



Dr. Fabian M. Dayrit is a full-professor at the Department of Chemistry, Ateneo de Manila University, where he has been teaching since 1983. He obtained his BS Chemistry degree from the Ateneo in 1975 and his MA and PhD degrees in Chemistry from Princeton University in 1978 and 1981, respectively. He worked as a post-doctoral research associate at Oxford University from 1980 to 1982. Dr. Dayrit did the phytochemical work for the development of lagundi (*Vitex negundo*) as part of the National Integrated Research Program on Medicinal Plants (NIRPROMP). Lagundi is the first medicinal plant approved in the Philippines and is now a billion-peso industry. He has worked on other important natural products, including medicinal plants, coconut oil, and carrageenan. He is currently focused on the development of standardization and profiling methods for medicinal plants.

He has published over 50 papers in research journals mainly in the areas of natural products chemistry, environmental chemistry, and coconut oil. In 2013, he wrote the popular book, *Coconut Oil: From Diet to Therapy* and in 2015-2016, he co-edited the *Encyclopedia of Common Medicinal Plants of the Philippines*, volumes 1 and 2, which are publications of the Philippine Institute for Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC).

In July 2009, he was admitted as an Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology Philippines (NAST PHL), and in May 2016, he was elected as its vice-president.

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Theory and Applications**