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FILBURTH & JOSEPHINE

Preliminaries Before Program Starts

1. Stream FRIENDS videos before the show starts
2. Safety Reminders
 - In line with Saint Louis University's premium concern to diligently maintain and inculcate proper safety consciousness and preparedness, we urge everyone to put to heart the following safety advisories:
 - a. From where you are now, we are hopeful that you have personally noted the location of the nearest emergency exit; if not, please take time now to locate it. This shall be your exit to safety or at the end of this event.
 - b. However, if an emergency arises, do not panic; keep calm. Please follow and obey the marshals/ushers and usherettes in place to guide you in the orderly and speedy evacuation to safety through the duly designated exit route.
 - c. Please be further reminded that the Fire alarm switches on the walls shall be used only as urgently necessary.

Actual Program

A wonderful morning to everyone and a pleasure to be around today. A warm welcome to all for gracing this Internationalization Day FRIENDS Reunion event. We appreciate everybody for taking time and effort to celebrate this momentous occasion with us. We hope you will learn a lot and enjoy!

My dear friends, to set the tone for the day's program, let us witness the rendering of the Center for Culture and Arts performers of our prayer followed by the Philippine National Anthem. Please rise.



Thank you and pls keep on standing for the announcement of the SLU Quality Policy Statement through a short clip video presentation.

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We hope that you take our policy statement to heart.

Let us move forward. This event is called FRIENDS which stands for Furthering International Relations Capacities and Intercultural Engagement to Nurture Campus Diversity and to Support Internationalization at Home. The outlook on internationalization will no longer become important but essential in our lives. Our horizons as Louisiana should not be bound by the perimeters of the classroom and or campus but infinity and beyond. Hence, this event by the FRIENDS project aims to widen our perspectives on internationalization. FRIENDS shall provide our holistic development to be equipped not only with academic expertise but also with a global mindset, knowledge, and skills for better graduate employability. Interestingly, this activity is also aligned with the United Nation's sustainability development goals 4 and 17 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, and strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development. And NOW to kick start our celebration, let us have the Director of the Students' Affairs Office and also a project team member of the Erasmus+ FRIENDS project, Ms. Triceayn Marie Prestousa to welcome us.



Thank you M'Trish for the warm and wonderful welcome. Sit back and relax as we move to the next speaker. But before that, let us walk through the day's program. On the screen, you will find the itinerary for today. Are you ready to fly and take this journey? I believe so.

FLASH ON SCREEN THE PROGRAM

Our speaker to talk all about FRIENDS is Dr. Richel Lamadrid, who is the Director of the University Research & Innovation Center and also part of the FRIENDS project team implementers. Dr. Richel exudes unparalleled passion for what she is doing in the academe in particular; having been exposed to different intercultural environments abroad and having

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obtained her PhD degree in Belgium, it is a great honor on her part to impart to us about this FRIENDS project towards embracing Internationalization at Home. You now have the stage Dr. Richel!

Thank you M'Richel. Indeed, this FRIENDS project takes our breath away with its accomplishments on bringing internationalization at home by embracing intercultural awareness and cultural diversity right at our doorstep without having to physically travel elsewhere.

And to perk up our day, let's have once again our very own Center for Culture & Arts performers who shall entertain and educate us with our culture and arts through songs and dance renditions.

Thank you CCA performers! Awesome performance as always.

And now, we usher in one of the highlights of this event which is the talk by our Keynote Speaker in the person of Mr. Koushik Ventakaraman, the current Human Resources Director of Texas Instruments Philippines. We are privileged to have him with us to discuss the importance of cultural dialogue and relevance of intercultural engagement and global competence to student employability. Mr. Koushik is currently the Country HR Director for TI (Philippines) Inc. Prior to moving to this role in the Philippines in 2020, Mr. Koushik was the HR Business Partner and Talent Acquisition Manager for TI in India. Before joining TI in 2016, Mr. Koushik has worked for over 10 years as a management consultant with global firms such as Ernst & Young, Pricewater House Coopers, Deloitte and AON Hewitt. He has been an advisor to various national and state government bodies and departments in India and Bangladesh. He has a proven track record on implementation of various public sector reforms, organization restructuring, capacity building and design and implementation of HR systems.

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Mr. Koushik holds a Bachelor Degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and a Master in Business Administration in Human Resources. A warm applause pls for Mr. Koushik.

Thank you Mr. Koushik for accepting our invitation and honoring us with your presence despite the effort to travel from Clark to Baguio. May we request you to stay put on stage as we entertain at least 3 questions from the audience? Any taker to fire away questions?

Q&A

That's it for our Q&A considering the time. Let's call in The Director of the International Relations Office Dr. Mary Grace Carrido and the University Research & Innovation Center Dr. Richel Lamadrid to award the certificate of appreciation and tokens of gratitude to our guest speaker.

Awarding

There were plenty of takeaways from your speech that I trust that our student attendees have learned so much. Thank you, as Filipinos wouldn't stop saying Thank you once again from the bottom of our hearts!

Moving on, do you know that SLU has an International Students Association also known as ISA? Currently SLU hosts so many international students. Our next speaker is the president of ISA who hails from Nigeria. Mr. Samuel Chinonso Nnoshiri will provide a testimony about being an international student. His goal in life is to become "God's gift to humanity." He had his premedical degree at Girne American University, Turkey, where he was the first aid team leader and a committee member in the university's multicultural center for two years. He finished his BS in Nursing at the University of the Cordilleras, Baguio City. He is currently taking up his Master of Science in Nursing at SLU. You may proceed Mr. Samuel.

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Maraming salamat Mr. Samuel. God bless in your endeavors and hope that you will continue to have more fruitful experiences as an international student in the Philippines.

Next! Do you also know that we sent 5 students to Intercultural awareness and cultural diversity bootcamp at the Varna University of Management, Bulgaria from June 4 up until July 6 this year? These students serve as our ambassadors. They are our role models for embracing multicultural diversity. We have invited all the five to speak on their intercultural experiences and experience abroad. First on the list to give a testimonial is Latinne Isabelle Bandaay. Latinne Isabelle Bandaay is currently enrolled at SLU as a second-year medical laboratory science student. As an aspiring physician, she is committed to navigating the health science field while learning to be culturally and globally aware. The opportunity to assimilate such skills came from completing the Erasmus + FRIENDS IACD MOOC and IACD Student Bootcamp at the Varna University of Management in Bulgaria. The lessons she learned through the online and physical immersion experience have allowed her to participate in the efforts to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Erasmus+ FRIENDS project through the SLU Teahouse. Let's welcome Latinne Isabelle!



Thank you and more power Latinne Isabelle. Wish we could also be like you. Sana all but why not! This experience could be up for grabs by any of you someday too.

Next we have the 2nd bootcamper, Dominique Allaga. Dominique Allaga is an aspiring medical laboratory scientist in her third year. She graduated from Ifugao Provincial Science High School, where she took the STEM strand to pursue this dream of hers. She values bonds formed through friendships and firmly believes in the importance of camaraderie. She was one of those fortunate enough to participate in the month-long bootcamp last June, where she honed her social and mental skills. She hopes that she will be able to learn more, meet more incredible people and see more of the world with SLU and the FRIENDS program. Take it away and amuse us with your escapades as well Dominique.



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Thank you Dominique. Never ceases to captivate us, with all the stories and interesting international experiences and perspectives.

And to sustain our high notes and soaring spirits, let us be further entertained by welcoming back on stage our CCA performers.



FILBURTH & LATINNE ISABELLE

Yes! Yes! That was fun. On that high note, we shall have our 3rd bootcamper for this morning's session to talk about her intercultural perspective. Ms. Riana Kaye Libao is a Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences intern at SLU Hospital of the Sacred Heart. In 2020, she was among the five students awarded an Intercultural Passport and a certificate of completion for the Intercultural Awareness and Cultural Diversity Massive Open Online Course (MOOC). She recently attended the IACD Student Bootcamp held in Varna University of Management - Dobrich, Bulgaria, along with other students from the Philippines, Bhutan, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Through completing the bootcamp, she has had her fair share of knowledge and experience regarding Intercultural Awareness and Cultural Diversity, Creativity and Innovation, and Event Management. Along with the other four bootcampers from SLU, she is tasked to help plan and execute programs and projects of the SLU FRIENDS Teahouse. On stage, Let's listen to Riana.



Thank you and what an impressive straight from the heart talk Riana!

That caps our morning affair. Go and have your respective lunches and bond with your friends but make sure to be back just before one pm for our afternoon session. If time still permits, kindly drop by at our Teahouse where it serves as a multicultural hub for any to gather and interact. It is located at the External Relations, Media Communications & Alumni Affairs Office just right at this same building. It is one floor below where we are right now. Pls drop by and see for yourself.

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See y'all before 1pm for our part 2 internationalization at home experience. Pls be around much earlier because we shall be starting on time.

LUNCH BREAK

Nice to be back. We hope you had a hearty lunch and lively conversations with your FRIENDS. We trust that you observed COVID protocols as you had the bonding moments. To energize us, may we request everybody to rise and find an ample space to twerk your bodies and accompany the performance on screen.

Now our second main speaker for this afternoon who shall give us an inspirational talk on his take about multicultural experience is Dr. Lee Majors Fajilan who is a Faculty of the Department of Hotel & Tourism at the School of Accountancy & Management, Computing & Information Studies. Dr. Lee Majors Fajilan is a hotelier, professor and a world traveler. He finished his BS Hotel and Restaurant Management at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Manila. Master of Management Degree at the University of the Philippines-Baguio, And his Doctor of Philosophy in Management Degree at SLU. He is a Professor at SLU where he teaches at the Hospitality and Tourism Management Department of the School of Accountancy, Management, Computing and Information Studies. His expertise is in the fields of Asian and International Management in the graduate school and World Geography, Tourism, Travel Writing among others, in the undergraduate studies. He teaches the French language as well. He also serves as a member of the Regional Quality Assurance Team (RQAT) of CHED-Cordillera. He is a customer service, management, and business development consultant for hotels, resorts, restaurants, schools and hospitals. He was the hotel operations and development consultant for Lafaayette Luxury Suites Hotel and Resort and Dasol Beach Villas in Pangasinan. He is currently working on an ongoing resort project in San Juan, La Union.

As an academician, he was awarded as one of the 10 Outstanding Hospitality and Tourism

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Educators in Baguio in 2013. A multi-awarded hotelier, he was a pioneer of the Discovery Hotel Group where he started as a Guest Services Associate and worked his way up the Corporate Ladder.

He is the Public Relations Officer and a member of the National Board of Directors of the Council of Hotel and Restaurant Educators of the Philippines (COHREP) and was a Director for Schools in the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Baguio or HRAB.

He is a proud plant daddy, photographer, blogger, motivational speaker, environmental advocate, and a Certified Guest Services Professional. He was a CGSP trainer for the American Hospitality Lodging Educational Institute and Asia World Hospitality.

He has been to 85 countries & territories and over 300 cities around the world and DREAMS of visiting all 196 countries within the next 10 years.

Let's give a warm welcome to Dr. Lee Majors Fajilan. A warm round of applause pls.



Salamuch Dr. Lee Majors Fajilan for such an inspiring talk. We learned a lot! To award the certificate of appreciation and tokens of gratitude, may we call on stage the Director of Registrars Mr. Andrew Macalma & the Director of the Guidance Center Mrs. Corazon Kawi.



Thank you and more power Dr. Lee Majors Fajilan. Now we proceed with another testimony from the 4th bootcamper Khyra Nicole Lardizabal. Khyra Nicole Lardizabal is a student taking up Bachelor of Arts in Political Science at SLU. She was one of the five students who participated in the Erasmus+ FRIENDS Program. She was awarded an Intercultural Passport certificate because of MOOC completion and DS submission. She participated in the IACD Student Bootcamp with the other students of the Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Bhutan. They tackled different topics like Intercultural Awareness and Event Management. Through this experience and her companions, she is assigned to assist in implementing the various projects that will be held at the FRIENDS Teahouse. Take it away Khyra Nicole.

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Thank you Nicole for your interesting testimony. Coming in to titillate us with their artistic performances, we have with us the charming CCA performers.

Wowow, what a perfect execution. That takes hard work to arrive at that symmetry and grace with the exact movements that follow the melody.

Anyway, next on the list is a talk coming from another international student from China. We have with us Mr. Zhang Guangfeng. He is currently studying at SLU, majoring in Master of Science in Business Administration. He graduated from Tangshan Polytechnic of Science and Technology in 2014, majoring in mechanical and electrical engineering. He worked in Beijing FAW Toyota Motor Co., LTD from 2014 to 2016. Then he worked in Beijing Aodong New Energy Vehicle Co., LTD from 2016 to 2019. From 2015 to 2019, he took the self-examination of Sino-UK cooperative Business Management major at Renmin University of China. He obtained his diploma and degree certificate from the Renmin University of China in 2020.

Thank you Mr. Zhang!

And our last but not the least bootcamper is Filburth Macario. A consistent student leader of the Social Work department student organization - the Prime Movers Society. From his freshman to sophomore years, he served as a year-level representative before becoming president during his junior year. With his dedication to rendering service to the social work studentry, he became the SLU representative of the Junior Social Worker Association of the Philippines at the national level and the JSWAP North Luzon chapter. He is a proud Igorot who was born and raised in Mountain Province and Benguet. Currently, a senior student interested in intercultural engagement, cultural awareness, and diversity, let us all welcome Mr. Filburth Martinez Macario on stage.

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There you have it, all five bootcampers that shall serve as our ambassador and ambassadors on behalf of SLU to our local and international students. They shall also be responsible for managing our Teahouse. As mentioned earlier, this teahouse is located at ERMCAA. If in case you may wanna hang out with some international students and our bootcampers, pls feel free to drop by and relax and enjoy the comfort of our teahouse all for your pleasure and use.

And the last of our major presenters is Dr. Mary Grace Carrido, the Director of External relations, Media Communications and Alumni Affairs. She is at the helm of our international initiatives at SLU. She is here with us to discuss internationalization programs and teahouse activists.



To close our day's event, we have with us our Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Roberto Arguelles who is at the same time a lead advocator for the FRIENDS project's internationalization at home agenda. Please take the stage Sir Robert!



Thank you Dr. Arguelles! So much to ponder, so many takeaways. We leave all the inputs for all of you to think, learn and apply. Before we part, may we invite you to answer the event evaluation using the QR flashed on screen. It is a short evaluation form whereby after answering, it gives you an automatic certificate of attendance that is sent to your email address.

That will be all for now. See you around. Hep hep hurray for SLU's internationalization. Hep hep hurray for the FRIENDS project.

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