

**Dr. Caesar A. Saloma** is a professor of physics at the National Institute of Physics (NIP) in the University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD). He was Dean of the College of Science (CS) at UPD from June 2006 until March 2011. He also served as NIP Director from June 2000 to May 2006 (two terms).

Saloma obtained his BS, MS and PhD degrees in Physics from UPD in 1981, 1984 and 1989, respectively. The CS is the primary producer of new scientific knowledge as well as PhD and MS graduates in the basic and applied sciences and mathematics in the Philippines to-day. It operates the National Science Complex of the Philippines established by former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo through Executive Order No. 583 issued on December 8, 2006.

Saloma spent his childhood in Baclayon, Bohol and attended high school at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in nearby Tagbilaran City.

He is included in the Marquis Who's Who in Science and Engineering 2011-2012 (11th Edition).

In 2004, Saloma received the Galileo Galilei Award from the International Commission for Optics in recognition of his significant contributions in the field of optics that were accomplished under comparatively unfavorable conditions. He is the first scientist from an ASEAN member country to receive the Galileo Award.

In 2008, he received the triennial ASEAN Outstanding Scientist and Technologist Award from the ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology during the 8th ASEAN Science and Technology Week in Manila.

Saloma was recognized for his contributions to photonics and signal processing that were accomplished with colleagues and students at the NIP.

Saloma led the development of a method to generate high-contrast images of semiconductor sites via one photon optical beam-induced current imaging and confocal reflectance microscopy. The project received a US patent (No. 7,235,988) on June 26, 2007.

He has published more than 100 papers in leading photonics, applied physics and multidisciplinary journals in the US and Europe. His efforts resulted in the development of novel and cost-effective/non-invasive method in optical signal recovery, retrieval and identifying microscopic defects in integrated circuits (IC) enabling the accurate identification of circuit defects by producing a high-contrast image map that distinguishes semiconductor, metal and dielectric sites from each other.

His fields of interest include confocal laser scanning microscopy, interferometry, signal and image processing, neural networks, and complex adaptive systems. Aside from developing new optical microscopy techniques, Saloma is also interested in the development of efficient models for describing the dynamics of real-world systems that involve a large number of interacting agents.

Saloma was elected to the National Academy of Science and Technology, Philippines (NAST) in July 2005. The NAST is the highest recognition body of the Philippine government on science and technology. It also provides advice to the Philippine President and the Cabinet on matters related to science and technology.

He is a recipient of other awards and recognition such as the NAST Outstanding Young Scientist (Applied Physics) in 1992, the NAST-Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) Prize in Physics in 1997, the Gawad Chanselor para sa Natatanging Guro (Outstanding Teacher) in 2006 and several Gawad Chanselor para sa Pinakamahusay na Mananaliksik (Best Researcher in S&T) from UPD. He was appointed to the highest rank of Scientist III by the UP System in 2006 (only three were issued) and renewed in 2009 (only two were issued). He also received the 2007 Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award on September 7, 2007.

Saloma was awarded the 1999 Outstanding R&D Award in Basic Research (Eduardo Quisumbing Medal) by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) for his work (with F. Domingo) on image compression of video and confocal images [Applied Optics 38, pp. 3735–3744 (1999)]. He was included in the “50 Men and Women of Science” list released by the DOST for its 50th anniversary celebration as a government department in June 2008.

He received the Lingkod Bayan Award—the Presidential Award for Outstanding Public Service—from Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in a ceremony held at the Malacañang Palace on September 19, 2008. The award is the highest recognition given to a Philippine government employee for outstanding performance.

He was elected Inaugural Fellow of the Samahang Pisika ng Pilipinas (Physics Society of the Philippines) on October 23, 2008 during the 26th SPP Physics Congress in Baguio City.

Saloma received the 2010 Outstanding Science Administrator Award (Dioscoro L. Umali Medal) from the DOST and NAST in recognition of his commitment, leadership, dedication and outstanding service as scientist, teacher and administrator.

His vital role in the establishment and ongoing completion of the National Science Complex was particularly noted.

He was elevated to senior member status by the Board of Directors of the Optical Society of America in November 2010.

On March 2, 2011, he was elected Chancellor of UPD by the UP Board of Regents. He will serve for a period of three years.

On May 15, he was named one of the 15 Asian Scientists to Watch by Asian Scientist.