or at-risk files, automate transcription and metadata creation for archival materials, and flag obsolete formats for conversion.

REFERENCE AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Building on the insights shared by Dr. Pugoy in his earlier lecture, AI tools can answer routine queries, such as library hours or policies, direct users to databases and guides, and provide 24/7 assistance to reduce repetitive workloads. This allows librarians to focus on complex tasks requiring specialized expertise. Chatbots will not replace librarians, as they cannot handle nuanced research questions. Instead, librarians should determine which materials to feed into AI models so that chatbots can draw from authoritative resources.

Moreover, the more frequently a chatbot is used. The better it becomes at understanding the nuances of user information needs, provided that its development is continually guided and supervised by library staff.

USER EXPERIENCE

AI offers a range of possibilities for enhancing the overall library user experience. Among these are:

1. Personalized recommendations for books and articles based on borrowing history. For example, the system could suggest new titles aligned with a user's past interests, regardless of language, as AI can locate and process multilingual resources.
2. Smarter search and discovery tools to improve resource accessibility.
3. Multilingual virtual assistance to help users engage with resources in different languages.

It is essential, however, that these AI-driven services uphold the core values of librarianship, particularly privacy, transparency and user consent. Libraries must clearly communicate how AI systems handle user data and ensure that users understand what information is collected, how it is used, and for what purpose. It is recommended that users be given the choice to enable or disable personalized features, maintaining control over their own data.

In discussing immersive educational technology, Virtual Reality (VR) can transform academic libraries into dynamic learning environments. These could include virtual tours, simulations, field trips, or subject-based explorations in areas such as history or science. Such experiences can foster deeper engagement and empathy. For example, a VR simulation depicting life during the Martial Law era, followed by reflective activities, can provide students with a powerful, experiential learning opportunity.

When implementing VR programs in libraries, several considerations must be addressed:

1. Hardware and space: Some VR experiences require large physical areas to be fully immersive.
2. Content curation: Identify the materials needed to accurately recreate scenes or environments.
3. Hygiene and safety: Implement cleaning protocols for equipment due to close physical use.
4. Staff training and support: Ensure trained librarians or staff are available to assist users during VR sessions.

OPERATIONS AND SYSTEM

AI can support the management of library operations and systems by forecasting demand and resource needs to optimize collection development and service allocation, automating quality checks and error correction to maintain accuracy in records and processes, and enabling data-driven decision-making to guide policy and strategic planning.

Integrating AI into daily operations will inevitably reshape workflows. Library staff will increasingly focus on supervising AI-driven processes, interpreting data insights, and undertaking strategic tasks that require human expertise. Therefore, investment in staff training and continuous professional development is crucial, particularly in cultivating AI literacy to ensure that librarians can effectively manage and maximize these tools.

STAFF TRAINING AND SKILLS

Comprehensive staff training should encompass a basic understanding of AI and data analytics, hands-on experience with VR hardware, and a strong grounding in ethics, data privacy, bias, and transparency. Continuous learning through workshops, collaborations, and peer networks will sustain these competencies.

There is a framework we can use for measuring AI literacy across five dimensions:

1. Understanding AI and Data
2. Critical Thinking and Judgment
3. Ethical and Responsible Use
4. Human-Centricity, Emotional Intelligence, and Creativity
5. Domain Expertise

AI literacy needs vary between roles. For instance, faculty have different needs and requirements compared to administrative staff and REPS.

Nonetheless, several challenges of incorporating AI into library operations must be acknowledged. These include metadata errors and bias or incompleteness in AI-generated data, which can compromise catalog accuracy. Data privacy concerns remain significant, underscoring the need for oversight by well-seasoned, experienced catalogers to ensure quality control and adherence to standards. Over-reliance on AI automation poses additional risks, including potential compromise of authenticity in preserved materials and bias in what AI deems worthy for retention. Moreover, implementation costs may hinder adoption, particularly for libraries operating with limited resources.

In conclusion, library professionals with a genuine interest in AI are encouraged to begin learning and exploring the technology. There are beginner-friendly AI tools and platforms (e.g. Consensus, Rabbit, Quillbot, and CopyAI) that can support daily library tasks. As library professionals, we must remain at the forefront of technological change while safeguarding our professional principles. Ultimately, AI adoption in libraries should always be ethical, transparent, and user-centered, reflecting the enduring values of the library profession.



Toward SMART UP Libraries: Leveraging smart technologies to enhance learning and automate core services

Chito N. Angeles, Head, Information Technology Division, University Library Diliman

SMART Libraries represent the convergence of technology integration, user-centered design, innovative facilities and services, and data-driven insights, transforming them into evolving learning ecosystems that anticipate and respond to user needs. By leveraging Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, Controlled Digital Lending (CDL), and other self-service innovations, libraries evolve from traditional repositories into dynamic, technology-enabled environments that simplify operations, expand access, and personalize the user experience.

KEY CONCEPTS OF SMART LIBRARIES

SMART libraries are built on four interconnected pillars that, in concert, define their transformation into evolving learning ecosystems.

Technology integration assures that different systems and tools, such as RFID, Digital Rights Management (DRM), CDL, Library Services Platform (LSP), and web services Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), work seamlessly to improve resource management, streamline library operations, and enable interoperability across platforms. This integration provides the technical foundation that allows libraries to deliver services efficiently and at scale.

User-Centered Design (UCD) prioritizes users' behaviors, needs, emotions, and experiences in the development of library services. UCD principles help SMART libraries build intuitive, inclusive spaces that boost engagement and accessibility. These environments emphasize functionality alongside meaningful interactions, empowering users in their learning.

Innovative library facilities and services transform libraries into more accessible, flexible, user-driven spaces. Self-service infrastructure, such as RFID-enabled kiosks, book drops, mobile payment systems, laptop lending kiosks, and automated printing, photocopying, or scanning stations, empowers users with privacy, autonomy, and convenience. These new methods reduce queues and alleviate staff workload, making libraries easier to access and responsive toward diverse communities.

Data-driven insights provide the evidence base for continuous improvement. By collecting and analyzing user data, libraries can arrive at informed decisions about collection development, space utilization, engagement strategies, and operational efficiency.

SMART TECHNOLOGIES IN UP LIBRARIES

In UP Libraries, smart technologies, facilities, and services are already being implemented as of this writing. RFID-enabled self-check kiosks and book drops support contactless transactions and reduce staff workload; Aklat-taan, a learning spaces reservation application currently implemented in the UP Diliman Main Library, promotes efficient management of learning spaces; and the book reservation function of Buklod (UP's Library Services Platform) boosts user experience and provides fair access to library resources.

These SMART services are made possible through API integrations, making sure that smart technologies are not isolated tools but part of a connected, interoperable ecosystem.

Other API-based implementations in Buklod include: Search and Retrieve via URL (SRU) for federated catalog access and seamless copy cataloging; RFID integration to streamline circulation, decrease labor costs through self-check systems, and support access control and attendance monitoring with patron verification system and barrier gates; Cover image services powered by OpenLibrary.org; User profile retrieval from CRS, SAIS, and Talaan for account management and eligibility verification; and Cloud-based integrations with Google Drive for file-sharing and media streaming, as well as Google Books for content previews. Together, these integrations demonstrate how APIs enable scalable and user-centered services that evolve traditional library functions into smart, connected experiences for learners and researchers.

CONTROLLED DIGITAL LENDING (CDL)

As users increasingly favor digital formats, CDL provides a framework for libraries to extend lending services into the digital environment, grounded in fair use principles. CDL expands access for people with disabilities and those in remote areas while ensuring compliance with copyright law.

To implement CDL, the following core principles must be met:

- A library must own a legal copy of the physical book.
 - Lending a digital copy is limited to a single user at a time and within the 'owned to loaned' ratio.
 - Technical measures, such as DRM, are in place to prevent unauthorized reproduction and redistribution. DRM technologies and protocols are used in CDL to enable encryption, access control, and license enforcement.
-

CDL can further expand access to library collections by facilitating the loan of serials, audiovisual materials, archival resources, and other items previously available only for in-library use. Moreover, CDL can serve as a mechanism for resource sharing across library networks.

CDL IMPLEMENTATION IN UP LIBRARIES

UP Libraries may adopt CDL through two solutions:

- Google Drive + AppScript DRM - a low-cost approach using file-sharing through Google Drive with access expiration and restrictions on download, print, and copy set via customized AppScript code. The limitation of this approach is that files larger than 100 MB cannot be displayed or streamed in web browsers without first being downloaded.
- Licensed Content Protection (LCP) - an interoperable DRM system supporting EPUB, PDF, audiobooks, and visual narratives. It offers offline access and automatic renewals, but requires annual certification fees.

However, the full implementation and adoption of this technology in the UP Libraries requires policy revisions, coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for funding, and collaboration with the Filipinas Copyright Licensing Society, Inc. (FILCOLS) for copyright licensing.

LAUNCHING OF *SURI*

SURI, a newly developed patron verification system integrated with Buklod, exemplifies UP Libraries' commitment to low-cost innovation. Derived from the Filipino word meaning "to examine" or "to check", *SURI* uses contactless RFID technology to verify patron identity before granting access to learning spaces, facilities, and resources. Beyond authentication, it can also monitor foot traffic and collect statistical data for service optimization and resource planning. Deployment is cost-effective, requiring only a computer and RFID reader, and it can seamlessly integrate with existing barrier gates. *SURI* demonstrates how smart technologies can improve security, analytics, and user experience without a considerable financial burden.

Nurturing Change Makers : Best Practices From SMU Libraries

Shameem Nilofar, University Librarian, SMU

Nurturing Change Makers: Best Practices From SMU Libraries

Shameem Nilofar, University Librarian, Singapore Management University

SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY (SMU)

In 1997, the Singapore International Academic Advisory Panel identified that there was a critical shortage of approximately 7,000 more graduates to support the country's growing knowledge base and economy. In response to this call, the Singapore Management University was formally established in 1998. As the third university established after the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU), SMU focused on offering management education. From welcoming its first cohort of 300 students in 2000, SMU now comprises eight schools on business, accountancy, economics, computing and information systems, law, social sciences, the College of Integrative Studies, and graduate research studies.

THE SMU DNA

SMU aspires to be Asia's premier global city university. Currently, SMU is ranked 19th globally as the best young university. To achieve its mission, SMU is guided by its core DNA: authentic, change-maker, trailblazing, innovative, multi-faceted, and purposeful. These are the values and characteristics that shape and guide SMU's programs and activities, including its library services.

SMU LIBRARIES

There are two libraries in SMU: the Li Ka-shing Library, opened in 2006, and Kwak Ek Chu Law Library, opened in 2017. These libraries provide a total of 2,300 seats, with over 70,000 print volumes, 30,000 books, 766,000+ ebooks, 127,000+ electronic journals, 188 electronic databases, and 54,000+ titles of streaming media.

Over the years, there has been a shift from collecting print to digital resources. This is a strategy not only to adapt to new technology and to provide access to information, but to anticipate what the students will need in the changing landscape and to help them make sense of the abundance of information available to them.

CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

To support the University's mission, the SMU Libraries started to create strategies not only to address what the students need, but to develop learning spaces, experiences, and opportuni-

ties to develop and nurture change makers and trailblazers. Providing service to over 13,000 students, the SMU Libraries are challenged to rethink their approach as co-creators of their learning experiences and help them create impact.

Key strategy #1: Empowering students to co-create innovative solutions

This strategy empowers the students by creating opportunities to be co-creators of solutions to address the challenge of building better engagement with the library. The SMU Libraries developed a program, "*By Students, For Students: Transforming Our Library Instruction*", that allows the student innovators to recreate and take charge of providing library instructions to fellow students. The students create the contents, conduct sessions, and address problems that only fellow students can understand and solve.

To further understand the needs and experiences of the students, the SMU Libraries launched another program called "*Mapping student journey: in their own voices*". More than just a focus group, this program is an opportunity to listen and learn from the students' shared experiences to improve the Libraries' support services. With these programs, the students become active agents of their own learning environment through the Libraries.

Key strategy # 2: Creating safe spaces for learning & exploration

SMU's framework for the use of AI in education aligns with Singapore's National AI strategy, emphasizing that AI literacy is not an option, but a necessity. It's not just about equipping users with the technical skills but also teaching them the ethical and responsible use of AI.

The SMU Libraries provided learning support and implemented an AI hackathon as a safe space for students to experiment, fail, learn, and innovate with AI tools. The librarians also provided workshops on the effective use of AI tools and research, offered comprehensive learning support and access to research software like SPSS, SASS, Stata, and other AI tools, leading up to this hackathon. The aim is not only to teach AI, but more importantly, to be responsible, critical, and ethical users of these tools. Encourage the use of technology as a tool for experimentation and discovery while upholding academic integrity.

Key strategy #3: Creating an understanding & appreciation of different perspectives

The challenge is to develop opportunities for cultural, social, and disciplinary appreciation in a competitive academic environment. The *Artists in Residency* program aims to bring in artists to the Libraries as a space and opportunity for expression beyond the academic discourse. There are artists who worked with the faculty from the School of Law to understand and articulate technology and creative expression. Another exhibition was by a student from the College of Integrative Studies who translated her senior thesis into an art exhibition. This program provided an opportunity for students to transform their academic work into creative expression and engage in art in their own learning environment.

Key strategy #4: Just letting them know we care

The simplest strategy sometimes has the most profound effect. During exam periods where students experience all forms of stress, SMU Libraries provide support through its exam angels and staff members who offer encouragement and show the students that they are present and care for them. Comfort spaces where they can play games and provide temporary stress relief are also available.

At the core of these four strategies are the students. Nurturing change makers is not just about providing the information and resources that they need. It is about creating safe spaces where opportunities and experiences are created to develop a whole person who is innovative, resilient, collaborative, and committed to making a positive impact. Educators and librarians have the opportunity and responsibility to prepare students, not only to survive challenges, but to turn these challenges into opportunities for positive change.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, OPEN UNIVERSITY

State of the University Libraries



MISSION

The UPOU University Library aims to provide comprehensive library services and access to a diverse range of digital and non-digital information resources for students, faculty members, and other users. We strive to cater to the needs of our community, both online and onsite, through the effective and efficient development, maintenance, and improvement of our collections, services, and facilities.

VISION

The UPOU University Library shall be a digital hub for knowledge sharing ensuring that diverse information resources are accessible to all.

KEY INITIATIVES

- UPLOAD Repository
- Library Website
- New Location

UPLOAD REPOSITORY

repository.upou.edu.ph

Primary platform for collecting, organizing, and preserving UPOU theses and dissertations for long-term access.

Over **1,000 records** submitted, including **400+ full-text theses and dissertations** freely accessible to the public.

WEBSITE + SOCIAL MEDIA

- User-friendly navigation
- Request forms
- Libguides
- Resources for ODeL Learners

FACEBOOK

The University Library, UP Open University

INSTAGRAM

@upoulibrary

LIBRARY RELOCATION

UPOU Community Hub

Aimed at better serving the UPOU community and making the library more accessible to the public

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, OPEN UNIVERSITY (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

CHALLENGES



Small Team



Limited Space



Hidden Resources



DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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BETTER SPACE, BUT STILL GROWING COLLECTION

Despite the larger space, the current library still cannot fully house the existing and growing collection of physical materials.

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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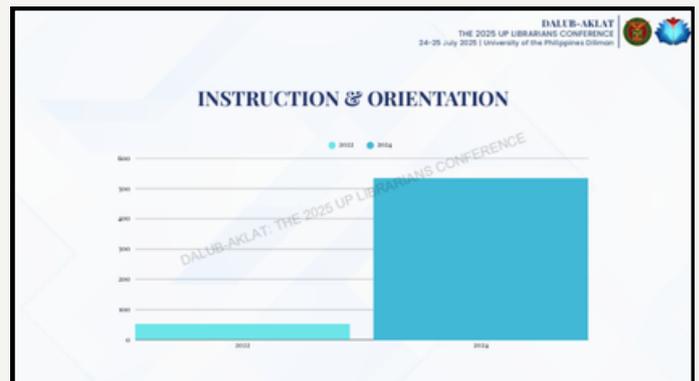
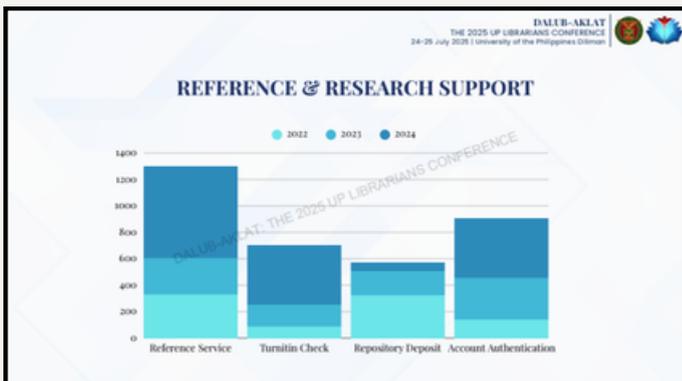
HIDDEN RESOURCES

Nearly half of the print collection remains uncatalogued, posing challenges to resource discoverability and access.



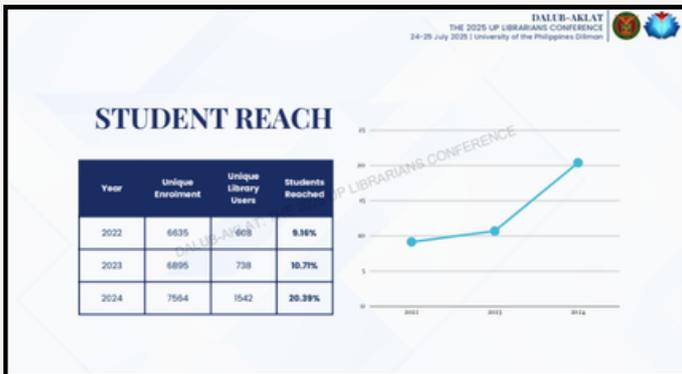
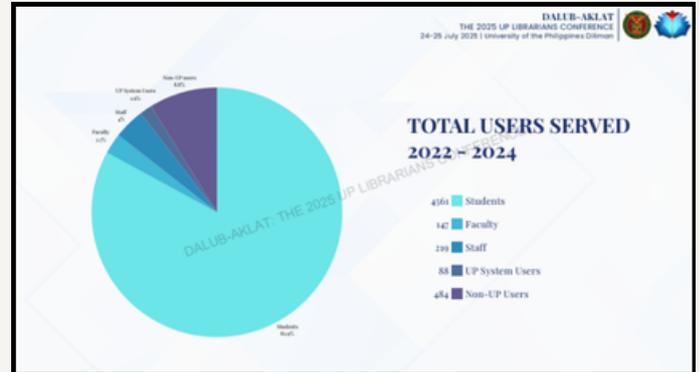
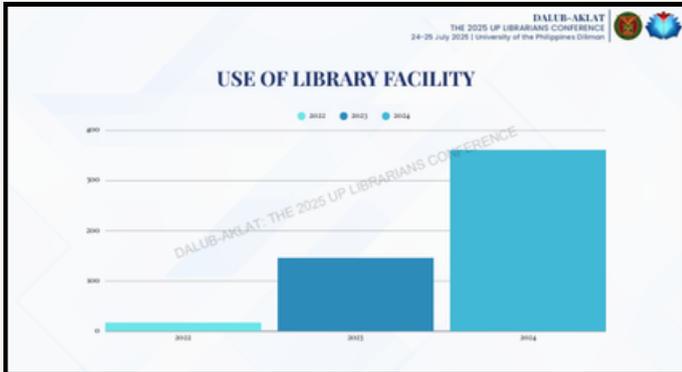
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LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, OPEN UNIVERSITY (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Refocusing Collection Development
- Addressing Cataloging Backlog
- Boosting Support for ODEL Learners
- Improving Onsite Support

REFOCUSING COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Implementing a comprehensive **Collection Development Plan** with strong emphasis on acquiring digital and perpetual access resources.

ADDRESSING CATALOGING BACKLOG

Resuming **cataloging operations** to address the current backlog of approximately 4,000 uncatalogued print volumes.

BOOSTING SUPPORT FOR ODEL LEARNERS

Develop a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on **Information Literacy** as a flagship instructional offering of the library.

Implement a **Virtual Consultation Service** to offer personalized research and information support to students.

IMPROVING ONSITE SUPPORT

Revitalize the library space at the **UPOU Learning Hub in Diliman** to support study, research, and academic collaboration.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, OPEN UNIVERSITY (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP BAGUIO

State of the University Libraries



OVERVIEW

- Supported scholarly and information needs of students, faculty, and staff
- Aligned services with the university's academic, research, and extension programs
- Provided up-to-date resources and responsive services across physical and digital platforms
- Reinforced role as a key information hub for Cordillera studies
- Promoted preservation and dissemination of Cordillera heritage

KEY INITIATIVES

COVID-19 PANDEMIC SERVICES

Responded to the needs of students, faculty, REPS, admin and external researchers amidst the pandemic

KEY INITIATIVES

EXPANSION OF DIGITAL SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Knowledge at your fingertips: UPB Library boosts digital subscriptions for research and study through the UP System

KEY INITIATIVES

EXPANSION OF DIGITAL SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Knowledge at your fingertips: UPB Library boosts digital subscriptions for research and study through the UP System

KEY INITIATIVES

ELEVATING THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

The UP Baguio Library takes a leap forward in modernizing knowledge access by maximizing the use of RFID solutions. From faster checkouts to improved security and efficient inventory management, RFID technology enhances user experience—bringing convenience, innovation, and smarter service to every library visit

KEY INITIATIVES

EXTENDING THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

As part of its annual outreach program, the UP Baguio Library continues its commitment to service beyond campus by donating books to schools and communities in need. These donations aim to spark curiosity, support education, and promote a love for reading—one book at a time.

KEY INITIATIVES

EXTENDING THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

Conducted outreach programs in Baguio City and Benguet Province

EASTER COLLEGE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP BAGUIO (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

KEY INITIATIVES

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

EXTENDING THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

Conducted outreach programs in Baguio City and Benguet Province



ATOK MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
Benguet Province

KEY INITIATIVES

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

EXTENDING THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

Conducted outreach programs in Baguio City and Benguet Province



BENGUET PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

KEY INITIATIVES

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

EXTENDING THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

Conducted outreach programs in Baguio City and Benguet Province



**UP BAGUIO LIBRARY EXTENSION SERVICE
AMPUCAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

ACHIEVEMENTS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

partnership with external agencies, SUCs, (DSWD, BSU on Student Internship Program)



DSWD Social Welfare and Development Learning Network

ACHIEVEMENTS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARY SERVICE

The UP Baguio Library has consistently garnered recognition for its outstanding contributions to academic support, innovation, and community engagement. These achievements reflect the library's unwavering commitment to excellence in service, resource development, and the advancement of knowledge—upholding its vital role in the University's academic and research mission.



150th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY
UP LIBRARY

ACHIEVEMENTS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

SUCCESSFUL AUN-QA ASSESSMENT OF VARIOUS CURRICULAR PROGRAMS



AUN-QA

CHALLENGES

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

COVID-19 PANDEMIC SERVICES

Responded to the needs of students, faculty, REFS, admin and external researchers amidst the pandemic



2020 Annual Report

CHALLENGES

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-28 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES, ADVANCING WITH PURPOSE

In the wake of the pandemic, the UP Baguio Library continues to navigate emerging challenges—from reconfiguring limited student spaces for safe, flexible use to adapting rapidly to digital transformations in library services. Guided by resilience, innovation, and a deep commitment to its academic community, the library embraces change to build a more responsive and future-ready environment.

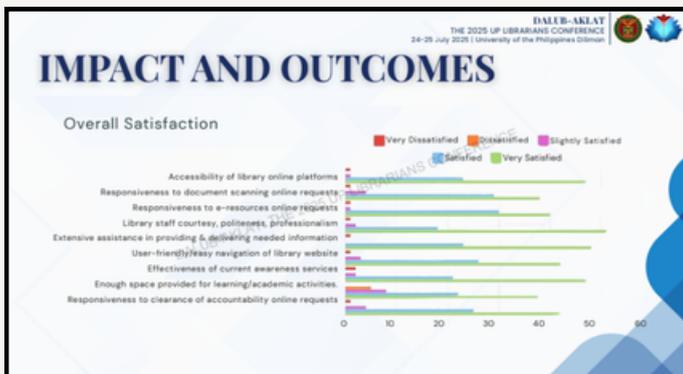
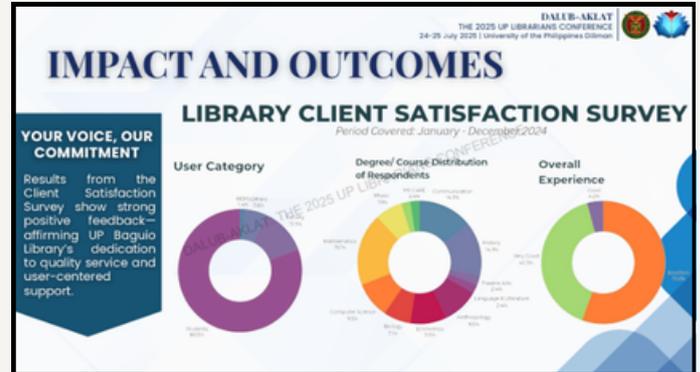
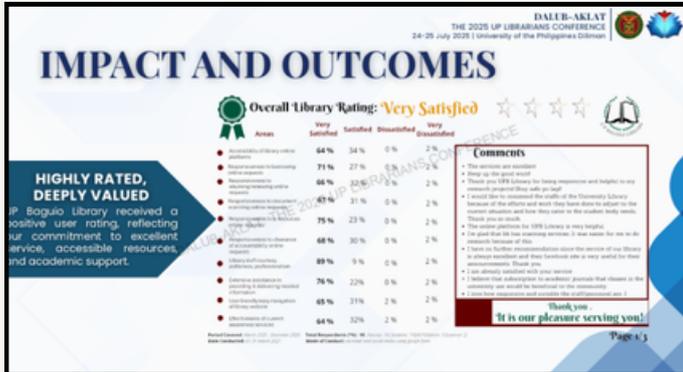


THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE

LEARNING COMMONS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, BAGUIO (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, TACLOBAN

State of the University Libraries



**UP TACLOBAN
COLLEGE LIBRARY**
FLORABEL M. FUMAR-BANARES
Head Librarian
24 JULY 2025

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

OVERVIEW

Role: Provide assistance to the college in the academic support aspect

Focus: Continue to improve our facility to create a safe and productive space for students, faculty, staff, and community to use.

Activities & Programs:

1. Information Literacy Initiatives
2. Service Delivery Enhancement
3. Collection Promotion and Marketing
4. Infrastructure Development

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Information Literacy Initiatives
2. Service Delivery Enhancement
3. Collection Promotion and Marketing
4. Infrastructure Development

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Information literacy initiatives
 - Freshmen orientation on library resources
 - Launched a new Facebook page
 - Continually updates website (Google site)
 - Installed MAC computer as digital info and promo monitor
 - Created locator charts on shelves for easier navigation

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

2. Service Delivery Enhancement
 - Set up Nap Area for user wellness
 - Introduced digital barcodes for easier access
 - Launched Document Delivery Service

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

1. Information literacy initiatives



DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

2. Service Delivery Enhancement



DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines - Cebu

KEY INITIATIVES

3. Collection Promotion and Marketing
 - Themed displays for Valentine's, Halloween, and Yolanda Commemoration
 - Wiley webinar collaboration
4. Infrastructure Development
 - Retrofitting (1st and 2nd floor) and Refurbishment (2nd floor)

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP TACLOBAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

KEY INITIATIVES

3. Collection Promotion and Marketing

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

KEY INITIATIVES

3. Collection Promotion and Marketing

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

KEY INITIATIVES

4. Infrastructure Development – Original look of the library

Left side of the library
Center
Right side of the library

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

KEY INITIATIVES

4. Infrastructure Development – Retrofitted 2nd floor library

Left side of the library
Center
Right side of the library

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

KEY INITIATIVES

4. Infrastructure Development – Refurbished 2nd floor library

Left side of the library
Center
Right side of the library

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- February 19, 2023 – Retrofitting (1st and 2nd floor) and refurbishment of the 2nd floor to library spearheaded by Dean Arinto.
- May 6, 2024 – *PURPOSE: To reinforce the second floor, which was sinking, ensuring the building's calamity resilience.*
- May 23, 2024 – Ribbon-cutting of the newly refurbished 2nd floor library
- April 12, 2024 – Webinar in partnership with Wiley:

*Webinar on Wiley e-Book Subscription User Training

These achievements show UPTC library's commitment towards enhancing our facility, expanding community impact and presence, and promoting digital resource usage while building valuable partnerships all

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- December 2, 2022 – Book Donation to Taft National High School Library Eastern Samar, Philippines
- November 24-30, 2022 – 1st place in the Library Book Display Online during the 88th National Book Week Celebration
- October 17, 2022 – Book Donation to Leyte Agro-Industrial School Bray, Poblacion, Leyte, Leyte

These achievements show UPTC library's commitment towards enhancing our facility, expanding community impact and presence, and promoting digital resource usage while building valuable partnerships all

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2024 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

ACHIEVEMENTS

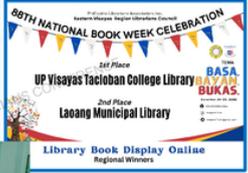
- April 8, 2022 – Book Donation to SSNCHS, Balangiga, Eastern Samar

These achievements show UPTC library's commitment towards enhancing our facility, expanding community impact and presence, and promoting digital resource usage while building valuable partnerships all for the benefit of our stakeholders.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, TACLOBAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

ACHIEVEMENTS

98th NATIONAL BOOK WEEK CELEBRATION
 1st Place: UP Visayas Tacloban College Library
 2nd Place: Laoang Municipal Library
 Library Book Display Online: Regional Winner

BASA BUKAS

CHALLENGES

1. Library Space
2. Technology & Equipment
3. Staffing & Resources
4. User Experience & Services

CHALLENGES

I. Library Space

- Limited library space, sitting capacity, outlets, and outlets
- Ease of access of elderly and PWDS to the library
- Cybernook and the lounge area were removed
- Physically taxing from the repeated relocation of working areas

February 19, 2023 – Relocated to 3rd floor library
 May 11, 2023 – Went back to 2nd floor library for the UPCAT
 October 18, 2023 – Went back to 3rd floor library for the refurbishment
 May 6, 2024 – Finally returned to the 2nd floor

CHALLENGES

2. Technology & Equipment

- Lack of equipment (printers, computers, marketing equipment such as TV, projector, etc.)
- Security gate and RFID for all students
- E-Resource marketing (low usage due to lack of promotion)

CHALLENGES

3. Staffing & Resources

- Overlapping responsibilities/Juggling multiple roles due to lack of personnel
- Purchase of books (slow process)
- Foreign serials, not yet searchable in Buklod and Tuklas

CHALLENGES

4. User Experience & Services

- Lack of individual table
- No available Discussion room
- Improvised Courtesy shelf for student bags

CHALLENGES




Moved to 2nd floor for the UPCAT. Finally moved back to the 2nd floor.

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

IMPACT:

- For Students: Continued improvements to the physical space and additional services helped create a safe, engaging, and productive study environment for students.
- For Faculty & Researchers: Improved access to academic materials, supporting research and teaching.
- For Partner Communities: Book donations to public schools promoted literacy and supported under-resourced educational systems.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP TACLOBAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

OUTCOMES:

1. Improved Learning Environment
2. Stronger Community Engagement

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Enhance the library as we have library employees who are pursuing PhD and Masters degrees:

1. Ms. Melanie Lyn M. Calope – PhD in Library Studies at Doctoral School of Literary Studies Eotvos Lorand University, Hungary
2024 September – 2028 August
2. Ms. Roshyl D. Mantel – Master of Library and Information Science at Cebu Normal University – 2018-2019, 2023 to present
3. Ms. Angelica C. Roncales – Master of Library and Information Science at Cebu Normal University – 2022 to present
4. Ms. Emaylyn A. Villegas – Juris Doctor at Leyte Colleges, Tacloban City 2021 to present
(granted study leave with pay from March 2025-September 2025)

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 (University of the Philippines Diliman)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Continued use of Buklod
Continued patronage to UP System's subscribed eResources

Tacloban City Campus

- Public Service – revival of "Share-A-Book" program

Sta. Elena Campus

- Services – RFID and IoT integration in Sta. Elena campus
- Designated public library area (no fees to be collected)
- Locker



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, MINDANAO

State of the University Libraries

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
UP MINDANAO
ESTELA R. DEQUING, RL, DM
24-25 JULY 2025

OVERVIEW

The UP Mindanao Library strategically aligned its plans and activities with the University's R25K (Road to 5,000 Students) direction. The library supported this institutional goal by initiating groundwork in the following key areas:



KEY INITIATIVES

- Circulation and User Services (Installation of SMART Digital Library)
- Participation in Library Networks

KEY INITIATIVE: INSTALLATION OF THE SMART DIGITAL LIBRARY



KEY INITIATIVE: INSTALLATION OF THE SMART DIGITAL LIBRARY



KEY INITIATIVE: PARTICIPATION IN LIBRARY NETWORKS

DACUN PhilBIST Conference and Fair



KEY INITIATIVE: PARTICIPATION IN LIBRARY NETWORKS

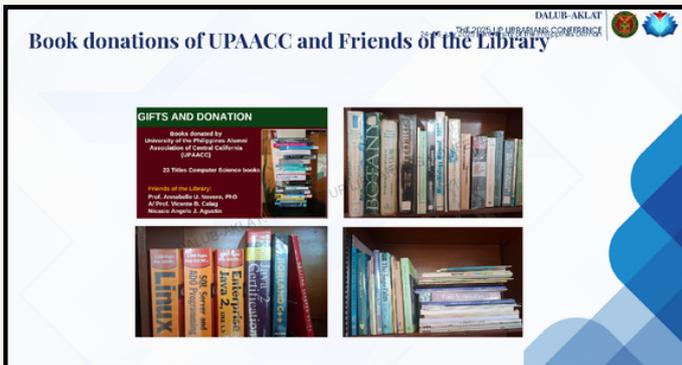
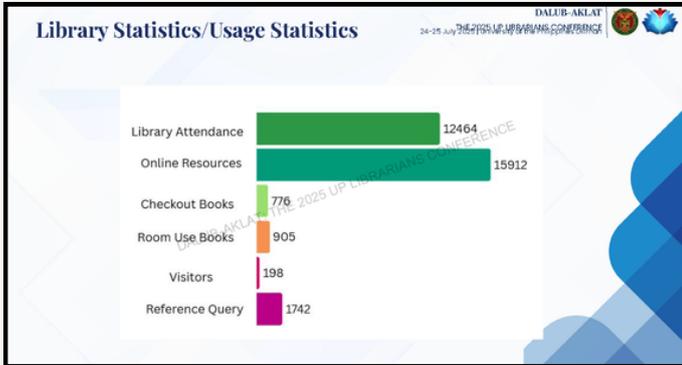
Professional Development



ACHIEVEMENTS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MINDANAO (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



- ### CHALLENGES
- Insufficient Learning Spaces and Lack of Collaborative Areas
 - Inadequate Print Collection
 - Poor Ventilation in Certain Areas

- ### CHALLENGES
- Underutilization of Online Resources
 - Limited Professional Growth Opportunities for Library Personnel
 - Library Data Not Fully Leveraged



CHALLENGES

Collection Development Plan based on projected students R25K (2023-2029)

Degree Programs	Projected Student	College Library	EXISTING LIBRARY COLLECTIONS (T)	GAPS TO FILL
Undergraduate	4355	43550	17118	26432
Graduate (7)	1375	27500	3751	23749
TOTAL	5730	71050	20869	50181



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MINDANAO (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
24-25 July 2025
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Achieve Full Implementation of the Smart Library System
- Strengthen Information Literacy Programs Across All Programs in Three Colleges
- Enhance Professional Engagement and Capacity Building of Library Staff

DALUB-AKLAT
24-25 July 2025
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Leverage Library Data Through Evidence-Based Research and Analytics
- Upgrade and Modernize Physical Library Facilities
- Tablet/E-Reader Lending (Room Use)

DALUB-AKLAT
24-25 July 2025
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE



Thank you!

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MANILA

State of the University Libraries



UP MANILA
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MARYBEL P. CAASI, RL, MAT, MA ED LS
24-25 JULY 2025

OVERVIEW

Chancellor Tee outlined his commitment to making UP Manila a **globally recognized institution**, particularly in the fields of health, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

IDEA of a shared vision for UP Manila.



ABOUT THE UP MANILA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



UPM Libraries
College of Allied Medical Professions, Arts & Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, National Teachers Training Center for the Health Professions, School of Health Sciences (Pala, Leyte) and the Main Library
Colleges/Units Libraries (6)
Seating Capacity – 265 (2001 to present)
Enrollment Size – 551,2nd Sem AY 2024-2025 4372



Library Personnel
18 Librarians (MA- 10 ongoing; MA-B, PhD- 1 ongoing)
2 URAs (2)
10 Administrative Staff (10)



Library Holdings
Books - 65,099
eBooks - 4000
TOTAL - 69,897

VISION

The National Health Resource Library & Research Hub of Excellence that provides access to quality, timely and highly relevant information resources in the medical and allied health sciences.

Advancing Spaces for Learning and Excellence

<https://library.upm.edu.ph> | library.upm@up.edu.ph

KEY INITIATIVES

ISIP "A Strategic Innovation to Support the Changing Needs of Librarians"



- I** - Innovate services and optimize the use of technology
- S** - Strengthen the value of libraries to community
- I** - Inspire librarians and support staff by enhancing their skills and professional practice
- P** - Preserve and make available archives and records determined to have permanent or continuing value

KEY INITIATIVES





KI-1

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD - LIBRARY AND YOU




KI-2

The **extended library** hours will address the unique needs of our students, faculty, and healthcare workers who often have irregular schedules.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MANILA (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

KI-3

Books and Beans: The Pharmacy library launched "Books and Beans," offering free coffee every Wednesday during love month.




DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

KI-4

Candy-guessing Game: Initiated in February 2024, this game remains a community favorite.

"A little bookish love for our favorite readers this Valentine's Day! #loverarian #valentinesreads"




DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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KI-5

CONTINUING AND EXPANDING PIM
Promote Philippine Index Medicus (PIM) as a premier local research resource through events, workshops, or training sessions focused on its content and how it supports Filipino healthcare research.

BUILDING THE UPM IR
The project began by engaging the university community to assess their needs, a crucial step in shaping the repository. It then progressed to defining the scope and services before developing the platform using a tailored, open-source framework. A key highlight was the collaboration with various university units, which was essential for gathering content and ensuring the project's success. Currently, the project is in a critical staffing and pilot testing phase. This allows a dedicated team to be trained and for the platform to be refined based on real-time feedback before its official launch to the entire university community. Mr. Alfred E. Dalmacio, Head Librarian of the UP College of Pharmacy is the team leader for the IR initiative.



DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

ACHIEVEMENTS




DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

A-1

Speaking Engagements

Safeguarding Knowledge: A Roadmap for the University of the Philippines Manila Repository
Presented by Mr. Alfred Dalmacio at the 37th MAHLAP National Congress, held from March 12-14, 2025, in Cebu City

EndNote Online & Turnitin: A Beginner's Guide to Research Tools




Alfred Dalmacio and Jay-R Romulo conducted webinar on

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Speaking Engagements

SUMSUA Culture Exchange 2025
MARIYBEL CAASI

The Evolving Role of Librarians in Preserving and Promoting Cultural Heritage of the Society
Ms. Marybel Caasi, RL, MA, EdD

PECHA KUCHA ON INNOVATION





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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

A-2

Networking, Collaborations, Involvements

Congratulations! ASLP 2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD





Maria Nimfa V. Castro
Vice President, MAHLAP
Sheila May R. Ayran
Public Relations Officer, MAHLAP

Marybel Caasi
Director
ASLP

Gina Canceran
Director
PAARL

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Networking, Collaborations, Involvements

Carla Demabildo
Dhomilyn Hernandez
Sheila Ayran
NUTRINET

Emelorna Delgado
Zaira Salcedo
RWC

Marybel Caasi
Nimfa Castro
SMEC

Marlene Patron
Maira Aquino
Rona Rosales
Unit Representative, REPSA

Carla Demabildo
Lara Fatima Lintao
UL Representatives, RPFC

Maira Aquino
Unit Representative, REPSA

Gina Canceran
Emelorna Delgado
Alfred Dalmacio
ISO Internal Auditor

NUTRINET TecCom Meeting
June 13, 2025
10:00 AM
Via Zoom



DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MANILA (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Networking, Collaborations, Involvements



Benchmarking with UPD College of Law
February 17, 2025



The Manila Central University Deans, Staff and Librarians, headed by Mrs. Lili Echiverri, University Librarian visited the College of Dentistry
March 19, 2025

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Networking, Collaborations, Involvements



Universiti Malaya's staff exchange proposal (benchmarking)
Nov. 27-28, 2025

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

A-3 Extension Services & Outreach Activities





The Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines, Inc., in partnership with Far Eastern University-NRMF Nicanor Reyes Jr. Medical Library and FEU-NRMF Office of Community Engagement has successfully held its annual outreach program last July 6, 2024, with the theme: **Building Libraries, Teaching Hearts, and Fostering Lifelong Learning.**

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

A-4 Research Involvements

Early Access

These are fully published articles that have been peer-reviewed, accepted, copyedited, and the final proof approved by the authors.

Articles

November 28, 2024

Bibliometric Analysis of COVID-19-related Publications in Nursing by Philippine-based Authors

Peter James B. Abad, John Joseph B. Prodois, Julianne Ivan D. Soleriano, Ryan G. De Torres, Kenneth B. Bacas, Maria Angela A. Mubita, Marybel P. Casal and

Exploring Data Governance in Healthcare of Older Persons: A Scoping Review under the Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, University of the Philippines Manila effective February 1, 2024 until April 30, 2024 (**M. P. Caasi** as consultant librarian)

Implementation of Health and Safety Policies and Programs in a State University in the Philippines" Paul Michael R. Hernandez, MD, MPH, Nita F. Yanilla, PTRP, LPT, MPH/Ed, Fevilo A. Obidos Jr., RMT, Carlos Primero D. Gundran, MD, MScDM, Jo Leah A. Flores RN, MSN-MBA, Homer U. Co, MD, Lara Fatima L. Lintao, Arlene A. Samaniego, MD, Dexter C. Tiro, MA/Ed, Gabriel Jay B. Caeang, Isabella Louise B. Navoa 2025, 59(4) 53rd Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health Conference Issue: 14/25 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12916-025-03111-4>

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Research Involvements

"Analytics and LIS: a training needs assessment for selected academic librarians towards data analytics", presented by **Mr. Julius Carangian**, during the the 2024 PLAI webinar.

"Exploring Community Engagement Strategies in Academic Libraries", Joenabie E. Arevalo, Ma. Lindie D. Masalinto, Danzielo-Auristelo T. Lagustan, **María Nimfa V. Castro**, Alma B. Colarina. Paper presented at the PLAI Congress 19-22 November 2024.

The Evolving Role of Librarians in Preserving and Promoting Cultural Heritage of the Society. Paper presented by **Ms. Marybel Caasi**, UP Manila during the PLAI Congress, held on 19-22 November 2024 in Davao City.

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

CHALLENGES




Physical Space limitations, inadequate facilities

Outdated collections, preservation issues

Lower Usage, users may not find value in visiting the library

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

A Commitment to Quality of UPM Libraries Through Accreditation and Standardization

The University Library's commitment to quality is evident in its adherence to ISO standards since the university's application. The library actively participates in activities to deliver high-quality services. This commitment was highlighted in 2022 when the University Library was among the first offices to be audited, a process it passed with no non-conformities.




UPM librarians Gina G. Canceran, Alfred E. Dalmacio, and Emeloma E. Delgado participated in a training for UPM ISO Internal Auditors

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES




Enhancing User Engagement Despite Limitations
Offer Library Orientation & Embedded Librarianship

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MANILA (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Library Orientation held at the College of Medicine Auditorium on October 10, 2024

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

UL Priorities
April 2025 to June 2025

- 01 Revisit/revise Library Organizational Structure
- 02 Create EXECOM (formerly ULAC) as an advisory committee composed of head of unit and college libraries and SABLAY means Student Advisory Board - Library And You
- 03 Formulate a 3-year action plan to ensure the improvement of programs, services, and resources.
- 04 Review of the Library Manual
- 05 Update the UL-ISO documents

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

**Building the Future:
School of Health Sciences (SHS) Library
Project 2026**

This conveys both the practical and forward-thinking aspect of the project.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

HIGHLIGHTING THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY'S HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Celebrating the library's journey can help both current and past students and faculty understand its importance in the broader context of the university's development.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Ground Breaking Ceremony
November 26, 2019

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

UPM Main Library & Learning Commons

Main Entry Wall Information Area

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP MANILA (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

UPM Main Library & Learning Commons



Group Discussion Area



Informal Seating Area

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

UPM Main Library & Learning Commons



Small Group Discussion Room



Multimedia Room

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-29 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

UPM Main Library & Learning Commons



Quiet Lounge Area



Creative Studio



THANK YOU!

Marybel Caasi
University Librarian
(8)822-14-79
library.upm@up.edu.ph
Damian Hall, Padre Faura St., Ermita
Manila



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP DILIMAN

State of the University Libraries



OVERVIEW

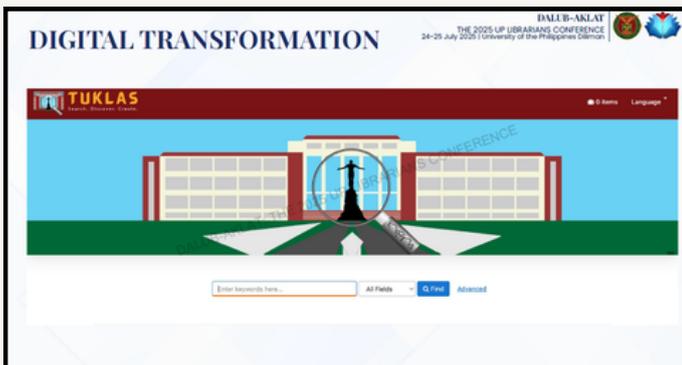
Key initiatives

- Digital transformation
- Smart, resilient and sustainable library programs
- Smart and empowered librarians and library staff
- Smart and empowered library users
- Sustainable partnerships



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Usapang Sinupan
Mon, 9 June
1:00 - 5:00 PM
at the Videotheque,
UP Film Institute
A Forum on Archival Functions, Activities,
and Issues in UP Diliman and Manila



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Library services available for booking

ID	Section Name	Email Address	Telephone #
ARCHIVES	University Archives	archives@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
PLP/PLM/PLS	Philippine Books Section	books@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
READ	Information Services and Instruction Section	read@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
REF/REFL	Book Studies	ref@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
REF/REFL	Book Studies	ref@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
REF/REFL	Special Collections Section	special@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000
REF/REFL	Special Collections and Philosophy Library	special@updlm.edu.ph	092-8000 ext.2000

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Open Access Repository @ UPD
Rare Periodicals

Found [3,438] items and [32,428] media files uploaded in this collection.

Filter by Year - Filter by Language - Filter by Publication Place -

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

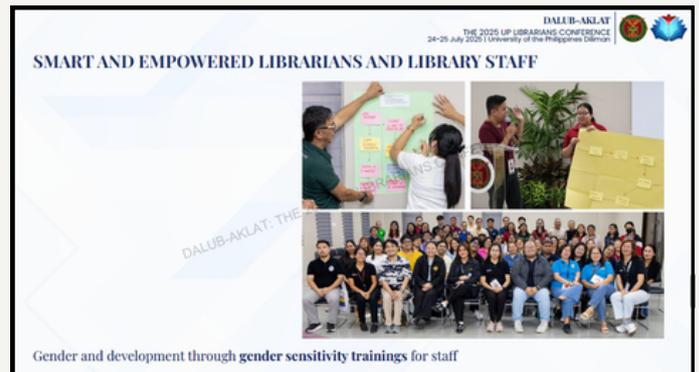
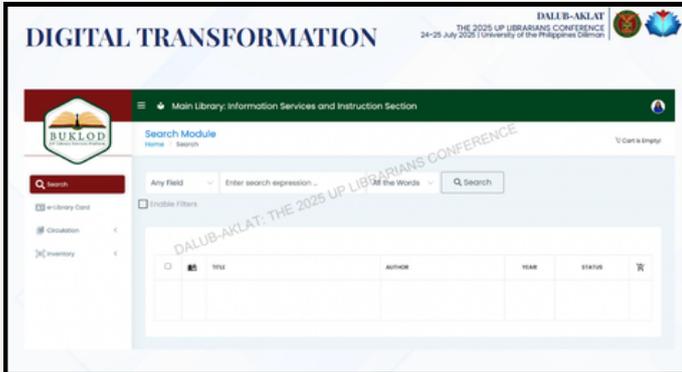
Digital Archives
University of the Philippines Diliman

Any Field Search for...

- Deposit Your Work
- Steps in submitting ETDs
- IR & ETD Policy
- FAQs

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP DILIMAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP DILIMAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

SMART AND EMPOWERED LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARY STAFF

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARY STAFF

SKILL UP
MAXIMIZING STAFF POTENTIAL

23-26 July 2024
HYBRID
UP Diliman, Quezon City

Regular staff training programs for professional development

SMART AND EMPOWERED LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARY STAFF

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

BAHAGIANG
LALAKIP ng DISKURSO sa Aklatan

DIVING DEEP
A Collaborative Reading and Guided Research for Graduate Students

22 February 2025
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Research and mentoring programs

SMART AND EMPOWERED LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARY STAFF

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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COMIE ROTTERDAM
IFLA WARC
ELLSSA
PAARL National Summer Conference and Training

Participation to local and international conferences, mentoring programs; paper presentations and publications

SMART AND EMPOWERED USERS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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SMART AND EMPOWERED USERS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Remote access for all subscribed databases

SMART AND EMPOWERED USERS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Document delivery service - Resource on Demand

SMART AND EMPOWERED USERS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

POWER UP!
BOOSTING RESEARCH IMPACT WITH NEWLY SUBSCRIBED E-RESOURCES

Digital literacy training - Power UP! Boosting Research Impact with Newly Subscribed E-Resources

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP DILIMAN (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

with *Sentro ng Wikang Filipino*

Saliksikang Filipino: Language Resource Center

DALUB-AKLAT THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE 24-25 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

with *Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Resource sharing and allocation project that provides access to selected SUCs to online databases subscribed by the UP System Libraries

DALUB-AKLAT THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE 24-25 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

CHALLENGES

- Doing catch up with rapid tech changes
- Digital literacy gaps
- Changing user expectations
- Space redefinition
- Procurement delays
- Engagement fatigue

DALUB-AKLAT THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE 24-25 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Becoming knowledge hubs
- Fostering digital literacy
- Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Collaborative partnerships
- Streamline library processes
- Enhancing user experience

DALUB-AKLAT THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE 24-25 July 2023 | University of the Philippines Diliman

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP CEBU

State of the University Libraries

UP CEBU UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
SHERYL G. ALFORQUE
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
24 JULY 2025

DAYON KAMO!

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

OVERVIEW

The UP Cebu University Library serves as an essential academic resource hub that enhances the university's teaching and research activities. It provides access to a variety of print and electronic resources, promotes information literacy, and offers both in-person and online services to address the changing needs of students, faculty, and researchers. Aligned with the university's vision, the library evolves in response to learning and technology advances to promote academic excellence, community involvement, promotes innovation, interdisciplinary learning, and public service through responsive services, upgraded systems, and strategic partnerships.

KEY INITIATIVES

The UP Cebu University Library developed and enhanced several key programs and services to meet the evolving needs of its academic community:

1. Strengthened Electronic Resources and Remote Access
2. Conducted Information Literacy and Research Support Programs
3. Enhanced Library Collection Development
4. Provided User Support Services and Online Assistance
5. Conducted Cultural and Community Engagement Initiatives
6. Upgraded Learning Commons Spaces
7. Upgraded Storage with Compact Shelves
8. Installed Solar Panel System at the Annex Building
9. Launched Online Access to the Theses Collection through the Library

KEY INITIATIVES

ACCESS TO VARIOUS ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

KEY INITIATIVES

NEW RESOURCE DISCOVERY PLATFORM - SALIKTRONIKO

KEY INITIATIVES

NEW LIBRARY WEBSITE

KEY INITIATIVES

Information Literacy Program

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP CEBU (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

KEY INITIATIVES
Collection Development for the New Programs Offered

PHD IN DATA SCIENCE (STRAIGHT PhD)
A.Y. 2023-2026

PROFESSIONAL MASTER IN DATA SCIENCE (COMPUTING)
A.Y. 2023-2026

MEng ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDUCATION SYSTEM

MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA (MACM)

BACHELOR OF SPORTS SCIENCE
A.Y. 2023-2026

BACHELOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
A.Y. 2023-2026

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTANCY
A.Y. 2023-2026

KEY INITIATIVES
Library Users Can Contact us via...

UP Cebu University Library

Contact Us

We are pleased to serve you...

KEY INITIATIVES
Yearly Martial Law Literacy Month in partnership with CCAD Faculty

MARTIAL LAW LITERACY CORNER

FREE BOOK DISCUSSIONS

KEY INITIATIVES
Friends of the library

Friends of the library

KEY INITIATIVES
Events in the Library...

Join a Book Discussion

BRIDGING CULTURES, FOSTERING EXCELLENCE; WELCOMING HIS EXCELLENCY MASSIMO SANTORO, EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES

KEY INITIATIVES
Events in the Library...

UP CEBU HEALTH LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING

KEY INITIATIVES
PRESIDENT ANGELO A. JIMENEZ VISITED THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

CIRCULATION

KEY INITIATIVES
Info Hunt Winner 2024
Awarding of Top Borrowers (Faculty & Students)

Info Hunt Winner 2024

Awarding of Top Borrowers (Faculty & Students)

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP CEBU (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

KEY INITIATIVES
Additional Learning Spaces at the Annex Building

KEY INITIATIVES
Upgraded storage with Compact Shelves

KEY INITIATIVES
Solar Panel System

KEY INITIATIVES
Launched Online Access to the Theses Collection through the Library Website.

Year	Title	Author	Year	Year Available Online
2020
2021
2022
2023

KEY INITIATIVES
Personnel Training & Capacity Building

KEY INITIATIVES
Pahinungod Volunteers

MC NINO R. VILLADORES
GAWAAD PAHINUNGOD AWARDEE
UP CEBU

ACHIEVEMENTS

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UP CEBU UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

1. Increased Digital Access and Usage
2. Successfully Conducted Information Literacy Sessions
3. Enhanced Online Reference Service
4. Developed Library Collections
5. Fostered Collaborations and Conducted Staff Development
6. Received Recognition and Positive Feedback
7. Upgraded Library Management Systems
8. Implemented RFID Technology and Security Gate to Improved Resource Protection

ACHIEVEMENTS

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES USAGE

Database	Usage
EBSCO eBooks	10,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	8,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	7,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	6,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	5,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	4,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	3,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	2,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	1,000
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	500
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	200
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	100
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	50
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	20
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	10
EBSCO eBooks (Full Text)	5

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP CEBU (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

ACHIEVEMENTS

ENTRANCE LOG

Registration Overview: 33218 Registrants, Average Score: 0, Average Time: 01:19

Registration Overview: 36363 Registrants, Average Score: 0, Average Time: 00:47

ACHIEVEMENTS

LIBRARY ORIENTATION

College/Department: 194 responses

College/Department	Percentage
School of Management	54.1%
College of Social Sciences	19.1%
College of Science	15.5%
College of Communication, Arts & Design	11.3%

GRADUATE-225
HS-261

2

ACHIEVEMENTS

REFERENCE SERVICE

Service	Value
Reference Service	100
Document Delivery	10

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

2

ACHIEVEMENTS

PARTNERSHIP

2

ACHIEVEMENTS

ONE BILLION RISING

REPS SUMMIT

TOT (TRAINING FOR TRAINERS) ON LOCAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE PROGRAM (LHLGP)

TRAINING OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PER CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITIES PURSUANT TO THE APPROVED-REVISED RULES ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE CASES OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH

PRESIDENT'S CUP SEASON 1 & 2

2

ACHIEVEMENTS

FEEDBACK MECHANISM

Library - CLIENT SATISFACTO

Emotion	Percentage
HAPPY	99%
SAD	1%

3

ACHIEVEMENTS

BUKLOD & TUKLAS SOON

3

ACHIEVEMENTS

IMPLEMENTED RFID TECHNOLOGY AND SECURITY GATE TO IMPROVE RESOURCE PROTECTION

3

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP CEBU (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

ACHIEVEMENTS

THE ANNEX BUILDING IS SET TO LAUNCH THIS COMING AUGUST

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

CHALLENGES

- 1. Resource Constraints**
- Limited budget has hindered the planned upgrades to library facilities.
- 2. Infrastructure Limitations**
- Space constraints limited the expansion of study areas while aging equipment and systems in need of maintenance or replacement affected service delivery and overall user experience.
- 3. Evolving User Needs and Expectations**
- Users' expectations have evolved as more and more people demand digital access, flexible support, and personalized research assistance.

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

CHALLENGES

- 4. Transition and Staffing Changes**
- Early retirement of key personnel has led to temporary gaps in leadership and project continuity.
- 5. Operational Staffing Challenges**
- No administrative staff to assist the librarian in SRP library
- 6. Operational Challenges due to outdated iLib System**
- Affected our daily transactions for cataloging and circulation.
- 7. Request for additional manpower for the book transfer is always challenging.**

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

- 1. Students: Empowered Learning and Research**
- Library orientations, information literacy sessions, and one-on-one research consultations have empowered students to become independent, confident, and effective users of information.
- 2. Faculty Support for Instruction and Curriculum Design**
- The library collaborated closely with faculty to provide course-specific materials, develop resource guides, and support curriculum enhancement.
- 3. Researchers: Improved Access to Scholarly Resources**
- Access to academic databases, open-access journals, and interlibrary loan services empowered researchers to conduct comprehensive literature

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

- 4. Digital and Remote Service Expansion**
- The Library's shift to digital services—such as online reference help, document delivery, and remote access to e-resources, ensured continuity of academic support, especially during the pandemic.
- 5. The modernization of library systems and facilities is expected to attract more users.**

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- 1. Strengthen the Digital Infrastructure**
- Expand access to e-resources and enhance remote access platforms to better support hybrid and online learning.
- 2. Library Space Innovation and Modernization**
- Transform library spaces into collaborative and flexible learning environments that foster interdisciplinary work, group study, and technology integration.
- 3. Strengthen Collection Development**
- Expand and enhance library collections to ensure relevance and alignment with academic programs and research needs.
- 4. Foster Collaboration and Community Engagement**

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- 5. Continuous Professional Growth and Staff Development**
- Continue investing for the professional development programs for librarians and staff to enhance their skills.
- 6. Implement Sustainable Library Practices**
- Eco-friendly library operations, promote paperless transaction and digital communication, encourage reuse of materials, additional installation of solar panel to the old building, and collaborate on campus-wide sustainability initiatives.
- 7. Implementation of Self Check-In/Out for the library**
- 8. Strengthen library safety and security**
- Upgrade CCTV cameras in areas of the library reading area, discussion hall, and outside library premises.

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Daghang SALAM AT!

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP LOS BAÑOS

State of the University Libraries



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OVERVIEW

- Post-pandemic recovery
 - Full service restored
 - Extended hours
- Digital transformation
 - OpenAthens single sign-on
 - InfoSkilled trainings via zoom
 - Expanded digital collections
 - In-house systems (UMS, SINOP)
 - Koha
- New mandates
 - sustainability, cultural heritage, ethical technology use
- Institutional Alignment
 - Academic Excellence
 - Research Innovation
 - Environmental stewardship
 - Public Service
- Student and community Support

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KEY INITIATIVES

INFOSKILLED PROGRAM

- LibSmart+ Sessions
- Lecture Series (LibSmart, InfoLite, Infolit Advanced)
- Block Sessions

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KEY INITIATIVES

INFOPOWER: SHARING KNOWLEDGE, EMPOWERING ROLES (TRAINING SERIES)

InfoSkilled Training of Trainers

Library Training Series for Faculty and REPS
(Advancing Research Excellence: Metrics, Database Searching, and Citation Management)

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KEY INITIATIVES

National Book Week and LIS Month

- Best Thesis and Dissertation Exhibit
- Video Making Contest
- Book Talk Session
- Research Symposium & Culminating Activity

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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KEY INITIATIVES

F.O.O.D.B.O.X. Program

Fueling focus and well-being, Opening Opportunities, Driving to Boost motivation, and Offering eXceptional Support

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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KEY INITIATIVES

LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION (LEaP)

Heritage and Cultural Exhibits

- Thai-Phil Friendship Exhibit
- National Women's Month Exhibit
- Buwan ng Wika Exhibit

DALUB-AKLAT
THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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KEY INITIATIVES

LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION (LEaP)

LIBFAIR 2024
UPLB Libraries: Enabling Campus Synergy for Sustainable Digital Future

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP LOS BAÑOS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

KEY INITIATIVES
LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION (LeaP)

UPIANA Heritage Quiz Bee

KEY INITIATIVES
LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION (LeaP)

HELM Visits On-the-Job Trainees SHS Immersion Program

KEY INITIATIVES
Relationship-Building and Engagement

Revitalization Activity

KEY INITIATIVES
Relationship-Building and Engagement

Health and Wellness Seminar
#FITNESSGOALS: The UPLB University Library's Road to Balance and Better Health Program

KEY INITIATIVES

Year-End Assessment

KEY INITIATIVES

Strategic Planning Workshop and Benchmarking Activity

ACHIEVEMENTS
USER ENGAGEMENT

InfoSkilled sessions
111 sessions (78 F2F and 33 online)
-1,934 attendees

Library Fair
338 students attended

UPIANA Quiz Bee
participated by undergraduate student representatives from each college

ACHIEVEMENTS
CAPACITY BUILDING

- GAD Seminar
- InfoSkilled Training of Trainers
- InfoPower - Training of REPS, Admin Staff and Faculty members
- Cataloging Refresher Workshop

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP LOS BAÑOS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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ACHIEVEMENTS

RECOGNITION



Mr. Edwardo S. Barrera, Jr.
Outstanding Office Staff
2024 Honor Awards Program



InfoSkilled Program
Outstanding Library Program
of the Year Award
PAARL



Dr. Mary Ann M. Ingua
SATKAL Woman Librarian
Award 2023

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ACHIEVEMENTS

SERVICE EXPANSION

ALIVErery BOOKS



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR
ALIVErery
BOOKS



DE-STRESS
THROUGH BAKING





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ACHIEVEMENTS

SERVICE EXPANSION



Library Exhibits



Library of Things



Library Newsletter



University Library Brand Book

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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CHALLENGES

- Operational constraints
 - Extended library hours placed additional pressure on staff scheduling and workload management.
- Infrastructure interruptions
- Balancing physical and digital services
 - Expanding digital platforms (e.g. OpenAthens, Zoom-based trainings) while sustaining in-person services stretched available resources.




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CHALLENGES

Mitigation Measures

- Advance notifications for closures and extended hours via FB & internal channels
- Staff workshop to standardize workplans for efficiency




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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Improved access & engagement

- Extended hours boosted academic productivity
- FoodBox initiative supported student wellbeing and focus

Enhanced research competencies

- Students and faculty trained on citation tools and database searching strategies, leading to more efficient academic outputs

Cultural enrichment

- Heritage events promoted campus-wide cultural awareness and institutional pride

Digital adoption

- Wider access to ebooks, ejournals, and databases
- Online platforms and communications expanded outreach and inclusion

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THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
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FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Spatial redesign

- Re-imagining library spaces into collaborative zones, group study rooms, and activity pods with sustainable, flexible furnishings.

Hybrid service expansion

- Continued InfoSkilled trainings via Zoom and F2F;
- promote green library practices,
- engage in local and international training exchanges and volunteer programs

Infrastructure & sustainability

- Purchase of eco-friendly, flexible furniture; optimized lighting & energy usage, and upgrade of automated security systems, loan and returning of books

Partnerships & outreach

- Expand immersion programs for local schools; foster international-cultural exchanges and digital resource collaborations.

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FUTURE DIRECTIONS




NEW LIBRARY BUILDING

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS

State of the University Libraries



OVERVIEW

- This reports highlights the new library building
- Presentation of the building's current status (i.e. physical structure and condition)

OVERVIEW

Discussion will also focus on:

- Current resources and services of the library
- Institutional Repository
- Development Plans



Library Opening
May 26, 2025

The New Library Building

The library's exterior is cement finished.

The New Library Building

Interior is furnished in a simple yet functional manner, designed to ensure comfort and suitability for library users

The New Library Building

Ground Floor serves as the main Circulation area hosting the CAS, CFOS, and SOTECH collection

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

The New Library Building

Mezzanine Floor will serve as the reference area:
Reference & Serials Section, and the UPV Archives

The New Library Building

The Administrative Office and the Office of the University Librarian are in the lobby, while the Technical Services Section is on the Ground Floor.

The New Library Building

A food lounge will be setup in this area

The New Library Building

This strategic location ensures that all administrative matters and other non-circulation/reference services are served at the entrance of the building.

This ensures:

- that nuisance in the reading/study area is minimized;
- the safety and protection of library collection; and
- a better user experience.

The Library Services

The Library Services

Although we transferred in the new library building, most of major services retained

OPAC Circulation

The Library Services

Reading Spaces Audio-Visual Room

The Library Services

Online Databases Chat BISAY

Hi! I'm Bisay!
Your UPV Library Virtual Assistant

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

The Library Services

FB page

Library Website

Online Requests

- Utilization of Google Forms and other online form application to facilitate requests such as borrowing, renewing, library registration document request, etc.

Library Login

- Utilization of Google application, specifically, Google Sheets for capturing library logins
- The data captured by this sheet is used in automatic reporting

Automatic Reporting

- Utilization of online tools for real-time reporting (i.e. library logins)
- This enables the library to see the real-time users in the library

App: Google Looker

The Library Personnel

The Library Personnel

- We conduct personnel reorganization due to retirements and relocation
- Optimizing staff-role alignment and minimizing mismatches.

New Library Personnel

Rosemarie M. Canson
College Librarian

Jenny Vebs. E Gayola
Admin Staff

Jane Bernadette A. Sansolis
Admin Staff

Arnes A. Pascualina

Marella N. Tanapan

New Library Personnel

(L-R) John Carlo Napata, Gyca F. Magusara, Gem Burneth E. Lacambra

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



GAD Integrated Area

This is in support to the provisions of Gender and Development (GAD) area per building.

Quite and Discussion Rooms

Provision of Quite and Discussion Rooms for users who wants to study quietly or wants to discuss.

Learning Spaces

Provision of temporary learning/public spaces for socialization and collaboration.

Fiction Area

Setup of a mini-Fiction Area for bookworms.

Digital Repository Room

The setup of the digitization area intended for the Institutional Repository and other digitization process



UPV Archives

- Setup of UPV Archives - donated by the University of the Philippines Medical Alumni Society in America (UPMASA)
- Worth 1.2 million pesos

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

UPV Archives

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

- A 6hp air-conditioning unit donated by Dr. Arcadio F. Ortiz, Jr. and Dr. Josefina B. Pison-Ortiz, worth Php 200,000, providing comfort and ventilation for the users of UPV Archives.

Donations Spearheaded by Mr. and Mrs. Zyrel and Johanna Rojo

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Donation more than 6,000 volumes of books (approximately Php2 million) and 9 steel shelves and other equipment (worth more than Php1 million)

Donations Spearheaded by Mr. and Mrs. Zyrel and Johanna Rojo

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Materials and equipment for the GAD Integrated Area

Institutional Repository

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

It was launched on May 26, 2025

Blessing & Digital Repository Launching

UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

<https://repository.upv.edu.ph>

UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Browsing the homepage

UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)

THE 2025 UP LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE
24-25 July 2025 | University of the Philippines Diliman

Check the article or result

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)



Download or view the available content

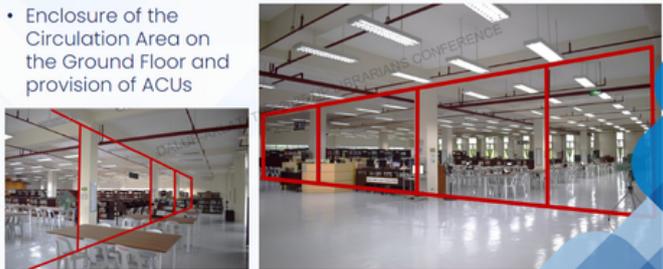
UPV-Digital Repository (UPV-DR)'s IMPORTANCE

- The UPV-DR provides convenient access to UPV's published and unpublished articles.
- It promotes the UPV's academic and research works.
- It supports the library's function of providing a collection of information using modern technology

Development Plans

General Circulation Area

- Enclosure of the Circulation Area on the Ground Floor and provision of ACUs



Reference/Serials Section

- Enclosure of the Reference/Serials Section on the Mezzanine Floor and provision of ACUs



Cybernook Area

Setup of the Cybernook and IT Support Services Area



Conference/Multi-Purpose Room

Setup of the Conference/Multi Purpose Room at the Mezzanine Floor



Challenges

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

Budget Constraints

Library MOOE per year:
Php 60,000 (15,000/quarter)

Library Fee (TLA) per year:
Php 1,870,000 (467,500/quarter)

Building Conditions

Water leakage/seepage

Transportation

Currently, no transportation going to and from the library

Warm Weather

Affecting the ambient temperature inside the library

Utilities

The power outage not only affected electricity but also cut off the building's water supply.

Impacts and Outcomes

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

convenient access to information

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

access to variety of online databases and resources

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

convenient circulation and usage of print resources

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

support for academic and research needs

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

conducive learning environment

Comments/Feedbacks

- The librarians are very accommodating and kind. Thank you so much po!
- The staff were accommodating and the transition was smooth.
- Thank you for the assistance. I hope the UPV administration will provide the library and archives with better [financial] support to enable it to operate more fully, even more comfortably.
- Big thanks to the staff (Mr. Paguntalan) for being super accommodation and efficient! You made the process so smooth and hassle-free. Your prompt assistance is truly appreciated!
- The transaction was smooth, and the staff was very accommodating and considerate of my concerns.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Enhance the learning environment by providing appropriate learning spaces and avenues for academic and personal growth

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Invest more on modern technologies in delivering library services

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

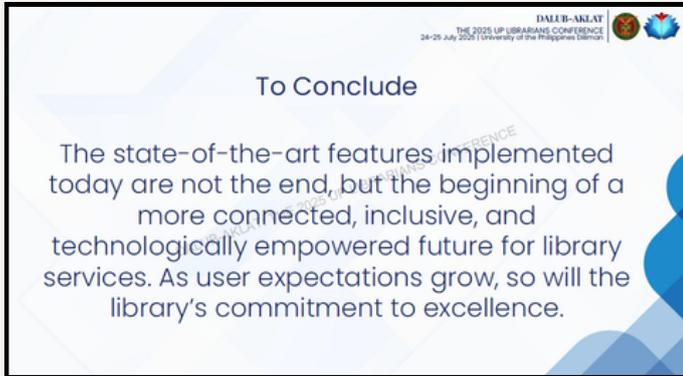
Enhance its public engagements and extensions, providing extension activities to schools and other institutions

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Strengthen linkages and collaborations with different institutions, locally and abroad

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UP VISAYAS (Cont'd.)

State of the University Libraries



To Conclude

The state-of-the-art features implemented today are not the end, but the beginning of a more connected, inclusive, and technologically empowered future for library services. As user expectations grow, so will the library's commitment to excellence.



Thank you!



Dalub-Aklat 2025: Reflections from UP Baguio Librarians

Eufemia A. Terre, OIC Head, University Library, UP Baguio

Five librarians namely Amelia Cendana, Julieta Dela Pena, Christian Jade Garcia, Rojan Paleng, Eufemia Terre, Cristina Villanueva and Bryan Galera, an Administrative Staff of the University of the Philippines Baguio Library had the opportunity to participate in *Dalub-Aklat: The 2025 UP Librarians Conference*, held on July 24-25, 2025 at the Institute of Biology Auditorium in UP Diliman. For us, as librarians from a small campus and a small library, this gathering was both meaningful and affirming.

The conference opened with updates from UP's different constituent universities. These presentations offered valuable perspectives on the current state of libraries across the UP System. Listening to these reports reminded us that, while our contexts may differ in scale and resources, we share common goals, challenges, and aspirations in supporting teaching, learning, and research.

The first session, which focused on the evolving role of the library as a facilitator of transformative learning, resonated strongly with us. It encouraged reflection on our own practices and reinforced the idea that libraries, regardless of size, can make a meaningful impact through thoughtful services, responsive programs, and a genuine commitment to our users.

Equally important was the opportunity to engage with fellow librarians from other UP units. For a small campus like UP Baguio, the chance to connect, exchange insights, and learn from colleagues across the system is invaluable. These interactions strengthened our sense of belonging to the wider UP library community and affirmed that our experiences and contributions matter.

Overall, our participation in Dalub-Aklat 2025 was a positive and enriching experience. It renewed our motivation and provided fresh perspectives that we bring back to our work in UP Baguio. The conference reminded us that even as a small library, we play an important role in advancing a future-ready and learner-centered UP.



Dalub-Aklat 2025 Reflections from UP Cebu

University Library, UP Cebu

For us, the library personnel of UP Cebu, Daluk-Aklat was a reminder of what we do, it was more than just a conference. The gathering affirmed that libraries are indeed the heart of the university's academic life, especially with the rapid change of technology and the evolving user needs and modes of learning.

We were inspired by how the conference framed the library personnel as educators, collaborators, and innovators—not just merely custodians of books. As the smart and innovative libraries were emphasized, we continue to balance our services with digital transformation and user-centered approaches. The conference also inspired us to think creatively on how our spaces, resources, and activities can be of better support to the research needs of our users, including their well-being.

Moreover, Dalub-Aklat strengthened our sense of belonging to a wider UP library community. Exchanging experiences with library personnel from other constituent universities reminded us that many of our challenges and success stories can be shared—and that we can learn from one another.

For us at UP Cebu University Library, we returned with renewed motivation to make our services more valuable—inclusive, visible, and responsive to the needs of our library users and the UP Cebu community.

Lastly, Dalub-Aklat was both a call of action and a celebration of our profession. It reminded us that our core mission remains despite the rapid change of technologies: to connect, support, and help in shaping a more informed and empowered community, not just UP Cebu.



Sama-sama sa Pagbabago: The UP Manila Journey to Dalub-Aklat

Alfred E. Dalmacio, RL, MLIS, University Library, UP Manila

The UP Manila delegation had a distinguished presence at the conference, headed by Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Bernadette Heizel M. Reyes and University Librarian Ms. Marybel P. Caasi, who was both a speaker and a moderator, together with a committed delegation of Head Librarians, Ms. Gina Canceran (Dentistry), Ms. Carla G. Demabildo (Medicine), Mr. Alfred Dalmacio (Pharmacy), Ms. Rea Joy Garcia (SHS Palo, Leyte), Ms. Dhomilyn C. Hernandez (Public Health), and Ms. Marlene Patron (CAMP), with crucial support from other librarians, Mr. Jay-Ar Romulo (Pharmacy) and Ms. Maira M. Aquino (Nursing), and Mr. Julius Carangian (Dentistry), who served as one of the Masters of Ceremonies for the event.

SEAMLESS ORGANIZATION AND HOSPITALITY

The commitment of the Organizing Committee was apparent even before we stepped into the venue. They were proactive and diligent in providing updates through a dedicated group chat and maintained an official event website that kept participants well-informed. Their hospitality became even more evident onsite. From the seamless entry process to the helpful assistance inside the auditorium, and even their cheerful response to our request for assistance in taking group photos. The organizers were less like venue staff and more like an extension of our own helpful colleagues.

INNOVATION AND INTERACTION: EXHIBITS AND SPEAKERS

The Supplier's Exhibit was a valuable opportunity for us to discover new services for our respective colleges. Each supplier booth had interactive activities that promoted hands-on engagement. This was complemented by a stellar lineup of local and international speakers. Listening to these speakers share their insights and visions for the future of the library experience was both inspiring and empowering, giving us the knowledge to provide more efficient and effective services for our stakeholders.

SOCIALIZATION AND BENCHMARKING

The conference provided our team with one of its most meaningful experiences when we had the chance to interact with librarians from other Constituent Universities. The venue served as an ideal platform for our benchmarking activities because we could share our best practices while discussing our common challenges. The experience brought personal happiness when we encountered former classmates who now work at different UP libraries.



Dedication in Action: UP Visayas Librarians Brave Storms to Join Dalub-Aklat 2025

University Library, UP Visayas

Librarians and staff from the University of the Philippines Visayas (UPV) joined colleagues from across the UP System at Dalub-Aklat: The 2025 UP Librarians Conference, held 24-25 January 2025, at the Institute of Biology Auditorium in University of the Philippines Diliman.

Carrying the theme “Advancing Transformative Education Through Smart and Innovative Libraries,” the two-day gathering underscored the evolving role of UP Libraries in fostering transformative learning, public service, equity, and accessibility—principles anchored in the University’s enduring ideals of honor, excellence, and service.

Leading the UPV delegation was University Librarian Analiza S. Galang-Linaugo. She was joined by Anna Lisa M. Erazo (College of Arts and Sciences Library), Elsa S. Surmieda (College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Library), Prosamel N. Salcedo (Graduate Library), Ma. Yvonne E. Genciane (UPV Archives), Rosemarie M. Canson (Acquisition and Electronic Services), and Gem Burneth E. Lacambra (Institutional Repository). Library staff members Jason S. Sedantes, Sophia B. Diasanta, and Salvacion F. Ojera also took part in the conference.

Their participation came despite formidable challenges. With three typhoons threatening parts of the country, flight cancellations and flooding disrupted travel schedules. Nevertheless, the delegation safely arrived at Ninoy Aquino International Airport and proceeded to their accommodations, demonstrating a strong commitment to professional development and institutional representation.

Inclement weather, however, forced the cancellation of scheduled benchmarking visits to the UP Diliman College of Engineering Library, the National Library of the Philippines, and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Library.

The conference proper opened with presentations from constituent university libraries across the UP System. Each unit shared innovations, milestones, programs, and current developments, offering a comprehensive view of how libraries are adapting to changing academic landscapes. The exchange allowed participants to identify best practices and explore collaborative opportunities.

Galang-Linaugo presented the accomplishments of the UPV University Library, highlighting its recent transfer to a new library building, expanded learning spaces, digital initiatives, and forward-looking plans. She also addressed challenges encountered during the transition and outlined strategies aimed at strengthening services and accessibility.

On the second day, discussions turned to the future of library design and service delivery. Resource speakers emphasized the importance of creating inclusive, technology-enabled learning environments that promote comfort and collaboration. Sessions explored modern library architecture, digitization, automation, and the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance user experience and operational efficiency.

For the UPV delegates, Dalub-Aklat 2025 served as both a platform for knowledge exchange and a reaffirmation of the library's vital role in higher education. Despite adverse weather conditions, the delegation returned home equipped with fresh insights and practical strategies to further improve services in their respective units.

Their journey reflected more than attendance at a professional gathering—it embodied dedication in action, as UPV librarians continue to advance innovative, accessible, and transformative library services for the academic community.

Retro Rewind: Dalub-Aklat After Dark

J.A. Domingo, Dalub-Aklat Fellowship Committee

Bell-bottoms, bright prints, and big retro energy filled the room as the Fellowship Night brought the Dalub-Aklat: The 2025 UP Librarians Conference to life. Led by the ever-dynamic Fellowship Committee—Anthony Atibagos (Chair), Anthony Atuel (Co-Chair), and members Crizell Joy Garcia-Atuel, Jo-Anne Domingo, Mary Jane Camacho, and Marzo Meco Alfonso—the night was a full-on throwback party librarians won't soon forget.

From the moment participants walked in, it was clear: everyone understood the assignment. Neon outfits, vintage glam, and playful accessories turned the venue into a time machine. Cameras flashed, laughter echoed, and the vibe was unmistakably groovy.

The show kicked off with a crowd-pleasing duet of “Mamma Mia” by Jo-Anne Domingo and Mary Jane Camacho—instantly setting the tone for a sing-along evening. An OPM classics medley followed, with each committee member taking the mic, and brought amusement to the audience, as one member belted her heart out, despite not reaching the right notes. When “Chiquitita” began, the committee members staged a hilarious mini-skit, with Co-Chair Anthony Atuel acting as an overly dramatic conductor who theatrically cued everyone—

except Chair Anthony Atibagos. Each time the Chair was about to sing, he was playfully skipped, much to the audience's delight. When he finally got the mic, he simply said, “Thank you!”—sending the room into roaring laughter.

The Best Dressed segment turned into a mini runway showdown, complete with witty ramp walks and playful gimmicks. Winners were crowned based on the loudest cheers, making the audience just as competitive as the contestants.

Adding to the excitement was the Sagwanan 2025 Exhibit Raffle Draw, sponsored by participating suppliers namely, CE Logic, Emerald Insight, Springer Nature, Statista, Clarivate, LibTech Source Philippines, Megatexts, Forefront Book Co., Inc., Gale Academic, Cambridge, Sage, IEEE, Jove, ACS, EBSCO, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, Academic Paradigm Inc., and Pressreader. Two mobile phones, two smart watches, wireless earphones, tumblers, Starbucks gift cards, USB flash drives, and Grab e-vouchers found very happy new owners.

Despite the rainy weather, the night wrapped up around 8:00 PM with glowing smiles, happy winners, and a room full of librarians who proved they can party—retro style.





CONFERENCE LOGO

The unfolded pages of the book represent the unrestrained potential of the UP System's eight (8) Constituent University Libraries and one (1) autonomous unit in addressing the challenges of the 21st Century.

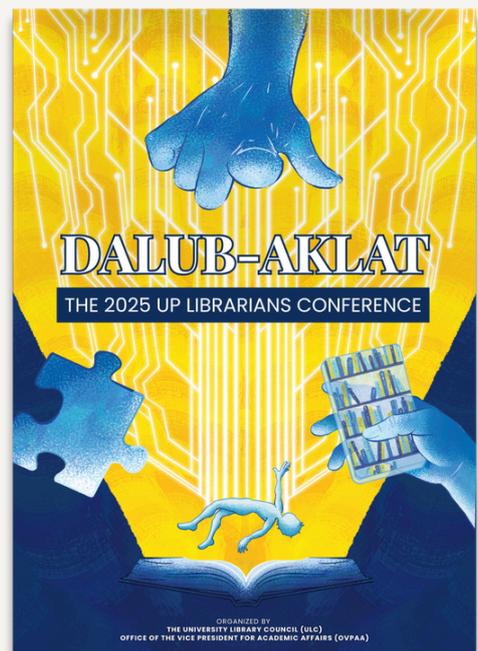
Placed at the middle of the book is a rendition of Guillermo Tolentino's Oblation, an epitome of self-sacrifice in the name of nation building. Akin to a book spine, it binds and anchors each university library on the ideals of Honor, Excellence, and Service.

Hues of the color blue signifies the successful adoption of technology within the libraries while the color maroon manifests the university's visual identity.

CONFERENCE POSTER

For the University Library's 2025 Library Conference, innovation and technology take center stage in visual design. Blue grounds the tone with a sense of professionalism, trust, and forward-thinking, while yellow brings a touch of creativity, warmth, and possibility. Together, they symbolize the balance between structure and imagination—the spirit of digital progress and the evolving identity of smart, innovative libraries. Idealized within the foreground is a visual representation of a librarian transcending their limitations and expectations through the perceptive use of technology.

Each visual element tells a story of how technology is empowering learners, expanding access, and igniting transformation. The design captures the movement from tradition to innovation, from potential to progress, through the lens of transformative education.

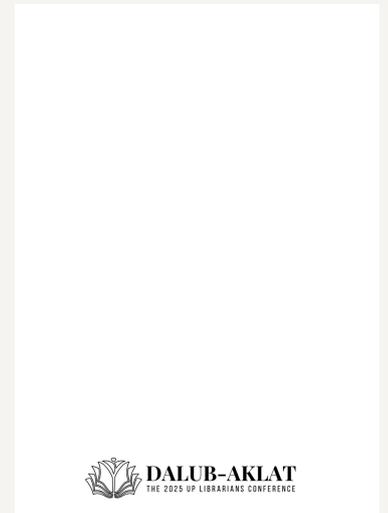
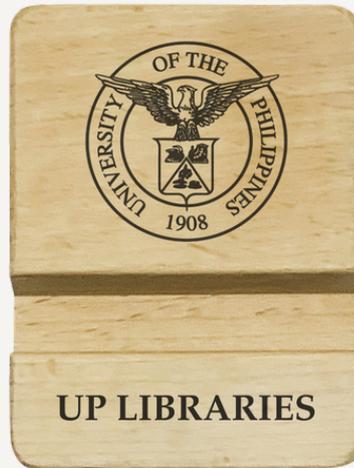


Dalub-Aklat Kit

Reversible Lanyard



Phone holder



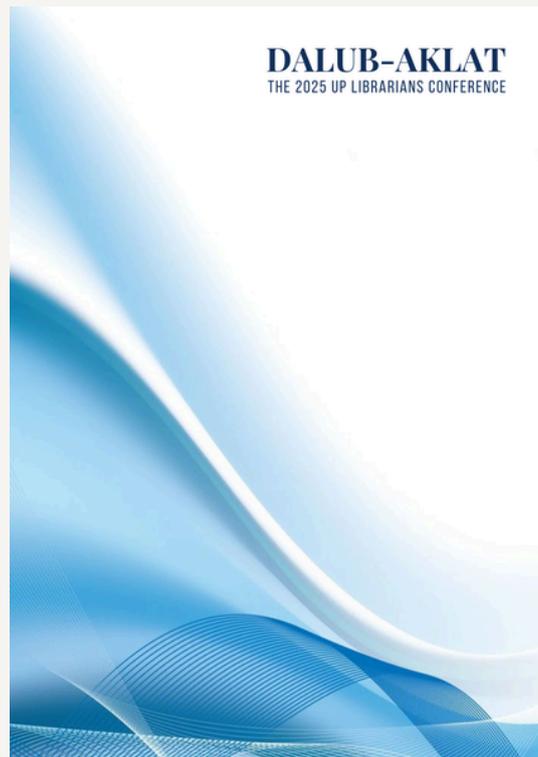
Memo Pad



Conference ID



Tote Bag



Folder



Pen

DALUB-AKLAT PHOTO GALLERY



DALUB-AKLAT PHOTO GALLERY



DALUB-AKLAT PHOTO GALLERY



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