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Blood relic of Pope John Paul II visits UST

A blood relic of Saint Pope John Paul II was at the University of Santo Tomas and the Santísimo Rosario Parish (UST Chapel), on May 15 and 16, 2019. The visit was part of a year-long pilgrimage to parishes, schools, and youth centers within the Archdiocese of Manila organized by the Archdiocesan Commission on Youth (ACY).

The relic, a vial of the blood of Pope John Paul II, is one of only seven such vials in Churches around the world.

The pilgrimage of the relic, accompanied by the Archdiocesan Youth Cross, is in consonance with the 2019 Year of the Youth declared by the Philippine Catholic Church as part of its preparation for the quinquennial anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines in 2021.

The UST Center for Campus Ministry, in coordination with the Santísimo Rosario Parish, prepared activities to highlight the visit of the relic, such as a youth vocation festival.

Among the activities were a procession and welcome ceremony from the Arch of the Centuries to the UST Martyrs' Monument (UST Carillon Area).

A Eucharistic Celebration was held in honor of the relic. Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., was the main celebrant, while Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., who served as Rector during the visit of Pope John Paul II in 1995, served as homilist.



Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., blesses the blood relic of Pope John Paul II.

BLOOD RELIC TO PAGE 2

St. Thomas Aquinas Forum 2019 tackles challenges in Interreligious Dialogue



Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines His Excellency Most Rev. Gabriele Giordano Caccia, D.D., (right) receives from the Father Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., a sketch of the iconic UST Main Building as a University gift.

The St. Thomas Aquinas Forum 2019, organized by the Institute of Religion, tackled the theme "Emerging Challenges in Interreligious Dialogue: Prospects in Asia," as a response to the rising tolls of indifferences toward people of beliefs. In cooperation with John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue based in Rome, this year's forum, held on April 26, 2019 at the UST Paredes Building, aspired to rekindle the spirit of peaceful co-existence between religions and their different denominations.

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BLOOD RELIC FROM PAGE 1



Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., who served as Rector during the visit of Pope John Paul II in 1995, delivers the homily.



Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., (center) is the main presider of the Eucharistic Celebration in honor of the blood relic of Pope John Paul II. The Dominican Fathers concelebrate, including former Rector Very Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., (left) and UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (right).

As he began the mass, Fr. Tiong said, “We celebrate this Mass in honor of St. Pope John Paul II who once graced this University with his presence on two occasions. We are most fortunate to have with us his relic.”

It would be remembered that Pope John Paul II himself has personally graced the University on February 18, 1981, during his first visit to the Philippines, and on January 13, 1995, for the International Youth Forum. The Philippines hosted the World Youth Day from January 10 to 15 in that same year.

During the homily, Fr. de la Rosa reflected upon the Pope’s sainthood, saying that, despite his death, “He remains a person of the present.” Fr. de la Rosa further explained, “Even if [a Saint] is already dead, he does not recede to the past. In fact, he remains present. A saint is not just remembered; he is addressed. When we come here to behold the relic of St. John Paul II, we do not just remember him. We address him, we talk to him, we bring to him our deepest pain, our request for healing, our praises to God, [and] we send [these] through him.”

Following the Mass, a veneration period that was open to the public proceeded at the Main Building, before the blood relic was brought back to the Santísimo Rosario Parish where it was venerated until the morning of the following day.



A devotee of the Pope prays to the blood relic at the Santísimo Rosario Parish.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FORUM
FROM PAGE 1

Russel Berrie Foundation President Angelica Berrie, delivered the keynote address. In her speech, she highlighted the inevitable task of reaching out to other beliefs and forge strong relationships with them – a thrust that her foundation has been working on for ten years now.

The Russel Berrie Foundation, according to its website, carries on the values and passions of the late Russell Berrie, through fostering religious understanding and pluralism.

In the second part of the conference, Asian Women of Faith Network Chair and Religions for Peace-Philippines Secretary General Dr. Lilian J. Sison who spoke on behalf of the lay Catholic Movement, University of the Philippines Institute for Islamic Studies Dean Dr. Macrina Morados, Venerable Miaoxin of the Fo Guang Shan Mabuhay Temple in Manila and Ms. Yogita Sharma from the Hindu community, offered some insights on how religions can conduct meaningful dialogues with each other and help achieve a peaceful and harmonious world. The forum was participated in by different religious leaders, representatives

from universities and government agencies from all over the country and in Asia.

After the whole day forum, the guests were treated to a campus tour with stops at the Arch of the Centuries, the Benavides and the Quadricentennial Parks, the Main Building and the Heritage Library of the Miguel de Benavides Library. This was followed by a formal fellowship dinner hosted by the Institute of Religion attended by the participants and speakers. This was graced by the presence of UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., and the Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines His Excellency Most Rev. Gabriele Giordano Caccia, D.D., who gave an inspirational message.

The Thomas Aquinas Forum is a yearly academic conference, which aims to participate in the public discussion on timely and relevant topics concerning issues that affect religion and theological thinking such as the relationship of the state and the Church, ethics, social teachings and many others.



University of the Philippines Institute for Islamic Studies Dean Dr. Macrina Morados (on the podium) presents her topic. Seated onstage are (from left:) Religions for Peace-Philippines Secretary General Dr. Lilian J. Sison, Venerable Miaoxin of the Fo Guang Shan Mabuhay Temple in Manila, and Ms. Yogita Sharma from the Hindu community.



Russel Berrie Foundation President Angelica Berrie (center) receives a “Pope Francis @ UST” coffee table book as a University gift from UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (left) and Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P. (right)



Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines His Excellency Most Rev. Gabriele Giordano Caccia, D.D., delivers an inspirational message.



Ms. Berrie during the Question and Answer portion



UST holds Baccalaureate celebration, send-off rites for more than 10,000 students



University of Santo Tomas Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (center) is the main presider at the Baccalaureate Mass concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers, including Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo Tiong, O.P. (left) and UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (right)

Ten thousand one hundred eighty six candidates for graduation of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) joined the annual Baccalaureate celebration and send-off rites on Friday, May 24, 2019 held at the UST Grandstand and Open Field.

The Eucharistic Celebration was presided by UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., and concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers.

Noting the natural fondness of Filipinos for happy endings, the Father Rector, in his homily, said, “Having spent thousands of hours in the University, reading voluminous pages of books, answering hundreds of examinations, surviving the tensions of graded recitations and practical tests, you are here today rejoicing that these experiences would finally end.”

Quoting Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Ellen Goodman, the Father Rector said, “‘A graceful exit begins with the vision to recognize when a job, a life stage, a relationship is over - and to let go.’ [To exit] should excite us, for it means opening the door to a myriad of possibilities.”

Relating the celebratory occasion to Jesus’ own farewell message to the Apostles in that day’s Gospel Reading, Jn. 15: 12-17, Fr. Dagohoy emphasized that, “The command of Jesus [in today’s Gospel] to love one another is not a duty or responsibility we carry out. It is not just about emotions or something that we do when we feel like it. It is a call to a way of life - a life that would make us happy. [St. Thomas] Aquinas said that the whole point of our moral life is to make us happy, and this can be achieved through the proper ordering of our desires, through learning how to decide the right things in the right way. And so what is the right way to achieve happiness? By loving the [same] way [that] God loves.”

During the Post-Mass program, the students were each given a Thomasian Mission Cross, which was blessed and ceremonially imposed as a reminder for them to stay true to Thomasian ideals of competence, commitment and compassion. The recitation of the Thomasian Pledge of Loyalty followed.

Included in the program was the traditional “Ceremony of the Light” that represents UST’s mission of spreading the illuminating



Graduating Faculty of Civil Law student James Christian S. Ballecer waves the flag of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law.



Graduating students from the University of Santo Tomas College of Nursing cheer with their balloons.

light of education and evangelization to others. The flame that originated from the torch of the Father Rector was passed on to the torches of the deans and regents of the faculties, colleges, and institutes, from where their respective students lit their candles.

Outgoing Central Student Council President Francis Santos delivered the annual graduation message and emphasized the responsibility of Thomasian graduates. “Thomasians, our country and our fellow Filipinos need us. The real challenge lies beyond these walls, and as graduates of this University, we must be bearers of Truth in Charity: *Veritas in Caritate.*”

The graduating students symbolically concluded their student life in the traditional recessional parade where they exit through the Arch of the Centuries, signifying the completion of their student life in UST.

After the much-awaited annual grand pyromusical lit up the University’s skyline, the Class of 2019 was led out of the historic gateway by the UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. and UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda Jr., O.P., who as per tradition, also welcomed the same students into the Arch during the traditional Thomasian Welcome Walk in their first year in UST.



University of Santo Tomas Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (foreground) and UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (left) lead graduating students out of the historic Arch of the Centuries as part of the Send-off Rites.



Graduating students from the University of Santo Tomas-AMV College of Accountancy cheer as they leave through the Arch of the Centuries.



Graduating students from the UST Graduate School exit the Arch of the Centuries as a symbolic conclusion to their student life.

UST Hospital bags Corporate Social Responsibility of the Year Award by HealthcareAsia in Singapore



UST Hospital Chief Executive Officer Rev. Fr. Manuel F. Roux, O.P., (fourth from left), Director for Finance and Administration Assoc. Prof. Isidora Lee (fifth from left), and USTH department heads with Healthcare Asia editor-in-chief and publisher Tim Charlton (rightmost) [photo from UST Hospital Department of Surgery Facebook page]

The University of Santo Tomas Hospital (USTH) received the “Corporate Social Responsibility of the Year - Philippines” award for its Outreach and Indigency Program from HealthcareAsia in an awarding ceremony held on May 23, 2019 at the Conrad Centennial in Singapore.

USTH was represented at the awards ceremony by USTH Chief Executive Officer Rev. Fr. Manuel F. Roux, O.P., Director for Finance and Administration Assoc. Prof. Isidora Lee, and hospital department heads.

According to the HealthcareAsia website, the Awards Night “aims to honor hospitals and clinics that rise above industry challenges and recognise initiatives that maximised the lucrative opportunities in the healthcare market.”

The winning program, which was launched in December 2017, enabled the UST Hospital to expand its services to people who cannot afford medical care by providing free healthcare procedures.

Part of the Outreach and Indigence Program are the following projects: Child Wellness Awareness Project, which offers medical, nutritional, physical, and spiritual support to children; the Adult Wellness Project, which provides free medical consultation and diagnostic services; Basic Life Training Management, which educates communities on the proper recognition and assessment of cardiac arrest and proper cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); Gynecologic Surgical Mission, which provides gynecologic care for women; and the Heart Mission which provides indigent patients invasive cardiovascular procedures such as coronary angiography, percutaneous coronary intervention, pacemaker and defibrillator implantation, and many more.

According to Fr. Roux, “We would like to share this model to our community to inspire them to do the same, so that together, we can change the world of more of our less fortunate brothers and sisters.”

More than 200 nominations were received, and around 40 hospitals from all over Asia received the awards for 18 different categories, according to Healthcare Asia Magazine. Eight Philippine hospitals, including USTH, were recognized.

Aside from the University of Santo Tomas Hospital, the awarding ceremony was attended by representatives from The Medical City - Clark, Femto Research Group Co., Ltd, Fullerton Healthcare Group, Bangkok Hospital, Gleneagles Hong Kong Hospital, Omni Hospitals, Pun Hlaing Siloam Hospitals, St. Luke’s Medical Center Global City and Quezon City, Thonburi Healthcare Group, Union Hospital, and other hospitals in Asia.

The Panel of Judges was composed of: Ernst & Young Life Sciences & Healthcare Lead Partner Abhay Bangi; Deloitte Healthcare Sector Leader and Executive Director Dr. Loke Wai Chiong; PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) South East Asia Consulting Health Industries Leader and Director Dr. Zubin Daruwalla; Nexia TS Advisory Leader Chin Chee Choon; and Binder Dijker Otte (BDO), LLP Risk Advisory Services Partner Willy Leow.

UST Hospital

The UST Hospital has over 20 accredited Residency Training Programs and 33 accredited Fellowship Subspecialty Programs. It provides level 3 tertiary care, it offers advanced specialized health care, such as neurosurgery, cardiac surgery, and other complex medical interventions.

Having first opened its doors in 1945 with the start of the Clinical Division, the 73 year-old hospital is used for training by the students of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the oldest medical school in the Philippines. It has produced the likes of the current Health Secretary Francisco Duque III and Belo Medical Group Director Dr. Vicky Belo, among others.

It also houses the world-class Benavides Cancer Institute, which treats approximately 3,000 new patients annually.

The Clinical Division likewise maintains the Ambulatory Care Services (ACS) department, a multispecialty outpatient unit that serves approximately 500 patients daily, and provides quality healthcare services and minor ambulatory surgical procedures and interventions.

Through its seven decades of service, the USTH has had a long history of charitable work, administering quality healthcare to the sick and underprivileged.

UST recognizes outstanding Thomasians at 2019 Student Awards



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., gives the welcome remarks at the UST Student Awards on May 17, 2019.

Distinctions were conferred in honor of student achievers from the University of Santo Tomas at the 2019 Student Awards Day held on May 17, 2019, at the UST Quadricentennial Pavilion Arena.

In his welcome remarks, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Dagohoy congratulated the student achievers, saying that, “Excellence is not an act, but a habit... You have achieved a level of competence that only few can achieve, because you have devoted your time, energy, and talent to accomplish your goals. You have prevailed over the tempting desire to settle for less and are dauntless in your quest for something you consider worth undertaking... You have endured and your perseverance has paid off.”

Recognitions

Each of the top academic achievers from the 18 Faculties, Colleges, and Institutes received the Rector’s Academic Award, conferred by the Father Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. Seminarian John Alfred F. Rabena from the Faculty of Philosophy emerged as the valedictorian of Batch 2019, with a general weighted average of 1.126.

2019 STUDENT AWARDS TO PAGE 8

Balog of Engineering is named one of ‘Asian Scientist 100’

Mechanical Engineer Ricardo S. Balog, former Assistant Dean of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Faculty of Engineering, was chosen by the Asian Scientist Magazine (ASM) to be part of the “Asian Scientist 100: 2019 edition,” a list of Asia’s most outstanding researchers.

Since 2016, ASM has been compiling annually a list of Asia’s best and brightest, highlighting their achievements across a range of scientific disciplines. To be acknowledged on this list, the honoree must have received a national or international prize in 2018 for his or her research, or must have made a significant scientific discovery, or provided leadership in academia or industry.

Balog, who is under the Engineering Category of the Asian Scientist 100, was awarded the Mario Cruel Award for Advanced Engineering Technology in September 2018 by the Philippine Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology (PHILAAST) for

his research on and fabrication of low-cost medical devices.

Among his inventions are: a low-cost surgical instrument, multi-purpose, adjustable and self-retaining retractor used by surgeons in performing surgery in a patient’s abdominal area; a clamp anywhere “flexible retractor stand-holder” which holds in place a retractor used in hemorrhoidectomy; an orthopedic device used to correct misaligned/dislocated bones; a practical heat block apparatus for the loop-mediated amplification (LAMP)-based detection of shrimp pathogens under the gram; and a *balut* vending machine prototype which is a part of “Project 5” (Market Research) of the “*Itik Pinas*” Program of Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD).

Balog is one of eight new Filipino inductees into this prestigious list. In 2017, another UST faculty member, Prof. Raymond L. Rosales, M.D., from the Department of Neurology of the Faculty of



Engr. Ricardo S. Balog

Medicine and Surgery, made it to the list under the Biomedical Sciences category.

An award-winning science and technology publication, Asian Scientist Magazine highlights research and development news stories from Asia to a global audience. Based in Singapore, the online and print magazine is maintained by a team of professional science and medical journalists, with active contributors from industry and academia.



Shell Philippines Exploration BV, Upstream Operated, Shell Upstream International Managing Director and General Manager Engr. Rolando "Don" J. Paulino, Jr., delivers the inspirational address.



Engr. Rolando "Don" J. Paulino, Jr., the inspirational address speaker, (center) receives University tokens from UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. (right) and UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. at the UST Student Awards on May 17, 2019.

Sixteen exemplary officers of recognized organizations received the Quezon Leadership Award for their service, including Carl Lexter Tan from the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery for spearheading the first National Medical Student's Conference.

Another award, the Pope Leo XIII Community Development Award, was given to six students and 15 organizations for their outstanding involvement in community development. Among the individual recipients was Kaye Angeline Jimenez from the College of Science for being the project head of "Alaga: A Seminar and Workshop on Mental Health for Sitio Galileo."

The St. Dominic de Guzman Award

was given to ten organizations that held activities of significance to the entire University, among them, the Becarios de Santo Tomas that was cited particularly for their organized tutorial program called 'Bestutor 2018' where they offer tutorial assistance primarily to UST athletes, although the program was also open to other UST students who were in need of free tutorial services.

Ten individuals and eight groups received the St. Albertus Magnus Award for excelling in research. Among them were Angela Nicole Morabe, Rhoan Irish Dimakiling, and Lovella Kate Sabile of the Faculty of Engineering for winning the Excellent Paper award during the 7th Joint

Conference on Renewable Energy and Nanotechnology in Japan. Their winning paper was on the "Conversion of Citronella Oil to Carbon Nanotubes using Co-Pyrolysis with Ferrocene."

The Benavides Outstanding Achievement Award is given to students who have academic or scientific accomplishments of national or international significance. It was granted to 17 individuals and 17 groups, including Ean Dominique Castro from the Faculty of Arts and Letters for having been a delegate of the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations.

For students who excelled in sports and the arts, the Pope John Paul II Outstanding Achievement Award was given. UAAP



The Becarios de Santo Tomas, the association of scholars of the University of Santo Tomas, is the only recipient of the Tradition of Excellence Award after bagging the St. Dominic de Guzman Award for five consecutive years from 2015 to 2019. With them are UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (front row, eighth from left), UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (leftmost), UST Office for Student Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Ma. Socorro Guan Hing, DNM (front row, sixteenth from left), and Executive Secretary to the Rector Prof. Augusto Antonio Aguila, Ph.D. (second row, rightmost). This academic year, the Becarios de Santo Tomas also received the St. Dominic de Guzman Award for outstanding teamwork in organizing significant University events, and the Pope Leo XIII Award for Community Development.



University of Santo Tomas Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P. (eleventh from left) with this year's Rector's Academic Awardees who obtained the highest general weighted average in their respective Faculties, Colleges, and Institutes. They are with UST Registrar Mr. Cesar Velasco, Jr. (leftmost).



University of Santo Tomas Batch 2019 Valedictorian Seminarian John Alfred F. Rabena from the Faculty of Philosophy (third from left), obtained a general weighted average of 1.26. With him are UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (fifth from left), UST Vice Rector and Faculty of Philosophy Dean Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., (rightmost) and UST Registrar Mr. Cesar Velasco, Jr. (leftmost)



UAAP Season 81 Women's Volleyball MVP Cherry Ann "Sisi" Q. Rondina (center) receives the Pope John Paul II Outstanding Achievement Award for excellence in sports and arts. With her are: University of Santo Tomas Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (rightmost), UST Institute of Physical Education and Athletics Director/Regent Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., (second from left), and UST Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese Dacanay, Ph.D. (leftmost).

Season 81 Women's Volleyball MVP Cherry Ann "Sisi" Q. Rondina was among the recipients of this award.

The Tradition of Excellence Award is given to student organizations that have shown sustained exemplary performance by having received the same award for five consecutive years. The Becarios de Santo Tomas was the lone recipient of this award, for consistently receiving the St. Dominic de Guzman Award from 2015 to 2019.

Learning to Lead

Engr. Rolando "Don" J. Paulino, Jr., Managing Director and General Manager of Shell Philippines Exploration BV, Upstream Operated, Shell Upstream International, delivered the inspirational address. Paulino

advised Thomasian students that, "The things that you learn cannot stay in your notebooks, laptops, and phones. As leaders, we all need to know how we can leverage our God-given talents, so we can know how to nurture it, and freely share it with others."

Also emphasized in Paulino's speech was, "[By keeping the core values of] competence, humility, and integrity, leadership is not about personal glory, but about making others successful."

To conclude his speech, Paulino left the students with a challenge: "Our talents are not for us; they are meant to be shared for the good of others. Let the recognitions, the medals, plaques you receive today not remain as something you put on the wall,

but instead use it as a reminder to be of service, and to act. Thomasian leaders are action-oriented: we make things happen."

Paulino received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree from the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Santo Tomas in 1994, *cum Laude*, and his Master in Business Administration (Leadership and Change) from the Ateneo Graduate School of Business-Regis University in 2004. He also completed the Shell Group Business Leadership Programme, INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France in 2009. He has over two decades of international senior leadership experience in the oil and gas industry.

Office of Public Affairs launches UST Protocol Manual



UST Secretary-General and Chief Protocol Officer Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (right) receives the first copy of the UST Protocol Manual from Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D.



UST Secretary-General and Chief Protocol Officer Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., (left) and Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D., (right) present a copy to the publication's consultant, former DFA Undersecretary Ambassador (Ret.) Laura Q. del Rosario (center).

The UST Protocol Manual, a special publication by the Office of Public Affairs produced in close coordination with the Office of the Secretary-General, was formally launched on May 23, 2019, held at the Main Gallery of the UST Museum.

The Manual contextualizes matters of etiquette and proper procedure, in light of the University's academic and social functions. Through this publication, the accomplishment of the objective for the University's positive public presence becomes more efficient and effective by standardizing and streamlining event and visit management to establish consistency, and more importantly, to preserve the University's practices and traditions rooted in its identity.

UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D., in her welcome remarks, quoted His Holiness Pope Francis' message in the University guest book during his visit in 2015, saying, "May the Lord bless all those studying and working for a culture of encounter." It is the hope of the team

behind the UST Protocol Manual that it will contribute most generously to paving the way for engaging encounters that are sources of inspiration for the fulfillment of the mission and realization of the vision of the University of Santo Tomas.

UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P., the Chief Protocol Officer of the University, delivered a message where he emphasized that, "Learning the protocol by heart is as equally important as knowing the culture of the institution, of giving importance to its traditions and practices, and of respecting its identity. Such is our task; such is our protocol." The Father Secretary-General was presented the first copy of the Manual.

Along with a special video introducing the Manual, produced by the UST Communications Bureau for the event, an exhibition featuring special visits and events held in the University was mounted. Titled "A Culture of Encounter," it highlighted activities that meaningfully correspond to the University's identity, as encapsulated within the six elements found in the Seal of the University.



The exhibition shows highlights of UST visits and events in line with the University's identity as captured in the elements of the Seal.

Gracing the event was one of the Manual's consultants, former Undersecretary for International Economic Relations of the Department of Foreign Affairs Ambassador (Ret.) Laura Q. Del Rosario.

Two-time Luciano Pavarotti Choir of the World awardee The UST Singers, under the baton of Prof. Fidel Calalang, Jr., performed.

The special event was attended by University administrative and academic officials. Copies of the book, along with a package of postcard-sized checklists for preparing visits and events were given as a token.



The UST Protocol Manual



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (seventh from left), Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D., (sixth from left), Assistant to the Director for Publications Asst. Prof. Virginia Sembrano (eighth from left), Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs Ms. Katherine Patrice Sibug (fifth from left), guest editor of the UST Protocol Manual Atty. Alexis Ailex Villamor, Jr., (fourth from left), and the UST Office of Public Affairs Team.

138 faculty members receive distinction at 20th Dangal ng UST Awards



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., delivers a message to the faculty members.

The University of Santo Tomas in partnership with the UST Faculty Union, recognized faculty members, librarians, and guidance counsellors for their service to the University in the annual Dangal ng UST (Honor of UST) Awards held on May 10, 2019, at the UST Medicine Auditorium.

Now in its 20th year, the theme for the celebration was, "Dalawang Dekadang Pagpapala, Pasasalamat, at Pagdiriwang sa Tagumpay ng Gurong Tomasino." (Two Decades of Blessing, Gratitude, and Celebration of the Success of Thomasian Teachers)

In his message, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., commended the appropriateness of the theme, "...sapagkat sa nakaraang dalawang dekada ay maraming Tomasinong guro ang naglaan ng oras at panahon sa pagtuturo ng mahusay, sa patuloy na pagsasaliksik at paglikha, sa pagtulong sa pamayanan at paglilingkod nang tapat sa Unibersidad." (...because in the last 20 years, many Thomasian mentors have dedicated their time to excellent teaching, continued research and innovation, and being active in the community and loyal service to the University.)

However, the Father Rector also emphasized that the true success of teachers lie not in the number of years of service, and cannot be measured by the number of awards received or research works produced.

"Kung susuriing mabuti, malaking bahagi ng kanyang tagumpay ay mamamalas sa

kinalalagyan, o kalidad at antas ng pamumuhay ng mga magaaral na dumaan sa kanyang masusing pagtititistis at pagtatasa, at matiyagang paghubog sa kanilang mga kamalayan, upang maayos na matimbang ang katuwiran laban sa kamalian, matutuhan ang tamang paraan kung paano umiwas sa mga panililalang, at magkaroon ng lakas ng loob na manindigan sa katotohanan," Fr. Dagohoy explained. (If we would contemplate it, a large part of [a teacher's] success is manifested in the status, or quality and level of living of students passing through their thorough scrutiny and assessment, and patiently molding their consciousness, in order to properly weigh out righteousness against error, to learn the right way to avoid deceptions, and to have the courage to stand up for the truth.)

Quoting the philosopher George Steiner, the Father Rector reminded the faculty of their mission. "To awaken in another human being powers, dreams beyond one's own; to induce in others a love for that which one loves; to make of one's inward present their future; that is a threefold adventure like no other."

Former University Rector and former Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., was the guest speaker. In his address, he challenged faculty members to remember that teaching is not merely a profession, but also a profound vocation. He discussed,

20TH DANGAL NG UST AWARDS TO PAGE 12



Assoc. Prof. Moises Norman Z. Garcia, Ph.D., and Assoc. Prof. Maria Rosario Virginia C. Garcia, Ph.D., (third and fourth from left) of the College of Science receive their trophy for the Gawad San Alberto Magno, with USTFU Director Mr. Frederick Roy Manubay (left), Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., (second from left), and UST Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese Dacanay, Ph.D. (rightmost)

nucleatum and its potential use in the diagnosis of colorectal cancer); Asst. Prof. Andrea G. Vargas, Ph.D., of the Faculty of Pharmacy under the Science and Technology category (Cloning molecular analysis, and developmental expression of 3 oleosin cDNA isoforms in coconut [*Cocos nucifera* L.]); and Assoc. Prof. Moises Norman Z. Garcia, Ph.D., and Assoc. Prof. Maria Rosario Virginia C. Garcia, Ph.D., of the College of Science under the Social Sciences and Education category (The Environmental

Literacy of Elementary School Teachers based in the City of Manila and Nueva Ecija Province). Asst. Prof. Chuckberry J. Pascual, Ph.D., of the Faculty of Arts and Letters under the Humanities and Cultural Studies category and for outstanding publication, namely, for his research work “*Ang Tagalabas sa Panitikan*” while his book “*Ang Nawawala*” earned him the Outstanding Book award under the Humanities and Cultural Studies category.

The *Gawad San Lorenzo Ruiz* is given to those with outstanding achievements or are recognized in the national or international scene. The awardees were: College of Science mentors Prof. Allan Patrick G. Macabeo, Dr.rer.nat., who received the Alexander von Humboldt Research Award and Prof. Mario A. Tan, Ph.D., who was named 2018 Outstanding Young Scientist in Pharmaceutical Sciences by the National Academy of Science and Technology Philippines, and Novartis Next Generation Scientist by the Novartis Pharma Switzerland; Faculty of Arts and Letters mentor Mr. Paul A. Castillo who won the third place in the Talaang Ginto Makata ng Taon 2018 given by the Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino; College of Education faculty member and Educational Technology Center Director Asst. Prof. Anna Cherylle M. Ramos who was named Greatest Individual for Education Inclusion in the 2017 Edu Tech Asia Awards by the EduTech Asia / Terrapin; Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, Ph.D., who was named ‘Outstanding Pharmacist’ in the 2018 Outstanding Professional of the Year Award by the Professional Regulation Commission; and College of Accountancy Dean Prof. Patricia M. Empleo, Ph.D., who was named to the Global Accounting ‘Hall of Fame’ by the Institute of Certified Management Accountant.

“[As God’s call,] a vocation is a fundamental decision in life, defines the person’s presence in the world, expresses one’s deepest identity, and orients one’s actions towards destiny.”

Following the address was the awarding of the *Gawad Benavides* or the service awards for milestone years. Thirty-seven faculty members received the *Gawad Benavides* for 20 years, while 38 mentors were awarded for 25 years of service. Twenty received the award for 30 years of service, and 23 were lauded for 35 years of service.

For 40 years of service in the University, eight were recognized, namely: Prof. Marilyn Mabini, ASEAN Eng., from the Faculty of Engineering; Asst. Prof. Carmelita Cardona and Assoc. Prof. Rodolfo Rabor from the Faculty of Pharmacy; Prof. Ma. Corazon Zaida Gamilla, M.D., Prof. Josephine Lumitao, M.D., and Assoc. Prof. Edgardo Orlina, M.D., from the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery; Assoc. Prof. Ma. Rebecca Penafiel from the College of Architecture; and Assoc. Prof. Evangelina Timbang from the College of Tourism and Hospitality Management. Dr. Gamilla gave the response on behalf of all awardees.

The *Gawad San Alberto Magno*, a special award for outstanding published research, was given to Mr. Leonardo A. Guevarra, Jr., Ph.D., of the Faculty of Pharmacy under the Health Sciences category (Immunology of a Fap2 peptide mimotope of *Fusobacterium*



The Guest of Honor, former University Rector and former Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa, O.P., (center) receives a plaque of appreciation from UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., (rightmost) and UST Faculty Union President Prof. George Lim, M.D.



2018 Palanca Awardee for Poetry Mr. Paul Castillo (third from left) receives the *Gawad San Lorenzo Ruiz* from UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (rightmost), USTFU Secretary-General Asst. Prof. Susan Petilla (leftmost), and UST SHS Acting Principal Asst. Prof. Mary Erika Bolaños, Ph.D., (second from left).

The board of judges was composed of academics in the various disciplines, and literary writers: Arnold V. Hallare, Dr. rer nat., Hope Sabanpan-Yu, Amaryllis T. Torres, Alfred A. Yuson, Galileo S. Zafra, Ph.D., Maricar W. Ching, Ph.D., Evelyn A. Songco, Ph.D., Edilberto P. Manahan, Ph.D., Junie B. Billones, Ph.D., Mark Anthony D. Abenir, DSD, and Esperanza C. Cabrera, Ph.D.

OVRAA honors 48 faculty retirees with Testimonial

The University of Santo Tomas paid tribute to 48 faculty retirees in a testimonial organized by the Office of the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs on May 8, 2019, held at the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom, UST Paredes Building.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., delivered the welcome remarks and thanked the retirees for their years of dedicated service to the Thomasian community. The plaques of appreciation and University gifts were given by Fr. Dagohoy and Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., together with the deans and regents of the retirees.

The retirees included the former dean of the College of Fine Arts and Design Dr. Cynthia B. Loza, the former assistant dean of the College of Architecture Dr. Tobias Bonaobra and the former assistant dean of the College of Science multi-awarded researcher-scientist Dr. Alice M. Aguinaldo, the adviser of Salinggawi Asst. Prof. Edna Sanchez, internationally acclaimed medical doctors, and a host of researchers. The retiree with the longest number of years of service to the University was Asst. Prof. Rosa S. Lumbrera who first taught in 1974.

Among the retirees were: Assoc. Prof. Tobias A. Bonaobra, Ph.D., Mr. Enrico Cinco, Assoc. Prof. Ma. Rebecca Penafiel from the College of Architecture; Asst. Prof. Amanda V. Lachica, Assoc. Prof. Emmanuel J. Lopez, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. Ferdinand M. Lopez, and Assoc. Prof. Reynaldo A. Reyes, from the Faculty of Arts and Letters; Atty. Alberto B. Dolosa and Assoc. Prof. Mercurio T. Elenzano, Ph.D., from the College of Commerce and Business Administration.

Also honored were: Assoc. Prof. Eufemio G. Barcelon, Ph.D., Asst. Prof. Rosa S. Lumbrera, and Asst. Prof. Beatriz B. Ribleza, from the College of Education; Mr. Cesar D. Jucutan from the Education High School; Assoc. Prof. Ma. Victoria E. Amon, Asst. Prof. Lourdes T. Baldelomar, Asst. Prof. Mary Rose Florence S. Cobar, Ph.D., and Prof. Edna C. Quinto, Ph.D. from the Faculty of Engineering; Assoc. Prof. Lilia C. de Jesus, Ph.D., and Assoc. Prof. Cynthia B. Loza, Ph.D., from the College of Fine Arts and Design; Mr. Carlos S. Marnilego and Ms. Imelda Paula S. Rosales from the Junior High School; and Ms. Ma. Theresa F. Estoya from the Miguel de Benavides Library.

From the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the retirees were: Prof. Ricardo B. Agbayani, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Alfredo H. Belmonte, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Rolando E. Cabatu, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Poderoso B. Casuela, Jr., M.D., Prof. Roy J. Cuison, M.D., Prof. Ditas Christina D. Decena, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Froilan A. De Leon, M.D., Asst. Prof. Romeo R. Fernandez, M.D., Prof. Reynaldo M. Javate, M.D., Prof. Irma A. Lee, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Aurea P. Llanera, M.D., Prof. Ma. Philomena G. Lopez, M.D., Prof. Remedios C. Ong, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Ma. Noemi T. Salazar, M.D., Assoc. Prof. Jerry H. Santos, M.D., Prof.

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Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, delivers the welcome remarks.



Prof. Ricardo B. Agbayani, M.D., gives the response on behalf of his fellow faculty retirees.



Faculty retirees with (seated, from left): Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, Rehabilitation Medicine Department Chair Prof. Ricardo B. Agbayani, M.D., UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., and Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D.

US Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission delivers St. Antoninus Professorial lecture at Grad School



(From left:) UST Graduate School Dean Prof. Marilu R. Madrunio, Ph.D., Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy and guest speaker John C. Law, and UST Graduate School Regent Rev. Fr. José Antonio E. Aureada, O.P.

“You are the pillar of a strong partnership between the US and the Philippines,” said United States Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission John C. Law, on May 4, 2019 at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex where he was the 2019 St. Antoninus Professorial Lecturer of the UST Graduate School. He talked about the US-Philippines bilateral relations highlighting economy, security and people-to-people relationships as its pillars.

Law is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister Counselor. He entered the diplomatic service in 1990. He has twice served previously as Deputy Chief of Mission, in Warsaw, Poland (2015-2018) and Panama (2011-2014). In Afghanistan he was State Department Director of the network of civilian Provincial Reconstruction Teams stationed in over 70 sites across the country. His other previous diplomatic postings include Prague, Madrid, Caracas, Santiago de Chile, Seoul, and Taegu.

UST Graduate School Dean Dr. Marilu R. Madrunio, in her welcome

address, recalled the assistance and opportunities provided to her by the US Embassy in the fulfilment of her official duties as representative of UST as faculty member and administrator. She is the first Filipino recipient of the English as Foreign Language Foreign Educators Program from Georgetown University, Washington DC awarded by the US State Department in 2010.

Graduate School Regent Rev. Fr. José Antonio E. Aureada, O.P., in his closing remarks underscored the importance of trust in a relationship such as that of the US and the Philippines.

The St. Antoninus Professorial Lecture is held annually to honor St. Antoninus, Bishop of Florence, the Patron Saint of the UST Graduate School. This year’s lecture was attended by graduate faculty and students from the fields of development studies, political science, public administration, economics, among others. Undergraduate students from the Faculty of Arts and Letters were likewise present.

UST hosts Int’l Confab on Ethical Literary Criticism; Arriola delivers plenary on Critical Media Studies

In the spirit of promoting international academic exchange and encouraging scholarly collaboration in the field of literary and cultural criticism, the Office of the Scholar-in-Residence/UNITAS Office, in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Research Center for Culture, Arts and Humanities and the Department of Literature, hosted an international conference on Ethical Literary Criticism held at the UST Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building, George S.K. Ty Function Hall from April 27 to 28, 2019.

Established in 2012, the International Association of Ethical Literary Criticism (IAELC) is devoted to the study of world literatures from the perspective of Ethical Literary Criticism. The conference provided an avenue for scholars and students from all over the world to share their insights and findings in literary studies today. Founded by Prof. Nie Zhenzhao of Zhejiang University, IAELC has continued to expand and enrich possibilities for the study of Ethical Literary Criticism through annual international conferences.

In cultivating this new and revitalized critical approach in literary studies, the conference aimed to foreground perspectives and discourses on the relationships between literature and society, the relations between writers and their works and the relations between readers and works from an ethical vantage point. Alongside the theoretical, thematic and terminological complexities of literary studies, IAELC attempts to celebrate Literature as a distinctive, if complex, ethical expression within particular milieus.

In accentuating the “ethical turn” in literary studies, literature becomes an avenue for ethical illumination and edification in the contemporary world. In reading or re-reading canonical and non-canonical literary works from the perspective of ethics as a means of validating the revelatory capacity and explanatory power of this new critical framework, the forum addresses literary systems, symbolic structures, and critical constructs in ethical literary criticism such as ethical identity, ethical environment, ethical confusion, ethical taboo, free will, rational will, natural will, irrational will, and the human and animal factors intersecting

sociological, psychoanalytic, philosophical, and other imperatives.

The topics of the conference were: (1) Ethical Literary Criticism: Concept Analysis and Theory Mapping; (2) Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies; (3) Ethical Literary Criticism and the Re-reading of World Literary Canons.

The plenary speakers were: Zhejiang University Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of World Literature Director Prof. Nie Zhenzhao, Edge Hill University Critical Performance Studies Prof. Victor Merriman, UST Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities Director Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, and Inha University Professor Prof. Joel David.

Arriola delivers Plenary Lecture

UST Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities Director Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D., delivered her lecture on “The Literary Roots of Critical Media Studies” as plenary speaker for the International Conference on Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies held at the Buenaventura Garcia Paredes O.P. Building, UST, on April 28, 2019.

Arriola’s lecture exemplified the correlation between literature and media throughout history. From the period of orality to the contemporary criticism on literary and media studies, the lecture highlighted the parallel concerns between the two disciplines by tracing the historic interdependence of their development by substantiating the shared ethical frameworks between the two disciplines and emphasizing the continuing usefulness of rhetoric.

Oral communication and early speech and theater drew from the canonical theories of rhetoric. Arriola concluded the lecture by stating that, “Although they can now be studied as separate disciplines, they are connected by both method and aspiration, which is the humanistic method and the commitment to inspire social action. Even if the consequences of discourse for both literary studies and media studies have remained, for the most part, within the realm of thought or intellectual reflection, the commitment to change will always be their permanently shared aspiration.”

The international conference, a two-



(From left:) UST Scholar-in-Residence Prof. Maria Luisa Torres-Reyes, Ph.D., Zhejiang University Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of World Literature Director Prof. Nie Zhenzhao, Ph.D., and UST RCCAH Director Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D.

day event organized by UNITAS, together with the UST Department of Literature, UST Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities, and the International Association for Ethical Literary Criticism (IAELC), gathered prominent local and international Humanities scholars hailing from different universities from Asia and Europe to explore and revive the ethical commitment shared by academics across the globe for the continuing reverence to literature, arts, and the humanities.

Tributary Performance on Julio Nakpil

RCCAHC Research Fellow and Musicologist Dr. Maria Alexandra I. Chua and students from the UST Conservatory of Music serenaded guests and participants with an ensemble in commemoration of the Filipino Musician and Revolutionary Julio Nakpil during the International Conference on Ethical Literary Criticism and Interdisciplinary Studies.

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Jose D. Sollano, Jr., M.D., and Asst. Prof. Edgardo T. Tan, M.D.

Asst. Prof. Christian S. Dicioco from the College of Nursing; Asst. Prof. Rebecca G. David, Prof. Angelita S. Sarile, Ph.D., and Asst. Prof. Ma. Teresa R. Suratos from the Faculty of Pharmacy; Asst. Prof. Edna Sanchez from the Institute of Physical Education and Athletics; Assoc. Prof. Abner C. Manaloto, Ph.D., from the Institute of Religion; and Prof. Ma. Alicia M. Aguinaldo, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. Susana F. Baldia, Ph.D., and Asst. Prof. Joyce G. Llana, Ph.D., from the College of Science, were also honored.

Rehabilitation Medicine Department Chair Prof. Ricardo B. Agbayani, M.D., delivered the response on behalf of the retirees.



Asst. Prof. Rosa S. Lumbea (center), who served the University for 45 years, with (from left:) Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., and College of Education Dean Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D.

Severino, Salud at USTingan share life as journalists in trying times



Howie Severino (center) with UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies Director Prof. Emerita Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Ph.D., (right), and UST CCWLS Assistant Director Assoc. Prof. Ralph Semino Galán.



(From left:) Veteran journalists Joel Pablo Salud, Howie Severino, and Varsitarian publications adviser Lito Zulueta interact during the panel discussion.



Philippines Graphic Magazine Editor-in-Chief Joel Pablo Salud (left) receives the certificate of appreciation from UST CCWLS Director Prof. Emerita Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Ph.D.

Veteran journalists Howie Severino and Joel Pablo Salud, were guest speakers at a forum on “Literary Journalism in the Age of Fake News,” held on April 30, 2019 at the Benavides Auditorium organized by the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies.

The multi-awarded Severino is best known for his long-running documentary show on GMA 7, “I-Witness,” although he has also been a journalist in print and online for the past two decades. Salud has been Editor-in-Chief of the “Philippines Graphic Magazine” for ten years, and he has also worked for other newspapers. He is the author of two books published by the UST Publishing House.

The audience consisted of UST students in the humanities and social sciences, and those who are in the creative writing, journalism and communications programs. There were also students from other schools, including a large group of students from St. Scholastica’s College.

Also in the audience were Gemma Cruz Araneta, herself a journalist, with a regular column in the “Manila Bulletin;” and former Managing Editor of “The Manila Times,” Felipe Salvosa II.

The writers spoke – not only of the political climate that journalists have to contend with today, and the dangers they

have always faced – but also about their early experiences as writers. Severino even read excerpts from his journal as a very young man. Both emphasized the importance of immersing in the environment when writing about anything, of obtaining all the facts, and reporting them accurately, even when employing literary techniques to make the writing more interesting.

Severino and Salud also recalled their first writing assignments. Howie Severino shared that he covered a story about Vietnamese refugees who survived an arduous journey at sea.

Joel Pablo Salud disclosed that there was nothing so dramatic about his first assignment. His editor was looking for someone to write a story on a branded light bulb. Salud, who was an office assistant, and whose work consisted mainly of getting coffee for the staff, volunteered to write it, and the editor wondered why he was volunteering to write an article, but gave him the assignment, anyway.

Joselito B. Zulueta, lifestyle editor and editorialist of the “Philippine Daily Inquirer,” served as moderator of the open forum, while UST CCWLS Assistant Director Ralph Semino Galán read the opening remarks of UST CCWLS Director Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, and delivered his own closing remarks at the end of the program.

UST CCWLS Resident Fellow Jose Mojica was the emcee of the event.

The forum was part of the series USTingan, a round-table discussion held every term by the UST CCWLS, on different contemporary issues involving literature and the other arts, and featuring prominent members of the larger arts community.

Some of the earlier fora conducted were on scriptwriting for film, drama and TV (“*Silip at Iskrip*”) featuring Jerry Gracio, Rody Vera, Aureus Solito and Dwein Baltzar; spoken word and performance poetry (“*Ang Tula Bilang Bigkas at Palabas*”) featuring Vim Nadera and Juan Miguel Severo; fan fiction, manga, teleserye and other fandoms (“*In the Kingdom of Fandom*”) featuring Vlad Gonzalez, Louie Jon Sanchez, and Karren Renz Seña; Philippine speculative fiction in all its shapeshifting forms (“*This Spectacular Artifice*”) featuring Nikki Alfar, Karl de Mesa, Paolo Herras, Emil Flores; and Philippine contemporary songwriting and OPM (“*Titik at Himig*”) featuring Ely Buendia, Ebe Dancel and Lour de Veyra.

This edition of USTingan, coordinated by Galán and UST CCWLS Resident Fellow Nerisa del Carmen Guevara, was the CCWLS’ contribution to National Literature Month of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

SHS Galvanize emerges champion in Asian Hip-Hop Competition in Hong Kong

The University of Santo Tomas Senior High School dance organization “Galvanize” won the 9th High Schoolers Asian Hip Hop Championship held in Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong on May 5, 2019. Besting 17 other participating teams from South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, China, Thailand, and the Philippines, the 14-member Senior High School team brought home 8,000 HKD and the championship trophy.

The winning team was composed of: team captain Gabriel Joaquin Estrada, Keith Anderson, Matthan Henri Ang, Miguel Francisco Bacani, Jonas Belgica, Julia Mae Del Rosario, Lia Rizabella Escudero, Andria Lopez, Ma. Kaela Joselle Madrunio, Yuri Miranda, Niña Marie Reyes, Dylan Ruiz, Regina Priscila Saccalan, and Reynante Talactac IV.

The competition was organized by the School of Hip-hop managed by Youth Outreach Organization in Hong Kong.

The UST team became eligible for the international competition by bagging the first place in the Asian Hip-hop Philippines Dance Competition held at Tanghalang Pasigueno in Pasig, Metro Manila on November 11, 2018.

“The preparations were tedious for this competition (in Hong Kong), because it’s the first time that a group from the

Senior High School will fly abroad for a competition,” said founding adviser and choreographer Mr. Reinhel Angelo Sicat in an online interview with The Academia. He added that in the previous academic year, UST Galvanize would often win in the regional competitions, but not in the national level.

“Through the continuous effort of the team, our competitions this year went in favor of our group, the [Asian Hip-hop Philippine Qualifiers – High Schoolers Division] and the UAAP Streetdance Competition,” said Sicat.

It is this determined mindset that Galvanize brought with them to the stage in Hong Kong. Sicat further explained, despite hurdles such as a member’s injury, and a sudden change of venue due to the unpredictable weather that resulted in a stage almost too small for the 14 team members to execute their winning dance moves, Galvanize was not discouraged.

Established in 2016, Galvanize is ably helmed by its advisers, Mr. Reinhel Angelo Sicat, Ms. Hera Alexan Benitez, and Mr. Jake Rovin Morales. It also enjoys the whole-hearted support of the Senior High School administration and the parents of the members, according to Sicat.



UST SHS Galvanize with their advisers Morales (fourth from left), Benitez, (fifth from left), and Sicat (rightmost)

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(Foreground, from left:) Katherine Sunga (soprano) Radnel Ofalsa (tenor), and Charina Althea Balmores (sopranos), accompanied by the proponent of the project, musicologist Dr. Maria Alexandra Chua on the piano (background).

The ensemble, originally a research project titled *Julio Nakpil @ 150 Music Project* under UST-RCCA and funded by the SALIKHA Creative Grants of the Commission on Higher Education, brings to light the music opus of Julio Nakpil (1867-1960), a native Filipino composer and *Katipunero* (revolutionary soldier) in the late nineteenth-century.

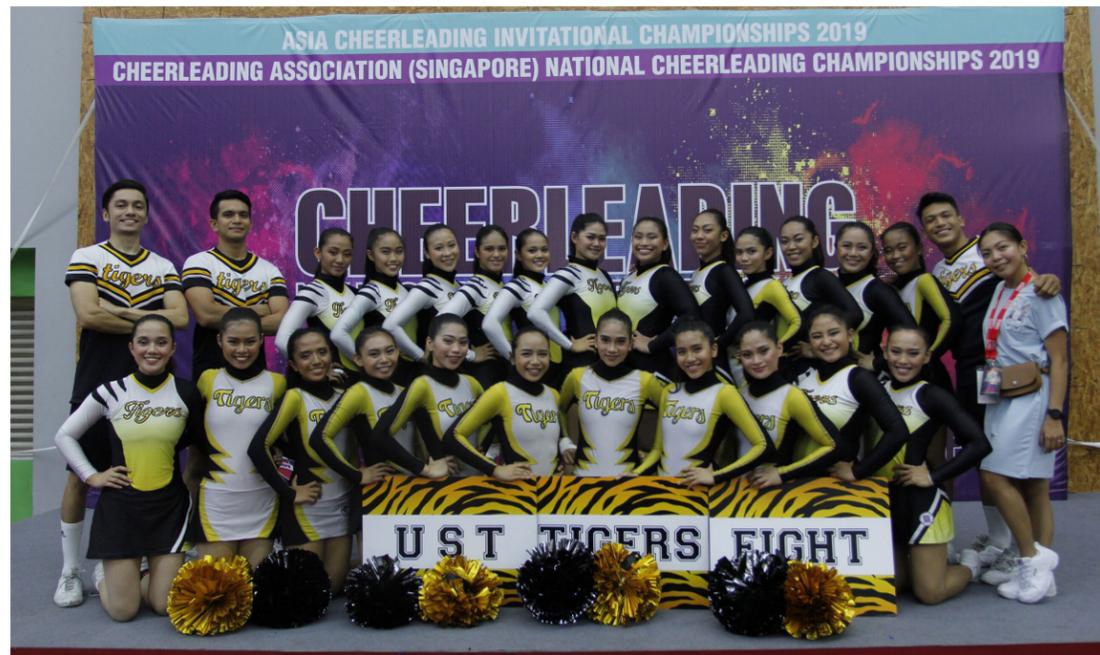
The ensemble featured three of Nakpil’s musical pieces, namely, *Amor Patrio* (Love of Country), *Pag-ibig* (Love), and the *Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan* (Noble Hymn of the Tagalog Nation). *Amor Patrio*, written in 1893, is a vocal composition dedicated to José Rizal upon his exile and deportation to Dapitan by the Spanish colonial government. *Pag-ibig*, composed in 1897 in the style of the *danza habanera*, was possibly dedicated to his future wife Gregoria de Jesus, the widow of Andres Bonifacio. *Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan*, commissioned by Bonifacio, was composed in November 1896 and is said to be the first national anthem of the country. The anthem taken from a native musical form *dalit* hails freedom from the Spanish colonizers.

At the end of the performance was the singing of *Bayan Ko* (My Country), a musical piece written in the 1920s which elicits yearnings of freedom and patriotism. Its original Spanish text was penned by the propagandist Jose Alejandrino, and was later translated into Tagalog by José Corazon de Jesus with music by Constancio de Guzman.

UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe bags gold in Cheerleading competition in Singapore



The UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe, (SDT) with Coach Trisha Marie R. Chua (front row, fourth from left) brings home the gold in the Open Freestyle Pom Division during the Asia Cheerleading Invitational Championship held from April 6 to 7, 2019 in Singapore.



In the Team Cheer Open All-Girl Premier category of the same competition, the SDT, accompanied by Coach Trisha Marie R. Chua (rightmost, second row) and Coach Mark Chaiwalla (leftmost, second row), wins silver.

UNIVERSITY VISITORS

Delegation from Royal Thai Embassy in the Philippines



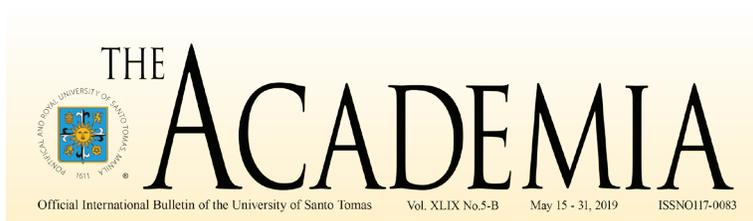
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Philippines His Excellency Vasin Ruangprateepsaeng (third from left), Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission Ms. Urawadee Sriphiromya (fifth from left), Second Secretary Mr. Aditat Panupong (leftmost), and Consul and Head of Chancery Ms. Pachongwat Yuckpan (rightmost) during their visit to the University on May 20, 2019. With them are: UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Jesús M. Miranda, Jr., O.P. (fourth from left), and UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D.

Representatives from Clare Media



Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Restorative Justice Chaplain Rev Fr. Paul Griesgraber (rightmost), St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Director of Liturgy Ms. Clarissa Martinez (second from left) and guests from Clare Media during their visit to the University on May 20, 2019

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Address all communications to the Office of Public Affairs, University of Santo Tomas España Boulevard, Manila, 1015 Philippines

For comments and suggestions, contact us at (+632) 406.1611 local 8315 or (+632) 731.3544. You may also send them via fax at (+632) 740.9727

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