



THE ACADEMIA

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UST ranking surges to 145th in 2018 QS Asian University Rankings

The University of Santo Tomas rose 12 places in the 2018 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asian University Rankings, securing the 145th rank after occupying the 157th place in 2017.

The academic and employer reputation from global surveys, the proportion of international faculty and students, number of inbound and outbound exchanges, and the citations per paper in indexed journals are the main criteria that determine the yearly ranking.

Obtaining an overall score of 37.6, UST was rated highest for its outbound exchanges, or the mobility of its students and faculty abroad, with 83.3 points.

UST is also regarded by QS as the top 2 university in the Philippines for 2018 when it

comes to graduate employability, and has been rated four stars by the London-based team since 2015.

Quality Management Office Director Engr. Joehanna K. Ngo clarifies UST's accreditations, stating that the University's four-star rating from QS shows the strengths of the University or the areas where it excels, while its current 145th place in the Asian University Rankings is the overall point of comparison of UST with other universities within Asia.

When asked what the University could do to improve its ranking in the coming years, QMO Assistant Director Engr. Nestor Ong answered that faculty members and students must focus on producing quality research works while simultaneously not neglecting the other factors such as the academic and employer reputation of the University.



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Vade, Praedica: Realities, challenges of Dominican Preaching in Asia Pacific discussed at forum in UST



Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., formally opens the three-day symposium

Together with the Dominican Province of the Philippines and the Dominican Family in the Philippines, the Institute of Preaching, gathered members of the Dominican Order for a regional colloquium on Dominican Preaching in Asia and the Pacific from October 10 to 12, 2017, at the Paredes Building of the University of Santo Tomas.

Inspired by the Dominican Jubilee Colloquium on Preaching held at St. Louis, Missouri, USA in October 2016, the regional colloquium, titled "Vade, Praedica" or "Go, Preach," included discussions on Dominican preaching, in the



Socius of the Master for Asia-Pacific of the Order of Preachers and UST Vice-Chancellor, Very Rev. Fr. Gerard Francisco P. Timoner III, urges students to promote a culture of encounter with people in the periphery.

Prior Provincial of the Dominican Order, Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon B. Sipalay Jr., O.P. shares his thoughts on Dominican preaching.

VADE, PRADICA FROM PAGE 1

context of Asia-Pacific realities and challenges, and a discourse on the experiences and reflections of Dominican friars, sisters and lay people from their preaching missions within the great religious culture of the Asia-Pacific.

The Rector of the Dominican-led UST, Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., formally opened the three-day symposium on October 10, followed by a Eucharistic celebration presided by Dominican Province of the Philippines Prior Provincial and UST Vice-Chancellor Very Rev. Fr. Napoleon Sipalay, Jr., O.P., on the second day of the symposium. Rev. Fr. Clarence Victor Marquez, O.P., was the convener of the regional colloquium. He is also the Rector of Colegio de San Juan de Letran Manila.

“Vade, Praedica” highlighted keynote speeches on the preaching of Dominican brothers and sisters in the Asia-Pacific region from two distinguished members of the Dominican Order – Coordinator for Asia-Pacific, Dominican Sisters International Sr. Bernadette Kiley, O.P., and Assistant to the Master of the Order Rev Fr. Gerard Timoner III, O.P., who is also an Asia-Pacific Member of the International Theological Commission.

The three-day symposium also featured simultaneous preaching presentations on “Dominican Preaching and the Great Religions of Asia-Pacific” and “New Frontiers of Dominican Preaching” by members of the Dominican Order from India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and the Philippines. The symposium also included a cultural performance and an open forum. A cultural tour concluded the conference.

Coordinator of the Dominican Sisters International-Asia-Pacific, Sr. Bernadette Kiley, O.P., delivers the keynote speech.



The participants and speakers of Vade, Praedica

Minister of Royal Thai Embassy in Manila discusses ASEAN learning mobility in UST Ambassadors' Lecture Series



Ms. Urawadee Sriphiromya discusses the opportunities students that can look forward to as part of the integrated ASEAN community.



A student interacts with the Minister during the forum.



Ms. Sriphiromya (3rd from left) is awarded the certificate of appreciation and the Fusion artwork by Dean Vasco of the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Director Sison of the Office of International Relations and Programs, and Director Fontanilla of the Office of Public Affairs.

In anticipation of the 31st ASEAN Summit that will be hosted by the Philippines, the Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Royal Thai Embassy in Manila, Ms. Urawadee Sriphiromya, lectured on “Learning Mobility in the Context of ASEAN Integration” in the 5th discourse of the University of Santo Tomas’ (UST) Ambassadors’ Lecture Series held on October 24, 2017 at the Grand Ballroom of the Paredes Building, University of Santo Tomas.

Having been the Director of the Social and Cultural Division of the Department of ASEAN Affairs under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Thailand, Sriphiromya has extensive experience in multilateral diplomacy. She has also served at the Department of International Organizations and the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations in New York, as well as organized the RIO+20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 2012.

Learning mobility

Learning mobility, or the free exchange of students and researchers across member nations, is one of the goals of an integrated ASEAN community.

“That means great competitiveness, great productivity, and continuous growth [for the industries of the region]. For all of you here, once you graduate, you also have the opportunity to work in all ASEAN member countries,” said Sriphiromya.

As an important avenue through which students may strengthen their prospects in finding employment, experiences in learning mobility prepares the youth to be open to new ideas, to deal with the unfamiliar, and to acquire professional competencies that are in-demand in other nations.

“Mobility in the context of ASEAN integration is the key to both regional and economic prosperity and socio-inclusion,” she further explained, noting that this arrangement among the ten-member nations is possible through the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) in seven priority services sector within the region.

Regional connectivity

As the chair of this year’s Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Philippines declared its commitment to make the ASEAN community people-centered and people-oriented. The Minister highlighted that, “One significant approach we can do to make [the] ASEAN community people-centered is to focus and facilitate on the flows of trade, investment, and movement of people within ASEAN through regional connectivity.”

Regional connectivity is the larger context in which mobility within ASEAN plays a part. “When we talk about mobility, we are concentrating on the motion of youth and businesses and people [within the participating countries].” It is therefore through connectivity that mobility can be realized and put into practice.

However, Sriphiromya was quick to point out that, “building ASEAN community [to be such] is the process, not the end-goal in itself.”

Economic progress and empowerment of people

Collective unified progress is a primary aim of the integration. The Minister thus emphasized that regional integration among the member nations is vital, and that developed nations cannot leave other countries behind as the over-all growth and development of the region would be stunted.

“We have some countries that are in the stage of least development, and that’s why we have to have the growth plan to help narrow the development gap and bring them to the same level of development, and then they will be able to contribute to our [regional] growth together,” said Sriphiromya.

MINISTRY OF ROYAL THAI EMBASSY
FROM PAGE 3

Sriphiromya notes that the ASEAN is helping with this endeavor “through reducing barriers and streamlining rules and regulations. This logistic support will greatly improve trade and investment for countries in [the] ASEAN community.”

“I would also like to mention that with all the access to technology, to [the single market and] production base, and to natural resources [that ASEAN integration brings], [regional] connectivity will help close the development gaps,” the Minister added.

Risks and challenges

Despite the many advantages that the integration brings, the Minister was careful to acknowledge that “with mobility and connectivity, there are risks and challenges that come [along] with [them].” However, she was also firm in reiterating the ASEAN’s continued commitment to a unified front in facing such trials, saying, “All of you are aware of the direction that the ASEAN community is running forward to achieve – one single market, in terms of economy. In terms of political security, we become one community with [a] common endeavor to counter common challenges.”

Equalizing opportunities

The Minister suggested that more resources should be allocated to promoting connectivity, even within the local setting of the nations. Rural and mountainous areas tend to be isolated from services, so she proposes that providing such areas with ways to connect with larger cities and towns, such as better roads, promoting distance learning and satellite programs, improving internet access, supporting public-private partnerships will be some of the necessary movements. “With connectivity, people can go to school, and get access to healthcare and quality education,” said Sriphiromya.

Priorities

“Fifty years ago, we only had five countries [as part of ASEAN] and we [still had] problems. That time, they seemed to be perennial problems. I think we all have problems, and when we finish one, another one will follow,” she explained. Ideally, the issues should be resolved first before joining, but that is unrealistic. She further added that, “If every country stays apart, then we are fragile and vulnerable, but if



UST Senior High School students with Ms. Sriphiromya

we speak, and if we have friends that we can trust, this [cooperative] environment will allow us to tackle our problems, and at the same time keep other problems away. I think our founding fathers had that idea in mind [while establishing ASEAN].”

The Association’s priority, the Minister highlights, is to sustain economic growth and keep peace, security, and stability within the region, and integration into a community with one vision and one identity seems to be the best way forward.

After the forum, eight-time UAAP Cheerdance Champions, the UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe performed for the Minister and the delegation from the Royal Thai Embassy. They danced the *Pigapir*, a cultural dance for Mindanao, which utilized fans with a sophisticated and stylized way of walking.

As a token of appreciation, the Minister was given a certificate and a specially commissioned artwork titled “Fusion” created by Olympic artist and Thomasian, Joe Datuin.

The Ambassadors’ Lecture Series of UST

The Ambassadors’ Lecture Series of the University of Santo Tomas organized by the Office of Public Affairs, initiates intellectual engagement between the Thomasian community and the diplomats.

It also paves the way for linkages and further learning opportunities, as students have the opportunity to participate in an open forum to engage with the lecturing diplomats.

The first lecture in the UST Ambassadors Lecture Series was delivered by then Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of France to the Philippines, Mr. Laurent Legodec on April 16, 2015. He lectured on the commitment of France in fighting climate change.

It was followed by a lecture on “The Church and the Modern World” on April 18, 2016 by Vice Chancellor Francis Campbell of St. Mary’s University in London who once served as the British Ambassador to the Holy See.

The third lecture, along with a dialogue with Thomasian students on international affairs and public policy, was delivered by then American Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Philip S. Goldberg on April 27, 2016.

The most recent lecture focused on the dynamics of foreign relations to Philippine economics, delivered on April 5, 2017 by H.E. Carlos Salinas, the Philippine Ambassador to Spain.

2nd UST Media Leadership Lecture features GMA 7 “Docufest”



Taruc answers questions from the students.



Apolinario gives advice to aspiring documentary filmmakers.



Director of Public Affairs, Assoc. Prof. Fontanilla delivers the welcome remarks.



Students interact with the guest speakers during the open forum.



Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs Asst. Prof. Paras is the master of ceremonies.



Guest speakers (from left) Garcia, Apolinario, and Taruc receive their tokens of appreciation from OPA Director Fontanilla (3rd from left).

The University of Santo Tomas in partnership with GMA 7, held a “Docufest” featuring documentaries hosted by the network’s seasoned journalists and a lecture on social media responsibility as part of the University’s Media Leadership in the Digital World Lecture series held on October 20, 2017 at the Ballroom of the Paredes Building, UST.

Through the initiative of the UST Office of Public Affairs, the project on media literacy in the digital age was organized. It is a series of lectures and visuals intended for UST students that bring to the academe the perspective of media practitioners. For its second lecture, the GMA 7 “I-Witness” Docufest 2017 presented two documentaries which tackled crime and poverty, the prevalent issues in the country

today, hosted by respected and award-winning journalists, Mr. Cesar Apolinario and Mr. Jay Taruc.

Communication Arts and Journalism students from the Faculty of Arts and Letters were treated to documentaries “Body Collector,” by Apolinario and “Inan” by Taruc. “Body Collector” is a story of a mother’s search for her son who was said to have been taken by unidentified persons in this time of disappearances or death in drug-related pursuits. Taruc’s documentary titled “Inan” showed the life of a boy named Inan who was afflicted with a rare kind of disease but could not get proper medical care because of extreme poverty.

Meanwhile, Mr. Jules Garcia of the GMA News and Public Affairs-Social Media

Team delivered a lecture on “Social Media in the Age of Fake News” addressing the need for responsible journalism in the midst of the proliferation of online trolls.

The “Docufest” was capped with an open forum where students had the chance to engage the speakers into a lively exchange of ideas and gain additional insights particularly in the process of doing a documentary for programs such as I-Witness.

On September 20, 2017, UST’s Media Leadership in the Digital World Lecture Series was launched with ABS-CBN’s Class Project Documentary and Caravan and a lecture on “Media Leadership in the Digital Era and Documentaries” by ABS-CBN News Media Head, Ms. Karen Puno.

Roasa of Medicine re-elected AOCMF chair for Asia Pacific



Dr. Roasa

Dr. Francis V. Roasa of the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery was re-elected chair of the Asia Pacific Board of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft fur Osteosynthesefragen Craniomaxillofacial Division (AOCMF). He will serve anew from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020.

AO Foundation is a non-profit medical organization with a vision of providing excellence in the surgical management of trauma and disorders of the musculoskeletal system and a mission to foster and expand the network of healthcare professionals in education, research, development and clinical investigation to achieve more effective patient care worldwide. At present, AO Craniomaxillofacial is the leading medical organization that provides global education in craniomaxillofacial trauma and reconstruction.

During Roasa's first term as chair, AO introduced the Young Professional Development Program where interested senior trainees from different specialties were given opportunity to attend a principles

course in craniomaxillofacial surgery and observe in the AOCMF training centers within the Asia Pacific region. There was an increase of 33% in educational activities within the Asia Pacific Region, a 28% increase in AOCMF AP memberships, a 51% CMF fellowship applications and additional four AOCMF fellowship centers with a total of eight AOCMF fellowship centers within the Asia Pacific region.

Now that he is re-elected, Roasa plans to introduce AOCMF to countries where contemporary management of craniomaxillofacial trauma and reconstruction would be most beneficial. In coordination with other organizations such as AO Alliance, educational activities in underdeveloped countries within the Asia Pacific region will become a reality.

Roasa is Associate Professor III at the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

RESEARCH

UST Ebi Team is RICE 2017 Tuklas Awardee



From left: Regional Director of DOST-NCR, Jose N. Patalinhug III; UST Ebi Team members: Lim, Orense, Importante, Maningas; and DOST-TAPI Director, Engr. Edgar Garcia at the awarding ceremony

The UST Ebi Team headed by College of Science Professor Mary Beth B. Maningas, Ph.D., is this year's regional winner in the Invention Category for patented inventions (Tuklas) during the Regional Inventions Contests and Exhibits (RICE) 2017. The event held from October 3 to 5, 2017 at the Technological Institute of the Philippines was spearheaded by the Department of Science and Technology-NCR and Technology Application and Promotion Institute (DOST-TAPI).

The team presented the JAmP Alert: Rapid DNA amplification for the detection of White Spot Syndrome Virus in shrimps. The JAmP-WSSV Detection kit is based on loop-mediated isothermal amplification using sequence-specific amplification at one temperature condition. It is simple, cost-effective, and able to yield results within an hour, making it suitable for on-site applications. This invention was granted

Patent no. 1-2013-0158 last July 2017, the first patent granted to the university. Other members of the team are Benedict Maralit, Ph.D. (Phil. Genome Center), Amalea Nicolasora (RITM), Krislyn Grace Importante (UST Graduate School), Jalizah Jaira Lim (UST Graduate School), Sharlaine Joi Ann Orense (UST College of Science), Engr. Patrick Ellis Go, Ph.D. (UST Faculty of Engineering) and Dr. Christopher Caipang (Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore). Maralit and Nicolasora were students of Maningas at the UST Graduate School with whom Maningas started working on the project in 2013.

Maningas is a researcher at the Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences RCNAS and a professor of the Department of Biological Sciences at the College of Science and the UST Graduate School.

LECTURES&CONFERENCES

AB Lit, Cultural Studies faculty present papers at 2017 Malay World Int'l Confab



Awarded with certificates (from left): Asst. Prof. Perez, Assoc. Dr. Urquiola, Asst. Prof. Grajo, Ms. Nogot, and Prof. Pereña.

Faculty members from the Department of Literature of the Faculty of Arts and Letters presented their research studies in an international conference jointly organized by the International Council for Historical and Cultural Cooperation-Southeast Asia (ICHCC-SEA) and the Philippine Historical Association (PHA), held at the Manila Hotel and De La Salle University from September 14 to 16, 2017.

Themed as "The Malay World: Connecting the Past to the Present," 106 papers were presented from delegates coming from ASEAN countries mostly from Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Presented were papers on the following themes: South East Asian Studies, Archeology, Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Education, Humanities, International Studies, Literature, Sociology, Political Science and other related areas.

Five Literature faculty members delivered their papers which were discourses that combine history with literature, education, culture, and gender studies. Prof. Felicidad G. Pereña presented a critical inquiry on the role of the performing arts in the construction and deconstruction of Rizal's image titled "Jose Rizal, Pride of Malay Race, Reified in Philippine Performing Arts." Asst. Prof. Jeanette P. Grajo presented an analysis of the theoretical and conceptual interconnection among cultural policy, nation, and pedagogy in her research work "Locating the Nation in the 21st Century Regional Literature: The Philippine Experience."

Assoc. Prof. Luciana L. Urquiola, Ph.D., used three dramatic plays of Nick Joaquin as a springboard for the study of androgynous female protagonists in a combined history-gender study titled "Discoursing the Existentialist Feminism in the Fiction of Nick Joaquin through Character Analysis of

Androgynous Female Protagonist." Similarly, the paper of Ms. Christine Ivy Nogot titled "Conceptualizing Female Gender Roles in Philippine Culture and History through Literature" is a gender study which posits that the identity of female protagonists in literature is culturally and historically conditioned. Asst. Prof. Ma. Eloisa S. Perez revisited the past in reconstructing the identity of the central characters in her research work titled "Cultural Trauma in South East Asian Novels: History, Identity, and Testimony."

The ICHCC-SEA and PHA initiated the inclusion of other disciplines aside from history, to provide a venue for a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary exchange in the 2017 Malay World international conference. This allowed intersectional dialogues among participants who presented their discourses in various subjects or themes.

Corollary to this, the Philippine Historical Association launched its PHA Journal 2017 which featured historical and cultural researches in Southeast Asia. This issue had accepted and published the papers "Jose Rizal, Pride of Malay Race, Reified in Philippine Performing Arts" by Prof. Felicidad G. Pereña and "Locating the Nation in the 21st Century Regional Literature: The Philippine Experience" by Asst. Prof. Jeanette P. Grajo.

The ICHCC-SEA consists of three professional organizations, namely, Society of Indonesian Historians, Malaysian Historical Society, and the Philippine Historical Association which collaborated in hosting this conference as per Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2015. Plenary speakers included Prof. Emeritus Dr. Muhammad Haji Salleh of Universiti Sains Malaysia; Nadzan Haron of the Malaysian Historical Society; Dr. Reynaldo Iletto of Nanyang Technological University; and Dr. Rommel Curaming of the University of Brunei Darussalam.

ARTS&CULTURE

UST students get a glimpse of Iranian culture through exhibit of ethnic dresses



Dr. Lilian J. Sison, Office of International Relations and Programs Director delivers her welcome remarks



Hon. Mohammad Jafarimalak delivers his opening remarks during the three-day exhibit

The University of Santo Tomas hosted a three-day exhibit of the ethnic and traditional dresses of Iran at the Paderes building of the University, which ran from October 9, to October 11, 2017. The cultural event began with a lecture delivered by the master artificer, Ms. Shahin Ebrahimzadeh Pezeshki, whose works were on exhibit.

As the author of “Seven Standards in Teaching Needle Sewing and Classic Decoration of Today’s Modern Dresses,” Pezeshki is an artist and researcher in the Iranian Art of traditional sewing and embroidering. She is also an acclaimed expert on Sormeh sewing, needle sewing, Iranian silk sewing, and the modern methods of sewing with native designs. Her work has been exhibited across the globe, notably in Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey, Kenya, Spain, England, Romania, and now the Philippines.

After the opening remarks by the Honorable Mohammad Jafarimalak, the Iranian Embassy’s Cultural Counselor, and the introduction by Dr. Bahman Samadi, the Cultural Affairs Officer, Ms. Pezeshki opened the exhibit with a lecture on the art and culture behind her works as well as an overview on ethnic dresses vis-à-vis Iranian society. Though the majority of Iranians are Persian, Iran remains a country of diverse cultures that include varied ethnic groups, each with its own language, tradition, and clothes, all of which contribute to the great depth and richness of Iranian culture. Traditional Iranian women’s clothes are marked based on the colorful fabrics, embroidered patterns, decorative jewelry, or style to function as identifiers of the regional or ethnic group to which they belong.

This exhibit was spearheaded by the Cultural Section of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in close cooperation with the UST Office of Public Affairs, and ran until October 11, 2017. Similar exhibitions were conducted at the University of the Philippines in Diliman and the Rizal Park in Manila.



Ms. Pezeshki’s works are exhibited at the Paderes building



From left: Dr. Sison, Hon. Jafarimalak, Ms. Pezeshki, and Assoc. Prof. Fontanilla, at the ribbon cutting ceremony

UNIVERSITY VISITORS



Msgr. Paul Yoshinao Otsuka

Msgr. Paul Yoshinao Otsuka, Bishop of Kyoto, Japan (right) with Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., UST Secretary-General

Dr. Robert Folberg

Dr. Robert Folberg, founding Dean of the Oakland University, William Beaumont School of Medicine, USA with Asst. Prof. Lorna Paras, Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs of the UST Office of Public Affairs



BOARD TOP NOTCHERS



Chemistry Licensure Examinations

October 2017
 UST passing rate: 75.51%
 National passing rate: 44.02%



5th - 88%
 Mark John P. Mandigma



Electronics Engineering Licensure Exam

October 2017
 UST passing rate: 81.51%
 National passing rate: 46.72%



3rd - 92.30
 Erwin D. Cabrera



Accountancy Licensure Exam

October 2017
 UST passing rate: 91.99%
 National passing rate: 30.45%



1st - 91.33%
 Alfonso Solomon R. Magno



4th - 90.67%
 Ray Jay M. Dizon



7th - 90%
 Alvin Thomas L. Endaya



9th - 89.67%
 Maria Isabel C. Marfil



9th - 89.67%
 Marc Leuvill D. Vilaverde

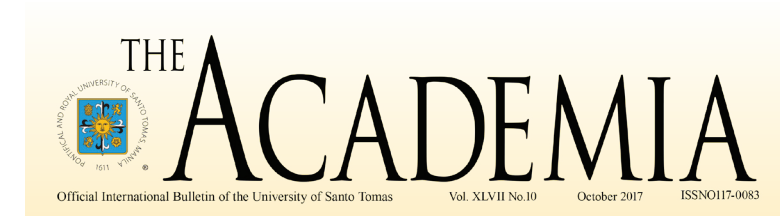


10th - 89.33%
 Christine Mae B. de Leon



10th - 89.33%
 Louize Allaine T. Areño

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