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*The Philippines' Proactive
Organizational Health Leader and
Pharmacovigilance Advocate*

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Professor 5
University of Santo Tomas
España, City of Manila
Fields of Specialization: Pharmacology, Anesthesiology,
Clinical Epidemiology, Medical Education
35 Years in Service



Dr. Calimag (bottom right) is announced as an awardee and converses with host Ms. Yasmin Tang. [Screenshot obtained from Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipino Facebook page]

Medical doctor Minerva Calimag is Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipino Teacher for 2021

Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (FMS) professor Maria Minerva P. Calimag, M.D., Ph.D., is one of the recipients of the 2021 Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipino award. During a virtual press conference held on August 6, 2021, Dr. Calimag received the Outstanding Teacher award for Higher Education in recognition of her excellence as an educator and e-learning expert.

Metrobank Foundation, Inc. (MBFI) annually recognizes exemplars in the academe, military, and police sectors. For this year, ten awardees were chosen: four teachers, three soldiers, and three police officers.

According to the MBFI website, "The awardees' accomplishments in their respective duties and communities range from creating breakthroughs and innovations that benefit their institutions and the people they serve."

For this year in particular, the teacher awardees rose above and beyond the challenges of the pandemic in order to deliver quality education to their students through the effective use of technology.

Calimag, a Pedagogical Lead and faculty member at the UST Graduate School, is one of UST's e-learning specialists.

Calimag has been a mentor in the capacity-building of healthcare professionals through digital workflows in research management. In 2014, when webinars were not yet as expected, she conceptualized and co-developed a cloud-based online program for the continuing professional development of health professionals.

"For many years now, telephysicians have given me their trust and confidence, and the opportunity to lead them as president in various organizations," Calimag said.

According to her, her mission as a leader, educator, and researcher is actually to champion the five Ps, which she enumerated as the medical profession, the Philippine Medical Association, her fellow physicians, patients, and the planet (Earth).

In the same speech, the awardee also shared that she engages in "grassroots advocacies, organizing, mobilizing, and

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UST tops off
TTC Innovation Center
at rising Santa Rosa
campus

A solemn topping-off ceremony of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Santa Rosa's first building, the Dr. Tony Tan Caktiong (TTC) Innovation Center, was held on August 3, 2021.

The topping-off ceremony is a builders' rite traditionally held when the last beam (or its equivalent material) is placed atop a structure. The ceremony included blessing rites presided by the UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D.

UST Facilities Management Office Director Rev. Fr. Dexter A. Austria, O.P., in his opening speech, shared his hope "that the center will be part of a greater vision for the UST Santa Rosa campus as a hub of discoveries, research, and innovation."

UST Chemical Engineering Class of 1975 alumnus and Jollibee Foods Corporation Founder Dr. Tony Tan Caktiong sent a message for the

The Dr. TTCT building in a scale model



auspicious occasion. It was read by Faculty of Engineering Dean Prof. Philipina A. Marcelo, Ph.D.

Tan Caktiong wrote that the new three-storey structure intends to "welcome our country's potential and future innovators including alumni, students, and entrepreneurs from companies and surrounding communities – innovators that can make a difference and play a meaningful role in the holistic, inclusive, and responsible growth of the Philippine economy."

"The Santa Rosa campus will become a research and innovation

campus where students, faculty members, scientists, and researchers can transform their ideas into realities. The TTC Innovation Center is a first in Philippine education, which will revolutionize the way we do research in the country. May this milestone inspire all of us to contribute to the generation and advancement of knowledge in the University and the nation," said Fr. Ang.

The Dr. TTC Innovation Center broke ground in December 2020, while the 40-hectare UST Santa Rosa campus had its site development kick-off in September 2017.



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., (fourth from left) UST Facilities Management Office Director Rev. Fr. Dexter A. Austria, O.P., (third from left), and Faculty of Engineering Dean Prof. Philipina A. Marcelo, Ph.D., (fifth from left) with representatives of Casas + Architects, Inc., and Mundo Builders [Photo courtesy of the UST official Twitter page]



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., (right) and UST Facilities Management Office Director Rev. Fr. Dexter A. Austria, O.P., during the blessing rites. [Photo courtesy of the UST official Twitter page]

UNITAS Journal launches
int'l lecture series to celebrate
centennial year in 2022

UNITAS, the oldest extant academic journal in Asia published by a modern university, the University of Santo Tomas, is set to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2022. In anticipation of the milestone, the monthly international lecture series "UNITAS 100" was launched on May 28, 2021.

The "UNITAS 100" series is co-hosted by the Cultural, Literary, and Art Studies Society, Inc. (CLASS), which is the country's own version of the Modern Language Association (MLA) as a professional organization, and *Kritika Kultura*, the widely indexed open access international journal on literary and cultural studies published by the Ateneo de Manila University.

UNITAS was established in 1922 as a multidisciplinary journal originally written in Spanish published by the University of Santo Tomas. It has published articles in English, Filipino, Spanish, and other languages. Today, the journal is billed as a multidisciplinary journal in advanced research on literature, culture and society. It is hosted by the Department of Literature at the Faculty of Arts and Letters and published by UST.

The inaugural lecture was held on May 28, 2021 with Prof. Jeremy de Chavez, Ph.D., from the University of Macau as the speaker and Prof. Carlos Picos III, Ph.D., from De La Salle University, Manila as the respondent. De Chavez discussed "Postcolonial Paranoia, Reparative Reading, and World(ing) Literature."

This was followed by a dual lecture program held on July 30, 2021, consisting of "East Asian Films and Taiwanese Filmography" by Prof. Woosung Kang, Ph.D., of Seoul National University, South Korea, and "Carlos Bulosan and His Works" by Prof. Jeffrey Cabusao, Ph.D., of Bryant University, USA. The respondents were Prof. Joel David, Ph.D., of Inha University, South Korea and Mr. Victor Bautista of the University of the Philippines, respectively.

For the session on August 27, 2021, Prof. Alex Taek-Gwang Lee from Kyung Hee University, South Korea discussed "K-Pop and Nationalism (The Case of BTS)." Prof. Jinhyoung Lee from Konkuk University, South Korea served as respondent.

Prof. Victor Merriman from Edge Hill University, United Kingdom, will speak about "Samuel Beckett's Legacies: Authoritarianism, Artists and Activism in David Lloyd's The Press (200) and The Pact (2021)" on September 24, 2021. The respondent will be Prof. Ricardo Abad, Ph.D., from Ateneo de Manila University.

Prof. Melani Budianta, Ph.D., from Universitas Indonesia will be the guest on October 29, 2021. She will discuss "Field Research in Literary and Cultural Scholarship" with Prof. Shuri M.G. Tambunan, Ph.D., from Universitas Indonesia as a respondent.

"Approaching Non-human Narratives" will be the focus of Prof. Biwu Shang, Ph.D., from Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. Serving as the respondent would be Prof. Youngmin Kim, Ph.D., from Dongguk University, South Korea.

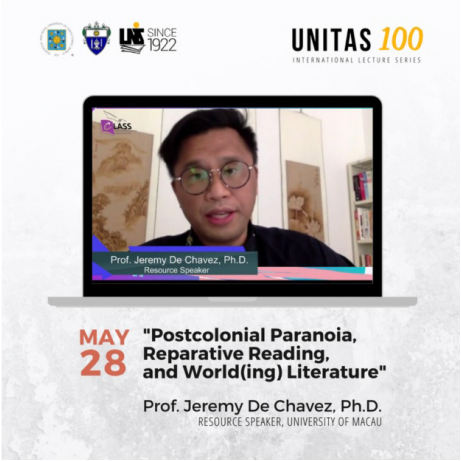
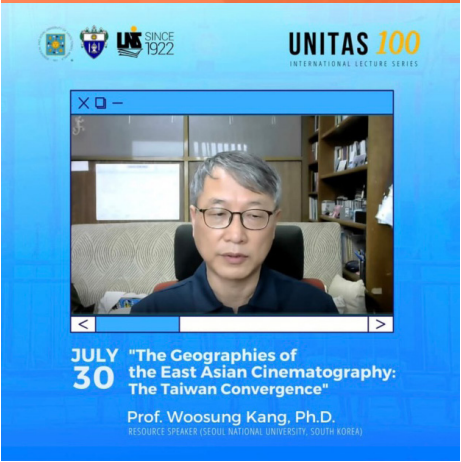
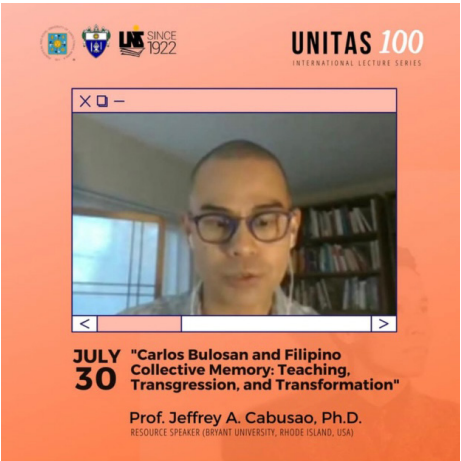
Atty. Jose Duke Bagulaya from Hong Kong University, the speaker for the session on December 10, 2021, will discuss "International Organization and Community: Interrogating ASEAN's Fictions of Community." Center for International Law Executive Director Atty. Romel Regalado Bagares will be the respondent.

Apart from the lecture series, an international conference is also in the pipeline involving a number of journal editors from Asia. UNITAS, under the editorship of Prof. Maria Luisa T. Reyes of the Literature Department, has set up a network of humanities journal editors in the region called Asian Journal Network (AJN). It will be launched during the conference next year.

UNITAS issues published since 1922 that are without keywords and abstracts will be provided these features in the UST library digital files in 2022 by the UST Library and the Department of Literature. This major joint project attempts to make research using UNITAS back issues more manageable and more accessible.

The online version of several issues from the last decade have also been made available to the public. The uploading of the digital issues will be done in time for the journal's centennial celebration in 2022.

Next year, a special Centennial Issue of UNITAS will be published. It will include



Posters of recent installments of the UNITAS 100 International Lecture Series

scholarly articles written exclusively by the esteemed members of its International Board of Editors, who are among the world's top and best-known scholars in their fields. With the Centennial Issue, the "UNITAS 100" celebration will be marked by an important reminder of the long-standing contribution of UNITAS to the international scholarly conversation in which, as the centennial's theme goes, "scholarship stands the test of time."



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., presides over the Misa de Apertura (Opening Mass).

UST formally opens AY 2021-2022: Rector calls on Thomasians to practice Veritas in caritate; Inaugural lecture centers on achievements of FMS

The University of Santo Tomas formally opened the Academic Year 2021-2022 with the traditional *Misa de Apertura* (Opening Mass) on August 2, 2021, at the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church-UST (UST Chapel).

UST Rector, Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., served as the main presider with the Dominican Fathers as concelebrants. The event was livestreamed on the official UST Facebook page.

His Excellency Archbishop Charles John Brown, KC*HS, the Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, who was originally scheduled to preside over the Mass, sent a message that Fr. Ang read before his homily. Only virtual Masses have been allowed in Metro Manila due to the stricter quarantine status.

In his message, the representative of Pope Francis in the Philippines greeted the Thomasian community and commended the University's "411 years of history, in which you have striven to put into practice the words of your University motto: *Veritas in caritate* (Truth in Charity)." He also emphasized that the mission of a Catholic university is to "see the truth and communicate the truth."

Archbishop Brown encouraged the Thomasian community to closely follow Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. The Apostolic Nuncio ended his message by declaring the academic year 2021-2022 of the University open.

Meanwhile, in his homily, the Father Rector echoed the message of Archbishop Brown, saying that, "The statement that we are only as good as our struggles and weaknesses is totally a lie because the truth is we are much powerful and stronger than we believe with the help of the Holy Spirit."

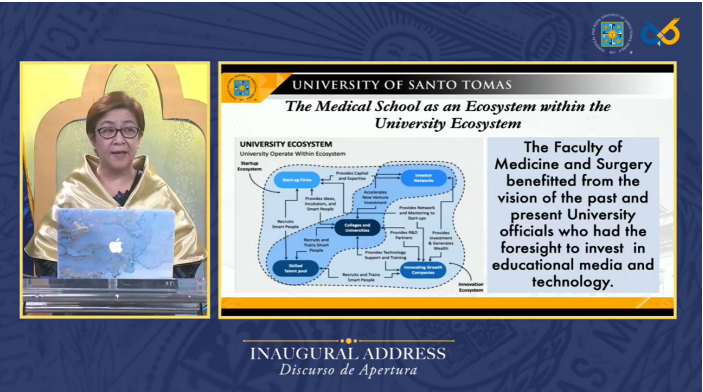
"We are empowered to enliven others. There is nothing more powerful than a community that has renewed itself. Transformed people can transform other people. May we be enlightened to

know the truth and kindled to practice *Veritas in caritate*," Fr. Ang said.

Following the Mass was the *Discurso de Apertura*, the inaugural academic lecture traditionally delivered before faculty members and students of the University.

For this year, the Dean of the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (FMS) Dr. Ma. Lourdes D. Maglinao presented the academic lecture titled "Leading Change in a 150-year-old Medical School: Overcoming the Challenges of a VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous) World amidst the Twenty-first-Century Pandemic."

In her lecture, Dean Maglinao shared the challenge of producing doctors in the midst of a pandemic. She described the ongoing challenge of prioritizing safety, health, wellness, and the continued delivery of quality medical education in the face of



UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (FMS) Dean Dr. Ma. Lourdes D. Maglinao is the 153rd speaker for the annual inaugural address.

economic repercussions and the surge in cases, which resulted in difficulty in deploying clerks for core clinical training and data gathering.

However, even with these challenges, the Dean commended the University for its forward thinking, saying that, "As part of the University's ecosystem, the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery benefitted from the vision of the past and present University officials who had the foresight to invest in educational media and technology."

Even before the pandemic, the Blackboard Learning Management System in 2003 and the Rapid eLearning Training Program in 2012 retooled the education workforce, which allowed FMS and the different academic units to successfully navigate the enriched virtual mode of instruction necessitated by the pandemic.

"Despite the unexpected impositions of lockdowns, we were able to anchor technological solutions to ensure continuity of education," said Maglinao. She highlighted the UST Cloud Campus as "the cornerstone upon which the weight of the UST education system rests."

Some of the learning experiences translated into virtual medium are telemedicine patient encounters and simulated medical rounds that aid the development of "webside manner", virtual skills assessment, ePortfolios, and online oral *revalida*, among others.

The Dean also emphasized the Faculty's many achievements in spite of the rapid transition from in-person to online teaching. The pioneer class from the Learning-Enhanced Accelerated Program for Medicine (LEAPMed) recently graduated, all 76 of them with Latin honors. With this resounding success, the CHED Office of Programs and Standards Development conveyed "that the LEAPMed program may be the model template of all accelerated learning programs for medicine in the country."

Meanwhile, the Organ Donation Innovative Strategies for Southeast Asia (ODISSEA) project, a specialized post-graduate certificate program in organ donation, tapped FMS as one of only eight Southeast Asian beneficiary universities to offer a training program for transplant specialists designed by the University of Barcelona.

In addition, the Center for Pain Medicine and Thomasian Audiology continued to be the prime movers in assisting the government's hearing health and prevention of deafness programs



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., delivers the homily.

through pioneering research, technical assistance, and capacity building.

FMS has also partnered with the Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom for the Master of Public Health (International) (MPHI) degree program. Scholarship grants from the Access and Competitiveness through Internationalization of Higher Education (ACT-IHE) were also given for the MPHI through CHED.

Under Maglinao's leadership, the Doctor of Medicine program was given a perfect score in graduate employability and high scores in completion, student satisfaction, and accreditation in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) world subject rankings and the QS Stars Specialist Criteria in June 2021.

"The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery remains unstoppable and will continue to be the epitome of excellence in medical education. The COVID-19 pandemic threatened to topple us in many ways, but with our indomitable spirit, we prevail," said the Dean.

Maglinao, an accelerated graduate of the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree program at the UST College of Science, obtained her Doctor of Medicine degree from UST, her post-graduate internship and residency training at the UST Hospital. She took her post-residency in stereotactic radiosurgery at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney, Australia and post-residency in minimally invasive neurosurgery at the Singapore General Hospital. Concurrently, she is the Chief of the Neurosurgery Section of both FMS and USTH.

Medical doctor Minerva Calimag | from page 1

engaging the public to advocate for themselves, teaching in interprofessional settings, both in academic and community settings to healthcare professionals."

Aside from championing e-learning, Calimag, known as "The Philippines' Proactive Organizational Health Leader and Pharmacovigilance Advocate," has also utilized digital media in engaging and influencing legislators, policy-makers, barangay health workers, physicians, nurses, and pharmacists to embrace pharmacovigilance advocacy on promotion of drug safety and drug anti-counterfeiting initiatives.

Calimag earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from the UST FMS and her Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management degree, *Summa cum Laude*, from the UST

Graduate School.

All ten awardees for 2021 received the iconic Flame trophy, a cash prize of one million pesos, and a gold MBFI Outstanding Filipinos medallion.

The virtual press conference may be viewed on the [Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipinos Facebook page](#). Dr. Calimag's segment is at the 23:45 mark.

Dr. Calimag joins the ranks of Thomasian educators who were previous recipients of this award, namely, Professor Emerita Dr. Beatrice Q. Guevara (1986), Former Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Dean Dr. Rosario Angeles Tan Alora (1992), former College of Education Dean Dr. Allan



Each awardee receives the following prizes. [Screenshot obtained from Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipinos Facebook page]

B. de Guzman (2011), and Microbiology expert Dr. Thomas Edison E. dela Cruz (2015).



Avatars of freshmen wearing their uniform enter the reconstructed Arch of the Centuries virtually through the popular sandbox game Minecraft. [Screenshots obtained from the UST Minecraft and UST Tiger TV Facebook pages]



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., welcomes the freshmen at the beginning of his homily.

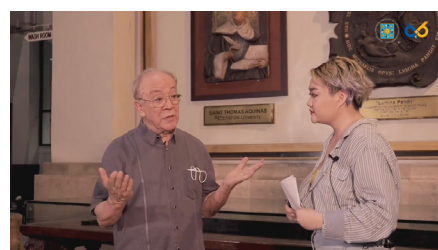
UST welcomes over 11,000 freshmen; Minecraft campus enables traditional Welcome Walk

The University of Santo Tomas virtually welcomed over 11,000 first-year students for A.Y. 2021-2022. Livestreamed through the official UST and the UST Tiger TV Facebook pages, the virtual ceremonies that included an opening Mass, entrance through the Arch of the Centuries recreated in Minecraft, and an interactive orientation were held on August 5, 2021.

In his homily for the [Eucharistic Celebration that began the freshman welcome festivities](#), UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., welcomed the new Thomasians and bid them to “always be the first-rate version of yourselves – your intelligence, emotions, talents, and character are God’s precious gifts. Develop them.”

Fr. Ang encouraged the new cohort of freshmen to value their education and to be passionate about learning. “Seize this opportunity and take advantage of it, for not everyone has a fair share of chances. You are most fortunate to be given a chance to continue your education. Don’t put it to waste,” Fr. Ang said.

After the Mass, freshmen virtually participated in the annual Thomasian [Welcome Walk](#) (TWW), hosted on the UST Minecraft Server. Now in its second year, the virtual event took the place of the traditional Welcome Walk where, since 2002, freshmen symbolically entered the University through the historic Arch of the Centuries to signify the start of their Thomasian life.



Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., (left) speaks about the transition of the Miguel de Benavides Library to a mostly online method of service delivery.

Following the Welcome Walk, freshmen joined the [ROARientation](#) where the UST Tiger TV, under the auspices of the Communications Bureau, introduced new Thomasians to UST student services offered by the Miguel de Benavides Central Library. Interviews with the Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., Chief Librarian Ms. Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo, and General Reference and Information Section Head Librarian Ms. Raquel B. Lontoc explained to freshmen how to borrow and return physical books through courier services and book drops, how to create and access library accounts to view e-books and e-journals, and how to ask for help from librarians through the virtual office on Google Meet, among others.

Using a variety show format, the ROARientation engaged students in various interactive activities and segments, which informed them about the student services offered to Thomasians and important facts and interesting trivia about the University.

A segment called “Thomazing Race,” where game contestants explored the reconstructed campus in Minecraft, effectively toured the online audience through key spots in UST.

The founder of the Order of Preachers, St. Dominic de Guzman, and the Dominican friar, philosopher, and Doctor of the Church, St. Thomas Aquinas, after whom the University is named, were introduced to the freshmen through the ROARientation in a creative talk show format.

Rev. Fr. Christopher Jeffrey L. Aytona, O.P., from the Caleruega Philippines Retreat Center and Ecclesiastical Faculties Academic Collaboration Officer Mr. Leo-Martin Angelo R. Ocampo, O.P., answered questions in-character as St. Dominic and St. Thomas, respectively. Through their conversation, freshmen also learned about the history of the University and the quality Catholic education offered by UST.

Regular classes began on August 12, 2021. UST utilizes the enhanced virtual mode delivery of instruction.



Rev. Fr. Christopher Jeffrey L. Aytona, O.P., as St. Dominic de Guzman (leftmost) and Ecclesiastical Faculties Academic Collaboration Officer Mr. Leo-Martin Angelo R. Ocampo, O.P., as St. Thomas (second from left) during a talk show hosted by students from UST Tiger TV

Thomasian sports psychologists provide mental health services for athletes in #Tokyo2020

Three UST faculty members and sports psychologists, Asst. Prof. Karen Katrina Trinidad, Ph.D., Asst. Prof. Rodel P. Canlas, Ph.D., and Asst. Prof. Ryan Francis O. Cayubit, Ph.D., showed the signature Thomasian competence, commitment, and compassion in service by supporting the athletes with their roles as psychologists, and incidentally, they were the athletes who made it to the quarterfinals and the finals, including the country’s first gold medal recipient since the Philippines joined the Olympics in 1924.

Part of our everyday life is experiencing stress – an occurrence true for athletes and non-athletes alike. It is evident that the pandemic made an athlete’s journey even more challenging and contributed to the stress that they experience. Enduring the pressure of professional, world-class competitions, the increased roadblocks to being able to train and other health risks due to the pandemic, the lack of loved ones and fans to support them in person at the stands, and shouldering the expectations of the country, require an incredible amount of mental fortitude and focus.

To compete in the world’s foremost sporting event, Olympic athletes need to be at their peak, physically and mentally. The latter is where sports psychologists come in to provide support “for our athletes to achieve positive control of the emotional and psychological aspect of the game,” shared Dr. Trinidad, whom weightlifting gold medalist Hidilyn Diaz chose as her sports psychologist.

As consultants with the Philippine Sports Commission’s (PSC) Sports



Asst. Prof. Ryan Francis O. Cayubit, Ph.D. Asst. Prof. Karen Katrina Trinidad, Ph.D. Asst. Prof. Rodel P. Canlas, Ph.D.

Psychology Unit, sports psychologists can reach out to different national teams to offer their services and orient them on how psychology can help improve athletic performance. Athletes can accept them and begin their long-term partnership for success, or choose a psychologist with whom they are comfortable and at ease, explained Dr. Cayubit, who handled gymnast Carlos Yulo for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Dr. Canlas, who worked with rowing quarter-finalist Cris Nievarez, highlights, “In the Philippine Sports context, the relationship [between sports psychologist and an athlete] is both professional and personal. While we assist the athlete professionally with the mental aspect of the game, relationship building is equally valuable, and that begins with rapport.”

“Rapport,” Canlas explains, “is mutual trust, respect, and even friendliness between the two. A sports psychologist needs to know the athlete as a person

and relate with him so that he would be comfortable being himself during their sessions. Knowing the athlete deeper enables us to better understand him and help him.”

This was the case with Trinidad, who has been working as a consultant in the PSC since 2008. Even prior to the 2016 Rio Olympics, weightlifter Diaz would visit her in the office once in a while. She added that, “We traveled together in some of her international competitions,” citing competitions in Anaheim in 2017, Thailand in 2019, and Rome in 2020.

“Those trips helped me to understand her behavior, thoughts, and feelings before, during, and after the competition. With that, I was able to make a program designed for her for Tokyo 2020,” Trinidad shared.

According to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), research suggests that [mental health disorders affect up to 35 percent of elite athletes](#) during their careers. To aid in prevention and to give support for their mental well-being, regularly scheduled psychology sessions are conducted to aid in the prevention of mental disorder and support their mental well-being.

“We usually provide mental health support for our athletes through counseling/therapy sessions, pre-, during and post-competition assistance. We also provide psychological skills training, lectures, and team building,” said Trinidad.

Canlas explained the reasons behind the process. “These sessions are usually

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Hidilyn Diaz’s (center) “Team HD” includes Dr. Karen Trinidad (second from left) [Photo courtesy of Hidilyn Diaz’s Instagram page].

Thomasian Olympian Obiena makes it to finals in 2020 Tokyo pole vault event

After securing a spot in the finals of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Thomasian pole vaulter Ernest John ‘EJ’ Obiena cleared the 5.70-meter jump and placed 11th on August 3, 2021.

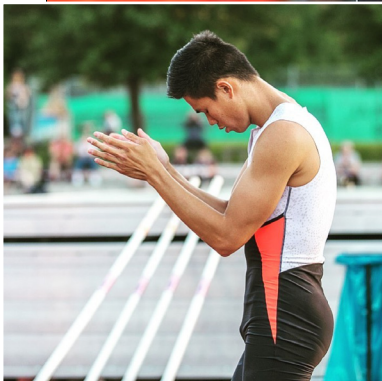
The 25-year-old Obiena was the only Asian who qualified in the finals of the pole vault event.

With an outpouring of encouragement from the nation and Thomasian community, the No. 6 pole vaulter in the world thanked his supporters in a public Facebook post and assured them of his commitment.

“The facts of the matter are simple: I still love the sport of pole vaulting. I still love representing my great country. I still love competing. I still know I can win. You can draw your own conclusions from this. I will be back, and I will be back to win,” emphasized Obiena.

In 2019, Obiena became the first Filipino athlete to qualify for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics when he cleared a 5.81-meter jump in Chiari, Italy. Just three weeks prior to the Olympics, he pushed Philippine pole vault to new heights by setting a new national record and personal best of 5.87 meters at the World Athletics Continental Tour in Poland.

Obiena, is currently on study leave as a UST Electronics Engineering student. As of this writing, he has returned to Italy to resume his training. In the local pole vault scene, Obiena previously competed for UST in the University Athletics Association of the Philippines (UAAP) pole vault events alongside his sister, Industrial Engineering alumna and athlete Emily Jean Obiena.



Obiena in winning form [Photo courtesy of EJ Obiena’s Instagram page]

Thomasian sports psychologists | from page 7

conducted regularly since, just like physical training, athletes do need regular mental skills training as well. As much as possible, the athletes’ mental skills training is incorporated into their overall athletic program and its periodization. In this way, athletes can benefit most from their physical, technical, and mental skills training.”

Cayubit concurred, adding that, “We stick to the schedule as much as possible because that is also part of the intervention. We also need to let athletes try to resolve their issues on their own... Part of the program is also empowering them to at least try to handle things on their own but we do accommodate unscheduled sessions when needed. Sometimes athletes visit us just to chat, and we welcome that, they don’t really need to have a problem to come and talk to us.”

Most people have struggled with mental health amidst the complications brought about by the pandemic and its ensuing lockdowns, and athletes have their own competition-related worries on top of it. In the face of these heavy concerns, the three psychologists shared that they tell their athletes to focus on what they can control.

“The tendency is that we (human

beings) overthink and analyze things we cannot control, and we might be losing energy on things we CAN control,” Trinidad specified.

Trinidad emphasized the importance of making the athletes realize that being an athlete is just one aspect of who they are and that they play different roles throughout their lives; taking it one day at a time; adopting a regular routine to give a sense of purpose to their days; staying connected to their loved ones for emotional support; and leaving ‘me time’ for themselves.

‘Me time’ or developing their hobbies and interests provides a “channel for athletes’ creative energies to become productive activities that they can enjoy. Engaging in such activities can further contribute to their personal growth instead of [worrying],” Canlas advised.

Cayubit said that one thing he reminds his athletes about is to remember their reasons for fighting and winning. If ever their worries get too heavy to bear, they should not be afraid to ask for help.

The sports psychologists all highlighted the value of being resilient. As Dr. Trinidad puts it, “Olympic athletes push forward with adversity and learn from the challenge.

They know facing adversity is part of being successful. Failure is not the opposite of success, but it is part of success.”

Aside from supporting national athletes, they are currently honing the minds of future Thomasian psychologists at the UST College of Science and the UST Graduate School. At the undergraduate level, Trinidad teaches Social Psychology, Theories of Learning, and Psychology of Exceptional Children; Cayubit handles the undergraduate practicum and for the graduate school, research and psychological assessment; and Canlas teaches Counseling and Psychotherapy, Experimental Psychology Laboratory, and Educational Psychology courses at the graduate school level.

In addition to teaching in UST, and their consultant status with the Philippine Sports Commission, Dr. Trinidad is also a Psychologist at St. Luke’s Medical Center, Quezon City; Dr. Cayubit also serves as the assistant director of the UST Office for Admissions and Psychology Studies Research Lead of the Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (RCSSED); while Dr. Canlas is the Graduate School coordinator for community development programs and projects.



Mariano



Burgos

Nursing, OT students bag awards at Harvard Innovation Challenge Southeast Asia

UST College of Nursing student Qjiei Giuliano Mikhil Z. Mariano, and students from the College of Rehabilitation Sciences under the Occupational Therapy program, Jose Maria Miguel Burgos and his team members Sherry Lee, Reem Barakat, and Crystalia Evelyn Liaw, bagged awards in separate student competitions in Southeast Asia. Kim Rachel Yao was a participant.

Mariano and his team composed of international students won second place in the Harvard Undergraduate Global Education Movement (HGEM) Innovation Challenge Southeast Asia (HIC SEA III) for the Well-Being and Equity solutions track. It was held virtually through Zoom from July 23 to 25, 2021.

HIC SEA is an annual program that guides delegates from different schools and countries through the different aspects of international development and helps them understand their role as citizens of the world. Throughout the three-day conference, teams engaged in track-specific discussions and seminar sessions featuring influential leaders from the academe, business, and government.

The goal was to create an impactful and comprehensive “Solution Proposal” designed to tackle real-world problems and stimulate ideas for future collaborative projects. Students were then challenged in an open Questions and Answers session about their ideas before presenting a final round proposal at the end of the conference.

Mariano was assigned to team W-7 alongside Sofia Lim (De La Salle University, Manila), Ha Bui (Soka University of America,



Snoezelen-in-a-box concept image

California), and Bui Ngoc Phuong Uyen (Chu Van An, Lạng Sơn City) and eventually placed second with their solution, Ladders to Literacy. Experts affiliated with Harvard, well-being advocates, and healthcare innovators from around the world judged the competition.

According to Mariano, Ladders to Literacy is already an existing project where children in communities identify a local issue and create a storybook that advocates for a solution to the problem. This allows the children to become published authors as an indicator of improved reading and writing skills while championing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

By adapting the features of Ladders

to Literacy, their proposed solution applied the concepts of well-being learned in the conference. The delegates contextualized the storybook idea for Southeast Asian children to publish their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. This project helps children learn how to read and write while learning how to cope with the stressful situation brought about by the lockdowns and closure of schools. The solution integrates tailor-fit cultural approaches for different contexts in Asian community settings.

According to Mariano, the insights he gained from the conference influenced several aspects of his project with the impoverished children of the Manila North Cemetery. He and his friends support the ongoing *Ang Galing* Program in Manila North Cemetery, which is spearheaded by All Together in Dignity (ATD) Fourth World Philippines, an international movement dedicated to eradicating extreme poverty worldwide.

“We provide literacy training to 40 children living in the cemetery that need it most, and their life story was published into a storybook called *Literate Lila*. We started supporting *Ang Galing* since 2018, and with the help of the children, we were able to publish an e-book. The children consist of 40 individuals in the cemetery that need literacy training the most,” Mariano explained.

Sharing his reflections from the conference, Mariano said that, “Child well-being is often overlooked, so there is a great need to champion children’s

continued on page 10

CTHM student team ranks 5th in Rural Development Challenge of UNWTO Students' League 2021

The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Students' League is a competition for travel and tourism students that aims to foster creative, innovative, and sustainable solutions to pressing topics facing the tourism sector. The proposed solutions must be aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The CTHM group, who answers to the name 'Thomasian SDG Keepers,' joined the League under the category of Rural Development Challenge for Undergraduates. The team members were: Ms. Mary Maureen Cucio, Mr. Mark Endrinal, Ms. Floresca May Martin, Ms. Tiffany Montances, Ms. Gershei Mae K. Quirao, and Mr. Al Reile Dela Torre.

Mr. Arnulfo Ricardo A. Butiong, Mr. Avi Ben P. Andalecio, and Mr. Jame Monren T. Mercado, faculty members from CTHM served as the team's coaches.

Being a virtual competition, the challenges were uploaded, and the teams were given a few weeks to conceptualize and later present their solutions and tourism plans for Paranas, Samar.

According to the team, the entire process of conceptualizing their tourism plan deepened their knowledge of different strategies, methods, and skills in analyzing problem-based tourism concerns. Their proposed solutions and plans included the analysis of the destination's target market, budgeting of possible expenses, scope and types of solution options, and categories of marketing, among others.

Moreover, through the online training sessions provided by the UNWTO during the competition, the team learned the importance of conceptualizing and implementing activities that would engage



CTHM Dean Atty. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL (top row, second from left), Ms. Karina Tiopes from DOT Region 8 (top row, leftmost), CTHM faculty coaches Mr. Butiong (top row, third from left) Mr. Mercado (second row, second from left), and Mr. Andalecio (third row, leftmost) with the SDG Keepers team members

both the tourists and the locals, without neglecting the value of respect and understanding of differences of cultures, livelihoods, and capabilities.

The team was supported by the CTHM administrators led by its Dean Atty. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL, the Department of Tourism – Region 8 (DOT R8), the Municipality of Paranas, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Tour Guides and Boat Operators for River Protection and Environmental Development Organization (TORPEDO), and the Tenani Association for Women and Development (TAWAD).

Inspired by the stories of the community members on how tourism helped in improving their lives and motivated by the potential positive impact of their proposal, the team's solution and tourism plan for the community in Paranas, Samar landed 5th place in the international competition.

Team member Cucio shared that, "More

than the satisfaction of being part of the Top 5, what I am grateful for is that we were able to actually interact with the locals of a real community in our country. This competition made me realize that our industry really creates a ripple of events that will have corresponding impacts on people's lives. It goes to show how actions like these can help our country progress in these times."

Highlighting that the UNWTO Students League Competition Rural Development Category has opened opportunities for underrated local destinations to emerge, Cucio added that the team was proud to represent not only the University, but also the country in a global competition.

At the same time, the students found fulfillment in knowing that their output can empower any chosen locality, that their consolidated ideas can put some of the less-known destinations in the country in the global context, following tourism sustainability and ethical standards.

Nursing, OT students bag awards | from page 9

rights to play, education, and the like, during the pandemic since their developmental milestones are at risk of not being fulfilled due to limited movement outside of the home. Looking back in my Pediatrics class in Nursing, there are numerous indicators that intersect with the well-being of children such as playtime, expression, and participation, which help children visualize how they are coping with the current situation. Thanks to the conference, there is a greater appreciation towards these lessons and how student nurses or healthcare advocates may innovate solutions to champion child well-being during the pandemic."

In February 2021, Mariano was named "Education Hero" by Youth Service America (YSA) as part of its Everyday Young Hero (EYH) program.

In the same competition track of "well-being and equity,"

second-year Occupational Therapy student Jose Maria Miguel Burgos and his team members Sherry Lee, Reem Barakat, and Crystalia Evelyn Liaw bagged third place for their proposal. Fellow second-year OT student Kim Rachel Yao was also a participant.

Burgos's team presented "Snoezelen-in-a-box", a concept that makes the Snoezelen Multisensory Room (SMR) more accessible.

A Snoezelen Room is a controlled multisensory environment (MSE) that can be used as therapy for people with developmental disabilities, dementia, or brain injury. It consists of placing the person in a soothing and stimulating environment that is specially designed to deliver stimuli to various senses, using lighting effects, color, sounds, music, scents, and the like. "Snoezelen-in-a-box" condenses this into a portable and affordable alternative.

Escuadra is named committee member of Japan World Physiotherapy Congress 2023

College of Rehabilitation Sciences (CRS) faculty member Ms. Catherine Joy Escuadra was named a congress programme committee (CPC) member for the next World Physiotherapy (WP) Congress, which is set to take place in Tokyo, Japan, in 2023. The announcement was released on July 14, 2021, on the WP website.

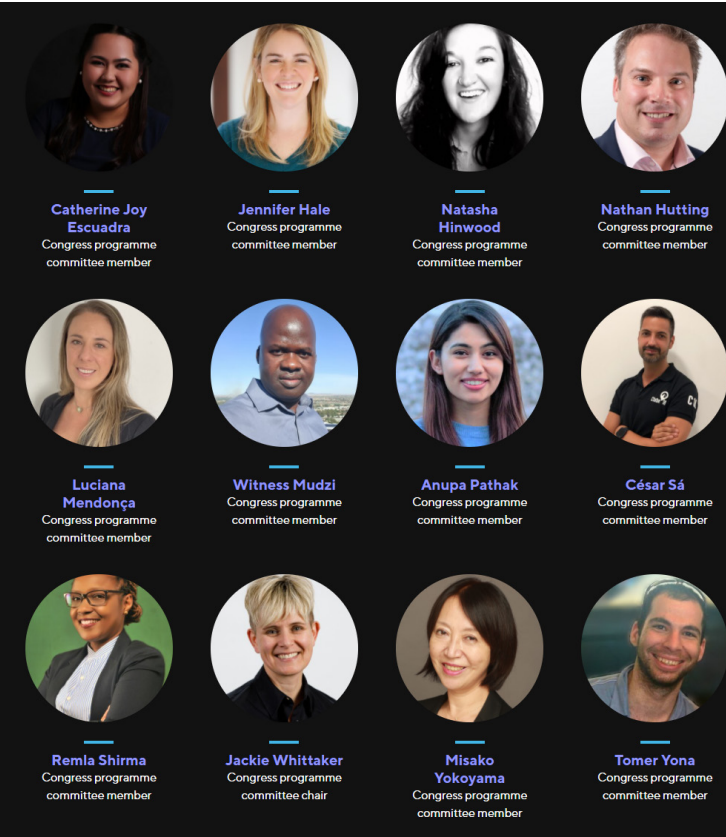
As an international organization of physiotherapists, WP gathers clinicians, educators, researchers, managers, and policy-makers in a global congress every two years.

The CPC, which will shape the scientific programme, consists of 12 physiotherapists from around the globe, including Escuadra. Committee members were chosen after a formal application and review process led by WP 2023 CPC Chair Jackie Whittaker, Ph.D., from the University of British Columbia.

Founded in 1951 by 11 national physiotherapy associations as the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, World Physiotherapy, as it is now known, represents more than 600,000 physiotherapists worldwide through its 125 member organizations. It is a non-profit organization based in the United Kingdom.

Escuadra, who holds a Master's degree in health profession education from UST, is also an editorial board member of the Philippine Journal of Allied Health Sciences, and the member secretary of the ethics review committee.

As part of the board of officers of the Philippine Physical Therapy Association, Escuadra has helped organize student and professional physiotherapy congresses in the Philippines and Asia region. In previous WP Congresses, she has served as a CPC member (2019), as an abstract reviewer and research presenter (2019, 2021), and moderator (2021) for previous World Physiotherapy congresses. She is currently a Ph.D. student in Education major in Educational Big Data at Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Republic of Korea.



Escuadra (top row, leftmost) with fellow committee members [Photo courtesy of the World Physiotherapy 2023 website]

Papa of Science is elected president of Philippine Society for Microbiology



Asst. Prof. Donna May DC. Papa, Ph.D.

College of Science faculty member Asst. Prof. Donna May DC. Papa, Ph.D., from the Department of Biological Sciences, was elected President of the Philippines Society for Microbiology, Inc. (PSM) during the organization's 50th Annual Convention and Scientific Meeting, held from July 21 to 24, 2021.

Papa, who will be the President of the PSM for the fiscal year 2021-2022, is a resident researcher at the Pure and Applied Microbiology Laboratory of the UST Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences (RCNAS). She heads the Bacteriophage Ecology, Aquaculture, Therapy and Systematics research group

of RCNAS, which is the first bacteriophage research group in the country.

A true-blue Thomasian, Papa obtained her Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology, her Master's degree in Microbiology (*Magna cum Laude*), and her Doctor of Philosophy in Biological Sciences degree from UST. Asst. Prof. Papa is also a Diplomate accredited by the Philippine Academy of Microbiology.

Papa has served PSM in various capacities. She was the Vice President from 2020 to 2021, the Corresponding Secretary from 2015 to 2019, and Division Representative in 2008, and 2012 to 2014.

CRS faculty members, alumni appointed to editorial board of PT journal

Four faculty members and five alumni of the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences were appointed to the editorial board of the Philippine Journal of Physical Therapy (PhJPT), which was launched on July 24, 2021.

Serving as co-managing editor is Ms. Catherine Joy Escuadra while Prof. Valentin Dones, III, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. Donald S. Lipardo, Ph.D., and Asst. Prof. Donald G. Manlapaz, Ph.D., are members-at-large of the editorial board.

Also members-at-large are CRS alumni Jeanette Lee, Ph.D. (San Francisco State University and University of California – San Francisco), Lucyllynn Lizarondo, Ph.D. (University of Adelaide), and Jeric Uy, Ph.D. (University of South Australia). Mark Apostol (New York City, New York, USA) and Johann Justiniano dela Paz (Atascadero, California, USA) serve as senior manuscript reviewers.

The Philippine Journal of Physical Therapy (PhJPT), published by the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences Library in Florida, USA, is an open-access, double-blind peer-reviewed journal managed by the Philippine Physical Therapy Association (PPTA). It provides a dedicated venue for physical therapists and students in physical therapy and related fields in the Philippines and other countries to participate in the production, evaluation, and publication of high-quality research to be delivered to the widest possible audience.



Escuadra

Dones

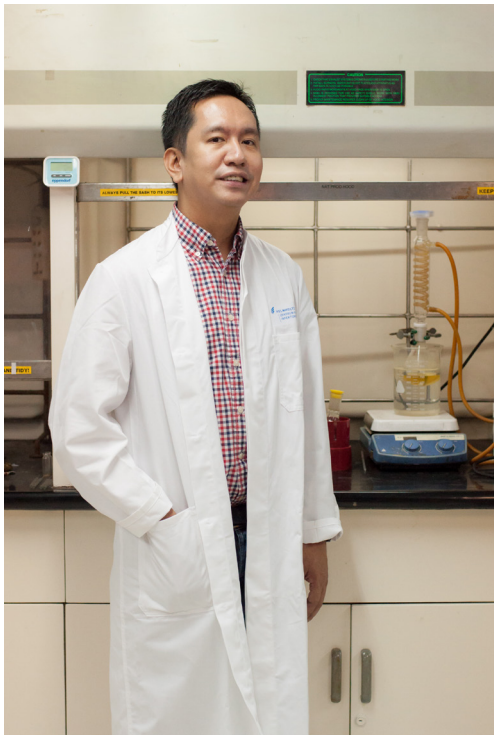


Lipardo

Manlapaz

RESEARCH

Macabeo receives Humboldt Fellowship Grant for drug discovery from fungal natural products



Dr. Macabeo [Photo courtesy of Fotomasino]

College of Science faculty member Prof. Dr. Allan Patrick Macabeo received the new Digital Cooperation Fellowship grant from the Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation (AVHF) in Germany.

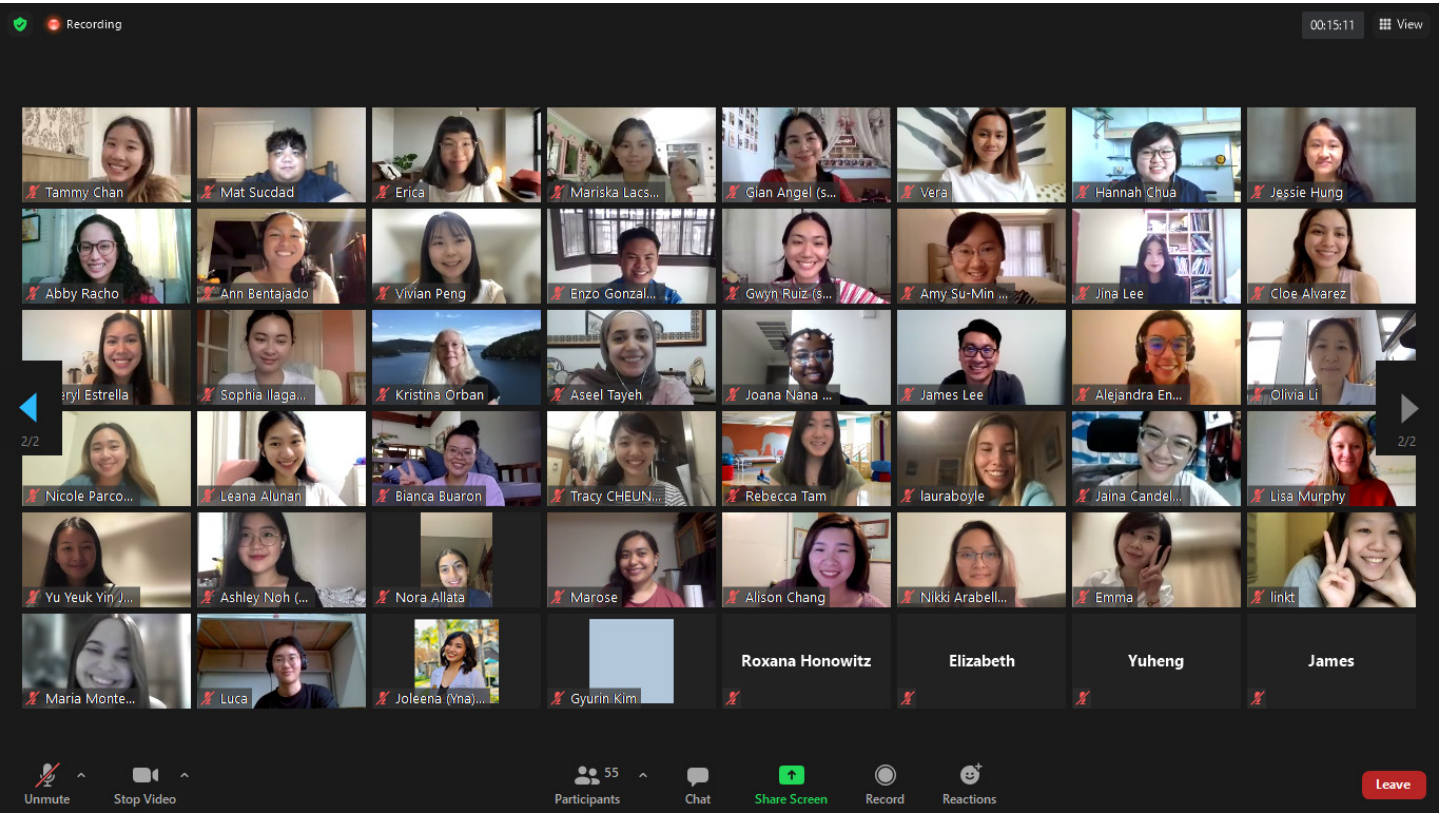
An alumnus of the AVHF Georg Forster Postdoctoral Research Fellowship program, Macabeo, who is a researcher affiliated with the Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences (RCNAS), will receive as part of the grant 3,000 Euros per month from September 2021 to January 2022 to develop his project titled “Drug discovery of biologically active natural products from Philippine Hypoxylon Species.”

The said project will be a collaboration between UST as the Home Institution and the Helmholtz Center for Infection Research in Germany, represented by Prof. Dr. Marc Stadler, as Virtual Host Collaborator.

In his study, Macabeo expects to find secondary metabolites with potent antibiotic properties from untapped fungal natural products in the Philippines. This is in response to the rapid development of drug-resistant strains and the resulting need for new chemotherapeutic treatments.

AVHF is a foundation established by the government of Germany. It promotes international academic cooperation between excellent scientists and scholars from Germany and other countries.

Macabeo is a prolific researcher, having published over 40 papers on natural products and synthetic chemistry. A multi-awarded researcher, he was a recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Young Scientist award in Organic Chemistry, the 2015 The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) award in the same field, and the 2013 Merck Young Scientist award. He obtained his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Chemistry degrees from the University of Santo Tomas, and his Doctor of Natural Sciences (*Magna cum Laude*) degree from the Universität Regensburg – Germany.



OT students from UST CRS with fellow SOTI participants from around the world

UST Occupational Therapy students join University of Southern California online summer immersion program

Sixteen Occupational Therapy (OT) students from the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences completed the Summer Occupational Therapy Immersion (SOTI) hosted by the University of Southern California (USC). The virtual program was held from July 1 to 16, 2021, via Zoom.

The SOTI program was a two-week online course by the USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. It was headed by the Director of Global Initiatives and Associate Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy Dr. Daniel Park, assisted by other volunteer SOTI facilitators.

The program was designed for participants around the globe who were interested to learn about occupational therapy practice, research, and education in the United States. It was open to undergraduate students, licensed therapists, or even non-occupational therapy students. Through lectures, panel discussions, and virtual tours of the different Occupational Therapy settings, the program allowed the participants to develop a more global perspective of occupation, health,

and wellness. It also provided an opportunity to network with different students and practitioners within USC and from various countries and establish a global community for occupational therapists.

Through this program, Occupational Therapy students in their fourth and fifth years gained insights on the emerging practices of OT, such as Ocean Therapy, Animal-assisted Therapy, Lifestyle Redesign, among others. They also learned OT’s distinct value in healthcare, and the importance of integrating our culture to further develop the occupational practice in the Philippines to ensure that it meets the needs of the Filipino community.

Thomasian participants included: Cloe Danielle Alvarez, Kristine Leana Alunan, Gian Angel Arellano, Bianca Francine Buaron, Ma. Eula Natalia Bucu, Geujania Candelaria, Hannah Corinne Chua, Maria Sophia Denise Estrella, Yozelle Diane Gamba, Juan Lorenzo Gonzalez, Sophia Edelyn Ilagan, Mariska Lacson, Hyung Yeon Noh, Antonio Gabriel Pantilla, Daniella Antonio Rivera and Gwyn Marie Ruiz.

Pharmacy holds virtual special courses in Filipino language, culture for foreign partner universities

The new normal has driven the education sector to online learning to address the challenges of learning continuity amidst the pandemic. Despite the global crisis, the Faculty of Pharmacy continues to pursue its internationalization efforts through its banner program, Global Learning for Outstanding Benchmarking and Experiential Education (UST FOP GLOBE).

The program can prepare the students and its faculty members for a role in the global arena by facilitating agenda like faculty and student mobility, research, training and joint symposia and fora with partner institutions.

With the current situation, which limits most of the international activities of the faculty, Pharmacy came up with the project, UST Faculty of Pharmacy Virtual Exchange Collaborative Online Intl Learning (FOP VEx COIL) as an option for students or faculty members who may not be internationally mobile during the pandemic.

Part of the project is student mobility, where the Faculty receive virtually international students through a special online course on the Filipino language and culture. The project serves as the continuing inbound student mobility program for Pharmacy's partner institutions.

To pursue its special course program on the Filipino language and culture, the Faculty of Pharmacy held this online. The sessions were held on July 13, 15, 20, and 22, 2021, and were



Course poster

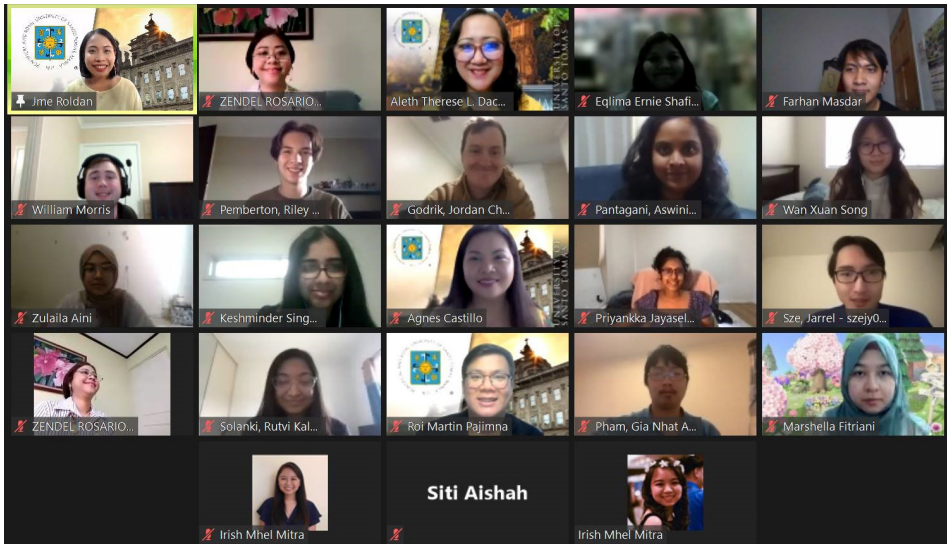
attended by 23 participants from partner institutions, namely, University of South Australia; University Teknologi MARA, Malaysia; Mahidol University, Thailand; and Management and Science University, Malaysia.

The UST Faculty of Pharmacy pioneered the offering of a special session on the Filipino language and culture to the

BS Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical Science students of the University of South Australia in April 2018. The same special courses were offered to the inbound students until January 2020.

The learning outcomes of the special course in Filipino language and culture are: (1) to prepare international students for effective communication, be it face-to-face or virtual, with their Filipino hosts and collaborators; (2) to allow them to have a deeper sense of appreciation for Filipino culture and identity; and (3) to allow the students to adapt to the culture of the host's institution.

Course facilitators were faculty members from the UST Department of Filipino, Department Chair Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes, and Assoc. Prof. Zende M. Taruc, Ph.D. They discussed Filipino geography (landscapes and places), an Overview of Filipino culture (identity, arts, beliefs and traditions, food, people, among others), Basic expressions in Filipino for interaction, Conversational Filipino focusing on Stating basic information and descriptions, and situational conversation. Simulations and role plays were also part of the sessions.



UST Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese Dacanay, Ph.D., (top row, center) with faculty members and course participants

OIRP Director Sison discusses UST's charism at int'l interreligious conference

UST Office for International Relations and Programs Director Prof. Lilian Sison, Ph.D., served as a speaker at the "Youth Engagement with Religion and Faith in the 21st Century," a virtual conference held on July 28 and 29, 2021 and [livestreamed via YouTube](#). It was organized by the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF) and Religions for Peace (RfP).

Dr. Sison discussed the charism of the University and how it forms and deepens the faith of the youth through its service functions.

"Faithful to [the apostolic constitution on Catholic universities, *Ex corde Ecclesiae*] and steeped in its Catholic heritage and values, UST is guided by its Christian perspective in expressing its teaching, research, and service functions. UST strives to engage

its students in the four dialogues of a Catholic university: between faith and reason, which is a philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas; the dialogue between faith and culture; between Christian thought and modern science; and ecumenical and interreligious dialogue," shared Sison.

The conference was conducted in collaboration with the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRTC); the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA); the Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA); the University of Santo Tomas, Manila; Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University; Office of Religious Life, Princeton University; and the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University.

The conference "Youth Engagement with Religion and Faith in the 21st Century" brought together youth leaders, faith leaders, and top research and education institutions to explore the novel notions of youth engagement with religion and faith emerging in the 21st century. It enjoined the participants to reflect on how the extent of youth activism on current issues such as climate, conflict, economics, racial justice, among others, is fueled by the moral and ethical systems presented through their religious institutions. It fostered discussions on the ways religious worldviews, whether their own or distinct, form the youth's understanding of their own place in the world and how these views inform their interactions with it.

Twenty-one participants were selected to present during the four-hour virtual conference. Participants hailed from the USA, Indonesia, India, Philippines, Bangladesh, Kenya, Pakistan, Argentina, Mozambique, Malaysia, Albania, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Qatar, Germany and Brazil.



Dr. Sison presents her topic.

Dean Dacanay of Pharmacy discusses vaccination campaign in PH at pharmacists' convention in Malaysia

UST Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, Ph.D., was one of the speakers during Malaysia's National Pharmacists Convention 2021. Hosted by the Malaysian Pharmacists Society, the online convention was held from July 8 to 11, 2021.

With the theme, "Exploration, Inspiration, & Transformation of Pharmacy," the program covered the latest updates on current trends on the COVID-19 pandemic, which created challenges and opportunities for pharmacists' roles and responsibilities within the health system across the globe. Pharmacists have gone beyond the call of duty to explore new healthcare horizons and are now the inspiration and catalyst of upcoming changes.



Event poster

continued on page 16

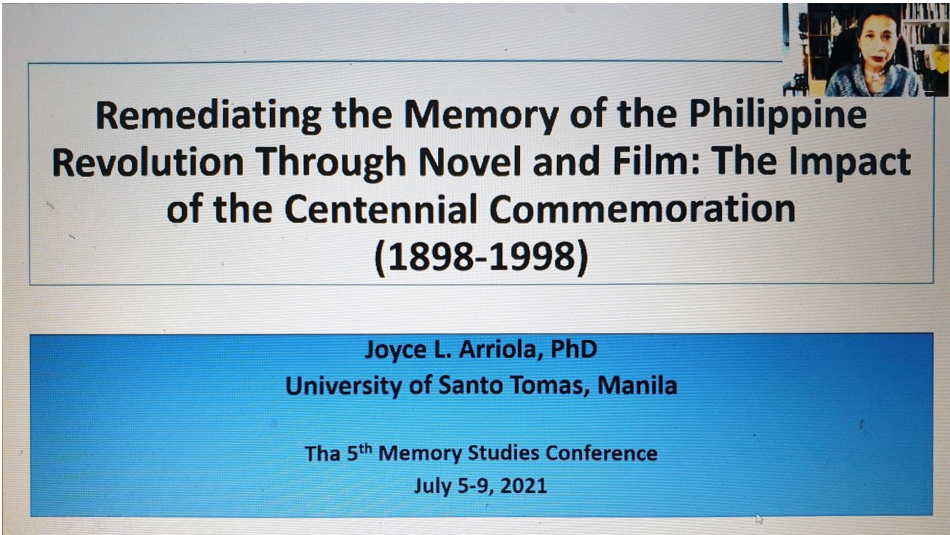
Arriola presents paper on commemoration of PH revolution through film, literature

Faculty of Arts and Letters professor Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D. recently presented a paper at the 5th Memory Studies Association (MSA) Conference held virtually from July 5 to 9, 2021. The Europe-based MSA, with a number of academic and research institutions in Warsaw, Poland, hosted the online event.

The conference focused on the subject of memory as an object of study across disciplines such as history, sociology, political science, literature, art studies, anthropology and psychology.

Arriola's paper, titled "Remediating the Memory of the Philippine Revolution in Cinema and the Novel: The Impact of the Centennial Commemoration (1898-1998)," was read under the "Memory and Area Studies: Reflections on Convergence and Future Directions" panel. The paper tackled the role of the novel and cinema in commemorating the Philippine Revolution of 1896 and the declaration of Philippine Independence in 1898. It traced the possible impact of the Centennial Commemoration on the novels and films tackling the so-called liminal years of the revolution (1899-1902) because these were transitory, nebulous, obscure and almost forgotten in the annals of revolutionary history as these were overtaken by other events that competed for the attention of key players, historians and the succeeding generations of post-Liberation Filipinos.

The novels analyzed include centennial prize winners such as Eric Gamalinda's *My*



Dr. Arriola's presentation

Sad Republic (2000) and Azucena Grajo-Uranza's *A Passing Season* (2002). Gina Apostol's novel titled *Insurrecto* (published in 2018) traces the possible impact of the centennial-winning novels. Regarding the films, the paper traced the influence of the Jose Rizal biopics on *Heneral Luna* (2015) and *Goyo* (2018).

Arriola's paper focused on remediation of memory, which took place as precursor texts such as traditional historiographies and novels that are transposed into mass media texts such as films and further invite intermedial and plurimedial texts such as discussions on social media, online reviews, and spin-offs into other genres.

This phenomenon leads to intermediality and pluri-mediality of memory, which is an emerging topic in memory studies. It maps the destination, afterlives, and cycles of memorialization.

This was the third time Arriola, who also teaches at the UST Graduate School, joined the MSA Conference. She first joined the Copenhagen, Denmark conference held at the University of Copenhagen in 2017. She then participated in the conference in Spain held at the Complutense University Madrid in 2019. Arriola is one of the active members of the MSA Asia Working Group, which is currently being chaired by Kar Yen Leong of Tamkang University.

Dean Dacanay of Pharmacy discusses vaccination campaign | from page 15

In her talk, Dacanay tackled both the imperatives, initiatives, and strategies on the vaccination campaign and deployment in the Philippines and the vaccination program of the University of Santo Tomas.

Among the initiatives presented, Dacanay emphasized the recently launched "Immunizing Pharmacists Certification Program (IPCP)" of the Philippine Pharmacists' Association. IPCP is an innovative and interactive practice-based educational program that provides Filipino Pharmacists with the skills necessary to become primary sources for vaccine advocacy, education, and administration. The said program allows Filipino pharmacists to have an expanded role as immunizers.

Besides Dean Dacanay, other pharmacy leaders who served as speakers were: University of Iowa Pharmaceuticals Managing Director Dr. Dennis M. Erb, Internationalisation and Global Network Head of International Islamic University Malaysia Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamad Haniki Bin Nik Mohamed, National University of Singapore Center of Healthy Ageing Director Prof. Brian Kennedy, University of Tokyo Prof. Dr. Hiromichi Kimura, and Malaysian Pharmacists Society President Tuan Haji Amrahi Buang, among others.



UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, highlights the efforts of the University to support Filipino language and culture.

College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D. as she closes IVCTFSL 2021

1st int'l virtual conference upholds role of Filipino language in education

More than 200 educators worldwide participated in the 1st International Virtual Conference on the Teaching of Filipino as a Second Language (IVCTFSL 2021), held recently via Zoom.

Spearheaded by the Department of Filipino, College of Education of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, United States of America (USA), the three-day conference gathered academics, scholars, and linguists, including curriculum and language policymakers, from various regions of the country, to as far as USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and Japan.

IVCTFSL 2021 formally commenced with the opening message of Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Kris Roney of UH Hilo and Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, of UST, who both emphasized the value of preserving culture through language instruction. Also, in the conference was *Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino* (KWF) chair Dr. Arthur P. Casanova, who, in his keynote address, shared his personal experience and knowledge on teaching Filipino as a second language.

Meanwhile, UST College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, invited the participants to reflect on and respond to the challenges raised in the conference, as we all speak the same language: the language of solidarity.

University of Hawai'i at Hilo, USA professor and IVCTFSL 2021 overall chair Dr. Rodney C. Jubilado opened the plenary sessions on the Trends, Issues, and Challenges of FSL Overseas with his lecture on "Designing a Filipino Curriculum and Heritage Program." This was followed by University of California, Berkeley, USA lecturer Dr. Maria Josephine Barrios-Leblanc, who talked about "Pedagogical Materials and Textbook Production in Filipino."

Several plenary and parallel sessions were held during the three-day conference where experts in the field of languages from different local and international universities shared their studies about Filipino as a Second Language (FSL).

Speakers included: UST Center for Translation and Translation Studies Chair Asst. Prof. Wenniferlyn F. Fajilan, Ph.D., with her lecture "The Teaching of Filipino to Non-Tagalogs," joined other lecturers, including Dr. Christian George C. Francisco of De La



SOAS University of London Assoc. Prof. Cristina Martinez-Juan discusses FSL and Philippine Studies in the UK.



UCLA lecturer Dr. Nenita Pambid-Domingo explains the Filipino ethnicity and identity in Southern California.

Salle University, Dasmariñas ("Highlighting Filipino Language and Culture: The Experience of Select Academic Institutions in the World"), Dr. Gerard P. Concepcion of the University of the

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Arriola of AB, GS lectures on building research culture at Interior Design national conference

UST Faculty of Arts and Letters and UST Graduate School faculty member Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D., delivered a plenary lecture at the “Interior Design on FIRE (Fourth Industrial Revolution in Education): Pedagogy, Industry, Innovation” held on July 24, 2021.

The virtual convention was jointly organized by the Philippine Institute for Interior Design (PIID), Council of Interior Design Educators (CIDE), the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC), and the Commission on Higher Education Technical Committee for Interior Design (CHED TC for ID) through the initiative of its chair, Dr. Lilia de Jesus.

Arriola’s lecture titled “Building a Research Culture within a Distinct Knowledge Economy: The Interior Design Sector and Industry 4.0” focused on the need to build a research culture in the Interior Design sector through a review of the discipline’s projected outcomes as enshrined in CHED Memorandum Order Number 44, series of 2017 or Policies, Standards and Guidelines for Bachelor of Science in Interior Design.

Being familiar with the knowledge economy of the Interior Design sector is crucial in crafting a research agenda, emphasized Arriola. By identifying the distinct perspective of the discipline, one may see the type of studies that are of paramount importance to the field; the theoretical and conceptual frameworks that underpin the contours of the discipline; the methodologies relevant to the questions it raises; and, the ideological roots of its presuppositions and emphases. Building a research culture and understanding one’s discipline’s knowledge economy are complementary. This kind of synergy is crucial in creating a research culture that emanates from the unique vantage point of the discipline and that may be beneficial in charting the direction of the profession in the long run.

The analysis is the result of Arriola’s two-decade dynamic experience in research leadership that won her publication awards such as the National Book Award in Film/Film Criticism in 2007 for *Postmodern Filming of Literature: Sources, Contexts and Adaptations* (UST Publishing House, 2006) and the Outstanding Book Award



Dr. Arriola

from the National Academy of Science and Technology in 2021 for *Pelikulang Komiks: Toward a Theory of Filipino Film Adaptation* (University of the Philippines Press, 2019) and an achievement award such as the National Research Council of the Philippines Achievement Award in the Humanities in 2018.

1st int’l virtual conference | from page 17



UH Hilo Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Kris Roney as she formally opens IVCTFSL 2021 with her opening remarks



UH Hilo Division of Humanities Chair and IVCTFSL 2021 Convenor Assoc. Prof. Rodney C. Jubilado, Ph.D., as he synthesizes the three-day conference and sets the agenda

Philippines, Diliman (“Filipino Track Program in Busan University of Foreign Studies: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats”), Dr. Shirley N. Dita of DLSU Manila (“Philippine Linguistics: Challenges and Perspectives”), and Dr. José Wendell P. Capili of UP Diliman (Creative Writing in Filipino in the Context of FSL Teaching and Learning”) in discussing their respective studies about the teaching of Filipino.

The parallel sessions showcased an abundance of studies concerning several themes such as: *Kurikulum at Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawa o Banayagang Wika* (Curriculum and Instruction of Filipino as a Second or Foreign Language), *Mga Tiyak na Estratehiya, Pagtataya at Teknolohiya sa Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawa o Banyagang Wika* (Specific Strategies, Assessments, and

Technologies in the Teaching of Filipino as a Second or Foreign Language), at *Mga Kagamitang Panturo na Maaaring Ilapat sa Pagtuturo ng Filipino Bilang Pangalawa o Banyagang Wika* (Instructional Materials for the Teaching of Filipino as a Second or Foreign Language), *Pagpapalano at Patakarang Pangwika sa Filipino* (Planning and Language Policy in Filipino), *Gramatika, Lingguwistika, Ortograpiya at Onomastikang Filipino* (Filipino Grammar, Linguistics, Orthography and Onomastics), and *Leksikograpiya at Bokabularyong Filipino* (Filipino Lexicography and Vocabulary).

In his final message, Jubilado underscored the conference’s aim to emphatically advocate “for the rethinking of the approaches, pedagogies, strategies, and other processes and aspects related to the Teaching of Filipino as a Second Language (TFSL), for Filipino and non-Filipino students.”



Lontoc joins USAID at webinar on issues of youth in agri-food systems

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) Resilience for Food Security Youth in Agri-food Systems Learning Activity hosted a panel forum held on July 27, 2021 via Zoom. The webinar tackled innovative methods of ensuring the youth’s voice and participation in policy, advocacy, and governance in the field of agriculture.

The six members of the panel included: National University of Ireland Youth Voice Expert Dr. Pat Dolan; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific Dr. Sue Vize; Pennsylvania State University Youth Researcher Expert Dr. Kaila Thorn; Canada Youth Researcher Ms. Lilian Chiu; University of Malawi UNESCO Chair Coordinator Dr. Symon Chiziwa; and Country Project Team Lead of Family Literacy projects of the UNESCO Chair in Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation and University of Santo Tomas faculty member Dr. Gina Lontoc.

The group raised several key points in their presentations such as the importance of participatory approaches in research and planning and how these could become instrumental in strengthening policy message, creating opportunities to bring policymakers and young people together, collaboration among youth from

various social backgrounds to amplify their voices and to have their message communicated, and engaging the youth authentically in policy and grassroots levels by utilizing the power of their lived experiences.

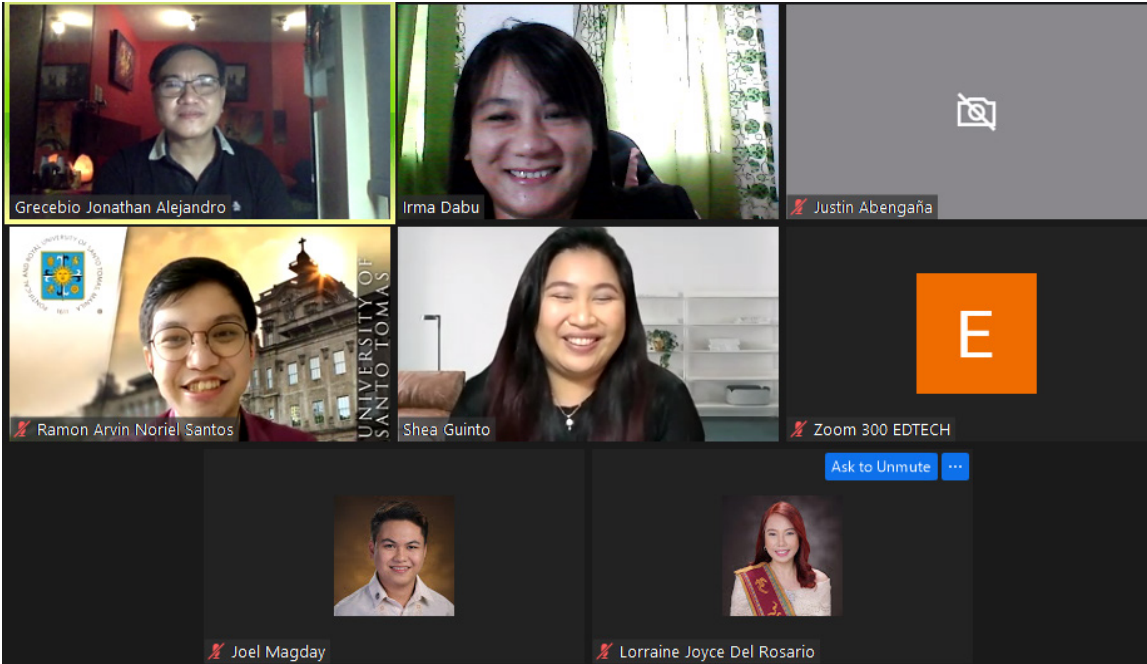
Lontoc presented the intergenerational aspects of the family literacy projects under the Global Research Translation Award (GRTA) program of the UNESCO Chair in Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation. This is in the context of community-based livelihood projects through organic farming.

Lontoc discussed how out-of-school youth helped in cascading organic farming projects in the community through their collaboration with People’s Organization (PO). She emphasized the crucial role of the youth in the integration of information and communication technology in farming practices. She expressed that these initiatives could encourage young people to engage in agriculture and intergenerational learning and contribute to creating of more sustainable food systems and sustainable futures.

The session was moderated by Pennsylvania State University Professor Mark Brennan, and the UNESCO Chair in Community, Leadership, and Youth Development.



Lontoc (second from top window) during the online presentation



Guinto (second row, center) and Dabu (top row, center) with Office for Graduate Research Director Prof. Dr. Grecebio Jonathan Alejandro (top row, leftmost) and aquatic biology graduate students.

UST GS students present PH aquatic biology research studies; highlight awareness on freshwater biology

To address the pressing issue of natural resource conservation and environmental conditions, which have great ecological importance, UST Graduate School students under the Natural Sciences Cluster held its third Online Graduate Seminar Lecture presentation in Philippine Aquatic Biology targeting audiences whose interests are copepods and fish diseases.

The online webinar, held on August 6, 2021, featured two speakers, Ms. Shea Kathleen P. Guinto, and Ms. Irma M. Dabu.

Ms. Shea Kathleen P. Guinto presented “Philippine Inland Water Diaptomid Phylogenetics: A First for Philippine Copepodology” while Ms. Irma M. Dabu, discussed “Physico-chemical parameters and risk factors analysis in the occurrence of TiLV in *O. niloticus* in Central Luzon.”

Guinto discussed the role of the Zooplankton, Ecology, Systematics, and Limnology laboratory in Philippine copepdology through the establishment of a standardized protocol for zooplankton sampling, processing, and analysis and the growing collection of Philippine inland water zooplankton specimens in the UST Zooplankton Reference Collection. She also discussed the future of Philippine inland water copepod studies, which includes molecular work.

Meanwhile, Dabu delivered a talk on the effect of the physical and chemical parameters like salinity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen of the water, which was analyzed in relation to the occurrence of Tilapia Lake Virus in earthen ponds in Central Luzon.

The webinar had a great impact especially for those Aquatic Biology majors who would like to pursue ecology-oriented careers or those who are conducting biological surveys and other



Dean Papa delivers the opening remarks.

environmental related work which contribute to natural resource conservation, environmental conditions of the water or water quality control studies, and measure the abundance of aquatic organisms.

College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne Papa, Ph.D., Natural Sciences Program Leader and Graduate Seminar Coordinator of the UST Graduate School, in his opening remarks, inspired the audience to pursue scientific research.

CCCPET, Science assist Samar with bid to become UNESCO World Heritage site

The University of Santo Tomas Graduate School Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (UST GS CCCPET), together with the UST College of Science Department of Biological Sciences, proposed a program on the assessment, inventory and biological field surveys of flora and fauna in selected sites at Samar Island Natural Park (SINP) to its Protected Area Management Board (SINP-PAMB) Committee on Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring on August 10, 2021 via Zoom.

The project is a vital component of the continued assistance of the CCCPET in preparing the nomination dossier for the SINP’s bid to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Asst. Prof. Mae Lowe L. Diesmos presented the fieldwork requirements for the Fauna team while Prof. Cecilia B. Moran, Dr. rer. nat., represented the Flora team.

The threefold objective of the fieldwork aims to document and update the species diversity of flora and fauna of SINP; to establish science-based data that will support the application of SINP as a UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site; and to recommend a policy on the conservation and protection of SINP ecosystems and its biodiversity resources.

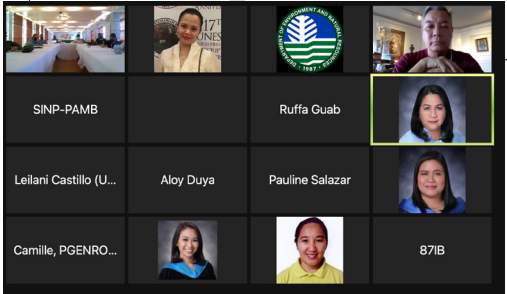
For this project, the UST team will field 28 scientists from the Biological Sciences with expertise in flora and fauna together with research and field assistants from the UST College of Science and University of the Philippines Los Baños. The team leaders are Prof. Dr. Cecilia B. Moran, Asst. Prof. Mae Lowe L. Diesmos, Prof. Dr. Grecebio Jonathan D. Alejandro, and Mr. Jorge Anton Ordas.

This project is in collaboration with the Office of Congresswoman Sharee Ann Tan, Office of Congressman Feliciano Noel, Department of Tourism Region 8, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Region 8, Office of the Governor-Samar, Office of the Governor- Northern Samar, and the Office of the Governor-Eastern Samar.

Methods

Standardized sampling procedures for amphibians and reptiles (Hayer et al 1994).

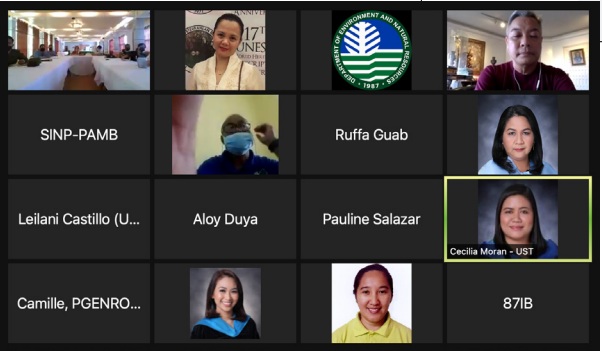
- Removal trapping
- Strip-transect sampling protocols
- Pitfall trapping, and
- Patch (or microhabitat) sampling



Asst. Prof. Diesmos (second row, rightmost) presents the fieldwork methods for Fauna.

Project Title:
Assessment, Inventory and Biological Field Surveys of Flora and Fauna in the selected sites of Samar Island Natural Park (SINP)Instructions for use

Presented by:
Prof. Cecilia B. Moran, Dr.rer.nat.
Project Leader
University of Santo Tomas



Dr. Moran (third row, rightmost) discusses the team’s proposal.

Padilla explains the conservation and digitization practices employed by the Library.



Padilla highlights UST Heritage Library rare collection at Intramuros Learning Sessions

UST Miguel de Benavides Library Assistant Chief Librarian Ms. Diana V. Padilla served as a resource speaker in Episode 62 of the Intramuros Learning Sessions (ILS) held virtually on July 2, 2021, via Zoom and Facebook Live. Almost 300 attendees listened to Padilla’s discussion on “The UST Heritage Library: A Timeless Treasure.” She presented the brief history of the UST Library and its special section called the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library, a depository of

rare historical collections accumulated for the past four centuries. The section was supported by a grant from the family of the late Ambassador Ramon V. del Rosario, Sr., and named after their grandfather, Antonio Vivencio del Rosario, an outstanding Thomasian and the former Secretary-General of UST (1854-1866). In her presentation, Padilla shared information on some of its rare periodicals: *Libertas*, *Ang Kalayaan*, *El Ilocano*, *Gaceta Oficial*, and several 19th-century Filipiniana rare books like old grammar dictionaries in Spanish and Filipino languages. Rare publications such as *La Guerra Judaica* (1492) or the Jewish War by Josephus Flavius, which is the oldest book in the UST Library and the only example of *incunabula* in the University; the *Biblia Sacra*, the Polyglot Bible printed by Christopher Plantin (1514-1589). Also presented were *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium, Libri VI* (1543) by Nicolaus Copernicus, the facsimile copies of the first books printed in the Philippines in 1593: *Doctrina Christiana, en Lengua Española y Tagala*, *Doctrina Christiana en Letra y Lengua China* and *the Pien Cheng-Chao Ch’uan Shih-Lu* or the Testimony of the True Religion are also among the rare collections of the UST Heritage Library. Padilla also discussed “*Lumina Pandit* (Spreading the Light): An Exhibition of Historical Treasures,” a book exhibition held during the quadricentennial anniversary of the University in 2011. This event which ran from 2010 to 2011, was organized by the UST Library to promote its exceptionally precious collection. This became the seed for the beginning of another endeavor to preserve and disseminate the rare materials of the Library, through the *Lumina Pandit II*. Through this program, the UnionBank of the Philippines has been financially supporting the Library since 2011 for the conservation, digitization, and publication of its catalog of rare books. Through the conservation and digitization efforts, the library is able to preserve its exceptional collection and share them with a wider public.



Event poster



USTPH announces release of eight new titles

The UST Publishing House recently released eight new titles. Beginning with *Dispatches: Contestations and Celebrations on the Filipino Heritage Consciousness* by Edgar Allan M. Sembrano, the latest title from the Publishing House’s CCCPET series, and *Bioethics: Ethics of Life* by Fr. Fausto Gómez, O.P., the latest from their Bioethics series. Both titles have been available on the USTPH online stores at Shopee and Lazada starting June 1, 2021. Coming soon on the bookstore’s fiction shelves are the *Selected Short Stories* of Cecilia Manguerra Brainard, whose Philippine editions novels were also published by the USTPH, and translations of two short story collections in Filipino by Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo: *Sa Bayan ng Nagangalit na Buwan* (*Where Only the Moon Rages*) and *Kundiman ng Panahong Naiwan* (*Ballad of a Lost Season*), both translated by Chuckberry J. Pascual. The first two poetry titles for the year are *Tokhang Nation: Poems* by Arvin Abejo Mangohig, author of *Martial Law Poems for the Dead* (USTPH, 2019), and *Lunas sa Nabubuon Lubos* by Paul Alcosoba Castillo, author of *Walang Iisang Salita* (USTPH, 2018). USTPH will soon launch *Lu Xun, the Canon, and Cultural Capital in China from the 1920s to 2017* by Dr. Yang Ke of Central China Normal University. These titles will be uploaded to the USTPH Shopee and Lazada stores as soon as they are released.



UST Singers (on screen) virtually join the Llangollen Orchestra and other choirs in singing “Sanctus.”

UK TV virtual concert features UST Singers

The UST Singers, two-time winner of the prestigious Luciano Pavarotti Choir of the World trophy, represented the Philippines in the 2021 “Unite the World in Peace and Harmony” virtual concert. The TV Special presented by the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod was aired on July 24, 2021, through the BBC Two Wales and S4C Television Network channels across the United Kingdom. The UST Singers performed “Sanctus” by Karl Jenkins together with the Llangollen Orchestra, English opera singers, and other choirs from all over the world. Welsh radio and TV host Nia Roberts (foreground) interviews UST Singers members (on screen) Joshua Jenaro Badilla (left) and Adrina Stephanie Pilapil.





Read to reduce stress through UST Library Community e-Resources pantry

Community pantries are currently flourishing to provide mutual aid during the COVID-19 pandemic. Aside from sharing food, this type of outreach has evolved to fulfill different kinds of needs, such as giving out face masks, face shields, pet supplies, and other materials. To participate in this Bayanihan response, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library launched its online version of community sharing on May 3, 2021. The undertaking, which was titled “The Thomasian Community e-Resources Pantry: Click what you need, suggest titles for others to pick,” ended in June 30, 2021.

The initiative was the brainchild of Assistant Chief Librarian Ms. Diana V. Padilla and supported by the Library administrators, Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., Chief Librarian Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, as well as the librarians and support staff.

This version of a community pantry was intended for leisure reading purposes of the Thomasian community, ultimately helping the users unwind, reduce stress, and cope with the current health crisis. In addition, this activity stimulated interest in reading and at the same time developed concern for others’ information needs; promoted the library’s e-resources and increased its usage; and enhanced the library collections by asking for titles to be acquired.

The librarians were given a topic where they had to select at least 20 titles of electronic materials. The topics were: *Arts, Sports, Health and Wellness, Self-help and Family, Crafts and Hobbies, Travels, Spiritual Life, and Literary*. The accumulated titles, sorted by topic, were gradually posted on the library’s website, Facebook, and Instagram accounts every Monday and Thursday.

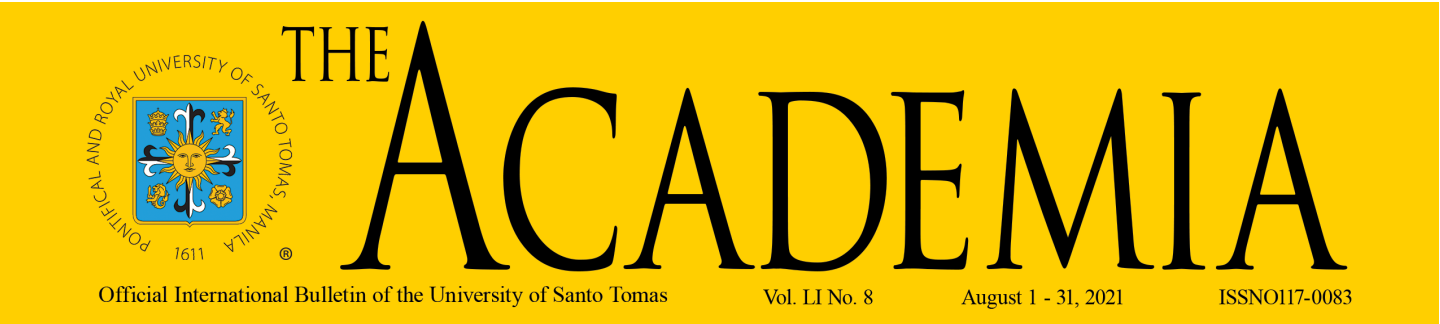
Any member of the Thomasian community was allowed to access the e-resources pantry as long as they had their active UST Gsuite email and library accounts. The titles were retrievable via Google Drive where users had to select their preferred title from the list provided. Some e-books were downloadable while others



A selection of books under the “Literary” category

were loanable for five days; articles were also downloadable, while videos were available for live streaming only via its designated platform.

In a manner of paying it forward, users were encouraged to suggest title/s for others to read, watch, or listen to by accomplishing the form “Suggested Titles.” The availability of the titles submitted was checked prior to sharing with the community. If the suggested materials were unavailable, they were assessed for approval and possible purchase.



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