



# THE ACADEMIA

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Dr. Aguinaldo (Photo courtesy of Fotomasino)



Dr. Destura (Photo courtesy of Philippine Genome Center)



Dr. Gallardo (Photo courtesy of awardee)

## Three UST alumni are among 2020 Asian Scientist 100

Every year since its inception in 2016, 100 top scientists from Asia are named by the Singapore-based Asian Scientist Magazine acknowledging and honoring the most outstanding researchers from the region. To qualify for the honor, the recipient must have received a national or international prize in the year preceding the award. Otherwise, the recipient must have made a significant scientific discovery or provided leadership in the academe or industry.

For the year 2020, with the award now on its fifth year, 11 Filipinos were included in the prestigious list, and three among them were graduates of the University of Santo Tomas.

Dr. Alicia Mascardo Aguinaldo, a 1976 BS Chemistry graduate from the College of Science, Dr. Raul Destura, a medical doctor who graduated from the College of Science in 1992 with a degree in Microbiology, and Dr. Susan Manalastas Gallardo, a Chemical Engineer who graduated from the Faculty of Engineering in 1976.

Aguinaldo was recognized for her research on Philippine plants that have medicinal properties. On May 28, 2019, she received from the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies the Shimadzu Achievement Award for Chemical Research for her studies on the anti-tuberculosis and anti-diabetic properties of Philippine plants. She is a retired faculty member of the College of Science but currently teaches at the UST Graduate School, and is part of a project under the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care. She is also a researcher at the UST Research Center for the Natural Sciences.

**2020 ASIAN SCIENTIST 100 TO PAGE 2**

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2020 ASIAN SCIENTIST 100  
FROM PAGE 1



Asst. Dean Balog, awardee in 2019



Dr. Rosales, awardee in 2017

Destura is currently connected with the National Institutes of Health of the University of the Philippines. He headed the team of UP Manila researchers that developed an affordable rapid dengue diagnostic kit Biotek-M Dengue Aqua Kit. This is now manufactured by Manila Health Tek, Inc., a spinoff health tech startup that he heads. It is the same entity that developed the country's first and only locally produced real time-polymerase chain reaction swab test for COVID.

Destura was awarded the 2019 Presidential Lingkod Bayan Award for his creation of the award-winning Biotek-M dengue Aqua Kit for faster, more affordable and accessible dengue diagnosis.

Gallardo received the David M. Consunji Award for Engineering Research 2019 for her work in environmental engineering and catalysis, as well as industrial and hazardous waste treatment and management. She was a University Fellow and retired professor of Chemical Engineering at De La Salle University (DLSU). She is still actively involved in research and consultancy at the DLSU Center for Engineering Sustainable Development Research. Currently, she is the lead proponent of a project funded by DLSU University Research Coordination Office under the Retired Fellows Research Grant, "Greening a Selected Community in the Philippines".

Through the DLSU Intellectual Property Office, Gallardo recently received a patent for a water filtration system. She also has utility model registration for a photocatalyst of titania with activated carbon through the Department of Science and Technology - Technology Application and Promotion Institute. She is likewise actively involved in community outreach programs related to solid waste management, water resources engineering, wastewater treatment, and hazardous waste management.

The other Filipino scientists awarded were: (4) Carlos Arcilla, the executive director of the DOST-Philippine Nuclear Research Institute that is leading the country's push to harness nuclear power to bring down the country's high power cost; (5) engineer Robert Dizon, the executive director of the DOST-Metals Industry

Research and Development Center that developed the Hybrid Electric Road Train; (6) former UP president and National Scientist Emil Javier; (7) Emma Sales of the University of Southern Mindanao; (8) Cleotilde Hidalgo How of UP Manila; (9) the late Alonzo Gabriel of UP Diliman; (10) Raymond Tan of the De La Salle University; and (11) Joselito Chavez of the National Kidney and Transplant Institute who was awarded for his trailblazing work on the use of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in severe cases of leptospirosis.

With the three UST alumni included in the 2020 Asian Scientist 100, it now brings to a total of five Thomasian Asian scientists. In 2019, Faculty of Engineering Assistant Dean Ricardo S. Balog was conferred the award for having received the 2018 Mario Cruel Award for Advanced Engineering Technology Application for his research on low-cost medical devices. Balog graduated from UST with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1980.

In 2017, the first Thomasian to have been part of the prestigious list was Dr. Raymond L. Rosales who obtained his degree in Medicine in 1981. Rosales, a professor who has led a number of international, multi-center clinical trials, was awarded the 2016 Philippines Promising Star Award for his work in neurology and behavioral science.

Among the other prominent members in the 2020 Asian Scientist 100 was Akira Yoshino of the Asahi Kasei Corp., who was awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for creating the world's first commercially viable lithium-ion battery in 1985.

Another Nobel Prize winner in the list was Yang Chen-Ning of China's Tsinghua University, who received the 2019 Qiu Shi Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to theoretical physics. Yang was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for his work on parity non-conservation of weak interactions.

The Singapore-based Asian Scientist Magazine is an award-winning science and technology magazine that highlights the "best and most exciting" science and technology stories from Asia bringing them to a global audience.

CTRSE to  
research state  
of Philippine  
Christianity

The UST Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics (CTRSE) was granted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) the privilege to research on "The Present State of the Philippine Christianity" in line with the celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christianity in the Philippines in 2021.

The main objective of the project is to describe the current state of the Catholic Church in the Philippines, its historical context, challenges, and future. The essential aspect of the celebration of 500 years of Christianity is the historical dimension.

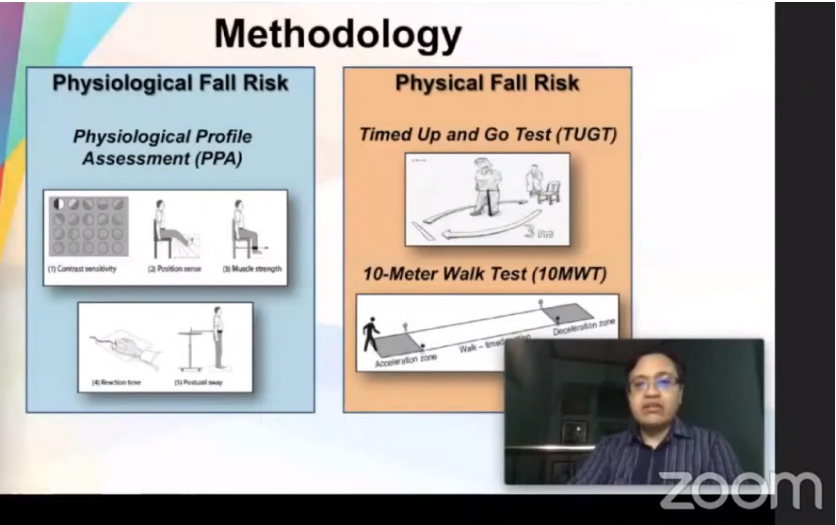
The 500th anniversary calls on the Catholic Church in the Philippines for an intense reflection inside and outside. As Bishop Broderick Pabillo, then auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Manila, has succinctly expressed in the CBCP Plenary Assembly, "So what if we are celebrating 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines?" Implying that the more important question is to ask about the future of the Church.

This study is significant in the on-going introspection of the CBCP regarding the relevance and the future of the Philippine Catholic Church amidst the growing social issues, concerns, and faith-life of the Catholic faithful and the Philippine society in general.

In the words of Bishop Pablo David, there is a need for a comprehensive data to serve as a basis for deciding if it is now high time for the Philippine Church to convene its Third Plenary Council. The research study aims, therefore, primarily to assist the Bishops, through the CBCP, to have a credible and scientific basis of understanding the present state of Philippine Catholic Christianity for the renewal and relevance of the Church in the years to come.

CTRSE Director Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, OP, is the project supervisor, while Dr. Pablito A. Baybado, Jr., is the project head. Providing their expertise are: Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., (Church History), Dr. Emmanuel Batoon, (Political Science), Asst. Prof. Chris Esparagoza (Theology), Dr. Clarence Batan (Sociology). Research Center for Social Sciences and Education Director Dr. Belinda de Castro, is the project consultant.

Lipardo of CRS discusses  
fall risks among geriatric  
population at scientific  
conference



Dr. Lipardo presents his research at the online conference.

The geriatric population has often been the subject of research by Assoc. Prof. Donald S. Lipardo, Ph.D., a faculty member of the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences. Among the elderly, he explains that falling is a common accident that leads from minor to major physical injuries, or even death. The aging process which involves factors like blurring vision, decreasing muscle strength, declining reaction times, problems with standing balance, and decreasing walking speed can put older adults at risk of falling. Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) can also predispose them to fall, explained Lipardo in an online interview.

This study on the risk of falling among the elderly was presented during the 11th Metro Manila Health Research and Development Consortium Annual Scientific Conference (MMHRDC) held on October 21, 2020.

"[The study] was conducted to look into the possibility that older persons with MCI are more vulnerable to experience fall because the bodily and physical risks of falling are more prominently seen among them compared to other older persons with normal cognitive function," Lipardo explained.

Garnering third place in the Oral Research Presentation Competition for his work which was titled "Physiological and physical risks of falling in community-dwelling older adults with and without mild cognitive impairment: A cross sectional study", Lipardo explained how this went.

His team was able to find 230 older adults who consented to participate in the study, and from this group it was found that those with decreased cognitive function, even if it was just a mild form, were possibly at greater risk of falling because some of their bodily functions such as visual sensitivity, reaction time, control of balance in standing were significantly lower compared to their peers with normal cognitive ability.

"This means that we need to be more proactive by keeping these body functions optimal among older persons, particularly those with cognitive problems, to minimize their risk of falling and prevent them from incurring a fall," recommended Lipardo.

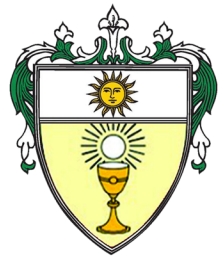
Noting that the geriatric population is one of the sectors that has been

LIPARDO OF CRS TO PAGE 5



# NEWS

## Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education grants incorporation of DWIMS Tagaytay to UST Faculty of Sacred Theology



The Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education by its Decree (Prot. N. 491/2014) issued on July 25, 2020, has granted the Incorporation of Divine Word Institute of Mission Studies (DWIMS), run by the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) in Tagaytay City, to the Faculty of Sacred Theology of the Pontifical University of Santo Tomas.

Incorporation is the highest level of ecclesiastical academic collaboration that enables the Faculty to grant canonical Licentiate and Doctorate degrees in Theology, major in Mission Studies, through the incorporated Institute.

This is an important milestone for the Church in Asia since DWIMS serves as a training ground in mission, not only for the 15 SVD Provinces in Asia but also for many other students from the continent who wish to specialize in Mission Studies.

## VR for Research and Innovation Maribel Nonato is PRC's '2020 Outstanding Professional in Chemistry'

The Pandan Queen has yet another feather added to her cap. The University of Santo Tomas Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation Prof Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., is the 2020 Outstanding Professional in the field of Chemistry awarded by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). While conferment ceremonies will take place on December 4, 2020, the announcement was made through a letter from PRC Commissioner Yolanda D. Reyes dated September 18, 2020.

Dr. Nonato, who once served as dean of the College of Science and director of the UST Research Center, before she was appointed as the University's first Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, is known as the "Pandan Queen" for her numerous research on the Pandan plant. She paved the way for other scientists' research into the chemical properties of endemic *pandanus* species in the Philippines. Her association with the plant has been so widespread that in August 2020, a researcher, her advisee in the Graduate School, Dr. Christina Tan, even

named a newly discovered Pandan species after her — *Freycinetia nonatoi*.

In June 2020, the Vice-Rector was also recognized as an Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) under the Department of Science and Technology for her invaluable contributions to scientific research.

Nonato obtained both her Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from the University of Santo Tomas, while her Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry degree was obtained from the University of Wollongong in Australia. She received the 2017 Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies - Shimadzu Achievement Award in Chemical Research, the 2016 Philippine Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology (PhilAAST) Gregorio Y. Zara Achievement Award for Basic Research, and the 2006 National Research Council of the Philippines Achievement Award in Chemical Sciences. She is the past President of the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies, Inc. (PFCS) and the Organic Chemistry Teachers Association. Currently, she serves as President of the



Prof. Nonato

Natural Products Society of the Philippines.

Nonato joins Professor Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla, III, Ph.D., a fellow NAST Academician, also a former dean of the College of Science, and multi-awarded and equally renowned UST researcher who was recognized by PRC as the Outstanding Professional in Chemistry in 2002.

## Esguerra of Arts and Letters is named 2020 Marshall McLuhan Fellow



Esguerra (right) and Canadian Ambassador MacArthur during the livestream of the Jaime V. Ongpin Journalism Seminar

Faculty of Arts and Letters mentor and ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC) anchor Asst. Prof. Christian Esguerra was named the 2020 Marshall McLuhan Fellow. He received the award on October 9, 2020, during the virtual Jaime V. Ongpin Journalism Seminar (JVOJS), an annual event organized by the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR).

Canadian Ambassador to the Philippines Peter MacArthur noted that Esguerra was chosen as someone "whose passion for the craft transcends new platforms and whose proficient mastery to discover and explain the facts restricts the space for disinformation to thrive."

As a McLuhan Fellow, Esguerra will deliver lectures across Canada and the Philippines in March, meet with media practitioners in Canada, and members of the Canadian government.

Named after the Canadian communication theorist Marshall McLuhan, who was a towering figure in media studies most known for the phrase 'The medium is the message,' the award is given annually to a Filipino journalist who exhibited excellent work in the preceding year.

The McLuhan Fellowship comes a year after Esguerra - who teaches at the Communication and Media Studies Department of the Faculty of Arts and

Letters and is a Research Fellow at the UST Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities - was conferred the Titus Brandsma Award for Emergent Leadership in Journalism in 2019. He also received the Award of Distinction from CMFR last year. Esguerra was a reporter for the Philippine Daily Inquirer before he transferred to ABS-CBN. The editor in chief of the Varsity, the official student publication of the University of Santo Tomas, Esguerra graduated *cum Laude* from the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters in 2000.

Currently, Esguerra hosts "Matters of Fact," a 30-minute political talk segment on ANC's online newscast where he engages experts and policymakers in timely conversations. He also has a podcast titled "Facts First with Christian Esguerra," available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

The CMFR began partnering with the Canadian Embassy in the Philippines for the establishment of the McLuhan Fellowship in 1997. Previous recipients include co-founder of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism Sheila Coronel, Rappler Managing Editor and Thomasian Glenda Gloria, ABS-CBN broadcast journalist Jeff Canoy, GMA News reporter Joseph Morong, among many others.

## RESEARCH

### LIPARDO OF CRS FROM PAGE 3

greatly affected by the lockdown due to the pandemic, Lipardo stressed the importance of remaining physically active even when one is simply at home.

"To improve their standing balance and leg muscle strength, [older adults] can do a series of exercises near a stable chair or table such as marching-in-place, partial squats, lunges, heel, and toe raises, stepping forward/backward/sideward, sit-to-stand for about 20-30 minutes per day for three times a week. It could be done with family members around so that it could also be a fun family-bonding session," he said.

Currently a researcher for the UST Center for Health Research and Movement Science (CHRMS), Lipardo has been a licensed physical therapist for the past 21 years. In the last decade of researching with his students and interns where they recruit older adults as participants, he noticed that senior citizens have not been given enough attention on how they can experience a more active and healthy journey in life as they age. It was this realization that prompted him to decide to be in the field of Geriatric Rehabilitation, a relatively new field of specialization in Physical Therapy.

A renowned PT educator and one of the pioneers in advancing the care for the geriatric population, Lipardo was named the Outstanding Professional in the field of Physical Therapy by the Professional Regulation Commission in 2015.

Last year, Lipardo obtained his Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Medicine degree from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, while both his Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy and his Master of Science in Physical Therapy degrees were earned from the University of Santo Tomas, in 1999 and 2003, respectively.



# Grad Sch mentor is recognized as PRC ‘2020 Outstanding Professional of the Year for Real Estate Service’

Acknowledged as the ‘Father of Philippine Real Estate,’ UST Graduate School faculty member Dr. Eduardo G. Ong was recognized as the 2020 Outstanding Professional of the Year for Real Estate Service by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) of the Philippines.

Having been involved in real estate for over 30 years as a real estate broker, appraiser, and consultant, Dr. Ong, in an online interview commented, “I felt so honored and elated that my long years of working in Real Estate has finally been recognized by the PRC.”

Aside from his passion and commitment to the practice and training in real estate, the awardee has also written books on Real Estate Management.

When asked what initially prompted him to dedicate many years of his professional life to this field, Ong said that his interest in Real Estate started when he was only 14 years old.

“Our residential house in Malabon was foreclosed by the bank because my widowed mother was not able to pay the loan on time due to extreme poverty. I always accompanied my mother to the bank in those instances when she pleaded with them not to foreclose our abode, but

to no avail,” he recalled.

“Then we were referred to a real estate broker to find a buyer for our foreclosed property, and that real estate broker made a handsome commission from selling our house. That transaction, I will never forget. So I decided that when I grow up, I would be a real estate broker,” Ong shared.

His passion for Real Estate led him to eventually become the first Chairman of the Professional Regulatory Board of Real Estate Service (PRBRES), the first Chairman of the Continuing Professional Development Council (CPD), and a two-term president of the Philippine Association of Professional Regulatory Board members (PAPRB), among many other posts that he has held.

Besides teaching at the UST Graduate School, which has been for a decade now, Ong is currently the president and CEO of the EdwardKing Global Consultants, Inc. He also hosts a live program available on YouTube and Facebook, “I-konsulta mo kay Doc E.G. (Usapang Lupa at Negosyo)” every Sunday which focuses on real estate issues and development to help practitioners to discharge their functions ethically. He also hosts a regular radio program on DWIZ 882 every Wednesday: “Usapang Lupa at Negosyo sa Pilipinas Ngayon Na.”



Dr. Ong

Ong obtained his Bachelor of Science in Commerce, Masters in Business Administration, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy degrees from the University of Santo Tomas. In addition to these, he also holds a Bachelor of Laws degree, a Doctor of Public Administration degree (DPA), and a Doctor in Business Administration degree (DBA) from different institutions. He has written six books on Real Estate Management, Economics, Research Methodology, Marketing Management, Sociology, and Asian Civilization.

## 75TH YEAR OF END OF PACIFIC WAR FROM PAGE 6

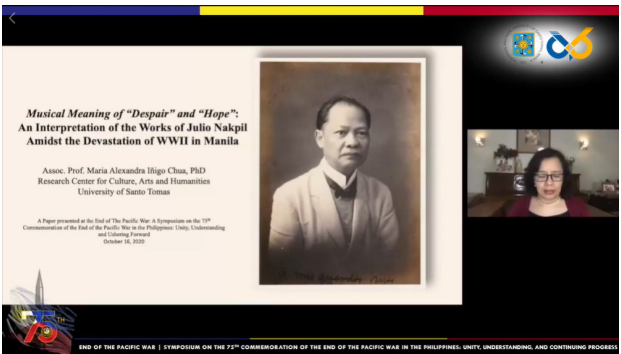
The event was an extension of the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Santo Tomas Internment Camp which was celebrated on February 3, 2020. Conducted virtually, it featured academic presentations from the University of Santo Tomas, University of the Philippines, and De La Salle University. Speeches were delivered by officials from the Department of National Defense, the Embassy of the United States, the Embassy of Japan, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office, the Philippine Veterans Bank, and the Provincial Government of Bataan. Keynote speakers were the Pulitzer Prize Nominated Author Prof. James Scott from the United States, and Chuo University Distinguished Professor Prof. Ohno Takushi, from Japan.

Although inevitable, this symposium was not intended to relive the wounds, traumas, and horrors inflicted by the Pacific War on the countries involved. On the contrary, the primary objective of the event was to bring about healing and to usher in forward-looking progress among the three countries by enriching historical knowledge and emphasizing new findings of the Filipino experience during the Japanese occupation and the Pacific War.

This symposium, which was organized in partnership with the Department of National Defense-Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (DND-PVAO), Embassy of the United States to the Philippines, Embassy of Japan in the Philippines, Philippine Veterans Bank, Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority-Mt. Samat Tourism Enterprise Zone (TIEZA-Mt. Samat FTEZ), and the Provincial Government of Bataan, became an avenue for the recollection and discussion of the lessons brought about by the Pacific War in the Philippines and the Japanese occupation. The organizers hoped that the symposium has encouraged national researchers and research centers to continue their study on the impact of the Pacific War, its memories and legacies, to improve relations among the Philippines, Japan, and the United States.



National Historical Commission of the Philippines Chairman Dr. Escalante gives his message.



RCCAHA Director Dr. Chua presents her work.

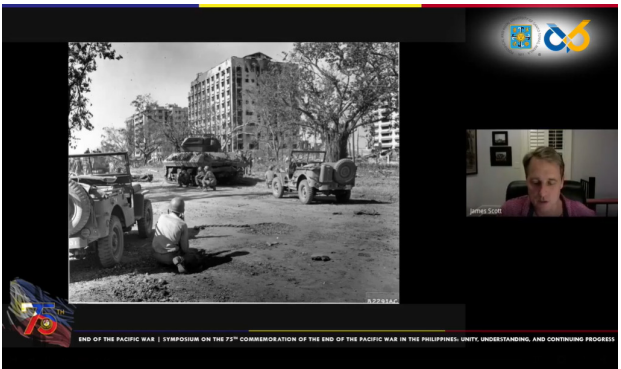
## LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

### UST RCCAH, Dept. of History commemorate 75th year of End of Pacific War in PH

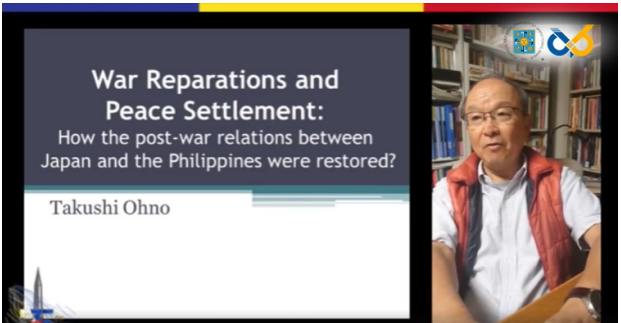
Seventy-five years after the end of the Pacific War, people still gather to mark its significance. In UST, a symposium was held to commemorate it.

On 16 October 2020, the UST Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities (RCCAHA) and the UST Department of History virtually observed the 75th anniversary of the End of the Pacific War in the Philippines with a symposium that featured speeches and academic presentations which memorialized the lessons of the war. It aimed to promote unity and understanding, and to bring about progress in the relationship of the Philippines with Japan and the United States.

## 75TH YEAR OF END OF PACIFIC WAR TO PAGE 7



“Rampage” author James Scott speaks on the Battle of Manila.



Dr. Takushi begins his presentation.

END OF THE PACIFIC WAR SYMPOSIUM ON THE 75 <sup>TH</sup> COMMEMORATION OF THE END OF THE PACIFIC WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES: UNITY, UNDERSTANDING, AND USHERING PROGRESS	
SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS	
1 PROF. JAMES H. SCOTT “The Battle of Manila & Beyond”	2 PROF. OHNO TAKUSHI “War Reparations and Peace Settlement: How the post-war relations between Japan and the Philippines were restored?”
DR. MARCELINO MACAPINAG “The Battle of Manila & Beyond: How the Battle of Manila was a turning point in the Japanese occupation of the Philippines?”	DR. ARNOLD S. SIBOS “Japanese Military, Espionage Program in the Philippines: Origins, Development, and Impact”
ASST. PROF. JOSE VICTOR JIMENEZ “The Battle of Manila & Beyond: How the Battle of Manila was a turning point in the Japanese occupation of the Philippines?”	DR. JAMES EDUARDO ALFONSO, RA “Reflections from the Other Side: How the Battle of Manila was a turning point in the Japanese occupation of the Philippines?”
DR. RA. ALEXANDRA I. CHUA “Musical Meaning of ‘Despair’ and ‘Hope’: An Interpretation of the Works of Julio Nakpil Amidst the Devastation of WWII in Manila”	3 DR. AUGUSTO DU VIGARA “History, Myth, and the Historical Truth of the Battle of Manila”
DR. RICARDO JOSE “The End of the War in the Philippines: August 1945”	4 DR. RICARDO JOSE, JR. “Developing the Tacloban Memorial of the Battle of the Marikina River in 1945”
DR. JOSE VICTOR TORRES “The Battle of Manila & Beyond: How the Battle of Manila was a turning point in the Japanese occupation of the Philippines?”	DR. JIMENEZ F. TACQUAN “The Battle of Manila & Beyond: How the Battle of Manila was a turning point in the Japanese occupation of the Philippines?”



# CTRSE holds online symposium series on ‘Remembering *Tatay Bido*: a man of dialogue’

In celebration of the 2020 Year of Ecumenism, Interreligious Dialogue and Indigenous Peoples, the University of Santo Tomas Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics (CTRSE) organized the online symposium series about the vision, thoughts, and life of Bishop Bienvenido S. Tutud: ‘the Father of Interreligious Dialogue in the Philippines.’

Bishop Benny or Tatay Bido (1931-1987) as he was affectionately called by his flock and friends, is known as the Father of Interreligious dialogue in the Philippines. He was appointed as the first Bishop of the newly created prelature of Marawi, a jurisdiction consisting of only four parishes, with more than 90% Muslim population on April 25, 1977. Inspired by Pope Paul VI, and as mandated by his appointment as Bishop of Marawi, he would dedicate his life and ministry to pursuing harmonious Christian, Muslim and Indigenous relations through dialogue.

The prelate was a man of dialogue, simplicity, humility with a profound love for his Muslim and indigenous sisters and brothers. Thus, symposium organizers find it is most fitting to remember and celebrate his life and visions of peace through dialogue in this year of Interreligious Dialogue, Ecumenism and Indigenous Peoples.

The online Symposium Series which is already on its third installment with the first held in June, is the Center’s tribute to Tatay Bido who selflessly served the people of Mindanao. The series also celebrates the seeds of his friendship and the hope he lit in his ministry, and allows the participants to learn from his thoughts and deeds, the approaches towards dialogue and harmony.

It is also the Center’s contribution to the celebration of the 500th year of Christianity in the Philippines.

In line with the Season of Creation celebration, the third symposium in the

series, held in September 2020, was about “Dialogue of Life and Faith in Ecology.” The earth as a common home provides the landscape, in the words of Tatay Bido, for the Muslims and Christians to offer themselves toward dialogue in order to “discover the face of God in the other,” and as a consequence “to rise above prejudices” and “build happy memories for tomorrow.”

The symposium featured key environmentalist speakers, namely, Religions for Peace Philippines Secretary-General and UST Office of International Relations and Programs Director Dr. Lilian J. Sison, Global Catholic Climate Movement-Pilipinas Chairperson Fr. John Leydon, SSC, and Eco Theologian, Missionary Society of St. Columban, JPIC Priorities Researcher, Columban Ecological Institute Officer Fr. Sean McDonagh, SSC.

The second installment was held in August with the theme “*Maayong Good Morning... Friends of Tatay Bido Reunion.*” “*Maayong good morning,*” the favorite cordial greetings of Tatay Bido at any time of the day, speaks of his profound respect for, at the same time, welcoming the other in his cheerful smiles.

The symposium was the unpacking of the various layers, both personal and interpersonal, of the “*Maayong good morning*” as a greeting to invite others for a genuine dialogue of faith and life in the vision and life of Tatay Bido through the lens of his closest friends.

Fr. Carlos Reyes, the co-founder of the UniHarmony Partners Manila and the Minister of the Archdiocese of Manila Ministry of Interfaith and Ecumenical Affairs gave the welcome remarks.

The Inaugural Symposium, held in June 2020, featured the experiences and testimonies of Bishop, Prelature of St. Mary in Marawi Most Rev. Edwin dela Peña, St. John Vianney Theological Seminary Formation Center Lay Member Ms. Venus Guibone, and Ranao Muslim-Christian Movement for Dialogue and Peace Chairman Dr. Moctar I. Matuan,



+ Bishop Bienvenido S. Tutud

CBCP Commission on Interreligious Dialogue Executive Secretary Fr. Sebastiano D’Ambra, PIME, delivered the welcome remarks, while UST CTRSE Director Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., delivered the closing remarks.

The online series was organized by the CTRSE in cooperation with the UniHarmony Partners’ Manila, the Global Climate Catholic Movement-Pilipinas, the Prelature of St. Mary’s in Marawi, CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Interreligious Dialogue and Religions for Peace Philippines.

The members of the secretariat are Dr. Pablito Baybado, Jr. of the UST-CTRSE, Fr. Rex Rocamora, SSC of the Columban missionaries, and John Din of the GCCM-Pilipinas.

# Lincoln of Nanyang Technological University speaks on ‘Education for a VUCA World’ at Arts and Letters webinar

“The pandemic has resulted in a change of perspective as to the way education should be conducted. The need for adaptability,” as Faculty of Arts and Letters Dean Prof. Marilu R. Madrunio, Ph.D., stated in her opening remarks in the webinar conducted on October 23, 2020, “is necessary at this time of extreme VUCA world.”

What is a VUCA world?

VUCA is an acronym for volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. VUCA is a concept that is used to characterize the current environment and the leadership required to navigate it. It characterizes the nature of some difficult conditions and situations, such as the limitations in movement and social interaction that we experience now brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The guest speaker, Nanyang Technological University National Institute of Education Visual and Performing Arts

Head Mr. Paul Benedict Lincoln, explained what could help educators make learning and re-learning, growing and adapting intrinsic, in this VUCA world.

“We want our children to learn to love to learn. We have to know how to bring joy to our lessons,” he started. Lincoln cited that Outcome-Based Education (OBE) builds upon student mastery and understands why proficiency matters. To drive his point home, the speaker constructed a hypothetical lesson: ‘Riding Bikes for Beginners.’

With the use of technology, schools can hold classes, albeit virtually. Online classes are either held synchronously or asynchronously. Lincoln gave examples of applications that could be used in both methods such as live stream, Zoom, polling software Mentimeter for synchronous



Mr. Paul Benedict Lincoln

LINCOLN OF NANYANG TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY TO PAGE 11

# Canadian Professor talks about democracy, human rights at TEC COVID-19 Colloquy Webinar



Prof. Sorpong Peou

Ryerson University Professor Sorpong Peou, Ph.D., talked about “Democracy and Human Rights” in the second part of the TEC COVID-19 Colloquy Series held on September 12, 2020, with the theme, “Understanding 21st Century Democracy: A Call for Teacher Agency.”

Peou, who is affiliated with the Department of Politics and Public Administration of Ryerson University, Canada, underscored the democracy and human rights situation in Southeast Asia, which have come under threat during the last two decades. He explained that it is not simply because countries in the region lack a liberal cultural tradition but also because of the rise of China and the relative decline

of the United States, especially after President Donald Trump came to power in 2017 with a nationalist agenda.

The panel of reactors composed of Mr. Rowel Padernal and Dr. Ethel Agnes Valenzuela, accentuated human rights and support for teachers and administrators to overcome this pandemic.

This webinar session, organized by the University of Santo Tomas – Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (RCSSSE) and the Teacher Education Council (TEC) of the Department of Education, was participated in by 110 public school teachers, master teachers, and supervisors from all over the country. Asst. Prof. Katrina Ninfa Topacio was Master of Ceremonies.



# UST CTHM, RCSSED team up for 1st CTHM Virtual Tourism and Hospitality Conference 2020



Posters featuring the panel discussants and speakers

The University of Santo Tomas College of Tourism and Hospitality Management (UST CTHM), in partnership with the Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines, Inc. (ATOP), organized the 1st CTHM Virtual Tourism and Hospitality Conference 2020 under THM52016: Tourism Policy, Planning, and Development course, with the theme “Philippine Tourism Development and COVID-19 Pandemic: Recovery through Sustainable Development.”

This virtual event was held via Zoom on October 23, 2020, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and was officially promoted by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) through its Tourism for SDGs Virtual Platform. It was viewed via the Official Facebook Page of UST CTHM (UST College of Tourism and Hospitality Management).

The conference theme highlighted the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on domestic destinations’ tourism development in the Philippines. It also underscored the recovery policies, goals, plans, programs, and projects that the local government units (LGU) could implement.

Panel discussants shared their expertise on the following topics: Municipal Government of Tanay, Rizal Senior Tourism Operations Officer Dr. Jeffrey

M. Pino, EnP, discussed “Sustainable Tourism Recovery Plan in a Municipality Level” while Provincial Government of Capiz Provincial Tourism and Cultural Affairs Officer Mr. Alphonsus D. Tesoro, talked about “Sustainable Tourism Recovery Plan in a Provincial Level.”

City Government of Davao Tourism Operations Officer Ms. Reginal Rosa D. Tecson shared on “Sustainable Tourism Recovery Plan in a City Level,” while Department of Tourism Region VIII Regional Director Dir. Karina Rosa Santiago Tiopes, CESO III, discussed “Sustainable Tourism Recovery Plan in a Regional Level.”

Following the panel discussion were the responses from the panel of reactors: UST Tourism and Hospitality Management Alumni Association, Inc. President Mr. Jerrold G. Gacula represented the Tourism Industry while CTHM Tourism Management Department faculty member Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., represented the academe. Joining them was UST SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office Director Froilan A. Alipao, who represented the local community.



# Vizconde, Lontoc of UST Grad Sch present papers on Adult Education, Family Literacy, impact of COVID-19 on learning at international webinars



Speakers for the international conference on Family Literacy and Indigenous Learning

A virtual learning discussion on the topic of Family Literacy and Indigenous Learning: Perspectives from Malawi, Nepal, the Philippines, and Ethiopia was held virtually on October 19, 2020.

The webinar presented the preliminary findings from the UKRI-funded research project, ‘Family Literacy, Indigenous Learning and Sustainable Development’ which aimed to develop an alternative model of family literacy that builds on indigenous knowledge and daily learning.

Team members shared their ethnographic research on indigenous approaches to intergenerational learning in Malawi, Nepal, the Philippines and Ethiopia, and explored literacy practices relating to diverse livelihoods, religious beliefs, health, and agro-forestry.

The paper presenters were: Dr. Camila Vizconde of the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines; Mr. Abiy Menkir, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia; Dr. Sushan Acharya, Tribhuvan University, Nepal; Dr. Jean Chavula, Malawi University, Malawi; and Professor Anna Robinson Pant, University of East Anglia. The organizers of this webinar were the School of Lifelong Learning and the School of International

Development of the University of East Anglia.

The UNESCO Chair in Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation at the University of East Anglia and the British Association for Literacy in Development (BALID) in the United Kingdom conducted a webinar titled, ‘COVID-19 and its impact on Adult Learning and Education’ on September 30, 2020.

This literacy discussion explored the potential effects of the pandemic to Adult Learning and Educational (ALE) programs in the contrasting and varying contexts of Afghanistan, the Philippines, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

Drawing from the reflections that were presented, it is hoped that a better understanding of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic to the ALE programs, would lead to the opening up of discussions on how the academia, governments, and civil society actors could better engage their target sector with opportunities and challenges in the post-pandemic period.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LEARNING TO PAGE 14

## LINCOLN OF NANYANG TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY FROM PAGE 9

classes, and pre-recorded videos, the university Learning Management System, and 3D simulations as possible software for asynchronous classes.

Well-researched on the University, Lincoln even mentioned that the Institutional Intended Learning Outcome or ILO for UST learners is embodied in SEAL which stands for Servant leader, Effective communicator, Analytical and creative thinker, and Lifelong learner.

Sharing his observations about going Online or Blended, Lincoln reminded his teacher-audience that “The decision to use one over the other relies on the intrinsic motivation of the learner; it re-draws or re-defines our behavior in the classroom.” He reiterated that what we do now will shape how our learners will continue to learn outside the university.

As he closed his lecture, Lincoln gave what he called his “Six Final Statements” to highlight the most salient points of his talk to the 120 participants of the webinar organized by the Faculty of Arts and Letters, and apparently, to underscore what the teachers have to bring with them to their virtual classrooms.

The six are: (1) design mind-set or disposition; have an expanded view of OBE, (2) social learning encourages collaboration and constructivism, (3) authenticity is crucial for learner fulfillment, (4) work backward from ILO to Lesson Activity and avoid teacher centricity, (5) assessments can be used to grow learners, not to rank them, and (6) technology is the literacy and enabler for the re-learning of tomorrow.

An open forum moderated by Arts and Letters Faculty Secretary Asst. Prof. Zenia Rodriguez followed the lecture that was made possible through the Zoom platform.



# Filipino mentors from University of Hawaii share expertise in teaching Filipino as second language



UH Manoa Asst. Prof. Dr. Pagkalinawan, gives a glimpse of the profile of the Filipino heritage language learners of their institution.

Asst. Prof. Leticia Cantal-Pagkalinawan, Ph.D., and Assoc. Prof. Rodney C. Jubilado, Ph.D., are both Filipinos teaching Filipino as a Second Language (TFSL) at the University of Hawaii. They were invited by the University of Santo Tomas (UST) College of Education to share their best practices in TFSL in light of online learning to their counterparts from the University through a webinar titled “Anong Bago: Ang Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawang Wika sa Bagong Normal” (What’s New: The Teaching of Filipino as a Second Language).

The webinar, live-streamed through the official Facebook Page of the Department, was held on September 30, 2020, in celebration of the National Teachers’ Month which is observed from September 5 to October 5 each year. It was organized by the UST Department of Filipino under the College of Education, in cooperation with the Office of International Relations and Programs, as part of its Knowledge Exchange Series (KES).

In her opening remarks, College of Education Dean Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D., recognized that we are living in a VUCA world, that is, vulnerable, uncertain,

complex, and ambiguous, which was exacerbated by the current pandemic. However, she encouraged the participants to be resilient, with a kind of resilience that is rooted in the heart. She further explained that the real “new normal” is our ability to respond to the challenges of forming new insights regarding language, especially on its power to affect not only the thoughts

## FILIPINO MENTORS TO PAGE 13



UH Hilo Division of Humanities Chair Dr. Jubilado introduces his topic.

## FILIPINO MENTORS FROM PAGE 12



UST College of Education Dean Romero opens the KES.

but even our feelings and decisions. She believes that language is a driving force that can change the VUCA world.

Serving as resource persons of the KES were the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH Manoa) Asst. Prof. Leticia Cantal-Pagkalinawan, Ph.D., and the University of Hawaii at Hilo (UH Hilo) Division of Humanities Chair and Assoc. Prof. Rodney C. Jubilado, Ph.D.

Pagkalinawan began her lecture by introducing the demographics of Hawaii, a US state that is home to Asian ethnicities with Filipino Americans comprising the most number followed by Japanese Americans, Chinese Americans, and Korean Americans. The UH Manoa, the institution where she teaches, is the only HEI in the US offering a full-fledged degree program in Filipino, the BA Filipino Language, Literature and Culture.

According to Pagkalinawan, Filipino Americans pursue programs and courses in the Filipino language, culture, and literature to learn about their heritage language, discover the culture of their origin, and fully understand their identity. Meanwhile, non-Filipino students pursue the said programs and courses to establish a deeper connection with their Filipino friends and colleagues. Pagkalinawan discussed some of the approaches she uses in TFSL, such as Project-Based Learning, Task-Based Teaching and Learning, and Flipped Classroom. She also shared the array of learner-centered technologies she employs in TFSL.

In his lecture, Dr. Rodney Jubilado discussed the value of considering the profile, migration history, family structure, and linguistic repertoire of learners to design effective language

programs and courses. He provided benchmarks of TFSL by sharing the Filipino Studies Program and Curriculum of UH Hilo, which is basically culture and natural resources-based. This was followed by the discussion of the fundamentals of a TFSL classroom, such as its syllabus, learning process, and expected outputs on the lexical, sentential, and discourse levels.

Some of the topics on TFSL that Jubilado suggested include daily expressions and greetings, basic communicative acts in Filipino, giving description and instruction, basic Filipino grammar and vocabulary, and introduction to Filipino culture. Meanwhile, some of the strategies that may be used in TFSL are conversations, narrative essay-writing, workshops, and performances. Jubilado also emphasized that TFSL must be useful, significant, and community-driven. It can be achieved by incorporating elements of the global community and citizenship and service-learning in TFSL.

The webinar which lasted for two and a half hours also included the official launch of the International Virtual Conference on the Teaching of Filipino as a Second Language by UST Department of Filipino Chair Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes. The international conference will be held from June 17 to 19, 2021. The event will be co-organized by the UST Department of Filipino and the UH Hilo Division of Humanities and is one of the concrete programs borne out of the Memorandum of Understanding recently signed between the two institutions.



UST Department of Filipino Chair Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes (upper right most), officially launches the International Conference on the Teaching of Filipino as a Second Language.



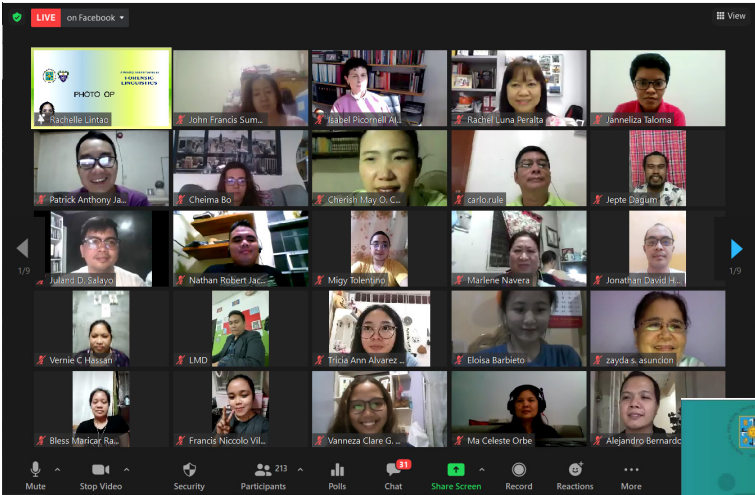
# Fraud Examiner Picornell lectures on use of FL in investigational process

International Association of Forensic Linguists Vice President Dr. Isabel Picornell, delivered the lecture “Telling it like it isn’t: Applying forensic linguistic principles to fraud investigations” on October 22, 2020, via Zoom, during the third installment of the Webinar Series on Forensic Linguistics organized by the UST Department of English.

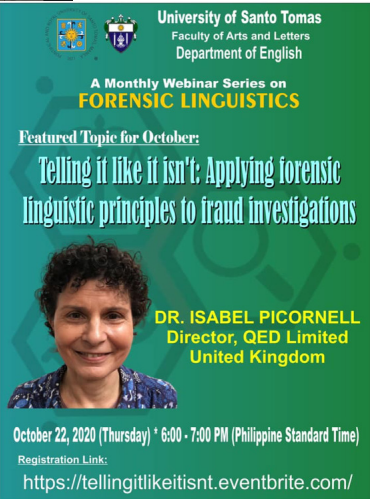
A Certified Fraud Examiner, Picornell, who is also the Director of the QED Limited in the United Kingdom, is engaged in examining how language is manipulated in documents. In her lecture, she first provided linguistic theories and principles which are violated in fraudulent acts and gave examples highlighting email threads and Facebook messenger conversations that were eventually proven deceitful.

Picornell pointed out that a forensic linguist’s role is not to determine who is guilty but to provide information through linguistic strategies to help in investigational procedures.

UST Department of English Chair Prof. Rachelle B. Lintao, Ph.D., moderated the online lecture which was attended by participants from 22 different countries, including the Philippines.



Dr. Isabel Picornell (top row, center) with the webinar participants including English Department Chair Dr. Rachelle Lintao (top row, leftmost), and Faculty of Arts and Letters Assistant Dean Dr. Alejandro Bernardo (fifth row, rightmost)



Event Poster

## IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON LEARNING FROM PAGE 11

The presenters were: Transformare Founding President Dr. Gina M. Lontoc, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines; Afghan National Association for Adult Education Executive Director Abdul Bashir Khaliqi, Afghanistan; English Plus Programme Director Rosie Sexton, UK; and Makerere University Center for Lifelong Learning Coordinator Willy Ngaka, Uganda.

Dr. Ian Cheffy of BALID and Professor Anna Robinson-Pant, the UNESCO Chairholder, facilitated the discussion. Transformare is a Network of Adult Literacy and Lifelong Learning Advocates that was founded by Dr. Lontoc of UST.

UNESCO Chair Ph.D. Scholar Mr. Chris Millora served as the moderator in both webinars.



Presenters and discussants for BALID and UEA UNESCO Chair’s webinar

# Herrera of Arts & Letters discusses corpora as rich source of materials for English Language Teaching



Webinar poster



Herrera answers questions during the Open Forum.

Faculty of Arts and Letters mentor John Paul Q. Herrera, who teaches at the Department of English, delivered a lecture on “Using Corpus in ELT: The whats and the hows” on October 23, 2020, via Zoom as part of the faculty development program of the Department of English.

Herrera explained corpus as a collection of machine-readable authentic texts, including spoken data, which may be used to represent a language or language variety. For English language teachers, the study of corpora, the plural form of corpus, is important because it offers a great wealth of resources that teachers can use in teaching.

Furthermore, Herrera, who obtained his Master’s degree in English Language Education from the De La Salle University, discussed corpus linguistics, which is the methodology for studying language use. Citing the reasons for using corpus in the classroom, such as finding out how native speakers speak, among others, helps the language teacher discover an open-ended range of possibilities of “discovery learning,” he explained.

Likewise, Herrera showed how corpus can be used in the classroom as well as in research, such as the frequent words and phrases in English, the differences between written and spoken English, and some new words which emerged over the months, such as the Coronavirus corpus. He also expounded on some actual corpus queries which can be adapted in classrooms, and cited studies such as multi-word verbs in World Englishes, disjuncts in World Englishes, and his own research paper on conjuncts in Philippine English.

Herrera gave some resources on corpus linguistics and English language teaching that includes TV corpus, Philippine English words, and dying words, among others.

Asst. Prof. Marlene L. Navera was the Master of Ceremonies and Open Forum moderator.



## 'Kwentong Katekista 2' looks into research-based outcomes for Catechetical ministry

University of Santo Tomas Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (RCSSED) took part in *Kwentong Katekista's* second webinar since its topic deals with research-based outcomes.

"*Kwentong Katekista 2: Research-based Intervention Outcomes (RIO) for Catechetical Ministry*" is the second of a two-part webinar series that was held on October 5, 2020, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM via FB Live at the National Catechetical Study - NCS 2021 Page.

The resource persons for the second webinar were five church workers from various dioceses and archdioceses in the country who shared their experiences: Ms. Nelfa Cañoza of the Diocese of Catarman, Fr. Joselito C. Escote of the Diocese of San Jose de Antique, Fr. Richard Lagos of

the Diocese of San Jose de Nueva Ecija, Sr. Alice Original, OND of the Archdiocese of Cotabato, and Ms. Ruthie Rivera of the Archdiocese of San Fernando de Pampanga.

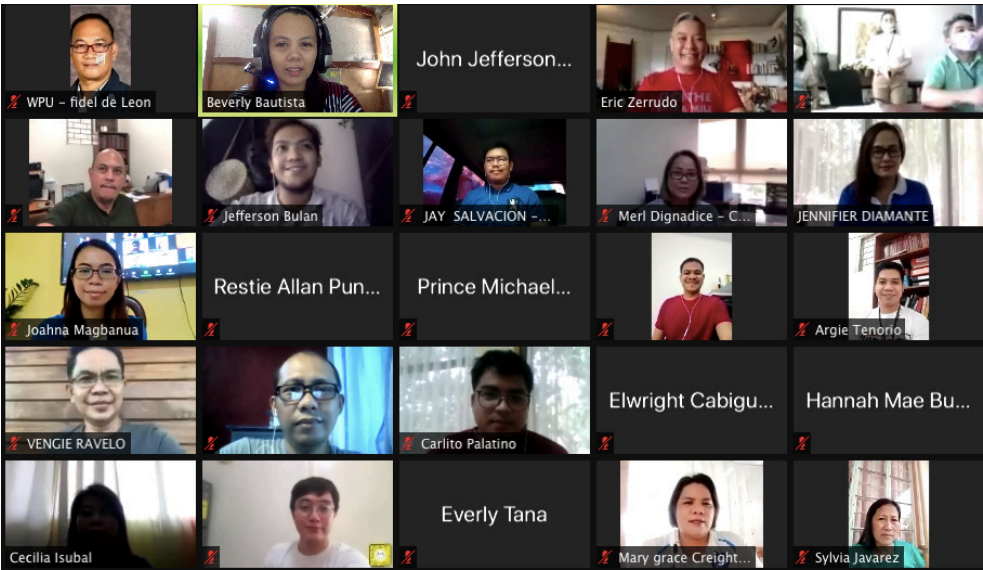
Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines-Episcopal Commission on Catechesis and Catholic Education Chair Most Rev. Roberto C. Mallari, D.D., and Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose de Nueva Ecija, and CBCP-ECCCE Executive Secretary Rev. Fr. Ernesto B. De Leon, of the Diocese of Balanga also participated in *Kwentong Katekista*.

Moderators were Sociologist Prof. Clarence M. Batan, Ph.D., and Institute of Religion faculty member Prof. Joan Christi Trocio-Bagaipo, Ph.D., both faculty members of the University of Santo Tomas.

Webinar poster



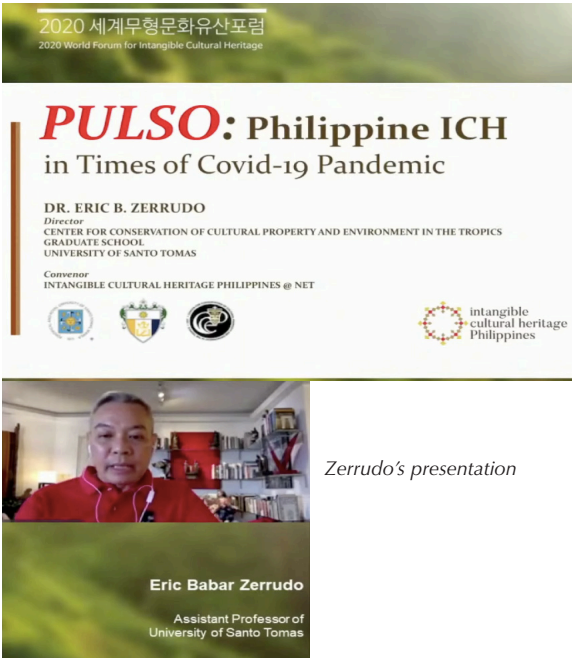
## UST, Puerto Princesa launch country's first online cultural heritage mapping project



Dr. Zerrudo (fourth from left, first row) with participants from the Puerto Princesa local government, USAID-SURGE, Palawan State University, and Western Philippines University

## ARTS AND CULTURE

### Zerrudo delivers paper on PH intangible cultural heritage in times of COVID at ICH World Forum



Zerrudo's presentation

University of Santo Tomas Graduate School Center for the Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (USTGS CCCPET) Director Dr. Eric B. Zerrudo, presented his research on the Philippine intangible cultural heritage during the virtual Human, Nature, and Intangible Cultural Heritage 2020 World Forum for Intangible Cultural Heritage held from September 23 to 25, 2020.

Zerrudo's paper was titled "*PULSO: Philippine Intangible Cultural Heritage in Times of COVID 19 Pandemic*."

Taking an excerpt from the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Convention, Zerrudo shared that "intangible cultural heritage is the community's response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history... and ICH is about people's values, particularly people's harmonious relations with nature." He also explained that '*pulso*' is a term for pulse in the local language.

ICH is a meaning-making activity of man to make sense of nature, environment, society, and history. ICH is man's interaction based on the heartbeat of nature and the universe.

Citing renowned Filipino anthropologist F. Landa Jocano, Zerrudo stressed that "life is conceived by people in harmony with nature, the pulse is its expression. Anything which tends to interfere with this flow of harmony upsets the pulsebeat."

The forum's main objective is to discuss the meaning and role of the intangible cultural heritage and how it can contribute to environmental sustainability.

The forum was hosted by Korea's National Intangible Heritage Center and International Information and Networking Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Regions under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The University of Santo Tomas through the Graduate School (USTGS) Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (CCCPE) and City Government of Puerto Princesa launched the country's first online cultural heritage mapping project on October 30, 2020, via Zoom platform.

This online activity is in partnership with Puerto Princesa's local government, USAID-SURGE, Palawan State University, and Western Philippines University. The output of the cultural mapping project will be used in various development and cultural projects in the city.

The Heritage Online Mapping Experience (HOME) Puerto Princesa City edition, the first interactive cultural mapping project aims to identify the heritages of the city for its conservation and utilization.

The HOME project will cover 35 barangays within the city center and are participated in by faculty members from the Palawan State University and Western Philippines University. Basically, they will work from home and university using information from the internet, online archives, mobile or social media interviews, and observations in their assigned barangays.



CCCPET Director Dr. Zerrudo leads the launch of the cultural heritage mapping project



Poster



# USTGS CCCPET launches webinar series on safeguarding intangible cultural heritage



intangible cultural heritage Philippines

Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Philippines Webinar Series



**CULTURAL VIBRANCY IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: CAPIZ EXPERIENCE**  
ALPHONSUS TESORO  
Provincial Tourism and Cultural Officer  
Province of Capiz



**TOURISM: AVENUE TO REVITALIZE THE YOGAD CULTURE**  
LOUIE SIMBE  
Municipal Tourism Officer  
Echague, Isabela

**OCT 1 2PM**



**PULSO: Philippine ICH in Times of Covid-19 Pandemic**  
Dr. Eric B. Zerrudo  
Director  
UST Graduate School-CCCPET



**Mapang-aliw sa mga nagdadalamhati: The “Dungaw” of Santo Domingo’s *La Naval de Manila***  
Bro. Mervin G. Lomague, O.P.  
Santo Domingo Convent  
Dominican Province of the Philippines

**THURS OCT 15 2PM**

The webinar speakers and their respective presentation titles

The University of Santo Tomas Graduate School (UST GS) Center for the Conservation of Culture and Preservation of Environment in the Tropics (CCCPET) together with the members of ichphil@net recently organized a webinar series on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Philippines.

The series aims to create public awareness, appreciation, and safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage with the objectives to introduce the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Convention, promote different approaches of safeguarding the ICH in the country, and emphasize the vital role of ICH as a life source and force for people to survive.

The webinar series launched its first two episodes on October 1, 2020, for “ICH and Tourism” featuring the “Cultural Vibrancy of Capiz Province” with Capiz Provincial Tourism and Cultural Officer Mr. Alphonsus Tesoro as resource person. Meanwhile, Echague, Isabela Municipal Tourism Officer Mr. Louie Simbe discussed the “Revitalization of Yogad Culture of Isabela.”

In the second installment of the series, UST CCPET Director Dr. Eric B. Zerrudo, presented the different intangible cultural heritage practices which emerged during the lockdown period from three different indigenous groups in the Philippines which were the *teer/tengao* ritual of Bontok of Mountain Province; *anud*, *paanud* of Itawis and

Ibanag of Cagayan Valley; and the *panubadtupad* of the Ata indigenous group of Davao.

This was followed by the presentation by Bro. Mervin Lomague, O.P. on the “Dungaw of La Naval de Manila.”

This webinar series which will run for a year is live-streamed at the USTGS-CCCPET official Facebook twice a month, every other Thursday at 2:00 PM.

It features different case studies and research studies on intangible cultural heritage conducted by the members of ichphil@net, a consortium of preselected communities, groups, and individuals (CGIs) who are transmitters and translators in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage in the Philippines.

Purely an on-line platform, the transmitters from all parts of the archipelago bring with them an extensive network of knowledge, skills, experiences, and connectivities.

Transmitters include local government units, universities, study centers, organizations, coalitions, and advocates.

The consortium and the goal to continue to safeguard the country’s intangible cultural heritage, one of the advocacies of the CCPET and the consortium, was born during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Church heritage conservation webinar series memorializes Fr. Alex Bautista’s legacy



+ Rev. Fr. Alex Bautista

In memory of Fr. Alex Bautista, a Thomasian architect, heritage worker, and man of the cloth, who passed away on July 9, 2020, the University of Santo Tomas Graduate School Center for the Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (CCCPET) in collaboration with the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) Episcopal Commission for the Cultural Heritage of the Church, UST College of Architecture, UST College of Fine Arts and Design, and UST High School Batch 1985, continue to collaborate by organizing the Fr. Alex O. Bautista Memorial Lecture Series on Church Heritage Architecture.

The webinar series aims to memorialize the contributions and impact of Fr. Alex Bautista in religious and professional practice, highlight the state of church heritage architecture conservation efforts in different dioceses and professional sectors, and promote values of the priestly vocation, heritage competency, and architectural professionalism in church heritage architecture, interior design, and conservation.

The lecture series which started on August 3, 2020, is live-streamed at the USTGS-CCCPET official Facebook page every other Monday of the month. It will run for a year.

In its most recent episode held on October 12, 2020, Thomasian priest, Fr. Victor Emmanuel Quintos of the Archdiocese of Tuguegarao was featured. He shared the diocese’s continued efforts to conserve church heritage structures in the Cagayan Province.

For the month of September, Thomasian alumni Fr. Brian Brigoli of the Archdiocese of Cebu and Fr. Julius Heruela shared their experiences and efforts in conserving their church heritages within their respective Archdioceses.

The past episodes featured Thomasian educators and heritage advocates Dr. Eric B. Zerrudo, Ar. Michael Manalo, and Prof. Regalado Trota José who talked about the Church Concerns on Heritage, the Conservation of Church Architecture between Church and State, and Researching the House of God , respectively. The webinar was live-streamed weekly during the month of August.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## AlerTomas 2020: From New Normal to Better Normal in caring for creation



UST SIMBAHAYAN Director Asst. Prof. Alipao (second row, rightmost) with members of the AlerTomas 2020 Cluster

When the University of Santo Tomas opened the academic year 2020-2021 in August, despite the pandemic and the uncertainty about things in the so-called new normal, what was certain was the institution's continued support for AlerTomas and the unwavering assistance for *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis's encyclical on care for creation.

AlerTomas is the university-wide community development advocacy for the environment and on disaster risk reduction management (DRRM). This year, it will work around the theme "*Hubileo Para sa Daigdig: Pagtalab at Pagtugon sa Pagpapanumbalik sa Sangnilikha*."

AlerTomas 2020 was a light for the Earth amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

The advocacy became a catalyst to facilitate not the new normal but rather a better normal. Knowing that damage to the earth impacts not just people in general, but more specifically the poor, the principle is to care for the environment to ensure that man and the natural environment are in synergy instead of having to manage

disasters when they happen.

The AlerTomas Cluster is composed of six academic units with their respective Community Development Coordinators under the UST SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office. These are: the College of Architecture represented by Asst. Prof. Antonino Tobias, Faculty of Engineering by Engr. Manolo Binuya, Graduate School by Asst. Prof. Rodel Canlas, College of Science by Dr. Ezra Aguilar, and the National Service Training Program (NSTP) unit represented by its Moderator, Assoc. Prof. Ricarte Origenes. This year, the event was chaired by the Faculty of Arts and Letters through Asst. Prof. Ronald M. Castillo.

The cluster was extended to a wide-ranging committee composed of collaborating student organizations: UST Artlets Student Council (ABSC), UST

ALERTOMAS 2020 TO PAGE 21

### ALERTOMAS 2020 FROM PAGE 20

College of Architecture Student Council (CD Arki Committee), UST Asian Studies Society, UST Red Cross Youth Council (RCYC)-Arts and Letters Unit, UST-RCYC- Engineering Unit, UST RCYC-Science Unit, UST Sociological Society, UST *Concilium Philosophiae*, UST Legal Management Society, UST Communication Arts Students' Association, UST Literary Society, UST Chorus of Arts and Letters, UST Artistang Artlets, UST History Society, UST Behavioral Science Society, UST Engineering Student Council, and UST UNESCO Club.

Each committee had its own sub-committee in charge of specific duties across the whole month of AlerTomas 2020. The four Saturdays were hosted via a private Zoom account of the Rotary Club of Cubao and handled by Mr. Richard de Silva, a Rotary Member and a Support Staff at the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters.

The Corn Moon, considered by Native Americans as a period of respect for the Earth which yielded crops for their consumption, waxed in the sky as AlerTomas announced during National Heroes Day through a Community Service Day, an ecumenical call to champion the environment. This heralded four online community engagements laid out across the four Saturdays of September – the month when the Liturgical Year celebrates the Season of Creation. The first two Saturdays were celebrated through webinars and the final two were through community engagements, all of which founded through researches in partnership with the UST Research Center on Social Sciences and Education (RCSSSED).

Following a general theme on the environment and a specific theme of Zero-Waste, a two-topic webinar was conducted.

The first was on Backyard Gardening with guest speakers from the Agricultural Training Institute and Inang Lupa Movement, and the second was on *Botika sa Paso* with guest speaker Asst. Prof. Grace Maclan of the UST Faculty of Pharmacy.

These expert discussions laid out foundations for the for inculcating Zero-Waste as a beneficial practice for community members where Prof. Arlen Ancheta, Ph.D., lead of the Sustainability



A glimpse of the activities and AlerTomas members during the online activities for Community Service Day

Research Interest Group (RIG) at UST-RCSSSED, was the resource person. Both webinars were held in Zoom and was streamed in Facebook Live through the UST SIMBAHAYAN Facebook page.

The final two Saturdays ensured an affective process of communitizing the concept of Zero-Waste. A small number of representatives was gathered across the university's partner communities for a participatory discussion on their respective community's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) in practicing Zero-Waste.

Instead of a having a speaker to do the sharing, Assoc. Prof. Maria Rosario Virginia Garcia of UST-RCSSSED facilitated the participation of the invited community representatives who shared their own experiences. The private Zoom provided a digital safe space for community members to do their sharing which allowed them to process the lessons from the previous two webinars.

An international event hosted by the University of Santo Tomas for institutions also took place. Asst. Prof. Andy Ku of

the National Taipei University, International Program on Urban Governance discussed community-based flood management in Taiwan. This was followed by a round table discussion of UST institutional stakeholders on environment and sustainability.

It included sharing of experiences on projects and advocacies by representatives from different offices in UST that included: UST-NSTP represented by Assoc. Prof. Ricarte Origenes, UST Office of the Q.S./T.H.E. Ranking represented by Engr. Nestor Ong, UST Facilities and Maintenance Office represented by Engr. Jared Gunting, UST-RCSSSED Sustainability RIG represented by Assoc. Prof. Moises Norman Garcia, UST UNESCO Club represented by Mr. Antonio Guiang Jr., Earth UST represented by Ms. Patricia Alburo, and UST Central Student Council represented by Ms. Niña Angelica Rodriguez.

Amidst the pandemic, administrators, faculty, students, support staff, partner community members, alumni, and even international networks were able to join together in working toward the University's advocacy to care for creation.





# THE ACADEMIA

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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) 3406.1611 local 8315  
or (+632) 8731.3544.  
You may also send them via fax  
at (+632) 8740.9727

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