



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region VI – Western Visayas
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF CAPIZ

Division Advisory No. 143, s. 2024

02 SEP 2024

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd SDO Capiz officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.depedcapiz.ph)

Attached is Regional Advisory No. 164, s. 2024 titled **29TH BIOSCIENCES
QUIZ BEE**.

Participation to this activity is voluntary.

For more information, contact:

Albert Matthew Pasigui

Event Co-Head

Email Address: ampasigui@up.edu.ph / biosciences.mbbs.upd@gmail.com

Illysa Julina Kong

Event Co-Head

Email Address: iakong@up.edu.ph



Address: Banica, Roxas City
Contact Number: (036) 6518 456
Email Address: capiz@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://depedcapiz.ph>



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI-WESTERN VISAYAS

Regional Advisory No. 164, s. 2024
August 28, 2024

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of Region VI DepEd
officials and personnel/staff.
(Visit region6.deped.gov.ph)

29th BIOSCIENCES QUIZ BEE

Attached is a letter from the UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society (UP MBBS), in connection with the conduct of its 29th Biosciences Quiz Bee on November 23, 2024 at UP Diliman.

The participation of learners and teachers from public and private schools shall be purely voluntary and will not hamper instructional time in compliance with the provisions of DepEd Order (DO) No. 003, s. 2024 titled Amendment to DepEd Order 022, s. 2023 titled (Implementing Guidelines on the School Calendar and Activities for the School Year 2023-2024) and DO No. 9, s. 2005 titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith and the policy on off-campus activities stated in DepEd Order DO No. 66, s. 2017.

This is also subject to the no-collection policy as stated in Section 3 of Republic Act No. 5546 also known as An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Tickets and/or the Collection of Contributions for Whatever Project or Purpose from Students or Teachers of Public and Private Schools, Colleges, and Universities (Ganzon Law).

The Schools Division Superintendents are given the discretion to act on this matter.

For more information, contact:

Albert Matthew Pasigui
Event Co-Head
Email Address: ampasigui@up.edu.ph / biosciences.mbbs.upd@gmail.com; and

Illysa Julina Kong
Event Co-Head
Email Address: iakong@up.edu.ph

RRS/CLMD-RA- 29th Biosciences Quiz Bee
058/August 27, 2024



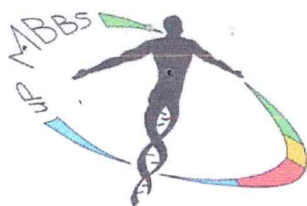
Address: Duran Street, Iloilo City, 5000
Telephone Nos: (033) 337-0149; 336-2816
Email Address: region6@deped.gov.ph
Website: region6.deped.gov.ph



Certificate No. PHP QMS
24 93 0184

Entity Profile/General Information Sheet

1. Name of Company/Association/Institution/Organization:		
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY SOCIETY		
2. Office Address:		
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, NATIONAL SCIENCE COMPLEX, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY, 1101		
3. Contact Person/s:		4. Designation/s:
ILLYSSA JULIANA KONG ALBERT MATTHEW PASIGUI		PRESIDENT, EVENT CO-HEAD VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, EVENT CO-HEAD
5. Contact Number:	Landline/s:	Mobile Number/s:
	N/A	0998 599 5334 (KONG) 0915 563 3601 (PASIGUI)
6. Email Address/es:	biosciences.mbbs.upd@gmail.com; iakong@up.edu.ph; ampasigui@up.edu.ph	
7. Web Address/es:	N/A	
8. Social Media Account/s: (Facebook, Twitter, and the like):	Facebook: facebook.com/BiosciQuizBee Twitter & Instagram: @upmbbs	
9. Nature of the Company/Association/Institution/Organization (Narrative Description): The UP MBBS is a duly-recognized academic student organization based in the UP Diliman College of Science, and the sole student organization based in the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology. As part of its thrust towards promoting science and technology, especially molecular biology and biotechnology, UP MBBS holds the annual Biosciences Quiz Bee as well as other events (forums, talks, socials, outreach, campaigns) geared towards the youth, the UP community, or the general public.		
10. Mission: Our mission is to provide an avenue for the holistic development of UP MBB students and a platform for promoting science and technology, especially molecular biology and biotechnology, both in the university and throughout the country.		
11. Vision: Our vision is to develop our members into capable individuals with a passion for science and technology, especially molecular biology and biotechnology, and help build a Filipino society that is informed of advances in the field and that embraces its role in national development.		
12. Accreditation/Certificates/Permits (Attached copy/ies):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Accreditation from the Philippine Regulation Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Service Commission Institute Accreditation Certificate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Permit from the Dean or Head of Student Affairs Office <input type="checkbox"/> Movie and Television Review and Classification Board		<input type="checkbox"/> Security and Exchange Commission Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Trades and Industry Business Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Republic Act Number and Content if government agency/institution



UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society

PROMOTE ENHANCE EXPRESS

National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

National Science Complex

College of Science, University of the Philippines

Diliman, Quezon City 1101

Detailed Description of the Activity

29th Biosciences Quiz Bee

In the spirit of promoting science and technology among the Filipino youth, the UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society holds the annual Biosciences Quiz Bee, an academic competition for high school students from all over the country. The competition covers both theoretical questions and practical challenges in the fields of molecular biology and biotechnology, biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and earth science.

Event Details

<i>Name of event:</i>	29 th Biosciences Quiz Bee
<i>Date:</i>	November 23, 2024
<i>Venue:</i>	School of Statistics Auditorium, University of the Philippines Diliman (tentative)
<i>Participants:</i>	Junior and senior public or private high school students nationwide (more than 200 students total)

Objectives

1. Hold an inter-high school competition covering topics in molecular biology and biotechnology (MBB) and other related disciplines such as biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and earth science to engage the participating high school students with the sciences.
2. Emphasize the inter-relatedness of MBB with the other sciences.
3. Enhance the participants' awareness of MBB as a field of study.
4. Introduce high school students to the MBB program in UP Diliman.

Program

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Registration
8:30 AM – 9 AM	Ingress and Opening Ceremony
9 AM – 10:30 AM	Elimination Round <i>The elimination round is an individual written-type exam that tests the theoretical knowledge of participants on all the six disciplines covered in the competition.</i>
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM	Lecture <i>A lecture will be delivered by a professional in molecular biology and biotechnology to acquaint the participants to MBB as a field of study and as a potential degree program.</i>
11:15 AM – 11:30 AM	Announcement of Semifinalists
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Lunch Break
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Semifinal Round <i>The semifinal round is a move-type exam that tests the students' problem-solving and practical skills in molecular biology and biotechnology, biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.</i>
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Mini Workshops/Walking Tour <i>During the semifinal round, mini workshops introducing MBB to the participants/a short walking tour of the College of Science and the NIMBB will be conducted.</i>
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Announcement of Finalists
2:45 PM – 4:30 PM	Final Round <i>The final round is a quiz-bee style contest with three rounds of increasing difficulty. The easy and average rounds will feature questions from all six disciplines, while the difficult round will feature questions from molecular biology and biotechnology.</i>
4:30 PM – 5 PM	Awarding Ceremony
5 PM – 5:30 PM	Egress

Competition Mechanics

Eligibility

1. The competition is open to **all high schools** in the Philippines.
2. Each school can send up to **three teams**, each composed of **exactly three members**, who must be students from Grades 9-12.
3. The pre-registration fee is **PhP 900** per team for public schools and **PhP 1200** for private schools. Schools are highly urged to **pre-register** through the link (tinyurl.com/Biosci2021) to guarantee their slot as **only around 80 teams** can be accommodated. Participants who will register onsite (on the day of the competition) will have to pay the full registration fee, as indicated in the following table. Note that the **full pre-registration fee** for each team must be paid to secure a slot for the Biosciences Quiz Bee, and that the receipt of the transaction must be submitted; as such, **one payment transaction must be made for each team**. A digital acknowledgement receipt will be sent to the email address of the coach.

	Public schools	Private schools
Walk-in	PhP 1200/team	PhP 1500/team
Pre-registered	PhP 900/team	PhP 1200/team

4. All teams must have a complete set of three members on the day of the competition itself. Teams with less than three members will not be allowed to enter the competition. For pre-registered teams, if one of the members cannot make it for a valid reason (e.g. sickness, death in the family), a substitution may be allowed provided that there is proper documentation of the reason for absence (e.g. medical certificate) and that the substituting student is also eligible to join the competition. Ultimately, the team must still have three qualified members to join the competition.
5. Schools that will send more than one team may be allowed to shuffle the composition of their pre-registered teams until one week before the day of the competition. However, the coach must notify the organizing team regarding any such changes. Moreover, a shuffle will only be allowed once. The composition of participating teams on the date of the competition, as indicated on the registration database, is final.

General Guidelines

1. Any form of cheating or academic dishonesty is **strictly prohibited** and will be punished by **disqualification** (of the entire team) at the decision of the organizers.
2. Participants must bring their own **pens, pencils, and non-programmable scientific calculators** to use throughout the competition. The organizers will not provide these materials to participants who neglect to bring them.
3. Whenever applicable, answers must be expressed in the **correct units of measurement**.
4. Whenever applicable, answers should be expressed to **three significant figures** (unless otherwise stated). Truncation errors should be avoided as much as possible. Variations of up to only ± 1 unit in the smallest significant place can be accepted.
5. The Biosciences Quiz Bee will be composed of three rounds — the elimination, the semifinal, and the final rounds.

Elimination Round

1. The initial phase of the competition is in the form of an **individual written exam** that will be taken independently by all participants.
2. There will be 10 **multiple-choice** questions from each of the six disciplines covered in the competition, for a total of **60 questions**.
3. Students will have **75 minutes** to finish the exam. Latecomers may still be accommodated, but will not be given additional time.
4. The **24 teams with the highest total scores** will proceed to the semifinal round.
5. Any ties will be resolved by taking the sum of the higher two scores of each team. Any further ties will be resolved through the highest score of each team. Any further tied teams will be allowed to go through to the next round.

Semifinal Round

1. The semifinal round will be a **move-type exam** involving problems and tasks that test **practical, theoretical, and problem-solving** skills, answered as a team.
2. There will be a total of 12 stations. Teams will have **five minutes** to finish the tasks in one station. Each station will be worth 10 points, plus a bonus question worth 1 point.

3. The top 24 teams will take the exam in two batches. Teams will be asked to wait in a separate holding area while the other batch is taking the exam. During this time, the use of mobile phones and other communication devices is strictly prohibited, and will result in disqualification.
4. Teams must strictly follow the instructions in each station, including signals to start and stop working. Failure to do so (e.g., touching set-ups that should not be touched or working outside the allotted time) may result in their points for that station being declared void.
5. The top 12 teams in this round will proceed to the final round.
6. Ties will be resolved via multiple-choice or problem-solving type clincher questions prior to the final round.

Final Round

1. The final round will be a series of quiz bee-style questions from all six fields covered in the competition; these questions may be multiple-choice, identification, or problem-solving. For the difficult round, all questions will be from molecular biology and biotechnology.
2. There will be 30 questions in three sets of ten: easy (30 seconds, 1 points each), average (60 seconds, 2 points each), and difficult (90 seconds, 3 points each).
3. The quizmaster will read each question twice, and then say "go". Participants must wait for this signal before writing their answers on the whiteboard provided.
4. Contentions must be raised by the contestants after the answer is announced, and will be resolved by the judges before the next question is read. The decision of the judges regarding any contention shall be final.
5. The top three teams from the semifinal round will have bonuses of +3, +2, and +1, respectively, added to their score.
6. Teams will be awarded Champion, First Runner-Up, and Second Runner-Up based on their total points during the final round of the competition.
7. Any ties crucial in deciding the top 3 teams and their final rank will be resolved via clincher questions, which are worth 3 points each.

Clincher

1. Questions in the clincher round will be identification or problem-solving type questions from molecular biology and biotechnology.
2. Each competing team will be given a flag. As soon as the quizmaster reads the question, each team can raise their flag to answer. The first team to raise their flag will be accommodated first, and so on. However, if the first team's answer is wrong, the remaining competing teams will be given the chance to steal.
3. The first team to give the correct answer will win the clincher round. The clincher round will continue until all crucial ties are settled.

Awards, Prizes, and Certificates

1. The team with the highest score in the final round shall be declared the Champion of the 29th Biosciences Quiz Bee and will receive medals, certificates, and a cash prize of PhP 12,000.
2. The First and Second Runners-up will receive medals, certificates, and cash prizes of PhP 9,000 and PhP 6,000 respectively.
3. The individual top scorer for the elimination round will be awarded a medal and a certificate.
4. All participants and coaches will be given a certificate of participation or appearance, whichever is applicable.

Contact Information

E-mail: biosciences.mbbs.upd@gmail.com
 ampasigui@up.edu.ph
 iakong@up.edu.ph

Mobile: 0915 563 3601
 (Albert Matthew Pasigui, Event Co-Head)
 0998 599 5334
 (Illyssa Juliana Kong, Event Co-Head)

Facebook: facebook.com/BiosciQuizBee

Twitter: @upmbbs

Instagram: @upmbbs



OFFICE OF STUDENT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES
University of the Philippines Diliman
3F Student Union Building
UP Diliman, Quezon City
Directline: 8981 8671, 8981 8672
Email: ospa.upd@up.edu.ph.

Certificate of Registration

This certifies that the

Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society


has been accredited as a UNIVERSITY REGISTERED ORGANIZATION
by the Office of Student Projects and Activities (OSPA), University of the
Philippines Diliman, for the Academic Year 2023-2024 and is given permission to:

- use/attach/annex the name of the University (University of the Philippines, U.P.) to the name of the organization;
- conduct activities;
- request to use any University or College facility/ies;
- apply for project grants;
- apply for tambayan;
- partner with any UP unit; and
- participate in activities led by the University units.

Subject to the following conditions:

1. This certificate of registration is valid only for the AY/Semester indicated above and until the end of the student org registration period for the 1st Semester for AY 2024-2025;
2. That entitlement to all privileges accorded to registered organizations is still subject to the rules and guidelines set for such privileges;
3. That changes in the list of officers, members, faculty adviser/s and the Constitution and By-laws shall immediately be reported to the OSPA; and
4. That all activities of the organization must be approved and endorsed by its faculty adviser.

Certified:


PROF. JAY-AR M. IGNO
Coordinator, OSPA


PROF. JERWIN F. AGPAOA
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs



[ovcsa.upd](https://www.facebook.com/ovcsa.upd)



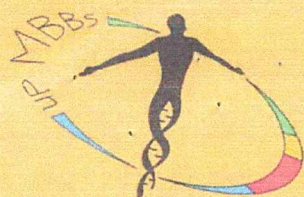
[updilimanovcsa](https://www.instagram.com/updilimanovcsa)



ovcsa.upd@up.edu.ph



[UP Diliman OVCSA](https://www.youtube.com/UPDilimanOVCSA)



Executive Committee
AY 2024-2025

Illyssa Juliana Kong
President
iakong@up.edu.ph

Neil Nubert Pagua
Vice President for Internals
nlpagua@up.edu.ph

Albert Matthew Pasigui
Vice President for Academic Affairs
ampasigui@up.edu.ph

Jeannette Ong
Vice President for Externals
jrong1@up.edu.ph

Angelo Gabriel Flores
Vice President for Finance
acflores6@up.edu.ph

Dan Rever Javier
Vice President for Recruitment
dfjavier@up.edu.ph

Rosette Olmillo
Vice President for Creatives
rsolmillo@up.edu.ph

Audie Monique Wong
Auditor
acwong@up.edu.ph

Jean Adrian Dee
Corporate Secretary
jvdee@up.edu.ph

Faculty Adviser
Jose Enrico H. Lazaro, PhD
jhlazaro1@up.edu.ph

Junior Adviser
Aaron James C. Feliciano
acfeliciano1@up.edu.ph

Email Address
exe.mbbs.upd@gmail.com

Contact Number
0998 599 5334

UP MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY SOCIETY

Promote. Enhance. Express.

National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
National Science Complex College of Science, University of the Philippines
Diliman, Quezon City 1101

19 August 2024

Dr. Ramir B. Uytico
Regional Director
Department of Education – Regional Office VI
Duran St., Iloilo City

Dear Director Uytico:

The **UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society (UP MBBS)** is a duly recognized academic student organization based at the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, College of Science, University of the Philippines Diliman. We aim to promote science and technology, especially molecular biology and biotechnology, among the Filipino public.

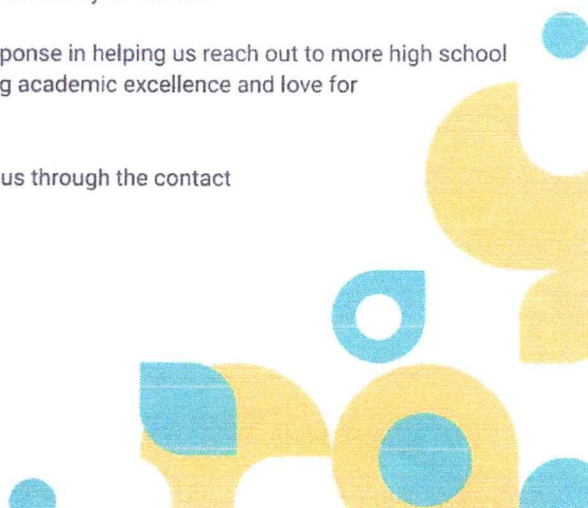
With this objective in mind, our organization will hold the **29th Biosciences Quiz Bee**, an event open to both public and private high schools in the Philippines. The quiz bee aims to challenge students in terms of their theoretical knowledge and problem solving skills in molecular biology and biotechnology, biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and earth science. More than two hundred students join the quiz bee annually. Last year, 36 participating teams from schools all over the country joined the 28th Biosciences Quiz Bee. This year's quiz bee will be held on **November 23, 2024** at UP Diliman.

In line with this, we would like to request the issuance of an **Advisory from the Department of Education – Regional Office VI** regarding the **29th Biosciences Quiz Bee**. A DepEd Advisory would allow for the easier dissemination of information regarding our event and help us widen our reach, especially among public high schools in Region VI. Please find the attached relevant documents pursuant to the requirements for the said Advisory:

- (1) the general information/entity profile of our organization,
- (2) our certification as a duly recognized, university-registered student organization,
- (3) a detailed description of the activity to be conducted, and
- (4) a list of activities previously hosted by UP MBBS.

We hope for your favorable response in helping us reach out to more high school students in the spirit of fostering academic excellence and love for science and technology.

For any concerns, please reach us through the contact information listed below.



Kindest regards,



Albert Matthew Pasigui

Event Co-Head

Email:

biosciences.mbbs.upd@gmail.com/

ampasigui@up.edu.ph

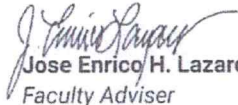


Illyssa Juliana Kong

Event Co-Head

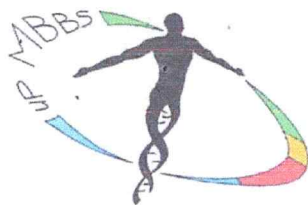
Email: iakong@up.edu.ph

Noted by:



Jose Enrico H. Lazaro, PhD

Faculty Adviser



UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society

PROMOTE ENHANCE EXPRESS

National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

National Science Complex

College of Science, University of the Philippines

Diliman, Quezon City 1101

List of Activities/Events Conducted by the Organization

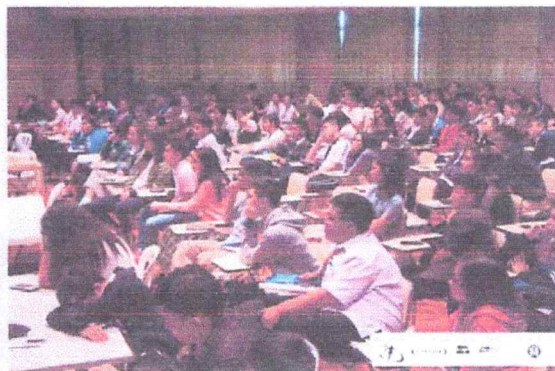
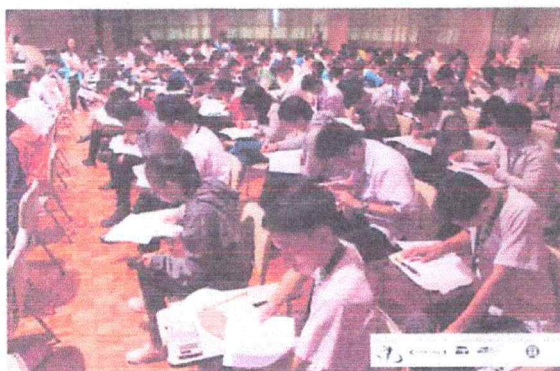
The Annual Biosciences Quiz Bee

Date: during the second half of the year, annually

Venue: UP NISMED Auditorium/Engineering Theater/online

Participants: >200 high school students (public and private)

The flagship event of the organization, the annual Biosciences Quiz Bee is an academic competition for high school students from across the country, held in line with the organization's goal of promoting science and technology, and in particular molecular biology and biotechnology, among the Filipino youth. The competition covers questions from molecular biology and related disciplines: biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and earth science. Over 200 students from both public and private high schools join the competition each year, and after going through an exam-type elimination round and quiz bee-style contest, the top three teams are awarded.



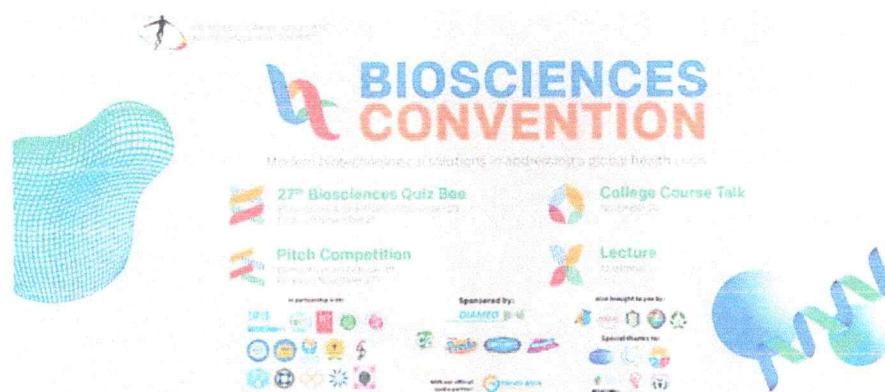
Images from the 24th Biosciences Quiz Bee last September 30, 2017 at the UP NISMED Auditorium.

In 2017, the 24th Biosciences Quiz Bee introduced the practical semi-final round, in which students are confronted with set-ups and challenges to test their practical knowledge and skills in the different scientific disciplines. In addition to fostering healthy academic competition, the event also offers a chance for high school students to be acquainted with the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (NIMBB) and the MBB program at UP Diliman.

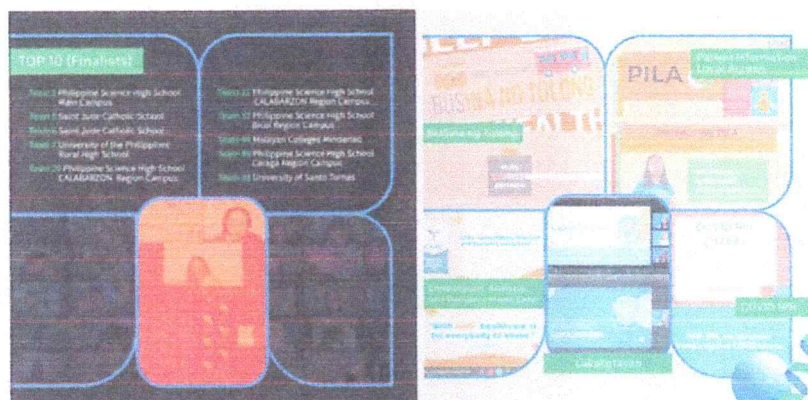


Images from the 24th Biosciences Quiz Bee last September 30, 2017 at the UP NISMED Auditorium.

In 2021, the UP Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Society held the only online edition of the annual Biosciences Quiz Bee, along with three other events: pitch competition, college course talk, and lecture during the 2021 Biosciences Convention, with the theme of “Modern biotechnological solutions in addressing a global health crisis.” The event highlighted the central role of molecular biology and biotechnology in addressing the public health crisis that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic and served as an avenue for participants to develop a passion for science and technology even amidst a global pandemic.

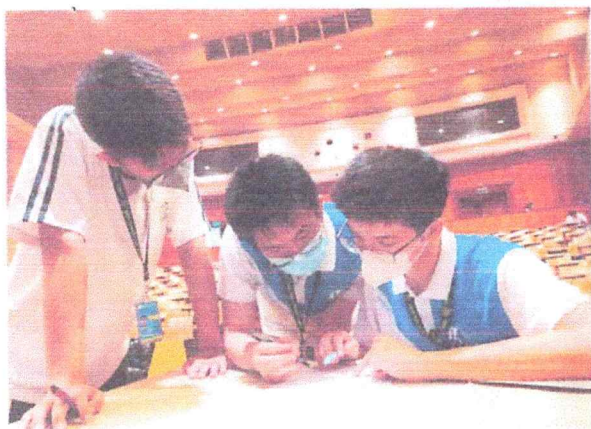


Biosciences Convention 2021 Event Lineup



27th Biosciences Quiz Bee (left) and Pitch Competition (right)

In 2023, the annual Biosciences Quiz Bee returned as a face-to-face event in its 28th edition. The 28th Biosciences Quiz Bee was held last December 9, 2023 at the Engineering Theater, Melchor Hall, University of the Philippines Diliman.



Images from the 28th Biosciences Quiz Bee last December 9, 2023 at the UP Engineering Theater.

MBB Week

Every second semester, the UP MBBS holds MBB Week. This event celebrates both the field of molecular biology and biotechnology, as well as the MBB program at the NIMBB in UP Diliman. Throughout the week, the organization holds various events that are meant to reach out to the UP community, the general public, and the people at the NIMBB. These events are listed below.

TsaMBBahan

TsaMBBahan is a university-wide event held during MBB Week, usually with 100-150 participants. It is a quiz bee about pop culture and random trivia; the choices are based on the four main nitrogenous bases (adenine, cytosine, guanine, and thymine). It is mainly through this event that the organization is publicized in the university. It is open to all students of the University of the Philippines Diliman. Several MBB alumni and students outside NIMBB have participated.



Images from TsaMBBahan 2021, held first-ever online via Zoom with over 100 participants composed of MBB students, alumni, and students from other degree programs.



Images from TsaMBBahan 2024, which was held onsite at the UP Diliman Student Union Building and was joined by MBB students, alumni, professors, and students and professors from other degree programs

MBB Night

MBB Night is the culminating activity of MBB Week and serves as an avenue for students, professors, staff, and alumni of the NIMBB to interact and socialize outside of the classroom or laboratory setting. It is usually attended by 100-150 participants. Last 2021, MBB Night: Looping Back was held online and served as a virtual gathering to

celebrate the successes of the organization and the institute. Two alumni speakers shared how their MBB degree helps them in their current profession and their impact on society in the last year.



Images of the guest speakers for MBB Night: Looping Back with Dean Edgardo Vistan II of the UP College of Law (left) and Dr. Diana Ranoa (right).

The 2023 and 2024 editions of MBB Night were held face-to-face. The 2023 edition, which was held at the NIMBB building in UP Diliman, featured two speakers who inspired and introduced the members of the organization to MBB-related careers in the academe and the industry. Both the 2023 and 2024 MBB Night events were well-attended and served as avenues for socialization and celebration of the successes of the organization in the academic years when they were held.



Image of attendees during the MBB Night 2023 held at the NIMBB building (left) and a poster featuring speakers: Mr. Gerry Ramos Jr. and Ms. Chloe Borrromeo (right)



Images taken during the MBB Night 2024 held in Fairview, Quezon City and attended by around 120 participants, which consist of MBB students, faculty, and alumni

Other Past Activities During MBB Week

TaMaBBayon? (Academic Project)

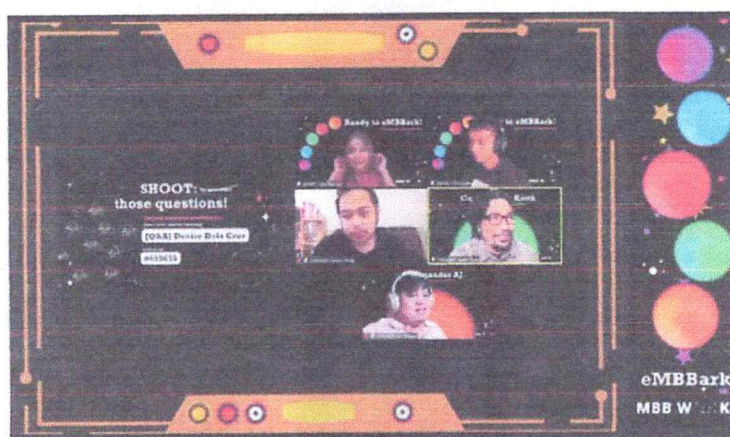
The Academic Project is held by the organization's Academic Affairs Committee every MBB Week. It is the main event through which UP MBBS reaches out with members of the public in order to spread general awareness about science and technology, and molecular biology and biotechnology. For MBB Week 2021, the first-ever online Academic Project was branded as "TaMaBBayon?", a COVID-19 and misinformation academic fair. Fair. Held last April 24 on Zoom, 60 participants including high school students, teachers, and guests, attended a series of talks on COVID-19 current events and science journalism.

The first half of this event featured talks on current COVID-19 events hosted by two molecular biologists. Dr. Marilen P. Balolong's talk, "Bakit Bakuna?", highlighted the relevance of vaccines in addressing the pandemic in a local context. Attendees learned about vaccine efficiency on the new variants and how an effective vaccination program could save the lives of millions of Filipinos. Dr. Lyre Annie E. Murao of PGC Mindanao elaborated on how variants are detected and analyzed in "The Rise of the Variants". Attendees are then ushered into separate breakout rooms for their workshops where they will act as FDA or contact tracing officials answering challenging questions based on what they learned from the lectures.

The second half of this event featured talks on COVID-19 journalism and media led by data scientist Dr. John Q. Wong of Epimetrix, Inc. and science journalist Mr. Timothy James Dimacali of GMA News. Dr. Wong's lecture, "How to Report a Pandemic", detailed the effective use of epidemiological statistics when reporting during a pandemic. On the other hand, Mr. Dimacali shed light on how local media portrayed the pandemic and its current progress, along with a few writing tips, in his talk, "Reactions of the Media to the Pandemic." Attendees were also ushered afterwards into separate workshops where they will be given prompts to report live based on their newly acquired knowledge from both speakers.



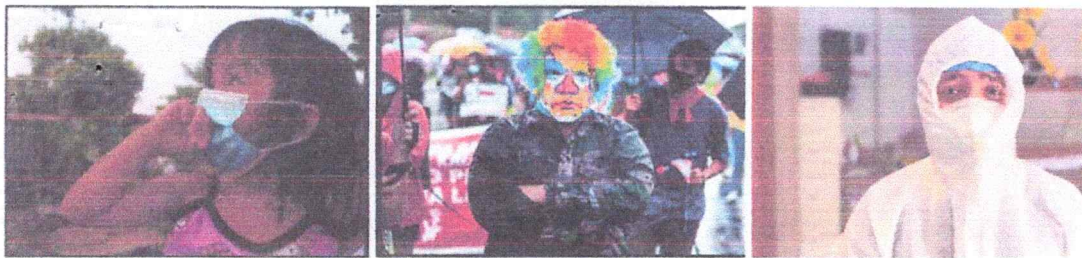
Images from 'TaMaBBayon?' last April 2021, MBBS' first-ever online academic project for MBB Week 2021. The members invited scientists and journalists specializing on COVID-19 and organized lectures and workshops on their respective topics.



MBB Week 2022 Academic Project - eMBBark (Science x Creative Media)

Expressions

MBB Week 2021 introduced "Expressions", an exhibit of outstanding publication materials that revolved around the relevance of MBB in society, particularly in the current pandemic. The releases involved a detailed timeline of the history of the pandemic in the country, a vast array of infographics on recently developed innovative solutions against the spread of COVID-19, and an elegant display of the contributions done by MBB alumni in addressing the global health crisis. The exhibit also held an online photo-essay competition with the theme, "COVID-19: A Glimpse at the Social Inequalities of Health."



Top three winning entries from 1st to 3rd place (left to right) of the Expressions online photo-essay competition. In order: "Pantay na Pribilehiyo" by R. Calza, "We Are Excellent" by J. Arriola, and "Recognize the Need to Protect who Protects" by L. Leyson.