

SEM Group conducts Super Saya ng Siyensiya Year 2!

2019

Sustainable Electronic Materials (SEM) research group of the University of the Philippines Diliman conducts *Super Saya ng Siyensiya* (SSS) last June 13-17, and July 24-26, 2019 to some elementary and secondary schools in Isabela, Pangasinan, and Quezon City.

SSS is a science outreach program which aims to instill to students the drive to pursue careers in the field of science and engineering. In 2018, SSS was conducted at schools in Laguna, namely, Pila Elementary School, Don Manuel Rivera Memorial National High School, Coralan Elementary School, and Sta. Maria Integrated High School. Now on its second year, SSS was brought to students of Isabela National High School, St. Ferdinand College, Calasiao Comprehensive National High School, Krus na Ligas High School, Ramon Magsaysay (Cubao) High School, and Krus na Ligas Elementary School.

Presentations about research topic identification, and scientific paper writing were delivered to high school students during the program. Additionally, some members of the SEM group shared their experiences whilst pursuing careers in Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Physics, and Metallurgical Engineering. A presentation about the career opportunities available in science, in general, was also presented, along with the scholarship programs that could help students in their pursuit of a science degree.

The outreach program also introduced the game, *Expedition Mundus*, to the participating schools. Expedition Mundus is an inquiry-based activity, created by the Dutch Young Academy in 2011. In this game, students get to explore the fictional planet *Mundus* as they take on the role of researchers. The students were grouped and were given questions that can be answered using the available information about the planet and its inhabitants, acquired by scientists who have been there first. This game simulates scientific process and allows the students to experience it first-hand. A synthesis discussion was done to reiterate to students the significance of curiosity in doing any scientific activity, and to remind them of the joy and pain scientists feel in doing research.

At the end of the program, groups acquiring the highest scores were given prizes. Certificates of appreciation and copies of the Expedition Mundus game cards and manuals were given to the respective science coordinators of the participating schools.



Super Saya ng Siyensiya in Isabela National High School (top left), St. Ferdinand College (top right), Calasiao Comprehensive High School (second row), Krus na Ligas High School (third row), Ramon Magsaysay (Cubao) High School (bottom left), and Krus na Ligas Elementary School (bottom right)



Students listen as members of SEM group discuss about scientific paper writing (left) and pursuing a career in Chemistry (right)



GYA Member Dr. Balela explains the game to the students



Students and teachers explore Mundus



Awarding of prizes to the top scorers in Expedition Mundus



Awarding of certificates to science coordinators and giving Expedition Mundus card games and manuals