



THE

ACADEMIA

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UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (fourth from left) with Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Philippines Her Excellency Anke Reiffenstuel (fifth from left) at the UST Museum. With them are (from left:) UST Conservatory of Music Secretary Asst. Prof. Peter Porticos, Conservatory of Music Dean Antonio P. Africa, Ph.D., Asst. Prof. Mary Patrice Pacis, mezzo-soprano Katharina Padrok, pianist Boris Schönleber, Goethe Institut Philippines Director Dr. Ulrich Nowak, UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D.

Goethe Institut, UST stage concert on life of musician Clara Schumann

The Goethe Institut, in collaboration with the University of Santo Tomas through the UST Office of Public Affairs and UST Conservatory of Music, celebrated the 200th birth anniversary of musician Clara Schumann through a concert, held on October 16, 2019 at the UST Museum Main Gallery.

Gracing the event were the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Philippines Her Excellency Anke Reiffenstuel and Goethe Institut Philippines Director Dr. Ulrich Nowak. The visitors were welcomed by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., assisted by the Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D.

The concert, aside from featuring Schumann's works, included German poetry and theatrical performances of important events in her life. German musicians Boris Schönleber (piano), Katharina Padrok (Mezzo-soprano), and

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Filipino performers Peter L. Porticos (actor) and Mary Patrice Pacis (actress), both from the UST Conservatory of Music, starred in the production.

Clara Schumann was a German musician and composer, considered as one of the most distinguished composers and pianists of the Romantic era. Over a 61-year concert career, she composed a body of work that included various piano concertos, chamber works, and choral pieces. She taught at the Hoch Conservatory in Frankfurt and was one of the primary forces in reintroducing eighteenth-century keyboard music to the public.

Among Clara Schumann's pieces that were performed during the concert were *Mein Stern (My Star)*, *Der Abendstern (The Evening Star)*, *Romanze op. 21, Nr. 1 (Romance)*, and *Der Mond kommt still gegangen op. 13, Nr. 4 (The moon rises silently)*.

Songs composed by Clara's husband Robert Schumann, a distinguished pianist himself, were also played, namely, *Er ist's op. 79, Nr. 23 (Spring is Here)*, *Widmung op. 25, Nr. 1 (Dedication)*, and *Marienwurmchen op. 79, Nr. 14 (Ladybird)*.

Boris Schönleber and Katharina Padrok also performed in the Berlin and Bangkok edition of the same concert earlier this year. Manila is the last stop for this particular tour.



German pianist Boris Schönleber (left) accompanies mezzo-soprano Katharina Padrok.



Asst. Prof. Mary Patrice Pacis (left) in the role of Clara Schumann and Asst. Prof. Peter Porticos as Robert Schumann



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (leftmost) assisted by UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D. (back to camera), welcomes H.E. Anke Reiffenstuel (third from left).

Key executive leaders of international ranking bodies visit UST



Ms. Mandy Mok (left) and Engr. Nestor Ong



Engr. Ong with Mr. Ritin, Times Higher Education Regional Director for South Asia

In the previous months, three key executive leaders of QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) and THE (Times Higher Education) international ranking bodies have visited the University of Santo Tomas, in coordination with the newly established Office of QS/THE Rankings headed by its Deputy Director, Engr. Nestor R. Ong, ASEAN Eng, in three different occasions.

In each visit, Ong and his support staff, Mr. Vien Vic G. Flores were present to welcome them.

Mr. E Way Chong, the present QS Regional Director for South East Asia, is under the QS Intelligence Unit, and is in charge of engaging with universities across South East Asia. Chong said, "The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) will sponsor the QS Stars Orientations to be attended by 18 Philippine public/state universities. In line with this, UST will be the primary University to be considered for benchmarking by selected Philippine public universities which will undergo the assessment and evaluation on a range of categories that recognize distinct strengths. It is a known fact that UST is the first and only Philippine University that is rated Four Stars in QS Rating awarded in 2015 and 2017 by QS London. Ong emphasized that "they need to follow the protocol in benchmarking by first seeking the approval of the UST Rector."

THE Regional Director for South Asia Mr. Ritin Malhotra visited the University after his CHED engagement upon learning that the University is going to participate in the THE's University Impact Rankings in 2020. The said rankings are a pioneering initiative to recognize universities across the world for their social and economic impact based on the Seventeen (17) United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Ritin said that "The impact rankings have improved the data submission systems and its methodology covering all 17 of the SDGs based on the impressive feedback about the process and methodology during its pilot run. The pilot run had an overwhelming response with over 560 institutions that participated and only 466 ranked in the overall rankings." Ong said, "This is a great privilege and opportunity for our University to showcase our significant contributions in supporting these SDGs and in recognizing their impact on society."

Ms. Mandy Mok, the founding CEO of QS Asia, who had more than a decade-long leadership and stewardship, has propelled QS to become the most widely recognized and preferred higher education ranking and rating system in Asia. She shared, "A Philippine university and the Global Strategic Alliance (GSA) will sponsor the launch of her new initiative AppliedHE Ratings. You and your whole team must come and participate sometime in November 2019. We will bring in some international speakers. It is very much like what Prof. Lillian J. Sison, Ph.D., Director of the International Relations and Programs, used to do for me when I started with QS. We are also breaking into many countries."

Mok emphasized that she really wants UST to participate in their pilot run. Ong in return, told Mok that he is "thankful to Mandy for always considering UST in her plans. But her invitation is something to think about and that it requires the approval of UST top management."

Mabini, Laurito named Inspiring Filipina Engineers by Phil. Technological Council

The first female dean of the Faculty of Engineering Prof. Marilyn C. Mabini, Ph.D., and one of the e-learning pioneers in UST Prof. Evelyn R. Laurito, Ph.D., were recognized as Inspiring Filipina Engineers by the Philippine Technological Council (PTC), in a ceremony held recently at Royce Hotel Clarkfield, Pampanga. As awardees, they were included in the first coffee table book produced by the organization to honor 80 exemplary woman engineers.

Mabini and Laurito obtained their Chemical Engineering degrees from the University of Santo Tomas, in 1978 and 1976, respectively, and both have manifested leadership at the Faculty of Engineering by taking on academic and administrative positions, and are faculty members and active researchers of the University. Both went to the University of the Philippines (UP) for their Master's degrees: Mabini obtained a Master's degree in Industrial Engineering, while Laurito obtained a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering. Mabini teaches at the Industrial Engineering Department while Laurito is with the Chemical Engineering Department where she once served as its department chair.

A Professional Industrial Engineer, Mabini, who was named ASEAN Engineer in 2013, obtained her doctorate in Applied Sciences, with great distinction, from the *Katholieke Universiteit Leuven* in Belgium. She has served the University in various capacities that include, among others, being Executive Assistant of the Office for Research, Planning and Development, Assistant to the Rector for Research and Development, and Assistant to the Rector for Planning and Development.

In commemoration of the centenary of the oldest engineering school of the Philippines in 2007, Mabini authored "The University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Engineering, the First 100 Years," a research-based coffee table book published by the UST Publishing House.

Mabini was a member of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) technical committee for Industrial Engineering (IE), and a CHED evaluator for Center of Excellence in IE. She helped in professionalizing the IE practice in the Philippines through participation in policy-making. She has received recognition from the Professional Regulatory Board for Chemical Engineering of the Professional Regulation Commission and the Philippine Institute for Industrial Engineers. Her compassion for the less



Mabini



Laurito

privileged has committed her to be a child sponsor of the World Vision, a personal project since 2003.

Laurito, who obtained her doctoral degree in Chemical Engineering from UP, is professionally known for her involvement in matters concerning environmental engineering and e-learning, in the University, in the country, and abroad. As one of the first e-learning specialists in UST, Laurito was part of the five-man team that started the BlackBoard Learning Management System (LMS) for UST in 2003.

Taking further this passion, Laurito trained with the GIZ and Furtwangen University in Germany. Her unparalleled zeal for learning and digital technology continues. She enjoys online course creation as much as she does website creation, which is a manifestation of the motto, "Learn and Share." She manages an open source Moodle LMS for the Chemical Engineering Department.

Currently, Laurito is working on implementing a localized Conceive-Design-Implement-Operate (CDIO) curriculum that uses the "Design-Thinking" approach and operate by 'SDG-Community-based' approach to the new four-year engineering curriculum in UST.

Aside from teaching at the University, Laurito gives trainings for trainers for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in the East Southeast Asia region. She has also facilitated the online training on e-learning development and implementation for Germany's GIZ in the Asia, Africa and South America regions. Laurito is also part of the GIZ-DENR-UP Open University training on e-solid waste management for Local Government Units.

The PTC, which gave the Inspiring Filipina Engineers award, is a professional organization established in 1978. It is one of the sector components of the Federation of Professional Associations.

UST alumnus is elected Bishop of Kimbe in Papua New Guinea

The Holy Father Francis appointed Fr. John Bosco Auram, Acting Rector of Sacred Heart Preparatory Seminary in the Archdiocese of Rabaul as the third bishop of the Diocese of Kimbe in Papua New Guinea on October 18, 2019.

Fr. Auram completed his licentiate in pastoral theology from the University of Santo Tomas and served as spiritual director at the UST Central Seminary from 2016 to 2019. His Licentiate Thesis which he successfully defended last academic year was titled: "Theology of Communion as Articulated in Ecclesia in Oceania as a Key Principle for Empowering Traditional Leaders for New Evangelization in the Catholic Church in Papua New Guinea."

The new bishop, who is also a member of the Priestly Fraternities of Saint Dominic, is only 46 years old and has been a priest for almost 16 years. He was ordained in 2004 as the second native priest of his newly-created diocese.



Fr. Auram

RESEARCH

De Castro of Arts and Letters receives NCCA Research Award



Faculty of Arts and Letters mentor Assoc. Prof. Maria Eloisa P. de Castro, Ph.D., of the Department of History, was recognized by the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA) through the NCCA Research Technical Working Group, for her research titled "A Living Legacy: Philippine Secondary Education in the Spanish Colonial Period, 1865-1898." The awarding ceremonies were held on September 26 at the auditorium of the National Museum of Fine Arts.

De Castro's award is for the 2019 Research Category chosen from 69 research projects nationwide following a three-level selection process. NCCA Research Technical Working Committee Chair Dr. Jazzmin B. Llana referred to the awardees as the "crème de la crème."

Assoc. Prof. Maria Eloisa P. de Castro, Ph.D., (center) of the Department of History and the Faculty of Arts and Letters during the awarding ceremonies at the National Museum of Fine Arts

UST, CYCU spearhead 2019 symposium on 'Innovations for Better Life'



Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., (second from left) with CYCU Principal Investigator Prof. Jui-Ming Yeh, Ph.D., at the UST Central Laboratory. With them are (from left:) UST College of Science Dean Prof. John Donnie A. Ramos, Ph.D., Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences Director Prof. Bernard John V. Tongol, Ph.D., Chemistry Department Chair Assoc. Prof. Dharmatov Albano, Ph.D., and OIRP Associate Director and Symposium Chair Prof. Karen S. Santiago, Ph.D.

collaborations are but few of the joint activities accomplished in pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between the two universities, UST and CYCU, which was signed in 2010.

A number of these collaborative efforts between UST and student and faculty mobility include sending of students under the Engineering, Physics, and Chemistry programs to CYCU for internships during the special term; CYCU hosting UST alumni and faculty members for postgraduate studies; delivering special lectures or serving as invited speakers of faculty researchers from both universities; and completing the PhP 4M MECO-TECO – a funded two-year joint project of Prof. Jui-Ming Yeh, Ph.D., (CYCU Principal Investigator) and Prof. Karen Santiago (UST Principal Investigator) in 2017. This project resulted in a number of international joint publications and theses topics of undergraduate and graduate students.

The partnership continues as the UST College of Science Dean, Prof. John Donnie A. Ramos, Ph.D., considers benchmarking of the UST Psychology Department with the CYCU Psychology Department. Similarly, the UST Office for International Relations and Programs (OIRP) and CYCU College of Science explore the possibility of offering enhancement training to UST Senior High School teachers by 2020.

This November 2019, CYCU-College of Science will host the first Asian international conference in science to be participated in by other partners from Japan (Niigata University), Malaysia (University Tunkgu Abdul Raman), and the Philippines (UST).

The Chemistry Department of the UST College of Science in cooperation with the UST Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences and the College of Science of the Chung Yuan Christian University (CYCU) Taoyuan City, Taiwan, spearheaded the 2019 Joint Symposium on Chemical Sciences held at the UST Central Laboratory Auditorium from September 26 to 27, 2019. Its theme was 'Recent Innovations in Chemical Sciences for a Better Life.'

The symposium was divided into three technical sessions: the plenary session with six local and six foreign speakers, the flash talk with 22 presenters who were given one-minute to present their topic, and the poster presentation from which three best posters were chosen.

The research, *Enterotoxigenic Bacteroides fragilis (ETBF) and Colorectal cancer development among Filipinos* by Ana Maria D. Cariño, Edrienne Myena M. Magat, Gregg Austine Balanag, Allan Felizar, Teresa Sy Ortin, Leonardo Guevarra, Jr., and Pia Marie SP Albano was declared the best poster.

The research poster by Katherine Yasmin M. Garcia, Charles David V. Palillo, Chayanard Phukhamsakda, Kevin D. Hyde, Marc Stadler, and Allan Patrick G. Macabeo, titled "Discovery of novel spirodioxynaphthalene derivatives with antimicrobial, nematocidal and cytotoxic properties from *Sparticola junci*" won the second place.

Bagging the third place was the research titled *External calibration vs standard addition method in the determination of calcium in drinking water by ICP-OES for proficiency testing studies* by Clarissa J. Gatchalian, Christian D. Laurio, Elyson Keith P. Encarnacion, and Benilda S. Ebarvia.

This scientific event which brought together scientists from the two universities who presented frontiers of chemistry and allied sciences was made possible through the assistance extended by private companies. Almost 100 attendees come from different academic, government and industry sectors.

These endeavors which serve as venues for opening up possibilities of engaging the participants in meaningful

Three mentors present papers on music, literature, film at IACS Society Conference 2019

Advancements in knowledge in the 21st century are continually produced within the vast sphere of cultures, which interweave as they exist symbiotically for the benefit of humankind. Knowledge across cultures expands in constant evolution, which defines and shapes consciousness about reality that gives meanings to social ideals and values. Regardless of divergence, peoples of varied cultures live in mutual concord with adherence to the veracity of human affairs.

However, the modern world is confronted with intricacies that pose challenges to people's capabilities of forbearance and survival. Thus, there is an imperative to be addressed: the necessity to inform about and elaborate the diverse cultures of peoples of the world for better knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of humanity that goes beyond differences and conflicts. Every person needs to recognize the importance of sharing knowledge for the common good. This was the premise of the Inter-Asian Cultural Studies (IACS) Society Conference 2019.

The IACS Society Conference 2019, with the theme "Fluid Circuits: Cultures of Knowledge after the Digital Turn" was held in Silliman University, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental. It was organized by the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies (IACS) Society in cooperation with Silliman University. It was successful in creating an avenue where scholars and experts converge in meaningful, profound discourses that centered on culture and society. Relevant topics on cultures were brought to light through research works that showed excellent scholarship. Exuding vivacity and anticipation, local and foreign scholars, teachers, and students took active participation in the three-day conference.

The paper presenters from the University of Santo Tomas included: Prof. Maria Alexandra Iñigo-Chua, Ph.D. (Conservatory of Music), Ms. Kristine May D. Martinez (Faculty of Arts and Letters), and Mr. Tito R. Quiling, Jr., (Faculty of Arts and Letters). Chua presented her research work titled "Rethinking and Reimagining the Musical Works of Julio Nakpil (1867-1960) in the Context of Philippine Modernity, Colonial Transculturation, and Cultural Hybridity." Martinez presented "'Will you ever be cured, Keiko...?': Being an 'Oddball' and a 'Foreign Object' in Japan --- A Research Paper on Sayaka Murata's *Convenience Store Woman*," while "Thin Walls, Thick Skin: Identity-Formation and Spaces of Ephemerality in Peque Gallaga's *Scorpio Nights*" was presented by Quiling.

Praiseworthy about this international conference was the participation of the first-rate guest speakers who are luminaries in the field of cultural studies. The speakers exhibited brilliance as they presented themselves before an audience of intellectuals engaged in absorbing and processing information from the lectures. The speakers' prominence was a testament to their expertise on and stellar achievements in cultural studies. The keynote speakers were Dr. Caroline Hau (Kyoto University), Dr. Patrick Flores (University of the Philippines – Diliman), and Dr. Vicente Rafael (University of Washington). These speakers went into detail in explicating various developments in knowledge related to local and global cultures.



Prof. Maria Alexandra Iñigo-Chua, Ph.D., (center) and Ms. Kristine May D. Martinez (right), and another presenter.

The plenary session speakers were also outstanding in their lectures on cultural studies: Dr. J. Neil Garcia (University of the Philippines – Diliman), Dr. Ding Naifei (National Central University, Taiwan), Dr. Audrey Yue (National University of Singapore), Dr. Ramon Guillermo (University of the Philippines – Diliman), Dr. Hsing-wen Chang (Ambedkar University, India), Dr. Tejaswini Niranjana (Lingnan University, Hong Kong), Dr. Jonathan Corpus Ong (UMass Amherst, USA), Dr. Nishant Shah (ARTEZ, Netherlands), and Dr. Amie Parry (National Central University, Taiwan).

Five UST History mentors present papers at conference on Historical Distortions



UST Department of History mentors led by its Chair Assoc. Prof. Archie B. Resos, Ph.D. (sixth from left).

Five UST Department of History faculty members led by its Chair Assoc. Prof. Archie B. Resos, Ph.D., presented their research findings at the 2019 Philippine Historical Association (PHA) Annual Conference held from September 19 to 21, 2019 at the National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development (NISMED), University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City. The conference theme was “Facing the Challenges of Historical Distortions and Opening New Directions in History.”

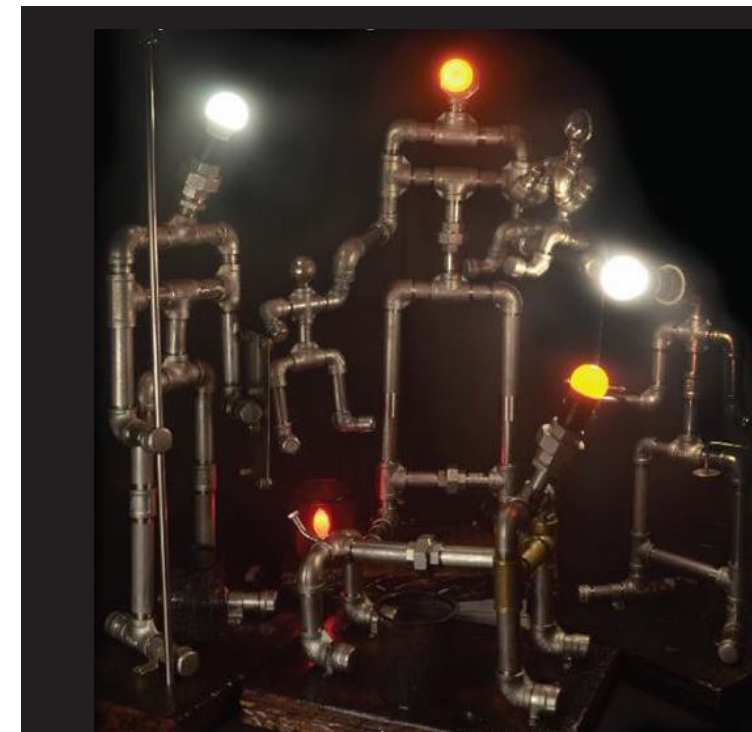
Resos presented his paper titled “Political Culture and the Rise of Partisan Politics: Distortion and Direction of Philippine Democracy (1897-2019)” emphasizing the role of political culture in hampering democracy in the Philippines. Asst. Prof. Janet C. Atutubo, Ph.D., discussed “PEFTOK: An Oral History of the Filipino Soldiers in the Korean War” which pointed out the oral accounts of Filipino expeditionary forces during the Korean War. Asst. Prof. Isabel Annesley S. Abao, Ph.D., presented her paper titled “Historical Awareness of

Selected Students of UST: Implications to the Revival of Philippine History in Junior High School,” stressing the significance of restoring the teaching of Philippine History in the High School level.

Assoc. Prof. Arlene D. Calara, Ph.D., presented a paper on the abuses committed by the Americans in its various war undertakings in Asia, while Ms. Irene G. Borrás provided the history of Chinese settlement in the Philippines with her research.

The Philippine Historical Association which organizes this annual conference is a professional and honor association of historians, history teachers, and researchers in the Philippines founded in 1955 by Encarnacion Alzona, Gregorio Zaide, Nicolas Zafrá, Celeodonio Resurrección, Teodoro Agoncillo, Esteban de Ocampo and Fr. Horacio de la Costa.

The primary aim of the conference is to identify the distortions brought by the proliferation of fake news, alternative facts and misrepresentation of reality and face the challenges of the misuse of history.



Four of the featured pipe sculptures with “Our Lady of Light and Salvation” in the center



Dominican Province of the Philippines Prior Provincial and UST Vice Chancellor Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., O.P., (fourth from left) UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (center) UST Museum Director Rev. Fr. Isidro D. Abañó, O.P., (leftmost), CFAD Regent and author-artist Rev. Fr. Edgardo D. Alaurin, O.P. (second from left), and a guest view the pipe sculpture exhibition. [Photo courtesy of the UST Museum Facebook page]

CFAD Regent Fr. Alaurin launches book, opens pipe sculpture exhibition at UST Museum

College of Fine Arts and Design Regent Rev. Fr. Edgardo D. Alaurin, O.P., in a back-to-back event, launched his book and opened his exhibit on October 15, 2019 at the UST Museum.

The book, titled “*Nuestra Señora de Salvacion: History, Theology, Piety*” (Our Lady of Salvation), is an offshoot of Fr. Alaurin’s research of a miraculous 18th century image of the Virgin Mary, *Nuestra Señora de Salvacion*, which is also known as Our Lady of Light. Currently the heavenly patroness of Albay, the image was first venerated in Joroan, now part of Tiwi, Albay in Region V.

The Blessed Mother is known by many different titles, epithets, and other names, as explained by Fr. Alaurin. These titles include *Stella Maris* (Star of the Sea) and *Stella Matutina* (Morning Star), which signify Mary’s role as the guiding light toward Christ.

It is these roles of the Blessed Mother that served as inspiration for the pipe sculptures featured in “*Lumen Tenebras Vincit*.” It seeks to honor through the use of steel and light fixtures. Fr. Alaurin’s pipe sculpture exhibit titled “*Lumen Tenebras Vincit!*” (Light Conquers Darkness) also mounted at the UST Museum, was opened on the same day.

The pipe sculpture exhibit, which runs until November 15, 2019, consists of 19 sculptures with “Our Lady of Light and Salvation” appearing to greet the exhibition guests because it is the first artwork that they encounter upon entrance. A beautiful interpretation of Our Lady, the pipe sculpture shows a child being carried by the Lady on one hand and another child apparently being lifted as if being saved by the Lady with her other hand.

Most of the assemblage measure 28” x 9” x 10” mounted on a wooden plank. Some of the eye-catching artworks were: *Justitia* with the scale, Sir Lance-bot with the sword and shield, and movie-inspired *Lastik-bot*, *Roo-bot*, *Kingkong-bot*. There were also those whose creation was inspired by religion such as the *Santo Pescador* (The Holy Fisherman), *Niño Pastor* (The Shepherd Boy), and *Pastor Bonus* (The Good Shepherd).

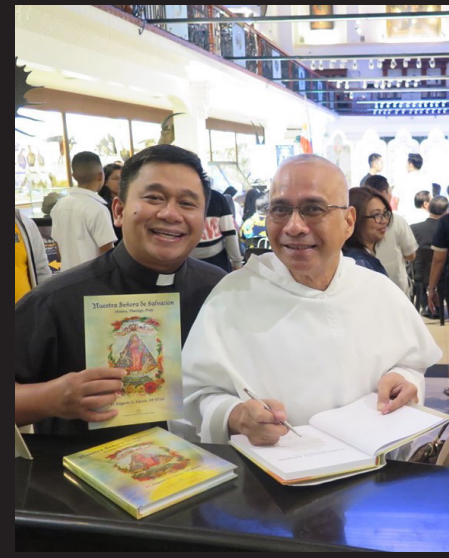
There was a noticeable recurrence of those that fish or those that deal with water such as the Fisher-bot, Fishing-bot, *Santo*

CFAD REGENT FR. ALURIN TO PAGE 10

CFAD REGENT FR. ALURIN FROM PAGE 9



(From left:) UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Dominican Province of the Philippines Prior Provincial and UST Vice Chancellor Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., O.P., Author-artist and CFAD Regent Rev. Fr. Edgardo D. Alaurin, O.P., Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., and Rev. Fr. Joemar Sibug, O.P., [Photo courtesy of the UST Museum Facebook page]



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (left) as Fr. Alaurin signs a copy of his book. [Photo courtesy of the UST Museum Facebook page]

Fr. Alaurin talks about his book and artworks. [Photo courtesy of the UST Museum Facebook page]



Pescador, the Pail Boy and the Aqua-bot. Gracing the event were the Dominican Province of the Philippines Prior Provincial and UST Vice Chancellor Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay, Jr., O.P and UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. It was also attended by Dominican priests from UST and **Bahay Dominiko**, University administrators and academic officials, faculty members, alumni, and the family and friends of the author-artist.

Physician-visual artist Dan Lerma translates devotion to Padre Pio in oil pastel



(From left:) Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., Dante V. Lerma, M.D., UST Museum Director Rev. Fr. Isidro D. Abaño, O.P., College of Fine Arts and Design Regent Rev. Fr. Edgardo Alaurin, O.P., and UST Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., open the exhibition

“Pio et Maria,” is an exhibition of paintings by Physician-visual artist Dante ‘Dan’ V. Lerma that features the Franciscan Capuchin friar St. Pio of Pietrelcina and his acclamations or exhortations to the Blessed Mother. It was opened on October 18, 2019 at the UST Museum Gallery.

The exhibition features 23 oil pastel paintings on sandpaper, 22 of which are 28x23 cm portraits of the famed miracle worker Padre Pio capturing his various moods, and one titled **“Totus Tuus.”** Lerma, an award-winning painter who comes from a family of physicians, started with his portraits in January of 2019 and completed them in April.

For its centerpiece, the exhibition has the portrait titled **“Totus Tuus”** (Totally Yours), which depicts Padre Pio offering his mystical wounds to the Virgin Mary. It was the motto of Pope John Paul II, who visited the University in 1981 and 1995. As a young priest, the Pope, now a Saint, met with Padre Pio, where the Capuchin confided the existence of a shoulder wound, which has never been cured or treated, only to him.

Born Francesco Forgione, Saint Pio of Pietrelcina was an Italian priest known for his charity and piety and was commonly called Padre Pio. He became a priest in 1910 in spite of his poor health, and in 1918, he experienced the wounds of Christ appearing in his hands and feet. Upon manifestation of the *stigmata*, miracles began being attributed to him.

Previously, the University hosted the incorruptible heart relic of Padre Pio and enshrined it at the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church from October 8 to 9, 2018.

Lerma is an alumnus of the UST College of Science in 1979 and graduated from the Doctor of Medicine program of the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery in 1983. The family medicine specialist currently serves the Thomasian community as a consultant at the UST Health Service.

The exhibition was curated by UST College of Fine Arts and Design Assistant Professor Mary Ann Venturina-Bulanadi and Thomasian artist Wilfredo Offemaria Jr.

“Pio et Maria” will run until November 15, 2019.



“Totus Tuus”



Norma V. Lerma, the artist’s mother (left), views “A Prayer of Triumph.”



Agpasa with his trophy and certificate
[Photo courtesy of Mark Agpasa]

Ligao National High School Voice Chorale under the baton of Mr. Celger V. Venzon performs Agpasa's composition at the Busan Cinema Center in South Korea. [Photo courtesy of Mark Agpasa]

Agpasa's winning composition premieres at Busan International Choral Festival and Competition

Mr. Mark Raeniel Agpasa's winning composition "*Jubilate Deo*" was performed for the first time during the 15th Busan International Choral Festival and Competition held on the same day in South Korea. He received his trophy and certificate for winning first place at the Busan International Choral Festival and Competition on October 19, 2019.

Jubilate Deo is a Latin psalm that praises and glorifies the Lord. A choral piece setting for eight voices, the song was performed at the Busan Cinema Center by Ligao National High School Voice Chorale under the baton of Mr. Celger V. Venzon.

Agpasa, a UST graduate student and an alumnus of the UST Conservatory of Music, concurrently serves as the assistant musical director of the UST Singers and the conductor of the UST Chorus of Arts and Letters.

Museum Collections

Starting this issue, a new section that features selected collections from the UST Museum will grace the pages of the *Academia*. This section is intended to bring closer to the Thomasian community and readers of *The Academia* the art pieces and other collections that are not only priceless but also highly significant to the history and culture of UST. Descriptions and other information on the collection are courtesy of the UST Museum through its Director Rev. Fr. Isidro D. Abaño, O.P.



"THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS BY ARCHBISHOP BENAVIDES"

Artist: CELIS, D.A.

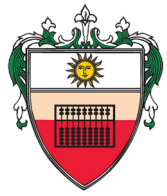
Medium: Oil on canvas

Date: 1911

Property No.: UST-H-00494

This painting won the contest held to commemorate the Tricentennial of the University of Santo Tomas in 1911. It depicts Manila Archbishop Miguel de Benavides giving instructions for the foundation of an institution of higher learning that would later become UST.

BOARD TOPNOTCHERS



Certified Public Accountant Licensure Examination

October 2019

UST Passing Rate (First-time examinees): 61.83%
 UST Passing Rate (Overall): 57.32%
 National Passing Rate: 14.32%



1st – 90.33%
 Justine Louie Bautista Santiago



5th – 89.17%
 Marc Angelo Galvez Santos



6th - 89.00%
 Bill Julius Lagman Ocampo



9th – 87.50%
 Alyssa Nicole Dela Cruz Rosario



10th – 87.33%
 Lovel Alegre Dulay



10th – 87.33%
 Jhudge Perez Salaya



Chemist Licensure Examination

October 2019

UST Passing Rate (First-time examinees): 84.62%
 UST Passing Rate (Overall): 83.87%
 National Passing Rate: 42.12%



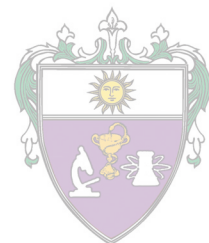
6th – 88.60%
 Justin Allen Kuan Lim



Chemical Technician Licensure Examination

October 2019

UST Passing Rate (First-time examinees): 98.61%
 UST Passing Rate (Overall): 98.63%
 National Passing Rate: 81.09%



8th – 89.50%
 Maria Patricia Herrera Diño



THE ACADEMIA

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