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K05 - Communicating Astronomy with the Public

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We now live in very challenging times, where mainstream scientific views and methods are being questioned in social media and replaced by unproven and misleading theories to serve commercial and political interests. In the face of anti-science attacks, astronomy, with its universal appeal and scientific outlook, can be used as an effective and powerful medium to educate the people on scientific thinking. Thankfully in the Philippines, the proliferation and active participation of various Philippine amateur astronomical societies had contributed to the promotion and popularization of astronomy to the general public. In promoting astronomy and science to the public, we can cultivate scientific and critical thinking for our countrymen and make them ask questions on how and why things happen, and enable them to effect change and hopefully achieve real progress.

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