University of Santo Tomas

Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., Ph.D., was elected Executive Secretary of the Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU) for a second three-year term during the 2018 ASEACCU conference held from August 21 to 26, 2018 at the Elisabeth University of Music in Hiroshima, Japan. As Executive Secretary, he will serve as the Association’s chief administrative officer from 2018 to 2020.

The ASEACCU, a regional association of Catholic institutions of higher learning within the region, aims to promote Catholic higher education, to be active supporters for the local Churches, and to contribute to educational discourse on an international level.

Fr. Dagohoy was previously elected as the Executive Secretary of ASEACCU in 2015.

Concurrently, Fr. Dagohoy serves as Vice President of the France-based International Federation of Catholic Universities.

Anchored upon the Ex Corde Ecclesiae or the Apostolic Constitution of the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II on Catholic Universities, the ASEACCU serves as a forum for its member institutions for exchanging ideas, sharing resources, and forming partnerships among themselves, with other educational institutions, and with governments across the globe.

Taiwan Youth Ambassadors, UST students perform in 2018 cultural exchange night

A group of 25 outstanding students from different schools across Taiwan comprise this year’s Taiwan Youth Ambassadors (TYA) serving as part of the annual International Youth Ambassador Exchange Program organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

In a night of songs and dances, the University of Santo Tomas hosted the Taiwan Youth Ambassadors as part of the annual International Youth Ambassador Exchange Program organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) of the Republic of China (Taiwan).
Taiwan Youth Ambassador from page 1

The welcome remarks delivered by Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines Representative Mr. Michael Peiyung Hsu. (© Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines)

The visit to UST by the Taiwan Youth Ambassadors was part of the annual International Youth Ambassador Exchange Program organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of the Republic of China (Taiwan). This program groups young representative teams, with each group traveling to different partner nations to interact with research institutes and engage in volunteer activities. This year, a total of 75 students out of over 800 applicants were selected to become youth ambassadors.

The youth ambassadors were led by the Director General on Home Assignment of the Public Diplomacy Coordination Council of the TECO in Los Angeles Mr. Steve C.C. Hsia. The Deputy Counselor on Home Assignment of the MOFA Mr. Steven Y.M. Lin serves as deputy leader of the delegates.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Hermilio V. Dagohoy, O.P.,交付了欢迎辞。

The Taiwan Youth Ambassadors showcased their culture and talents through various performances with the theme “Taiwan’s Youth, Citizens of the World.” They were able to highlight their traditional festivals and dances through the Lion Dance and the Hakka Tea-Picking Dance, traditional and contemporary entertainment through the Shadowplay, Puppetry and Diabolo (Chinese Yo-yo). The Minister of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in Taiwan launched its first international exchange program for the youth in 2009 to promote cultural linkages with its neighboring countries. Coordinated by the UST Office of Public Affairs, the 2018 Taiwan Night is the third cultural exchange program organized by the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in Jakarta, Indonesia held at the Grand Aston City Hall Hotel, Medan City, North Sumatra, Indonesia on July 30 and 31, 2018.

The UST College of Nursing was one of the five participating institutions from the Philippines and was represented by Nursing faculty member Asst. Prof. Beryl P. Battad and UST Office for Admission Marketing Officer Mr. Steve Michael M. Moore. During the education fair, Battad discussed the institution’s profile, administration and faculty profiles, the B.S. Nursing program, learning facilities, and the college’s programs on research, community extension services and international relations and programs. Information on fee schedules, estimates of living costs for students, statistics of the performance in the nurse licensure examination and employment statistics of the graduates were also discussed.

The two-day fair was attended by senior high school and undergraduate students, faculty, and administrators of various schools of nursing in the city of Medan. The education system in the Philippines, particularly nursing education, was thoroughly discussed. Several students showed interest in enrolling in both the undergraduate and graduate programs of nursing. Likewise, the faculty and administrators from selected nursing schools expressed their desire to establish linkage with the UST College of Nursing for student and faculty mobility programs and research collaborations.

The Nursing Education Fair aims to help Indonesian students who consider studying in the Philippines to be aware of the excellent and world-class educational institutions and facilities that the Philippines offers, at a competitive cost.

Representatives of the five participating colleges of nursing from the Philippines (From left) Office of Admissions staff member Mr. Steve Michael M. Moore and College of Nursing Asst. Prof. Beryl P. Battad in the UST youth

UST Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Prof. Hieronymo Kawere, PH.D., (center), plays a medley of Filipino songs.
CPRS Global Internship Experience for students includes partner universities in Japan, Thailand, USA

Niigata University of Health and Welfare students

A group of students accompanied by a faculty member from the Department of Physical Therapy of the Niigata University of Health and Welfare (NUHW), Niigata, Japan arrived on August 18, 2018 to commence their monthlong Global Internship Experience (GIE) program with the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences.

The delegation was headed by Prof. Hideaki Takahashi, and consisted of four students Ms. Yukika Masui (3rd year), Ms. Keiko Saito (3rd year), Ms. Haruka Takasugi (1st year), and Ms. Ann Sekizawa (1st year).

A meeting between the academic officials led by CRS Dean Assoc. Prof. Anne Aseron and the NUHW participants took place on August 20. They were joined by Ms. Paulin Morato-Espino and faculty members for a welcome reception and orientation on the various activities that they experience for their stay.

In the schedule are exposure trips and internship duties in selected CRS internship affiliation centers and programs, classroom immersion and cultural exchanges.

Prof. Takahashi, for his part, gave a special lecture titled “Bone and Cartilage: possibility of Physical Therapy” for the physical therapy students of CRS who are in their fourth year. This student-faculty exchange between UST-CRS and NUHW commenced in 2013 and is still active up to present.

UST- Srinasakhriwitro University exchange students

A group of Physical Therapy (PT) interns from the University of Santo Tomas College of Rehabilitation Sciences (UST CRS) were sent to Thailand under its Global Internship Experience program in collaboration with Srinasakhriwitro University (SWU).

The students from UST, Ciara Audrey Deang, Isabella Dimaguila, Lady Marella Mangahas, and Bianca Vergel de Dios, together with PT faculty member Ms. Arlene Chiong Maay, engaged in an activity-packed program that started in August 6 and ended in August 31, 2018 arranged by the Thai Red Cross Society. They were involved in evidence-based assessment and treatment of neurologic patients and were able to observe how robotics and weightless treadmill exercises in PT were done. They participated in a special lecture delivered by Dr. Marco Pang in SWU and gave a report in a case presentation and journal reporting.

The PT students from SWU, Thirarat Suphasubratkul, Pavarita Chirneswyawong and Chutkarn Yolung, were also accommodated in the college from August 20 to 30, 2018. The PT society showed Filipino hospitality to the Thai students by giving them a campus tour and cultural immersion activities. Aside from a class session of the Filipino language, they also attended and participated in some of the PT courses. Their visit to the University of Santo Tomas-University Athletics Association of the Philippines (UST-UAAAP) team and the Philippine Central Palsy Incorporated further enriched their PT student learning experience.

Seton Hall University students’ fieldwork

The Department of Occupational Therapy of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences provided clinical placements for the Level 2 fieldwork of two occupational therapy students from Seton Hall University namely, Ashley Simpson and Gloria Provenciano, through its Global Internship Experience program. The two students were assigned to a variety of facilities from August 6 to 31, 2018.

Observations and hands-on client management were provided to the two students across different settings namely, adult physical dysfunctions, adult psychosocial dysfunctions, pediatrics, and community-based rehabilitation. The partner affiliation centers of the department were tapped for their clinical placements. The students were also required to attend the Seminar class for clinical correlations and integration every Friday. To strengthen the trust of the program, they were also given cultural immersion activities through tours inside the University and within the metropolis by the Occupational Therapy Society.

Mahidol University Sports Science students

Three students under the Sports Science program of the Mahidol University (MU) in Thailand participated in the Global Internship Experience Program of the Department of Sports Science of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences (CRS) of the University of Santo Tomas and the College of Sports Science and Technology of the Mahidol University.

MU students Jaripat Pongsalae, Anantaya Saiboononkham and Sawita Sangsiwarit took their internship in UST from July 16 to August 11, 2018. They were given extensive training in the different fields of Sports Science and were exposed to the current Sports Science system and practice in the Philippines.

During the first week of their internship, the students were welcomed by the administrators of the UST CRS Sports Science Department and were given a tour of the campus that highlighted the rich history and culture of the University. The succeeding days of the first week were spent at the Sports Science Laboratory. They underwent physical fitness testing on their first day at the center, followed by several group exercise programs. The group was also given the chance to observe and assist in the trainings of several UST UAAAP teams.

The following weeks were spent at the Kinetics Lab and 360 Fitness Center, where the group was given hands-on experience in group exercises and exercise prescription as well as assisting in handling clients in the centers.

The last week was spent with the Lyceum of the Philippines University Basketball Team, which is currently competing in the NCAA season 94. The MU group was given the chance to observe and assist in training the basketball team as well as attend several team functions and games.

Starting in May 2013, the UST and MU internship experience has been enriching the internship experience of the students of both universities through a continuous and yearly program of activities.
Five Arts and Letters mentors present papers at various conferences in Australia, Brazil, Taiwan, Finland, and Switzerland

The sessions were facilitated by Peter Worley and Louise Gusterson. The second and third days were held at the University of Notre Dame, Fremantle where Sandra Lynch of the University of Notre Dame and Michael Hardin of University of Birmingham delivered their keynote presentations.

In her paper, Bolaños argued that Lipman’s critique remains relevant to this day because the problems of the standard educational practice remain unexamined. She likewise argued that Philosophy in Schools (or Philosophy for Children or Community of Inquiry) cannot be fully implemented in the Philippines precisely because the teacher training program lacks Philosophy courses that will prepare its future teachers to critically and reflectively facilitate the implementation of Philosophy in Schools.

Bolaños concluded that there is a necessity for colleges of Education to once and for all revolve their curriculum and look into the possibility of adding more Philosophy courses which are to be taught by trained faculty members because a course in Logic and a diffused Philosophy of Liberal Arts College Alumni of their Unforgettable Professors” at the International Auto/Biographical Association (IABA) biennial world conference (IABA Brazil 2018) held at the Universidade Federa de Sao Jao del-Rei, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil, enabling her to be included in the roster of IABA new scholars. A book project is also being proposed for the selected papers of IABA Brazil 2018.

The sessions included presentations from eight faculty members from the Faculty of Arts and Letters who presented papers and attended conferences in international conferences that dealt with topics that range from teaching Philosophy, using memories to write, sea disputes as represented in Philippine and Chinese media, to the practice of ethics in business.

Bolaños in Australia

Department of Philosophy faculty member Asst. Prof. Marelia A. V. Mancenido-Bolaños, Ph.D., presented a paper titled “Matthew Lipman’s Critique of the Standard Educational Practice and the Case of the Teacher Education Program in the Philippines” during the biennial conference of the Federation of Australasian Philosophy in Schools association held from July 9 to 11, 2018 at The Hale School, Wembly Downs, Western Australia and at the University of Notre Dame, Fremantle.

The conference started with the In-Action day held at The Hale School, Wembly Downs, Western Australia. The In-action day showcased community of inquiry sessions which were participated in by lower and middle school students.

In her paper, Bolaños argued that Lipman’s critique remains relevant to this day because the problems of the standard educational practice remain unexamined. She likewise argued that Philosophy in Schools (or Philosophy for Children or Community of Inquiry) cannot be fully implemented in the Philippines precisely because the teacher training program lacks Philosophy courses that will prepare its future teachers to critically and reflectively facilitate the implementation of Philosophy in Schools.

With the theme “Secret Lives: Hiding, Revealing, Belonging,” this conference delved into questions of how lives become concealed by theorizing the ways in which we choose to keep secret and reveal our lives; how non-authoritative others shape life stories; imposed and sanctioned silencing; the passage of time as an erasure of lives; and the relationships between hiding, being hidden, revealing, and ideas of belongings.

Pereña’s paper, using the lens of phenomenology, endeavored to surface memories of Liberal Arts College Alumni of their Unforgettable Professors” at the International Auto/Biographical Association (IABA) biennial world conference (IABA Brazil 2018) held at the Universidade Federa de Sao Jao del-Rei, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil, enabling her to be included in the roster of IABA new scholars. A book project is also being proposed for the selected papers of IABA Brazil 2018.

The IABA is maintained by a group of senior scholars of whom have organized and overseen an IABA conference every two years in China, Canada, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The IABA is maintained by a group of senior scholars of whom have organized and overseen an IABA conference every two years in China, Canada, Australia, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The conference is the second in a series of the three international conferences on teaching and managing business ethics. The conference is the second in a series of the three international conferences on teaching and managing business ethics.

Just as relevant and closely related was Fr. Semilla’s lecture on “Essential Canons Law Organizes Lecture from Page 5

Patrício discusses alumni memories in Brazil conference

Liptao in Kaohsiung, Taiwan for the SEALS conference

Liptao discusses memories to write, sea disputes as represented in Philippine and Chinese media to the practice of ethics in business.

Bolaños presents her research in Australia.

Liptao’s paper examined a cross-cultural perspective on how the top popular press in the Philippines and China portray an evaluative stance as regards the South China SEA tensions.

The three-day conference brought together more than 100 presenters from around the world stretching all the way from North America, Europe to Southeast Asia. The first and the only academic society in the world that focuses on research on the languages of South East Asia, SEALS is on the forefront of facilitating communication among scholars and students considering that Southeast Asia is of extraordinary linguistic diversity. The society advocates the documentation, analysis and teaching and maintenance of South East Asian languages.

Asst. Prof. Rhochie Avelino E. Matienzo, Ph.D., and Prof. Franz Giuseppe F. Cortez, Ph.D., of the Department of Philosophy attended the International Conference on Managing and Teaching Business Ethics held in Lassalle-Haus, Bad-Schönbrunn, Switzerland.

The conference is the second in a series of three international conferences on teaching and managing business ethics.

Liptao discusses memories to write, sea disputes as represented in Philippine and Chinese media to the practice of ethics in business.
The IAELC is an international literary and cultural studies research center that aims to bring together scholars from around the world to engage in dialogue and to promote the development of interdisciplinary research. It is an organization that tries to link ethics and the arts, as well as an “opportunity to share their approaches, histories, languages, and methodologies, and the theory and practice from critical categories and scholarly traditions, both within and without cultural contexts.” The IAELC conference papers are selected from two major categories: Ethical Literary Criticism: Concept Analysis and Theory Mapping; Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies: Ethical Literary Criticism and the Readings of World Literary Canons.

The conference will be held on April 27 to 30, 2018, at the Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. The conference will be jointly organized with the IAELC, Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of World Literature in Zhejiang University, China, and UNITAS, and RCCAN of UST.

The keynote lecture of Prof. Reyes was titled “The Ethic in the Aesthetic/The Aesthetic in the Ethic” which analyzed selected Philippine literary texts that draw from local and foreign traditions in different languages. Her lecture on how the “ethic turn” in literary studies interfaces with the “aesthetic turn” was her contribution to the ongoing interdisciplinary debate and the rethinking of ethical criticism across national traditions, comparative to interdisciplinary approaches, histories, languages, and genres.

The IAELC is an international literary and cultural organization that aims to provide a forum and resource for scholars and advanced students all over the world “as an opportunity to share their findings in the study of literature and ethics.” As an organization, it tries to link “all those working in ethical literary criticism in theory and practice and to encourage the discussion of ethical value in literary creation and criticism.” In the same conference, Prof. Reyes also teaches Literature, moderated the twin sessions on Global Mobility and Ethics in Literature and she chaired the colloquium on Literary Liquidities: Postcolonial Places/Spaces, which was the third in a series of colloquia organized annually by CLASS, an international association of teachers, scholars, researchers, academics, and students of literary and cultural studies which is based in the Philippines and registered by the Securities and Exchange Commission, of which she is a founding member and the current President.

The first conference was held in July 2017 in Manila, Philippines focused on the South-East Asian participants while the third will be held in July 2019 in Santa Clara, California, USA. More than 80 scholars and practitioners from 21 countries, particularly from Europe and Africa participated in the conference. The conference, whose aim was to explore “the challenges of doing business in an ethical manner in the modern globalized world” in the light of the Ignatian tradition, focused on two points: first, academic exchange among professionals and scholars on business ethics; second, interactions between specialists and practitioners in corporations, in the spirit of Ignatian formation.

The conference was organized by Tobias Karcher, S.J., Director of Lasallian of Forma Futura AG, Peter Zehnder, consultant at Egon Zehnder Professional Services, Eva Hauselmann, founder and manager of Despite Ltd., Consultancy, and Dorothea Bauer, founder and owner of Baur Consulting AG, at the Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. The institutional organizations involved were International Association of Jesuit Business Schools, ESADE Business School, Ramon Llull University (URL) Barcelona and the Hochschule für Philosophie, München.

The conference will be held from July 27 to 30, 2018 at the Kitakyushu International Convention Center, Fukuoka, Japan. The conference will be attended by over two dozen parallel sessions and plenary lectures.

Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities Director Prof. Joyce Arriola, Ph.D., and professor at the Department of Literature of UST, presented a paper, “Ethical Dimension of Personality and ‘Refixedness’ in the Philippines,” in the plenary lectures. The keynote lecturer on the second day of the conference is University of Santo Tomas College of Rehabilitation Sciences (UST CRS) founding editor and editor-in-chief, Maria Teresa Arriola, Ph.D., known as the “aesthetic turn” was her contribution to the ongoing interdisciplinary debate and the rethinking of ethical criticism across national traditions, comparative to interdisciplinary approaches, histories, languages, and genres.

The topics of the UST conference shall include: Ethical Literary Criticism: Concept Analysis and Theory Mapping; Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies: Ethical Literary Criticism and the Readings of World Literary Canons. While participation in the conference is by invitation only, attendance in the conference will be open to the public.

The IAELC international seminar in UST will be held in 2019, UST will host an international seminar of IAELC from April 27 to 30 which will be jointly organized with the IAELC, Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of World Literature in Zhejiang University, China, and UNITAS, and RCCAN of UST.

The topics of the UST conference shall include: Ethical Literary Criticism: Concept Analysis and Theory Mapping; Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies: Ethical Literary Criticism and the Readings of World Literary Canons.

Theaito chooses literature as the medium to communicate ideas and values. Philippines (WCIP), spearheaded the 3rd Philippine National Symposium on Wound Care held from July 21 to 22, 2018 at Hotel Rembrandt, Quezon City.

Led by UST alumna and WCIP founder Dr. Thomas Joseph Foz Foronda, the two-day seminar was attended by speakers practicing abroad with expertise in wound care. It was aimed at updating the 68 healthcare professionals regarding comprehensive wound assessment and nutritional assessment, pressure injuries, burn rehabilitation, in-depth analysis on surgical wounds, venous and arterio insufficiency, and the different techniques in wound management led by Foronda, Debridement techniques and several specialized treatment approaches led by Dr. Warren Mangio and the different nursing perspectives on wound care management led by Mr. Armando Cantuba and Ms. Jamelah Gimenez.

The WCIP conducts annual seminars and trainings on wound care and aims to develop wound care awareness and management in the Philippines. The first Philippine national Symposium on wound care was held in 2011 while the second was in 2016.
Confab in UST on innovation for environment promotes rice production, environmental issues

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Poster Exhibit was held at the Faculty of Arts and Letters officially opened by the Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C Vasco, Ph.D., the PSSN President Prof. Arlen A. Anetcha, Ph.D., and the Director of the Research Center for Social Sciences and Education Prof. Belinda De Castro, Ph.D. Research posters were presented by the students under the Asian Studies program of the Faculty of Arts and Letters on topics relevant to environmental issues in the Philippines, such as the Angat Dam and Watershed, Beach Tourism in Pagudpud, Changing Weather Patterns in Rice Production: A Case Study of Barangay Marawa Jaen, Nueva Ecija, and also Economic Vulnerabilities of Women in Taftong Fish port.

The research posters presented were on “Institutional Arrangement in the Management of Angat Watershed and Dam” by Crystalle Adriano and Zarnaa Balatbat, “Collaborative Management of Beach Tourism: Pagudpud As Case Study” by Ma. Felixia Claire P. Falcasantos, Arian Gail R. Martin and Danica R. Simbahan, “Economic Vulnerabilities of Women in Taftong Fish port” by Leona Marie B. Baudena, Jayani Chars H. Enriquez, and Judea Raven M. Mendoza and “Rice Production In Changing Weather Patterns: A Case Study of Barangay Marawa, Jaen, Nueva Ecija” by Beatriz Isac C. Manzaala and Myla Nicole M. Narciso.


Various research studies particularly on rice and rice production and ecocultural management were the primary topics discussed during the 11th Philippine Society on the Study of Nature (PSSN) Annual International Conference on Nature Studies and Innovation for the Environment (IoNSIE 2018) which was held recently at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex of the University of Santo Tomas.

The conference was attended by local and international researchers, students, and professors. On the first day of the conference, the speakers included Dr. Bas Bouman from the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines as the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Surangni Wapat of Thailand’s Department of Agriculture Extension and Dr. Suphakayam Reubin Clements of Sunway University in Malaysia as Plenary Speakers.

Dr. Bas Bouman gave emphasis on the importance of rice production in the Philippines while Dr. Surangni Wapat discussed the efforts of Thailand when it comes to sustaining the agricultural sector of the country. Dr. Wapat also stated that Thailand and the Philippines have similar situations when it comes to agriculture and the Philippines may be able to improve on its agricultural sector by using the methods done by Thailand.

UST Benavides Library, Del Rosario family publish book on Antonio Vivencio del Rosario

The UST Miguel del Benavides Library in cooperation with the children of the late Ambassador Rizal Rosario, Del Rosario, Sr., have recently published a book on the life of his grandfather titled “Antonio Vivencio del Rosario (AVdR) (1828-1884): A Life and Legacy of Service and Excellence” in commemoration of the 100th birth anniversary of Amb. Del Rosario. The book offers a glimpse into the life of AVdR not just a historic figure but as a human being as well. It also retraces his humble beginnings to his illustrious legacy.

The book, written by Analde de la Paz, a librarian from Barcelona, Spain and Ana Karina Porto, a Filipino copy editor, was presented and served as a token to the guests at the 2018 Ramon V. Del Rosario Award for Nation Building held at National Museum of Natural History, Manila. The event was organized by the Philippine Investment Management Consultants (PHINMA), Inc. and the Junior Chamber International (JCI) Manila.

Amb. Ramon V. del Rosario, Sr., son of Antonio Vivencio, on whose birth centenary the book was published, was an Ambassador to Japan. He was born in 1918 and passed away in 2006. He was considered one of the founding fathers of Philippine industry.

UST Publishing House authors share thoughts on writing at 2018 Philippine Readers and Writers Festival

Featured authors of the UST Publishing House stressed how writing is a serious profession, in the panel session held during the Philippine Readers and Writers Festival on August 10, 2018 at the Raffles Hotel in Makati.

“A writer is never not writing,” claimed playwright Nicolas “Nick” Pichay. It is more than the act of writing, Joselito de los Reyes added, for one to claim that he is writing.

“Paweng nakaupo lang ako at nagmumuni-muni, pero ‘nagsusulat’ na ako nun. (I may appear to be merely seated and contemplating, but I am actually already ‘writing’).” (writing) de los Reyes, current chair of the UST Department of Literature, said. Poet Mokie Katigbak-Lacuesta agreed, stating that “writers’ minds should always be active to absorb everything in their surroundings.”

When commended by a member of the audience for their courage in embarking on such profession, the authors concur that writing is, in fact, a “demanding craft” on various levels.

“Katapangan talaga ang dine-demanda o inhingi ng pagusulat.” (writing demands courage) said fictionist Angelito “Barge” Lacuesta. He pointed out that writers should be prepared for possible criticisms on their work once it is made public.

For fictionist Chuckbery J. Pascual, another challenge of the craft is following traditions.

“Kailangan mong alamin ang mga naunang nasulat na challenge na sundan ito, at yung alamin kung paano maaalis ang sarili, maaalis ito sa maaalalang sa tradisyon.” (You have to know what has been previously written. It is a challenge to follow them, and to know how your writings can contribute to the established tradition.)

The Philippine Readers and Writers Festival was a three-day event organized by the National Book Store and Raffles Makati. It featured bestselling international and local authors, as well as book signings, discussions, and panels about books, literature, and culture.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Poster Exhibit was held at the Faculty of Arts and Letters officially opened by the Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C Vasco, Ph.D., the PSSN President Prof. Arlen A. Anetcha, Ph.D., and the Director of the Research Center for Social Sciences and Education Prof. Belinda De Castro, Ph.D. Research posters were presented by the students under the Asian Studies program of the Faculty of Arts and Letters on topics relevant to environmental issues in the Philippines, such as the Angat Dam and Watershed, Beach Tourism in Pagudpud, Changing Weather Patterns in Rice Production: A Case Study of Barangay Marawa Jaen, Nueva Ecija, and also Economic Vulnerabilities of Women in Taftong Fish port.

The research posters presented were on "Institutional Arrangement in the Management of Angat Watershed and Dam" by Crystalle Adriano and Zarnaa Balatbat, "Collaborative Management of Beach Tourism: Pagudpud As Case Study" by Ma. Felixia Claire P. Falcasantos, Arian Gail R. Martin and Danica R. Simbahan, “Economic Vulnerabilities of Women in Taftong Fish port” by Leona Marie B. Baudena, Jayani Chars H. Enriquez, and Judea Raven M. Mendoza and “Rice Production In Changing Weather Patterns: A Case Study of Barangay Marawa, Jaen, Nueva Ecija” by Beatriz Isac C. Manzaala and Myla Nicole M. Narciso.


Various research studies particularly on rice and rice production and ecocultural management were the primary topics discussed during the 11th Philippine Society on the Study of Nature (PSSN) Annual International Conference on Nature Studies and Innovation for the Environment (IoNSIE 2018) which was held recently at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex of the University of Santo Tomas.

The conference was attended by local and international researchers, students, and professors. On the first day of the conference, the speakers included Dr. Bas Bouman from the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines as the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Surangni Wapat of Thailand’s Department of Agriculture Extension and Dr. Suphakayam Reubin Clements of Sunway University in Malaysia as Plenary Speakers.

Dr. Bas Bouman gave emphasis on the importance of rice production in the Philippines while Dr. Surangni Wapat discussed the efforts of Thailand when it comes to sustaining the agricultural sector of the country. Dr. Wapat also stated that Thailand and the Philippines have similar situations when it comes to agriculture and the Philippines may be able to improve on its agricultural sector by using the methods done by Thailand.
Six senior high school students (in black shirts), faculty member Ms. Amy Chang (second row, leftmost), and Dominican Sister Incarnata Chen (front row, south from left) from Blessed Imelda’s School in Taiwan at the Main Building grand staircase on August 16, 2018 during their visit to the University of Santo Tomas that was part of their 10-day exposure trip in the Philippines. With them are UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Ciccavaro V. Fontanilla, Ph.D. (front row, center), Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs Ms. Katherine Panico Shag (front row, leftmost), and Office Secretary Ms. Sheneine Pascual (second row, rightmost) who welcomed them to the University, and two Philippine-based Dominican Sisters who assisted the team from Taiwan in their trip.

Blessed Imelda’s School

Nutritionist-Dietitian Licensure Examination
August 2018
UST Passing Rate: 100%
National Passing Rate: 63.12%

4th – 90%
Nicole Marie A. Lota

7th – 89.05%
Nicole Kate D. Sison

10th – 88.10%
Erindra M. Velasco