



# PEMS Newsletter

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4<sup>th</sup> issue

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## PEMS 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

PEMS held its first ever out-of town convention last 23-24 October 2006 at the University of the Philippines-Baguio, Baguio City, Benguet Province with the theme entitled "Ethnobotanical Treasures of the Cordilleras". The two-day convention consisted of plenary lectures and workshops from experts in the field of plant and mutation researches. Prof. Celia Austria of UP Baguio first talked about the biodiversity of the Cordilleras, showing interesting species of plants which can be potential subjects for future research. Dr. Irene M. Villaseñor of the Institute of Chemistry (IC), UP Diliman, discussed the role of bioflavonoids, found in vegetables, as phytoestrogens that can prevent mutations. Dr. Titos Anacleto O. Quibuyen, also from the same institute, delved on the other interesting uses of plants, such as being heavy metal accumulators, and as sources of cosmetics and sanitary products. Three workshops were held in the afternoons of the two-day event.

Dr. Annabelle Herrera of the Institute of Biology (IB), UP Diliman presented the duck embryo assay as a means to evaluate teratogenicity and angiogenicity. Jusal Quanico and Rachel Anne Porras, both from IC, conducted the micronucleus test and *Rec* and Ames assays to detect mutations, with hands-on demonstrations on animals. Ma. Aiko Diaz and Angela Clarissa Cantalejo from the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry (NIMBB), UP Diliman held pen and paper exercises on plant DNA fingerprinting.

The convention was attended by 28 participants from various schools and industries, namely: UP Diliman (UPD), UP Baguio (UPB), Natural Science Research Institute (NSRI, UPD), UP Manila (UPM), Pampanga Agricultural College (PAC), Holy Angel University (HAU), Benguet State University (BSU), Mapua Institute of Technology – Intramuros, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU), PLT College Incorporated, Bulacan State University

(BSU), St. Louis University (SLU), Tarlac State University (TSU), St. Mary's University and Abagon Elementary School.

## PEMS welcomes its new members

PEMS new life members:

1. Labastilla, Evelyn M.
2. Rubio, Raquel O.
3. Yumul, Raquel Dingal

PEMS new members:

1. Alberto, Francisco Jr. U.
2. Calicdan, Theresa R.
3. Daligdig, Corazon
4. Gapasen, Mildred
5. Gonzales, Edward F.
6. Mabutas, Mercedita A.
7. Macalalad, Angelica A.
8. Magtibay, Amor P.
9. Neri, Virginia A.
10. Reginaldo, Aris
11. Rualo, Glennadi

## PEMS New Website

The Philippine Environmental Mutagen Society has a new website. Please check it out: <http://www.PhilEMS.org>

## Call for Nominations

The term of office of the current PEMS Board of Directors expired last December 2006. There were no nominations made last year so the current PEMS Board of Directors is in a holding capacity until the new members of the Board of Directors are elected. The Secretary of the Society, Dr. Irene M. Villaseñor, is again making a call for nominations. There are ten seats in the Board of Directors. All regular and life members of the Society who are in good standing may be nominated. The list of life members and regular members are posted at the PEMS website: <http://www.PhilEMS.org>. Please make your nominations by e-mail or by mail.

### Through e-mail:

PEMS: [philemsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:philemsoc@yahoo.com)  
Secretary: [ivillase@chem.upd.edu.ph](mailto:ivillase@chem.upd.edu.ph)  
Asst. Secretary: [ecamor@up.edu.ph](mailto:ecamor@up.edu.ph)

### Through mail addressed to:

Dr. Irene M. Villaseñor  
Institute of Chemistry, UP Diliman, QC 1101

# 27<sup>th</sup> PEMS Annual Convention

You are cordially invited to participate in the next annual convention of the Society with the theme **“Emerging Diseases in a Changing Environment”** which will be held on **24 November 2007 (Saturday)** from 12:30 – 5:00 PM at the UP Film Center, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City.

The following have agreed to give lectures during the convention: Dr. Windell Rivera of the Institute of Biology, UP Diliman on ‘Enteric opportunistic protozoans in immunocompromised hosts’, Dr. Alyssa Peleo-Alampay of the National Institute of Geological Sciences, UP Diliman on ‘The Truth of Global Warming Today’ and Dr. Alvin Marcelo Director, UP Manila National Telehealth Center and Chief, UP College of Medicine Medical Informatics Unit of UP Manila on ‘Emerging Opportunities for Research in E-Health’.

Registration will start at 12:30 PM on 24 November 2007. Convention fee is P 350 for members, P 500 for non-members, and P 250 for students with ID. This fee is inclusive of PM snacks.

## Programme

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	– Registration/Elections
1:30 – 1:40	– Opening and Welcoming Remarks
1:40 – 2:10	– 1 <sup>st</sup> speaker
2:10 – 2:20	– open forum
2:20 – 2:50	– 2 <sup>nd</sup> speaker
2:50 – 3:00	– open forum
3:00 – 3:40	– snack break/ poster viewing/elections
3:40 – 4:10	– 3 <sup>rd</sup> speaker
4:10 – 4:20	– open forum
4:20 – 4:40	– Quiz show
4:40 – 5:00	– Business meeting

## Call for Papers

PEMS members and other interested researchers are invited to submit abstracts of their papers for poster presentation. Poster papers should be original researches related to biodiversity, mutagenesis / antimutagenesis and related topics. Instructions for the submission of abstracts include the following:

1. Title of abstract should be written in 10 pt Bold Arial or Times New Roman.
2. Names of authors and affiliations should be written in 10-pt Italic

Arial or Times New Roman.  
Underline the name of the presenting author. Include email address of the presenting author.

3. Title, authors’ names, affiliations are centered.
4. Text of the abstract should be not more than 300 words in length and written in 10 pt Regular Arial or Times New Roman. Should be single-spaced and justified.
5. Submit the abstract as an attachment of MS Word document via email to the Scientific Papers Committee headed by:

Dr. Amerufina D. Santos  
([ameurfinas@gmail.com](mailto:ameurfinas@gmail.com))

Please indicate in the subject line of the email: *“PEMS07\_ your name”*

Deadline for submission of abstracts is on **09 November 2007**.

## Call for Membership

You are invited to join the Philippine Environmental Mutagen Society.

Membership fees are:

New Member: PhP 200  
Life Member: PhP 1000  
Renewal: PhP 150

Please visit the website at <http://www.PhilEMS.org> for more information and convention updates.