



# PEMS Newsletter

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6<sup>th</sup> issue

October 2009

## PEMS 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

PEMS held its 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention on 06 December 2008 at the Engineering Theater, College of Engineering (Melchor Hall), UP Diliman, Quezon City. The theme of the convention was “Mutagenesis in Health and Research”. Dr. Neil Andrew D. Bascos of the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, UP Diliman talked on ‘Mutations and Modified Protein Functions’, Dr. Denise Noelle R. Mirano-Bascos of the same Institute talked on “Changing the Immune Response to HIV by Mutation” and Dr. Peter A. Sy of the Department of Philosophy, UP Diliman, talked on “Ethics and Research in Environmental and Molecular Mutagenesis.

The convention was very well attended with a total of 218 participants, majority of which were UP students enrolled in Bio 1. There were 23 new regular members and 7 new life members. The participants hailed from various schools and the industry, namely: UP Diliman (UPD), University of Santo Tomas (UST), St. Mary’s University (Nueva Vizcaya), St. Paul University (Tuguegarao City), Angeles University Foundation (AUF), Holy Angel University (Angeles City), Centro Escolar University (CEU), Bulacan State University (BSU), Tarlac State University (TSU), University of the Cordilleras (Baguio City), Pampanga

Agricultural College (PAC), Cagayan State University (CSU), University of the East Caloocan, Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU), Our Lady of Fatima University (Valenzuela City), Natural Science Research Institute (NSRI, UPD), Unilever Philippines, Inc..

## PEMS welcomes its new members

PEMS new life members:

1. Bascos, Denise Noelle M.
2. Bascos, Neil, Andrew D.
3. Batanes, Teresita A.
4. Dizon, Pio Angelo G.
5. Fernandez, Xyris Gerard A.
6. Guevarra, Maydeen D.
7. Hidalgo, Janet D.

PEMS Regular members:

1. Aguilar, Evangeline M.
2. Alberto, Francisco Jr. U.
3. Basilio, Eleonor R.
4. Bucud, Lea Anne D.
5. Bulaong, Erlinda S.
6. Caballero, Muriel E.
7. Calaguas, Maila Francisca
8. Calubaquib, Jhoanna B.
9. Cardenal, Dennis M.
10. Catap, Elena S.
11. Ching, Maricar W.
12. Daligdig, Corazon L.

13. Escote, Learnie J.
14. Estrella, Luthgarda D.
15. Jumawan, Joycelyn C.
16. Jusayan, Pierce M.
17. Lanto, Marilou M.
18. Mamorno, Aida L.
19. Marquez, Donna Fe D.
20. Nudo, Leonora P.
21. Paitan, Virginia P.
22. Pangilinan, Ma. Eva C.
23. Saliba, Pepito P.
24. Salangang, Maria Cecilia D.
25. Santos, Joan Q.
26. Tango, Jazzlyn M.
27. Thiam, Elma
28. Trinidad, Eleonor
29. Yabut, Josephine D.

## Call for Nominations

The current PEMS Board of Directors is on a holdover capacity due to failure of elections held in December 2008. 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  
Secretary: ivillase@yahoo.com

**Through mail addressed to:**

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

# 29<sup>th</sup> PEMS Annual Convention (2009)

You are cordially invited to participate in the next annual convention of the Society with the theme **“Genes in the Environment”** which will be held on **21 November 2009 (Saturday)** from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM at the CS Auditorium, CSLAB, Velasquez St., University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City.

Faculty members from the Institute of Biology, UP Diliman will deliver lectures and conduct workshops at the Institute of Biology, UP Diliman during the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Society. Everyone is invited to participate. However for the afternoon Workshops, only thirty (30) slots can be accommodated per workshop, on a first-come first-served basis. You are encouraged to register early.

## Program

- 8:30 – 9:00 am Opening Ceremonies
- 9:05 – 9:40 am Dr. Jonas P. Quilang,  
**“Environmental Monitoring Using the Allium Test and the *Danio rerio* Assay”**
- 9:40 – 10:40 am  
Snacks and Poster Session  
Elections
- 10:40 – 11:20 am  
Dr. Ian Kendrich Fontanilla  
**“How Well Do You Know Your Worms? Searching for Hidden Nematodes Using DNA Barcodes”**
- 11:20 am – 12:00 pm  
Dr. Juliana Janet Puzon  
**“Hydroponics in the Assessment of Heavy Metals Stress Tolerance in Plants”**
- 12:00 – 12:30 pm Closing Ceremonies  
Business Meeting
- 12:30 – 1:30 pm LUNCH
- 2:00 – 4:45 pm Parallel Workshops
- 3:15 – 3:30 pm Snacks
- 4:45 – 5:00 pm  
Closing Ceremonies for the Workshop

## WORKSHOPS

- Allium Test and *Danio rerio* Assay**  
by Dr. Jonas P. Quilang  
These are genotoxicity test methods that can be used for environmental monitoring.
- Introduction to Bioinformatics: Use of NCBI BLAST to Identify Unknown Worms**  
by Dr. Ian Kendrich Fontanilla  
This workshop will enable the participants to identify unknown nematodes using their DNA barcodes using DNA sequence database from GenBank.

## Registration fees

	Lecture only*	Lecture w/ workshop**
Members:	PhP 400	PhP 600
Non-members:	PhP 500	PhP 750
Students with ID:	PhP 250	PhP 450

### REGISTRATION STARTS AT 7:30 AM

- \*This fee is inclusive of AM snacks and Lunch
- \*\*This fee is inclusive of AM & PM snacks and Lunch plus workshop materials

## 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. The abstract must include: introduction, significance of study, objectives, methodology, results, discussion, conclusion, recommendations if any. 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. Amuerfina D. Santos  
(ameurfinas@gmail.com)

Please indicate in the subject line of the email: *“PEMS08\_your name”*

Deadline for submission of abstracts is on **07 November 2008**.

## 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.