

Changing Learning Gears Due to **COVID-19** and Opportunities Onward

11.05.2020 | 10 pm Philippines | “Higher Education Institutions Can Change the World Project” (AUB)

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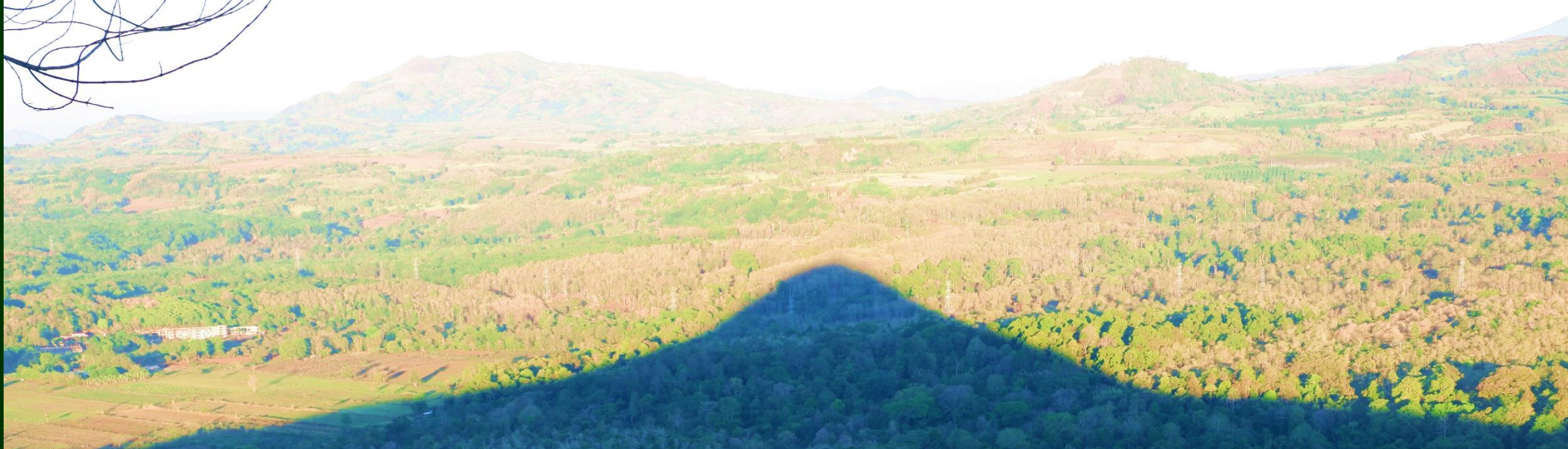
Shadow of Musuan Peak (646 mASL)



Outline

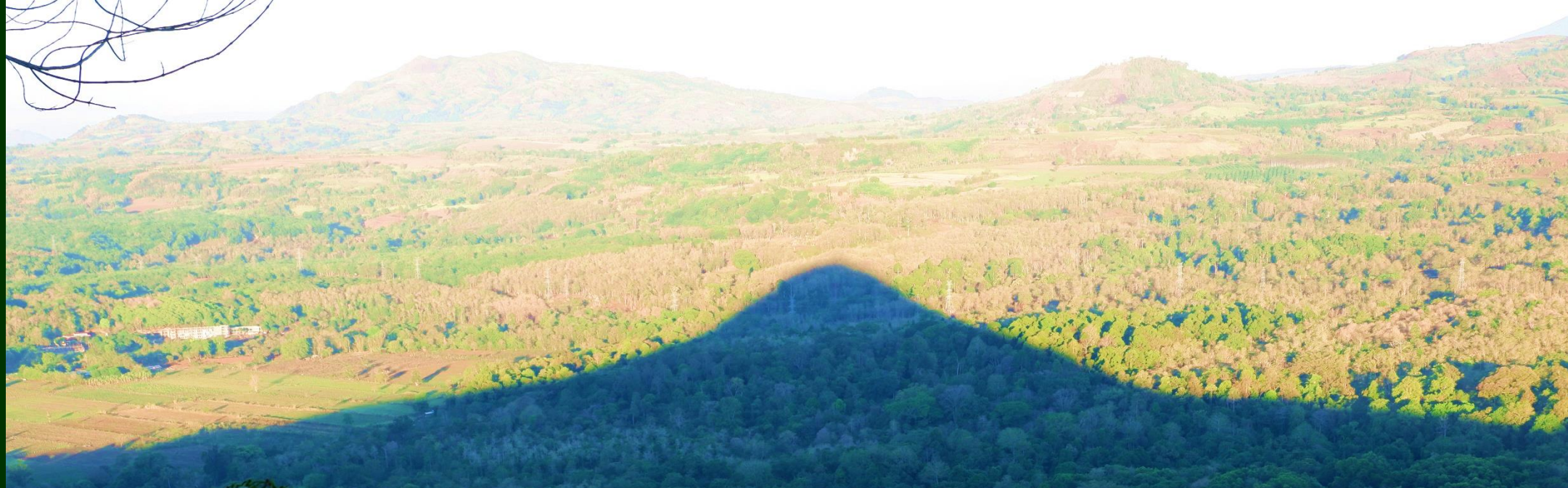
- Central Mindanao University
- Traditions and Challenges
- Changing the Game, Changing Gears for OL
 - Faculty
 - Students
- Opportunities Onward





Central Mindanao University

- 110 years (academe), 68 years (HEI), 55 years (state U)
- > 3,000 ha land (campus, housing, research, botanical garden, crop-livestock-forest species production projects, on lease, etc.)
 - *Most lab classes = highly experiential*
- 9 colleges, College of Ag (oldest & biggest enrollment), ~ **2,300 students**
- most students (farming families), free tuition



2015: *New Vision*

A leading ASEAN university actively committed to the total development of people for a globally sustainable environment and a humane society.





Sept 22, 2020 Survey | Basic Readiness for OL

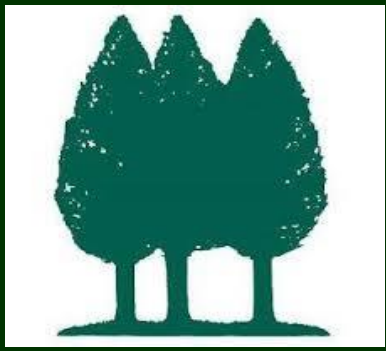
- N = 11,675 students
 - about 90% of total student population
- A = 60% (7,005)
 - with internet access & gadget
- B = 35% (4,086)
 - with internet access or gadget
- C = 5% (584)
 - no capability for OL*

Data: CMU Management & Information System Office c/o Dr. R. Tan



Some Traditions & Challenges

- Faculty-centered learning (*esp. lecture classes*)
 - Instructional materials (*generally campus-based*)
 - Distance Learning Programs (*goal since 2011*)
 - Official travels (*make-up classes*)
 - Classes of grad students (*weekends or off-hours*)
-
- **Tough Workload**
 - min. 18 units/sem (6-9 classes)
 - mentoring of research students
 - research, community engagements & quasi functions
 - < classes: admin functions, same min. units



“*Learning to share, sharing to learn*” (2009)

1. #FoodCropDiversity

 posting (21 d)

1. Email interviews (foreign researchers)

2. Aggie Talks*

3. Critique/essays of YouTube videos

4. AgriCoolTure Acoustic Concert (+ guesting on CMU FM Radio)

5. On-air graduate seminars

6. Project SK (class exhibits)

7. Class debates, etc.



www.google.com/search/icons



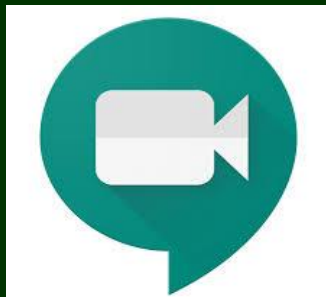
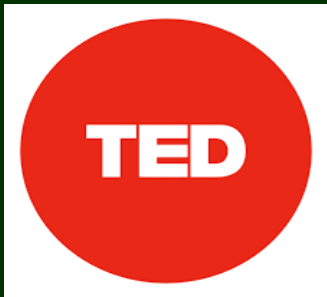


COVID-19 Pandemic

1. “Shookt” traditional teaching/learning deliveries
2. *Challenges creativity, imagination & resourcefulness*
3. Reinforces commitment to profession, raises level of patriotism
4. *Tests resilience & mental health*
5. Changes learning gears for an “academic evolution”

#Faculty | *Changing Gears*

- 1. Learning new skills** – e.g. digital apps, creating online classrooms, group chats, online groups, vlogging & YouTube* channels, amateur filmmakers & editors, writing SKLs, etc.
- 2. Colleagues, alums, friends, family & neighbors** - resources for learning videos
- 3. *Challenge*:** not used to talking to monitors/computer screens only



Google Classrooms

JMJ_Thesis Mentoring
For advising, consultation and mentoring

JMJ_Agric 27: Biotechnology
BSA 4C (Econ, Ext & CP)

JMJ_Agric 27: Biotechnology
BSA 4A (Animal Science)

JMJ_Agric 95: Agronomy
BSA 3 TTh 9-10 (& lab sched is Tue 1-4)

JMJ_PB 207 (Ethics)
for MSPB students

JMJ_PB 201 (to know...)
MSPB students

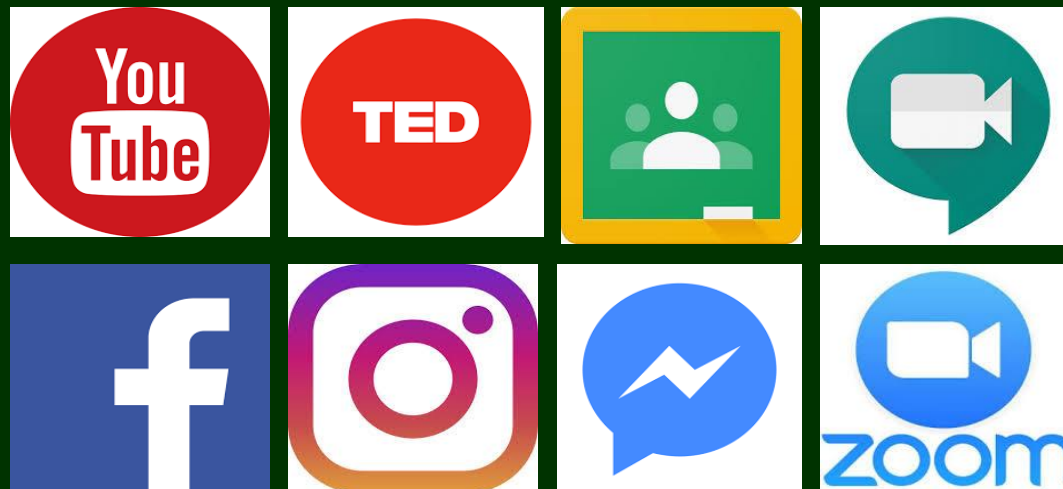
JMJ_Agric 27: Biotechnology
BSA 4B (Crop Science: Agron, Horti & P...)

JMJ_Agric 95: PBs as ...
BSA 3 TTh 10-11 (& lab sched is Fri 1-4)

PB 204 (Bioinformatics)
For MSPB students

#Students | *Changing Gears*

1. Competence on 21st century skills – e.g. *emailing, communication, presenting reports online, problem-solving*, reading more, thinking more, more independent learning, etc.*
2. Bigger classrooms^{**}: *internet & communities, less structured, less supervision, more distraction, etc.*
3. Values: *discipline, time management, honesty, resourcefulness, initiatives, resilience, etc.*



Security Issues



Food Security

Nutrition Security

Financial Security

Energy Security

Internet Security

How about you? How do you rank these issues in DL-OL?

FoS ____, NS ____, FiS, ____, ES ____, IS ____

Scale: 1 = primary concern, 5 – least concern

Agric 95 (Methods of Ag Research)

< OL, > *facilitating distance EL* (& observing safety precautions)

1. Survey of plant/crop resources: home & community resources
2. Farm visits & actual conversations with farmers
3. Conversations with LGU officials (e.g. Chair, Committee on Ag)
4. Assessment of “agricultural” strengths & weaknesses of their communities



5. *IKS* (family members, relatives & community members)*
6. *Community surveys**
7. *Collaborative & multi-location studies**
8. *Journaling**
9. *Thesis Proposals – present to their Com. on Ag**

+ *2 Questions* per Lab Learning Activity (LLA):

Is this learning activity useful? Please explain your answer and do you have suggestions to improve this activity?
Thank you.

#AlwaysEnjoyLearning

10 Opportunities Onward

1. Hybrid learning when students are back: CB-OL
2. Adequate time: research & community engagements
3. More time “to catch up” on reading, writing & other scholarly work
4. Official travels: more relaxed, no more make-up classes
5. Can take personal breaks without worry

6. IT & communication programs – optimize capabilities of faculty
7. Green rooms/media rooms (4 mandates)
8. Database of instructional/lecture videos, etc.
9. Reduced frequency of weekend & off-hours classes
10. DLPs, online courses → CMU Open University*

Salamat po

“Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be fully satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do...”

(Steve Jobs)

