SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Metric 11.2 Support of arts and heritage



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Indicator 11.2.1 Public access to buildings



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Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

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More Than a Century On, a Campus Open to Its City

Founded in 1911 by missionaries of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM), Saint Louis University (SLU) welcomes members of the public to its main campus on A. Bonifacio Street, Baguio City, which holds eight buildings documented as cultural properties under the Cultural Mapping Program of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), along with landmarks that have shaped the city's skyline since the 1970s.



Watercolor rendition of the main campus by Architect Dulthe Carlo Munar dated 2010. Source: NCCA Cultural Mapping Program, Form 2F, SLU

Entry is free. As on any working campus, visitors pass through the University gates, where they present a valid ID and receive a visitor's pass. From there, the campus is theirs to explore on foot.

The open grounds can be enjoyed by anyone during campus hours: the Giant Steps and Fr. Verbist Shrine, the Main Fountain, the pond, Canopy Verde, the pocket gardens and The Knowledge Man mural, all linked by walkways. Two museums and the University library welcome walk-in visitors free of charge: the Museum of Igorot Culture and Arts and the SLU Libraries in the Msgr. Charles Vath Building, and the Fr. Gerard Braeckman, CICM Museum of Natural History in the Dr. Jose Rizal Building. Schools and community groups can arrange guided tours in advance.

The St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish is open every day for Masses and parish feasts, and the University's function halls and gym welcome outside guests whenever they host public events. The pages that follow tell the story of each of these places.











Photo: SLU Museum of Igorot Cultures and Arts / Facebook



Photo: Fr. Gerard Braeckman, CICM Museum of Natural History SLU/ Facebook

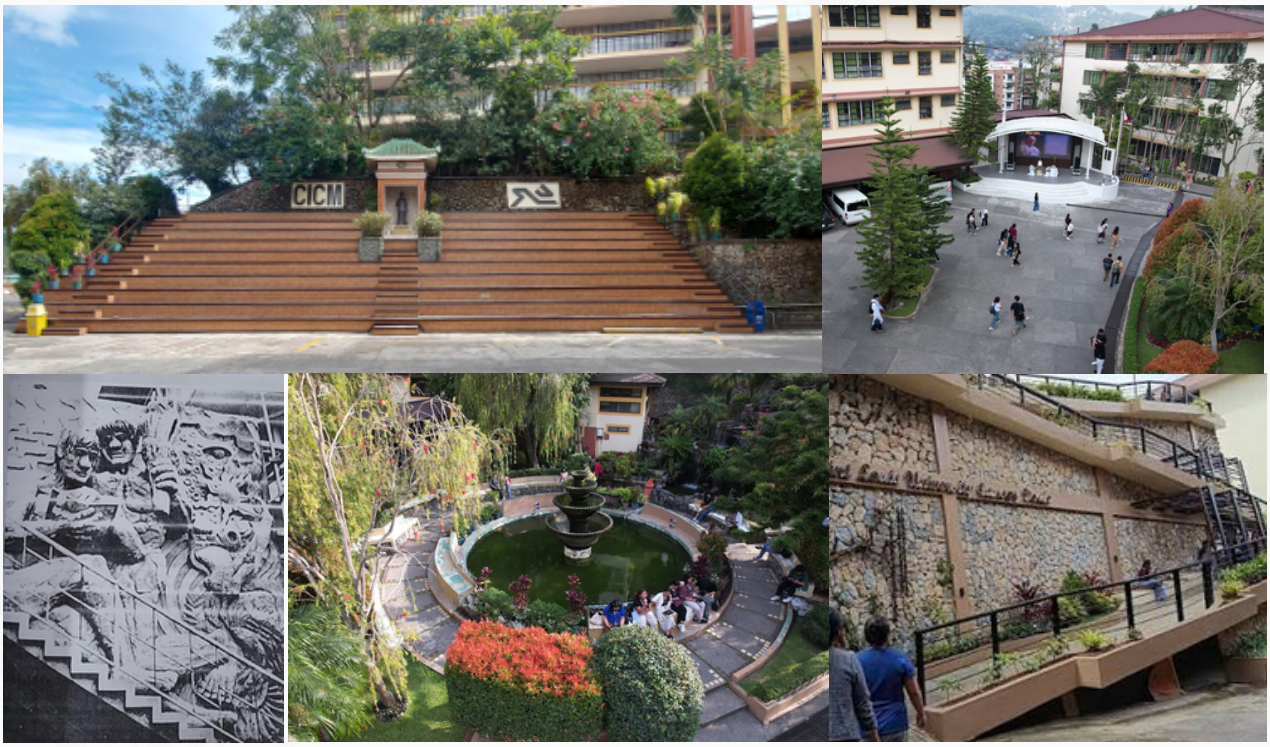
SLU: A historic campus in the heart of Baguio City



Saint Louis University was founded on 1 December 1911 by CICM missionaries. Its Main Campus has been profiled using the NCCA Cultural Mapping Program form for Significant Immovable Tangible Heritage.

The campus covers about 5.4 hectares of sloping terrain and has 28 structures, eight of them more than fifty years old. Its Bauhaus-influenced buildings have defined the Baguio skyline since the 1970s and earned the campus its enduring name, the “Light of the North.”

The University's story is also told in its open spaces. The Giant Steps rise toward the shrine of Fr. Theophile Verbist, founder of the CICM. The Main Fountain is inscribed with the University's core values: competence, creativity, innovation and Christian Spirit. The two-storey bas-relief, *The Knowledge Man*, stands beside the library. A number of landmarks line the campus's open grounds, where visitors can enjoy them freely on foot.



The SLU Giant Steps. The Main Campus Fountain. The Knowledge Man. Canopy Verde
Source: NCCA Cultural Mapping Program, Form 2F. SLU Data Files.

Eight Cultural Properties Documented on the SLU Main Campus

The NCCA profile lists eight structures on the SLU main campus, each more than fifty years old, as cultural properties within the site. Together they form one of the most intact ensembles of modernist academic architecture in Northern Luzon, and four of them are where visitors most often go.



Campusscape. University skyline in 1972. Pictures from the SLU Archives

1 Diego Silang Building 1959–1962	**2** Konrad Adenauer Science Building 1967–1968
3 Cardijn Hall 1968–1969	**4** Otto Hahn Building 1969–1970
5 Jose G. Burgos Center 1969–1971	**6** Mt. Mary Hall *(not in photo)* 1971
7 Dr. Jose Rizal Building 1971–1972	**8** Msgr. Charles Vath Building 1972–1974

Four of these buildings regularly welcome visitors. The Msgr. Charles Vath Building houses the Museum of Igorot Culture and Arts and the SLU Libraries, both open to walk-in visitors, while the Dr. Jose Rizal Building is home to Braeckman's Museum of Natural History, open to the public free of charge.

The Prince Bernhard Gym in the Jose G. Burgos Center opens to outside guests during public events, and the centre wing of the Diego Silang Building, the campus's oldest cultural property, once served as the University Chapel, where the Gever's Hall is now located.

Two Museums and a Library, Free to Visit

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Saint Louis University Showcases the Cordillera's Geological Heritage to Visiting Students

Published in the SLU Office of Global Relations, Alumni Affiars and Scholarship Programs
Social Media Page: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CMATK5D7S/

Saint Louis University (SLU) welcomed students from the Association of Geologists and Geological Engineers of Mapúa University–Manila Campus for a benchmarking visit hosted by the SLU Mining Engineering Society (MINES). The activity introduced the visiting students to SLU's academic facilities, laboratories, and campus environment while promoting collaboration and the exchange of knowledge between future engineering professionals.

As part of the campus tour, the delegates visited the Mining Engineering Laboratory, where they were given access to geological and mineral collections that support the study of the Cordillera's mineral heritage. Through exhibits of locally sourced rocks and minerals, visitors gained an appreciation of the region's geological diversity and the significant role of mining in the Cordillera's history, economy, and cultural identity. The visit also included the Chemical Engineering Laboratory 1, Prince Bernhard Gym, and the International Teahouse.mical Engineering Laboratory 1, Prince Bernhard Gym, and the International Teahouse, providing them with access to key university buildings that support learning, student engagement, and institutional development. The guided campus tour enabled visitors to experience SLU's educational infrastructure and appreciate its role in fostering academic excellence and community engagement.








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Students from the Association of Geologists and Geological Engineers of Mapúa University–Manila Campus

SLU Opens Its Heritage Campus to Academic Visitors through Benchmarking Activities

Published in the SLU Office of Global Relations, Alumni Affairs and Scholarship Programs
Social Media Page: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CMATK5D7S/

As part of its commitment to promoting academic collaboration and providing access to culturally significant university spaces, Saint Louis University (SLU) welcomed delegates from the Department of Medical Technology of Notre Dame of Marbel University (NDMU) for a benchmarking visit to the University's Medical Laboratory Science Program.

Hosted by the School of Nursing, Allied Health, and Biological Sciences (SONAHBS), the benchmarking activity highlighted SLU's best practices in curriculum development, competency-based education, internship training, quality assurance, and industry-responsive learning. In addition to the academic discussions, the visiting delegation participated in a guided campus tour that showcased the Adenauer Building and the SLU Libraries, providing participants with the opportunity to experience the University's academic environment and architectural heritage firsthand



Representatives from Notre Dame of Marbel University visited Saint Louis University

The SLU Adenauer Building, one of the University's prominent academic buildings, reflects SLU's longstanding commitment to excellence in higher education and serves as an important landmark within the Main Campus. Through guided visits and institutional benchmarking activities, SLU opens its campus to educators, students, and partner institutions, allowing them to appreciate the University's educational heritage while fostering collaboration and the exchange of best practices. opens its campus to educators, students, and partner institutions, allowing them to appreciate the University's educational heritage while fostering collaboration and the exchange of best practices..







SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Saint Louis University Showcases the Cordillera's Geological Heritage to Visiting Students

Published in the SLU Official Website: https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/05/08/celebrating-49-years-of-care-slu-shmc-unveils-new-facilities/

For nearly five decades, the Saint Louis University–Sacred Heart Medical Center (SLU-SHMC) has been a landmark institution in Baguio City, reflecting the University's enduring commitment to healthcare, medical education, and community service. During its 49th Foundation Anniversary, SLU-SHMC welcomed patients, alumni, healthcare partners, and members of the community as it inaugurated new facilities and celebrated its legacy through commemorative activities.







SLU–SHMC welcomed the community during its 49th Foundation Anniversary

As one of the region's longstanding academic and healthcare institutions, SLU-SHMC continues to preserve its legacy while remaining accessible to the public through healthcare services, educational activities, and community events. By opening its facilities for public programs that celebrate its history and mission, the University contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 11 by promoting continued public engagement with a building of enduring institutional and community significance.As one of the region's longstanding healthcare and educational institutions, SLU-SHMC continues to preserve its heritage while remaining accessible to the public through community events, healthcare services, and educational programs, reinforcing Saint Louis University's commitment to preserving buildings of enduring institutional and community significance.

Saint Louis University Opens St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish for Community Worship and Heritage Celebration

Published in SAMPUSO, the SLU Saint Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Official Publication Social Media Page: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1JdWFT2HAd/



On 12 June 2026, Saint Louis University welcomed the Louisian community and the general public to the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish for the opening of the nine-day Novena in honor of St. Aloysius Gonzaga. As one of the University's longstanding places of worship and a significant spiritual landmark on campus, the parish serves as a heritage building where students, employees, alumni, and community members gather for religious celebrations and community events.

The celebration also commemorated the 128th Philippine Independence Day and the 203rd birth anniversary of Fr. Theophile Verbist, CICM, founder of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM), bringing together members of the University and the wider community in prayer, reflection, and fellowship.

By opening St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish for religious and commemorative celebrations, Saint Louis University preserves an important heritage building while providing continued public access to a place of historical, cultural, and spiritual significance, supporting Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).



SLU–St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish welcomed the community during its the 128th Philippine Independence Day



The SLU SDG Report 2026