SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Metric 17.2 Relationships to support the goals



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Times Higher Education
Sustainability
Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Indicator 17.2.4 Collaboration for SDG best practice



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SLU strengthens Catholic Education partnerships with Indonesian institutions

In September 2025, Saint Louis University (SLU) formalized two significant Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with key Catholic educational and ecclesiastical institutions in Indonesia—the Archdiocese of Makassar and Sekolah Tinggi Kateketik dan Pastoral Rantepao (STIKPAR) in Toraja.

Signed on 12 September 2025, the MOU between SLU with STIKPAR–Toraja, otherwise known as the Catechetical and Pastoral College of Rentepao, focuses on promoting the quality of education in Catholic institutions through academic and non-academic collaboration inspired by over 80 years of missionary work by the CICM Fathers in the region.

The agreement was signed by SLU President Rev. Fr. Gilbert B. Sales, CICM, PhD and Rev. Dr. Agustinus Sem P. T. S. S., MHum, Rector of STIKPAR–Toraja, and witnessed by SLU Vice President for Mission and Identity, Rev. Fr. Emery E. Mwako, CICM, MBA.

Among the key areas of cooperation are:

- Academic exchanges of professors and students for seminars, immersion, and internships;
- Collaborative research efforts with involvement in peer-reviewed journals and mentoring programs;
- Administrative cooperation sharing knowledge in Catholic education management; and
- Scholarship programs enabling lay and priest personnel from STIKPAR to pursue graduate studies at SLU, with the objective of preparing future faculty and expanding STIKPAR's academic reach in Psychology, Guidance Counseling, Language Education, and other fields.



Meanwhile, on 13 September 2025, SLU and the Archdiocese of Makassar inked an MOU emphasizing collaboration in academic and research activities such as short-term programs, student exchanges, staff mobility, and joint supervision of doctoral theses. Both parties agree to exchange academic publications and resources to mutually benefit and grow their educational offerings. The signatories for this MOU were Fr. Sales and The Most Reverend Fransiskus Nipa, DD, Archbishop of Makassar, which was also witnessed by Fr. Mwako.

Aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 4 (Quality Education) and 17 (Partnership for the Goals), these partnerships further SLU's mission to provide quality Catholic education through international academic cooperation and shared spiritual values, contributing to the growth and development of the Church and society in Southeast Asia.

Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2025/09/25/slu-strengthens-catholic-education-partnerships-with-indonesian-institutions/

SLU represents the Philippines at the Inaugural 2026 Asia Economics and Policy Forum in Singapore

Saint Louis University (SLU) proudly represented the Philippines at the inaugural 2026 Asia Economics and Policy Forum (AEPF), an international research conference that gathered scholars, researchers, and academic practitioners from across Asia and beyond under the theme, “Green Growth, Financing and Building a Sustainable Future.” Held on 28-29 July 2026, the conference was organized by East Asia Research in partnership with the University of Saint Joseph (Macao).

The opening day took place at the Holiday Inn Singapore Atrium, while the conference accommodated both onsite and virtual presentations, bringing together participants from China, Macao, Singapore, North Macedonia, and other countries.

As the first-ever Asia Economics and Policy Forum, the event marked a significant milestone in regional academic collaboration. The inaugural batch of presenters became pioneers of the conference, contributing to the foundation of what is expected to become a premier platform for research and policy dialogue in Asia. Notably, only two Philippine universities participated in this prestigious international gathering, with SLU accounting for two of the three Filipino presenters, underscoring the University’s strong commitment to research excellence and global academic engagement.



Official photo of the Asia Economics and Policy Forum

Representing SLU were Ms. Juliana Chua, a recent graduate of the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Marketing Management with specialization in Business Analytics, together with her research adviser, Mr. Karlo S. Dacanay, who presented their group research poster entitled “Outfit Check! Analyzing the Factors Affecting Gen Z’s Sustainable Fashion Purchase Intention in Baguio City.” Also representing the University was Ms. Aziah Valera, a student of Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Hospitality and Tourism Management, who presented her group’s research poster, “From Beans to Bees: The IPO Model for 5IR Agritourism.” Their presentations showcased innovative research addressing sustainability, consumer behavior, and emerging development models, contributing valuable insights to international academic discussions.

The participation of Ms. Chua, Mr. Dacanay, and Ms. Valera on the international stage reflects the university’s continued pursuit of academic excellence, research innovation, and global collaboration. By presenting the University’s research in Singapore before an international audience of scholars and practitioners, the SLU delegation not only highlighted the quality of research being produced within the University but also reinforced its growing presence in the global academic community. Their participation serves as an inspiration to fellow Louisians, demonstrating that research developed within the University can contribute meaningfully to international conversations on sustainability and the future of economic development.

This milestone highlights SLU’s steadfast commitment to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Through research focusing on green growth, youth consumer behavior, and innovative agritourism, SLU actively supports SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by embedding sustainable solutions and global collaboration directly into its academic mission.



Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/08/07/slu-represents-the-philippines-at-the-inaugural-2026-asia-economics-and-policy-forum-in-singapore/

SLU welcomes Catholic Kwandong University International St. Mary's Hospital, strengthens ties for global healthcare innovations

Saint Louis University (SLU) solidified its growing partnership with Catholic Kwandong University International St. Mary's Hospital (CKU ISMH), with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two institutions through their respective heads, SLU President Rev. Fr. Gilbert B. Sales, CICM, PhD and CKU ISMH President and CEO Rev. Fr. Noel Dong-Hyun Go on 07 September 2026 at the Alejandro Roces Boardroom, SLU Main Campus, Baguio City, Philippines.

The signing was witnessed by the SLU Vice Presidents, School Deans, Department Heads of the School of Nursing, Allied Health, and Biological Sciences (SONAHBS), SLU-Sacred Heart Medical Center team led by Medical Center Chief Dr. Paul Adlai Quitiquit; and the CKU ISMH Delegation, namely: Prof. Hyeyun Kim, MD, PhD, Director of External Affairs at the Korean Sleep Research Society, Professor in the Department of Neurology, and Director of the Sleep Medicine Research Institute; Mr. Hyo Jun Choi of the CKU Global Affairs and International Cooperation Team; and Mr. Park Jonghyung, CEO and owner of Meninblox Company. Prior to the signing, the CKU ISMH joined the SLU community as they participated in the Morning Rites.

In affirmation of the partnership, Fr. Sales said, "Today marks the coming together of two Catholic institutions, united by a common mission of service, excellence, compassion, and the promotion of human dignity. Our agreement replaces a shared aspiration to strengthen cooperation in healthcare, medical education, research, and professional exchange for the benefit of our institutions and the communities we serve."



In response, Fr. Dong-Hyun Go said, “It is a profound honor to be here in Baguio City today. I’m especially delighted to form this meaningful partnership with Saint Louis University, a premier institution in the Philippines with such a rich history and prestigious heritage in higher education and healthcare. As a top-tier university, Saint Louis University deserves a partner with a matching commitment to global excellence. In line with this, our hospital has been nominated as a Top 4 finalist worldwide for International Hospital of the year at the prestigious International Travel and Health Insurance Journal (ITIJ) Awards. This global recognition reflects our ongoing evolution from a leading medical institution in Korea into a truly world-class medical center.”

The CKU ISMH President talked about the MOU’s role in opening doors for joint clinical training programs, exchange of specialized nursing protocols, and advanced training in critical care and digital nursing. “Through our Catholic Kwandong University Medical Center Academy which we established last year, we have been actively welcoming and training doctors, nurses and medical technicians from all over the world... May God bless our partnership, Saint Louis University and Sacred Heart Medical Center,” he concluded.

As can be recalled, SLU established collaborations in medical innovations, healthcare leadership, and compassionate service with CKU ISMH during their visit on 19 March 2026.

This partnership affirms the University’s support to SDG 3 (Health and Well-being) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/09/07/slu-welcomes-catholic-kwandong-university-international-st-marys-hospital-strengthens-ties-for-global-healthcare-innovations/

Education, Technology, Agriculture, and Gender and Development

Strengthening its role in global academic advancement, Saint Louis University (SLU) served as a co-organizing institution for the 1st International Conference on Sustainable Development in Education, Technology, Agriculture, and Gender and Development (ICSDETAGD) held on 26-27 March 2026 at Isabela State University (ISU) Main Campus, Echague, Isabela.

The conference opened with a strong demonstration of solidarity between the participating institutions. Rev. Fr. Gilbert B. Sales, CICM, PhD, SLU President, delivered a message of support, highlighting the university's commitment to sustainable progress.

Furthering this collaboration, a formal Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Signing Ceremony was held, officially linking ISU with its co-organizing partners. Representing SLU during this ceremony was Randy Domantay, PhD, Head of the Computer Science Department under the School of Accountancy, Management, Computing and Information Studies (SAMCIS).

SLU faculty and students made significant contributions to the conference's parallel sessions, showcasing diverse research across multiple disciplines.

- Best Paper Award: The research titled "Comparative Analysis of Traditional Machine Learning and Deep Learning Models for Strawberry Disease Detection," presented by Josephine Dela Cruz, PhD (SAMCIS – IT Faculty) along with students Ms. Christine Angela Lapus and Joanalyn Mae Palangdan, was awarded Best Paper in the Student Category under the Engineering, Computing, and Technology Cluster. The study was conducted under the expert advisership of Dr. Dela Cruz and Beverly Ferrer, PhD.
- Dorothy Silva, PhD, Graduate Program Coordinator for Teacher Education, School of Advanced Studies; and students Mr. Martin Ian Luke Aguilar and Mr. Frederick Bag-ayan Jr. presented their timely study, "Generative AI in Higher Education: Faculty Utilization and Safeguards."
- Mr. Michael Anayasan (Faculty, PE Department, SLU-STELA) shared his research findings on the "Perception of Male Athletes on Exhibited Aggressive Behavior."

Throughout the two-day summit, participants engaged in a comprehensive exchange of knowledge regarding the intersection of technology and human development. Attendees gained vital insights into reimagining education through pedagogical innovations and transformative learning approaches. The session highlighted critical nature-based solutions for food security amidst climate change and explored talent cultivation in microelectronics for biomedical applications.

The conference also provided essential guidance on securing research and innovation grants aligned with Sustainable Development Goals. Significant emphasis was placed don moving “from inclusion to impact” by integrating Gender and Development (GAD) into research frameworks, while also exploring how to harness emerging technologies for digital transformation in the academe.

The successful participation of the SLU delegation was made possible through the unwavering support of the administration. The university extends its deepest thanks to Rev. Fr. Gilbert B. Sales, CICM, PhD, for his visionary leadership, and to the RISE Center, under the guidance of Dr. Richel Lamadrid, for their commitment to empowering Lousian researchers on the international stage.

This partnership affirms the University’s support to SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals).



Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/04/06/slu-co-organizes-first-international-conference-on-sustainable-development-in-education-technology-agriculture-and-gender-and-development/

SLU's academic leadership and research excellence shine as co-host at the 34th International COHREP Convention, South Korea

Seoul, South Korea — The 34th International Convention of the Council of Hotel and Restaurant Educators of the Philippines (COHREP) was successfully held from 04 to 08 February 2026 at Sejong University, bringing together hospitality, tourism, and allied discipline educators, researchers, administrators, and industry practitioners from the Philippines and the international academic community.

More than a single gathering, the international convention was a multi-faceted academic engagement composed of a Research Conference, campus visit, and a Korean Cultural Immersion and Educational Tour. These interconnected activities provided participants with comprehensive opportunities for scholarly exchange, global exposure, and experiential learning within one of Asia's dynamic tourism and innovation hubs.

A key highlight of the convention was the pivotal role played by Saint Louis University (SLU) as one of the official co-host institutions. SLU's strong presence was evident through its leadership roles, faculty research contributions, and student participation—further strengthening the university's commitment to internationalization, research productivity, and global academic engagement.

Anchored on a forward-looking theme emphasizing innovation, research collaboration, and transformative education in hospitality and tourism within a rapidly evolving global and technological environment, the Research Conference component served as a platform for presenting cutting-edge studies and fostering interdisciplinary dialogue relevant to the Fifth Industrial Revolution (5IR).



SLU recorded two notable research entries in the international research conference.

One of the highlights was a stand-up research presentation by Prof. Maria Araceli Diaz-Tambol, a Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) faculty member of SLU's School of Accountancy, Management, Computing and Information Studies (SAMCIS). Her paper, "Advancing Personalization in Tourism, Hospitality and Events (THE) through Transformer-based Sentiment and Semantic Modelling," examined the use of advanced artificial intelligence and transformer-based models in enhancing personalized experiences across tourism, hospitality, and event sectors. The study was co-authored with Jenny Panchal, PhD, a senior tourism lecturer and tourism research collaborator of James Cook University, Australia, and Josephine Dela Cruz, PhD, of the Computer Science (CS) Department of SLU, demonstrating meaningful international and inter-institutional research collaboration.

Further reinforcing SLU's research culture was a student-led poster presentation entitled "From Beans to Bees: Exploring Tourism Students' Perception, Expectations, and Learning Needs in Coffee and Honey-Based Experiential Learning in the 5IR Era." The poster was presented by Lhenard Clade Romero, Jhushua Anthony Sarmiento, and Aziah Rheanne Valera, and co-authored by Miguel Randal Pinlac, Brun Philipp Reyes, Christel Nicole Robles, Fiona Sequig, and Allya Gail Sto. Domingo. The research was advised and co-authored by Prof. Diaz-Tambol, underscoring SLU's strong mentorship framework and its emphasis on embedding research early in students' academic journeys. The poster drew notable interest from conference participants for its relevance to experiential learning, sustainability, and innovation in tourism education.

This activity affirms the University's commitment to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals).



Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/02/26/slus-academic-leadership-and-research-excellence-shine-as-co-host-at-the-34th-international-cohrep-convention-south-korea/

Louisian faculty and student researchers present papers at the Synergia International Research Conference

The long-anticipated inaugural Synergia International Research Conference— anchored in the advancement of SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)— officially commenced on 6 to 8 May 2026 at Saint Louis College (SLC), San Fernando, La Union. The event was hosted by SLU, co-hosted by Saint Louis University (SLU), Baguio City, and facilitated by the SLU-Research Innovation and Sustainable Extension (RISE) Center, which marked the formal participation of SLU. The conference began with the registration of presenters and attendees from various national and international institutions.

The University's participation was made possible by the collaboration of SLU RISE Center; and SLU-School of Teacher Education and Liberal Arts (STELA) Dean's Office, Department of Philosophy, and New Louisian Philosophical Society (NEOLOUPHIS), together with its project, the Quality, Undergraduate, Engaged, and Exploratory Research (QUEER) Project, for the assistance that made these presentations possible.

The Synergia International Research Conference strengthens the academe, research, and society by weaving ideas, celebrating cultures, and shaping the future. We congratulate our selected Louisians who courageously and successfully shared their philosophical insights on pressing societal issues.



Published on the SLU Website:

https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/05/13/louisian-faculty-and-student-researchers-present-papers-at-the-synergia-international-research-conference/



The SLU SDG Report 2026