

Dr. Raul Destura, CM '96 is TOYM Honoree for Medical Science

Dr. Raul Destura of the De La Salle Health Sciences Institute (DLSHSI) College of Medicine batch 1996 is the honoree for Medical Science in the 2011 The Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines Awards.

Dr. Destura was honored for his innovative researches in infectious diseases, particularly dengue and tuberculosis. He is the lead researcher of an early detection kit for dengue which is critical in the fight against dengue as it is the first available mechanism that helps doctors determine if a patient that has fever is infected with the dengue virus as early as on the first day of fever. Currently, dengue infection is confirmed only on the third or fifth day of fever. In most cases, this is too late as the infection would have been at an advanced stage already and is difficult to cure and most often results in death. According to the Department of Health, the Dengue LAMP (loop-mediated isothermal amplification) Kit will be released in the first quarter of 2012.

Dr. Destura, along with the other honorees of TOYM 2011, received his award from President Benigno S. Aquino III on December 7 at the Malacañan Palace.

Dr. Destura completed his residency in Internal Medicine at DLSHSI's De La Salle University Medical Center in year 2000. He is currently the director of the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology of the National Institutes of Health of UP Manila.

The whole DLSHSI community is extending its warmest congratulations to Dr. Destura. We are very proud of you. Animo La Salle!