

The 29th ASEACCU Students Conference 2023 in Baguio, Philippines

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“Global Goals in the Care of Our Common Home: A Catholic Response”- This was the theme of the ASEACCU2023. The conference was about confronting and dealing with environmental problems such as global warming and abnormal climate unfolding on the earth, the common “home” of all mankind.

The 29th Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU) recently held its Annual Conference at Saint Louis University in Baguio City from August 21 to 26, 2023. ASEACCU involves student delegates from Catholic universities and colleges all around Southeast and East Asia to engage in an open dialogue in partaking in advancing the virtues of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Laudato Si, the second encyclical letter of Pope Francis addressing the mass on the urgency of environmental degradation and global warming.

We learned many things regarding Laudato Si' (similar to SDGs by the UN). We hope to create a better world from every small action we do to our environment, society, and ourselves. Aside from that, the conference was also a great platform to network and expand connections to other schools and organizations with the same goals as us: to listen to and act on the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth.

The social bonds tied during that week will always be treasured and missed. I met new friends whom I proudly call new family members from many countries such as the Philippines, Korea, Macau, China, Taiwan, Thailand, Japan, and Australia.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the Office of the President, the President, the Vice President, and the administrative staff for choosing me to represent the University at such an international conference. I would also like to express my gratitude to Sophia University, Elisabeth University of Music, and Sogang University for taking care of us during our stay. We could not have completed the program without all of their support.